



14 June 2018

Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Development Committee to be held in The Chamber, Magherafelt at Mid Ulster District Council, Ballyronan Road, MAGHERAFELT, BT45 6EN on Thursday, 14 June 2018 at 19:00 to transact the business noted below.

Yours faithfully

Anthony Tohill
Chief Executive

AGENDA

OPEN BUSINESS

1. Apologies
2. Declarations of Interest
3. Chair's Business
4. Deputation - Early Years

Matters for Decision

- | | | |
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| 5. | Proposal to rename "The Annex" at Seamus Heaney HomePlace | 3 - 6 |
| 6. | Community Development Report | 7 - 22 |
| 7. | Scoping Studies: Davagh Forest Project and Seamus Heaney HomeGround Project | 23 - 86 |
| 8. | Economic Development Report | 87 - 208 |
| 9. | EBA 2020 Small Grants Programme 2018/19 | 209 - 210 |
| 10. | Dungannon Park Parkrun | 211 - 214 |
| 11. | Parks and Play Five Year Strategic Plan | 215 - 518 |

Matters for Information

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| 14 | Mid Ulster District Council Tourism Development Group | 537 - 542 |
| 15 | Seamus Heaney Cluster /Invest NI Update | 543 - 544 |
| 16 | US Consulate Visit to US Grant Homestead Visit | 545 - 546 |
| 17 | The Heart of Ancient Ulster Landscape Partnership | 547 - 550 |

	Scheme (HoAULP) – Update on Community Consultations	
18	Leisure Services Summer Activity Programme 2018/19	551 - 576
19	Leisure Service Quarterly Update Report	577 - 602
20	Mid Ulster Bird Ringing Project	603 - 610

Items restricted in accordance with Section 42, Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014. The public will be asked to withdraw from the meeting at this point.

Matters for Decision

21. JC Decaux Advertising Licence Agreement at Railway Park

Matters for Information

22. Confidential Minutes of Development Committee held on Thursday 10 May 2018

Report on	Proposal to rename “The Annex” at Seamus Heaney HomePlace
Date of Meeting	14 th June 2018
Reporting Officer	Tony McCance
Contact Officer	Tony McCance

Is this report restricted for confidential business?	Yes	
If ‘Yes’, confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	X

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To propose to Members a change from the initial project working name of the building to the rear of Seamus Heaney HomePlace, “The Annex” and to propose a change to ‘Moyola Hall’.
2.0	Background
2.1	Seamus Heaney HomePlace officially opened in September 2016 as an arts and literary centre dedicated to the life and work of the Nobel Prize winning poet. Seamus Heaney HomePlace features an interactive exhibition over two floors; a Creative Zone for children and families, a 191 seat theatre named ‘The Helicon’, a gift shop, conferencing facilities and an on site café.
2.2	The building, to the rear of the main centre (see appendix 1), has three rooms and is used for meetings, workshops, breakout rooms at conferences, and training delivered to and by a wide cross section of the community.
2.3	Since the time of the building opening, this facility has been referred to as “The Annex”, (Working title of building at the time of construction). It has no existing signage and It is now timely to officially name this building in keeping with other room names reflected within Seamus Heaney HomePlace.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	The Moyola river is the main river in the area Seamus Heaney was raised, and runs close to Mossbawn the family home. The river is referenced in many of Seamus Heaney’s work and provides a direct link between the building and the poet’s work.
3.2	Renaming the Annex to ‘Moyola Hall’ would provide the building with an authentic link to the area and reflects the first two of the brand values of Seamus Heaney HomePlace, namely- ‘Of The Man’- authentic, without artifice or superficiality and ‘Unique’- reflecting the uniqueness of Seamus Heaney’s connection with the region. His place of birth and his final resting place, where his roots were and from where he drew inspiration.

3.3	The connection and authenticity will be beneficial in terms of marketing and promotion of the building to the community and outside users and external agencies.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: Subject to council approval, Erection of new building signage is within identified and agreed budgets approved by Council
	Human: Within identified staffing resources agreed and approved by Council
	Risk Management: N/A
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: The activity delivered within Seamus Heaney HomePlace is designed to maximise engagement and participation from all sections of the community in the Culture & Arts Service provided by Mid Ulster District Council, and the proposed renaming of the Annex to 'Moyola Hall' reflects this. In addition, Culture & Arts Service provision is delivered by the officer team to be fully inclusive, and is designed to encourage wide participation from all sections of the community promoting and supporting good relations between all sections of the community within Mid Ulster.
	Rural Needs Implications: N/A
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Members are asked to agree a change from the working name of the building to the rear of Seamus Heaney HomePlace, currently The Annex, to be renamed 'Moyola Hall'.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Photograph of current building proposed to rename "Moyola Hall"

Appendix 1



Existing building currently referred to as “The Annex”, propose to rename “Moyola Hall”

Report on	Community Development
Reporting Officer	Claire Linney

Is this report restricted for confidential business?	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	X

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To seek Committee approval for Good Relations and Community Festivals rolling grant award recommendations.
1.2	To approve the Peace IV Partnership recommendations and tender award (pending tender completion process).
1.3	To consider the Festive Lights review and recommendations.
1.4	To update on the Good Relations Decade of Anniversaries Programme.
1.5	To approve an additional contribution from DFC to CAMU for additional advice support.
1.6	To update on Community Development.
2.0	Background
2.1	Community Grants Rolling Programme - The Grant Aid Programme for the 2018/19 financial year facilitates applications being made on a rolling basis for Community Festivals and Good Relations.
2.2	Peace IV Local Action Plan 2017 – 2020 and Partnership oversees the delivery of the Plan and recommendations to Council.
2.3	Festive Lights - Council agreed a policy to deliver community grants for festive lighting provision to all villages across the District for 2017 – 2018. As part of the implementation of the festive grants a post review has been completed.
2.4	Good Relations – As part of the Good Relations Plan 2018 – 2019 the decade of anniversaries programme is to be rolled out to include: funding support and lecture series.
2.5	DFC funding contribution – Advice - A letter has been received from DFC providing an additional contribution, via Council to CAMU for specific front line advice provision. A further letter has been received from DFC in respect of Welfare Reform Support with additional funding provision, again to be distributed via Council.
2.6	Community Development Update - An update is provided on the following areas: Community Support – Grants, Support, Village Planning, Community Centres, DFC Neighbourhood Renewal Peace IV and Good Relations PCSP

3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p>Community Grants Rolling Programme</p> <p>There are 21 Community Festival applications recommended for awards totaling £13,668.</p> <p>There are 5 Good Relations applications recommended for awards totaling £3,628.</p> <p>Please refer to Appendix 1 for detail.</p>
3.2	<p>Peace IV</p> <p>Recommendation from the Peace IV Partnership for decision making: The following amendments have been requested from groups who have received grant funding in Phase I.</p> <p>Bardic Blossoms - There has been a formal request through from the Bardic Blossoms to move expenditure. £1,800 from the transport budget to materials for horticultural workshops. This will allow a wider range of plant and arts materials for the children to use. There is no change to the overall budget applied for.</p> <p>The Hub - A formal request from the Hub for a name change for their project from Piece by Peace to the Goosebump project. This is due to The Hub coming across records that they had used this name for a previously funded project and therefore wish to have an original project name as to negate any potential penalties.</p> <p>1st Culnady Boys Brigade & Glenone Scouts- The group contacted PEACE IV office after partnership meeting. Having difficulty achieving numbers for the Glenone Scouts, the usual age group would be 12/13 but so far they have only managed to get 18 instead of 30 as stated in their application. 1st Culnady has no shortage of numbers but the application states the 50/50% Catholic, Protestant. It was requested to bring in Scouts from another group that they have worked with before to allow outputs and had requested to include neighbouring Draperstown. Also a time change request due to the problems they were facing in recruitment from April 2018 until September 2018.</p> <p>Carntogher Community Association - The group have contact the PEACE IV Office to request a time change from September 2018 until April 2019. The projects outputs and targets will not be effected due to this change and it will allow the group to facilitate the project to the best of their ability.</p> <p>The Peace IV Arts Engagement Programme is currently out to tender and will close on 8th June. It is proposed, pending finalization of the procurement process and sign off by SEUPB, that the tender award will be presented to Committee for agreement. Tender report to be issued prior to the meeting (pending finalization).</p>
3.3	<p>Festive Lights</p> <p>As per a paper presented to Council in September 2016 on the provision of festive lights for villages and small settlements across Mid Ulster full implementation to all settlements took place in 2017.</p> <p>Depending on the village settlements and populations as per the Mid Ulster Development Plan, The grant allocation was based on village settlement size range £1000 - £2500; £2500 for settlements greater than 1000, £1500 for settlements greater than 500 and £1000 for all other listed village settlements.</p>

Support was available to groups and communities from Council Community Development and Council Technical Services.

In April 2018 a review questionnaire was issued to all groups delivering the funding in each of the 53 identified areas and requested a response to six questions:-

1. What was the full cost of delivering the festive lights in your area?
2. Did any issues arise with regard to the community group delivering on the festive lights?
3. Was the delivery a success?
4. A criteria of festive light grant for 2018 will be that you need to have a festive tree in the Centre of the village which can be viewed by all, will this cause an issue for your group?
5. Is there any further help or support that Council could provide?
6. Please quantify the amount of voluntary time involved?

A total of 34 settlements replied. A summary of the answers is as follows:

In most areas the cost of delivering the festive lights in the area is considerably more than the grant allocated and the community groups have to fund raise to cover the difference, this is becoming increasingly difficult and local traders within the areas are now aware of the responsibility and importance of creating a festive atmosphere to their businesses and the community.

The delivery of the festive lighting was stated as successful by a number of areas who also expressed their thanks to the Council for the funding.

Many groups who were accessing the funding for the first time (previous provision direct by Council) did state that there had been initial anger and concern with regard to delivery, however that the festive lights was successfully delivered in these areas.

Many areas and groups do still believe that Council should be the direct delivery agent for Festive Lights across villages.

There was one village that did report a major issue with the process and the group who delivered the scheme this year have already stated that they will not be involved next year. There were no other groups willing to take on provision previously.

Note one area in 2017 did not provide festive lights (previous provision by Council) due to no group willing to take the responsibility.

The criteria of a Central Christmas Tree in the village for most areas is not an issue, however there remain a few areas where provision is at a current facility which is not centrally visible or viewed as belonging to the wider village. There has been difficulty in these areas getting a group and location for a central tree for the village. Council Community Development staff is continuing to work with the groups and areas re the best solution for the village.

Groups did value the support of Council staff and feel that this support is critical going forward both from Technical Services regarding delivery of trees and lighting queries and from Community Development with regard to DFI permissions and insurance etc.

Groups do recognize that the current lights are in many areas tired and past their fit for purpose use and would welcome a capital grant to support with the provision of new and additional lighting. This has also been referenced by members previously.

	<p>A total of 2,565 hours was recorded from the responses of volunteer time, averaging 75 hours per area.</p> <p>As per the above review, consideration is sought for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuation of the grant at its current level, in line with budget provision at £73,000 for revenue support. • Capital investment for lights to a value of £500 per larger settlement as a one off payment. This will support groups with the purchase of lights, as identified within the review to allow groups to fully maximize their grant on revenue provision. The total number of key settlements is 46 with 8 legacy small area settlements included. It is proposed to provide for the first 25 larger settlements this year with a one off capital contribution to investment in lights of £500 and same for the remaining key settlements in year 2. The total allocation is a 'one off' contribution in year 1 of £12,500 and 'one off' contribution in year 2 of £12,500 through 'one off' match funding support from economic development.
3.4	<p>Good Relations – Decade of Anniversaries Programme</p> <p>The DOA grant for applications is proposed to open for two calls June/July and September. To open Friday 15th June to close Friday 29th June (2 weeks) and to open 10th September and close Friday 21st September (2 weeks). This will allow for initiatives that are ready to proceed and for groups to develop up initiatives. Advert in papers Monday 18th June and database update information Friday 15th June. The budget agreed for the grants is £24,000 with grants up to £2500 with 50% minimum match funding. See attached the fund criteria and application form in Appendix 2.</p> <p>Decade Of Anniversaries - the following lecture series, developed through guidance from historian Dr Éamon Phoenix has been developed for delivery across the District in Ranfurly House, Burnavon, Seamus Heaney Homeplace, and Parkanaur (pending availability of facilities). The series is to commence September 2018</p> <p>Title of series: 'A Dividing Ireland in a Dividing Europe 1917-22'</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Irish Convention 1917-18: The Last Chance to Avoid Partition?' by Dr Éamon Phoenix 2. Ireland in Transition 1919-20: Nationalism and Unionism from the Conscription Crisis to the First Dáil and Partition' by Dr Éamon Phoenix 3. Ireland and the Great War 1917-18: From Messines Ridge to the Armistice' by Professor Laurence Kirkpatrick (Union Theological College, QUB) 4. 'Women, the Vote, the War and the Irish Revolution 1912-21' By Dr Margaret Ward (QUB): 5. 'Labour Must Wait': the Labour Movement and the Irish Revolution 1916-21' by Dr Ferghal McCloskey 6. 'Great Empires have been Overthrown' (Churchill): The Versailles Treaty and the Re-shaping of Europe: 1919-22' by Dr Peter Collins (St Mary's University College) 7. 'A Divided Ireland in a Dividing Europe 1917-22' : Discussion chaired by Dr Éamon Phoenix with 2 or 3 of above speakers pending availability (Prof Kirkpatrick and Dr Ferghal McCloskey).
3.5	<p>DFC funding contribution – General Advice – A letter has been received from DFC providing an additional contribution, via Council to CAMU for specific front line advice provision. The amount is £15,274.78 existing frontline Generalist Advice provision.</p> <p>DFC funding contribution – Welfare Reform Support Project - A further letter has been received from DFC in respect of Welfare Reform Support Project with additional funding provision, again to be distributed via Council. The additional amount is £86,319.84 in respect of welfare reform advisors x 3 for each main offices and general office support.</p>

3.6	<p>It is proposed to allocate these directly to CAMU as directed by DFC with the relevant Department targets and outcomes to be monitored.</p> <p>Community Development Update</p> <p><u>Community Support</u> Council grant letters of offer have been issued out to groups and support on delivery is ongoing.</p> <p>Community Development officers continue to work with groups across the District on a range of funding and development opportunities.</p> <p>Neighbourhood Renewal: DFC projects for 2018 – 2019 are ongoing.</p> <p>The development of a poverty initiative for Mid Ulster is progressing and an update will be provided when engagement has taken place with key agencies re potential funding.</p> <p><u>Peace and Good Relations</u> Good Relations Grant assessment and processing is ongoing. Delivery of the Plan has commenced.</p> <p>Peace IV delivery is ongoing – programmes commenced include Rural Peace IV Programme, Migrant and Urban Peace IV Programme, Youth Peace IV Programme, Peace IV Primary Schools Programme, Post Primary Schools Programme, Cross Border Heritage Programme, and Cross Border Literary Programme. The Arts engagement programme is out to tender at present closing on 8th June, and the sports programme is with SEUPB and procurement pending specification finalization and issue.</p> <p><u>PCSP</u> Development of the Plan has commenced in delivery. PCSP working group meetings continue to be facilitated, along with partner programmes.</p>
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	<p><u>Financial & Human Resources Implications</u></p> <p>Community Local Festival awards £13,668 Good Relations awards £3,628</p> <p>Festive Lights Capital Fund - The total allocation as one off contribution in year 1 of £12,500 and one off contribution in year 2 of £12,500 through 'one off' match funding support from economic development.</p> <p>DFC funding contribution – General Advice – direct allocations of DFC funding to CAMU of £15,274.78 for additional support service and Welfare Reform Support Project funding of £86,319.84. Combined total additional monies level of £101,594.62.</p> <p><u>Professional Support</u> None.</p>
4.2	<p><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u> None</p>

4.3	<u>Risk Management Implications</u> None
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	To approve the grant award recommendations under the Community Local Festivals grants and Good Relations Grant as per Appendix 1 £13,668 and £3,628
5.2	To approve the Peace IV Partnership recommendations.
5.3	To approve the Festive Lights review and recommendations of continuation of revenue grant up to £73,000 as per current budget and an allocation of £12,500 for a one off capital support for lights for the larger settlements in year 1 and an allocation of £12,500 for a one off capital support for lights for the remaining key settlements in year 2.
5.4	To note the Good Relations Decade of Anniversaries Programme
5.5	DFC funding contribution –It is proposed to allocate the two allocations of funding directly to CAMU as directed by DFC with the relevant Department targets and outcomes to be monitored; £15,274.78 for additional support and £86,319.84 for welfare reform.
5.6	To note the community development update report.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix 1 Rolling Grant Programmes award recommendations Appendix 2 Decade of Anniversaries Fund Criteria and Application.

Appendix 1

Community Local Festival – June 2018

No	Organisation Name	Organisation	Title Of Event/project	Band	Request	Award
1	10th Tyrone Killeeshil Scouts	Cultural	Group Investiture	6	£600	£300
2	Ballynenagh Cultural Development Ass	Cultural	Celebration of armistice	7	£1,200	£480
3	Blackhill LOL 681	Cultural	Blackhill Community Fun Evening	7	£800	£320
4	Blessed Patrick O' Loughran Parent Support	Community	5k & Family Fun Day	3	£1,000	£800
5	Cookstown North Community Group	Community	July Festival 2018	7	£680	£275
6	Derryloran Flute Band	Cultural	50 th Year Anniversary Festival	7	£1,150	£460
7	Dungannon Music & Festival Association	Community	Dungannon Music & Drama Festival	1	£1,300	£1,200
8	Eastvale & Kilcoole Community & Cultural Group	Community	Cultural Fun-Day & Festival	7	£765	£310
9	Friends of Knocknagin	Community	Family Fun Day	5	£1,200	£720
10	Granaghan & District Women's Group	Community	Birthday Bash – 24 Years	4	£1,050	£735
11	Happy Days Playgroup	Community	25 Year Celebration of the Playgroup	6	£1,200	£600
12	Killyman & District Cultural Group	Cultural	Mini Tattoo 2018	2	£1,834	£1,080
13	Loughfea Ladies Group	Cultural	Treasure Hunt & Bar-Be-Que	5	£1,410	£720
14	Maghera Parish Caring Association	Community	Cultural Garden Fete & Vintage Rally	2	£1,200	£1,080
15	Moneymore Clay Pigeon Club	Community	Moneymore Cup Challenge	4	£1,200	£840
16	Montober LOL 661	Cultural	Schools Out For Summer	5	£980	£588
17	RDA Fort Centre	Community	RDA Fort Centre Tractor Run & Fun Day	4	£1,950	£840
18	St Patrick's Loup GAC	Sports	Loup Festival 2018	4	£1,440	£840
19	Tobermore Village Hall Development Assoc	Community	Family Holiday Celebrations	5	£1,200	£720
20	Tullyhogue Flue Band	Cultural	Tullyhogue Community Festival	7	£750	£300
21	Watty Grahams GAC	Sports	Summer Camp 2018	7	£1,150	£460
						£13,668

Good Relations - June 2018

No	Organisation Name	Organisation	Title Of Event/project	Band	Request	Award
1	Augher WI	Community	Our anniversary & Community - 50 Years	3	£1050	£840
2	Colleague support group	Community	Cross Border studies & programme 2018	7	£910	£365
3	Rock and District Historical Society	Community	A Journey into our Shared History	2	£1200	£1080
4	Upperlands Community Development Ltd	Community	Independence Day Celebration	4	£500	£350
5	Donaghmore Horticultural Community	Community	Paint Your Village	1	£993	£993
						£3,628

Ineligible or Unsuccessful

Little Rainbows Early Years	Did not meet minimum threshold
Pomeroy After Schools Club	Ineligible Double Category Application

Score	Band	%
30-39	7	40%
40-49	6	50%
50-59	5	60%
60-69	4	70%
70-79	3	80%
80-89	2	90%
90+	1	100%



Decade of Anniversaries Guidance

**Mid Ulster Council will open its Grant Aid for
Decade of Anniversaries Fund from Friday 15 June 2018 until
Friday 29 June 2018.**

**Please contact one of the following officers before
submitting an application:**

Oliver Morgan 03000 132 132 (Ext 24605) oliver.morgan@midulstercouncil.org
Paula Kelly 03000 132 132 (Ext 24604) paula.kelly@midulstercouncil.org

Please return your completed application to:

Louise Hall

Mid Ulster District Council

Dungannon Office

Circular Road

Dungannon BT71 6DT

E: louise.hall@midulstercouncil.org

Decade of Anniversaries Fund

Purpose of Grant

To support communities in the delivery of the Decade of Anniversaries.

Anniversaries can bring people together and foster community spirit, and also allow for greater understanding of the past". Mid Ulster District Council as part of their Good Relations Action Plan wish to support community groups currently planning anniversaries or considering marking anniversaries that underpin the guiding principles on ethical and shared remembering.

The vision for marking the decade of anniversaries is that it should be exploratory and educational, plural, multi-dimensional, creative and ethical. Please consider the following principles to support the development of work programmes and activities that you seek Council funding for.

Guiding Principles

- Start from the historical facts;
- Recognise the implications and consequences of what happened;
- Understand that different perceptions and interpretations exist; and
- Show how events and activities can deepen understanding of the period.

The following document outlines the good practice guidance presented by the Executive Department on participating in commemorative events:

CRC/HLF ethical remembering <https://www.community-relations.org.uk/sites/crc/files/media-files/final%20CRC-Toolkit%20Revised%202018.pdf>

Also for consideration - *Briefing on Human Rights and the 'Decade of Anniversaries'* (May 2011) Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission
<http://www.nihrc.org/index.php>

Criteria: Maximum of £2500 Grant available (must be 50% match funded) e.g. If you are awarded £1,000 the total cost of your project must be a minimum of £2,000 in total costs.

General Eligibility Conditions

1. Groups applying for a grant must be a not for profit constituted community or voluntary organisation with an annual AGM.
2. Statutory and 'for profit' organisations, activities and recipients (including activities that receive statutory core provision are not eligible for grant)
3. Regional groups/organisations are not eligible to apply.
4. Applications that are not completed accurately and in full will not be considered.
5. Religious or political activity cannot be funded under any grant.
6. All applicants must present a project that will take place within the Mid Ulster District Council area.
7. Projects must be open and inclusive to all Section 75 groups.
8. Projects must be in line with the HLF/CRC good practice principles on ethical remembering.
9. Applicants must present a project that will be delivered between 1 July 2018 - 31 March 2019.
10. Evidence of good management practices/policies, including annual AGM, Group bank account, financial management practice, insurances, etc. will be required.
11. Successful applicants will draw down grants retrospectively based on vouched expenditure, with procurement adhered to. Advance payments will be 50% up £2500 with final verification of all expenditure.
12. The following items are not eligible for funding:

Hospitality greater than 20% of the total project cost.	Bad debt, loans, bank charges, deficits or arrears in payments	Flags or bunting Alcohol.	Groups or activities that discriminate against one section of the community
Activities, equipment or events that duplicate what already exist or that are covered by other funding	Salaries	Retrospective funding applications	Residential courses or training greater than 20% of funding sought
Celebrity appearances	Late applications	Gifts or donations	Reclaimable VAT or other costs



Comhairle Ceantair
Lár Uladh
Mid Ulster
 District Council

DECADE OF ANNIVERSARIES APPLICATION FORM

Notes: Please read grant eligibility and contact an officer prior to submission of this application.

1. Organisation submitting an application (if have partners, please list)

Organisation	Stakeholder status

2. Name and address of Organisation:

Contact Person	
Name of Organisation	
Address	
Post Code	
Tel No.	
Email	
Website/Facebook	
Council Area	Mid - Ulster

3. How many members are involved in your organisation:

Paid Staff full time/Part time	
Committee members/volunteers	
Total voluntary hours per week	

4. Aims & Objectives of your organisation:

5. Please list your organisation's main activities:

6. **Project Event/Activity Details – Please refer to Guidance notes**

a. Date and Location of project/event

b. Please detail how your project will be considered a commemorative event? What would you like your project to achieve? Detail all outputs and programme/event activity e.g. number of days, speakers, topics

- c. Please detail how the project will ensure your project is in keeping with the Guiding Principles of Commemoration. Please refer to the guidance and reference materials as noted in the guidance.

- d. Please detail how the project will enhance your capacity to contribute to community cohesion and how does your event or project deepen understanding of the period and Good Relations?

- e. Please detail who you would like to participate and how you will make the project accessible to all target group(s)? Provide details of numbers attending and targeting/marketing to groups etc.

7. **The maximum grant award is £2,500 which requires Groups to Match Fund with 50% Contribution.** Please note that maximum grant is dependent on the number of applications and budget available.

Provide brief estimate of expenditure/cost of project/event.

Expenditure	Cost
<u>TOTAL GRANT APPLIED FOR</u>	

8. Have you applied to any other funder for the same activity/product? If so please give details below.

DECLARATION

We confirm that the information in this application is correct and, if successful, we will comply with all requirements of the MUDC Funding Programme. (One signatory from each organisation)

Signature _____	Position in organisation _____	Date _____
------------------------	---------------------------------------	-------------------

CHECKLIST The following documents must be attached to your application

Document required	✓
Copy of your Constitution	
List of Office Bearers	
Copy of most recent AGM	
Copy of Bank Statement/Building Society Statement (not more than 3 months old) that shows organisation details	
Details of insurance relating to project – if not applicable please indicate	
Child Protection Policy – if not applicable please indicate	

Please return your application by 5pm, Friday 29 June 2018 to:

Post: Louise Hall, Mid Ulster District Council, Dungannon Office, Circular Road, Dungannon, BT71 6DT

Email:

Office Use Only

Received by: _____ **Date:**

Report on	Scoping Studies: Davagh Forest Project Seamus Heaney HomeGround Project
Date of Meeting	14 th June 2018
Reporting Officer	Michael Browne/Tony McCance
Contact Officer	Michael Browne/Tony McCance

Is this report restricted for confidential business?	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	X

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	<p>To update Council on the requirement to commission Scoping Studies to be undertaken for:</p> <p>a) Davagh Forest Outdoor Experience and b) Seamus Heaney HomeGround Experience Scoping Study.</p>
2.0	Background
2.1	Following a number of meetings with MUDC Officers and DAERA representatives during December 2017 and early January 2018, Mid Ulster District Council was subsequently invited by DAERA to submit two applications to the Rural Tourism Scheme for both the Davagh Forest Experience and the Seamus Heaney HomeGround Experience proposals.
2.2	<p>When the calls for Expressions of Interest was issued the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs provided clear indication of the priorities it was intending to address, namely that proposed projects should:-</p> <p>a) be flagship, Iconic, Unique b) increase out of State visitors c) create capital infrastructure d) create Job(s)</p>
2.3	The Davagh Forest Project has been identified by Mid Ulster District Council as one of its core projects which links strategically to two of the three themes identified with the Council's tourism strategy, Heritage and Outdoor Hubs. The project in its current state will be a visitor Centre/ observatory that will present visitor to The Davagh Forest Centre and Observatory with a unique indoor, immersive visitor experience based around and telling the stories of the richness of both the astronomy and the archaeological heritage of the area. By adding this element to the project this will continue the experience outdoors, further enhancing the visitor experience by using and utilising the local environment around the Centre as a backdrop.
2.4	The Seamus Heaney HomeGround Experience will also be a unique and immersive visitor experience that focuses on the landscape and the inspiring locations that influenced the work of Seamus Heaney. It is proposed to develop a unique, innovative

2.5	<p>experience that will utilise state of the art technologies to capture the essence of the landscape, people and places that inspired his work. The Seamus Heaney HomeGround Experience complement the existing offering of Seamus Heaney HomePlace.</p> <p>It is anticipated that within both projects this type of outdoor experience may be a possible combination of audio and visual effects interactive multimedia such as touch control, large-display blending, remote monitoring, outdoor 3D projection, including the latest technology in audio, lasers, augmented and virtual reality being innovative, unique and totally engaging with the visitor.</p>
3.0	Main Report
3.1	Council has now been asked to proceed to full capital application stage for both projects. In order to complete the full capital application, it is a requirement of the Funder that all procurement and planning needs to be secured in advance.
3.2	In compliance with the DAERA request, a second application to DAERA was submitted to access Technical Assistance funding to develop Scoping Studies for both the Davagh Forest Outdoor Experience and Seamus Heaney HomeGround Experience.
3.3	Two Letters of Offer have now been received by Mid Ulster District Council to progress with the Scoping Studies required for both the Davagh Forest Outdoor Experience and the Seamus Heaney HomeGround Experience and in preparation of full capital applications which will be submitted by 1 st October 2018
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	<p>Financial:</p> <p>Scoping Study for the external Visitor Experience at Davagh Forest total £19,450 match funding required is £4,863</p> <p>Scoping Study for Seamus Heaney HomeGround Experience total £22,450 match funding required is £5,613</p> <p>Financial support from Mid Ulster District Council for each scoping study can be met from within current Tourism and Culture & Arts Service budgets.</p>
	<p>Human:</p> <p>Staff time commitment only</p>
	<p>Risk Management:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific conditions within the Letter of Offer states that all overrun costs in the development of the projects will be met by council. • Failure to apply for the full capital grant may lead to clawback of the Technical Assistance grant award.

4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	<p>Equality & Good Relations Implications: All Equality and Good Relations Implications will be considered and addressed within Scoping Studies undertaken</p>
	<p>Rural Needs Implications: Rural Needs Implications will be considered as part of the Scoping Studies undertaken</p>
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	To approve signing of Letters of Offer for commissioning of Scoping Studies for a) Davagh Forest Outdoor Experience and b) Seamus Heaney HomeGround Experience
5.2	To approve 25% match funding requirement for scoping Studies, to be met from within existing Tourism and Culture & Arts Service resources
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Letter of Offer - Davagh Forest Experience
6.2	Letter of Offer - Seamus Heaney HomeGround Experience



Department of
**Agriculture, Environment
and Rural Affairs**
www.daera-ni.gov.uk



'The European Agricultural Fund
for Rural Development: Europe
investing in rural areas'.



Terms and Conditions of Grant Aid provided under
Priority 6;
Promoting Social Inclusion, Poverty Reduction and Economic Development in
Rural Areas
Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2014 - 2020

The Letter of Offer together with the 'Terms and Conditions of Grant Aid' form
a legally binding contract

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1. Purpose of The Letter of Offer and Terms and Conditions of Grant Aid

- 1.1** The Letter of Offer and Terms and Conditions of Grant Aid form a contract between the Local Action Group (LAG) and the Applicant. These documents state:
- the amount of Grant Aid which is available for the Applicant to claim;
 - the conditions which must be met by the Applicant in order to claim this Grant Aid; and
 - the period of the Letter of Offer during which the terms and conditions must be complied with.

The Letter of Offer provides the LAG and the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) the right to recover Grant Aid from the Applicant if the conditions of the Letter of Offer are breached during the period within which the Letter of Offer conditions must be adhered to.

- 1.2** The Letter of Offer together with the 'Terms and Conditions of Grant Aid' form a legally binding contract and you should read both carefully before accepting the offer of Grant Aid. If you are in doubt regarding the terms of the offer, you should discuss the matter with your legal representative. The offer and subsequent Grant Aid draw down is subject to strict adherence to the allocation for specific items and activities as detailed in the table at Annex 2 to the Letter of Offer; Schedule of Eligible Expenditure, and all conditions detailed in this 'Terms and Conditions of Grant Aid' booklet.
- 1.3** By accepting the Letter of Offer you are also accepting the Terms and Conditions set out in this 'Terms and Conditions of Grant Aid' booklet. Failure to adhere to the Terms and Conditions of the offer may result in the full grant aid given under the Letter of Offer being deemed invalid and require any assistance already provided to be repaid.
- 1.4** In submitting claims for reimbursement of expenditure there is a need to adhere to the procurement requirements provided to you by the Local Action Group and outlined to you at the pre-application workshop. It is a strict requirement to have competitive tenders or quotations for project expenditure. Expenditure in breach of this requirement will be deemed ineligible and no Grant Aid will be payable.

2. Definitions and Abbreviations

Application Form	the application form submitted by you to obtain Grant Aid for the project to be funded as detailed in the Letter of Offer.
the Applicant	refers to the legal entity or person that signed and submitted the application form; accepted the offer and terms and conditions; and is responsible for ensuring compliance with obligations of the offer throughout the period of the Letter of Offer.
Asset	any asset of the Applicant / Beneficiary for which any payment of Grant Aid has been made under the Letter of Offer to which this booklet refers.
Audit Trail	record of financial transactions supported by; original documentation for procurement, invoices, receipts and bank statements to support the implementation and operation of the project.
“beneficiary”	(i) a person who has applied for and been granted approval for a project (ii) in relation to any time after a Rural Development payment has been made in connection with the project, the person to whom the payment was made; or (iii) any person who has undertaken to assume the conditions of an approval in place of a previous beneficiary;
Claw back Period	the period of the Letter of Offer during which, if irregularities are discovered, the project or business fails, the business is sold or relocates outside the Local Action Group area, repayment of all or part of the assistance already provided will be requested.
Commitments & Other Obligations	Actions the beneficiaries undertake to carry out or are requirements that the beneficiaries need to respect.
the Commission or EC	the European Commission.
‘DAERA’ or ‘the Department’	the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs.
De Minimis Aid	assistance from a public source for a trading activity which is below the threshold of aid requiring prior notification and approval from the Commission. Commission Regulation (EU) 1407/2013.
EAFRD	European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development.
Eligible Expenditure	means works or services or equipment as set out under, Annex 1 of the Letter of Offer, and procured in line with the rules by the Applicant in carrying out the project and admitted by DAERA, and others as Administrators, at its absolute discretion for the purpose of payment of Grant Aid.
EU	the European Union.

EU assistance	means assistance payable pursuant to the Rural Development Regulation 1305/2013 from the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) in accordance with the European Regulations.
Grant Aid	the EAFRD funding specified in the Letter of Offer to which this terms and conditions booklet refers or any part or parts thereof as the case may be.
Grant Rate	the percentage of the cost of individual items or services that will be used to calculate the amount of Grant Aid payable up to the maximum amount set by the Schedule of Eligible Expenditure to the Letter of Offer.
Horizontal Implementing Regulation	means Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No. 809/2014 laying down rules for the application of Regulation (EU) No. 1306/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to the integrated administration and control system, rural development measures and cross compliance.
Irregularity	any departure from the operation of the agreement of the Letter of Offer Contract between the Applicant and the Local Action Group.
Local Action Group (LAG)	the LAG appointed to implement the local development strategy.
Rural Development Strategy	the approved LAG Development Strategy (The Strategy is available from your Local Action Group).
Managing Authority	Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA).
Networking	sharing of experience and good practice between Regions and Local Action Groups.
NIRDP	the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2014-2020.
NIRDP Monitoring Committee	Committee established as required by EU Regulation 1306/2013 to oversee the implementation of the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2014-2020.
Rural Network	The Rural Network for Northern Ireland, which will provide a range of services and support for those involved in the delivery of the NIRDP.
Objective	means the project objective as set out in Annex 1 to the Letter of Offer.
Operation	an investment, plan, commitment, project or action which is the subject of an application.
Project Start Date	the start date for the project is the date of the Letter of Offer, provided the Local Action Group has received the completed Form of Acceptance from the applicant within 28 days from the date of the Letter of Offer.
Project End Date	the date the Applicant agreed with the Local Action Group for completion and payment of all the items and activities as listed at Annex 2 'Schedule of Eligible Expenditure'

Project Targets	the scheme targets to be achieved as a result of the grant provided to carry out the project.
Project De-brief & Review Process	An independent process through which an applicant will have the opportunity to demonstrate to a Review Panel that the decision not to award funding was unreasonable or that the proper procedures were not followed.
the Paying Authority	DAERA.
the Rural Development Programme 2014-2020	Priority 6; Promoting Social Inclusion, Poverty Reduction and Economic Development in Rural Areas of the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2014 – 2020 submitted by the United Kingdom to the European Commission in accordance with the Rural Development Regulation 1305 / 2013, as approved by Commission Decision 808/2014.
the Rural Development Regulation	means Regulation (EU) No. 1305/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council on support for rural development by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development.
the Letter of Offer Contract	means the letter to which this Booklet is attached, setting out the project for which all grant aid received by ‘the Applicant’ from DAERA will be expended.
the Project	the project as initially described in the Applicant application form, and assessed and approved by way of the Letter of Offer contract from the Local Action Group.
the Property	all the buildings, equipment, furniture, fixtures, fittings and other assets owned or used by the Applicant in connection with the project, situated as specified on the Application and on the Letter of Offer.
Schedule of Eligible Expenditure	means the list of eligible items and services as annexed to the Letter of Offer at Annex 2.

3. General Conditions

- 3.1** The Applicant must not seek or make an application for any financial assistance from any other Government Department, public body or agency in respect of expenditure for which the Grant Aid is or may become payable under the terms of this Letter of Offer without written notification to the Local Action Group.
- 3.2** The Applicant must not without the prior written consent of the Local Action Group transfer or assign any of its rights or obligations under the Letter of Offer.
- 3.3** Grant Aid provided under the Letter of Offer does not imply any further commitment to the project when the terms of the Letter of Offer are completed.
- 3.4** The Applicant will be sufficiently served by any letter, notice or demand by the Local Action Group or DAERA if it is delivered by hand, left at the Applicant's last known address, sent by post addressed to the Applicant at that last known address or delivered to an e-mail address which the applicant has previously availed of to communicate with either the Local Action Group or DAERA.
- 3.5** In the case of any dispute arising on the interpretation of the conditions contained within the Letter of Offer and Terms and Conditions of Grant Aid booklet the decision of the Local Action Group and DAERA shall be final and binding.
- 3.6** The Applicant must maintain in good condition all property, equipment, machinery, furniture, fixtures, fittings, and assets owned or used by the Applicant in connection with the project.
- 3.7** The Applicant, by accepting the Letter of Offer, indemnifies the Local Action Group and DAERA against all claims, proceedings, actions, damages, legal costs, expenses and any other liabilities in respect of death, personal injury, disease transmission, loss of or damage to property arising out of or in any way connected with the performance or non-performance by the Applicant of all or any activities associated with the project and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing the use, misuse, malfunction or failure of any plant, machinery or equipment approved for Grant Aid under this Letter of Offer. Neither DAERA nor the Local Action Group shall be liable for any injury, damage or loss (of any kind) howsoever caused relating to the project.
- 3.8** No aspect of the activity being funded should be party political in intention, use or presentation; or likely to be perceived as discriminatory on grounds of religion, colour, race, gender or disability. Any activities, such as campaigning, by the Applicant must be in furtherance of, and ancillary to, its main purposes. The Local Action Group and DAERA shall judge as to whether or not any activity of the Applicant offends against this clause.

Suspension of Payments by the European Commission

- 3.9** All payments under the Letter of Offer from the Local Action Group are subject to DAERA's receipt of funding from the European Commission. Should such receipts, from the European Commission be suspended, reduced or terminated; the Department may suspend, reduce or terminate payments of funding in respect of the Applicant's Letter of Offer from the Local Action Group. In that case neither the Local Action Group nor DAERA shall be liable for any consequential losses.

4. The Project

Offer of Grant Aid

- 4.1** The Grant Aid to be provided is offered in respect of the project described in the initial application, and as specified on the Letter of Offer, including any amendments submitted in writing by the Applicant, approved by the Local Action Group and accepted by the applicant. Annex 2 to the Letter of Offer specifies the items and/or activities agreed as eligible for Grant Aid together with the indicative breakdown of costs. Annex 3 details the project and RDP targets to be achieved through the implementation of the project.
- 4.2** No Grant Aid will be payable on any:
- work started or completed;
 - invoices or receipts dated; or
 - expenditure incurred or paid,
- prior to the Project Start Date (provided the Applicant accepted the Letter of Offer in writing by signing the Form of Acceptance and returning same to the Local Action Group within the 28 day period), or after the agreed end date for the project as specified in the Letter of Offer.
- 4.3** Any equipment, materials or buildings funded under the Letter of Offer may only be used for the purposes of the approved project.

Changes to the Project

- 4.4** The Grant Aid shall be used only for the purposes of the project as defined in the Applicant's application and set out in Annex 1 of the Letter of Offer. Any intended changes to the project or the project timescales must be notified in writing in advance to the Local Action Group. The written notification must explain how the revised project achieves the objective and scheme targets as specified in the application form and business plan and agreed for the LoO, and must demonstrate how the project continues to offer added value. Continuation of Grant Aid will be subject to:
- (i) where required, re-assessment of the revised project by the Local Action Group;

- (ii) written approval of the Local Action Group and formal amendment to the Letter of Offer by issue of a Letter of Variation to the Applicant; and
- (iii) acceptance of the Letter of Variation by the Applicant.

Only one extension to the project end date is allowed.

- 4.5** Claims submitted that differ materially from the approved application without prior notification and approval will automatically incur penalties, and may result in the full assistance provided under the Letter of Offer being deemed invalid and require Grant Aid already paid to be repaid by you either partially or in full.

Level of Assistance

- 4.6** The amount of Grant Aid payable will be strictly as specified in the Schedule of Eligible Expenditure. Therefore, before signing this contract, the Applicant must ensure that the Grant Aid set out at Annex 2 of the Letter of Offer 'Schedule of Eligible Expenditure' agrees with their understanding of the amount of assistance available. Any cost overruns will be borne by the Applicant.

Pre-Payment Conditions for the Project

- 4.7** The project must remain within the area of the funding LAG. The Project or agreed phase of the project must be completed as specified on the agreed Project Schedule of Key Tasks, Timescales and Special Conditions (Annex 1) and Schedule of Eligible Expenditure (Annex 2).
- 4.8** The bank account arrangements for the project must have been confirmed by return of a completed Bankers Automated Clearing System (BACS) form to DAERA Grants & Subsidies Branch, Orchard House. The Local Action Group will explain this to you.
- 4.9** Receipt of a completed claim as provided for at Annex 4 by the date specified in Annex 1: Timescales for the Project.
- 4.10** The Local Action Group shall not approve payment of Grant Aid under the Letter of Offer until the Applicant has provided:
- (a) documentary evidence satisfactory to the Local Action Group that the project has been completed within the agreed start and end dates;
 - (b) documentary evidence satisfactory to the Local Action Group that the agreed eligible expenditure for delivery of the project has been incurred by the Applicant;
 - (c) written confirmation of VAT status (on the Declaration Section of the Claim Form) ; If the VAT status of the project items or work, the supplier or the applicant changes, the Local Action Group must be informed immediately.
 - (d) documentary evidence satisfactory to the Local Action Group of compliance with the procurement procedures provided by the Local

Action Group and as specified in the Applicant Procurement Guidance document and as outlined at the LAG pre-application workshop you attended.

- (e) written evidence satisfactory to the Local Action Group of confirmation of the amount and source of any other Grant Aid or funding towards the total project costs;
- (f) written evidence, by way of the signed Form of Acceptance attached to the Letter of Offer that the information provided in the application form is true and correct, and that all previous public funding received over the 3 fiscal years (the current business/organisation accounting year and the previous 2 accounting years) period has been declared;
- (g) documentary evidence satisfactory to the Local Action Group that the necessary insurance cover has been obtained;
and where applicable,
- (h) evidence of compliance with any specific special conditions agreed for your project as detailed by the Local Action Group on the Letter of Offer at Annex 1;
- (i) written evidence satisfactory to the Local Action Group that all necessary statutory approvals for carrying out of the project have been obtained; and
- (j) where title to the property, land or site (as appropriate to the project) is not held by the Applicant, documentary evidence of the owner's legal agreement to lease the property, land or site to the Applicant is required as detailed below, unless otherwise specified in the special conditions specific to your project at Annex 1 as follows :-

Where the applicant is a **private applicant**:

- ✓ For capital build where total grant aid of more than £50,000 is awarded for building, or renovation/refurbishment/development works the period of the lease must cover not less than 25 years from the date of the Letter of Offer,
- ✓ For capital build where total grant aid of £50,000 or less is awarded for building or renovation/refurbishment works the period of the lease must cover not less than 10 years from the date of the Letter of Offer,
- ✓ In all other cases (i.e. non capital build) the lease period should at the very least cover the period from the date of the Letter of Offer, until 5 years following the date of the final payment to the project. This lease period can be made up of a number of shorter-term consecutive leases where their renewal is closely monitored by the LAG to ensure continuity for the full lease period.

For all other applicants

- ✓ For capital build where total grant aid of more than £50,000 is awarded for building or renovation/refurbishment works the period of the lease must cover not less than 25 years from the date of the Letter of Offer,

- ✓ For capital build where total grant aid of more than £10,000 but less than £50,000 is awarded for building or renovation/refurbishment works the period of the lease must cover not less than 10 years from the date of the Letter of Offer,
- ✓ In all other cases the lease period should at the very least cover the period from the date of the Letter of Offer, until 5 years following the date of the final payment to the project. This lease period can be made up of a number of shorter-term consecutive leases where their renewal is closely monitored by the LAG to ensure continuity for the full lease period.

Alternative arrangements for NDPB, Strategic Body or a local council;

A Development Agreement between the landowner or lessee and the applicant may be put in place as an alternative to the lease agreement. As the risk to this type of project not completing is reduced, the Development Agreement, ***regardless of the activity involved***, should cover a period of not less than 7 years from the date of the Letter of Offer.

**** Please Note.*** No other funding used to develop or deliver the project may be sourced from European Union monies. Throughout the lifetime of the project the Local Action Group must be informed in advance of any changes to source(s) of funding.

Targets to Be Achieved Through Implementation of the Project

- 4.11** The RDP Scheme targets to be achieved through implementation of the project are listed at Letter of Offer, Annex 3. These are the targets (for example new business created, number of new jobs created); that you agreed would be achieved if Grant Aid was provided to help you carry out your project. Progress towards achievement of these targets will be monitored as described at Section 11.2 Provision of Information and may include a project visit as outlined in Section 13 Project Inspections.

5 Eligible Expenditure

- 5.1** All expenditure incurred for which Grant Aid will be claimed must be eligible in terms of the Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 and in accordance with the requirements of the European Community and in particular EU Regulations.
- 5.2** The Applicant must comply with these Terms and Conditions of Grant Aid.
- 5.3** The Applicant must seek written clarification from the Local Action Group where there is any doubt as to the interpretation of these Terms and Conditions of Grant Aid.

- 5.4** It is the responsibility of the Applicant to take the above actions as necessary to ensure that expenditure is eligible and that each claim is mathematically correct.
- 5.5** All goods, services and works agreed for the implementation of the project must be sourced in accordance with the Applicant Procurement Guidance provided by the Local Action Group and as outlined at the pre-application workshop you attended. At all times due consideration must be given to ensure best value for money and open, fair and transparent competition.
- 5.6** Where a variance to a procurement contract is required the Applicant should seek **prior written approval** from the Local Action Group and ensure that the required contract variation procedures are followed as set out in this guidance.
- 5.7** If the Applicant claims normal procurement procedures cannot be carried out, then **full written** justification must be provided to the Local Action Group **in advance** of any purchase being made and **written** approval granted by the Local Action Group. Failure to notify the Local Action Group will deem the purchase ineligible to receive Grant Aid.
- 5.8** Consumable items or project running costs are not eligible and must not be included on any claims for payment of Grant Aid. It should be noted that only those activities and items listed under the Schedule of Eligible Expenditure (Annex 2) are eligible for claiming payment of Grant Aid.

6 Match Funding

- 6.1** All Applicants are required to contribute to the cost of implementing the project by providing an element of matched funding. The Letter of Offer cannot issue until the Local Action Group has sufficient evidence to prove the total funding package will be in place to fund the project.
- 6.2** The amount of match funding required will be the difference between the total project cost and the total amount of grant awarded.
- 6.3** Private sector applicants, including Social Economy Enterprises, offered funding under the Rural Business Investment Scheme must provide evidence of match funding from a private source e.g. own savings, bank loan etc. Match funding contributions from public monies are not eligible to support claims for payment of Grant Aid from the private sector.
- 6.4** In the case of non-private sector projects, easement is afforded in that the level of match funding may be reduced to 25%.

7 Financial Management

- 7.1** The financial management system for the project must demonstrate effective controls and must present clear audit trails at all times.

- 7.2 The Applicant's accounting records or system must clearly identify all monies received and expended under this project and this Grant Aid.
- 7.3 The Applicant must have written procedures, appropriate to the size and nature of the business, for expenditure and financial control including bank account details, cheque signatories, and expenditure authorisation levels.
- 7.4 The Applicant must immediately inform the Local Action Group in the event of the identification of any errors in Grant Aid claims, acts of fraud and/or any circumstance that has caused or is likely to cause a loss or misuse of Grant Aid. Subsequently the Applicant must submit a full and detailed report in writing to the Local Action Group. Upon receipt of this information, the Local Action Group will determine next steps.
- 7.5 Documentary evidence of financial transactions must be retained for the period as specified under Retention of Documentation (Section 12) to show that the goods or services supported were received and paid for by the Applicant.

8 Bank Account

- 8.1 All match funding must be available from or lodged in the same bank account to which the EAFRD Grant Aid will be paid. All expenditure incurred by the applicant for implementation of the project must also be made from this bank account.
- 8.2 Non private sector Applicants that wish to retain a cost centre account system for the purposes of managing the EAFRD funded project will be required to demonstrate to the Local Action Group's satisfaction that its system guarantees a clear audit trail with regard to all aspects of the project's finances.
- 8.3 Applicants wishing to adopt this arrangement must obtain **prior written approval** from the Local Action Group. Should subsequent systems checks by the Local Action Group, agents of the Department or the Commission reveal shortcomings, then this will be considered an irregularity and a penalty may be imposed.
- 8.4 Any change of bank account must be agreed with the Local Action Group and notified in advance to DAERA Grants and Subsidies Branch by way of a new BACS form.
- 8.5 All EU Grant Aid payments will be made electronically by BACS to a UK bank account. DAERA may use these bank account details for other legitimate purposes in line with the Data Protection Act 1998 and Freedom of Information legislation.

9 Claims For Grant Aid and Payments

9.1 Grant Aid shall be paid in arrears on receipt of a properly completed official claim form as provided with the Letter of Offer. No other types of claim form will be accepted. Final Claim forms must be submitted to the Local Action Group within 28 days from the agreed end date for the project unless otherwise stated on Annex 1, Special Conditions specific to the Project.

9.2 Claim forms at Annex 4 must be accompanied by evidence to support the eligible expenditure incurred. This means that the Applicant must, as far as possible, provide original documentation for all expenditure included on the claim for payment of Grant Aid as follows:

- the specification used to seek quotations/tenders for the grant aided items;
- the required number of dated, itemised, authorised quotation/tendering documents, relevant to the value of the items or services procured;
- invoices or receipts, as applicable, marked with the date of payment and cheque number or if relevant details of alternative payment method. A copy of each cheque issued must also be provided;
- bank statements; Electronic Bank Statements are acceptable when:-
 - a) The electronic print-out should include the name of the bank, the applicant's name and bank account number. The applicant may submit this print out with the claim, however at the pre-payment site visit the on-line bank account must be accessed by the applicant in the presence of the admin unit staff for validation of the transactions relevant to the claim. The Admin Unit staff can then record this check on the printed statement provided with the claim.
 - or
 - b) The bank statement is accessed on-line by the applicant in the presence of the Admin Unit staff to validate the transactions pertaining to the claimed item(s) and a record of the Admin Unit staff validation is recorded onto the statement.

For expenditure to be considered as eligible, payments must have been debited from the Applicant's bank account.

9.3 Where an applicant purchases goods or services from outside the United Kingdom;

- Invoices in Euros should be claimed in sterling and the date of calculation will be the date the currency transaction clears the applicant's bank account. If payment is arranged through the Council's bank account the exchange rate applied by the bank may be used, however any charges in respect of this foreign exchange transfer are **not eligible** for reimbursement. In all other cases the European Central Bank website link below must be used for this calculation.

- Invoices in any other currency should also be claimed in sterling. If payment is arranged through the Council's bank account the exchange rate applied by the bank may be used, however any charges in respect of this foreign exchange transfer are not eligible for reimbursement. In all other cases applicants should use the European Central Bank website below to firstly calculate the amount in Euros and then convert this to sterling. The date of calculation will be the date the currency transaction clears the applicant's bank account.

<http://www.ecb.int/stats/exchange/eurofxref/html/index.en.html>

- 9.4** Where a relative of the Applicant has provided any of the goods, or services for which Grant Aid is claimed the Local Action Group will seek to confirm that the agreement on conflict of interest as detailed under Section 26 has not been breached.
- 9.5** Where a project includes capital/construction work, the Local Action Group must receive:
- the approved building plans/drawings; and
 - building control approval of the completed building/construction works for the site or building where the project is located. A Quantity Surveyor's report indicating concurrence with expenditure in terms of necessity, accuracy and value must also be submitted where the grant amount awarded for the capital/construction work is more than £50,000.
- 9.6** A representative of the Local Action Group will complete a pre-payment site visit to the project. Items to be verified will include:
- validity of procurement and expenditure documentation;
 - receipt of the supported items and services;
 - completion of the project as specified in the Project Schedule at Annex 1;
 - that the project funded is operational as described in the application form and LOO,
 - acknowledgement of support from the EAFRD and the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme as detailed under Publicity (Section 14).
- 9.7** The Local Action Group will also require a six monthly written declaration from the applicant on progress towards or achievement of the agreed Scheme targets to be achieved through implementation of the project.
- 9.8** DAERA EU Verification Branch will also complete a pre-payment site visit on 5% of the projects where Applicant claims for Grant Aid have been submitted by the Local Action Group to DAERA for payment.
- 9.9** Phased payments can only be claimed in line with the terms as detailed by the Local Action Group in the Special Conditions specific to your project at Annex 1.

- 9.10** No Grant Aid will be payable on any expenditure incurred prior to the Project Start date or after the agreed end date as specified at Annex 1, Project Timescales. There shall be no obligation on the Local Action Group or DAERA to make payment in respect of claims which are received after the agreed date for submission of the Claim Form.
- 9.11** Payments made by DAERA are subject to receipt of Grant Aid from the European Commission and the availability of National funding. Should such receipts be suspended or terminated DAERA may accordingly suspend or terminate payments to Applicants.
- 9.12** It is the responsibility of the Applicant to ensure that all claims are accurate and that they relate to activities and items in accordance with the Schedule of Eligible Expenditure (Annex 2). Irregular activities and transactions are not eligible for Grant Aid and may incur financial penalties as detailed under Reductions and Exclusions (Section 10) of this booklet. The Local Action Group and DAERA accept no liability in respect of any loss attributable to any delay in the payment of claims or to any suspension, reduction or cancellation of Grant Aid.
- 9.13** Payments of Grant Aid will be made by DAERA on receipt of authorised requests to make payments from the Local Action Group and will be subject to the Local Action Group having checked all expenditure, activity and beneficiaries as eligible, in terms of the programme rules and verified project completion through a site visit.
- 9.14** All payments made under the Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 will only be paid by DAERA electronically by BACS.
- 9.15** Applicants should note that where an overpayment of Priority 6 Grant Aid has occurred or claw back is deemed necessary, then DAERA may intercept a claim from any other source within the EAFRD or from EAGF.

10 Reductions and Exclusions

- 10.1** Article 63 of EU Reg 809/2014 requires the sum claimed by the claimant to be compared against the sum determined as eligible for grant assistance and for penalties to be considered if the two sums differ.
- 10.2** Should a claim contain ineligible items of expenditure the sum payable will be reduced. The Admin Unit will calculate if the identified ineligible grant payable to the claimant is more than 10% of the grant amount claimed for the purpose of determining whether a reduction should be imposed.
- 10.3** Where the sum of the ineligible expenditure exceeds 10% of the total claimed, EAFRD Regulations require the reduction will be double that amount unless it can be demonstrated that the Applicant was not at fault for the inclusion of the ineligible expenditure.

10.4 Commitments & Other Obligations are actions the applicant undertakes to carry out or are requirements that the applicant need to respect. Examples of these include:

- Failure to implement the EC's requirements on publicity or procurement;
- State aid and other obligatory procedures.

10.5 Article 35 (3) of EU Reg 809/2014 requires consideration of the severity of the non-compliance with these commitments & other obligations and depends on the importance of the consequences of the non compliance, taking into account the objectives that were not met or the effect on the project as a whole.

11 Provision of Information

10.1 The Applicant shall comply promptly with any requests by or on behalf of the Local Action Group, DAERA or the European Commission for information concerning the implementation, administration, monitoring and evaluation of the project.

11.2 Approved projects will be subject to monitoring and evaluation at regular intervals in the implementation of the project. The specific Scheme targets to be achieved as a result of grant award are detailed at Annex 3 to the Letter of Offer. In order to assess and record progress with achievement of these targets, you will be contacted every 6 months by the LAG. All scheme targets declared by you in relation to this project will be verified by the LAG. In addition to this, the LAG will send you a Post Project Evaluation form which you must complete and submit to the LAG no later than 2 years following your project end date.

11.3 To assist DAERA with an evaluation of the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme you are also required to provide the LAG with detail of the gender and age grouping details for the beneficiaries of the grant aid.

11.4 The Applicant must make available records and documents as evidence of employee numbers for the period prior to the Letter of Offer and the period up to Post Project Evaluation so that Government Departments or their agents (as detailed at Section 13) can assess and confirm the number and type of new jobs created.

11.5 The Applicant must make available annual business accounts, as prepared by a certified professional. These must detail business income and expenditure for the period prior to the Letter of Offer and the period up to Post Project Evaluation so that Government Departments or their agents (as detailed at Section 13) can evaluate the effectiveness of the Grant Aid provided.

12 Retention of Documentation

- 1.1** The Applicant is required to retain all original documents relating to the implementation of the project and its financing until 31 December 2030. In no circumstance should any documentation be destroyed or otherwise disposed of without the consent of the Local Action Group. The applicant should inform the Local Action Group if the original documents are to be retained at a different address from that specified at the address of the project.

13 Project Inspections

- 13.1** The Applicant shall ensure that any party acting in accordance with the offer of Grant Aid and the attached terms and conditions shall have the right to visit the operations relating to the project at the premises notified as the location for the project. It shall be the duty of the Applicant to ensure that such staff and agents are enabled to exercise such rights.
- 13.2** In compliance with paragraph 13.1 the following Public Bodies and their agents or representatives shall have the right to inspect the project at any time, and to require such further information to be supplied as they think fit and to be provided with such documents or items as they shall require:
- the Local Action Group;
 - DAERA;
 - Department of Finance;
 - the Northern Ireland Audit Office;
 - the European Commission; and
 - the European Court of Auditors.
- 13.3** Without prejudice to the foregoing generality, Applicants must keep and make available on request, financial and monitoring records. Computer print-outs can be accepted as proof of payment for the purpose of European Commission audit inspections.
- 13.4** The Applicant shall explain any unresolved issues arising from financial and/or monitoring returns received or from inspections to the satisfaction of the Local Action Group before approval for a subsequent payment is given.

14 Publicity

- 14.1** For projects which consider it appropriate to issue a Ministerial invitation to mark the completion of the project, the DAERA Minister must be given priority over other attendees. Applicants should inform the LAG about events, launches and significant publicity events /activities. This will provide an opportunity for the LAG to collect publicity activity as well as provide an opportunity for LAG Board members to attend publicity events.

14.2 The LAG, DAERA and the EU shall be entitled to publish details of the project and grant aid offered, including payments made, at such times and in such a manner as they may decide.

14.3 On acceptance of a LoO the applicant must acknowledge the investment contribution from the EAFRD and DAERA on all information and communication material produced in connection with the project e.g. booklets, leaflets and newsletters etc., - all of which shall contain a clear indication on the title page of the DAERA and EU support provided. This may be achieved by use of the logos as set out below:

- LAG logo;
- DAERA logo;
- RDP logo;
- Standard EU Logo (EU Flag and slogan); and
- LEADER logo.

All logos will be provided by the LAG.

The logos must be accompanied by the following wording:

‘This project was part funded under Priority 6 (LEADER) of the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs and the European Union’.

Websites

14.4 For a website developed or enhanced with the support of an RDP grant, the home page must include the logos as stated above at 14.3 along with the following statement:

‘This website was developed with support from Priority 6 (LEADER) of the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development: Europe investing in rural areas’.

Small Publicity Items

14.5 On small items funded through the programme such as pens, pencils, rulers or USB pens, the applicant may use its own business/organisational logo but must, as a minimum, include the LEADER logo along with the words ‘Rural Development Programme 2014-2020’.

Press Articles

14.6 Press articles should include the following text:

‘This project was part funded under Priority 6 (LEADER) of the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs and the European Union’.

There is no requirement to include logos in press articles.

Press Adverts – Post Receipt of a LoO

- 14.7** For press adverts where space may be at a premium and to reduce costs the applicant may use only the EU logo (plus slogan) and LEADER logo and replace all other logos with the following text:

‘This project was part funded under Priority 6 (LEADER) of the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs and the European Union’.

Other Publicity Material (e.g. flags, banners, signage etc.)

- 14.8** All logos are required as set out at 14.3 above, however where the opportunities to use all the logos and wording are restricted, the applicant must contact the Admin Unit, which will liaise with the Department on a case by case basis. Prior written approval must be obtained from the LAG if all logos and wording are not to be used.
- 14.9** Failure to comply with the logo requirements set out at 14.3 or seek prior written approval from the LAG where these are not to be used, may lead to the application of administrative penalties on any claim for funding.

LEADER acknowledgement at Project Locations

- 14.10** The LAG will provide details of the specific requirements under any Special Conditions within the LoO (**Annex 1**).

15 Value Added Tax (VAT)

- 15.1** It is the responsibility of the Applicant to provide a declaration as to the VAT status of the Applicant or business supported. The VAT amount(s) recorded on the Schedule of Eligible Expenditure are individual schedule items. If the VAT status of the applicant, the project items or activities, or of the supplier of the items **changes** from that communicated at any time prior to the submission of the claim for payment of Grant Aid then the **onus** is on the Applicant to inform the Local Action Group on a timely basis.
- 15.2** Where the Applicant or the business supported is VAT registered with HM Revenue and Customs, any VAT amounts paid on eligible expenditure must be recovered through the normal VAT return process. The amount of VAT that may be recovered by the Applicant from HM Revenue and Customs must be excluded from the eligible cost of the project when calculating Grant Aid and completing the claim form for said aid.

- 15.3** For non-VAT registered Applicants or businesses supported, the VAT amounts paid on eligible expenditure may be included on claims for payment of Grant Aid.

16 Withdrawal of Grant Aid on Default

- 16.1** The Local Action Group reserves the right to withhold any or all of the Grant Aid and/or require part or all the Grant Aid already paid to be repaid, and this may include the interest thereon, to DAERA if:
- (i) the applicant is in breach of any of their commitments and obligations under the Letter of Offer and Terms and Conditions of Grant Aid and has failed to remedy such breach within 28 days of a written request from the Local Action Group or DAERA to remedy the breach;
 - (ii) there is unsatisfactory progress towards completing the project;
 - (iii) the applicant fails to pay or repay to DAERA any sum due by them whether under these terms and conditions or otherwise;
 - (iv) the applicant is for any reason no longer able to implement the project;
 - (v) an order is made, or an effective resolution is passed, for the winding-up of the applicant or a receiver is appointed in respect of any of the Applicant(s)' assets;
 - (vi) the applicant is unable to pay their debts within the meaning of Article 103 of the Insolvency (NI) Order 1989;
 - (vii) the applicant ceases to carry on the project for the purposes for which it was established;
 - (viii) there is unsatisfactory progress towards meeting the expected activities and timescales as detailed in Annex 1 and the project and scheme outputs and results as detailed in Annex 3 in the Letter of Offer;
 - (ix) a conflict of interest is identified as detailed under Conflict of Interest, Section 26 of this booklet;
 - (x) any information given to the Local Action Group or DAERA by or on behalf of the applicant in relation to the project is found to be false or misleading or there has been a failure to disclose any material fact which would have had a bearing on the Local Action Group's consideration of the application;
 - (xi) fraud or financial irregularity is discovered.
- 16.2** In such cases as listed above, the applicant will initially be offered the opportunity to provide written explanation of the circumstances and the opportunity to offer a resolution in writing (or by e-mail). The applicant's written explanation must be submitted to the Local Action Group within the timescale set by the LAG.
- 16.3** Having considered the applicant's reply, the Local Action Group is required to give the applicant notice in writing of its proposed decision with a statement of its reasons. The applicant should be afforded the opportunity to attend a de-

brief to discuss the reasons for the LAG decision. During this de-brief discussion the basis for the decision should be communicated to the applicant. This de-brief discussion must be fully documented and this documentation retained in the project file.

- 16.4** At this stage, applicants who feel that the correct decision was not made have access to a two stage formal Review Process procedure. This procedure is an opportunity for applicants to explain and demonstrate how the LAG's decision should be changed.
- 16.5** The applicant should be informed of the formal Review Process and advised that a decision will be reviewed only under the following criteria:-
- that the outcome was a decision that no reasonable person would have made on the basis of the information provided; and/or
 - that there was a failure in adherence to procedures or systems that materially affected or could have materially affected the decision.
- 16.6** The applicant must submit a request for a formal review in writing within 28 days of the date of the decision letter or 14 days after the discussion has been held, whichever is the later. The request must clearly demonstrate the grounds in line with those stipulated above, upon which a formal review is being requested.
- 16.7** Where the Local Action Group determines that a suspected fraud or financial irregularity has, in their opinion, occurred, criminal proceedings may be instigated against the applicant as the Local Action Group may in its sole discretion so determine. The Local Action Group will refer the matter to DAERA, the Managing Authority, at this stage.

20 Termination or Suspension

- 20.1** The Local Action Group may terminate or suspend the project and seek repayment where any other event occurs in relation to the Applicant which, in the opinion of the Local Action Group and DAERA, might reasonably be expected to materially and adversely affect its liability to comply with its obligations under the Letter of Offer and Terms and Conditions of Grant Aid.

21 Repayment of Grant Aid

- 21.1** The amount to be repaid by the Applicant will be set by the Local Action Group following consideration of the circumstances of the irregularity.
- 21.2** For cases involving fraud, financial irregularity or provision of false information, recovery of the full amount paid will be sought.
- 21.3** In all other cases, the repayment amount will be proportionate to the unexpired clawback period of the Letter of Offer.

22 Disposal of Assets

22.1 Regulation (EU) 1303/2013 – Article 71 ‘Durability of operation’ states that where, within 5 years of the final payment, the funded project ceases or relocates, changes in ownership, or substantially changes in nature the amount of Grant Aid paid in respect of the project must be repaid.

22.2 With approval from the Local Action Group the amount of Grant Aid to be repaid will be calculated on the following basis:-

- Disposal during 1st year following last payment of Grant Aid 100%.
- Disposal during 2nd year following last payment of Grant Aid 80%
- Disposal during 3rd year following last payment of Grant Aid 60%
- Disposal during 4th year following last payment of Grant Aid 40%
- Disposal during 5th year following last payment of Grant Aid 20%

22.3 Where the funded project changes from the purpose intended within this 5 year period, without the prior written agreement of the Local Action Group, the full amount of Grant Aid must be repaid.

23 Interest Charges on Repayments of Grant Aid

23.1 In the event that the Department had made a written demand for repayment of Grant Aid, the Department shall be entitled to interest on the amount due in accordance with the Rural Development Programme Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 (SR No. 326 of 2015).

24 Environmental Impact

24.1 In accepting the Letter of Offer, the Applicant undertakes to implement the project in a manner which has the most positive impact on the environment, including, where possible, procuring material and equipment from sustainable sources.

25 Sharing of Information, Data Protection and Freedom of Information

25.1 In order to meet the requirements specified in Article 86 of EU Regulation 1305 of 2013, information provided by the Applicant on the Application Form, Claim Form or other sources will be held on computer. This information will be used for the administration of applications and for monitoring and evaluation purposes. The Department has the right to share information with other Departments, Agencies, and implementing bodies to enable them to prevent fraudulent applications or for detecting crime and to co-ordinate processing of complementary applications.

- 25.2** Some or all of the information provided by the Applicant may be disclosable under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 or the Department may also use it for other legitimate purposes in line with the Data Protection Act 1998 and Freedom of Information legislation.

26 Conflict Of Interest

- 26.1** In accepting the Letter of Offer, the Applicant confirms that should any conflict of interest, however arising, occur, between the Applicant and any other member of the Company/Board, employee of the Applicant, person or other entity corporate or otherwise associated with the Applicant, then, the Applicant, shall not, without the approval of the Local Action Group, engage such person or persons in connection with the project for the provision of facilities or services or enter into any contract of employment, supply or service contract with such person or persons. Any conflict of interest identified at a later stage in the implementation of the project may lead to the withdrawal of the Letter of Offer and the recovery of any monies paid.

27 Law and Jurisdiction

- 27.1** The Letter of Offer is governed by and shall be construed in accordance with the laws of Northern Ireland and the Applicant hereby agrees that the Courts of Northern Ireland shall have exclusive jurisdiction to hear and determine any disputes arising out of or in connection with this Contract.

28 Fraud

- 28.1** The Applicant must inform the Local Action Group immediately if fraud or attempted fraud is suspected.
- 28.2** Applicants delivering projects outside of the private sector are required to draw up a policy document that places effective controls for the deterrence and prompt detection of fraud should it occur.
- 28.3** All incidents of fraud or attempted fraud either reported to the Local Action Group or DAERA or discovered by their staff or agents through the monitoring and verification process will be reported to DAERA Central Investigation Service for full investigation and possible legal action.
- (i) The organisation (and/or its representatives) may be prosecuted if it fails, without reasonable excuse, to comply with any condition subject to which financial assistance has been given to the organisation requiring it to inform the Department of any event whereby the financial assistance becomes repayable.
 - (i) The Department may by notice require the organisation to furnish to the Department such information, or to produce for examination on behalf of the Department such books, records or other documents, as may be specified in the notice for the purpose of enabling the Department to

determine whether any condition subject to which the financial assistance is given is satisfied or is being complied with or whether the financial assistance has become repayable in whole or in part in accordance with any such condition.

- (iii) The organisation (and/or its representatives) may be prosecuted if in purported compliance with a notice issued under paragraph (ii) it knowingly or recklessly makes any statement or produces any document which is false in a material particular.
- (iv) The organisation (and/or its representatives) may be prosecuted, if without reasonable excuse, it fails to comply with a notice under paragraph (ii).
- (iv) It will be the responsibility of the Organisation to take whatever action is necessary to minimise the risk of fraud and to notify the Department immediately of any instances of attempted, suspected or proven fraud. Following a Departmental investigation, all instances of suspected fraud will be reported to the Police and criminal proceedings may be instigated if deemed appropriate.

29 Projects involving the Building of Property and / or the refurbishment of Property or Land.

Legal Charge on Property or Land

- 29.1** An important payment pre-condition occurs where grant aid of more than £50,000 is awarded to projects (except where the project is located on Council or privately owned land) for the building, development or refurbishment of any land or property.
- 29.2** When submitting their application, the applicant must provide a solicitor's letter detailing the following
 - a) Where the property is registered in Land Registry the applicant must provide an up to date copy of the relevant Land Registry Folio together with an up-to-date Folio map.
 - b) Where the property has not been registered in Land Registry the applicant must provide copies of all title deeds for the property to include coloured copy maps and if the property is held under a lease a copy of the freehold title held by the landlord should also be provided.
 - c) Any pre-existing charge(s) on the property/land.
 - d) The amount secured by any pre-existing charges over the property and the date when these will be eligible for release, together with a copy of any priority agreements in existence which regulate the priorities of the

pre-existing charges. Applicants for grant must also confirm if the owners of the pre-existing charges will agree to allow the DAERA Charge to take first priority over the pre-existing charges and to enter into a Deed of Priority to this effect (the Department will generally seek a first priority charge to secure grant funding awarded under a Letter of Offer).

- e) Where existing charges are in place, the current valuation for the property/land (i.e. valuation no more than 6 months old).
- f) If the applicant holds the property with a leasehold title a copy of the lease must be provided to include coloured copy lease map. The lease allows for implementation of the project as specified by the project application and associated documents.
- g) In any cases where the property is held in the name of Trustees, the latest Deed of appointment of Trustees by which the current Trustees of the organisation were appointed must be provided, together with a copy of the Declaration of Trust under which the Trustees hold the property; and a signed and dated copy of the Constitution of the organisation.

- 29.3** The applicant is required, prior to any payment of grant aid, to execute and register a legal charge in favour of the DAERA, over the land or property, with Companies House and Land Registry or Registry of Deeds.

No grant can be released to the applicant until evidence of registration has been produced to the satisfaction of DAERA. Where a Charge is to be registered in Land Registry a copy letter of acknowledgement from Land Registry confirming receipt of application for registration, together with an undertaking by the solicitor to furnish original registered Charge and copy updated folio after registration in Land Registry has taken place, will suffice.

Confirmation of Ownership or Leasing Arrangements

- 29.4** Where a project involves property, land or site development, the Local Action Group must receive:
- (i) written confirmation from the Applicant's solicitors that the Applicant owns and holds the Title Deeds for the property, land or site where the project will be located; or
 - (ii) a copy of the legally signed Long Term Lease/Title Deeds for the property, land or site where the project will be located showing the Applicant as the legal lessee/owner.

Lease agreements in respect of projects offered Grant Aid must be in-line with that agreed to meet their requirements at paragraph 4.10(j) of this booklet.

30 Planning Permission and other Legal Provisions

- 30.1** All planning permission, building by law approvals and building regulations must be complied with. Certification of this compliance must be submitted to the Local Action Group. A qualified engineer/architect or other such person who is suitably qualified to issue such certification must undertake such certification.
- 30.2** All works shall be carried out in accordance with the provisions of all relevant statutes, regulations and byelaws. The onus of obtaining all consents, permissions and compliance, etc, including consent to enter on, or interfere with land, other property or right of any person or persons, rests with the Applicant.

31 De Minimis Aid

- 31.1** The Letter of Offer is funded under the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development regulations. These regulations require that offers of Grant Aid comply with State aid rules.
- 31.2** If your Offer of Grant Aid is classified as De Minimis State Aid, the Local Action Group will have recorded this on the first page of your Letter of Offer.
- 31.3** Any aid granted under a De Minimis Letter of Offer constitutes 'de minimis aid' and must comply with Commission Regulation (EU) 1407/2013. In accordance with this Regulation a single undertaking cannot receive more than €200,000 in de minimis aid over any period of three fiscal years. The Letter of Offer must be retained until 31 December 2030, and made available, on request, by any UK public authority or agency or the European Commission asking for information on 'de minimis' aid.

32 Networking and Promotion

- 32.1** The Applicant is required to provide access to the project for the purpose of facilitating 'good practice visits' from the NIRD Monitoring Committee, the Northern Ireland Rural Network and the European Commission or other bodies as organised by the Local Action Group or DAERA.

33 Withdrawal of Application

- 33.1** The applicant can withdraw the application for Grant Aid partially or in total at any time unless paragraph 33.2 below applies. The notice of withdrawal must be made in writing to the LAG. A withdrawal shall put the claimant into the position he was in before he submitted the Grant Aid application or part of the Grant Aid application in question. Consequently, repayment of Grant Aid can be required.
- 33.2** However, where the applicant;
- a) has already been informed of an irregularity;
 - or

- b) has been given notice of the intention to carry out an on the spot check within the meaning of EC Regulation 809/2014 and the subsequent check reveals an irregularity(ies),

withdrawals shall not be authorised in respect of the parts of the aid application affected by the irregularities.



Department of
**Agriculture, Environment
and Rural Affairs**
www.daera-ni.gov.uk



'The European Agricultural Fund
for Rural Development: Europe
investing in rural areas'.



Terms and Conditions of Grant Aid provided under

Priority 6;

**Promoting Social Inclusion, Poverty Reduction and Economic Development in
Rural Areas**

Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2014 - 2020

**The Letter of Offer together with the 'Terms and Conditions of Grant Aid' form
a legally binding contract**

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1. Purpose of The Letter of Offer and Terms and Conditions of Grant Aid

- 1.1** The Letter of Offer and Terms and Conditions of Grant Aid form a contract between the Local Action Group (LAG) and the Applicant. These documents state:
- the amount of Grant Aid which is available for the Applicant to claim;
 - the conditions which must be met by the Applicant in order to claim this Grant Aid; and
 - the period of the Letter of Offer during which the terms and conditions must be complied with.

The Letter of Offer provides the LAG and the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) the right to recover Grant Aid from the Applicant if the conditions of the Letter of Offer are breached during the period within which the Letter of Offer conditions must be adhered to.

- 1.2** The Letter of Offer together with the 'Terms and Conditions of Grant Aid' form a legally binding contract and you should read both carefully before accepting the offer of Grant Aid. If you are in doubt regarding the terms of the offer, you should discuss the matter with your legal representative. The offer and subsequent Grant Aid draw down is subject to strict adherence to the allocation for specific items and activities as detailed in the table at Annex 2 to the Letter of Offer; Schedule of Eligible Expenditure, and all conditions detailed in this 'Terms and Conditions of Grant Aid' booklet.
- 1.3** By accepting the Letter of Offer you are also accepting the Terms and Conditions set out in this 'Terms and Conditions of Grant Aid' booklet. Failure to adhere to the Terms and Conditions of the offer may result in the full grant aid given under the Letter of Offer being deemed invalid and require any assistance already provided to be repaid.
- 1.4** In submitting claims for reimbursement of expenditure there is a need to adhere to the procurement requirements provided to you by the Local Action Group and outlined to you at the pre-application workshop. It is a strict requirement to have competitive tenders or quotations for project expenditure. Expenditure in breach of this requirement will be deemed ineligible and no Grant Aid will be payable.

2. Definitions and Abbreviations

Application Form	the application form submitted by you to obtain Grant Aid for the project to be funded as detailed in the Letter of Offer.
the Applicant	refers to the legal entity or person that signed and submitted the application form; accepted the offer and terms and conditions; and is responsible for ensuring compliance with obligations of the offer throughout the period of the Letter of Offer.
Asset	any asset of the Applicant / Beneficiary for which any payment of Grant Aid has been made under the Letter of Offer to which this booklet refers.
Audit Trail	record of financial transactions supported by; original documentation for procurement, invoices, receipts and bank statements to support the implementation and operation of the project.
“beneficiary”	(i) a person who has applied for and been granted approval for a project (ii) in relation to any time after a Rural Development payment has been made in connection with the project, the person to whom the payment was made; or (iii) any person who has undertaken to assume the conditions of an approval in place of a previous beneficiary;
Claw back Period	the period of the Letter of Offer during which, if irregularities are discovered, the project or business fails, the business is sold or relocates outside the Local Action Group area, repayment of all or part of the assistance already provided will be requested.
Commitments & Other Obligations	Actions the beneficiaries undertake to carry out or are requirements that the beneficiaries need to respect.
the Commission or EC	the European Commission.
‘DAERA’ or ‘the Department’	the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs.
De Minimis Aid	assistance from a public source for a trading activity which is below the threshold of aid requiring prior notification and approval from the Commission. Commission Regulation (EU) 1407/2013.
EAFRD	European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development.
Eligible Expenditure	means works or services or equipment as set out under, Annex 1 of the Letter of Offer, and procured in line with the rules by the Applicant in carrying out the project and admitted by DAERA, and others as Administrators, at its absolute discretion for the purpose of payment of Grant Aid.
EU	the European Union.

EU assistance	means assistance payable pursuant to the Rural Development Regulation 1305/2013 from the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) in accordance with the European Regulations.
Grant Aid	the EAFRD funding specified in the Letter of Offer to which this terms and conditions booklet refers or any part or parts thereof as the case may be.
Grant Rate	the percentage of the cost of individual items or services that will be used to calculate the amount of Grant Aid payable up to the maximum amount set by the Schedule of Eligible Expenditure to the Letter of Offer.
Horizontal Implementing Regulation	means Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No. 809/2014 laying down rules for the application of Regulation (EU) No. 1306/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to the integrated administration and control system, rural development measures and cross compliance.
Irregularity	any departure from the operation of the agreement of the Letter of Offer Contract between the Applicant and the Local Action Group.
Local Action Group (LAG)	the LAG appointed to implement the local development strategy.
Rural Development Strategy	the approved LAG Development Strategy (The Strategy is available from your Local Action Group).
Managing Authority	Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA).
Networking	sharing of experience and good practice between Regions and Local Action Groups.
NIRDP	the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2014-2020.
NIRDP Monitoring Committee	Committee established as required by EU Regulation 1306/2013 to oversee the implementation of the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2014-2020.
Rural Network	The Rural Network for Northern Ireland, which will provide a range of services and support for those involved in the delivery of the NIRDP.
Objective	means the project objective as set out in Annex 1 to the Letter of Offer.
Operation	an investment, plan, commitment, project or action which is the subject of an application.
Project Start Date	the start date for the project is the date of the Letter of Offer, provided the Local Action Group has received the completed Form of Acceptance from the applicant within 28 days from the date of the Letter of Offer.
Project End Date	the date the Applicant agreed with the Local Action Group for completion and payment of all the items and activities as listed at Annex 2 'Schedule of Eligible Expenditure'

Project Targets	the scheme targets to be achieved as a result of the grant provided to carry out the project.
Project De-brief & Review Process	An independent process through which an applicant will have the opportunity to demonstrate to a Review Panel that the decision not to award funding was unreasonable or that the proper procedures were not followed.
the Paying Authority	DAERA.
the Rural Development Programme 2014-2020	Priority 6; Promoting Social Inclusion, Poverty Reduction and Economic Development in Rural Areas of the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2014 – 2020 submitted by the United Kingdom to the European Commission in accordance with the Rural Development Regulation 1305 / 2013, as approved by Commission Decision 808/2014.
the Rural Development Regulation	means Regulation (EU) No. 1305/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council on support for rural development by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development.
the Letter of Offer Contract	means the letter to which this Booklet is attached, setting out the project for which all grant aid received by ‘the Applicant’ from DAERA will be expended.
the Project	the project as initially described in the Applicant application form, and assessed and approved by way of the Letter of Offer contract from the Local Action Group.
the Property	all the buildings, equipment, furniture, fixtures, fittings and other assets owned or used by the Applicant in connection with the project, situated as specified on the Application and on the Letter of Offer.
Schedule of Eligible Expenditure	means the list of eligible items and services as annexed to the Letter of Offer at Annex 2.

3. General Conditions

- 3.1** The Applicant must not seek or make an application for any financial assistance from any other Government Department, public body or agency in respect of expenditure for which the Grant Aid is or may become payable under the terms of this Letter of Offer without written notification to the Local Action Group.
- 3.2** The Applicant must not without the prior written consent of the Local Action Group transfer or assign any of its rights or obligations under the Letter of Offer.
- 3.3** Grant Aid provided under the Letter of Offer does not imply any further commitment to the project when the terms of the Letter of Offer are completed.
- 3.4** The Applicant will be sufficiently served by any letter, notice or demand by the Local Action Group or DAERA if it is delivered by hand, left at the Applicant's last known address, sent by post addressed to the Applicant at that last known address or delivered to an e-mail address which the applicant has previously availed of to communicate with either the Local Action Group or DAERA.
- 3.5** In the case of any dispute arising on the interpretation of the conditions contained within the Letter of Offer and Terms and Conditions of Grant Aid booklet the decision of the Local Action Group and DAERA shall be final and binding.
- 3.6** The Applicant must maintain in good condition all property, equipment, machinery, furniture, fixtures, fittings, and assets owned or used by the Applicant in connection with the project.
- 3.7** The Applicant, by accepting the Letter of Offer, indemnifies the Local Action Group and DAERA against all claims, proceedings, actions, damages, legal costs, expenses and any other liabilities in respect of death, personal injury, disease transmission, loss of or damage to property arising out of or in any way connected with the performance or non-performance by the Applicant of all or any activities associated with the project and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing the use, misuse, malfunction or failure of any plant, machinery or equipment approved for Grant Aid under this Letter of Offer. Neither DAERA nor the Local Action Group shall be liable for any injury, damage or loss (of any kind) howsoever caused relating to the project.
- 3.8** No aspect of the activity being funded should be party political in intention, use or presentation; or likely to be perceived as discriminatory on grounds of religion, colour, race, gender or disability. Any activities, such as campaigning, by the Applicant must be in furtherance of, and ancillary to, its main purposes. The Local Action Group and DAERA shall judge as to whether or not any activity of the Applicant offends against this clause.

Suspension of Payments by the European Commission

- 3.9** All payments under the Letter of Offer from the Local Action Group are subject to DAERA's receipt of funding from the European Commission. Should such receipts, from the European Commission be suspended, reduced or terminated; the Department may suspend, reduce or terminate payments of funding in respect of the Applicant's Letter of Offer from the Local Action Group. In that case neither the Local Action Group nor DAERA shall be liable for any consequential losses.

4. The Project

Offer of Grant Aid

- 4.1** The Grant Aid to be provided is offered in respect of the project described in the initial application, and as specified on the Letter of Offer, including any amendments submitted in writing by the Applicant, approved by the Local Action Group and accepted by the applicant. Annex 2 to the Letter of Offer specifies the items and/or activities agreed as eligible for Grant Aid together with the indicative breakdown of costs. Annex 3 details the project and RDP targets to be achieved through the implementation of the project.
- 4.2** No Grant Aid will be payable on any:
- work started or completed;
 - invoices or receipts dated; or
 - expenditure incurred or paid,
- prior to the Project Start Date (provided the Applicant accepted the Letter of Offer in writing by signing the Form of Acceptance and returning same to the Local Action Group within the 28 day period), or after the agreed end date for the project as specified in the Letter of Offer.
- 4.3** Any equipment, materials or buildings funded under the Letter of Offer may only be used for the purposes of the approved project.

Changes to the Project

- 4.4** The Grant Aid shall be used only for the purposes of the project as defined in the Applicant's application and set out in Annex 1 of the Letter of Offer. Any intended changes to the project or the project timescales must be notified in writing in advance to the Local Action Group. The written notification must explain how the revised project achieves the objective and scheme targets as specified in the application form and business plan and agreed for the LoO, and must demonstrate how the project continues to offer added value. Continuation of Grant Aid will be subject to:
- (i) where required, re-assessment of the revised project by the Local Action Group;

- (ii) written approval of the Local Action Group and formal amendment to the Letter of Offer by issue of a Letter of Variation to the Applicant; and
- (iii) acceptance of the Letter of Variation by the Applicant.

Only one extension to the project end date is allowed.

- 4.5** Claims submitted that differ materially from the approved application without prior notification and approval will automatically incur penalties, and may result in the full assistance provided under the Letter of Offer being deemed invalid and require Grant Aid already paid to be repaid by you either partially or in full.

Level of Assistance

- 4.6** The amount of Grant Aid payable will be strictly as specified in the Schedule of Eligible Expenditure. Therefore, before signing this contract, the Applicant must ensure that the Grant Aid set out at Annex 2 of the Letter of Offer 'Schedule of Eligible Expenditure' agrees with their understanding of the amount of assistance available. Any cost overruns will be borne by the Applicant.

Pre-Payment Conditions for the Project

- 4.7** The project must remain within the area of the funding LAG. The Project or agreed phase of the project must be completed as specified on the agreed Project Schedule of Key Tasks, Timescales and Special Conditions (Annex 1) and Schedule of Eligible Expenditure (Annex 2).
- 4.8** The bank account arrangements for the project must have been confirmed by return of a completed Bankers Automated Clearing System (BACS) form to DAERA Grants & Subsidies Branch, Orchard House. The Local Action Group will explain this to you.
- 4.9** Receipt of a completed claim as provided for at Annex 4 by the date specified in Annex 1: Timescales for the Project.
- 4.10** The Local Action Group shall not approve payment of Grant Aid under the Letter of Offer until the Applicant has provided:
- (a) documentary evidence satisfactory to the Local Action Group that the project has been completed within the agreed start and end dates;
 - (b) documentary evidence satisfactory to the Local Action Group that the agreed eligible expenditure for delivery of the project has been incurred by the Applicant;
 - (c) written confirmation of VAT status (on the Declaration Section of the Claim Form) ; If the VAT status of the project items or work, the supplier or the applicant changes, the Local Action Group must be informed immediately.
 - (d) documentary evidence satisfactory to the Local Action Group of compliance with the procurement procedures provided by the Local

Action Group and as specified in the Applicant Procurement Guidance document and as outlined at the LAG pre-application workshop you attended.

- (e) written evidence satisfactory to the Local Action Group of confirmation of the amount and source of any other Grant Aid or funding towards the total project costs;
- (f) written evidence, by way of the signed Form of Acceptance attached to the Letter of Offer that the information provided in the application form is true and correct, and that all previous public funding received over the 3 fiscal years (the current business/organisation accounting year and the previous 2 accounting years) period has been declared;
- (g) documentary evidence satisfactory to the Local Action Group that the necessary insurance cover has been obtained;
and where applicable,
- (h) evidence of compliance with any specific special conditions agreed for your project as detailed by the Local Action Group on the Letter of Offer at Annex 1;
- (i) written evidence satisfactory to the Local Action Group that all necessary statutory approvals for carrying out of the project have been obtained; and
- (j) where title to the property, land or site (as appropriate to the project) is not held by the Applicant, documentary evidence of the owner's legal agreement to lease the property, land or site to the Applicant is required as detailed below, unless otherwise specified in the special conditions specific to your project at Annex 1 as follows :-

Where the applicant is a **private applicant**:

- ✓ For capital build where total grant aid of more than £50,000 is awarded for building, or renovation/refurbishment/development works the period of the lease must cover not less than 25 years from the date of the Letter of Offer,
- ✓ For capital build where total grant aid of £50,000 or less is awarded for building or renovation/refurbishment works the period of the lease must cover not less than 10 years from the date of the Letter of Offer,
- ✓ In all other cases (i.e. non capital build) the lease period should at the very least cover the period from the date of the Letter of Offer, until 5 years following the date of the final payment to the project. This lease period can be made up of a number of shorter-term consecutive leases where their renewal is closely monitored by the LAG to ensure continuity for the full lease period.

For all other applicants

- ✓ For capital build where total grant aid of more than £50,000 is awarded for building or renovation/refurbishment works the period of the lease must cover not less than 25 years from the date of the Letter of Offer,

- ✓ For capital build where total grant aid of more than £10,000 but less than £50,000 is awarded for building or renovation/refurbishment works the period of the lease must cover not less than 10 years from the date of the Letter of Offer,
- ✓ In all other cases the lease period should at the very least cover the period from the date of the Letter of Offer, until 5 years following the date of the final payment to the project. This lease period can be made up of a number of shorter-term consecutive leases where their renewal is closely monitored by the LAG to ensure continuity for the full lease period.

Alternative arrangements for NDPB, Strategic Body or a local council;

A Development Agreement between the landowner or lessee and the applicant may be put in place as an alternative to the lease agreement. As the risk to this type of project not completing is reduced, the Development Agreement, ***regardless of the activity involved***, should cover a period of not less than 7 years from the date of the Letter of Offer.

**** Please Note.*** No other funding used to develop or deliver the project may be sourced from European Union monies. Throughout the lifetime of the project the Local Action Group must be informed in advance of any changes to source(s) of funding.

Targets to Be Achieved Through Implementation of the Project

- 4.11** The RDP Scheme targets to be achieved through implementation of the project are listed at Letter of Offer, Annex 3. These are the targets (for example new business created, number of new jobs created); that you agreed would be achieved if Grant Aid was provided to help you carry out your project. Progress towards achievement of these targets will be monitored as described at Section 11.2 Provision of Information and may include a project visit as outlined in Section 13 Project Inspections.

5 Eligible Expenditure

- 5.1** All expenditure incurred for which Grant Aid will be claimed must be eligible in terms of the Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 and in accordance with the requirements of the European Community and in particular EU Regulations.
- 5.2** The Applicant must comply with these Terms and Conditions of Grant Aid.
- 5.3** The Applicant must seek written clarification from the Local Action Group where there is any doubt as to the interpretation of these Terms and Conditions of Grant Aid.

- 5.4** It is the responsibility of the Applicant to take the above actions as necessary to ensure that expenditure is eligible and that each claim is mathematically correct.
- 5.5** All goods, services and works agreed for the implementation of the project must be sourced in accordance with the Applicant Procurement Guidance provided by the Local Action Group and as outlined at the pre-application workshop you attended. At all times due consideration must be given to ensure best value for money and open, fair and transparent competition.
- 5.6** Where a variance to a procurement contract is required the Applicant should seek **prior written approval** from the Local Action Group and ensure that the required contract variation procedures are followed as set out in this guidance.
- 5.7** If the Applicant claims normal procurement procedures cannot be carried out, then **full written** justification must be provided to the Local Action Group **in advance** of any purchase being made and **written** approval granted by the Local Action Group. Failure to notify the Local Action Group will deem the purchase ineligible to receive Grant Aid.
- 5.8** Consumable items or project running costs are not eligible and must not be included on any claims for payment of Grant Aid. It should be noted that only those activities and items listed under the Schedule of Eligible Expenditure (Annex 2) are eligible for claiming payment of Grant Aid.

6 Match Funding

- 6.1** All Applicants are required to contribute to the cost of implementing the project by providing an element of matched funding. The Letter of Offer cannot issue until the Local Action Group has sufficient evidence to prove the total funding package will be in place to fund the project.
- 6.2** The amount of match funding required will be the difference between the total project cost and the total amount of grant awarded.
- 6.3** Private sector applicants, including Social Economy Enterprises, offered funding under the Rural Business Investment Scheme must provide evidence of match funding from a private source e.g. own savings, bank loan etc. Match funding contributions from public monies are not eligible to support claims for payment of Grant Aid from the private sector.
- 6.4** In the case of non-private sector projects, easement is afforded in that the level of match funding may be reduced to 25%.

7 Financial Management

- 7.1** The financial management system for the project must demonstrate effective controls and must present clear audit trails at all times.

- 7.2 The Applicant's accounting records or system must clearly identify all monies received and expended under this project and this Grant Aid.
- 7.3 The Applicant must have written procedures, appropriate to the size and nature of the business, for expenditure and financial control including bank account details, cheque signatories, and expenditure authorisation levels.
- 7.4 The Applicant must immediately inform the Local Action Group in the event of the identification of any errors in Grant Aid claims, acts of fraud and/or any circumstance that has caused or is likely to cause a loss or misuse of Grant Aid. Subsequently the Applicant must submit a full and detailed report in writing to the Local Action Group. Upon receipt of this information, the Local Action Group will determine next steps.
- 7.5 Documentary evidence of financial transactions must be retained for the period as specified under Retention of Documentation (Section 12) to show that the goods or services supported were received and paid for by the Applicant.

8 Bank Account

- 8.1 All match funding must be available from or lodged in the same bank account to which the EAFRD Grant Aid will be paid. All expenditure incurred by the applicant for implementation of the project must also be made from this bank account.
- 8.2 Non private sector Applicants that wish to retain a cost centre account system for the purposes of managing the EAFRD funded project will be required to demonstrate to the Local Action Group's satisfaction that its system guarantees a clear audit trail with regard to all aspects of the project's finances.
- 8.3 Applicants wishing to adopt this arrangement must obtain **prior written approval** from the Local Action Group. Should subsequent systems checks by the Local Action Group, agents of the Department or the Commission reveal shortcomings, then this will be considered an irregularity and a penalty may be imposed.
- 8.4 Any change of bank account must be agreed with the Local Action Group and notified in advance to DAERA Grants and Subsidies Branch by way of a new BACS form.
- 8.5 All EU Grant Aid payments will be made electronically by BACS to a UK bank account. DAERA may use these bank account details for other legitimate purposes in line with the Data Protection Act 1998 and Freedom of Information legislation.

9 Claims For Grant Aid and Payments

9.1 Grant Aid shall be paid in arrears on receipt of a properly completed official claim form as provided with the Letter of Offer. No other types of claim form will be accepted. Final Claim forms must be submitted to the Local Action Group within 28 days from the agreed end date for the project unless otherwise stated on Annex 1, Special Conditions specific to the Project.

9.2 Claim forms at Annex 4 must be accompanied by evidence to support the eligible expenditure incurred. This means that the Applicant must, as far as possible, provide original documentation for all expenditure included on the claim for payment of Grant Aid as follows:

- the specification used to seek quotations/tenders for the grant aided items;
- the required number of dated, itemised, authorised quotation/tendering documents, relevant to the value of the items or services procured;
- invoices or receipts, as applicable, marked with the date of payment and cheque number or if relevant details of alternative payment method. A copy of each cheque issued must also be provided;
- bank statements; Electronic Bank Statements are acceptable when:-
 - a) The electronic print-out should include the name of the bank, the applicant's name and bank account number. The applicant may submit this print out with the claim, however at the pre-payment site visit the on-line bank account must be accessed by the applicant in the presence of the admin unit staff for validation of the transactions relevant to the claim. The Admin Unit staff can then record this check on the printed statement provided with the claim.
 - or
 - b) The bank statement is accessed on-line by the applicant in the presence of the Admin Unit staff to validate the transactions pertaining to the claimed item(s) and a record of the Admin Unit staff validation is recorded onto the statement.

For expenditure to be considered as eligible, payments must have been debited from the Applicant's bank account.

9.3 Where an applicant purchases goods or services from outside the United Kingdom;

- Invoices in Euros should be claimed in sterling and the date of calculation will be the date the currency transaction clears the applicant's bank account. If payment is arranged through the Council's bank account the exchange rate applied by the bank may be used, however any charges in respect of this foreign exchange transfer are **not eligible** for reimbursement. In all other cases the European Central Bank website link below must be used for this calculation.

- Invoices in any other currency should also be claimed in sterling. If payment is arranged through the Council's bank account the exchange rate applied by the bank may be used, however any charges in respect of this foreign exchange transfer are not eligible for reimbursement. In all other cases applicants should use the European Central Bank website below to firstly calculate the amount in Euros and then convert this to sterling. The date of calculation will be the date the currency transaction clears the applicant's bank account.

<http://www.ecb.int/stats/exchange/eurofxref/html/index.en.html>

- 9.4** Where a relative of the Applicant has provided any of the goods, or services for which Grant Aid is claimed the Local Action Group will seek to confirm that the agreement on conflict of interest as detailed under Section 26 has not been breached.
- 9.5** Where a project includes capital/construction work, the Local Action Group must receive:
- the approved building plans/drawings; and
 - building control approval of the completed building/construction works for the site or building where the project is located. A Quantity Surveyor's report indicating concurrence with expenditure in terms of necessity, accuracy and value must also be submitted where the grant amount awarded for the capital/construction work is more than £50,000.
- 9.6** A representative of the Local Action Group will complete a pre-payment site visit to the project. Items to be verified will include:
- validity of procurement and expenditure documentation;
 - receipt of the supported items and services;
 - completion of the project as specified in the Project Schedule at Annex 1;
 - that the project funded is operational as described in the application form and LOO,
 - acknowledgement of support from the EAFRD and the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme as detailed under Publicity (Section 14).
- 9.7** The Local Action Group will also require a six monthly written declaration from the applicant on progress towards or achievement of the agreed Scheme targets to be achieved through implementation of the project.
- 9.8** DAERA EU Verification Branch will also complete a pre-payment site visit on 5% of the projects where Applicant claims for Grant Aid have been submitted by the Local Action Group to DAERA for payment.
- 9.9** Phased payments can only be claimed in line with the terms as detailed by the Local Action Group in the Special Conditions specific to your project at Annex 1.

- 9.10** No Grant Aid will be payable on any expenditure incurred prior to the Project Start date or after the agreed end date as specified at Annex 1, Project Timescales. There shall be no obligation on the Local Action Group or DAERA to make payment in respect of claims which are received after the agreed date for submission of the Claim Form.
- 9.11** Payments made by DAERA are subject to receipt of Grant Aid from the European Commission and the availability of National funding. Should such receipts be suspended or terminated DAERA may accordingly suspend or terminate payments to Applicants.
- 9.12** It is the responsibility of the Applicant to ensure that all claims are accurate and that they relate to activities and items in accordance with the Schedule of Eligible Expenditure (Annex 2). Irregular activities and transactions are not eligible for Grant Aid and may incur financial penalties as detailed under Reductions and Exclusions (Section 10) of this booklet. The Local Action Group and DAERA accept no liability in respect of any loss attributable to any delay in the payment of claims or to any suspension, reduction or cancellation of Grant Aid.
- 9.13** Payments of Grant Aid will be made by DAERA on receipt of authorised requests to make payments from the Local Action Group and will be subject to the Local Action Group having checked all expenditure, activity and beneficiaries as eligible, in terms of the programme rules and verified project completion through a site visit.
- 9.14** All payments made under the Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 will only be paid by DAERA electronically by BACS.
- 9.15** Applicants should note that where an overpayment of Priority 6 Grant Aid has occurred or claw back is deemed necessary, then DAERA may intercept a claim from any other source within the EAFRD or from EAGF.

10 Reductions and Exclusions

- 10.1** Article 63 of EU Reg 809/2014 requires the sum claimed by the claimant to be compared against the sum determined as eligible for grant assistance and for penalties to be considered if the two sums differ.
- 10.2** Should a claim contain ineligible items of expenditure the sum payable will be reduced. The Admin Unit will calculate if the identified ineligible grant payable to the claimant is more than 10% of the grant amount claimed for the purpose of determining whether a reduction should be imposed.
- 10.3** Where the sum of the ineligible expenditure exceeds 10% of the total claimed, EAFRD Regulations require the reduction will be double that amount unless it can be demonstrated that the Applicant was not at fault for the inclusion of the ineligible expenditure.

10.4 Commitments & Other Obligations are actions the applicant undertakes to carry out or are requirements that the applicant need to respect. Examples of these include:

- Failure to implement the EC's requirements on publicity or procurement;
- State aid and other obligatory procedures.

10.5 Article 35 (3) of EU Reg 809/2014 requires consideration of the severity of the non-compliance with these commitments & other obligations and depends on the importance of the consequences of the non compliance, taking into account the objectives that were not met or the effect on the project as a whole.

11 Provision of Information

10.1 The Applicant shall comply promptly with any requests by or on behalf of the Local Action Group, DAERA or the European Commission for information concerning the implementation, administration, monitoring and evaluation of the project.

11.2 Approved projects will be subject to monitoring and evaluation at regular intervals in the implementation of the project. The specific Scheme targets to be achieved as a result of grant award are detailed at Annex 3 to the Letter of Offer. In order to assess and record progress with achievement of these targets, you will be contacted every 6 months by the LAG. All scheme targets declared by you in relation to this project will be verified by the LAG. In addition to this, the LAG will send you a Post Project Evaluation form which you must complete and submit to the LAG no later than 2 years following your project end date.

11.3 To assist DAERA with an evaluation of the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme you are also required to provide the LAG with detail of the gender and age grouping details for the beneficiaries of the grant aid.

11.4 The Applicant must make available records and documents as evidence of employee numbers for the period prior to the Letter of Offer and the period up to Post Project Evaluation so that Government Departments or their agents (as detailed at Section 13) can assess and confirm the number and type of new jobs created.

11.5 The Applicant must make available annual business accounts, as prepared by a certified professional. These must detail business income and expenditure for the period prior to the Letter of Offer and the period up to Post Project Evaluation so that Government Departments or their agents (as detailed at Section 13) can evaluate the effectiveness of the Grant Aid provided.

12 Retention of Documentation

- 1.1** The Applicant is required to retain all original documents relating to the implementation of the project and its financing until 31 December 2030. In no circumstance should any documentation be destroyed or otherwise disposed of without the consent of the Local Action Group. The applicant should inform the Local Action Group if the original documents are to be retained at a different address from that specified at the address of the project.

13 Project Inspections

- 13.1** The Applicant shall ensure that any party acting in accordance with the offer of Grant Aid and the attached terms and conditions shall have the right to visit the operations relating to the project at the premises notified as the location for the project. It shall be the duty of the Applicant to ensure that such staff and agents are enabled to exercise such rights.

- 13.2** In compliance with paragraph 13.1 the following Public Bodies and their agents or representatives shall have the right to inspect the project at any time, and to require such further information to be supplied as they think fit and to be provided with such documents or items as they shall require:

- the Local Action Group;
- DAERA;
- Department of Finance;
- the Northern Ireland Audit Office;
- the European Commission; and
- the European Court of Auditors.

- 13.3** Without prejudice to the foregoing generality, Applicants must keep and make available on request, financial and monitoring records. Computer print-outs can be accepted as proof of payment for the purpose of European Commission audit inspections.

- 13.4** The Applicant shall explain any unresolved issues arising from financial and/or monitoring returns received or from inspections to the satisfaction of the Local Action Group before approval for a subsequent payment is given.

14 Publicity

- 14.1** For projects which consider it appropriate to issue a Ministerial invitation to mark the completion of the project, the DAERA Minister must be given priority over other attendees. Applicants should inform the LAG about events, launches and significant publicity events /activities. This will provide an opportunity for the LAG to collect publicity activity as well as provide an opportunity for LAG Board members to attend publicity events.

14.2 The LAG, DAERA and the EU shall be entitled to publish details of the project and grant aid offered, including payments made, at such times and in such a manner as they may decide.

14.3 On acceptance of a LoO the applicant must acknowledge the investment contribution from the EAFRD and DAERA on all information and communication material produced in connection with the project e.g. booklets, leaflets and newsletters etc., - all of which shall contain a clear indication on the title page of the DAERA and EU support provided. This may be achieved by use of the logos as set out below:

- LAG logo;
- DAERA logo;
- RDP logo;
- Standard EU Logo (EU Flag and slogan); and
- LEADER logo.

All logos will be provided by the LAG.

The logos must be accompanied by the following wording:

‘This project was part funded under Priority 6 (LEADER) of the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs and the European Union’.

Websites

14.4 For a website developed or enhanced with the support of an RDP grant, the home page must include the logos as stated above at 14.3 along with the following statement:

‘This website was developed with support from Priority 6 (LEADER) of the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development: Europe investing in rural areas’.

Small Publicity Items

14.5 On small items funded through the programme such as pens, pencils, rulers or USB pens, the applicant may use its own business/organisational logo but must, as a minimum, include the LEADER logo along with the words ‘Rural Development Programme 2014-2020’.

Press Articles

14.6 Press articles should include the following text:

'This project was part funded under Priority 6 (LEADER) of the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs and the European Union'.

There is no requirement to include logos in press articles.

Press Adverts – Post Receipt of a LoO

- 14.7** For press adverts where space may be at a premium and to reduce costs the applicant may use only the EU logo (plus slogan) and LEADER logo and replace all other logos with the following text:

'This project was part funded under Priority 6 (LEADER) of the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs and the European Union'.

Other Publicity Material (e.g. flags, banners, signage etc.)

- 14.8** All logos are required as set out at 14.3 above, however where the opportunities to use all the logos and wording are restricted, the applicant must contact the Admin Unit, which will liaise with the Department on a case by case basis. Prior written approval must be obtained from the LAG if all logos and wording are not to be used.
- 14.9** Failure to comply with the logo requirements set out at 14.3 or seek prior written approval from the LAG where these are not to be used, may lead to the application of administrative penalties on any claim for funding.

LEADER acknowledgement at Project Locations

- 14.10** The LAG will provide details of the specific requirements under any Special Conditions within the LoO (**Annex 1**).

15 Value Added Tax (VAT)

- 15.1** It is the responsibility of the Applicant to provide a declaration as to the VAT status of the Applicant or business supported. The VAT amount(s) recorded on the Schedule of Eligible Expenditure are individual schedule items. If the VAT status of the applicant, the project items or activities, or of the supplier of the items **changes** from that communicated at any time prior to the submission of the claim for payment of Grant Aid then the **onus** is on the Applicant to inform the Local Action Group on a timely basis.
- 15.2** Where the Applicant or the business supported is VAT registered with HM Revenue and Customs, any VAT amounts paid on eligible expenditure must be recovered through the normal VAT return process. The amount of VAT that may be recovered by the Applicant from HM Revenue and Customs must be excluded from the eligible cost of the project when calculating Grant Aid and completing the claim form for said aid.

- 15.3** For non-VAT registered Applicants or businesses supported, the VAT amounts paid on eligible expenditure may be included on claims for payment of Grant Aid.

16 Withdrawal of Grant Aid on Default

- 16.1** The Local Action Group reserves the right to withhold any or all of the Grant Aid and/or require part or all the Grant Aid already paid to be repaid, and this may include the interest thereon, to DAERA if:
- (i) the applicant is in breach of any of their commitments and obligations under the Letter of Offer and Terms and Conditions of Grant Aid and has failed to remedy such breach within 28 days of a written request from the Local Action Group or DAERA to remedy the breach;
 - (ii) there is unsatisfactory progress towards completing the project;
 - (iii) the applicant fails to pay or repay to DAERA any sum due by them whether under these terms and conditions or otherwise;
 - (iv) the applicant is for any reason no longer able to implement the project;
 - (v) an order is made, or an effective resolution is passed, for the winding-up of the applicant or a receiver is appointed in respect of any of the Applicant(s)' assets;
 - (vi) the applicant is unable to pay their debts within the meaning of Article 103 of the Insolvency (NI) Order 1989;
 - (vii) the applicant ceases to carry on the project for the purposes for which it was established;
 - (viii) there is unsatisfactory progress towards meeting the expected activities and timescales as detailed in Annex 1 and the project and scheme outputs and results as detailed in Annex 3 in the Letter of Offer;
 - (ix) a conflict of interest is identified as detailed under Conflict of Interest, Section 26 of this booklet;
 - (x) any information given to the Local Action Group or DAERA by or on behalf of the applicant in relation to the project is found to be false or misleading or there has been a failure to disclose any material fact which would have had a bearing on the Local Action Group's consideration of the application;
 - (xi) fraud or financial irregularity is discovered.
- 16.2** In such cases as listed above, the applicant will initially be offered the opportunity to provide written explanation of the circumstances and the opportunity to offer a resolution in writing (or by e-mail). The applicant's written explanation must be submitted to the Local Action Group within the timescale set by the LAG.
- 16.3** Having considered the applicant's reply, the Local Action Group is required to give the applicant notice in writing of its proposed decision with a statement of its reasons. The applicant should be afforded the opportunity to attend a de-

brief to discuss the reasons for the LAG decision. During this de-brief discussion the basis for the decision should be communicated to the applicant. This de-brief discussion must be fully documented and this documentation retained in the project file.

- 16.4** At this stage, applicants who feel that the correct decision was not made have access to a two stage formal Review Process procedure. This procedure is an opportunity for applicants to explain and demonstrate how the LAG's decision should be changed.
- 16.5** The applicant should be informed of the formal Review Process and advised that a decision will be reviewed only under the following criteria:-
- that the outcome was a decision that no reasonable person would have made on the basis of the information provided; and/or
 - that there was a failure in adherence to procedures or systems that materially affected or could have materially affected the decision.
- 16.6** The applicant must submit a request for a formal review in writing within 28 days of the date of the decision letter or 14 days after the discussion has been held, whichever is the later. The request must clearly demonstrate the grounds in line with those stipulated above, upon which a formal review is being requested.
- 16.7** Where the Local Action Group determines that a suspected fraud or financial irregularity has, in their opinion, occurred, criminal proceedings may be instigated against the applicant as the Local Action Group may in its sole discretion so determine. The Local Action Group will refer the matter to DAERA, the Managing Authority, at this stage.

20 Termination or Suspension

- 20.1** The Local Action Group may terminate or suspend the project and seek repayment where any other event occurs in relation to the Applicant which, in the opinion of the Local Action Group and DAERA, might reasonably be expected to materially and adversely affect its liability to comply with its obligations under the Letter of Offer and Terms and Conditions of Grant Aid.

21 Repayment of Grant Aid

- 21.1** The amount to be repaid by the Applicant will be set by the Local Action Group following consideration of the circumstances of the irregularity.
- 21.2** For cases involving fraud, financial irregularity or provision of false information, recovery of the full amount paid will be sought.
- 21.3** In all other cases, the repayment amount will be proportionate to the unexpired clawback period of the Letter of Offer.

22 Disposal of Assets

22.1 Regulation (EU) 1303/2013 – Article 71 ‘Durability of operation’ states that where, within 5 years of the final payment, the funded project ceases or relocates, changes in ownership, or substantially changes in nature the amount of Grant Aid paid in respect of the project must be repaid.

22.2 With approval from the Local Action Group the amount of Grant Aid to be repaid will be calculated on the following basis:-

- Disposal during 1st year following last payment of Grant Aid 100%.
- Disposal during 2nd year following last payment of Grant Aid 80%
- Disposal during 3rd year following last payment of Grant Aid 60%
- Disposal during 4th year following last payment of Grant Aid 40%
- Disposal during 5th year following last payment of Grant Aid 20%

22.3 Where the funded project changes from the purpose intended within this 5 year period, without the prior written agreement of the Local Action Group, the full amount of Grant Aid must be repaid.

23 Interest Charges on Repayments of Grant Aid

23.1 In the event that the Department had made a written demand for repayment of Grant Aid, the Department shall be entitled to interest on the amount due in accordance with the Rural Development Programme Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 (SR No. 326 of 2015).

24 Environmental Impact

24.1 In accepting the Letter of Offer, the Applicant undertakes to implement the project in a manner which has the most positive impact on the environment, including, where possible, procuring material and equipment from sustainable sources.

25 Sharing of Information, Data Protection and Freedom of Information

25.1 In order to meet the requirements specified in Article 86 of EU Regulation 1305 of 2013, information provided by the Applicant on the Application Form, Claim Form or other sources will be held on computer. This information will be used for the administration of applications and for monitoring and evaluation purposes. The Department has the right to share information with other Departments, Agencies, and implementing bodies to enable them to prevent fraudulent applications or for detecting crime and to co-ordinate processing of complementary applications.

- 25.2** Some or all of the information provided by the Applicant may be disclosable under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 or the Department may also use it for other legitimate purposes in line with the Data Protection Act 1998 and Freedom of Information legislation.

26 Conflict Of Interest

- 26.1** In accepting the Letter of Offer, the Applicant confirms that should any conflict of interest, however arising, occur, between the Applicant and any other member of the Company/Board, employee of the Applicant, person or other entity corporate or otherwise associated with the Applicant, then, the Applicant, shall not, without the approval of the Local Action Group, engage such person or persons in connection with the project for the provision of facilities or services or enter into any contract of employment, supply or service contract with such person or persons. Any conflict of interest identified at a later stage in the implementation of the project may lead to the withdrawal of the Letter of Offer and the recovery of any monies paid.

27 Law and Jurisdiction

- 27.1** The Letter of Offer is governed by and shall be construed in accordance with the laws of Northern Ireland and the Applicant hereby agrees that the Courts of Northern Ireland shall have exclusive jurisdiction to hear and determine any disputes arising out of or in connection with this Contract.

28 Fraud

- 28.1** The Applicant must inform the Local Action Group immediately if fraud or attempted fraud is suspected.
- 28.2** Applicants delivering projects outside of the private sector are required to draw up a policy document that places effective controls for the deterrence and prompt detection of fraud should it occur.
- 28.3** All incidents of fraud or attempted fraud either reported to the Local Action Group or DAERA or discovered by their staff or agents through the monitoring and verification process will be reported to DAERA Central Investigation Service for full investigation and possible legal action.
- (i) The organisation (and/or its representatives) may be prosecuted if it fails, without reasonable excuse, to comply with any condition subject to which financial assistance has been given to the organisation requiring it to inform the Department of any event whereby the financial assistance becomes repayable.
 - (i) The Department may by notice require the organisation to furnish to the Department such information, or to produce for examination on behalf of the Department such books, records or other documents, as may be specified in the notice for the purpose of enabling the Department to

determine whether any condition subject to which the financial assistance is given is satisfied or is being complied with or whether the financial assistance has become repayable in whole or in part in accordance with any such condition.

- (iii) The organisation (and/or its representatives) may be prosecuted if in purported compliance with a notice issued under paragraph (ii) it knowingly or recklessly makes any statement or produces any document which is false in a material particular.
- (iv) The organisation (and/or its representatives) may be prosecuted, if without reasonable excuse, it fails to comply with a notice under paragraph (ii).
- (iv) It will be the responsibility of the Organisation to take whatever action is necessary to minimise the risk of fraud and to notify the Department immediately of any instances of attempted, suspected or proven fraud. Following a Departmental investigation, all instances of suspected fraud will be reported to the Police and criminal proceedings may be instigated if deemed appropriate.

29 Projects involving the Building of Property and / or the refurbishment of Property or Land.

Legal Charge on Property or Land

- 29.1** An important payment pre-condition occurs where grant aid of more than £50,000 is awarded to projects (except where the project is located on Council or privately owned land) for the building, development or refurbishment of any land or property.
- 29.2** When submitting their application, the applicant must provide a solicitor's letter detailing the following
 - a) Where the property is registered in Land Registry the applicant must provide an up to date copy of the relevant Land Registry Folio together with an up-to-date Folio map.
 - b) Where the property has not been registered in Land Registry the applicant must provide copies of all title deeds for the property to include coloured copy maps and if the property is held under a lease a copy of the freehold title held by the landlord should also be provided.
 - c) Any pre-existing charge(s) on the property/land.
 - d) The amount secured by any pre-existing charges over the property and the date when these will be eligible for release, together with a copy of any priority agreements in existence which regulate the priorities of the

pre-existing charges. Applicants for grant must also confirm if the owners of the pre-existing charges will agree to allow the DAERA Charge to take first priority over the pre-existing charges and to enter into a Deed of Priority to this effect (the Department will generally seek a first priority charge to secure grant funding awarded under a Letter of Offer).

- e) Where existing charges are in place, the current valuation for the property/land (i.e. valuation no more than 6 months old).
- f) If the applicant holds the property with a leasehold title a copy of the lease must be provided to include coloured copy lease map. The lease allows for implementation of the project as specified by the project application and associated documents.
- g) In any cases where the property is held in the name of Trustees, the latest Deed of appointment of Trustees by which the current Trustees of the organisation were appointed must be provided, together with a copy of the Declaration of Trust under which the Trustees hold the property; and a signed and dated copy of the Constitution of the organisation.

- 29.3** The applicant is required, prior to any payment of grant aid, to execute and register a legal charge in favour of the DAERA, over the land or property, with Companies House and Land Registry or Registry of Deeds.

No grant can be released to the applicant until evidence of registration has been produced to the satisfaction of DAERA. Where a Charge is to be registered in Land Registry a copy letter of acknowledgement from Land Registry confirming receipt of application for registration, together with an undertaking by the solicitor to furnish original registered Charge and copy updated folio after registration in Land Registry has taken place, will suffice.

Confirmation of Ownership or Leasing Arrangements

- 29.4** Where a project involves property, land or site development, the Local Action Group must receive:
- (i) written confirmation from the Applicant's solicitors that the Applicant owns and holds the Title Deeds for the property, land or site where the project will be located; or
 - (ii) a copy of the legally signed Long Term Lease/Title Deeds for the property, land or site where the project will be located showing the Applicant as the legal lessee/owner.

Lease agreements in respect of projects offered Grant Aid must be in-line with that agreed to meet their requirements at paragraph 4.10(j) of this booklet.

30 Planning Permission and other Legal Provisions

- 30.1** All planning permission, building by law approvals and building regulations must be complied with. Certification of this compliance must be submitted to the Local Action Group. A qualified engineer/architect or other such person who is suitably qualified to issue such certification must undertake such certification.
- 30.2** All works shall be carried out in accordance with the provisions of all relevant statutes, regulations and byelaws. The onus of obtaining all consents, permissions and compliance, etc, including consent to enter on, or interfere with land, other property or right of any person or persons, rests with the Applicant.

31 De Minimis Aid

- 31.1** The Letter of Offer is funded under the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development regulations. These regulations require that offers of Grant Aid comply with State aid rules.
- 31.2** If your Offer of Grant Aid is classified as De Minimis State Aid, the Local Action Group will have recorded this on the first page of your Letter of Offer.
- 31.3** Any aid granted under a De Minimis Letter of Offer constitutes 'de minimis aid' and must comply with Commission Regulation (EU) 1407/2013. In accordance with this Regulation a single undertaking cannot receive more than €200,000 in de minimis aid over any period of three fiscal years. The Letter of Offer must be retained until 31 December 2030, and made available, on request, by any UK public authority or agency or the European Commission asking for information on 'de minimis' aid.

32 Networking and Promotion

- 32.1** The Applicant is required to provide access to the project for the purpose of facilitating 'good practice visits' from the NIRD Monitoring Committee, the Northern Ireland Rural Network and the European Commission or other bodies as organised by the Local Action Group or DAERA.

33 Withdrawal of Application

- 33.1** The applicant can withdraw the application for Grant Aid partially or in total at any time unless paragraph 33.2 below applies. The notice of withdrawal must be made in writing to the LAG. A withdrawal shall put the claimant into the position he was in before he submitted the Grant Aid application or part of the Grant Aid application in question. Consequently, repayment of Grant Aid can be required.
- 33.2** However, where the applicant;
- a) has already been informed of an irregularity;
 - or

b) has been given notice of the intention to carry out an on the spot check within the meaning of EC Regulation 809/2014 and the subsequent check reveals an irregularity(ies),

withdrawals shall not be authorised in respect of the parts of the aid application affected by the irregularities.

Report on	1) Dungannon Regeneration Partnership Proposal 2) Sponsorship Request from DIGG 3) Cookstown & Magherafelt Promotional Materials 4) Creative Shops Network 5) Mid Ulster Business Awards 6) Magherafelt Town Centre Forum 7) Coalisland Public Realm 8) Establishment of Coalisland Town Centre Forum 9) Cookstown Town Centre Forum 10) NILGA/Ofcom Digital Growth Event 11) ICBAN (Irish Central Border Area Network)- Brexit Focus Group Sessions 12) Mid Ulster Engineering Event – ‘Facing the Future’ 13) EU Settlement Scheme 14) Meet the Buyer Event – NI Fire & Rescue Service
Date of Meeting	Thursday 14 June 2018
Reporting Officer	Fiona McKeown, Head of Economic Development

Is this report restricted for confidential business?	Yes	
If ‘Yes’, confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	X

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To provide Members with an update on key activities as detailed below.
2.0	Background
2.1	Dungannon Regeneration Partnership Proposal Dungannon Regeneration Partnership (DRP) Ltd. was set up by Dungannon & South Tyrone Borough Council in 2000 to promote and encourage the revitalisation, regeneration and development of Dungannon town. DRP has been highlighted as an example of best practice in ‘partnership working’ by Department for Communities (DfC) and has won two awards from Association of Town and City Management (ATCM) for best practice projects.
2.2	Sponsorship Request from DIGG Sponsorship request received from DIGG Childrenswear dated 17 April 2018 to hold a Charity event in aid of “Cash for Kids”. The event will be similar to a Trade Fair showcasing products and activities from businesses across the District.
2.3	Cookstown & Magherafelt Promotional Materials In 2016, Mid Ulster District Council commissioned a Positioning Study, of which a key outcome was identified to review and refresh the existing brands of Cookstown and Magherafelt.
2.4	Creative Shops Network The Creative Shops Programme is launching its second three year programme. The programme is run by Big Telly Theatre Company and funded by Esme Fairburn Foundation and Arts Council of Northern Ireland.

2.5	<p>Mid Ulster Business Awards</p> <p>Historically, Mid Ulster District Council has been a principal sponsor of the Mid Ulster Business Awards. Since 2012 the Business Awards have highlighted and rewarded those companies, large and small, which have prospered over the previous 12 months.</p>
2.6	<p>Magherafelt Town Centre Forum</p> <p>Magherafelt Town Centre Forum was re-established in January 2017. The Forum meets on a quarterly basis to act in an advisory capacity, playing a fundamental role in the development and delivery of key town centre initiatives in Magherafelt.</p>
2.7	<p>Coalisland Public Realm</p> <p>A design team has been appointed for the £2.75M redevelopment of Coalisland town centre. The scheme will include works to The Square, Main Street, Lineside, Dungannon Road, Stewartstown Road, Barrack Street, Barrack Square, Station Rd and Washingbay Road. The overarching aim of the project is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Create a safe, high-quality pedestrian-friendly environment; ▪ Revitalise and reinvigorate the town to help encourage more visitors and shoppers into the town centre; ▪ Be accessible to pedestrians and vehicles; ▪ Have free flowing traffic and retain most on-street car parking. <p>The works will include the provision of new high quality natural stone paving, street furniture, tree planting, signage, lighting and drainage and will be developed in compliance and co-operation with the Department for Infrastructure and to current DDA standards.</p>
2.8	<p>Establishment of Coalisland Town Centre Forum</p> <p>One of the actions from the Coalisland Public realm consultations was the establishment of a local Forum. This would allow Council to work in partnership with agencies, businesses, community and voluntary groups to ensure Coalisland can achieve its full potential.</p>
2.9	<p>Cookstown Town Centre Forum</p> <p>Cookstown Town Centre Forum was established in 2002 to develop a partnership approach for the development and delivery of key town centre initiatives. The Forum meets at regular intervals throughout the year.</p>
2.10	<p>NILGA/Ofcom Digital Growth Event</p> <p>A joint NILGA/Ofcom Broadband Event titled “Digital Growth – Our Future Economy” was held on Tuesday 24 April 2018 in Mossley Mill, Newtownabbey. The event had key speakers from Ofcom Northern Ireland and Scotland, Department for Economy (Responsible for Broadband provision in NI), Department for Communications, Media & Sport (DCMS) at Westminster, ROI Government Department responsible for Broadband, and Broadband Providers such as BT, Virgin & B4B.</p>
2.11	<p>ICBAN (Irish Central Border Area Network) - Brexit Focus Group Sessions</p> <p>ICBAN organised several Brexit Focus Group sessions, facilitated by Dr. Katy Hayward of Queen’s University Belfast. An MUDC officer attended on Thursday 3rd May 2018 in the Market Place Theatre & Arts Centre, Armagh. The Focus Groups sessions were promoted to all those who expressed an interest through the recent ICBAN online surveys. The aim of the Focus Group sessions was to further discuss the positive and negative impacts of Brexit on the Central Border Region, and was targeted at people who work and/or live in the Region.</p>

2.12	<p>Mid Ulster Engineering Event -‘Facing the Future’</p> <p>In September 2017, the Council’s economic development section commissioned the South West College InnoTech Centre to deliver the ‘Mid Ulster Engineering Innovation Programme 2017/18’ to provide one-to-one specialist innovation support to 18 engineering businesses to develop new products, processes and services. As part of the Programme, The InnoTechn Centre is required to deliver a high profile seminar, open to all manufacturing /engineering business in Mid Ulster to explore a current issue affecting the sector.</p>
2.13	<p>EU Settlement Scheme</p> <p>In December 2017 the UK government reached an agreement with the European Union on citizens’ rights. This agreement is to protect EU citizens rights after the UK leaves the EU and enables EU citizens to continue to live their life as they do now. It also covers their family members.</p>
2.14	<p>Meet the Buyer Event - NI Fire & Rescue Service</p> <p>MUDC in conjunction with Henry Brothers have organised a Meet the Buyer event on Monday 25 June 2018 in the Glenavon House Hotel from 12noon -7pm. Henry Brothers are the appointed company who were awarded the construction of the new Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Services Learning & Development Centre at Desertcreat, Cookstown.</p>
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p>Dungannon Regeneration Partnership Proposal</p> <p>Dungannon Regeneration Partnership (DRP) previously submitted a proposal to Council (Appendix 1) seeking part funding to support the costs of employing a Town Centre Development Manager in Dungannon over the next 2 years (as detailed below) focusing primarily on reducing the high levels of dereliction in the town. The proposal specifically requests the following funding from Council;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 1 - £31,500 • Year 2 - £31,500 <p>Members previously agreed the proposal in principal at the Development Committee meeting on the 15th March 2018, with the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The amount of Council funding to be determined by the existing economic development budget availability for 2018/19. • The amount of funding the Department of Communities (DFC) will contribute towards the project <p>Whilst there are significant pressures already placed upon Council’s economic development budget, it is felt this pilot project could offer significant results as documented in DRP’s project proposal. Therefore, it is recommended that Council contribute £30,000 per annum towards this project for a period of 2 years. This recommendation is based on partner funding from Department for Communities (minimum of £30,000 per annum), Dungannon Enterprise Centre (£10,000 per annum), and Dungannon Traders Association (£10,000 per annum).</p>
3.2	<p>Sponsorship Request from DIGG</p> <p>A request for sponsorship was received from DIGG Childrenswear (Appendix 2) to support a charity event which will take place on Sunday 30th September 2018.</p> <p>Mid Ulster District Council supported this event last year with a contribution of £2,000 which had approx 1500 people in attendance and raised £6000 for Cash for Kids.</p>

	<p>The event organisers aim to showcase a minimum of 25 businesses from across the district that specialise in baby and toddler products and activities. The total request for sponsorship this year is £4,000. The request does not outline any additional event features or attendance figures, and therefore, it is recommended Council fund this event to the value of £2,000, the same as last year.</p>						
3.3	<p>Cookstown & Magherafelt Promotional Materials</p> <p>Both Cookstown and Magherafelt new town centre brands have been agreed and some initial merchandise has been purchased to promote the brands, such as branded shopping bags and street banners.</p> <p>It is now an opportune time to heighten awareness and reinforce the new town brands and hence officers seek approval to tender for a suitable organisation to design, print, supply and deliver a range of branded products and materials for Cookstown & Magherafelt town centres. The branded products and materials will assist in promoting Cookstown and Magherafelt's refreshed brands throughout the year to different target groups, such as businesses, schools, community sector, etc, all tightly managed through a brand implementation plan.</p>						
3.4	<p>Creative Shops Network</p> <p>Creative Shops Network is a three year programme of creative residencies that take place in empty shops in towns or villages in Northern Ireland. The aim is to engage communities in creative activity and practices and increase access to the arts. It also aims to breathe life into vacant shops and energise high streets. There are a limited number of residencies across the 3 year programme. These residencies can run once a year, for either one, two or three years.</p> <p>The project involves engaging an artistic director to take over a vacant shop for 8 weeks, or for shorter periods – 4 weeks or 2 weeks. During that time, the artist meets local people, groups, passers-by, local traders, school children. They develop creative projects specifically for that community. They may bring in other artists to make things happen. Officers have been working with the Magherafelt Craft Collective over the last few months to develop the craft sector and there is interest from this group to develop a Creative Shops Project in Magherafelt in the run up to Christmas.</p>						
3.5	<p>Mid Ulster Business Awards</p> <p>Council is in receipt of information from Johnston Press (Appendix 3) relating to sponsorship opportunities at the 8th Annual Mid-Ulster Business Awards, organised by the Mid-Ulster Mail & Tyrone Times in November 2018, at the Glenavon House Hotel, Cookstown. Sponsorship costs are as follows;</p> <p><u>Sponsorships Available:</u></p> <table> <tr> <td>Principal Sponsor</td><td>£7000+vat</td></tr> <tr> <td>Associate Sponsor</td><td>£3750+vat</td></tr> <tr> <td>Category Sponsor</td><td>£1750+vat</td></tr> </table> <p>Due to limited budgets and other events in the pipeline to support local businesses, it is recommended that Council do not fund the Mid Ulster Business Awards this year.</p>	Principal Sponsor	£7000+vat	Associate Sponsor	£3750+vat	Category Sponsor	£1750+vat
Principal Sponsor	£7000+vat						
Associate Sponsor	£3750+vat						
Category Sponsor	£1750+vat						
3.6	<p>Magherafelt Town Centre Forum</p> <p>The minutes of Magherafelt Town Centre Forum Meeting held on Monday 19 February 2018 are attached at Appendix 4.</p>						

3.7

Coalisland Public Realm

Two public information update meetings were held with stakeholders on Thursday 3rd May. A further meeting was held with Department for Infrastructure Roads (DfI) on 10th May to discuss design Concept proposals. The next step in the process will be submission of the economic appraisal to the Department of Communities.

3.8

Establishment of Coalisland Town Centre Forum

It is proposed that Coalisland Town Centre Forum is established, using the same methodology for the establishment of other Town Centre Forums / Partnerships already operating in Cookstown, Dungannon, Magherafelt and Maghera. It is proposed the Forum will meet on a quarterly basis to act in an advisory capacity, playing a fundamental role in the development and delivery of key town centre initiatives.

A draft Terms of Reference for Coalisland Town Centre Forum is included at Appendix 5 detailing its proposed purpose, membership, etc.

3.9

Cookstown Town Centre Forum

Minutes of Cookstown Town Centre Forum meeting held on Tuesday 20 February 2018 are attached at Appendix 6.

3.10

NILGA/Ofcom Digital Growth Event

This joint NILGA/Ofcom Broadband Event titled “Digital Growth – Our Future Economy” was held on Tuesday 24 April 2018 in Mossley Mill, Newtownabbey. It was an informative event with key speakers focusing on looking forward in the provision of broadband especially with regards to Fibre to the Premise (FTTP). It was apparent that Fibre to the Cabinet is in the past and FTTP is the future however all speakers expressed the view that 100% full coverage with FTTP will be almost impossible to achieve.

Ofcom informed us that there will a new broadband Universal Service Obligation (USO) and from by Mid-2020 and everyone who requests it will be entitled to access speeds of at least 10 Mbit/s internet service. This news is very relevant to MUDC, the second worst broadband service in NI (see table below)

Unable to receive 10 Mbit/s or less		
Local Authority	% of premises	No. of premises
Mid Ulster District Council	14.9%	7900

Most importantly at the event the Department for the Economy (DfE) informed us that they have begun “*preparation work*” for consulting on the new £150m investment agreed under the confidence and supply agreement. DfE are going to undertake a “*programme of engagement with political and industry stakeholders*” to discuss how best to invest the **£150m** of additional funding (potentially worth c. £300m after match funding with councils/private investors etc.).

It is expected that a new **Open Market Review** (OMR) will also need to be conducted in order to confirm precisely which areas are most in need of intervention. Therefore it will be critical that all stakeholders lobby vigorously to DfE for Mid Ulster to receive significant investment. Slides from the event are contained on Appendices 7.1 and 7.2.

3.11

ICBAN (Irish Central Border Area Network) - Brexit Focus Group Sessions

Earlier in the year ICBAN had conducted an online survey regarding Brexit. There were 583 respondents from the border region and 163 of these gave their details as being interested in the Focus Group sessions. There were Focus Group sessions planned for

	<p>Enniskillen, Armagh and Ballyshannon. There was also a separate focus group arrangement for young people from the border region.</p> <p>There were 10 places available at each session, and the intention was to enable a focused discussion facilitated by Dr Katy Hayward and Mirjam de Jong of Queen's University Belfast. The discussion centred on the type of questions raised in the online survey, enabling a more detailed focus on the issues and the solutions to the challenges that are being presented. The aim of the Focus Group was to further discuss (anonymously) the positive and negative impacts of Brexit on the Central Border Region. It is intended that the outworking's of the discussions will be collated and forwarded to office of the EU's chief Brexit negotiator Michel Barnier. A report will be forwarded in the future.</p> <p>3.12 Mid Ulster Engineering Event – ‘Facing the Future’</p> <p>In recognition of the importance of emerging new technologies and the future opportunities they offer the manufacturing/engineering sector, the event theme was agreed as ‘Facing the Future’. Its objective will be to provide an insight to local businesses into how they should be considering embracing technologies such as digital fabrication, advanced robotics and automation to help their business productivity and growth.</p> <p>The keynote speaker is renowned manufacturing expert Peter Marsh, former Financial Times Manufacturing Editor and author of “The New Industrial Revolution” who will outline how the sector is being transformed by automation revolution and will also provide an insight into how businesses of all sizes can exploit new technologies.</p> <p>Businesses will also hear from a senior representative from the UK's High Value Manufacturing Catapult Centre, which is home to some of the most advanced manufacturing equipment in the world and is recognised as a global expert in 21st century manufacturing.</p> <p>To provide a local perspective, expert panellists from some leading Mid Ulster businesses be present to explain how they are driving forward digital advances to increase efficiency and stimulate growth. The event will take place as follows:</p> <p>Date: Tuesday 19 June Time: 10am – 1pm (finishing with light lunch) Venue: Burnavon Theatre, Cookstown</p> <p>Those interested in attending MUST register by contacting Clodagh O'Neill at South West College on 028 8225 5223 or registering online at www.bit.ly/MU-Future</p> <p>3.13 EU Settlement Scheme</p> <p>NILGA has provided further information on the event, as requested at the last Development Committee Meeting. They have advised that in order to secure EU citizens rights post Brexit, migrants will need to go through an application process which will confirm their status in the UK for as long as they want to stay. A process is about to begin to get everyone through in good time. Applications will be open for at least 2 years after the UK leaves the EU.</p> <p>Mid Ulster District Council has been asked to host an information event for migrants. The benefits to the council area of hosting an information event for migrants on the operation of the EU Settlement Scheme would be :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion of the Council as a civic leader
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Being proactive in addressing concerns which have been raised by communities and business • Providing factual information to a community that feels threatened and isolated. • Better engagement with migrant communities <p>To date, support is being provided to the business community and there is no specific support for migrant communities. By providing an information event the Council could show leadership and be seen as a welcoming place for migrants, where migrants are supported and their contribution to civic life and the economy are valued.</p> <p>NILGA has advised that there is evidence of migrants leaving the MUDC area and NI generally, for example, of 1200 Hungarians in the MUDC area, 400 left in the last year. This has the potential to become a major problem for employers. Mid Ulster's unemployment benefit claim rate is one of the lowest in Northern Ireland, so therefore with a strong demand for migrant labour, and a low availability of unemployed, the area would suffer a disproportionately high impact if access to labour were to become a problem.</p> <p>The event would include factual information on the roll out of the EU Settlement Scheme. Migrants would be able to receive factual information, ask questions in an open forum and engage with support groups (like CAB) that they may not have come into contact with before. The event would also offer an opportunity for employers to engage with the Home Office to understand what role they can play to support migrants in their applications to the scheme. It is hoped that by providing factual information, the migrants can easily understand what documentation they will have to provide to support their application and that they will feel less uneasy about their future in Northern Ireland.</p>
3.14	<p>Meet the Buyer Event - NI Fire & Rescue Service</p> <p>MUDC in conjunction with Henry Brothers are organising a Meet the Buyer event on Monday 25 June 2018 in the Glenavon House Hotel, Cookstown from 12noon -7pm. This relates to the construction of the new Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Services Learning & Development Centre at Desertcreat. This event will provide local companies with an opportunity to introduce themselves to the buyers (Henry Brothers) and express an interest in forming part of the supply chain for this major contract, valued at approximately £4m.</p>
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	<p>Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications</p> <p>Financial:</p> <p>Dungannon Regeneration Partnership Proposal £30,000 per annum (for 2 years) identified within existing budget</p> <p>Sponsorship Request from DIGG Recommended to support to the value of £2,000 from existing economic development budget.</p> <p>Cookstown & Magherafelt Promotional Materials At least £30,000 for merchandise from existing economic development budget.</p> <p>Creative Shops Network Contribution of up to £4,000.</p>

	Human: Officer time.
	Risk Management:
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: N/A
	Rural Needs Implications: N/A
5.0	Recommendation(s)
	Members are asked to consider;
5.1	Dungannon Regeneration Partnership Proposal Recommendation that Council contribute £30,000 per annum towards this project for a period of 2 years, provided partner funding is forthcoming from Department for Communities (minimum of £30,000 per annum), Dungannon Enterprise Centre (£10,000 per annum), and Dungannon Traders Association (£10,000 per annum).
5.2	Sponsorship Request from DIGG Recommendation to provide sponsorship of £2,000 towards the event, the same as last year.
5.3	Cookstown & Magherafelt Promotional Materials Recommendation to approve procurement via tender for a range of branded merchandise to promote Cookstown and Magherafelt revised town brands.
5.4	Creative Shops Network To seek permission to investigate the potential to develop Creative Shops Project in Magherafelt and if it proves a viable proposition, to fund the project up to £4,000.
5.5	Mid Ulster Business Awards Recommendation not to financially support the Mid Ulster Business Awards this year.
5.6	Magherafelt Town Centre Forum Recommendation to note minutes of Magherafelt Town Centre Forum on 19 February 2018.
5.7	Coalisland Public Ream Recommendation to note progress
5.8	Establishment of Coalisland Town Centre Forum Recommendation to approve the establishment of Coalisland Town Centre Forum as per Terms of Reference.
5.9	Cookstown Town Centre Forum Recommendation to note minutes of Cookstown Town Centre Forum on 20 February 2018.
5.10	NILGA/Ofcom Digital Growth Event Recommendation to note event

5.11	ICBAN (Irish Central Border Area Network)- Brexit Focus Group Sessions Recommendation to note event
5.12	Mid Ulster Engineering Event – ‘Facing the Future’ Recommendation to note event
5.13	EU Settlement Scheme Members to consider if they wish to host an event related to the EU Settlement Scheme for migrant workers and have an engagement session with businesses.
5.14	Meet the Buyer Event - NI Fire & Rescue Service Recommendation to note event.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	<p>Appendix 1: Dungannon Regeneration Partnership Proposal</p> <p>Appendix 2: Sponsorship Request from DIGG</p> <p>Appendix 3: Mid Ulster Business Awards Sponsorship Proposal</p> <p>Appendix 4: Minutes of Magherafelt Town Centre Forum Meeting 19 February 2018.</p> <p>Appendix 5: Draft Terms of Reference for Coalisland Town Centre Forum</p> <p>Appendix 6: Minutes of Cookstown Town Centre Forum Meeting 20 February 2018.</p> <p>Appendix 7.1- NILGA/Ofcom “Digital Growth – Our Future Economy” – Part 1 Slides</p> <p>Appendix 7.2 – NILGA/Ofcom “Digital Growth – Our Future Economy” – Part 2 Slides</p>



**Proposal from Dungannon Regeneration Partnership
to Mid Ulster Council to fund
a Dungannon Town Centre Development Manager
to promote Dungannon town and reduce vacancy**

Prepared February 2018

1. BACKGROUND

1.1 Formation

Dungannon Regeneration Partnership (DRP) Ltd. was set up by Dungannon & South Tyrone Borough Council in 2000 to promote and encourage the revitalisation, regeneration and development of Dungannon town. DRP has been highlighted as an example of best practice in 'partnership working' by DfC and has won two awards from ATCM for best practice projects. The economic vibrancy of town centres is dependent on successful town centre management.

1.2 DRP Membership

The DRP membership is drawn from the public, private and community sectors including Mid Ulster Council, Department for Communities (DfC), Dungannon Enterprise Centre, Dungannon Traders Association and representatives from the education, banking and voluntary sectors. DRP acts as a single voice of town centre regeneration and support and has the following characteristics:

- Already in existence for many years and constituted as company limited by guarantee
- A recognised partner of the Council.
- Recognised by DfC.
- Award winning organisation.

- Excellent past record of delivery.
- Accounts presented annually.
- Members comprising Town Councillors, Dungannon Enterprise Centre, Town Traders Assoc, South West College and local businessmen, banking sector, with council staff and DFC staff represented at meetings.
- Newly agreed strategic aims expressly aimed at town centre regeneration with emphases on partnership, people, places and promotion.
- Existing successful working relationship with Council's Regeneration Manager.
- Strong focus on vision and delivery.
- Regular monthly meetings.
- Excellent inter working relationship between members.

1.3 Aspirations

It is an aspiration of DRP to develop its role within the area as follows:

- Dedicated town centre management support
- Enhanced financial and manpower resources
- Full working relationship with Council officers.
- Support of all partners.
- Greater business and public awareness of the functions of DRP
- Ability to provide coordination and or leadership with all town centre events and marketing of same.
- Working relationship with community safety partnership and local Policing Board

In 2018, the Board adopted a strategy with the following aims:

Objective 1: Dereliction - meaningful progress made on 2 identified sites.

Objective 2: Reduced Vacancy Rate of property in the town.

Objective 3: Promote the town centre of Dungannon as a place to visit and shop.

1.4 Council report on town vacancy

In the 2017 Mid Ulster Council report "Innovative Approaches to Reducing Vacancy and Dereliction in Dungannon Town Centre" made a clear statement of intent to, not only proactively reduce vacancy and dereliction, but plan and shape it in such a way that re-positions the town as a competitive destination.

"Council will work with key public and private stakeholders to lobby for pilot status for Dungannon town centre to adopt a more holistic regeneration approach to addressing town centre vacancy and dereliction and access to more innovative funding mechanisms".

“A strong public/private delivery model will be a critical success factor in driving this project forward. **It is recommended that Dungannon Regeneration Partnership (DRP) a public/private regeneration agency/vehicle and a company limited by guarantee become the main delivery vehicle.** Stakeholder involvement in DRP is strong and the organisation does act as a project driver and catalyst for change.

It is recommended that as part of this development process that Council explore the potential with DRP to initiate a BID Feasibility Study to ascertain the potential role a Business Improvement District could play”.

2. PROPOSAL

Part funding is being sought from Mid Ulster Council to support the costs in full of employing a Town Centre Development Manager for Dungannon:

- Year 1 - £31,500
- Year 2 - £31,500

The initiative should be considered as a two-year pilot with the positive experience replicated in other large retail centres in Mid Ulster.

The proposal should be considered as a precursor to a potential BIDS application in 2 year's time.

It is proposed to create an initiative to:

1. Actively manage and fill vacant outlets throughout Dungannon town centre, promoting the town centre as a retail, commercial and entertainment centre and improving the performance of the businesses located in the town centre. The main objective of the post would be to reduce the level of vacant retail space in the town and maintain it below 5%.
2. Actively promote retailing initiatives and offers in the town. Initiatives will include:
 - a. the establishment and promotion of a "Dungannon town gift card scheme",
 - b. the content management of Dungannon town centre a Facebook site set up to promote retailing offers and news in the town,
 - c. the management of a Christmas tv advert campaign
3. Undertake promotion work that will enrich the promotion activities of community events that increase shopper and visitor footfall in Dungannon town centre. Examples of such events are:
 - a. Council run events, such as Christmas Light switch on, Halloween Fireworks etc.
 - b. Events being run on The Hill of the O'Neill and The Square Box.
 - c. Dungannon Traders events such as "Heels on the Hill" and "Digg Deep For Kids" Fun Day
 - d. Community run events, such as, Lap of the Lough, The Santa Dash, Tyrone Fleadh 2018, National Day events for the Polish, Lithuanian and East Timorese residents.

The Dungannon Town Centre Manager would be employed by Dungannon Regeneration Partnership and would report to the DRP Board of Directors. This independence from a local and central Government will enable a commercially driven post holder to work with urgency and be an unbiased driver of change who will coordinate with all relevant stakeholders to achieve success for the town.

The Manager would have the financial resources to employ part-time staff and external support, as required, to deliver upon the plan of work.

3. RATIONALE TO THE PROPOSAL

3.1 Active marketing of vacant units

When retail units become vacant it weakens the performance of nearby stores, reduces footfall in the area and increases the likelihood of further store closures – this cycle will continue unless proactive, innovative action is taken to ensure use of available units. No one is responsible for the proactive selling and promotion of vacant units to prospective tenants. Vacant units are usually let via letting agents on a commission basis and, in most cases, a passive marketing strategy is adopted. The Manager will have a clear understanding of consumer and business perceptions and use this effectively to work with landlords and letting agents to identify top end retailers/businesses, make them aware of the potential retail location and, when required, work with landlords to bring their vacant properties up to a quality standard to attract such tenants.

The plethora of vacant retail units could be the impetus to strategically re-balance the town centre visitor offering, and a chance for culture and leisure-related outlets and community services to gain more of a foothold in the town centre. The Manager will work with key stakeholders to ensure vacant units are repurposed and promoted to ensure the desired innovative approach to reducing vacancy and dereliction.

3.2 Increased rates revenue

Increased occupancy of retail units means increased revenue generated from rates for the Council. It is anticipated that, not only will the increase in revenue generated from more rates cover the cost of the Council investment, but there will also be a surplus.

At present there is vacant retail space is at 11% (Place Management Solutions report May 2017).

There are currently 32 vacant or derelict properties in Dungannon town centre out of a total of 284 properties. It is estimated that there is 30,000 sq. ft. of lettable vacant retail space in the town at present (excluding derelict sites) – a potential rates revenue of £300k per year, if occupied.

3.3 Creating opportunities from nothing

Dungannon town centre is littered with derelict sites which have the potential for development. The Manager role would inspire and support the property owner to consider ways to repurpose sites. The Manager would bring together the many stakeholders needed to breathe new economic and community life into the many derelict areas of Dungannon town centre.

The Manager's role would be to 'sell' the town as an investment opportunity for, not only for retailing, but the many other sectors that make up the vibrant and diverse community that is Dungannon. This could enable our town centre to become a prosperous and exciting space once again. By exploring the potential for a diverse range of services and businesses there is a greater chance of developing an 'evening' economy for the town, providing increased opportunity for employment and social opportunities rooted in the interests and needs of local people.

3.4 Enhanced marketing of retailing in the town

Mid Ulster Council are currently rolling out the "Discover Dungannon" brand with the objective to attract provincial and local awareness of the town. The brand is controlled by the Council and governed under its marketing protocols.

The promotion activities planned under this initiative will compliment the "Discover Dungannon" brand and will carry out targeted commercial marketing which, under Council policy cannot be undertaken.

3.5 Enhanced social well being

The impact of the retail sector goes well beyond economic output. Research has shown that a diverse retail offer can also contribute to the social well-being of local communities, and serve as a key driver for tourism by increasing the attractiveness of town centres. In fact, retail has made a significant contribution to urban regeneration and the vitality and

viability of town centres in the UK for decades by contributing to their socio-economic health.

3.6 Future proofing

Dungannon is the largest town in Mid Ulster Council and soon to become the second largest town in Tyrone after Omagh. Demographic forecasts indicate that over the next 10 years the area is facing the largest a population boom in the province. There is the potential for a Dungannon BIDS once funding is released by Government. The town centre, as an asset, needs to be “sweated” in order to cope with the demands from the increased resident population otherwise, consumers will travel elsewhere.

4. Key responsibilities of the Town Centre Development Manager

- Support property owners in the town centre to maximise their rental returns and minimising tenancy 'void' periods.
- Initiate a BID feasibility study working alongside Council and DRP.
- Work with property owners to develop initiatives and incentives to attract prospective retail tenants to the area.
- Work collaboratively with internal and external stakeholders to support the development of derelict properties
- Bring empty stores/units into use through collaboration with relevant stakeholders.
- Actively promote the towns property portfolio to attract “high street name” retailers to Dungannon.
- Work in partnership with the Traders Association and the Council to promote Dungannon as an outstanding place to visit and shop and to provide visitors with a quality of experience that encourages them to keep coming back.
- Work with Dungannon Enterprise Centre to promote retail start-ups, retail incubation and pop-up shop initiatives.
- Implement appropriate findings/recommendations from reports such as the Mid Ulster Town Centre Positioning Study, Dungannon Town Centre Masterplan as well as innovative reports, such as The 2011 Portas Review to rejuvenate town centres.

5. Budget

	Year 1	Year 2	TOTAL
Salary costs	40,000	40,000	80,000
Office rental	7,000	7,000	14,000
Travel	3,000	3,000	6,000
Stationery	4,000	3,000	7,000
Advertising and promotion costs	15,000	15,000	30,000
IT and communication	4,000	1,000	5,000
Administration support costs	9,000	9,000	18,000
Accounting and bookkeeping	3,000	3,000	6,000
	£ 85,000	£ 81,000	166,000

Proposed Funding Sources:

	Over 2 years
Mid Ulster Council	63,000
Department for Communities	63,000
Dungannon Traders	20,000
Dungannon Enterprise Centre	20,000
	£ 166,000

6. Conclusion

It is the responsibility of Dungannon Regeneration Partnership to expand upon the potential of the Dungannon town centre. A decision by Mid Ulster Council to fund a Town Centre Development Manager role makes commercial sense with regards increased Council revenue from rates, and a practical approach to reducing dereliction and vacancy in the town. The Dungannon community want to retain its town centre as its beating heart and a place where people enjoy visiting and to shop. It is essential to regard the properties in the town precinct as an 'asset', marketed and managed just like a commercial shopping centre, to give local people and visitors an experience that makes them want to 'go into town' again.

APPENDIX 2 – SPONSORSHIP REQUEST FROM DIGG



11-13 Irish Street

Dungannon

Co Tyrone

BT70 1DB

17/4/18

Dear Catherine,

Hope you are keeping well .

As discussed we are planning to hold DIGG Deep For Kids again this year to raise money for Cash For kids and promote Dungannon businesses & other Businesses within the Mid Ulster area. We hope to have a minimum of 25 other businesses all specialising in all aspects of baby and toddler products from clothes, to activities etc, from new born to age 16.

We are hoping to hold this event on Sunday 30th September @ Hill of ONeill. We envisage it being a huge success like last years event which had approx. 1500 people in attendance and raised £6000 for Cash for Kids. We wouldn't have been able to achieve this without the support of Mid Ulster Council therefore we are asking for your continued support this year also.

We will use radio and newspapers as well as our thriving social media to promote this. We anticipate raising a minimum of £6000 but would hope to raise much more. We have almost 8000 followers on facebook and over 1000 on snapchat and 2000 on instagram, so we will be able to reach many people with our advertising campaign.

We would like to request consideration from the Council for support and sponsorship of £4000 to help us run this event to its best potential, and to help us promote dungannon and the local businesses in mid-Ulster area. We will include The Mid Ulster Council logo and their involvement in the project in all our advertising campaigns. We plan to use the sponsorship towards

*hire of premises for the event and meetings running up to it

*hire of a marquee to increase space for attendees (last year the event space was very packed therefore for baby activites we envisage a marquee on the hill as well)

*employing extra staff to ensure smooth running of the event

*any equipment hire needed and any other unforeseen costs which may arise.

*hire of attractions such as superheroes, bouncy castle, face painters

Feedback from the businesses who participated in last years event has been so positive. Many reported increased awareness of their brand and business and new customers in the weeks and months following. This was exactly what I wanted to hear.

I as a business owner have a passion for promoting our town, its businesses and other local businesses in mid-Ulster Events like these are perfect for this.

We really feel this is a positive event which will create a feel good factor in Dungannon and Mid Ulster and make everyone aware of the great businesses which exist in the area.

We hope you will consider us for sponsorship as without it we would not be able to run the event to the high standard it needs to be

Many thanks for taking the time to read our proposal.

Kind regards

Caroline O'Neill

APPENDIX 3 – MID ULSTER BUSINESS AWARDS



November 2018

Glenavon House Hotel, Cookstown

The 8th Annual Mid-Ulster Business Awards, organised by the Mid-Ulster Mail & Tyrone Times will take place in November 2018, in Glenavon House Hotel, Cookstown.

You are invited to be a Sponsor.

The Event:

The awards night is staged as a gala black-tie event including dinner, guest speaker, and after-dinner entertainment.

The awards night provides an excellent opportunity for businesses to network and form new relationships. It also showcases local business and presents a positive news story.

Media Coverage:

The event will be guaranteed full coverage in print and on-line editions of the Mid-Ulster Mail & Tyrone Times from the launch of the awards through to the night itself and after. This is followed by extensive reporting and photos from the event and a further 'Mid-Ulster Business Awards 2018' supplement featuring the winners and sponsors. The Mid-Ulster Mail & Tyrone Times will also follow-up on the contacts made to cover any stories to emerge from the winning businesses over the following months. The awards night will also be covered in our sister title, The News Letter, space permitting.

70% of the Northern Ireland Population has contact with their Local Newspaper at least once a week

Mid-Ulster Mail & Tyrone Times offer:-

- **a combined weekly print run of in excess of 10,000 copies with a weekly readership of over 30,000**
- **an average 90,148* Monthly Online Unique Visitors to the Mid-Ulster Mail's website**
- **an average 47,182* Monthly Online Unique Visitors to the Tyrone Times' website**
- **in excess of 23,500 followers across the Mid-Ulster Mail's Facebook and Twitter platforms**
- **in excess of 15,000 followers across the Tyrone Times' Facebook and Twitter platforms**

Sponsorships Available:

Principal Sponsor £7000+vat

Associate Sponsor £3750+vat

Category Sponsor £1750+vat

Wine Reception Sponsor £on request

Table Wine Sponsor £on request

Charity Prize Draw £on request

Categories to choose from:

- Best Retailer
- Excellence in Innovation
- Best Customer Service
- Excellence in Tourism
- Best Digital Initiative & Use of Social Media
- Best Community Impact
- Best Export Business
- Best Manufacturer
- Readers Favourite Eating Establishment
- Business Person of the Year
- SME Business of the Year
- Excellence in People Development
- Lifetime Achievement Award

Were sponsored in 2017 by:

Mid-Ulster Mail



**GILDERNEW
& CO.**



DALRADIAN
GOLD



Henry Brothers 
magherafelt



Principal Sponsorship:

Principal Sponsorship of the event:- £7000+vat from a single main sponsor:
(an average of £1100+vat per month)

Principal Sponsor to receive naming rights with the Awards:-

“Mid Ulster Mail Tyrone Times & Mid-Ulster Business Awards” (or variant of tbc)

Principal Sponsor will receive the following:

6 months worth of company branding from June 2018 – November 2018

Launch at end of June:

- Your pull up banner displayed throughout the launch
- Your representative to speak at the launch

Pre-Event:

- Your company logo will appear in all title branding on all pre publicity material including promotional entry form
- In-paper launch in the Mid-Ulster Mail & Tyrone Times to include:
 - Launch Photograph
 - Message of support from you and your company with photograph (maximum 200 words)
 - Your company logo
- Your company logo to appear in all title branding on all adverts promoting the awards
- Acknowledgment as sponsor on editorial copy promoting the awards
- The opportunity to be involved on the judging panel

Awards Ceremony:

- Your branding to appear in staging material
- Your pull up banner in the area where the wine reception takes place prior to dinner
- Your branding will appear on video screens during the awards presentation
- You will receive complimentary tickets to the awards dinner – quantity to be negotiated depending on level of sponsorship confirmed
- A representative from your company will be invited to speak at the awards ceremony prior to the dinner
- A representative from your company will be included in all photographs with category winners, category sponsors and Johnston Press editorial and advertising staff

Post Awards:

- Media coverage to include a selection of photos in the Mid-Ulster Mail & Tyrone Times the week following the awards.
- Awards supplement to appear in the Mid-Ulster Mail & Tyrone Times at a later date to be agreed.
- Supplement:
 - Your logo will appear on the front of the supplement
 - Editorial message from you and your company (maximum 200 words)
 - Photographs from the awards dinner

Associate Sponsorship

Company branding from confirmation through to November 2018
Cost: £3750+vat

Associate Sponsor will receive:

Pre-Event

- Your company logo will appear on the front of all publicity material including promotional leaflet.
- In-paper launch in the Mid-Ulster Mail & Tyrone Times to include:
 - Launch Photograph
 - Message of support from you with photograph (maximum 200 words)
 - Your company logo
- Logo to appear in all adverts promoting the awards

Awards Ceremony:

- Your branding to appear on stage along with main sponsor.
- Your pull up banner in the area where the wine reception takes place prior to the dinner
- Your branding will appear on video screens during the awards presentation
- You will receive 5 complimentary tickets to the awards dinner
- A representative from your company will be invited to speak at the awards ceremony prior to dinner
- A representative from your company will be included in 3 category photographs along with winners, category sponsors and Johnston Press editorial and advertising staff

Post Awards:

- Media coverage to include a selection of photos in the Mid-Ulster Mail & Tyrone Times the week following the awards
- Awards supplement to appear in the Mid-Ulster Mail & Tyrone Times at a later date to be agreed
 - Your company logo will appear on the front of the supplement
 - Advert both print & online
 - Photographs from the awards dinner

Category Sponsorship

Company branding from confirmation through to November 2018
Cost: £1750+vat

Category Sponsor will receive:

Pre-Event

- Your company logo will appear against category on ALL publicity material including promotional leaflet, entry form actual and printed every week until the entry closing deadline
- In-paper launch in the Mid-Ulster Mail & Tyrone Times to include:
 - Sponsorship Announcement Photograph
 - Quote from your company representative
 - Your company logo
- Your company logo to appear alongside category in adverts promoting the awards and ticket sales closer to the event

Awards Ceremony:

- You will receive 2 complimentary tickets to the awards dinner
- Your branding to be included on event display stands in the reception area
- Your branding to be included on video screens during the Gala Meal and the relevant Awards Category presentation
- Your representative will present the category award
- Your representative will be included in the category photograph

Post Awards:

- Photograph of category award presentation to appear in the Mid-Ulster Mail & Tyrone Times the week following the awards
- Awards supplement to appear in the Mid-Ulster Mail & Tyrone Times at a later date to be agreed
 - Your company logo will appear on the relevant category page
 - Advert both print & online
 - Photograph of category award presentation

APPENDIX 4 – MINUTES OF MAGHERAFELT TOWN CENTRE FORUM

MINUTES OF MAGHERAFELT TOWN CENTRE FORUM **MONDAY 19 FEBRUARY 2018 AT 6PM** **MAGHERAFELT OFFICES,** **MID ULSTER DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Present:

Councillor Clarke	Mid Ulster District Council
Councillor McFlynn	Mid Ulster District Council
Councillor Shields	Mid Ulster District Council
Councillor Totten	Mid Ulster District Council
Patrick Anderson	Department for Communities
Dr Jack Keatley	Magherafelt Town Trustee
Gareth Thomas	Meadowlane Shopping Centre
Andy Archibald	PSNI
Beverly Knipe	PSNI
Robin Kennedy	Magherafelt Chamber of Commerce
Mark Stewart	Vintners Representative
Claire McOsker	Professional Sector Representative

In Attendance:

Fiona McKeown	Mid Ulster District Council
Davina McCartney	Mid Ulster District Council

Apologies:

Ursula Marshall	Disability Forum
Shauna McCloskey	Community Development / PCSP

	DISCUSSION	ACTION
1.	WELCOME The Chairman, Cllr Clarke welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
2.	MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING Minutes of previous meeting were agreed as accurate. Proposed by: G Thomas Seconded by: P Anderson	
3.	MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING J Keatley referred to point 5 of minutes of previous meeting and asked that the following wording be removed “and requested Dr Keatley to refrain from using this term in future”. Following discussion, Councillor Clarke stated it is important that we move ahead in a spirit of co-operation and foster good working relationships to improve Magherafelt town centre.	

4.	TOWN CENTRE FORUM – MEMBERSHIP UPDATE D McCartney reported that an application from Brian O’Kane Specsavers had been received to fill the Multiple Retailer Sector on the Town Centre Forum. It was agreed Brian should be invited to serve on Magherafelt Town Centre Forum.	
5.	REVIEW CHRISTMAS EVENTS 2017 D McCartney reported on the feedback received from Magherafelt Christmas events. It was noted that some Town Centre Traders had commented to some Councilor’s that they had witnessed a degree of disruption to their business. Cllr McFlynn commented it was a very well run event and the PSNI presence over the weekend was to be welcomed. C McOsker commented the Bank of Ireland had provided their building for family entertainment and it was a very well run event particularly the meet and greet with Santa on Broad Street. R Kennedy commented the market could be reinvented to make it more unique / specific to Magherafelt. Officers welcomed input towards the future development of events in Magherafelt town centre and added they had been working hard to develop the relationship with the Chamber of Commerce over the course of the last year. Similarly input from Forum Members would be greatly valued.	
6.	MARKETING & PROMOTION 2017 D McCartney delivered a presentation on the marketing activities in November / December 2017. Members felt there should be a closer link with Traders in the Town Centre to promote offers during the Christmas Market. J Keatley suggested running the Chamber of Commerce Christmas Window Competition at the same time as the Christmas events.	
7.	NEVER FELT BETTER BRAND REFRESH UPDATE D McCartney provided an update on the new merchandise for Magherafelt. Members preferred Option 2 for the Street Banners.	
8	REGENERATION ACTION PLAN 2018/2019 D McCartney delivered a presentation on the Regeneration Action Plan 2018/19.	
9.	ANY OTHER BUSINESS A Archibald requested if any thought had been given to the provision of a Taxi Rank in the town centre. D McCartney	

	<p>stated the Taxi Drivers Forum is in discussion with DfL Roads about this issue.</p> <p>R Kennedy stated there was a lot of chewing gum on the streets. F McKeown informed him that Council was currently purchasing a gum buster machine with support from DfC.</p> <p>R Kennedy asked if there were any plans to reinstate the squash court at Greenvale Leisure Centre. Issue to be referred to Leisure Services.</p> <p>R Kennedy stated as Greenvale Leisure Centre is now back in Council control what the benefit to the ratepayers is. Issue to be referred to Leisure Services.</p> <p>R Kennedy informed the group that the trees at the Castledawson Roundabout had been removed today to allow for the installation of the pedestrian / cycle bridge.</p>	<p>Leisure Services</p> <p>Leisure Services</p>
8.	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>Monday 23 April 2018 @ 6pm.</p>	

Meeting ended 7.10pm

APPENDIX 5

Coalisland Town Centre Forum

Terms of Reference

1.0 Purpose

Coalisland Town Centre Forum is a strategic body that will provide advice and guidance to Strategic Bodies and others regarding the growth of Coalisland Centre.

The Forum's main purpose is to:

- Stimulate and revitalise the town centre;
- Act as an 'umbrella' to facilitate the delivery of projects and initiatives by ensuring a strong, positive and coordinating vehicle deliver the regeneration of the Town Centre;
- Identify and deliver new initiatives that support town regeneration; and
- Lobby and influence other statutory bodies on issues pertinent to the Town Centre e.g car parking, traffic flow, derelict/run down properties.

Coalisland Town Centre Forum does not replace any existing organisation, such as Neighbourhood Renewal/Coalisland Traders Association but will operate in parallel to them.

The town centre forum should play a fundamental role working closely with key stakeholders such as Mid Ulster District Council, Neighbourhood Renewal, Coalisland Traders Association, Government Departments, Statutory agencies, local businesses and the community.

2.0 Membership

The Membership of the Town Centre Forum will be made up as follows:

- Torrent DEA Members (6)
- Coalisland Community and Voluntary Representative (1)
- Coalisland Traders Association Representation (2)
- Dept. for Infrastructure (1)
- Department for Communities (1)
- Community Development Representative (1)
- Planning Service (1)
- Translink (1)
- PSNI – Community Team (1)
- Coalisland Town Centre Traders (2)
- Mid Ulster Disability Forum (1)

Membership of Coalisland Forum will be reviewed on an annual basis.

If a members is unable to attend two consecutive meetings they lose their place on the Town Centre Forum and a replacement from within the same sector will be nominated to take their place.

2.1 Chair / Vice Chair

The position of Chair and Vice Chair will rotate on an annual basis between an Elected Members and a Trader. In year one the position of Chairperson will be held by an elected member and the positon of Vice Chair by a Trader.

3.0 Responsibility of Forum Members

The Forum members will be required to work together in partnership to deliver key town centre projects:-

To achieve this partnership approach, Forum members need to:

- Understand their role within the Forum
- Be champions for the Forum;
- Report back to their representative bodies

4.0 Servicing & Reporting Mechanism

4.1 Agenda and Minutes

The Forum members will receive a meeting agenda, minutes and necessary reports in a timely and efficient manner. The meeting papers will be forwarded to the Forum at least five days prior to the meeting.

4.2 Frequency of Meetings

Meeting still be held on a quarterly basis or as required.

4.3 Meeting Location

Meetings will be held in the Cornmill or Coalisland Community and Voluntary Training Room.

APPENDIX 6 – MINUTES OF COOKSTOWN TOWN CENTRE FORUM



MINUTES OF COOKSTOWN TOWN CENTRE FORUM MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 20 FEBRUARY 2018 AT 12.30 PM IN THE CHAMBER, MUDC OFFICES, COOKSTOWN

Present:

Councillor Wilson	Chairperson
Councillor McNamee	Mid Ulster District Council
Councillor Glasgow	Mid Ulster District Council
Andrew McConnell	Large Independent Retailer
Annette McGahan	Community Development
TP Sheehy	Small Independent Retailer
Bernie Sonner	Tenants Association
Hazel McKenzie	Cookstown North Community Association
Neil Bratton	DRD Roads NI
Patrick Anderson	Dept for Communities
Mary McCullagh	Mid Ulster District Council

In attendance: Deborah Ewing Mid Ulster District Council

1) APOLOGIES

Apologies were received on behalf of Paul Wilson, Cookstown Chamber of Commerce, Ursula Marshall, Cookstown Disability Programme, Sean MacMahon, MACM, and Tom Jebb, Vinters Association.

2) MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was noted that Page 5 of the previous minutes should be updated to read Cllr Buchanan also attended meeting with Philip Orr.

It was proposed by Cllr McNamee and seconded by B Sonners to ADOPT the minutes of the Town Centre Forum Meeting held on 15 January 2018.

3) TO REVIEW DRAFT MID ULSTER REGENERATION PLAN 2018-19

M McCullagh presented an update on the proposed Mid Ulster Regeneration Plan 2018-2019. The Regeneration Plan is based upon the Mid Ulster District Council Corporate Plan, Our Community Plan and Mid Ulster's Economic Development Plan 2015-2020 –

Theme 3 'Our Plan for Growth'. Copies of the aforementioned documents are available on request or are downloadable from Mid Ulster District Council website.

Key Projects for 2018-2019

A budget of £745,000 is available under 'Regeneration' for the 5 town centres of Mid Ulster (Cookstown, Dungannon, Coalisland, Magherafelt and Maghera), with delivery under 4 key themes, namely:

- Marketing & Promotion
- Business Support & Attracting Investment
- Town Centre Events
- Physical Regeneration / Improving Infrastructure

An overview of each of the 4 themes was provided as follows:

1. Marketing & Promotion

Aim – to maximise the profile of the 5 town centres and reinforce the existing town centre brands for the 5 towns. This will include:

- Seasonal marketing campaigns i.e. spring, summer, Christmas etc.
- Shop local campaigns i.e. Small Business Saturday, Independent Retail week etc.
- Social media campaigns i.e. Easter, Mothers and Fathers Day, Christmas. M McCullagh requested feedback on the videos which were circulated via Facebook in 2017. A McConnell stated that he found them to be very professional. TP Sheehy concurred advising they were well done. M McCullagh advised members that Council are keen to increase marketing through digital platforms.

With the new refreshed brand for Cookstown, including updated strapline 'Looking Good, Feeling Great', Council are proposing to purchase new branded jute shopping bags and 47 new street banners:- which are currently out to Tender/Quotation..

The Chair stated that a member of the public had proposed that the shape of the Cookstown bag could be altered to portrait rather than landscape. M McCullagh advised that this was the first occasion that the sizing of the bag had been highlighted but due consideration would be given prior to ordering.

M McCullagh presented 4 options for the new street banner. The consensus was Option 4 – for double banners, one a purple background with white Cookstown branding and the second a banner with appropriate imagery. It was agreed that a selection of alternative images would be circulated via email and a decision would be taken based on the feedback provided. Members were advised that 2/3 alternate images can be used throughout the town. M McCullagh will provide a deadline for responses and the images with the majority of votes will proceed to print.

2. Business Support & Attracting Investment

Aim – to support the growth and development of a competitive retail sector across Mid Ulster. This will include:

- Provision of free Wi-Fi in the 5 town centres. Members were advised that the Wi-Fi currently based in Cookstown will become redundant on 31 March 2018. A new tender has been issued for the 2018 financial year but there will be a period where limited Wi-Fi will be available in the town centre for a number of weeks.
- Provision of reduced Christmas car parking charges in Pay & Display Car Parks.
- Conduct BIDs Feasibility Study. An external consultant will be appointed to ascertain if any of the town centres will be eligible for BIDs. M McCullagh will provide an update on this piece of work i.e. when tendered and as work progresses.
- Contribute towards externally organised town centre events. Cookstown will contribute towards the carnival organised by The Hub.
- Town Centre Promotion – as previously advised Cookstown are organising a new brand refresh which will include branded merchandise such as branded jute shopping bags and new street banners. It is also proposed that a photographer is appointed to capture images and develop a library of photographs to be used throughout the year on various campaigns. A McConnell suggested the promotion of the Cookstown bags again through social media i.e. being pictured at various locations throughout the world as this proved very successful in previous years.

3. Town Centre Events

Aim – To develop and deliver a minimum of 2 strategic events in each town annually.

The events to take place in Cookstown are as follows:

- Continental Market – 2-3 June 2018. M McCullagh advised members that the Pipe Band Championships is taking place in Cookstown High School on 2 June also. It is anticipated that there will be a large footfall in the town. Council are proposing to enhance the family element of the event and will advise on this in due course.

Another option for consideration is for traders to potentially ‘buy in’ to the event – offering 10% off for the duration. This matter will be raised with relevant bodies in the near future.

A McConnell commented that the addition of the drinks stall at the event last year was a definite attraction. He asked if there was any possibility of a family fun fair/childrens activities being included for families. M McCullagh advised that the location for such would prove problematic within the Continental Market arena. B Sonner suggested that the use of the Post Office space could be a solution, however noted that it may not be practical in terms of other street traders.

N Bratton advised members that DfI Roads NI are proposing to issue a utilities embargo for 2 and 3 June to accommodate traffic and diversions for the Continental Market. He will provide an update when more information is available. Cllr McNamee sought clarification on whether this could be rolled out to all events within the town centre. N Bratton stated that where possible they would

accommodate this. M McCullagh advised that a full list of town centre events had been provided to DfI Roads NI.

- Christmas Lights Switch On – 23 November 2018. Members noted that as per previous meeting it has been proposed for the time of ‘switch on’ to be moved to 7.00pm. A McConnell asked if there was an update on the possibility of the Christmas lights being switched on during the day. M McCullagh advised that this is being investigated further and will update members when decision has been reached.

4. Physical Regeneration / Improving Infrastructure

Aim – To improve the townscape quality of the five town centres. This will include:

- Urban Regeneration Projects – Coalisland and Magherafelt Public Realm Schemes are planned to commence with appointments of ICT Teams. P Anderson advised members that the finances are still not guaranteed for these Schemes. He stated they are waiting on final economic appraisals being submitted before assessment and a decision is reached.

Members were informed that there are a few ongoing issues with regards to the Cookstown Public Realm Scheme in terms of the red tactiles which do not meet DfI Roads NI requirements. These issues will need to be addressed prior to DfI Roads NI agreeing to adoption the Scheme. N Bratton expressed that it would be beneficial for a representative from DfI Roads NI, and himself in particular, to be involved in the design and selection of materials stage of the schemes. P Anderson stated that a representative is always invited to sit on these boards but that DfI Roads NI have the responsibility of deciding who should attend.

Revitalisation projects for the 3 main towns - P Anderson stated that at present the Department for Communities cannot make any commitments for the next financial year. However, Council can still make applications to the revitalisation fund should monies become available.

- Rural Regeneration Projects – Rural Development Programme are funding projects in 37 rural villages within the district. Members were advised that 11 of these villages are located in the former legacy Cookstown District Council area.
- Mid Ulster Village Spruce Up Schemes – 118 applications were successful under Mid Ulster Village Spruce Up Scheme. 70 projects are on target for completion by 31 March 2018, with remaining projects funded in 2018-2019 financial year.

4) ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Chair requested a brief update on utilities traffic management around Cookstown. N Bratton advised members that Gas to the West works on the Killymoon Road are ahead of schedule and should be completed within 2 weeks. Following this they will move on to Lomond Heights.

NIW works on Orritor Street should be complete within 5 weeks. A meeting is being held next week with regards to works on Coagh Street and traffic management.

M McCullagh advised members that SGN – Gas to the West – were holding a drop in session on Tuesday 6 March from 12pm – 2pm and 5pm – 7pm.

5) DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING

M McCullagh advised that the Members would be informed of the next meeting once confirmed.

The meeting ended at 1.20pm.

DIGITAL GROWTH: OUR FUTURE ECONOMY



MOSSLEY MILL

Carnmoney Road North, Newtownabbey BT36 5QA

Tuesday 24 April 10am-1.30pm



DIGITAL GROWTH: OUR FUTURE ECONOMY

Sinead Lee
OFCOM Northern Ireland



Regulatory Framework

Sinead Lee

24 April 2018

Setting the Scene



Superfast broadband
is available to

85% of premises in
Northern Ireland

With only...

7% of premises unable to get
a service which will support
speeds ≥ 10 Mbit/s

Also a...

1/4 of premises have Ultrafast
BB available

91%

3%

1/3

The Urban/Rural split

Urban

Rural

30Mbit/s **97%**

30Mbit/s **57%**

10 Mbit/s **99%**

10Mbit/s **77%**

In **Northern Ireland**, the average download speeds in rural areas are nearly half those in urban areas

Average monthly data usage is lower too - 152GB (rural) v 201 GB (urban)



Regulatory Framework

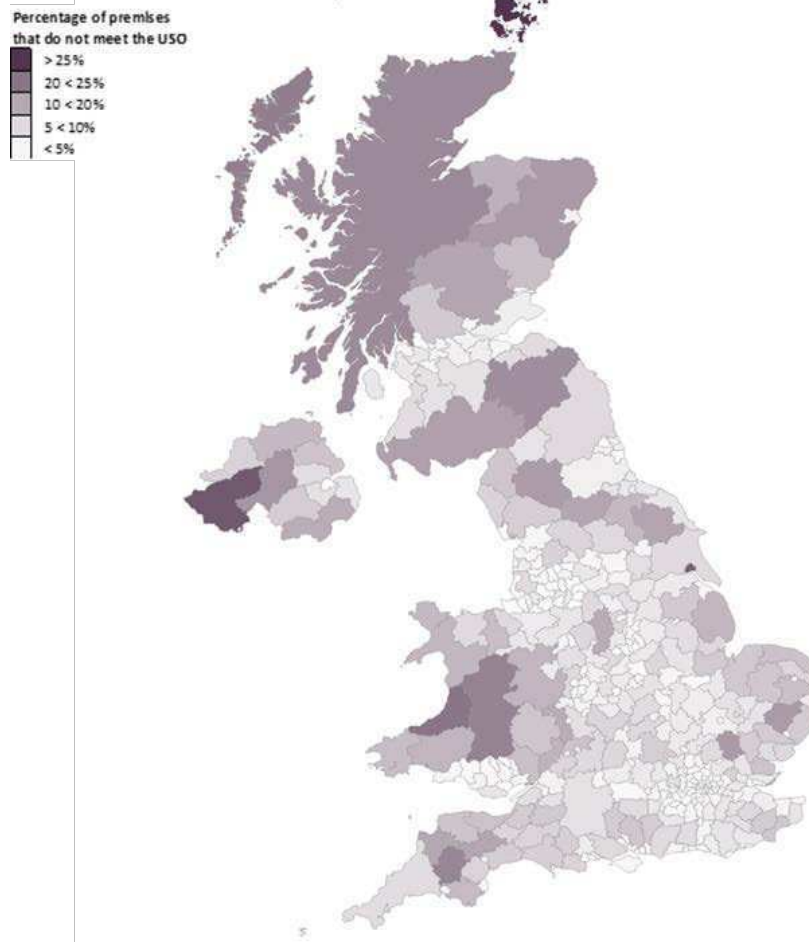
Promoting investment in full-fibre broadband

- Making BT's telegraph poles and underground tunnels open to rival providers
- Pricing decisions to encourage investment
- Cutting wholesale price that Openreach can charge telecoms companies for broadband of up to 40Mbit/s download and 10Mbit/s upload
- Measures to force faster repairs and installations by Openreach

Broadband USO

- In December 2017, Government confirmed that it would be pursuing a regulatory broadband USO giving everyone in the UK access to speeds of at least 10 Mbit/s by 2020.
- DCMS laid the USO Statutory Instrument (SI) at the end of March which passed responsibility for implementing the USO to Ofcom.

Scale of the problem



Unable to receive 10Mbit/s

Local Authority	% of premises	No. of premises
Fermanagh and Omagh	23.4%	10800
Mid Ulster	14.9%	7900
Newry, Mourne and Down	11.6%	7900
Causeway Coast and Glens	9.8%	6100
Mid and East Antrim	8.2%	4800
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	7.0%	5900
Derry City and Strabane	6.4%	3800
Antrim and Newtownabbey	4.7%	2800
Lisburn and Castlereagh	4.3%	2500
Ards and North Down	3.6%	2600
Belfast	0.5%	800

The Broadband Universal Service Obligation

- The USO will give everyone in the UK the right to request a broadband service of at least **10Mbit/s download** and **1Mbit/s upload** regardless of where they are located within the UK.
- There will be a **cost threshold of £3,400** per premise, with demand aggregation forming an essential feature of USO implementation to ensure that as many people who want to get connected, do get connected.
- **Uniform pricing** will apply so that people connected under the USO will not pay more than comparable services in non-USO areas
- Costs will be met by industry through a **cost-sharing mechanism**
- Ofcom to designate **Universal Service Provider(s)**.

Ofcom's role

- Ofcom is responsible for imposing the USO conditions on the Universal Service Provider(s) (USP). We will need to agree a policy on:
 - **Designation** – who is designated as the USP and the process for determining designation;
 - **Funding and Net Cost Calculation** – how the USP can recover any unfair net costs from the industry fund, and who will contribute to the fund;
 - **Affordability and pricing** – Ensuring that the USO service is affordable to consumers;
 - **Quality of Service** – Ensuring that premises connected under the USO do not receive a worse service standard than commercial or publicly funded rollout; and
 - **Reporting and Monitoring** – how we collect and assess data from the USP to determine whether it is meeting its obligations and that the USO is working effectively.

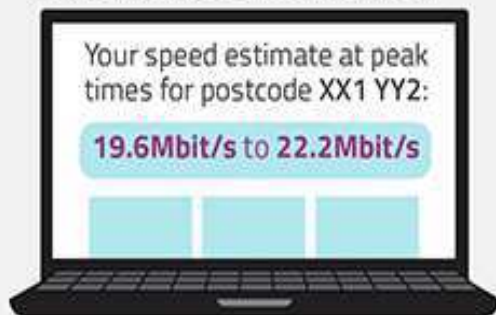
Timing

- **Pre-summer 2018** - We will be asking operators to express their interest in being designated as the USP(s) in order to inform our proposals on the approach we take to designation.
- We will publish consultations by **Autumn 2018** on designation, funding, and USP conditions (the requirements placed on the USP) .
- We would then need to publish a further statement on funding regulations, USO conditions and designation regulations in **2019**.
- We expect to be on track to formally designate the USP(s) giving people the right to request a USO connection by **2020**.

In the meantime...

Broadband Speeds Code of Practice

- 1** Providing more **realistic speed estimates** at the point of sale, which reflect peak times.



- 2** Always providing a **minimum guaranteed speed** at the point of sale.

Did you know that if your speed falls below XMbit/s for a sustained period you may have a right to exit your contract.



- 3** **Strengthening customers' right to exit** if speeds fall below the minimum guaranteed level.



Limit the time for provider to improve speed before offering right to exit.






For residential customers the right to exit will apply to phone and TV services bought at the same time as broadband.

- 4** Ensuring all customers **benefit from the codes**, regardless of their broadband technology.

Copper	✓	Applies
Part or full fibre	✓	Applies
Cable	✓	Applies

Automatic Compensation

Problem	A landline or broadband customer would be entitled to compensation if...	Amount of compensation
Delayed repair following loss of service	Their service has stopped working and it is not fully fixed after two full working days.	 £8 for each calendar day that the service is not repaired
Missed appointments	An engineer does not turn up for a scheduled appointment, or it is cancelled with less than 24 hours' notice.	 £25 per missed appointment
Delays with the start of a new service	Their provider promises to start a new service on a particular date, but fails to do so.	 £5 for each calendar day of delay, including the missed start date

www.ofcom.org.uk

sinead.lee@ofcom.org.uk

DIGITAL GROWTH: OUR FUTURE ECONOMY

Frank McManus BT NI Networks



DIGITAL GROWTH: OUR FUTURE ECONOMY

Conor Harrison Virgin Media





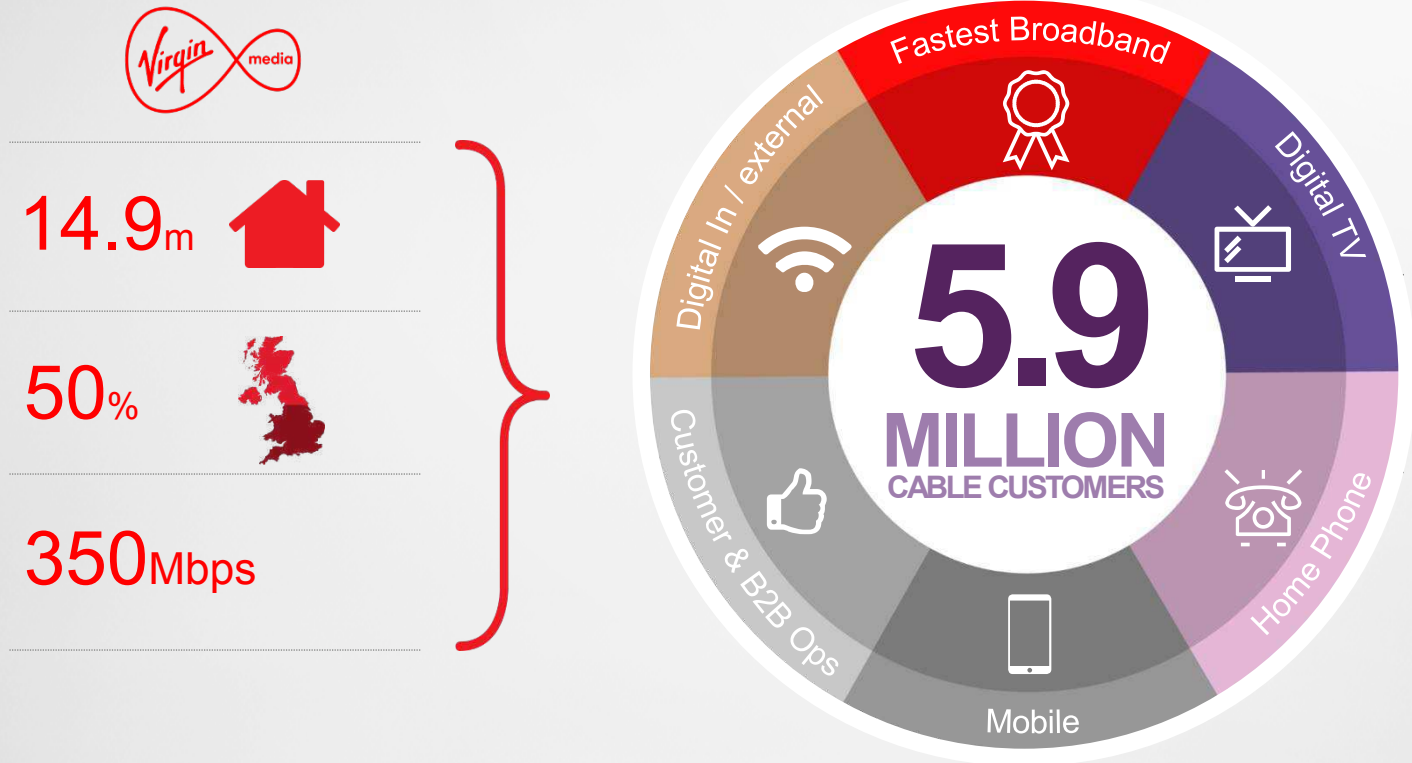
LIGHTNING

**VIRGIN MEDIA ROLLOUT IN NORTHERN
IRELAND – WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP**

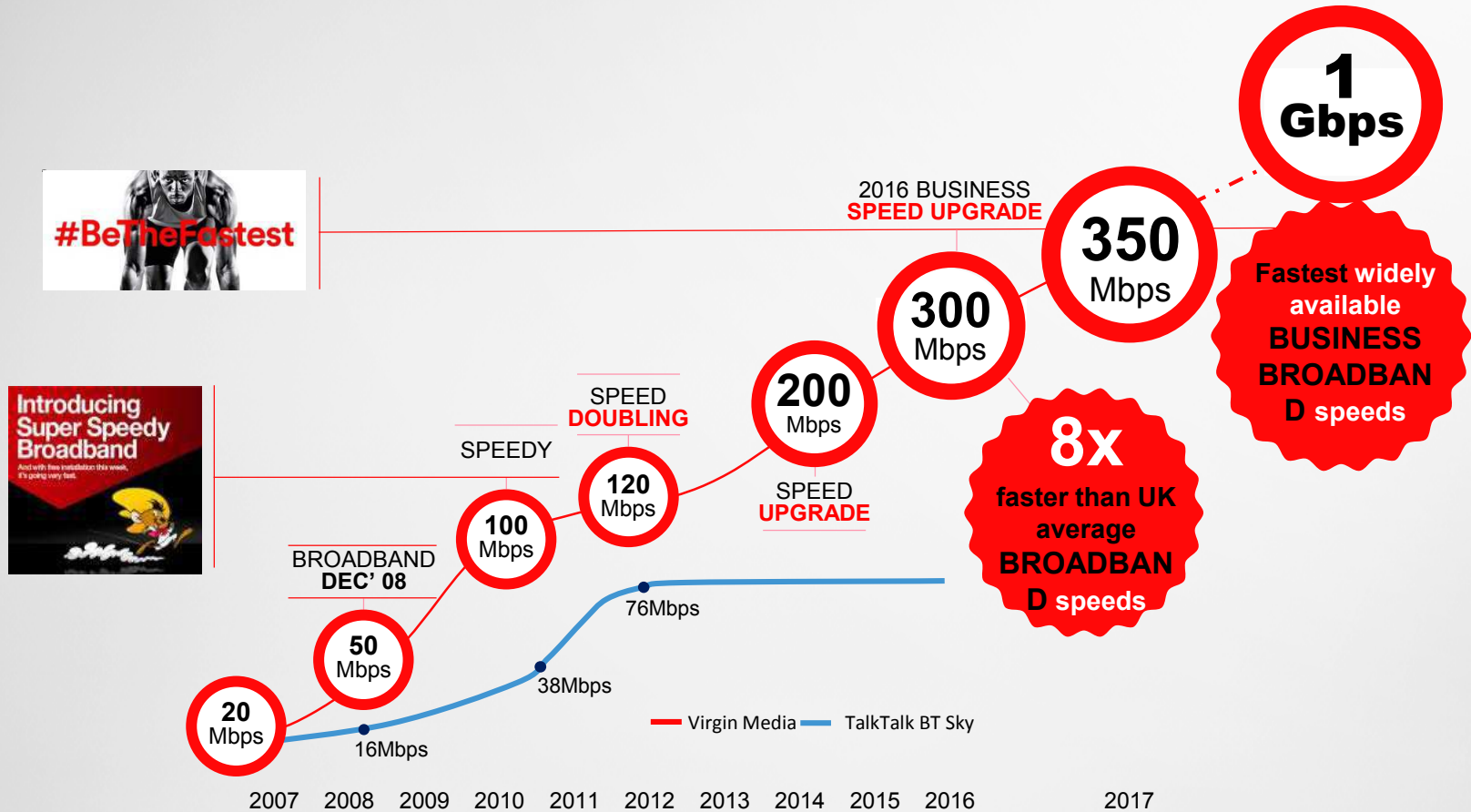
Conor Harrison
Virgin Media Programme Director, Lightning
Virgin Media Regional Director for Northern Ireland



Virgin Media – The UK's leading ultrafast investor



Pathway to Gigabit Britain



Virgin Media in Northern Ireland



278,000

Virgin Media
residential premises
covered



70,000+

Number of additional premises
released in NI in 2016/2017



£1bn

Contribution from NI
digital firms to
economy



12,000

Virgin Media business
customers



Significant investment in
Lightning to date

Challenges we face and Opportunities to Collaborate

Wayleaves



New fibre connections subject to notification, not negotiation. Bulk Wayleave preferable.

New homes



All new homes should have mandate for choice and full fibre

Reinstatement



Underinvestment causing operational issues and service strips causing confusion

Local disruption



Upfront Engagement with Local Authorities, TNI and Communities

Northern Ireland Broadband Industry Forum

£150m
Betterment
Fund

CBI



Deployment
Innovation,
eg PIA



Common
Duct
Network



Wayleave
Approach



Community
Contribution



WIFI
Wireless
Point
to
Point



Conor Harrison

Programme Director, Lightning
Regional Director, Northern Ireland
conor.harrison@virginmedia.co.uk

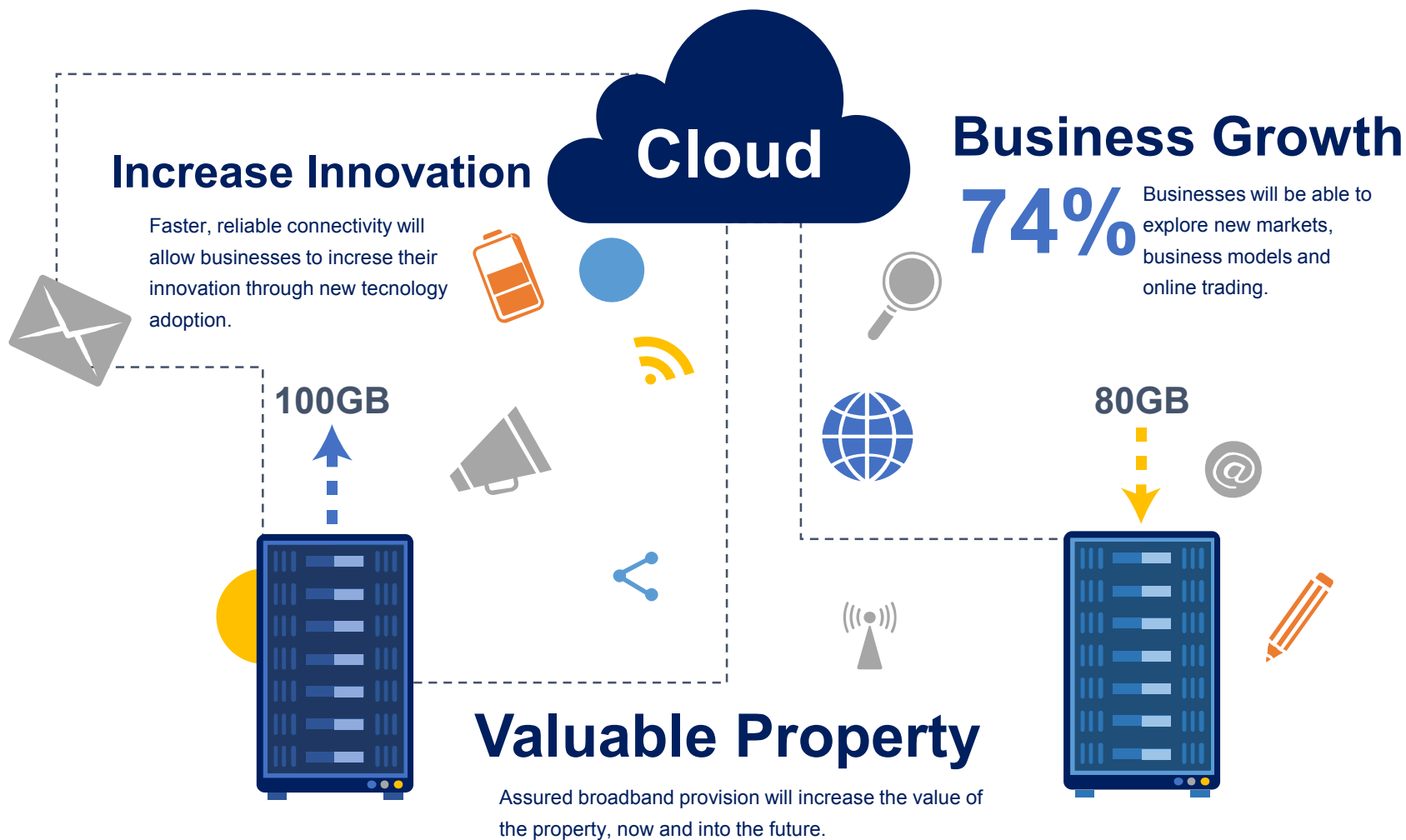
DIGITAL GROWTH: OUR FUTURE ECONOMY

Dominic Kearns B4B

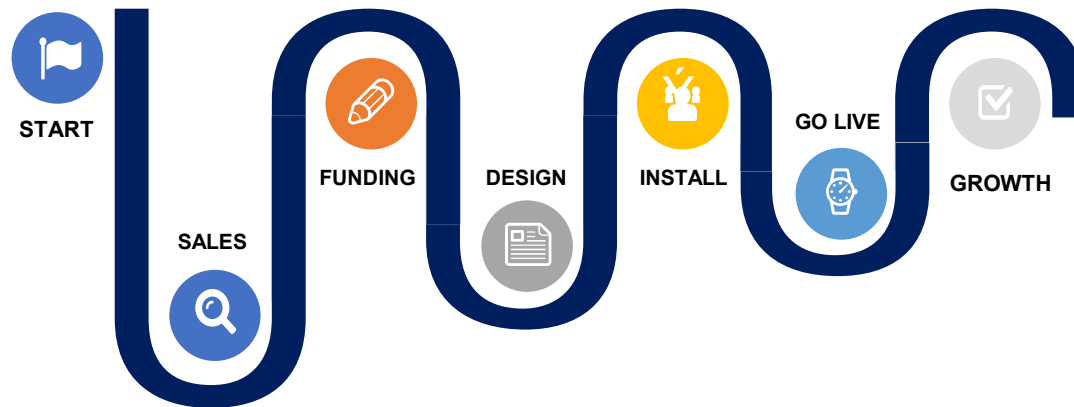


Gigabit Broadband Scheme

B4B Networks

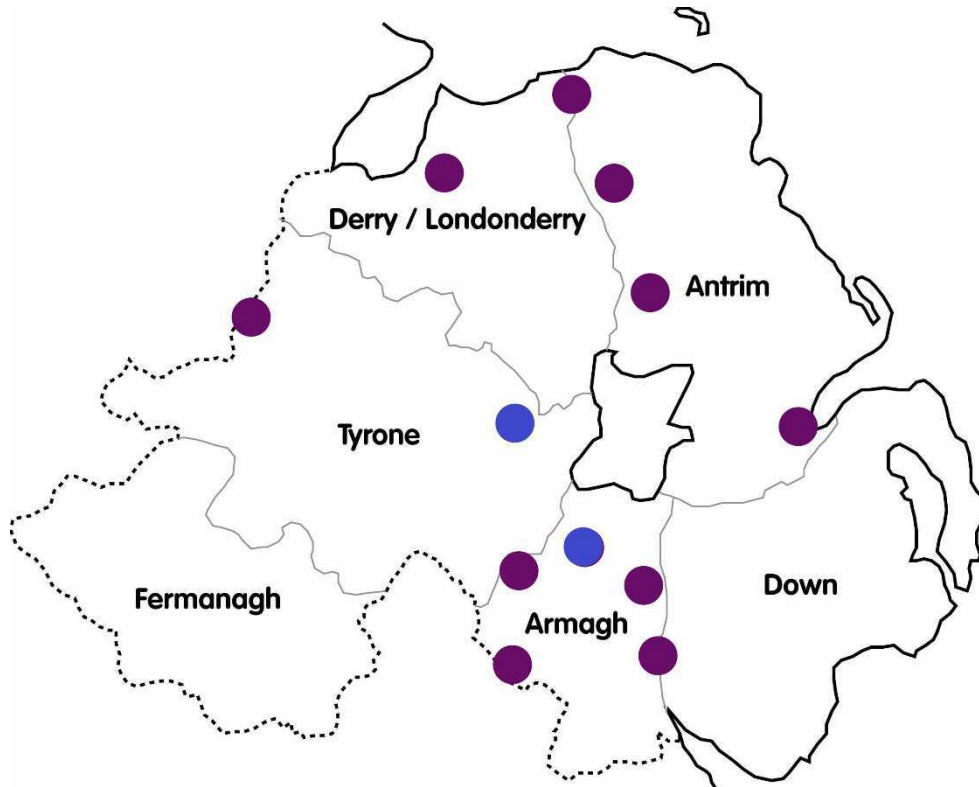


The Road to Gigabit Broadband



The B4B Process

The B4B Expertise



FOCUSED

Our team are focused on providing connectivity to multi-dwelling business centers and share buildings.



EXPERIENCED

We have the experience, know how and the reference sites to offer peace of mind for our customers.



WELL RESOURCED

We have a dedicated team of account managers, project managers and engineers to ensure a successful Gigabit broadband project.



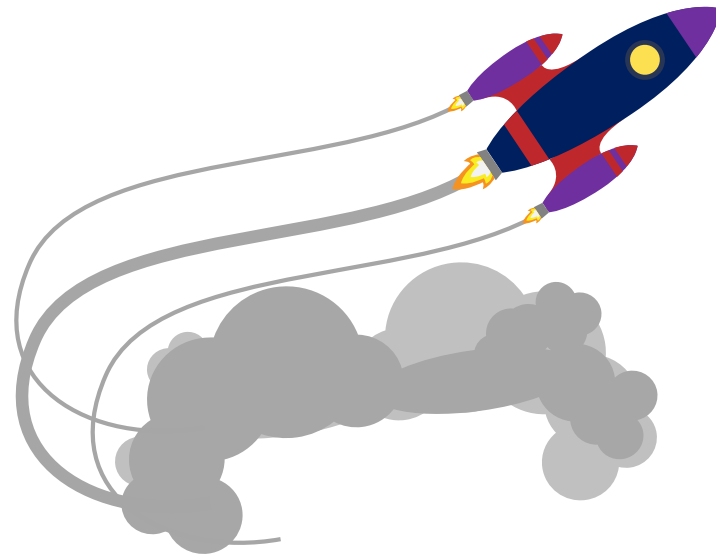
OUR OWN BROADBAND NETWORK

Unlike others, we maintain and operate our own broadband network end to end. Ensuring quality and uptime.

The B4B Process

SALES & MARKETING

- 1 Funding Application**
B4B have successfully secured over £1.2 million in funding for our customers broadband projects.
- 2 Tenant Presentation**
Before the project kicks off, our Sales team will provide a seminar for tenants to explain the project benefits and answer any questions.
- 3 Customer Sign Up**
Our field team will meet with every tenant individually to explain the project and support the sign up process and application.
- 4 Marketing Material**
We have developed a 'Pack' to provide to landlords and tenants to support with the promotion of the scheme.
- 5 Account Management**
We provide an on-site and desk based account manager to provide full support throughout the broadband project.

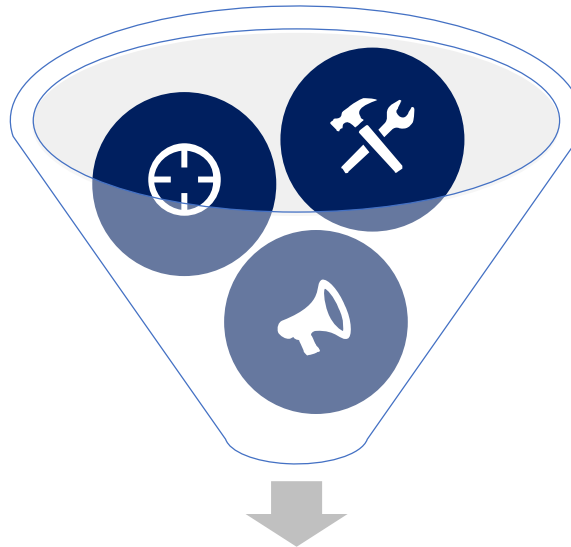


The B4B Process

SURVEY & DESIGN

Project Management

Your project will be assigned one of our Project Managers, they will be overseeing your entire scheme from End to End, ensuring it is delivered professionally and on time.



Survey

The B4B engineering team will carry out a complete survey to find out early the best deployment design; working closely with the property owners.

Fibre

We design the fibre connection route to ensure a fast deployment, free from blockages, excess construction and delays.

Design

B4B will provide a complete Design, Project Plan and Presentation prior to starting the build.

The B4B Process

INSTALLATION



Pre Build Kick Off Meeting

Your Project Manager will carry out a pre-build meeting to detail the project plan and timescales.



Internal Fibre Installation

The B4B Fibre Engineers are vastly experienced in building out Fibre into business clusters; our team will provide a seamless, stress free installation into each customer.



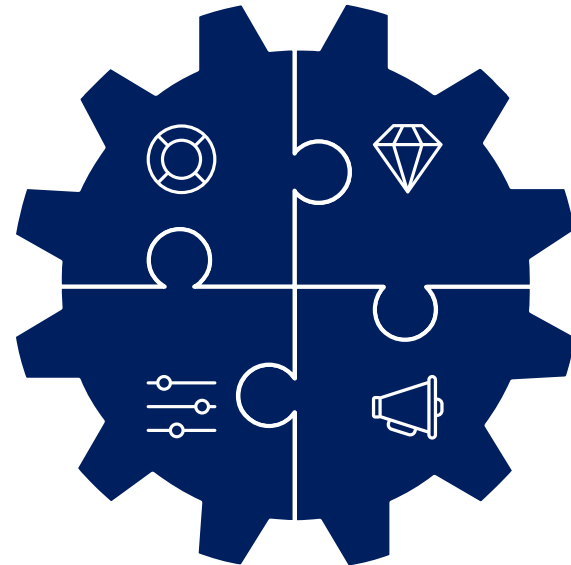
Router Installation

Each unit will be provided with a router, or edge device. This will be professionally installed ready for the Go Live.



Connection to the Gigabit Network

Our Network Operations department will work with the carriers, to connect your park onto our network, ready to connect to a Gigabit world.



HANDOVER & TRAINING

Account Manager

Each project will be provided with a dedicated account manager to deal directly with all the end user customers throughout the project, and in the Go Live phase.

Your account manager will ensure a successful handover. We work hand in hand with each customer and their IT consultant to support customers connecting their new connection to their computer network.

● WiFi

Each customer will be given a WiFi password for their connection

● Advice

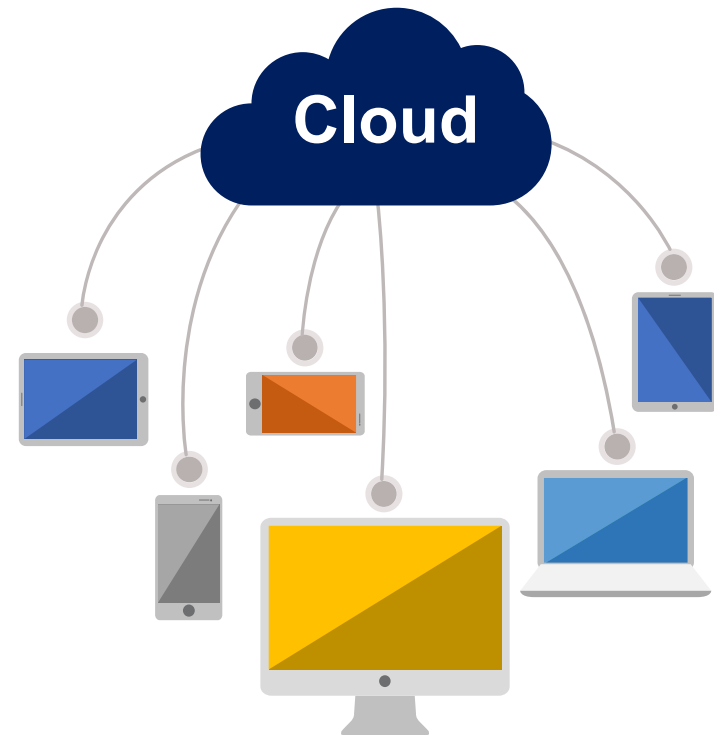
Account Managers will be able to support customers to get the most from their new broadband.

● IT Integration

We work closely with the IT consultant to help customers integrate with their computers.

● Training

B4B will provide customers training on their new connection.



The B4B Process

DIGITAL GROWTH: OUR FUTURE ECONOMY



THANK YOU

@NI_LGA

@Ofcom

@ANBorough



DIGITAL GROWTH: OUR FUTURE ECONOMY



MOSSLEY MILL

Carnmoney Road North, Newtownabbey BT36 5QA

Tuesday 24 April 10am-1.30pm



DIGITAL GROWTH: OUR FUTURE ECONOMY

Jonathan Ruff OFCOM Scotland



Broadband in Scotland

Jonathan Ruff – Regulatory Affairs Manager, Ofcom Scotland



Areas to cover....

- Broadband coverage across the UK
- Scottish Government initiatives (DSSB and 'Reaching 100%')
- Ofcom's role and the wider political landscape
- Challenges and opportunities

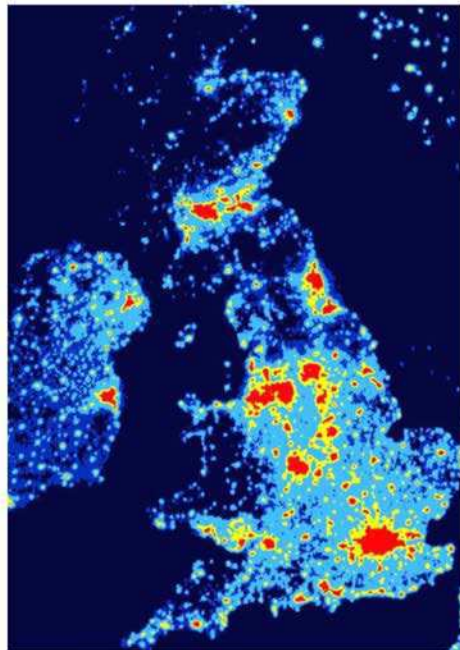
Connected Nations

As of May 2017, 87% of premises in Scotland can access superfast speeds of 30 Mbit/s
But this is still behind the UK average

	2017	2016	2015
UK	91%	89%	83%
England	92%	90%	84%
Northern Ireland	85%	83%	77%
Scotland	87%	83%	73%
Wales	89%	85%	79%

Source: Ofcom analysis of operator data

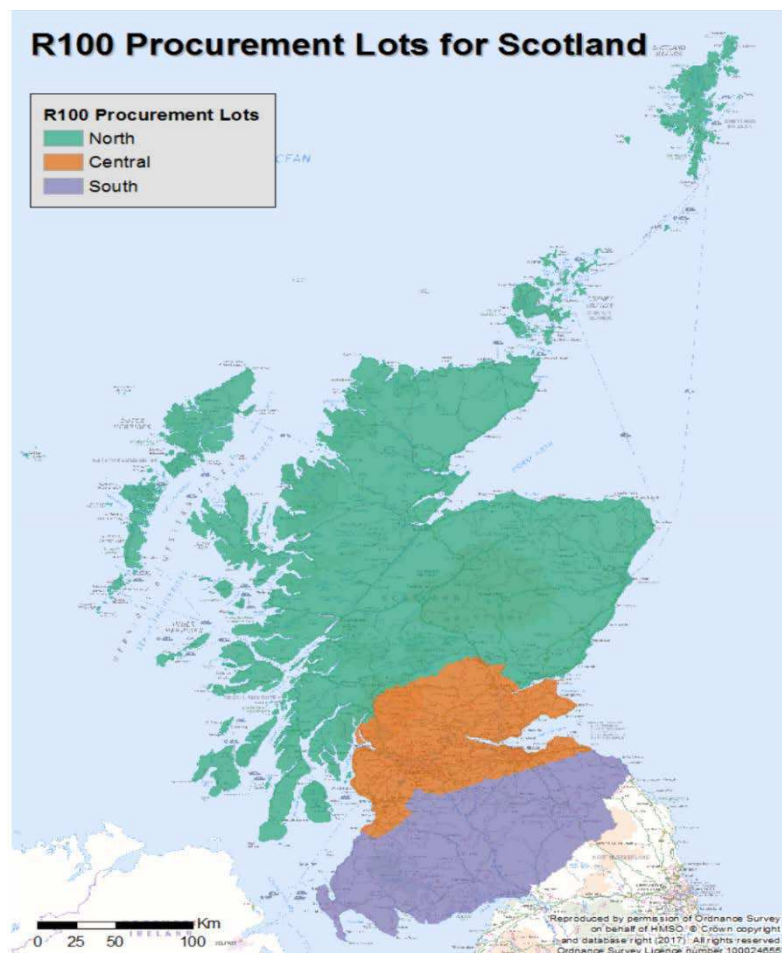




Digital Scotland

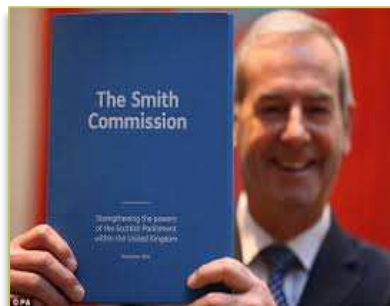
Superfast Broadband





Key features of the R100 programme...

- 100% of homes and businesses to get speeds of 30 Mbit/s by the end of 2021
- £600m announced for the initial phase
- Initial procurement split across three regional lots (North, Central and South)
- Procurement likely to take 12 months
- No cost threshold but likely that some premises not covered by initial funding phase – voucher scheme and mix of technologies likely



The wider landscape...

- No formal role for Ofcom (reserved vs. devolved)
- Scotland Act 2016 (MoU and Ofcom Board member)
- Interaction with the BB USO
- Political challenges
- Technical challenges

DIGITAL GROWTH: OUR FUTURE ECONOMY

Fergal Mulligan Dept. of Communications, Climate Action & Environment (Ireland)





**Roinn Cumarsáide, Gníomhaithe
ar son na hAeráide & Comhshaoil**
Department of Communications,
Climate Action & Environment

Presentation by Fergal Mulligan Programme Director Republic of Ireland's National Broadband Plan

24th April 2018

Objectives of the NBP

- Deliver a State intervention to ensure a national high speed broadband network for Ireland.
- Provide high quality and reliable broadband services to every home/business with choice of service providers to consumers.
- Ensure the network can meet current and future data demand.
- Maximise the re-use of existing infrastructure.
- Incentivise additional commercial investment.
- Stimulate growth and retention in jobs while enabling e-farming, e-health, trading online, e-education, tourism, savings for consumers etc.



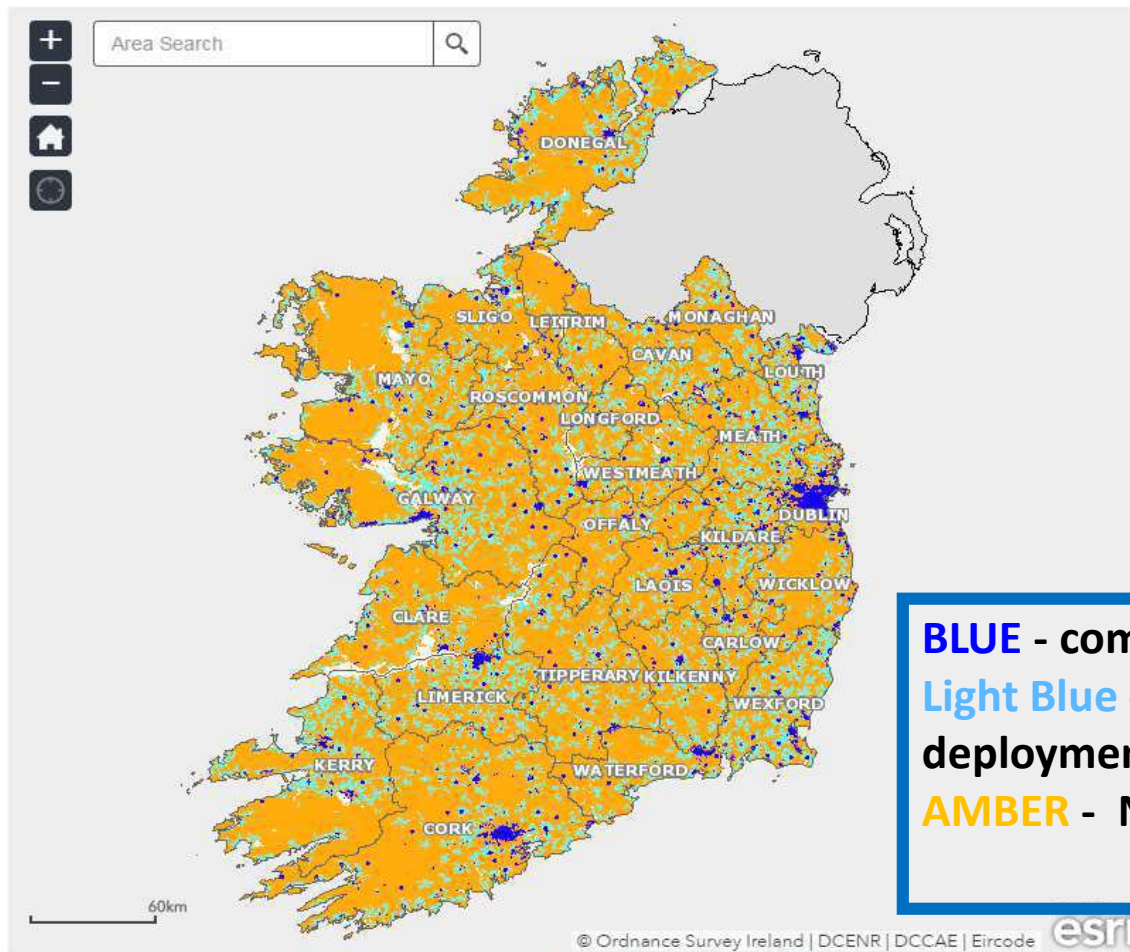
Key elements of Intervention Strategy 2015

Following extensive stakeholder consultation over 2014/15:

- Open access wholesale network with strong Governance arrangements
- Minimum 30Mbps download and 6Mbps upload
- Underpinned by a technology roadmap to ensure a future proofed solution (higher speeds)
- Wholesale Prices for broadband in the Intervention Area will be benchmarked to comparable regulated wholesale prices outside Intervention Area
- Contract of 25 years
- Three Lots – Lot A & Lot B with option to win both Lots (Lot C)



High Speed Broadband Map



BLUE - commercial coverage.
Light Blue - planned rural
deployment by eir
AMBER - NBP Intervention area

If your premises footprint is not on the map please let the [Ordnance Survey Ireland \(OSI\)](#) know.



Commercial Investment approx €2.5billion

Latest status - eir

High Speed Broadband available to circa 1.35M premises nationally

FTTC & eVDSL rollout ongoing

FTTH rollout ongoing (131k complete) in rural areas, 120k of which are part of the 300k commitment



Latest status - Virgin Media

High Speed Broadband available to 800k premises

Additional rollout ongoing to 200k premises



Latest status – SIRO

High Speed Broadband rollout target to 500,000 premises in 51 towns

FTTH rollout ongoing (127k complete)



Latest status – eNet

Providing Fibre to the business in Claremorris, Loughrea, Ardee and Kilkenny

FTTB announced to 10 additional towns Donegal Town, Buncrana, Ballyboffey, Stranorlar, Ballyshannon, Bundoran, Cootehill, Castleblayney, Ballinasloe and Manorhamilton



3.5Ghz auction completed in May releasing 86% more spectrum to industry

Fixed Wireless operators

Imagine rolling out to rural towns and villages

Westnet and Ripplecom recently announced investments

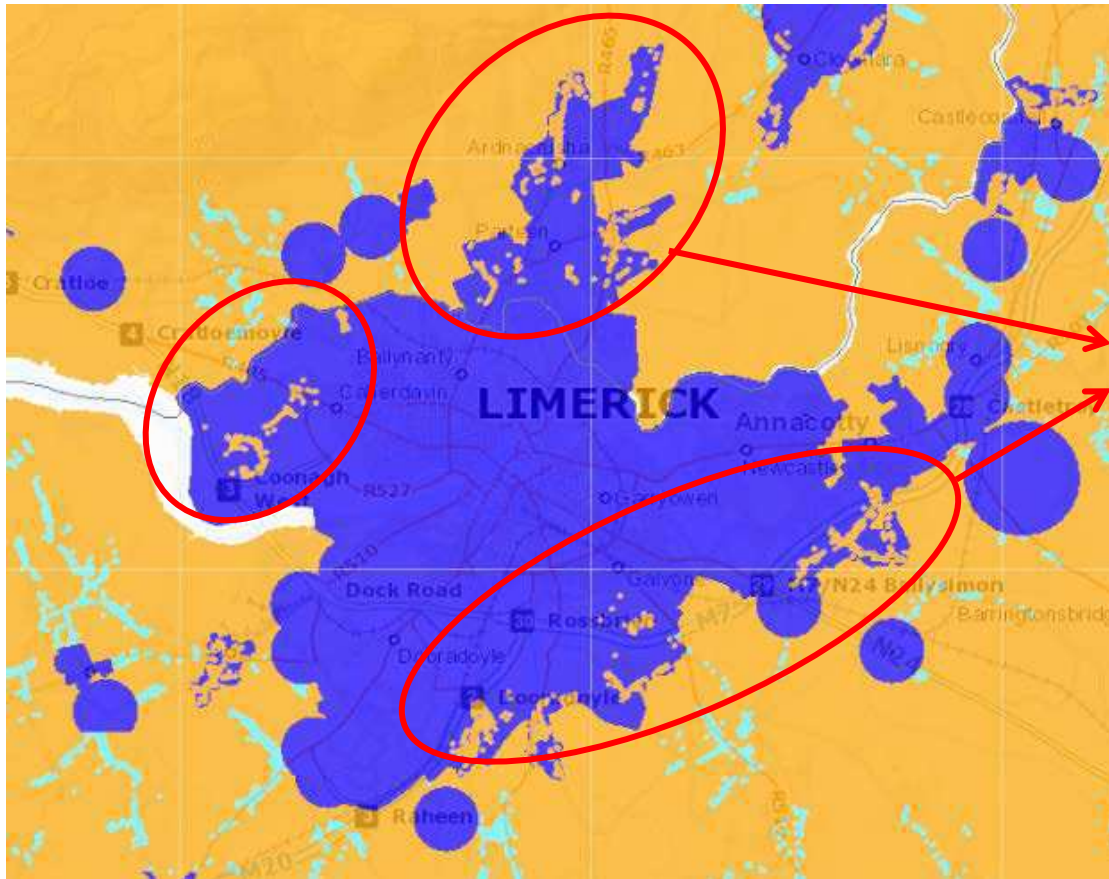


Dark Blue Areas

- Premises in cities and towns may still have problems accessing High Speed Broadband
- So far 84,500 additional premises have been identified by Department within urban/semi rural areas
- Department continue to analyse broadband coverage in blue areas
- Contact us at broadband@dccae.gov.ie to investigate any issues



Example 1 of NBP Map Update in 2017 to Blue areas

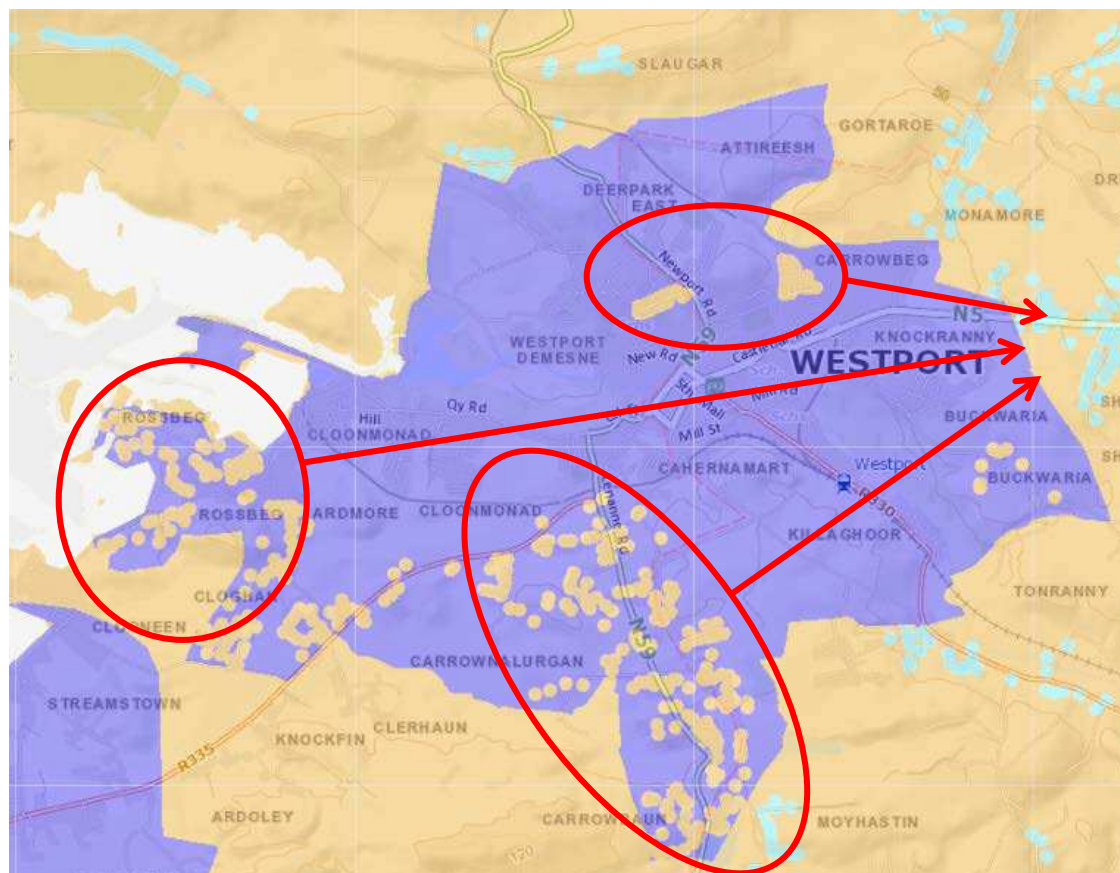


Specific premises have been identified as unlikely to get High Speed Broadband from any provider.

These have now been changed to **Amber**



Example 2 of NBP Map Update in 2017 to Blue areas



Specific premises have been identified as unlikely to get High Speed Broadband from any provider.

These have now been changed to **Amber**



The Mapping process - ongoing

- Very little reliable data on legacy copper network infrastructure built 40 years ago
- Difficult to measure speeds until consumer connects
- Department Map must remain dynamic to allow for changes
- Primary objective is to ensure commercial companies invest/upgrade their networks in first instance
- Any contract awarded will allow premises to be added where it transpires that commercial companies will not deliver
- Detailed assessment of technical, financial and deployment plans carried out before commercial plans accepted



NBP Map – operator engagement

- Detailed questionnaires issued to all commercial companies in 2014 requesting details of rollout plans
- Department published public consultation on Map in November 2014
- Over 60 responses received from stakeholders February 2015
- Many commercial operators set out plans to upgrade networks
- NBP Map updated following consultation April 2015
- eir publically announced a new 300k rollout on 6th June 2015
- Department received deployment, technical and business plans in August 2015 from six commercial operators
- Plans assessed by Department with assistance of Independent experts
- Department concluded that commercial plans assessed did not meet the technical/financial or deployment criteria set out by the Department
- Commercial operators notified in December 2015 that Map would not change to reflect their plans



Updated 300k Plan from eir

- Revised plan submitted by eir in September 2016 with committed finance of €200million, clearly laid out milestones from December 2016 to December 2018
- Significant engagement with the European Commission
- Department concluded a binding Commitment Agreement April 2017
- Procurement process updated and scope changed from 840k to 540k premises
- The change brought clarity to scope of State Aided project given eir had already commenced the rollout throughout several counties
- European Commission and ComReg consulted before changes made



Map – Light Blue areas

Key aspects of the Commitment from eir

- 300,575 eircodes identified
- 100% to be passed by December 2018
- At least 95% of eircodes must be connected at no more than the regulated connection charge regardless of cost
- Industry and consumers will have access to much more data on where and when the fibre will be deployed compared to now
- Detailed Monthly and Quarterly reports to the Department

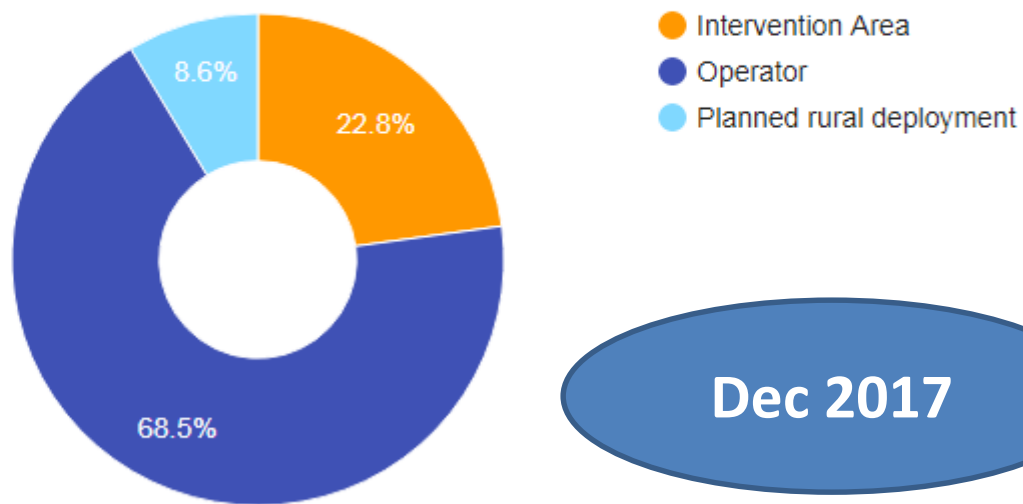


eir Rural Deployment – 2017/2018

- 300,575 Premises
- Over €200million over initial two years
- 90% FTTH & 10% VDSL
- 810,000 citizens (17% population)
- 387,000 members of the labour force (21% of total)
- 28,209 farms (33% of total)
- 47,096 SMEs, primarily micro
- 1,085 schools
- 300 business parks



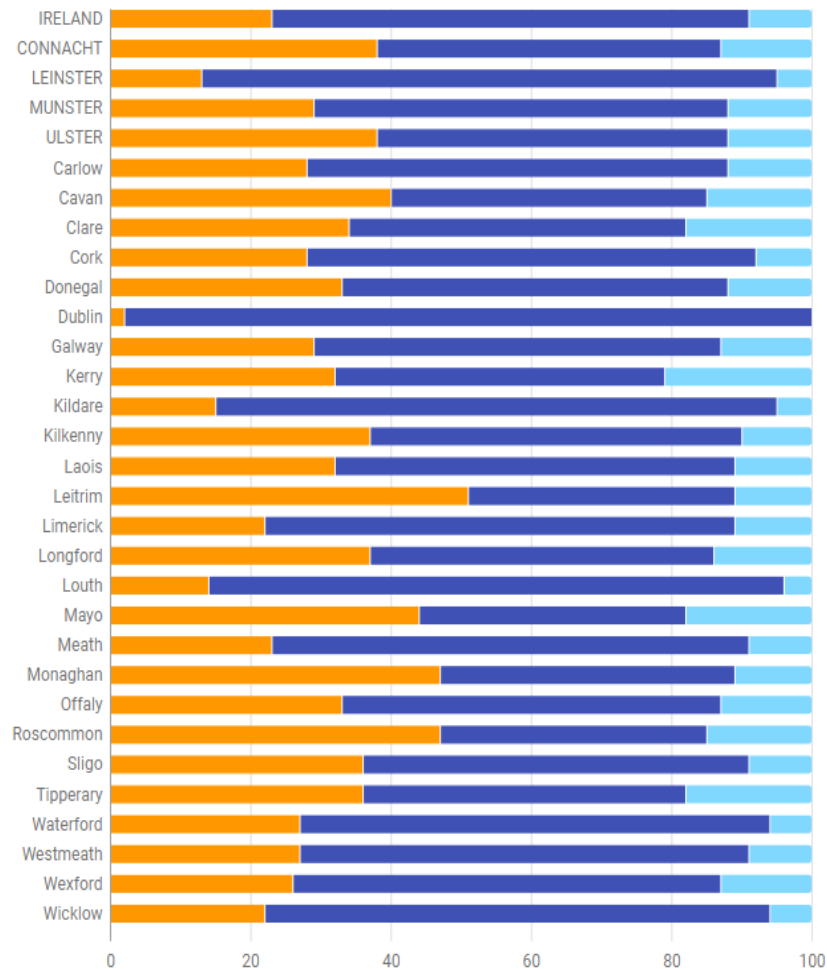
National Status of High Speed Broadband



77% of Ireland completed by 2018



National Status of High Speed Broadband per County



Dec 2017



Revised Amber Area

- 542,000 Premises
- 990,000 citizens (21% population)
- 381,000 members of the labour force (21% of total)
- 52,057 farms (61% of total)
- 47,096 SMEs, primarily micro
- 437 schools (13% of total)
- 310 business parks (4% of total)

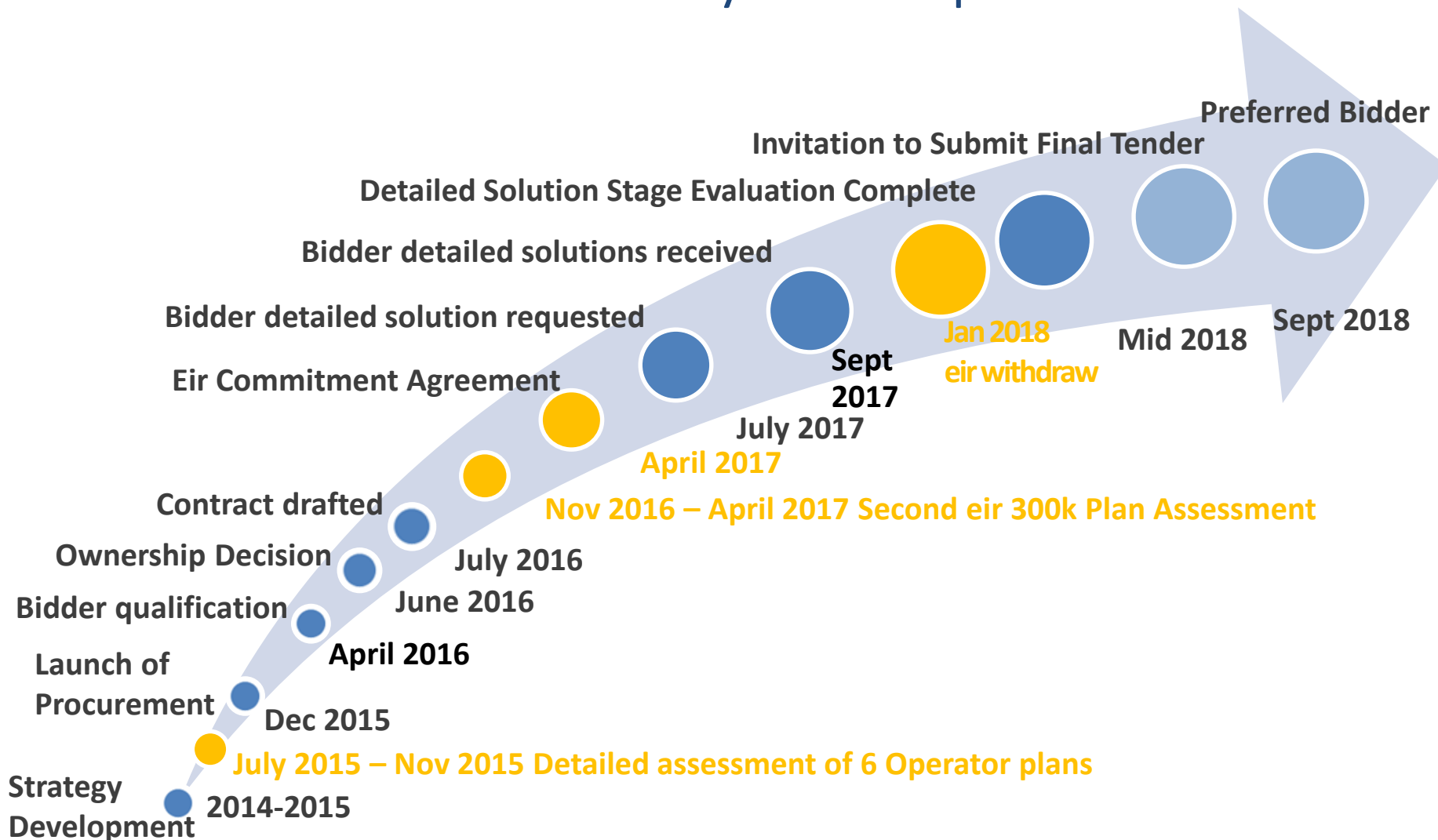


Procurement Process

- Competitive Dialogue process
- Used for most large scale projects where requirements and solutions are complex and require detailed discussion with bidders
- EU State Aid Guidelines for Broadband followed
- Bidders requested to submit draft bids by 26th September 2017
- Two draft bids received, detailed assessments made and responses issued setting out the detailed technical, financial and legal comments from Department
- Remaining bidder now working through Department detailed response to their submission received on 26 September
- Process allows continuation where one bidder remains
- Value for Money remains a key objective
- Further dialogue with bidder around proposed solution critical to understand likely costs/revenues that drive subsidy



NBP Procurement Summary Roadmap



Value for Money Assessment

- Significant technical, financial and legal expertise throughout all stages
- Very detailed and comprehensive internal budget model used to compare to bidder model
- Re-use of existing infrastructure critical to reduce cost/speed up rollout – Regulatory oversight of eir infrastructure on-going
- NDFA will provide independent oversight of Department budget compared to final tender
- Department will follow Public Spending Code
- Significant benchmark exercise of bid model inputs/outputs to best practice nationally and internationally
- Bidder is also incentivised commercially to manage costs due to significant private capital that will also be invested under the Gap funded model alongside public monies
- NBP contract will include significant annual audit/reporting and clawback provisions in event of super normal profits through life of contract
- All income/expenditure will take place in a ring fenced Special Purpose Limited Company to ensure full transparency of all subsidy received
- Subsidy payments will only be made for qualifying and vouched capital costs to build the network



Next Steps

- Submit final notification to EU Commission (already pre-notified since August 2017 and no issues raised to date)
- Conclude remaining contract drafting and issue final draft contract to bidder
- Bidder to consider Department response to September draft bid submission
- Bidder to carry out its own Shareholder technical and financial due diligence prior to final bid
- Department need to be satisfied with quality and credibility of plan and value for money when compared to Department's internal budget model
- Preferred bidder/proposed subsidy required can then be recommended to Government
- Preferred bidder September 2018
- Significant private debt and equity being leveraged with relevant legal documents closed post preferred bidder
- Subject to all necessary parent company guarantees, third party contracts, banking arrangements etc being in place contract can be awarded and rollout commences
- Options to advance timelines being explored with bidder with particular focus on financial close activities



Questions?

Thank you



DIGITAL GROWTH: OUR FUTURE ECONOMY

**Billy McClean
&
Chris Ward Brown
Broadband Delivery UK**





Local Full Fibre Network Opportunities

Billy McClean & Chris Ward-Brown

Why Local Full Fibre Networks?



Traffic Growth & Futureproofing Video On Demand



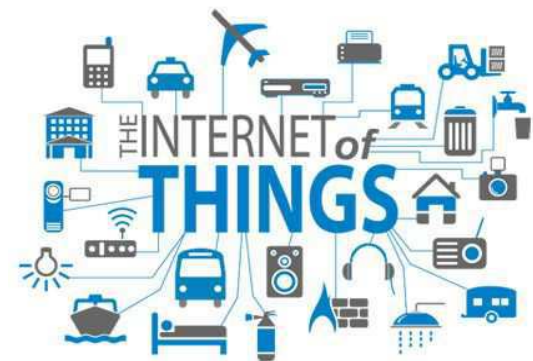
Cloud Services



5G / Gigabit Radio Backhaul



Reliability



Explosion of IoT Devices

Gigabit Connectivity

Why it Matters

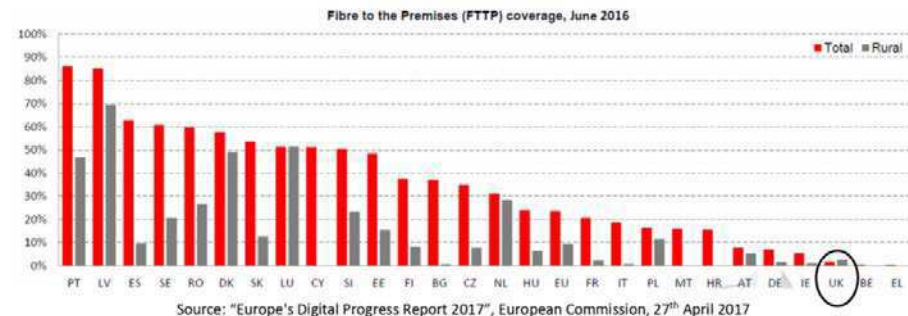
Opportunities & Problems

Full Fibre is:

- Faster
- More reliable
- Cheaper to operate
- Gigabit capable...terabit capable...petabit...
- Future-ready
- Supports 5G

But...

- Currently only 3.08% of UK has it (Nov 17)



Government Interventions



Increasing demand



Increasing financial capacity



Lowering costs



Controlling powers



Helping industry to do more



Local Full Fibre Networks Programme

Objectives:

- Stimulate commercial investment to deliver more gigabit capable connectivity
- Maximise the availability and benefits to residential, business and public sector users
- Improve business case for market provision of gigabit broadband services

£200m of NPIF funding announced at 2017 Spring Budget:

- Wave 1 projects - underway to test 4 different delivery mechanisms
- Wave 2 projects - Local bodies bidding into a Challenge Fund – 13 successful projects £95m
- Armagh Banbridge & Craigavon Council & Belfast City Council

£67m additional funding for National Gigabit Voucher Scheme

LFFN Wave 3 – Challenge Fund Call

- Currently evaluating learning from Wave 1 projects and Wave 2 challenge fund process
- Developing the prospectus and focus for the call
- Estimated £95m minimum remaining in the Challenge Fund
- Expect call by the end of June 2018
- Proposals due by early September 2018
- Award of successful projects by October / November 2018



Chris Ward-Brown

<https://gigabitvoucher.culture.gov.uk>

Gigabit Voucher: Scheme Overview

Key Features

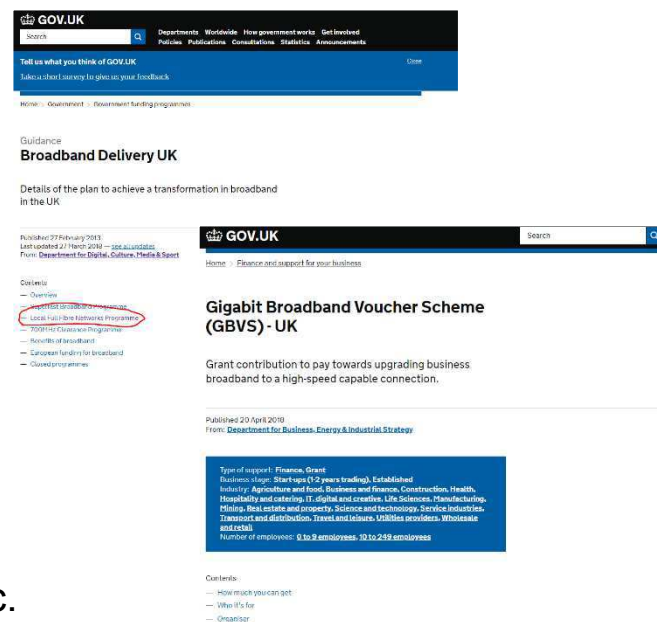
- Live in whole of UK from 27 March 18
- Grant scheme mainly for SMEs
- Voucher value £500 - £3,000 (residents fixed £500 – projects only)
- Scheme actively supports aggregation to support larger project deployments
- Funds (or contributes) to connection costs for Gigabit-capable services (defined in scheme documents)
- SME/resident contracts with choice of registered supplier (no application forms – Pre-Registered Packages only) held on DCMS website
- SME/resident pays ongoing charges – voucher cannot be used to pay VAT
- Central scheme administration and supplier payments – DCMS

Gigabit Voucher Scheme

DCMS/BDUK Role

Key Activities

- Supplier engagement
- Supplier and package registration
- Voucher issue and eligibility checks
- Site visits and remote checks of delivery
- Demand stimulation
 - SME – national channels – eg, FSB, IoD
 - Supplier engagement
- Government channels – DAs, BEIS, DEFRA etc.

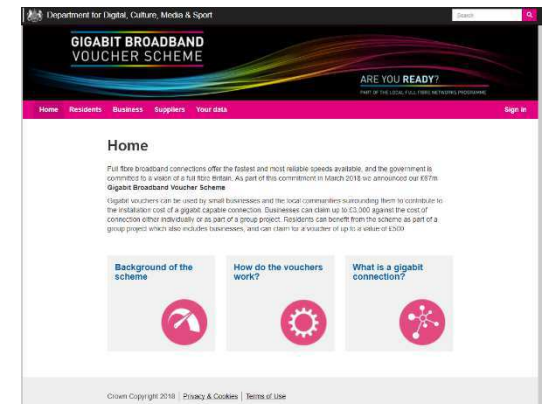


Gigabit Voucher Scheme

Local Body Role

Key Activities

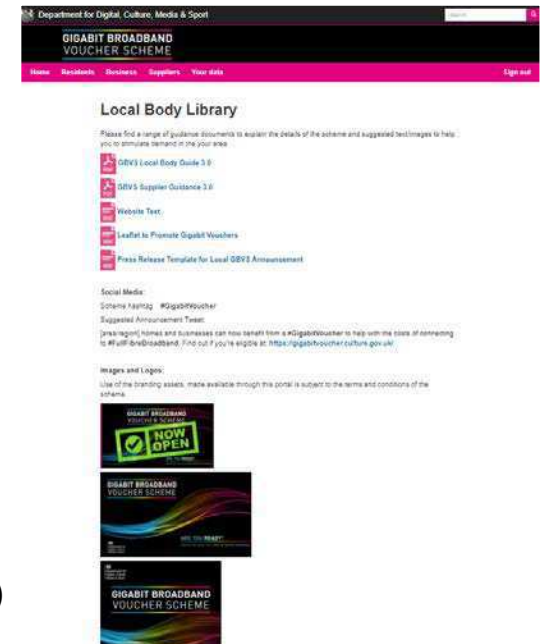
- Demand stimulation
 - SME – business parks/aggregation
 - Community – SME and residential projects
 - Business intermediaries – Chambers of Commerce
 - Scheme validation - grant
- Owned local body channels – website/business engagement
- Supplier engagement – digital/spatial planning and leadership
- Barrier busting – highways, wayleaves, charging, planning
- Liaison role state aid projects
- “Intelligent buyer” (LFFN Programme)



Gigabit Voucher Scheme Local Body Support

Support

- Local Body Guide
- Supplier Guide
- Artwork
- Website text and images
- Case studies and more to follow
- Scheme resource local body library –
<https://gigabitvoucher.culture.gov.uk/lbl> (password: Gigabit18)
- Social media: #GigabitVoucher





Connectivity & Step Change Requirements - Summary

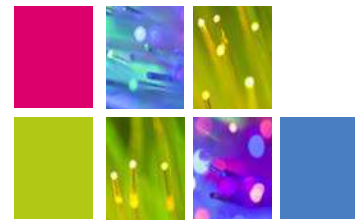
All connections supported by vouchers must fulfil BOTH of the following characteristics:

1. be capable of delivering broadband connectivity to the customers premises at or above 1Gbps upload or download at the time of delivery of the connection without the need for future hardware upgrades or modification (excluding CPE – it is not mandatory to deploy 1Gbps capable CPE from the outset if this is not required to deliver service)
2. deliver a minimum of 100Mbit/s to the beneficiaries' premises. The upgraded broadband service must deliver at least a doubling of speeds compared to the service currently being consumed.

Wireless only where included in Project PRP and which leads to the deployment of additional full fibre.

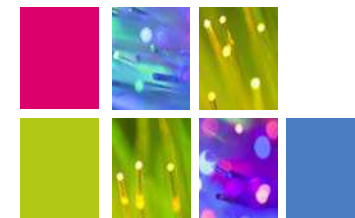
Gigabit Capable

PRP – Standard Versus Project



Standard PRPs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eligible costs are either fixed for each deployment or vary within known parameters • Generally single -SME beneficiary (or small cluster of SMEs) • Registered once, deployed multiple times by supplier • Widely available - can be in a single wide area • Delivered quickly and always less than 12 months
Project PRPs (Aggregated)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location specific (e.g. business park, village etc) • Value of eligible costs varies significantly with location characteristics - each project requires individual registration • Relies on minimum SME participation for viability (e.g. aggregation) • Eligible costs (shared between beneficiaries) are registered once – payments to supplier over time when SMEs take service • Process flexible - market/group led • May include wireless where also leads to additional full fibre • May include residents – value to SME must be greater





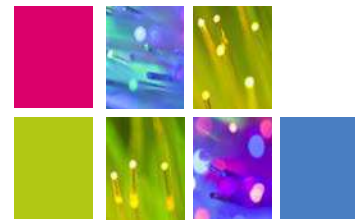
Eligible Beneficiaries

- Small and medium enterprises focus
- Includes sole traders & charities
- Grant Aid for enterprises is *de minimis* (generally up to €200,000 over 3 years)
- Residents only eligible as part of projects where value of vouchers taken by SMEs is greater than residents

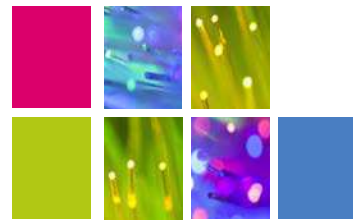
Not

- Public sector
- Schools & education
- State Aid supported gigabit capable locations (Superfast Programme)
- Registered suppliers
- “Other voucher Schemes” – Wales, Westminster for example

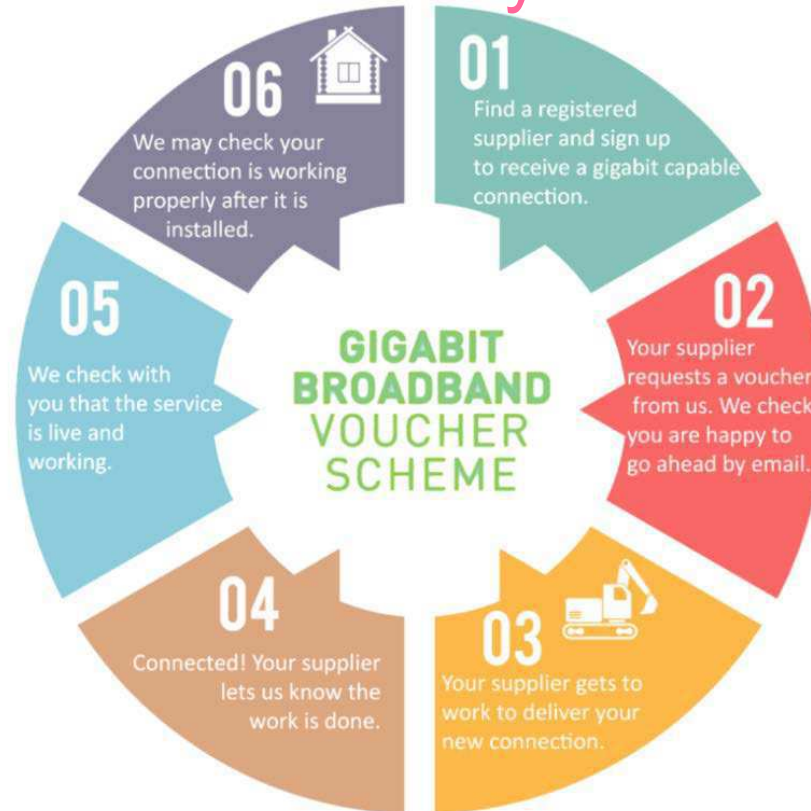
Scheme Processes - Overview



1.	Supplier Registration - Terms and Conditions to include, VAT registration, insurances, ADR, Trade Body or reference, available products & info supply
2.	PRP - BDUK review. <u>Standard</u> (commodity - wide availability, fixed or predictable costs) and/or; <u>Project</u> (specific, targeted, costed and reviewed)
3.	Sale/Contract - market led. Report to portal weekly or real time. DCMS checks and controls. Beneficiary must accept T&C
4.	Delivery - voucher expires 12 months. Compliance checks. Payment – Historic England on behalf of DCMS



How it Works: Customer Journey



QUESTIONS?

Contact point for GBVS for Local Bodies & Public
Sector Partners

gigabitvoucher@culture.gov.uk

14

Useful Links



- [Scheme Website](#)
- Amber Infrastructure Management
- [M&G Investment](#)
- [Local Body Library](#) (Password: Gigabit18) includes:
 - Web content
 - Local Body Guide
 - Supplier Guide
 - Terms and Conditions

Report on	EBA 2020 Small Grants Programme 2018/19
Date of Meeting	14 June 2018
Reporting Officer	Oliver McShane
Contact Officer	Eunan Murray

Is this report restricted for confidential business?	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	x

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To seek permission to proceed with the Everybody Active (EBA) 2020 Small Grants Programme 2018/2019.
2.0	Background
2.1	Sport NI have again offered additional financial assistance to allow for an extension to the MUDC Small Grants programme, a letter of offer for £35,996 has been received. The funding will be used to support the delivery of grassroots sports projects across the Mid Ulster area on behalf of Sport NI through the EBA 2020 Small Grants Programme 2018/2019.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	Every Body Active 2020 Small Grants 2018/2019 An indicative allocation by Sport NI of £35,996 has been made to extend the delivery of the MUDC Small Grants programme.
3.2	The core features of this programme/investment strand from Sport NI are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A funding allocation to each district council, using an existing and agreed allocation model based on population and need; • Allocated funding used to support the delivery of new, extended or existing small grant programmes within each district council area; • Funding deployed to support priorities identified within SNI's Every Body Active 2020 policy (women/girls, people with a disability, those living in areas of greatest need) and the new Community Plan in each council area; • Up to 10% of allocated funding may be used, at the district council's discretion, to support admin costs associated with programme implementation.
3.3	This additional funding aligns with the priorities set within the council's current Sports Development grant programme, it is therefore recommended that this funding from Sport NI be used to uplift Sports Development grants budget allowing more clubs in the area an opportunity to secure funding. Maximum award per club will remain within guidelines at £1500.

3.3	It is proposed that the programme will open for applications in August.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: An allocation of £35,996 has been provided by Sport NI. Council is not required to provide any additional funding.
	Human: The programme will be administered by existing Council officers from Leisure and Community Services.
	Risk Management: N/A
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: N/A
	Rural Needs Implications: N/A
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	That members approve the roll out of the Every Body Active 2020 Small Grants 2018/2019.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	None

Report on	Dungannon Park Parkrun
Date of Meeting	Thursday 14 June 2018
Reporting Officer	Head of Parks
Contact Officer	Anne Reid

Is this report restricted for confidential business?	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	x

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To update Members on the proposal to establish and host Parkrun events at Dungannon Park
2.0	Background
2.1	<p>Parkrun is the name given to a collection of five-kilometre running events that take place every Saturday morning in nineteen countries across five continents. Junior Parkrun is a spin-off event which provides a 2 km run for children aged 4–14 weekly on a Sunday morning. The first Parkrun event to launch was the Bushy Parkrun, which was founded by Paul Sinton-Hewitt in 2004. Originally called the Bushy Park Time Trial, it was renamed Parkrun in 2008. The first event outside of the United Kingdom was launched in Denmark in 2009. Events take place in a range of general locations including city parks, country parks, national parks, stately homes, castles, forests, rivers, lakes, reservoirs, beaches, promenades, prisons, racecourses and nature reserves. As of 19 April 2018 there were close to 4.5 million registered runners.</p> <p>Events are run by volunteers, and participation is free of charge. To assist the volunteers, Parkrun HQ provides equipment and guidance. Runners are requested to register online in advance for a unique athlete number and to print their own identification barcode for use when taking part. Runners' results in each event are processed and uploaded online after the run by volunteers. Each registered runner has an individual page cataloguing the details of each event in which they have participated. Parkrun's mission statement is "a healthier and happier planet".</p> <p>There are currently twenty five 'parkrun' events throughout Northern Ireland. MUDC currently host Parkrun at MUSA at Cookstown and a junior Parkrun at Polepatrick, Magherafelt. Other venues include the following locations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waterworks Park, Belfast: <u>Waterworks</u> • Victoria Park, Belfast: <u>Victoria</u> • Queens (Upper Malone Rd), Belfast: <u>Queen's</u> • Falls Park, Belfast: <u>Falls</u> • Stormont, Belfast: <u>Stormont</u> • City Park (Lakes), Craigavon: <u>Craigavon</u> • Ecos Park, Ballymena: <u>Ecos</u>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • East Strand Beach, Portrush: Portrush • Wallace Park, Lisburn: Wallace Park • Lakeland Forum, Enniskillen: Enniskillen • Mid-Ulster Sports Arena, Cookstown: MUSA • Ormeau Park, Belfast: Ormeau Park • Derry City, Derry/L'Derry: Derry City • Loughshore Park, Antrim: Antrim • Palace Demense, Armagh: Armagh • Larne parkrun, Larne: Larne • Carrick parkrun, Carrickfergus: Carrick • Bangor parkrun, Bangor: Bangor • Comber parkrun: Comber • Valley parkrun: Newtownabbey • Limavady parkrun: Limavady • Colin Glen parkrun: Colin Glen • Rostrevor parkrun: Rostrevor • Castlewellan parkrun: Castlewellan
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p>A public information meeting was held in Dungannon Park on Thursday 17 May 2018 with the idea to establish and host a Dungannon Park Parkrun. The purpose of the meeting was to get a feel for the proposal and sign up a minimum of 10 members of the public to act as volunteers to run the event on a weekly basis. Also to have someone to volunteer as Event Director.</p> <p>The meeting was extremely well attended, approximately 50 people, and the idea was very positively received. Twenty-eight people signed up as volunteers and 1 Event Director. The route will follow the existing path which follows the park perimeter, this loop will be run twice. The run is a set 5km run and follows international standard whereby the run takes place every Saturday morning at 9.30am as part of an annual calendar. There is a one-off set up charge of £2,400 to Parkrun. Each Parkrun event is run entirely by volunteers. To assist the volunteers, Parkrun HQ provides the necessary equipment and there are several different volunteer roles at each Parkrun event.</p> <p>Every event has a 'volunteer' page, with the same basic information about how to get involved as a volunteer, as well as crediting those who have made the effort in the most recent week. The Parkrun website credits those who volunteer each week as "the heart" of Parkrun, and integral to its not-for-profit status. It also provides a useful range of responses to commonly asked questions about volunteering, with information on each of the different roles. It is recommended that runners volunteer three times over the course of a year to help their local Parkrun function sustainably. Participation is free of charge, funded through sponsorships and grants, and staffed locally by volunteers.</p>
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	<p>Financial:</p> <p>A contribution to Parkrun HQ of £2,400 is required to create the Dungannon Park 'Parkrun' product and necessary infrastructure for the events to function. This expenditure has been identified from within the 2018/19 Parks Service budget approved by Council.</p>

	Human: No additional human resources required. Volunteers coordinate and marshal the events
	Risk Management: All risks identified and managed as part of Parkrun & MUDC Parks Department Risk Assessments protocol.
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: Parkrun's growth is partly attributed to its simplicity and accessibility: runners register online once, turn up at any event, and run and partly to its inclusivity. Participants have a wide range of running abilities, from fast club runners to those walking, a wide range of ages from children running with their parents to the elderly, also allowed are wheelchair users, those pushing buggies and people running with their dog.
	Rural Needs Implications: N/A
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Approval is sought to engage with Parkrun and register Dungannon Park as an official venue. Approval is sought to make the contribution of £2,400 to Parkrun for the required set-up and operational costs associated to hosting the events. This is a one off contribution
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	N/A

Report on	Parks and Play Five Year Strategic Plan
Date of Meeting	Thursday 14 th June 2018
Reporting Officer	Head of Parks
Contact Officer	Nigel Hill

Is this report restricted for confidential business?	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	x

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To seek Member approval for the Parks and Play Five Year Strategic Plan
2.0	Background
2.1	<p>Outdoor Recreation NI (ORNI) was commissioned in November 2016 to prepare a Public Park and Play Strategy for Mid Ulster District Council area (MUDC) that will provide direction for the management and development of facilities, programs, infrastructure, resources, and investment over the period 2017-2022 within the Mid Ulster District Council area. MUDC park estate boasts over 100 public park/play facilities across the Council area ranging from small equipped areas for play, Multi Use Game Areas (MUGAs) to parkland of 70 acres in size. In assessing the park locations, the spatial distribution is an important factor. While a higher concentration of park/play facilities are located in the larger towns and settlements, some areas within Council are over provided for while others experience provision to a lesser extent.</p> <p>Council are committed to develop public park space, increasing the open and green areas for all members of the community where possible. This Strategy provides an opportunity to review the Council's overall offering with regards the type of provision and also consider the needs of each DEA with regards the distribution of public parks and play for the coming five years.</p>
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p>The overall aim is to prepare a strategy that will provide direction for managing and developing parks and play facilities, programs, infrastructure, resources, and investment over the next 5 year period. The Strategic Plan process has assessed the status of parks and play within the Council area and planned a future that reflects the Corporate Priorities of the Council and needs of the community.</p> <p>Objectives</p> <p>In order to achieve the aims of the Strategy, the following objectives were addressed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detail and GIS map the nature and extent of public parks and current play provision in Mid Ulster

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outline relevant context of play against what is happening at a regional and national level • Conduct consultation exercise with relevant stakeholders including Council elected representatives, Council Officers, local community groups and user groups to identify current usage and aspirations for future development of public parks and play in the MUDC area • Undertake research into the benefits, trends and best practice in play • Identify future opportunities and sites for development using supplementary information from the 2011 Census and L&PS • Produce a 5 year costed Action Plan (2017-2022) outlining proposed plans for development between 2017-2022 • Cost the Action Plan providing cost summary for both capital works and revenue costs and identify potential sources of funding to help deliver the Plan.
3.2	<p>A programme of works setting out the recommendations for each of the 102 public park/play park locations has been identified. The first five years of the strategy has a projected spend of £250,000 per annum, a total cost of £1,125,000. The Rural Development Programme (RDP) will contribute an additional £1,004,339 of funding during the first two years of the strategy across 19 sites that will provide for new facilities and enhancement to existing parks and play areas. A combined projected strategy expenditure of £2,129,339 has been identified for Parks and Play projects across Mid Ulster District Council to the end of 2022.</p>
3.3	<p>This programme aims to enhance the public park and play provision across Mid Ulster, tailoring the provision to the needs of the community in each DEA. However due to the volume of locations, it is suggested that the Strategy is revisited within the third year to assess progress and review progress and outstanding works to be completed in the remaining 2 years.</p>
3.4	<p>This Public Parks and Play Strategy for the Mid Ulster Council area sets out a strategic framework for the next 5 years in order to help reposition the parks and play provision within the Council. It will help improve co-ordination, collaboration, capacity and the Councils' capability to meet the current and future challenges in a way that maximises opportunities, benefits, investment and resources.</p> <p>In addition, it will help consolidate into one joined up Plan previous pieces of work undertaken by the legacy Councils.</p>
3.5	<p>The strategy also includes a longer term identification of projects that have been prioritised beyond the 5 year period. These are subject to securing additional funding and may require initial scoping work to progress. The strategy may therefore be subject to variables associated with opportunities of external funding that may enhance the delivery objectives over the life of the strategy.</p>
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	<p>Financial:</p> <p>Parks and Play Five Year Strategic Plan will require council capital resourcing for the period of the programme at £250,000 per annum for five years equating to £1,125,000 (excluding external funding streams). The Parks and Play Strategy may be subject to variables associated to opportunities of external funding that may enhance the delivery objectives over the life of the strategy.</p>

	Human: Current staff structure sufficient to deliver on Parks and Play Strategic Plan
	Risk Management: The strategic plan will be managed and monitored by the Parks Services in line with Council's risk management governance procedures
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: An extensive process of consultation was carried out with individual Council Officers, Council elected members, national governing bodies of sport (NGBs), public and statutory agencies, children's day-care providers, youth centres, community associations and groups, sporting clubs and the general public.
	Rural Needs Implications: In line with the Mid Ulster Council Community Plan, one the 15 outcomes is to 'give our children and young people the best chance in life' ⁱ . Within this Strategy, it is the aim of Council to address this deficiency and ensure citizens of all abilities are adequately provided for across rural and urban areas.
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Members are asked to approve the Parks and Play Five Year Strategic Plan and recommend to Policy and Resource Committee that capital funding of £250,000 per annum be released to fund the proposed programme of work.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Parks and Play Five Year Strategic Plan.



PUBLIC PARKS AND PLAY STRATEGIC PLAN

2017 - 2022

October 2017

**Produced by Outdoor Recreation NI
on behalf of Mid Ulster District Council**

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ACRONYMS

CP	Changing Places
DEA	District Electoral Area
DEARA	Department of Environment, Agriculture and Rural Affairs
DCAL	Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure
DRD	Department of Regional Development
FSNI	Forest Service NI
GIS	Geographic Information System
LPS	Land & Property Services
LAP	Local Area for Play
LEAP	Locally Equipped Area for Play
MUGA	Multi-Use Games Area
MUSA	Mid Ulster Sports Arena
ORAP	Outdoor Recreation Action Plan
ORNI	Outdoor Recreation NI
RDP	Rural Development Programme

FOREWORD

This report aims to provide a full list of all public park and play within Mid Ulster and every endeavour has been taken to ensure accuracy in mapping.

The results recorded are based on the information received through Council and consultation with various organisations and local groups - sincere thanks and appreciation to all who contributed.

This report and associated recommendations provides a comprehensive picture of the status of current public parks and play opportunities for future development in the Mid Ulster District Council (MUDC) area.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Outdoor Recreation NI (ORNI) was commissioned in November 2016 to prepare a Public Park and Play Strategy for Mid Ulster District Council area (MUDC) that will provide direction for the management and development of facilities, programs, infrastructure, resources, and investment over the period 2017-2022 within the Mid Ulster District Council area.

Mid Ulster District Council covers an area of some 1714 km², straddles two counties, running from Swatragh in the north to Fivemiletown in the south and from the Sperrin Mountains in the west to the shores of Lough Neagh in the east. The MUDC area is divided into 7 District Electoral Area (DEA) namely; Carntogher, Clogher Valley, Cookstown, Dungannon, Magherafelt, Moyola and Torrent.

MUDC park estate boasts over 100 public park/play facilities across the Council area ranging from small equipped areas for play, Multi Use Game Areas (MUGAs) to parkland of 70 acres in size. In assessing the park locations, the spatial distribution is an important factor. While a higher concentration of park/play facilities are located in the larger towns, some areas within Council are over provided for while others suffer an obvious lack in provision.

Council are committed to develop public park space, increasing the open and green areas for all members of the community where possible. This Strategy provided an opportunity to review the Council's overall offering with regards the type of provision and also consider the needs of each DEA with regards the distribution of public parks and play.

A number of resources were used to assess the public park and play provision in Mid Ulster:

- Fields In Trust Benchmark Guidelines
- Population data from the 2011 census
- Household pointer data from LPS
- Play Park Quality Inspection Audit
- Community consultation and public survey

Recommendations have been provided for each of the 102 sites in Mid Ulster as well as the open/green space sites that are under Council ownership. In addition, a number of over-arching strategic recommendations have been made for consideration:

- Consultation – It is recommended that Council place consultation with the community at the centre of any proposed future development regards the recommendations for Activity Centres and District Play development as well as those sites considered on the basis of their recommended life span, change of use, enhancement, upgrade, relocation, new park development and woodland play provision. It is felt the proposals for the Activity Centres and District Play should undergo a thorough public consultation process with input from children and young people as well as representation from those with a disability. The establishment of a Steering Group made up of members of the community, Special Education representation as well as relevant agencies would be beneficial and is recommended (including but not limited to Disability Action, MENCAP, RNIB, Guide Dogs NI). In addition, it is felt that a Statistical Disabilities Analysis of children within Northern Ireland and more specifically Mid Ulster would further determine all-ability, facility need.
- Inclusive Play – As highlighted in the Mid Ulster Local Development Plan 2030 - Preferred Options Paper (Mid Ulster District Council, November 2016), planning must: “ensure that new

open space areas and sporting facilities are convenient and accessible for all sections of society, particularly children, older people and those with disabilities". Should Council embark on the process of developing two Activity Centres, it is recommended that these facilities are designed for the groups in need, with consideration being given to the young and those with disabilities. These all ability facilities will not only provide for the community of Mid Ulster but will also enhance the offering for the visitor. Development of the activity centres would be subject to sourcing funding within a 5+year span.

- **Public Park Development** – With a lack of open/green space in some DEA's (e.g. Cookstown and Moyola), it is suggested that Mid Ulster Council consider developing 14 of its current park sites and its open/green space sites into public parks as well as including a play element in its Forests. Potential new public park sites include: Ballymacombs - Carntogher, Castlehill - Dungannon, Clady - Carntogher, Fairhill - Cookstown, Henderson Park - Torrent, Hunters Park - Moyola, Manor Park - Magherafelt, Mill Park - Moyola, Moykeeran - Moyola, Railway Park - Dungannon, Parkview/Riverside - Moyola, Roundlake - Clogher Valley, Swatragh - Carntogher and Windmill Wood - Dungannon. Public Park development would be subject to sourcing funding within a 5+year span. In addition to identified developments, council have a £1,000,000 development proposal for Railway Park, which can be progressed within the strategy period subject to available funding.
- **Woodland Play** – With a high concentration of woodland and forests across Mid Ulster, it is proposed that a Woodland Play element be developed in some of the key forest sites. This will add value to these locations for the local community and will help support visitor numbers. 8 Small Woodland Play sites and 5 Significant Woodland Play sites have been identified. The 8 Small Woodland Play site identified are: Knockmany Forest, Windmill Wood, Brantry Lough and Forest, Cabin Wood, Inniscarn Forest, Lissan House, Traad Point and Drumcairne Forest. The Significant Woodland Play sites identified include: Derrynoyd Forest, Parkanaur Forest, Pomeroy Forest, Drum Manor Forest and Drumlamph Forest. Woodland Play development would be subject to sourcing funding within a 5+year span.
- **Public Parks and Play Strategy complemented by other Council Strategies** – As highlighted above, this Strategy should be considered alongside other relevant Council Strategies including the Outdoor Recreation Strategy, Tourism Strategy and Sports Facility Strategy to ensure the recommendations in each achieve their full potential.
- **Harness Community Relationships** – The consultation process highlighted that Mid Ulster has strong community involvement with a number of groups developing recreational facilities for their own communities and successfully funding these programmes through relevant grants. One of the 5 themes in the Mid Ulster Council Community Plan is: *'Vibrant and Safe Communities - promote and develop shared space across the area and make more use of existing facilities'*. Therefore, it is recommended that where gaps in provision exist, Council work alongside the community including established community groups and associations as well as local sports clubs and other bodies such as schools and Forest Service.
- **Assessments and Audits** – While Quality Inspections take place on an annual basis, it is suggested that a Play Value Assessment takes place alongside the forthcoming Quality Audit. Play Value assessments consider the range of play types and the experiences that children

derive from the equipment as well as locational and environmental factors and access issues. A Play Value Assessment will be instrumental when determining the enhancements, upgrades and relocations of play sites.

- Risk-Benefit Approach to Play – When considering future play development in Mid Ulster it is suggested that a Risk-Benefit Approach is adapted. The benefits of challenging play are highlighted in the following sections but this is a relatively new way of thinking when developing fixed play. Health and safety considerations in the past have meant that play provision is somewhat lacking in challenging play which offers essential developmental skills. However, Council needs to consider that providing a high standard of play means that children and young people are challenged, whilst minimising unnecessary danger through a common-sense approach.
- Land availability – Land availability is at a premium across Mid Ulster, especially in the DEA of Magherafelt. However, this Strategy acknowledges the lack of provision of open/green space in Magherafelt and it is suggested that Council focus its efforts on investigating possible areas for development and works with other statutory bodies to identify potential sites e.g. Education Authority and Northern Ireland Housing Executive.
- Residential Planning – In line with Council's Preferred Options Paper, it is suggested that Council adopt a strengthened policy approach to ensure that the loss of open space is prevented unless it can be demonstrated that redevelopment would bring substantial community benefit that outweighs the loss of the open space. This strengthened approach takes account of the Regional Development Strategy, SPSS and the Local Development Plan objectives where the relevant criteria are met.
- Manned/Staff provision – Park sites that have a staffing element are proven to suffer reduced levels of anti-social behaviour and vandalism. While additional staff resources are not an immediate requirement, suggested staff requirements within the Strategy have been correlated as an indicator in relation to potential revenue costs and should be factored into development projects on a rolling basis. While the development of Activity Centres, District Play and new Public Park proposals are heavily dependent on sourcing external funding streams and are also scheduled beyond the initial five year delivery programme, when the number of these larger facilities increase, staffing levels at designated locations will need to be reviewed.

A programme of works setting out the recommendations for each of the 102 public park/play park locations has been identified. The first five years of the strategy has a projected spend of £250,000 per annum, a total cost of £1,125,000. The Rural Development Programme (RDP) will contribute an additional £1,004,339 of funding during the first two years of the strategy across 19 sites that will provide for new facilities and enhancement to existing parks and play areas. A projected strategy expenditure of £2,129,339 has been identified for Parks and Play projects across Mid Ulster District Council to the end of 2022.

This programme aims to enhance the public park and play provision across Mid Ulster, tailoring the provision to the needs of the community in each DEA. However due to the volume of locations, it is suggested that the Strategy is revisited within the third year to assess progress and review the outstanding works to be completed in the remaining 2 years.

The Action Plan below should be read in conjunction with Section 8 which provides additional detail on the action for each of the park, play park, forest or open/green space sites.

Development Year 1	DEA	Park Site	Action	Indicative Cost
RDP Funded				
	Clogher Valley	Augher	RDP	£38,103
	Clogher Valley	Ballygawley	RDP	£51,000
	Clogher Valley	Caledon	RDP	£38,103
	Clogher Valley	Eglis	RDP	£17,000
	Clogher Valley	Fivemiletown Fairgreen	RDP	£160,000
	Clogher Valley	Granville	RDP	£38,103
	Dungannon	Killyman	RDP	£38,103
	Moyola	Mill Park Tobermore	RDP	£38,103
	Carntogher	Upperlands	RDP	Play Park £145,000 MUGA £101,000
Upgrades				
	Cookstown	Beechway	Upgrade	£50,000
	Cookstown	Coolnafranky	Upgrade	£50,000
	Cookstown	Drum Manor Forest	Upgrade to provide inclusive play options	£30,000
Maintenance & Enhancements				
	Moyola	Boyne Row	Maintenance/ Enhancement	£25,000
	Moyola	Knockloughrim	Maintenance/ Enhancement	£25,000
	Magherafelt	Northland Moneymore	Maintenance/ Enhancement	£20,000
	Dungannon	Redford	Maintenance/ Enhancement	£25,000
Removal				
	Cookstown	Sperrinview	Removal	Maintenance Budget
	Clogher Valley	Killymaddy	Removal	Maintenance Budget
	Carntogher	Moneyneena	Removal	Maintenance Budget
Total (RDP Funding) +10% Contingency Overall Total excl RDP				£889,515 (£664,515) £25,000 £250,000

Development Year 2	DEA	Park Site	Action	Indicative Cost
	Torrent	Annaghmore/ Clonoe	RDP	£38,103
	Carntogher	Ballymacombs	RDP	£38,103
	Dungannon	Ballynakelly	RDP	£18,000
	Cookstown	Berkeley Square, T'hogue	RDP	£38,103
	Torrent	Castlebay, Brocagh	RDP	£38,103
	Clogher Valley	Castlecaulfield	RDP	£17,000
	Cookstown	Churchview, Drumullan	RDP	£38,103
	Torrent	Henderson Park	RDP	£38,103
	Magherafelt	Loup	RDP	£38,103
	Carntogher	Swatragh	RDP	£38,103
Change of Use/Upgrade				
	Torrent	Innishmore	Change of use MUGA to LEAP Subject to funding from Gortgonis Community Hub Development Project	£40,000
Upgrades				
	Dungannon	Railway	Upgrade and relocation. Subject to major match funded project	£150,000
Maintenance & Enhancements				
	Torrent	Lisnahall, Ardtrea	Maintenance/ Enhancement	£25,000
	Torrent	Donaghmore	Maintenance/ Enhancement	£25,000
	Torrent	Brackaville	Maintenance/ Enhancement	£25,000
Total (RDP and Gortgonis Community Funding) +10% Contingency Overall Total excl RDP and Gortgonis Community Funding)				£604,824 (£379,824) £25,000 £250,000

Development Year 3	DEA	Park Site	Action	Indicative Cost
Upgrades				
	Clogher Valley	Clogher	Upgrade	£50,000
	Cookstown	Monrush	Upgrade	£50,000
	Dungannon	Moygashel Jacksonville	Upgrade	£50,000
Maintenance & Enhancements				
	Torrent	Battery Harbour	Maintenance/ Enhancement	£25,000
	Dungannon	Milltown	Maintenance/ Enhancement	£25,000
	Torrent	Washingbay	Maintenance/ Enhancement	£25,000
Total +10% Contingency Overall Total				£225,000 £25,000 £250,000

Development Year 4	DEA	Park Site	Action	Indicative Cost
Upgrades				
	Dungannon	Moy Curran's Brae	Upgrade	£50,000
	Cookstown	Princess Avenue	Upgrade	£25,000
Maintenance & Enhancements				
	Dungannon	Benburb	Maintenance/ Enhancement	£25,000
	Cookstown	Conway Close	Maintenance/ Enhancement	£25,000
	Cookstown	Gortalowry	Maintenance/ Enhancement	£25,000
	Cookstown	Killymoon	Maintenance/ Enhancement	£25,000
	Cookstown	Rockdale, Rock	Maintenance/ Enhancement	£25,000
	Clogher Valley	U.S. Grants	Maintenance/ Enhancement	£25,000
Total +10% Contingency Overall Total				£225,000 £25,000 £250,000

Development Year 5	DEA	Park Site	Action	Indicative Cost
Upgrades				
	Clogher Valley	Aughnacloy	Upgrade	£50,000
Maintenance & Enhancements				
	Torrent	Beechline, Galbally	Maintenance/Enhancement	£25,000
	Cookstown	Blackhill	Maintenance/Enhancement	£25,000
	Carntogher	Clady	Maintenance/Enhancement	£25,000
	Cookstown	Coagh Park, Coagh	Maintenance/Enhancement	£25,000
	Moyola	Desertmartin	Maintenance/Enhancement	£25,000
	Torrent	Mourneview, Carnan	Maintenance/Enhancement	£25,000
	Cookstown	Tullywiggan	Maintenance/Enhancement	£25,000
Total				£225,000
+10% Contingency				£25,000
Overall Total				£250,000

Development 5 Years +	DEA	Park Site	Action	Indicative Cost
Activity Centre Development				
	Magherafelt	Ballyronan Marina	Activity Centre Subject to funding	£250,000
	Dungannon	Dungannon Park	Activity Centre Subject to funding	£250,000
District Play Development				
	Carntogher	Coleraine Road	District Play Subject to funding	£100,000
	Cookstown	Fairhill	District Play Subject to funding	£100,000
	Torrent	Gortgonis	District Play Subject to funding	£100,000
	Magherafelt	Meadowbank (leisure centre)	District Play Subject to funding	£100,000
	Clogher Valley	Roundlake, Fivemiletown	District Play Subject to funding	£100,000
Upgrades				
	Dungannon	Drumcoo Green	Upgrade	£50,000
Maintenance & Enhancements				
	Clogher Valley	Ackinduff	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Clogher Valley	Ackinduff	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Dungannon	Ballynakelly	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Moyola	Castledawson	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Carntogher	Clady	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Carntogher	Culnady	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Cookstown	Davagh Forest	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Cookstown	Derrychrin, Ballinderry	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Dungannon	Dunavon	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Carntogher	Gleone	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Carntogher	Gulladuff	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Moyola	Hunters Park	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Carntogher	Innishrush	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget

	Torrent	Killeen	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Moyola	Kilross	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Carntogher	Lisnamuck	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Moyola	Longfield	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Magherafelt	Lough Fea	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Dungannon	Meadowbank	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Magherafelt	Moneymore RC	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Torrent	Mountcairn Coalisland	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Torrent	Newmills	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Cookstown	Orritor	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Cookstown	Parkview, Pomeroy	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Carntogher	Tamlaght	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
Recommended Lifespan				
	Clogher Valley	Aughnacloy - Coronation Park	Recommended Lifespan	Maintenance Budget
	Dungannon	Ballysaggart	Recommended Lifespan	Maintenance Budget
	Cookstown	Clare	Recommended Lifespan	Maintenance Budget
	Cookstown	Coagh Street	Recommended Lifespan	Maintenance Budget
	Carntogher	Crawfordsburn	Recommended Lifespan	Maintenance Budget
	Dungannon	Gortnasoar	Recommended Lifespan	Maintenance Budget
	Drumcoo	Killymerron	Recommended Lifespan	Maintenance Budget
	Magherafelt	Lindsayville, Ballyronan	Recommended Lifespan	Maintenance Budget
	Cookstown	Milburn Close	Recommended Lifespan	Maintenance Budget
	Dungannon	Moy Oakfield	Recommended Lifespan	Maintenance Budget
	Dungannon	Mullaghmore	Recommended Lifespan	Maintenance Budget

	Cookstown	Orritor St.	Recommended Lifespan	Maintenance Budget
	Cookstown	Rathbeg	Recommended Lifespan	Maintenance Budget
	Cookstown	Ratheen	Recommended Lifespan	Maintenance Budget
	Cookstown	Stewart Avenue	Recommended Lifespan	Maintenance Budget
Relocation				
	Torrent	Ardboe	Relocation	£50,000
Change of Use				
	Dungannon	Northland Village	Change of use	Maintenance Budget
Small Woodland Parks (8)	Clogher Valley	Knockmany Forest	Small Woodland Park (subject to funding)	£25,000
	Clogher Valley	Brantry Lough and Forest	Small Woodland Park (subject to funding)	£25,000
	Dungannon	Windmill Wood	Small Woodland Park (subject to funding)	£25,000
	Moyola	Traad Point	Small Woodland Park (subject to funding)	£25,000
	Cookstown	Cabin Wood	Small Woodland Park (subject to funding)	£25,000
	Magherafelt	Inniscarn Forest	Small Woodland Park (subject to funding)	£25,000
	Magherafelt	Lissan House	Small Woodland Park (subject to funding)	£25,000
	Torrent	Drumcairne Forest	Small Woodland Park (subject to funding)	£25,000
Significant Woodland Parks (5)				
	Moyola	Drumlamph Forest	Significant Woodland Park (subject to funding)	£50,000
	Carntogher	Derrynoyd Forest	Significant Woodland Park (subject to funding)	£50,000
	Clogher Valley	Parkanaur Forest	Significant Woodland Park (subject to funding)	£50,000
	Cookstown	Pomeroy Forest	Significant Woodland Park (subject to funding)	£25,000
	Cookstown	Drum Manor Forest	Significant Woodland Park (subject to funding)	£50,000
New Park Sites (15* O'Neill Play only)				
	Moyola	O'Neill Park*	Park Development Subject to funding (subject to funding)	£50,000

	Magherafelt	Manor Park	Park Development Subject to funding (subject to funding)	£150,000
	Moyola	Mill Park	Park Development Subject to funding	£100,000
	Carntogher	Swatragh	Park Development Subject to funding	£140,000
	Carntogher	Ballymacombs	Park Development Subject to funding	£100,000
	Moyola	Parkview/ Riverside	Park Development Subject to funding	£150,000
	Clogher Valley	Roundlake, Fivemiletown	Park Development (subject to funding)	£100,000
	Carntogher	Clady	Park Development (subject to funding)	£100,000
	Cookstown	Fairhill	Park Development (subject to funding)	£150,000
	Dungannon	Windmill Wood	Park Development (subject to funding)	£150,000
	Dungannon	Castlehill	Park Development (subject to funding)	£150,000
	Moyola	Hunters Park	Park Development (subject to funding)	£125,000
	Moyola	Moykeeran	Park Development (subject to funding)	£100,000
	Dungannon	Railway Park	Park Development (subject to funding)	£100,000
	Torrent	Henderson Park	Park Development (subject to funding)	£50,000
Total				£3,240,000

1. BACKGROUND

1.1. Introduction

“Children are disappearing from the outdoors at a rate that would make the top of any conservationist’s list of endangered species if they were any other member of the animal kingdom” (Gill, 2005)¹

In recent years, there has been a cultural shift in our society that has reduced the access and use of outdoors for many children. No longer do children enjoy the same everyday freedom of movement as previous generations.

Adults of the future are becoming increasingly disconnected from green space and the outdoors and are showing symptoms of what has been described as ‘nature deficit disorder’. They are losing their physical contact with the outdoors and intimacy with the outdoors is fading.

According to Tim Gill having regular contact with nature and green spaces is part of a balanced diet of childhood experience and if children do not have those experiences then they are not going to thrive to the same degree as if they did.

Contributory factors to children now experiencing less time in the outdoors include increased fear amongst adults in relation to children’s safety (‘stranger danger’), a loss of greenspace for public access, historical under investment in facilities, reduced parental time for supervision because of work and technological advances leading to an overwhelming prominence of more sedentary indoor activities, such as TV, video and computer games.

According to Play England, it is not uncommon that parents think that taking their kids to the Park is something you do as a treat instead of something you do every day.

This sits against the fact that play has many benefits and includes according to OFMDFM (Play and Implementation Plan)

- positive physical and mental health development
- supporting the development of brain capacity in early years
- supporting a connection with nature and the environment
- supporting broad holistic development incorporating areas such as physical literacy, cognitive skills and creativity
- providing opportunities for children and young people to assess and manage risk for themselves²

This Public Parks and Play Strategy for the Mid Ulster Council area sets out a strategic framework for the next 5 years in order to help reposition the parks and play provision within the Council. It will help improve co-ordination, collaboration, capacity and the Councils’ capability to meet the current and future challenges in a way that maximises opportunities, benefits, investment and resources.

In addition, it will help consolidate into one joined up Plan previous pieces of work undertaken individually by the legacy Dungannon and South Tyrone, Magherafelt and Cookstown Councils.

¹ Children in the Outdoors - A literature review, Dr. Sarah-Anne Muñoz (2009)

² Play and Leisure Implementation Plan Narrative, Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister

1.2. Aim

The overall aim of the Strategy is:

- To prepare a Strategy that will provide direction for managing and developing parks and play facilities, programs, infrastructure, resources, and investment over the next 5 year period.
- The Strategic Plan process will assess the status of parks and play within the Council area and plan a future that reflects the Corporate Priorities of the Council and needs of the community.

1.3. Objectives

In order to achieve the aims of the Strategy, the following objectives were addressed:

- Detail and GIS map the nature and extent of public parks and current play provision in Mid Ulster
- Outline relevant context of play against what is happening at a regional and national level
- Conduct consultation exercise with relevant stakeholders including Council elected representatives, Council Officers, local community groups and user groups to identify current usage and aspirations for future development of public parks and play in the MUDC area
- Undertake research into the benefits, trends and best practice in play
- Identify future opportunities and sites for development using supplementary information from the 2011 Census and L&PS
- Produce a 5 year costed Action Plan (2017-2022) outlining proposed plans for development between 2017-2022
- Cost the Action Plan providing cost summary for both capital works and revenue costs and identify potential sources of funding to help deliver the Plan.

2. SCOPE

2.1. Project Area

Mid Ulster District Council covers an area of some 1714 km², straddles two counties, running from Swatragh in the north to Fivemiletown in the south and from the Sperrin Mountains in the west to the shores of Lough Neagh in the east.

According to the 2011 Census, the Council serves a population of over 138,590, one third of which live in urban areas. The area's principal towns are Cookstown, Coalisland, Dungannon, Magherafelt and Maghera. Two thirds of its population live in rural areas.

The Mid Ulster Council area is divided into 7 District Electoral Area namely; Carntogher, Clogher Valley, Cookstown, Dungannon, Magherafelt, Moyola, and Torrent.

DEA Name	Estimated Population ³
Carntogher	16,972
Clogher Valley	19,402
Cookstown	23,049
Dungannon	21,485
Magherafelt	18,000
Torrent	22,240
Moyola	17,442
TOTAL	138,590

The estimated overall population of Mid Ulster Local Government District at 30 June 2015 was 147,152 with further growth anticipated by 2025 rising to 164,671⁴.

According to the 2011 census, Mid Ulster has a population of 31,952, 0-15 year olds or 23% versus an average of 21% for Northern Ireland for this age band. The estimated overall population of 0-15 from the 2014-based Population Projections for Areas within Northern Ireland was estimated to be 31,225 with the projected youthful population rising slightly to 33,282 by 2025⁵

³ All usual residents, Northern Ireland Census 2011

⁴ Mid Ulster Position Paper One, Population and Growth, September 2014

⁵ <https://www.nisra.gov.uk/publications/2014-based-population-projections-areas-within-northern-ireland>

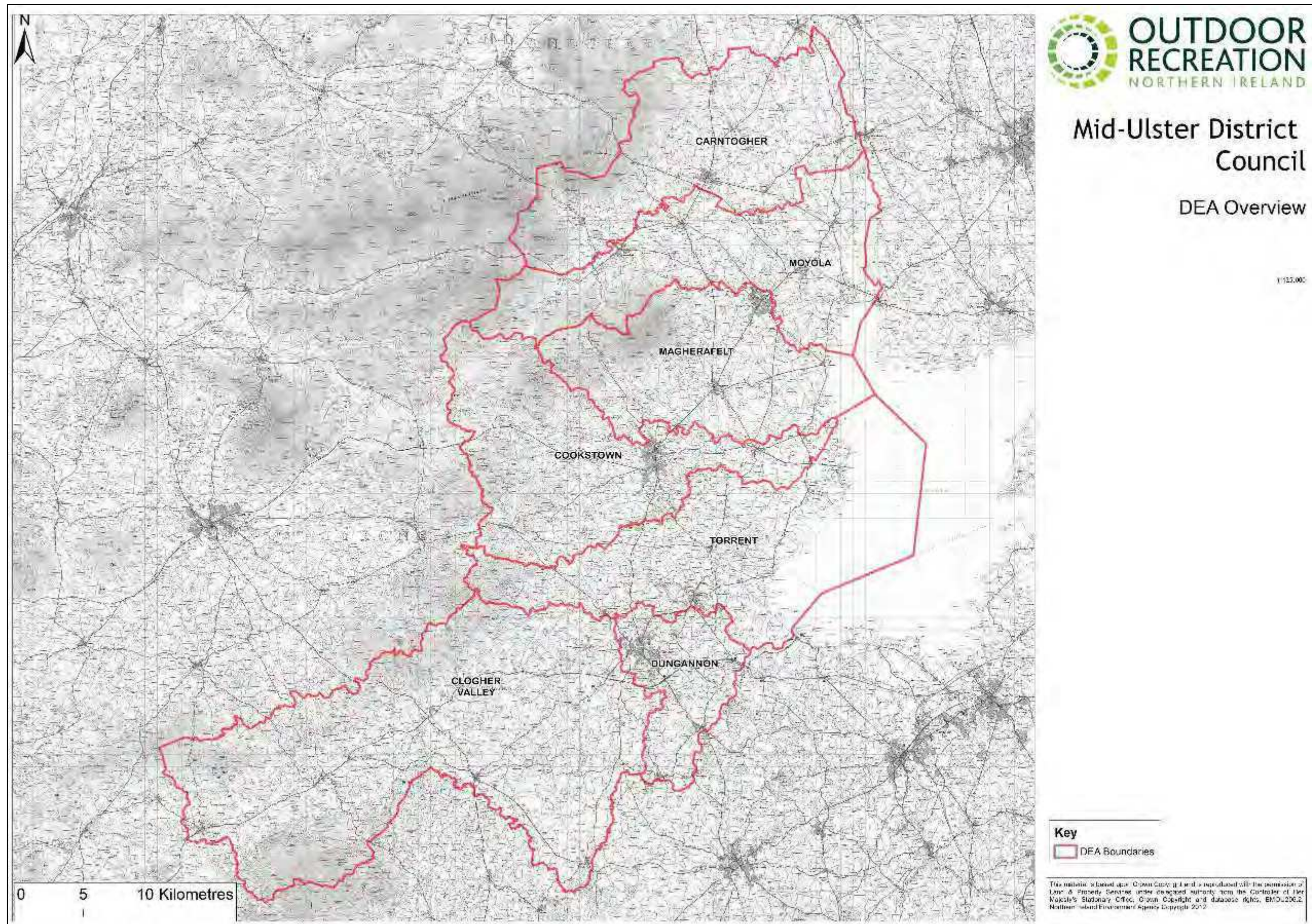


FIGURE 1 MID ULSTER DEA BOUNDARIES

3. CONTEXT

This Public Parks and Play Strategy for Mid Ulster is set in the context of numerous strategic, regional and local plans, strategies and policy statements as well as documents that focus on the benefits, trends and best practice of play and inclusive play:

- Draft Northern Ireland Programme for Government 2016 – 2021
- Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister Our Children and Young People (2006).
- Play and Leisure Policy Statement (OFMDFM, 2008)
- Play and Leisure Implementation Plan (OFMDFM, 2011)
- A Fitter Future for All - Framework for Preventing and Addressing Overweight and Obesity in Northern Ireland (Department of Health, 2012-2022)
- Our Great Outdoors – The Outdoor Recreation Plan for Northern Ireland
- Sports Matters: Strategy for Sport and Physical Recreation 2009 -2019
- Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) Census 2011
- Mid Ulster District Council Corporate Plan 2015-2019
- Tourism Strategy and Action Plan 2016 -2021 for Mid Ulster District Council
- Mid Ulster District Council Community Plan
- Mid Ulster District Council Village Plans
- Mid Ulster Area Preparatory Open Space, Recreation and Leisure Study 2015
- Mid Ulster Forest Recreation Audit 2015
- Northern Ireland Commissioner for Children and Young People (NICCY) Play and Leisure Policy Briefing Paper (2010)
- Relevant Research and Publications by Playboard Northern Ireland
- Planning Policy Statement PPS 7 Quality Residential Environments
- Planning Policy Statement PPS8 Open Space and Outdoor Recreation Policy
- Guidance for Outdoor Sport and Play – Beyond the Six Acre Standard, FIT (October 2015)
- Children’s Play and Leisure – Promoting a balanced approach – Health and Safety Executive 2012
- Best Play – National Playing Fields Association (March 2005)
- Local Development Plan 2030 - Preferred Options Paper, Mid Ulster District Council (November 2016)
- Health and Well-being -Trees, Woodlands and Natural Spaces, Forestry Commission (2003)

Although all the above are important, the following documents are considered of most relevance and are detailed below:

1. The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
2. Draft Northern Ireland Programme for Government 2016 – 2021
3. Play and Leisure Policy Statement (OFMDFM, 2008)
4. Play and Leisure Implementation Plan (OFMDFM, 2011)
5. Our Great Outdoors - The Outdoor Recreation Action Plan for Northern Ireland
6. Sport Matters - The Northern Ireland Strategy for Sport and Physical Recreation 2009 – 2019
7. Mid Ulster District Council Corporate Plan 2015 – 2019

8. Mid Ulster District Council Community Plan
9. Mid Ulster District Council Village Plans
10. Tourism Strategy and Action Plan for 2016 – 2021 for Mid Ulster District Council
11. Our Children and Young People – Our Pledge 2016
12. Planning Policy Statement PPS 7 Quality Residential Environments
13. Planning Policy Statement PPS8 Open Space and Outdoor Recreation Policy
14. Best Play – National Playing Fields Association (March 2005)
15. Health and Well-being -Trees, Woodlands and Natural Spaces, Forestry Commission (2003)
16. Play for All – Providing play facilities for disabled children
17. Children’s Play and Leisure - Promoting A Balanced Approach, September 2012
18. Managing Risk in Play Provision: Implementation Guide, Play Safety Forum, David Ball, Tim Gill and Bernard Spiegel (2013)
19. Design for Play: A guide to creating successful play spaces, Play England (2008)
20. Playable Space – Quality Assessment Tool, Play England (October 2009)
21. Local Development Plan 2030 - Preferred Options Paper (Mid Ulster District Council, November 2016)
22. A Countryside for health and well-being- the physical and mental health benefits of green exercise (CRN, 2005)
23. Play - A report by the All-Party Parliamentary Group on a Fit and Healthy Childhood (Appg, October 2015)
24. Changing Places: the practical guide, Changing Places Consortium
25. The Value of Public Space – Commission for Architecture

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child

The basic principle underlying the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, often referred to as the UNCRC is that children (defined as being 18 years or under) are born with the same fundamental set of rights as all humans, with a number of additional rights due to their vulnerability.

Article 31 of the UNCRC formally recognises the child’s right to play and the right to engage in other recreational activities, including participation in cultural activities and the arts. Article 31 states:

1. States Parties recognize the right of the child to rest and leisure, to engage in play and recreational activities appropriate to the age of the child and to participate freely in cultural life and the arts.
2. States Parties shall respect and promote the right of the child to participate fully in cultural and artistic life and shall encourage the provision of appropriate and equal opportunities for cultural, artistic, recreational and leisure activity.

Draft Northern Ireland Programme for Government 2016 – 2021

The Draft Programme for Government 2016 – 2021 is currently out for public consultation. In due course, the Programme for Government Framework will provide the strategic context for other key Executive strategy documents, including the Investment Strategy, the Economic Strategy and an Anti-Poverty/Social Strategy. The Programme will also inform the development of the Executive’s budget

over the course of this mandate and provide a mechanism for ensuring limited funds are best directed to where they can contribute most.

The Draft Framework contains 14 strategic outcomes which, taken together, set a clear direction of travel and enable continuous improvement on the essential components of societal wellbeing. They touch on every aspect of government, including the attainment of good health and education, economic success and building confident and peaceful communities. In addition to merely fulfilling statutory obligations, the new Executive hopes to be able to target those things that make real improvements to the quality of life for the citizen.

The strategic outcomes are supported by 42 indicators, which are clear statements for change. The following indicators are of particular relevance to the proposed project:

- Reduce health inequality
- Increase life expectancy
- Improve mental health
- Improve our attractiveness as a destination and improve our international reputation.

Key to the success of the new Programme for Government is the ability of Departments to work collaboratively with not only themselves but also with other public bodies and the voluntary and private sector.

Play and Leisure Policy Statement for NI

OFMDFM's ten year Play and Leisure Policy Statement published in 2009 sets out the NI Executive's commitment towards ensuring 'a happier and healthier future for all children and young people'. The Strategy has its foundations in the UN's Convention on the Rights of the Child which was ratified by the UK Government in December 1991 and which recognised the importance of play and leisure activities for the child

It recognises that play is a 'powerful medium for teaching values to children of all ages' and recognises that good play and leisure opportunities can help improve quality of life and safety in neighbourhoods, tackle obesity, promote children's health and well-being, support children's development and build community cohesion.

It sets out a vision for play as:

To recognise, respect and resource play is to recognise, respect and value childhood'

The Statement also recognises that some vulnerable groups including those in poverty and those with disabilities may need additional support to gain maximum benefit from play.

Play and Leisure Implementation Plan

Consistent with 'Our Children and Young People – Our pledge', OFMDFM's 2011 Play and Leisure Implementation Plan includes the following key principles:

Accessibility – there should be sufficient provision of, and transport to and from places and spaces for play and leisure.

Affordability – costs associated with play and leisure should be affordable.

Flexibility – service providers should be flexible in delivering play and leisure opportunities based on the views of children and young people.

Diversity – through play and leisure there should be access to a range of people, places, spaces, opportunities and experience.

Integration – play and leisure opportunities should support building community cohesion.

Inclusion – irrespective of race, ethnic origin, class, gender, sexual orientation, ability religion or age, all children and young people should have an equal opportunity to be involved in play and leisure.

Quality – all play and leisure activities and places should be fit for purpose and meet quality standards.

Participation – all children and young people have the opportunity to participate actively in decision that may affect their play and leisure.

Our Great Outdoors - The Outdoor Recreation Action Plan for Northern Ireland

This Action Plan published in 2014 was commissioned by Sport NI and Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA) with support from the Northern Ireland Tourist Board (NITB) and the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure (DCAL) Inland Waterways Branch.

The Action Plan highlights the importance of making the outdoors accessible to everyone and the opportunities that there are to participate, not only in rural areas but also in the urban fringes.

The Plan's vision is: "a culture of dynamic, sustainable outdoor recreation in Northern Ireland"

To achieve this vision, the aim is for Northern Ireland to be a place where:

- there are increasing opportunities and improved access and infrastructure for sustained and increased participation for everyone in a broad range of outdoor recreation activities
- there are accompanying benefits to local communities, especially those who are socially excluded in terms of health, social inclusion, cohesion, equality, and economic development; and
- people enjoy the outdoors and show a high degree of responsibility for themselves, towards others and towards the environment they are using, and play their part in maintaining, supporting and enhancing our environment and heritage.

Sport Matters - The Northern Ireland Strategy for Sport and Physical Recreation 2009 – 2019

Whilst Northern Ireland's environment provides conditions of international quality for a range of activities, Sport Matters recognises that not everyone will wish to achieve in performance sport and the Strategy encourages the development and use of open spaces for a variety of informal recreational and outdoor pursuits. Being out in the fresh air enjoying the scenery, whilst taking exercise, is recognised as important elements of Sport Matters. The Strategy acknowledges that the natural environment provides many opportunities for a range of sporting and physical recreation activities but that access issues exist.

In aspiring to the target that "by 2019 Northern Ireland will have developed a range of new, improved and shared sports facilities to a standard comparable with other similar regions of the UK", the Strategy indicates that this will require:

- public access to and sustainable use of, publicly-owned lands across Northern Ireland for sport, physical recreation and activity tourism (2015 target included in the Strategy);
- a planning system which facilitates and protects the provision of spaces for sport and physical recreation by following Planning Policy Statement 8: Open Space Sport and Outdoor Recreation (2019 target included in the Strategy).

Sport Northern Ireland has also approved a position statement regarding access to the natural environment in support of targets set out in the Sport Matters Strategy. The objective is to communicate Sport Northern Ireland's position on the importance it attaches to outdoor recreation through:

- promoting the best possible access to the natural environment for sport and physical recreation within the confines of existing legislation and organisation of the land ownership prevalent in Northern Ireland.
- encouraging and supporting full access for responsible and sustainable recreation on public land through the development of policy frameworks by other public bodies – especially those that are custodians of public land.

Mid Ulster District Council Corporate Plan 2015 – 2019

The overarching vision of the Council's Corporate Plan is 'Mid Ulster Council aspires to be at the heart of our community'.

The Council has identified a number of key issues of importance to the people across Mid Ulster including; education, the economy, the environment, safety, a sense of belonging, partnership working, improved infrastructure, accessible amenities and attractive vibrant, tourism villages and open spaces. These issues are reflected in four themes namely:

1. Delivering for our People
2. Creating Growth
3. Sustaining our Environment
4. Building Unity

Theme 1 – 'Delivering for our People' includes as its priorities for action: 'High quality, responsive, indoor and outdoor recreational services with increased customer numbers and satisfaction'

Theme 2 – 'Creating Growth' recognises the importance of a capital investment and improvement programme for the area including improving the physical infrastructure and connectivity of Mid Ulster and the importance of optimising the tourism potential of Mid Ulster'

Theme 3: Sustaining our Environment Theme recognises the important of the environment which the Plan notes as deserving to be protected, preserved and enhanced for the enjoyment of everyone. Specific priorities include:

- maximising potential of the area's natural and built attractions and facilities, building collaborative partnerships and strategic alliances;
- realising the tourism potential of Mid Ulster, being clear upon the opportunities and targeting resources
- developing and enhancing parks, play areas and open spaces to encourage physical activity and open the countryside in a sustainable manner to our community.

The importance of community planning is recognised in Theme 4: Building Unity, whereby a key priority of the Council is to use Community Planning to connect communities and form collaborative partnerships.

Mid Ulster District Council Community Plan

Community Planning is a significant new statutory power which has been presented to Councils within Northern Ireland as a result of local government reform. Mid Ulster's first Community Plan published in 2016 sets out the vision of:

'Mid Ulster – a welcoming place where our people are content, healthy and safe; educated and skilled; where our economy is thriving; our environment and heritage are sustained; and where our public services excel'

The Plan sets out 15 outcomes to be achieved through a number of actions that have been structured into 5 themes namely:

- Economic growth
- Infrastructure
- Education and Skills
- Health and Well Being and
- Vibrant and Safe Communities

Running across the five themes are three cross cutting themes which impact on all aspects of life in Mid Ulster. One of these is 'sustainable environment' which recognises that Mid Ulster is home to many precious environments which its people have fostered and cherished for generations.

Four of the five themes include actions relating directly to the wider agenda of outdoor recreation as follows:

Economic growth

- maximise tourism investment and employment concentrating on the three strategic tourism themes of Seamus Heaney, Activity and Heritage

Infrastructure

- secure the transfer of Lough Neagh into public ownership
- progress the reinstatement of the Ulster Canal and its greenway links
- increase the protection of, and access to and development of heritage assets – both natural and man-made including; Seamus Heaney countryside, O'Neill heritage, Lough Neagh, Sperrins, Beaghmore and the area's forests.

Health and Well Being

- deliver a Recreation and Active Lifestyle Plan which will provide formal and informal recreation and play opportunities

Vibrant and Safe Communities

- promote and develop shared space across the area and make more use of existing facilities.

Mid Ulster District Council Village Plans

46 village plans cover MUDC. Many of these have been updated within the past 12 months. Within many of the individual Village Plans there are specific recommendations relating to the provision of public park and play opportunities. These have been extracted and are highlighted in Appendix 5.

Tourism Strategy and Action Plan for 2016 – 2021 for Mid Ulster District Council

Prepared by BTS, the Action Plan sets out the vision for tourism in Mid Ulster as

‘to enhance Mid Ulster’s image and reputation for visitors and grow the visitor economy to £50m by 2021 as measured by overnight visitor expenditure’.

In order to achieve this vision the Plan highlights five strategic themes and interrelated actions for delivery one of which is the:

- development of three strategic tourism strands (Seamus Heaney, Archaeological Sites history and heritage and Outdoor Activities).

The development of outdoor activities in the area is therefore recognised as serving as one of the three strategic core propositions for Mid Ulster to attract visitors, encourage them to stay longer in the area and ensure that tourism contributes to the local economy.

The Action Plan states that ‘the objective of focussing on the outdoor activity market lies in its scale and size and the opportunity of strengthening the competitiveness of the Mid Ulster destination, by building on this underdeveloped sector’.

Key actions identified in the Plan to improve the economic contribution of outdoor and activity tourism include:

- creating a coherent and compelling range of outdoor activity sites and facilities by pulling all existing and potential new sites under one umbrella
- positioning Mid Ulster as a centre of excellence for the visitor, thus encouraging them to visit the area, stay longer and spend more
- the development of the outdoor and activity tourism product comprising both physical development and management and organisational dimensions – marketing, interagency collaboration and cluster development
- the development of key Forest Parks – Parkanaur, Knockmany and Drum Manor.
- The delivery of a year-round programme of events.

Our Children and Young People – Our Pledge 2016

OFMDFM’s 10-year strategy for children and young people published in 2006 sets out 6 high level outcomes namely:

- Healthy
- Enjoying, learning and achieving
- Living in safety and with stability
- Experiencing economics and environmental well being
- Contributing positively to community and society
- Living in a society which respect their rights

Play links directly to these outcomes in the following way:

Healthy: Play, especially outdoors, offers many opportunities for physical activity. Physical inactivity and rising levels of childhood obesity in NI is of major concern. To get the maximum developmental and experiential benefit from their play children need to have access to a range of play experience and opportunities and be involved in different and distinctive types of play. It is recognised that play also enhances the mental health of children and highlights the importance of children being able to play, take risks and to use their own initiative.

Enjoying, learning and achieving: in early childhood, most of children's learning is acquired through play. It allows children and young people to explore boundaries, test abilities, use initiative, take risk and make mistakes without fear of failure. The Statement states that since the essence of play is about fun, enjoyment and achievement it is important to work to create spaces both in rural areas and in a range of setting where children are enjoying themselves and having fun.

Contributing positively to community and society: facilities used for play are frequently seen as focal points for communities and offer opportunities for real social interaction for children and for the wider community and supports the development of a greater sense of community spirit.

Living in safety and with stability: communities where play is configured to maximise informal contact among neighbours, the streets are safer, children are taken better care of, people are generally happier with their surroundings and there is increased social participation in local activities and reduced risk of crime, graffiti and violence.

Experiencing economic and environmental well-being: people who acquire more skills become more able. Play is recognised as being central to acquiring skills and developing one's ability.

Policy Statement 7 (PPS7) – Quality Residential Environments (2001)

PPS 7 sets out the Department's planning policies for achieving quality in new residential development and advises on the treatment of this issue in development plans. It applies to all residential development proposals with the exception of proposals for single dwelling in the countryside.

It recognises that new residential development can threaten local character and identity and that developments have tended to be designed around the requirements of the private car and often lack adequate provision of open space or landscaping. Consequently, all residential developments are expected to confirm to certain criteria including:

- adequate provision is made for public and private open space and landscaped areas as an integral part of the development.

More specifically it states that integrating pleasant, attractive and landscaped areas of public open space, including children's play spaces, is as an intrinsic element of any new residential development as open space has not only recreational and social benefits but is also considered vital to the overall design quality of the development. It can help promote biodiversity and contributes to the creation of an attractive, sustainable and varied residential environment, helping to 'green' an area, soften any environmental impact and foster a sense of community.

Policy Statement 8 (PPS8) - Open Space, Sport and Outdoor Recreation (2004)

PPS 8 sets out the Department's planning policies for the protection of open space, the provision of new areas of open space in association with residential development and the use of land for sport and

outdoor recreation and advises on the treatment of these issues in development plans. It embodies the Government's commitment to sustainable development, to the promotion of a more active and healthy lifestyle and to the conservation of biodiversity.

Open Space is defined in PPS8, Open Space, Sport and outdoor Recreation as:

‘all open space of public value, including not just land, but also inland bodies of water such as rivers, canal, lakes and reservoirs which offer important opportunities for sport and outdoor recreation and can also act as a visual amenity’.

Open space, sport and outdoor recreation are important components of life providing many health, cultural, social, economic and environmental benefits. Open space can enhance the character of residential areas, civic buildings, conservation areas and archaeological sites. It can also help to attract business and tourism and thereby contribute to the process of urban regeneration. The use being made of the countryside for a range of sporting and outdoor recreational activities, particularly where these are associated with farm diversification, can contribute to the process of rural regeneration and help promote natural resource tourism.

Consequently, retaining open space, creating new open space and promoting more opportunities to participate in outdoor recreation in the future is of significant importance.

Best Play – National Playing Fields Association (March 2005)

Developed in conjunction with PLAYLINK and the Children's Play Council, Best Play is about how children benefit from play opportunities. It is also about how play services and spaces can provide these benefits, and how they can show that they are providing them. The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, ratified by the UK Government in December 1991, recognises the importance of play for the child. Article 31 of the Convention states that:

"States parties recognise the right of the child to rest and leisure, to engage in play and recreational activities appropriate to the age of the child and to participate freely in cultural life and the arts. A set of values and principles about children and play, based on the UN Convention and on understandings about play have been created within the document: Children's views, Access to Rich Stimulating Environments, Freedom to Play,

Equal entitlement, Respect for children, Children's abilities, Play for its own sake, The importance of risk, The adult role in play and Adult responsiveness.

Health and Well-being -Trees, Woodlands and Natural Spaces, Forestry Commission (2003)

The relationships between the environment, health, culture and society are the foundation of the study within this document. Outdoor activity in a Forest environment will have an obvious and direct positive effect on health but it is also highlighted that people feel more relaxed when viewing trees and other plants as well as water and therefore has a positive impact on physical well-being. In addition, Woodlands also offer a focal meeting place which forms an important part of local identity. Finally, it is also stated that 'Natural Environments' can introduce an element of physical and mental challenge. A USDA Forest Service Study (2001) also suggested that in areas with trees, children played for longer and were involved in more collaborative play.

Play for all - Providing play facilities for disabled children (<http://www.dessa.ie/publications>)

Play for All aims to help Family Resource Centres (FRCs), Community Development Projects (CDPs) and other small community-based organisations to ensure that outdoor play facilities associated with their premises and centre-based activities, or any others that they use, are accessible and welcoming to all disabled children living in their local areas. It highlights the importance of play and that all children are entitled to access to play. Consultation is highlighted and that disabled children and their families should be included in the process. Safety and risk need to be managed to ensure the balance of attractive challenging play is coupled with adequate safety measures. Finally, planning and design recommendations are highlighted providing some initial thoughts when planning an inclusive play area.

Children's Play and Leisure - Promoting A Balanced Approach, Health and Safety Executive (2012)

The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) fully supports the provision of play for all children in a variety of environments. In this statement, HSE makes clear that, as a regulator, it recognises the benefits of allowing children and young people of all ages and abilities to have challenging play opportunities.

Key message: 'Play is great for children's well-being and development. When planning and providing play opportunities, the goal is not to eliminate risk, but to weigh up the risks and benefits. No child will learn about risk if they are wrapped in cotton wool'. The HSE state that it is important to strike the right balance between protecting children from the most serious risks and allowing them to reap the benefits of play. They state that it is not about eliminating risk but more about sensible adult judgements are all that is generally required to derive the best benefits to children whilst ensuring that they are not exposed to unnecessary risk. This statement also states that industry standards such as EN 1176 offer benchmarks that can help. This statement defines what parents and society should expect from play providers: Key message: 'Those providing play opportunities should focus on controlling the real risks, while securing or increasing the benefits – not on the paperwork'. The HSE supports the Implementation Guide developed by the Play Safety Forum, as a sensible approach to risk management. Indeed, the Statement acknowledges that accidents can happen but this possibility does not mean that play providers should eliminate even the most trivial of risks and provided sensible and proportionate steps have been taken, it is highly unlikely there would be any breach of health and safety law involved, or that it would be in the public interest to bring a prosecution.

Managing Risk in Play Provision: Implementation Guide, Play Safety Forum (2013)

As an independent body, hosted by play England, The Play Safety Forum, formed in 1993, exists to consider and promote the wellbeing of children and young people through ensuring a balance between safety, risk and challenge in respect of play and leisure provision. Children want exciting places to play which in turn are inherently risky, however there is a need to foster positive risk taking which is fundamental to children's health and development. This document acts as a guide for those tasked with the design, maintenance and delivery of play services. The document states that many providers do not use all four levels of the risk benefit management process. Risk management as it is currently practised is likely to include the following activities:

- procurement processes that require designs to be compliant with standards to a lesser or greater extent
- post-installation inspections by competent inspectors (in-house or external)
- annual inspections by competent inspectors (in-house or external)
- more frequent routine inspections by staff or volunteers.

The guide further advises how providers can incorporate their Risk Management procedures into a Risk Benefit Assessment. The risk benefit assessment model is recognised as a practical and common-sense approach in the provision of children's play balancing risk and challenge. 'Risk-benefit assessment focuses on making judgements and identifying measures that manage risks while securing benefits'.

In conclusion, despite increasing concern over health and safety in today's society, it is still acknowledged there is a need for good or managed risk in play which engage and challenge children to supports their growth, learning and development.

Design for Play: A guide to creating successful play spaces, Play England (2008)

This document is primarily aimed at commissioners and designers of children's play areas. The guidance is intended to support good practice in the development and improvement of public play space. Given the reduced opportunity for children to play, this guide is also intended to inform the creation of outdoor play space for years to come. This document states that these areas should be places where children and young people can enjoy spending time, be physically active, interact with their natural surroundings, experience change and continuity, take risks in an environment where they feel safe and, of course, play – alone or with others – in a wide variety of ways.

The key piece of guidance within this document is how to create inspiring places for play, giving children and young people the freedom to play creatively, yet still allow them to experience risk, challenge and excitement. 10 principles for designing successful play spaces are encapsulated in one golden rule 'A successful play space is a place in its own right, specially designed for its location, in such a way as to provide as much play value as possible'.

It aims to show that, with imagination, planning and an understanding of children's needs, it is possible to create and maintain exciting play areas for children and young people of different ages, sometimes by making only small changes to existing provision. It also aims to provide the ideas and the practical resources for building new play areas in a fresher and more inspiring way than is current common practice.

Playable Space – Quality Assessment Tool, Play England (2008)

The benefits of play have been well documented by Play England and how play contributes to children's overall development including teaching vital skills such as planning, negotiating, being creative, not being afraid to take risks and to experiment, having fun and enjoying themselves. The Quality Assessment Tool aims to help providers create the best possible conditions to allow children develop in through play. The aim of the quality assessment is to assess the quality of children's play spaces. It is designed as a tool to help play providers look at the spaces available for children's play, and assess what improvements could be made to enhance the use and quality of those spaces.

The assessment tool focuses on three major aspects to children's outdoor play provision: the location of play areas, the play value and the care and maintenance. The guide offers guidelines for the assessment of the three different types of play space and facility to which all children and young people should have free access in their local neighbourhood – Type A: Doorstep space and facility, Type B: Local space and facility and Type C: Neighbourhood space and facility

This document highlights that location may be the single most important factor in how well children use not only play spaces but also open/green spaces. Young children need a location where they can be seen, older children need a location where they can roam and 'hang out' and children with disabilities or siblings in push chairs need a facility they access with ease.

The importance of play value is described as the different experiences that children derive from play areas such as swinging, sliding and rocking. It is noted that quiet, contemplative play is just as important as physical, boisterous play and that the natural environment provides a wealth of opportunity in this environment.

The importance of care and maintenance is addressed to allow children to play free from unexpected hazards and to ensure other types of risk-benefit analysis are being undertaken.

Finally, the Quality Assessment tool gives consideration to who carries out the assessment, guidelines and definitions for assessing the three different types of play and the score sheet. The score sheet assesses the site including first impressions as well as considering planning decisions. The 'Judgements for planning' section is to be completed at the end of the assessments once scores have been analysed. This section will provide a record of the rationale for the development decisions for each site. The scores (from 1 to 5) are converted into percentage scores to allow for weighting and comparisons between sites and between the location, play value and care and maintenance sections. The aim of the scoring system is to identify which play area and which particular aspects of the play area require improvement.

Local Development Plan 2030 - Preferred Options Paper (Mid Ulster District Council, November 2016)

The Preferred Options Paper (POP) from Mid Ulster Council is the first formal stage in the development of the Council's Local Development Plan. The POP is a consultation document prepared to promote debate and discussion on strategic issues which are likely to influence and shape future development in Mid Ulster.

The Paper has been prepared to inform interested parties and individuals on the matters that may have a direct effect on the area and to set out possible options for development as well as the council's preferred option to address those matters. The paper provides the public and stakeholders with an opportunity to put forward their views and influence the plan from the outset.

The POP proposes strategic guidelines for accommodating growth across Mid Ulster, together with housing allocations and policies. It also explores how the creation of new jobs and prosperity can be facilitated and how our environment can be enhanced and infrastructure improved. It provides a series of maps showing where possible constraints on development could be introduced and indicates directions of growth for the towns.

The Mid Ulster Local Development Plan will share the vision of the Regional Development Strategy;

"An outward-looking, dynamic and liveable Region with a strong sense of its place in the wider world; a Region of opportunity where people enjoy living and working in a healthy environment which enhances the quality of their lives and where diversity is a source of strength rather than division."

The Plan will be tailored in line with Mid Ulster's emerging Community Plan which presents a vision of:

“Mid Ulster...a welcoming place where our people are content, healthy and safe; educated and skilled; where our economy is thriving; our environment and heritage are sustained; and where our public services excel”.

To address the vision of the RDS, the emerging Community Plan and the current key issues within Mid Ulster the Local Development Plan will contain a set of objectives to aid the sustainable development of the District:

- Accommodating People and Creating Places
- Creating jobs and promoting prosperity
- Enhancing the environment and improving infrastructure

It is the final objective that aims to address the matter of open space and leisure, ensuring that Mid Ulster is well served in relation to the provision of formal and informal open space and leisure facilities, thus improving the quality of life for its people.

A Countryside for Health and Well-being – The Physical and Mental Health Benefits of Green Exercise (CRN, 2005)

This study focuses on the physical and mental health benefits of green exercise. In an age where green space is at a premium and under pressure from economic development this document indicates that less green nature means reduced mental wellbeing, or at least less opportunity to recover from mental stress.

Substantial evidence links the natural environment with good physical health and psychological wellbeing. The 'Biophilia Hypothesis' states that the desire for contact with nature is partly innate. As physical activity and nature can positively affect wellbeing, the research explores the synergy in adopting physical activities whilst being directly exposed to nature and have named it 'green exercise'.

The study sets out three levels of engagement with nature

- viewing nature - as through a window, or in a painting
- being in the presence of nearby nature - which may be incidental to some other activity, such as walking or cycling to work, reading on a garden seat or talking to friends in a park; and
- active participation and involvement with nature - such as gardening, farming, trekking, camping, cross-country running or horse-riding

As a result of green exercise, there was a significant improvement in self-esteem in nine out of the ten case studies. The largest change was detected amongst those who took part in Woodland Activities.

Play - A report by the All-Party Parliamentary Group on a Fit and Healthy Childhood (Appg, October 2015)

The purpose of the All Party Parliamentary Group is to promote evidence based discussion and produce reports on all aspects of childhood health and wellbeing including obesity; to inform policy decisions and public debate relating to childhood; and to enable communications between interested parties and relevant parliamentarians. The Working Group that produced this report is a sub-group of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on a Fit and Healthy Childhood.

There are a number of recommendations made within this report which are felt to be a reflection of the work required to recognise the importance of play to child development and to create the environment that will reverse the recent trend of reducing play opportunities. Recommendations made are in line with the following:

- the role and responsibilities of government enabling play both in England and the devolved UK and the practice and model of other countries
- play in early years' settings, primary and secondary schools
- outdoor and indoor play; barriers and opportunities
- educational learning through play both pre-school and in-school to include an exploration of the role and place of modern technology in child play in home and school settings
- assistance/guidance for families in facilitating a rich and stimulating play environment for children both within and outside the home
- play and the planning system
- play and the evaluation of risk and safety
- the role of media, advertising and the play industry in the promotion of beneficial children's play
- the training needs of the children's workforce
- health benefits of play; physical health and nutrition, mental and emotional health – and play as therapy for children, how play contributes to the public health agenda
- play, diversity and inclusion

The report concludes with the government strategy for play.

Changing Places: the practical guide, Changing Places Consortium

Drafted by the Changing Places Consortium, this document provides practical guidance on the design and management of a Changing Places (CP) toilet facility. The CP Consortium supports the installation of CP facilities in public buildings and raises awareness of CP facilities across the UK through an interactive map displaying location address, contact details and opening times of accredited CP facilities. Members of the CP Consortium include: PAlMS, Royal Mencap Society, Centre of Accessible Environments, Dumfries and Galloway Council, Nottingham City Council and Scottish Government. CP is supported in Northern Ireland by Mencap.

Section 75 of the Northern Ireland act is most relevant to the provision of CP in Northern Ireland while Public bodies in Northern Ireland must also meet duties under the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA 1995) to promote positive attitudes towards those with disabilities and encourage participation of disabled people in public life. Building regulations and design guidance under Technical Booklet R2012 – Access to and use of buildings, recommends that those with profound and multiple learning difficulties and who need help of up to two assistants, need a facility if that is a combined toilet, shower and changing room.

The guide details planning and design specifications as well as equipment, finance/funding, management and maintenance information, providing a comprehensive guide to ensure those people with disabilities and their families have access to hygienic and dignified toilet and changing provision.

The Value of Public Space: Architecture Commission

CABE Space is part of the Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment and was set up in May 2003. It champions excellence in the design and management of parks, streets and squares in towns and cities. CABE Space receives funding from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister and support from the Department of Culture, Media and Sport. This report identifies how high-quality parks and public spaces create economic, social and environmental value.

4. METHODOLOGY

Both primary and secondary research techniques were employed during the preparation of the Strategy. Data from previous projects within the area supplemented with further on-line research was used to complement an extensive consultation exercise.

Consultation involved a variety of techniques including email, telephone, face-to-face, online questionnaires and a series of public consultation events. In total, seven public consultation events took place, one in each of the Council's seven District Electoral Areas (DEAs). See Appendix 2 for details of the public consultation events.

Each consultation event was promoted widely through the following channels:

- direct emails to all community groups within the area through Council Community Development Service
- editorial in local newspapers including Derry Post, Mid Ulster Mail, Mid Ulster Observer, Tyrone Courier, Tyrone Herald and Tyrone Times
- websites including Outdoor Recreation NI.com, OutdoorNI.com, WalkNI.com, Rural Community Network.com, CommunityNI.com and Mid Ulster Council consultation page
- direct emails through in-house mailing lists, Rural Community Network and various governing bodies
- Facebook pages including WalkNI and social media channels across Council
- wide circulation of consultation poster which advertised dates, venues and purpose of the events to community groups and youth organisations
- consultation posters printed on coriboard located at public parks and play parks across Mid Ulster

At each of the consultation events a short presentation, given by ORNI, was followed by a breakout session where attendees had the opportunity to report the sites and areas they currently use for play and outdoor recreation and what they would like to see developed in the future.

In total 55 people attended the public consultation events.

Table 1 summarises the different consultation methods used throughout the preparation of the Strategy.

Consultee Category	Consultation Method
Council Officers	Face-to-face meeting Invited to DEA public consultations Senior Management Team (SMT)
Council Elected Member	Invited to DEA public consultations
Governing Bodies of Sport	Face-to-face meeting or telephone interviews (depending on convenience)
Public/Statutory Agencies and Charitable organisations e.g. Sure Start, MENCAP, Disability Action, Guide Dogs NI	Face-to-face meeting (where relevant) Follow-up phone call to discuss (where relevant)
Community Groups	Invited to DEA public consultations Face-to-face meetings (where appropriate)
Youth organisations, afterschool clubs and special schools	Face-to-face meeting (where relevant) Follow-up phone call to discuss (where relevant) Invited to DEA public consultations
General Public	Invited to DEA public consultations

TABLE 1 CONSULTATION METHODS USED DURING THE PREPARATION OF THE STRATEGY.

All data collected was analysed and presented using the spatial mapping tool ArcGIS. The following information was mapped:

- current provision of public parks, play facilities, MUGAs and open/green space parks
- population breakdown of Mid Ulster across the 7 DEAs
- household pointer data of Mid Ulster across the 7 DEAs
- future development opportunities

5. CONSULTATION RESULTS

5.1. Public Meetings

An extensive process of consultation was carried out with individual Council Officers, Council elected members, national governing bodies of sport (NGBs), public and statutory agencies, children's day-care providers, youth centres, community associations and groups, sporting clubs and the general public.

Public Consultation took place within each of the 7 DEAs. A number of recurrent themes became apparent with regards public parks and play provision (please note this is not an exhaustive list but responses gathered have been grouped together into themes which have been reviewed against the wider Mid Ulster Community Plan as well as individual village plans where relevant):

Popular and Well Used Playparks/MUGAs

A number of sites across Mid Ulster were highlighted as having good facilities Fairhill in Cookstown, Monrush MUGA in Cookstown, Gortgonis in Torrent and Hunters Park in Moyola. These are valued sites that are important to the community.

Poor Playpark Provision/Upgrade Required

Some of the smaller playparks were highlighted as inefficient, with poor quality play equipment offering little value to the community. Examples include Coagh Street in Cookstown. In addition, a number of locations were felt that they no longer adequately serviced the community surrounding them including Ballygawley in Clogher Valley.

New Park/Playpark Provision Highlighted

Sandholes in Cookstown, Walled Garden in Maghera and Maghera were highlighted as areas in need of provision. In comparison to other DEAs within the District, Magherafelt and the town of Magherafelt is lacking in play provision.

Inclusive Facilities

The demand and real need for increased inclusive facilities within Mid Ulster was highlighted at a number of the consultations most notably within the Torrent and Magherafelt events. The need for inclusivity includes not only play provision but most importantly adequate changing facilities.

Partnerships

A number of potential partnerships were highlighted across Mid Ulster where the Council and Community Groups/Associations could work alongside one another to create open/green space for community use and/or play e.g. Workspace, GAA and other sporting clubs.

Neutral Venues

It was felt that where any new play or open/green space provision is to be developed that consideration should be given to neutral sites to cater for both sides of the community to improve community cohesion.

Maintenance/Ancillary Items/Vandalism

Overall it was felt that public parks and parks within Mid Ulster require continued maintenance as well as improved signage with regards opening hours and dog policy for example.

Opportunities for Play at Forest Locations

A number of forest sites were raised at consultation because they are popular for outdoor recreation and it was felt they could be further enhanced by introducing an element of play provision. It was felt that this enhanced offering would better serve the local community and visitors alike providing an improved visitor experience. Locations highlighted included Knockmany Forest, Brantry Forest Parkanaur Forest and Drumlamph Forest (in conjunction with the Development Association).

Increased Promotion

Despite there being over one hundred public parks/play parks and open/green spaces in Mid Ulster, it was felt there was a lack of awareness and the locations and associated facilities could be better promoted.

Consultation

Parks are important to communities especially in Mid Ulster, therefore it was highlighted that the community would require further consultation with regards proposed recommendations including new developments, change of use or sites based on their recommended life span.

5.2. Public Survey

Working closely with Mid Ulster Council, a public survey was developed in order to assess current provision of public parks and play in Mid Ulster and what future provision should address in order to meet the needs of the various communities across the Council area.

Drafted using Survey Monkey the survey was live from January to February 2016, with the average survey taking between 10-12 minutes. The survey link was promoted in press, online via Council and Outdoor Recreation NI websites as well as WalkNI and OutdoorNI. The link also featured in online articles on Community NI and the Rural Community Network websites. Social media was also a key tool in promoting the survey with posts on Council and Outdoor Recreation NI Facebook pages. The survey link also featured on temporary Council signage which publicised the Public Consultation events. Finally, a number of community and youth groups as well as day care, after school groups and special schools were also contacted by telephone to drive traffic towards the survey site.

Despite a concentrated effort to increase participation, a total of 141 responses were received. While not statistically robust to provide in depth analysis, the results gathered provide supplementary data which has supported the overall analysis of current and future play provision in Mid Ulster. In addition, the verbatim responses collected are felt to be invaluable with detailed replies to open ended questions in which respondents were honest and open about the issues within their local public parks, play facilities and open/green spaces.

Please note, in line with best practice, responses with a base of less than 30 should not be used for statistical analysis purposes. However, when filtering within questions, several low base responses exist therefore for the purposes on this survey, bases less than 10 will not be reported on. As such, the survey should be treated as supplementary in nature. The full survey and results can be viewed within Appendix 4 of this document.

Current Usage – Park visited most often (Q1 – Q12 Base: 99 – 141)

The majority of respondents reside in Upperlands (14%) and Magherafelt (12%) - subsequently these are two areas within Mid Ulster that fall behind in terms of current public park and play provision when compared to the other 5 DEAs. It is encouraging to note that overall usage is high, with over 90% of respondents (129) using public parks/play parks in Mid Ulster. Dungannon Park and Meadowbank Magherafelt were cited as the parks used most often (14 respondents or 12% for each). When asked about the play park they use most often, respondents naturally visit these parks with children or other family (84%) with 1 in 4 going a few times per week. With regards location, it is interesting to note that while over 30% live less than 1 mile away from their nearest play park, nearly 70% travel to the play park they use most often by car. Nearly 60% of respondents visit these parks to 'get the children outdoors for half an hour' versus 12% of those who use them for 'a fun day out with the family'. When respondents were asked what they do at the public park/play park they visit most often, almost three quarters of respondents make use of the play park facilities, with walking being the next most popular activity (40%).

Respondents were asked to rate their satisfaction on a scale of 1-5 about the play provision, visitor facilities as well as other ancillary items at the park they visited most often as well as how important these factors are to them. Council are failing to meet current expectations with regards performance on the things that matter most to the community with regards parks and open/green spaces namely the provision of play equipment, provision of inclusive play equipment, accessible paths for those with limited mobility and a sense of feeling safe.

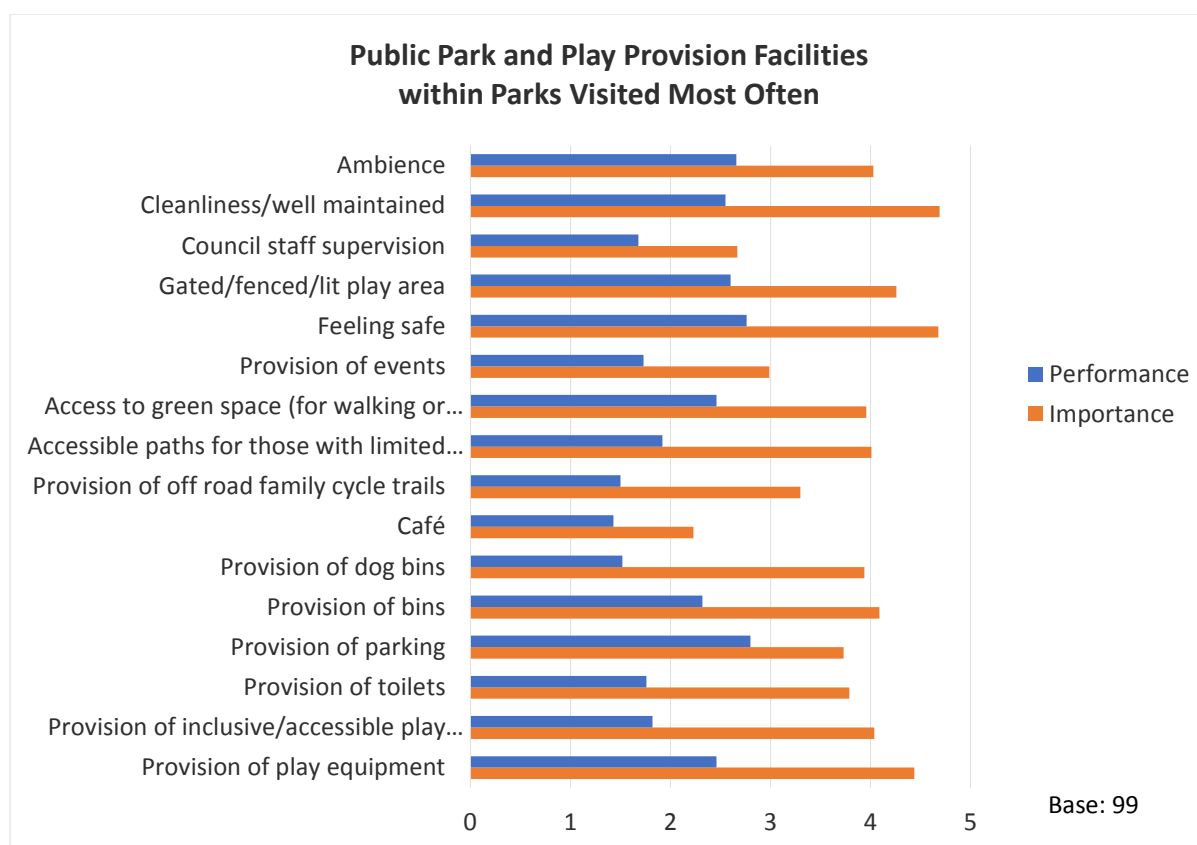


CHART 1 PUBLIC PARK AND PLAY PROVISION FACILITIES WITHIN PARKS VISITED MOST OFTEN

Current Usage – Favourite Park (Q13 – Q21 Base: 78-90)

Respondents were then asked about their favourite park with over 20% (21 respondents) stating Meadow Bank in Magherafelt, Dungannon Park was the next most popular park, 13% (12 respondents).

Respondents tend to visit their favourite park less often with 28% visiting a few times per month compared to a few times/week (20%). Again, family members and children are the groups most likely to accompany respondents to parks (86%). What is interesting to note is that respondents appear to be prepared to travel further to their favourite park with the majority of over 30% travelling 11 miles+ to spend time at this location, with 90% using a car to get there. 35% (31 people) stated that their main reason for visiting their favourite park was to 'have a fun day out with the family'. This is compared to only 12% (14 respondents) who stated this same reason for the park they visited most often. When comparing the responses on favourite parks with parks visited most often, the numbers remain consistent with regards making use of the play facilities (75%) and walking (41%) as what people do when they go to parks in Mid Ulster. With regards rating the performance of their favourite park, these locations performed slightly better than the parks visited most often with the importance of play provision, visitor facilities and other ancillary items at their favourite park being on a par with the responses provided for the parks visited most often. Therefore, while the gaps in performance and importance are reduced for parks cited at respondent's favourite parks, these are areas which Council need to address to ensure that they continue to provide a high-quality product with regards their public parks and play provision.

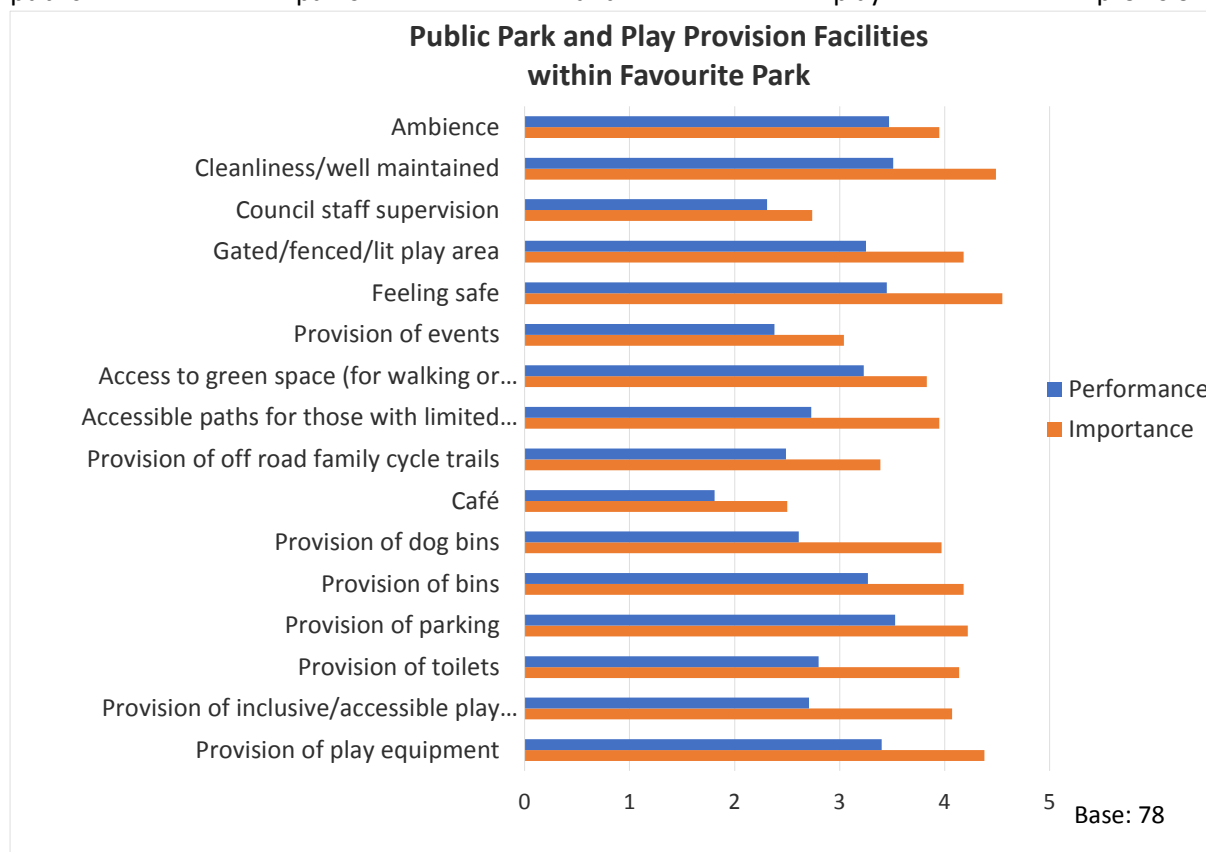


CHART 2 PUBLIC PARK AND PLAY PROVISION FACILITIES WITHIN FAVOURITE PARK

Public Park and Play provision in Northern Ireland (Q22 – Q25 Base: 76)

Having assessed the current provision in Mid Ulster, respondents were asked about what other public parks and play provision they used outside the Council area. The majority of respondents (38%) cited Castle Gardens in Antrim as a venue they have visited in the last 12 months. The Peoples Park, Ballymena (30%), Carnfunnock Country Park, Larne (25%) Slieve Gullion, Newry (17%) and Loughgall Country Park (14%) were also parks outside the Council district visited in the last 12 months. Family and children are the group most likely to accompany respondents to these public parks/play parks with it providing 'a day out for all the family' as the most popular reason for visiting these locations (28%). 23% of respondents felt it provided 'somewhere different to go' while 20% felt these locations offered a 'good range of play facilities for all ages'. Remaining largely consistent with the reason for visiting parks in Mid Ulster, the majority of respondents made use of the play facilities (70%) as well as walking (60%) with 37% having a picnic and thus spending more time at these locations.

With Meadow Bank and Dungannon Park later affirmed as respondents' favourite parks (23% and 16% respectively), children aged 0-4 use these facilities most (42%), followed 33% of those aged 5-8 years with 24% of children aged 9-12 years using the facilities at these locations. When asked to rate the performance of the play provision, ancillary items and other outdoor recreation offering, the provision of 'play equipment' and 'feeling safe' and basic facilities such as toilet provision were felt to be most important and are areas where Council fails to perform.

An opened ended question was asked so that respondents could provide full and open answers on how their favourite play park could be improved. These verbatim responses have been grouped into the below themes. They do not exclusively refer to Meadow Bank and Dungannon Park but all mentions of respondents' favourite park at Q26

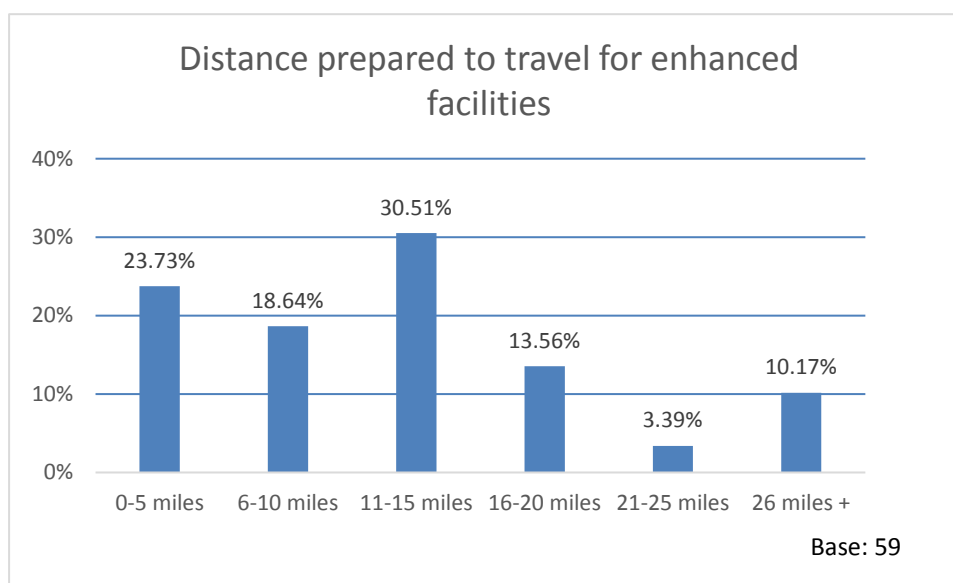
Response Themes	Additional Detail
No improvement to be made (10)	<i>I don't think it needs to be improved however better provision in smaller villages would be better</i>
Add walking routes (7)	<i>I would love a park with mix of play equipment, green space and shared walking/cycling paths nearer my home in Maghera</i>
Improve equipment/ Improve quality and materials (6)	<i>More play facilities. Play area fenced in. Seats for adults when children playing</i>
Add parks across the district (5)	<i>We need more than one park in Magherafelt. We need adventure type parks made with wood and rope etc. not all metal. The park is closed on bank holidays and at other times when we would be likely to use it</i>
Extend the park / add another (4)	<i>How about planning on putting a park onsite please? There are 2 useable swings for older children... personally I think it's a disgrace what the children in and around Caledon have! As a mum of quite a large family of a big age range, I know my kids, as are other children from the 3 schools in Caledon are missing out!</i>
Have play options for all ages (4)	<i>Cycling routes, toilets, changing rooms, events better equipment, more for older children</i>

Improved facilities for those with a disability (3)	<i>It's a disgrace that Drum Manor play park is not meeting the needs of disabled children in this community</i>
Improve lighting provision (3)	<i>Park is not lit at night which could limit potential use in evening for at least 4 months of the year</i>
Add seating for parents/guardians (3)	<i>More seats and modern equipment</i>
Add a picnic area (3)	<i>Tables for picnic</i>
Deal with sectarian/hostile atmosphere (2)	<i>It is quite good I think improvements need to be focused and made instead to parks that aren't good in the likes of the smaller villages like Upperlands</i>
Improve drainage (2)	<i>Dungannon Park - the grass gets very muddy between the play spaces. There are a few very steep/sudden steps off the soft areas that could hurt someone (esp. if you're standing watching you could tumble off - at the edge of the large climbing frame especially). There also is a lack of facilities for children between toddlers and those 6/7+ who can use the larger equipment</i>
Additional car parking (2)	<i>Better parking. Kids can run out straight to carpark which is very busy</i>
Add cycling trails (2)	<i>More challenging equipment for age 10 plus. E.g. Sandwell play park in West Bromwich, Lake Windermere play park. There is no green space, cycle paths areas to walk, picnic tables. No opportunity for a day out in the area - apart from the local cemetery. No thanks</i>
Fence in play area (1)	<i>More play facilities. Play area fenced in. Seats for adults when children playing</i>
Clamp down on anti-social behaviour (1)	<i>Moneymore main park needs to be protected more between anti-social behaviour in cars to children trying to cross what is an extremely dangerous fast road and the park being locked it is not an accessible place to let the children go to</i>

TABLE 2 RESPONSE THEMES AND VERBATIM RESPONSES

Respondents were asked what other Outdoor Recreation facilities they would like to see at their local public park/play park in Mid Ulster. This was a multiple-choice question where respondents had the option of choosing more than one answer. Nature play (*the provision of a play opportunity using something from the natural environment rather than a purpose-built piece of equipment. For example, the use of a tree trunk as a climbing frame or balance beam. The piece is usually modified to provide safer access*) as an alternative play facility was chosen by 66% (39) respondents followed by 'Improved play facilities' (57%), walking trails (56%) and the provision of Wild Play opportunities (*opportunistic play with the visitor using something they would expect to encounter in the environment e.g. climb a tree*) and a 'Play Hub' (*substantial, equipped play resource catering for all age groups and abilities on a single site within a designated catchment area*) 46% (27). These results prove there is an appetite for alternative and improved play facilities in Mid Ulster. Other recreational provision was also highlighted including Park Run 29% (17), bike trails/pump track 27% (16) and Park Walk 5k, 19%

(11). When asked how far they would travel for the aforementioned facilities, the majority of respondents, 30% (18 responses) stated they would travel 11-15 miles, proving that people would be prepared to travel for enhanced provision.



Further comments or observations regards the future development of outdoor recreation and parks and play provision in Mid Ulster (Q34 - base 59)

Finally, respondents gave their comments and observations which they felt were important to the future development of outdoor recreation and public parks and play provision in Mid Ulster. A number of detailed responses were given and these have been grouped into the themes below. However, it is worth noting that a number of detailed responses were received from those residing in Upperlands. This community feel that the play provision was most definitely deficient in this area and that the existing play is not open to all.

In addition, detailed responses were also provided with regards reinstating play provision at Ballymacombs Road to the park once located at Glenone Park. It was felt that as the only green space in the village of Glenone that more should be done with the space to serve the growing and young community.

Response Themes	Additional Detail
Upgrade facilities (12)	<i>We NEED a playpark for our children in Caledon! There are 2 useable swings (which can only be used by older children), what is there has been there for over 30 years! We need something for our children!!</i>
Multi-Use Trails (8)	<i>More areas for walking / cycling (kids) in Magherafelt</i>
Upperlands (8)	<i>Our nearest park is Upperlands and it is in one of the housing estates which I don't think is fair to those who don't live in that estate, we need a larger fit for purpose park that all people around</i>

	<i>the village and outside of the village can comfortably use. We have to travel quite a distance to allow our children to use good standard and variety park facilities like Meadowbank and would like to see that our Council can now focus and invest in the more rural parks outside of the council area to improve them and make them fit for purpose for all the local children</i>
Local Provision/Rural Needs (7)	<i>A play park for Sandholes village</i>
Open/Green Space (5)	<i>'Open space' parks are needed for walking/running/picnics etc. in each locality</i>
Anti-Social Behaviour/Safety (3)	<i>Play areas should be enclosed for safety</i>
Outdoor Recreation (3)	<i>Look at options around water for water sports etc.</i>
Basic Services (2)	<i>Please improve the basic facilities at Knockmany Forest Park to that we continue to safely use them as a running group and as a family with young children.</i>
Inclusive Play (2)	<i>These areas need to be able to meet the diverse needs of all children and family and include play equipment for children with special needs</i>
Challenging Play (1)	<i>Kids need to be challenged and not wrapped in cotton wool. They need to learn to assess and manage risk at an early age</i>
Events (1)	<i>Events at weekends as we are always trying to go somewhere to entertain our children</i>
Health (1)	<i>Encouraging children to be active in the environment is critical to protecting our environment and our children health</i>
Magherafelt (play provision) (1)	<i>We need more than one park in Magherafelt. We need a park that is not located as an afterthought within a car park. We need other facilities around the park. We need equipment created from natural resources such as wood and rope in an adventure playground style, not metal equipment. We need a facility that is open on bank holidays and at other times when we would like to use it, not closed because council staff are off.</i>
Miscellaneous (5)	-

Demographics – (Q35 – Q42 - base 68)

The majority of respondents fell into the 36-45 age bracket (44%) with more females taking part in the survey (64%). 49% of those who took part work full time i.e. more than 30hrs per week with 22% of respondents holding part-time positions. 26% earn between £21,000 and £30,000 with 29% earning between £31,000 - £50,000. More people have children under 4 years of age than any other age group (64%). This may indicate that any future recommendations made within this Strategy, will therefore benefit the youthful population of Mid Ulster as they grow. 6 respondents declared their children have a disability with special needs ranging from physical, sight, learning and mental health.

6. PLAY: DEFINITION, BEST PRACTICE, TRENDS AND BENEFITS

6.1. Play Defined

The most commonly accepted definition of play is:

‘Freely chosen, personally directed, and intrinsically motivated behaviour that actively engages the child. It can be fun or serious – by playing children learn and develop as individuals and as members of the community’ (Hughes, B. and King, F. 1984)⁶

Through play, children explore the world around them and make meaning of it for their own lives. When children are given the freedom to follow their own ideas and interest, in their own way and for their own reasons play can become a hugely powerful tool. (OFMDFM, 2006)

Health and safety laws and regulations are sometimes presented as a reason why certain play and leisure activities undertaken by children and young people should be discouraged. The reasons for this misgiving are many and varied and include fears of litigation or criminal prosecution because even the most trivial risk has not been removed.

The HSE however recognises the benefits of allowing challenging play opportunities and understands and accepts that this means children will often be exposed to play environments which whilst well-managed carry a degree of risk and sometimes potential danger. It states that providers’ goals ‘should not be to eliminate risk, but to weigh up the risks and benefits as no child will learn about risk if they are wrapped in cotton wool’⁷.

The Visitor Safety in the Countryside Group taking on board the principles of the Health and Safety Executive have defined play into Formal, Nature or Adventure

Formal Play or fixed play, uses manufactured items bought from a supplier. These have been purpose designed and built as play pieces. The design will have dealt with many of the inherent risks and they are often supplied with a certificate of conformity.

Nature Play is the provision of play opportunity within a structured play area using something from the natural environment rather than a purpose-built piece of equipment. For example, the use of a tree trunk as a climbing frame or balance beam. The piece is usually modified to provide safer access. Branches may be trimmed to avoid traps or limit heights. Sometimes formal play and nature play are found together on the same site.

Wild Play is opportunistic play with the visitor using something they would expect to encounter in the environment. There is no planned intention for play to be part of the management of such a feature. There may, however, be wider encouragement for this type of play through national or local campaigns e.g. The National trust’s 50 Things to do before you’re 11 ¾ campaign that aims to promote nature and outdoor play as a fund part of a healthy happy and enjoyable family life. The first thing to do on the list is to climb a tree.

Although not strictly true, formal play is more often associated with urban based play whilst nature and wild play are more commonly found in more rural settings e.g. forest and country parks.

⁶ What Play Provision Should Do for Children, National Playing Fields Association, March 2000.

⁷ Children’s Play and Leisure - Promoting A Balanced Approach, September 2012.

6.2. Best Practice - Play

6.2.1. Determining Fixed Play Sites

Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 (the Act) requires public authorities designated for the purposes of the Act to comply with two statutory duties. The first duty is the Equality of Opportunity duty, which requires public authorities in carrying out their functions relating to Northern Ireland to have due regard to the need to promote equality of opportunity between the nine equality categories of persons of different religious belief, political opinion, racial group, age, marital status or sexual orientation; men and women generally; persons with a disability and persons without; and persons with dependants and persons without.⁸

Under Section 75 Mid Ulster Council have a duty to promote equality of opportunity for all persons in relation to employment or in accessing goods, facilities or services (such as health services, housing, education, justice, policing). With regards open space and equipped play areas, this duty must however be considered alongside assessing the need for fixed play provision and adopting the accessibility benchmarking as detailed by Fields In Trust. Once known as the Six Acre Standard, these are recognised guidelines which help determine the locations of fixed play sites based on walking time (radial distances) from the home. They outline 3 types of play spaces:

Nature of play facility	Walking Time	Pedestrian Route	Straight Line Distance
LAP	1 minute	100 metres	60 metres
LEAP	5 minutes	400 metres	240 metres
NEAP	15 minutes	1000 metres	600 metres

TABLE 3 WALKING TIME AND STRAIGHT LINE DISTANCES FROM THE HOME TO FIXED PLAY PROVISION

The revised 2015 guidance no longer differentiates between rural and urban areas but it is recommended that these guidelines should be used to assist planning while taking account of local circumstances. In addition, the above types of place spaces can also be complemented by other facilities including Multi-Use Games Areas (MUGAs) and skateboard parks etc⁹

6.2.2. Designing Fixed Play and Play Value

While there are unique considerations when designing a fixed play space such as availability of land or size and nature of play sites there are a number of key elements that should be considered when developing an inspiring play space.

Within the Play England document 'Design for Play: A guide to creating successful play places', it is stated that play space needs to be of high quality and good design to attract children and families and become a valued part of the local environment. Poor quality, unimaginative space will not be attractive to children, will not be valued by the local community and will fall in to disuse and disrepair.¹⁰

⁸ Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 - A Guide for Public Authorities (April 2010)

⁹ Guidance for Outdoor Sport and Play – Beyond the Six Acre Standard

¹⁰ Design for Play: A guide to creating successful play spaces, Play England (2008)

Furthermore, Play England have identified 10 key principles for developing successful play spaces

Successful play spaces...

1. Are 'bespoke'
2. Are well located
3. make use of natural elements
4. provide a wide range of play experiences
5. are accessible to both disabled and non-disabled children
6. meet community needs
7. allow children of different ages to play together
8. build in opportunities to experience risk and challenge
9. are sustainable and appropriately maintained
10. allow for change and evolution

In addition, Play England state that the 'golden rule' in designing play is a play space that is specifically designed for its location, in such a way to provide as much play value as possible. Within Play England's document 'Playable Space – Quality Assessment Tool'¹¹ the importance of location is highlighted as well as the play value and care and maintenance. Play value essentially assesses the play experiences derived from a play area, such as rocking, swinging and sliding. Play England note that this is particularly important for children with disabilities. The surrounding environment also contributes to play value with the natural environment offering varied and alternative ways in which children can play. Finally, risk is also acknowledged, allowing children to test their boundaries and challenge themselves.

The document covers how play value assessments should be carried out for three main types of play areas, those that are on the doorstep, local space and facilities and finally neighbourhood space and facilities. Play England state the guidelines and definitions for assessing the 3 types of play space are neither fully comprehensive nor definitive and are provided more so to provoke thought and discussion taking into account local surroundings and the wishes and needs of local children.

Each site is assessed using a score sheet where scores from 1-5 which are converted into a percentage for weighting purposes and to allow comparisons to be made between location, play value and care and maintenance sections. The scoring system aims to identify which play areas and which aspects of play need improving reviewing design and layout of a play area. In addition, the local authority can set their own benchmark of what constitutes 'good quality'. Furthermore, the scores calculated will also provide data for supporting planning decisions.

It should be noted that while the Play England Quality Assessment tool can be implemented in-house, there are a number of local independent providers who can be employed to carry out a play value assessment.

In addition to designing inspiring play spaces, Best Play - What Play Provision should do for Children¹² have set out seven play objectives that should be met when developing good play opportunities. They form the basis against which play provision can be evaluated.

¹¹ Playable Space – Quality Assessment Tool, Play England (October 2009)

¹² Best Play – What Play Provision should do for Children, National Playing Fields Association (March 2005)

1. The provision extends the choice and control that children have over their play, the freedom they enjoy and the satisfaction they gain from it.
2. The provision recognises the child's need to test boundaries and responds positively to that need.
3. The provision manages the balance between the need to offer risk and the need to keep children safe from harm.
4. The provision maximises the range of play opportunities.
5. The provision fosters independence and self-esteem.
6. The provision fosters children's respect for others and offers opportunities for social interaction.
7. The provision fosters the child's well-being, healthy growth and development, knowledge and understanding, creativity and capacity to learn.

6.2.3. Risk and Challenge

Children's play has long been understood to not only have a key role in their wellbeing but also in the development of their future life skills. When children play, not only are they experiencing a sense of adventure, they are making decisions. They assess and determine the levels of risk they want to take, physically, emotionally and socially thus adding to their experience. They test their abilities and challenge themselves, they grow in confidence, becoming aware of their limits and boundaries and in turn develop a better understanding of the meaning of safety. However, in today's society with modern worries, the freedom to build these skills can be curtailed. Parental or carer anxiety may prevent children from taking part in risky or challenging play and likewise the Health and Safety Executive feel that Health and safety laws and regulations are sometimes presented as a reason why certain play and leisure activities undertaken by children and young people should be discouraged. The reasons for this misunderstanding are many and varied. They include fears of litigation or criminal prosecution because even the most trivial risk has not been removed¹³. However even governing bodies acknowledge the need for a balanced approach of offering challenge and risk through play but minimising unnecessary danger. Indeed, the Play Safety Forum offers providers a guide on how to manage risk in play provision through a 'Risk – Benefit approach' which includes:

- developing a policy framework
- risk-benefit assessment
- technical inspection
- dynamic risk – benefit assessment ¹⁴.

The HSE states that the approach in this guidance is that risks and benefits are considered alongside each other in a risk-benefit assessment. This includes an assessment of the risks which, while taking account the benefits of the activity, ensures that any precautions are practicable and proportionate and reflect the level of risk. The HSE supports this guidance, as a sensible approach to risk management.

It is also worth noting that while there is no specific legislation on play safety in the UK, there are agreed Europe-wide industry standards which should be considered when carrying out a risk assessments. Standards are important tools in managing risks and give guidance on difficult issues but within 'Managing Risk in Play Provision', it is felt the importance of developmental role of play must be upheld.

¹³ Children's Play and Leisure - Promoting A Balanced Approach, September 2012

¹⁴ Managing Risk in Play Provision: Implementation Guide, David Ball, Tim Gill and Bernard Spiegel (2013)

6.3. Trends - Play

6.3.1. Older Children/ Teenagers

The benefits of outdoor play have been recognised throughout various research findings including improved physical and emotional development as well as cognitive benefits of reduced levels of anxiety and depression. However, research studies often focus on 'children' as play areas are typically designed for those under 12 years but for older children and teenagers, the outdoors is perceived as the most important environment for physically active play (Open Space 2006). Indeed, older children and teenagers could benefit more so from 'play' areas that foster improved social skills and creativity as well having a positive effect on mental health and well-being. Therefore, it is acknowledged that while this study focuses primarily on young children, consideration should be given, where appropriate, to the provision for those that fall into the older age group. The offering would be less conventional than the standard fixed play equipment as young teenagers don't want to be seen as 'playing' but equally need a facility where they can socialise with their contemporaries. Teen shelters give older children and teenagers a safe and comfortable place to meet their friends with the added benefit of the site being specifically chosen. In turn the older children/teenagers can call their own but is located in a well-lit area so to avoid anti-social behaviour and vandalism. Such shelters are also popular within school settings with a similar shelter/pod located at a local school in Coalisland.

6.3.2. Inclusive Play

Under the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) 1995, employers and service providers have the positive duty to make reasonable adjustments to premises and policies in order to provide disabled people access to goods, facilities, services or premises. In addition, Public bodies in Northern Ireland have additional duties to promote equality of opportunity and good relations under Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998. They must also meet duties under the Disability Discrimination Act to promote positive attitudes towards disabled people and to encourage the participation of disabled people in public life.

According to the Northern Ireland Executive's Children and Young People's Strategy 2017-2027 Consultation Document, the enjoyment of play and leisure was highlighted as a population outcome with children and young people with a disability highlighted as one of the groups where the greatest effort is needed:

"Children with a disability, and their families, require additional support for play and leisure activities. Their needs must be taken into account in relation to play provision"¹⁵

The term all ability play or inclusive play highlights the social model of thinking rather than the medical model which traditionally focused on their complex needs, that disabled children needed to play in special places or particular ways. Instead children with disabilities require the same opportunities for play, variety, socialising and challenge as all other children.¹⁶

According to MENCAP, disabilities range from physical, mental, developmental or hidden. This may mean some children are confined to a wheelchair where others may have reduced mobility or manual dexterity, poor physical co-ordination, vision or hearing impairments, emotional and behavioural or learning difficulties. While various disabilities should be acknowledged, designing an environment that

¹⁵ Northern Ireland Executive's Children and Young People's Strategy 2017-2027 Consultation Document

¹⁶ Play for all – Providing play facilities for disabled children (<http://www.dessa.ie/publications>)

integrates play throughout a site and steering away from the idea of a 'special' or separate area for use by disabled children is preferred. Furthermore, consideration should be given not only to the child who plays but also the needs of the accompanying parents or carers, embracing the ideal that families can play together regardless of ability.

'Play for All' drafted by the Disability Equality Specialist Support Agency (DESSA) outlines some areas that need to be considered when designing inclusive play for children.

- Children with physical impairments, for example may have difficulty with long distances, steps, steep slopes, be unsteady on their feet and liable to slip or trip and find it hard to hold on to or grip ropes or poles. Therefore, they may benefit from equipment with enhanced back support, broader stairs and double width slides to accommodate a parent or carer. Low-level crawling and climbing nets, tunnels and tubes can be used by children with significant mobility impairments. They find it easier to climb on sloping netting than on vertical netting, which also allows an adult to assist and take part in the activity.
- Children with intellectual impairments may find complex layouts difficult to navigate, may have difficulty taking turns or may display what appears to be a lack of awareness of or a heightened sensitivity to other children. Play items considered could include ground level activities, such as balance beams, spring rockers, adventure trails, play items that need co-operation and eye contact, such as seesaws, group swings, role play activities or pictograms explaining how play items may be used.
- Children with visual impairments may benefit from play that incorporates mirrors, tactile play panels, play items which involve sound and play items with consistent and good colour contrast.
- Children with hearing impairments may not be able to hear voices of other children or adult instruction. They may be particularly unaware of things going on behind them, and may need to see important information that other children can hear. Well-designed play spaces and equipment, and clear, easy-to-understand information boards, may help. Safety-related audible effects, such as gravel surrounds, can be designed into the playground.
- Children with autism spectrum disorder will appreciate quiet places where they can rest or be alone for a while. Tunnels, play houses and shelters offer all children the opportunity of taking time out.

As well as fixed play equipment, sand and water are great play materials for children of all abilities and of course target the senses. Indeed, creating a sensory space will allow children to develop their smell, taste and tactile senses. This can be achieved through landscaping using various plants, flowers and herbs as well as water, sand and manipulation of the wind. While sensory gardens offer so many benefits, it is worth noting that they need continued maintenance and to be well managed.

While Council acknowledge the shift towards inclusive or all ability play, they also recognise the equal importance of adequate changing facilities. It was noted through consultation that these are equally important when considering all ability play provision. MENCAP are members of the Changing Places consortium and support the installation of Changing Places (CP) toilets in public buildings. A CP toilet facility provides sanitary accommodation for people with multiple and complex disabilities who may have one or two assistants with them¹⁷.

¹⁷ Changing Places: the practical guide, Changing Places Consortium

They enable those with disabilities to make use of safe and dignified toilet facilities – something that we all would expect when visiting a public place. Indeed ‘Changing Places: the practical guide’ states:

“The absence of a toilet and changing facilities means that some disabled people are often limited in terms of activities available to them or even prevented from going out altogether... CP toilets can vastly improve people’s quality of life, allowing disabled people and their assistants to stay out for longer and participate in more activities”

The CP guide outlines planning and design concepts including the specific equipment required in order to be awarded a CP accreditation. Construction costs are also detailed and well as the management and maintenance of the facility

The Children with Disabilities Strategic Alliance Manifesto (2012) acknowledges that play, leisure, culture, sports and youth services providers should monitor use and uptake of these services and demonstrate that they are inclusive¹⁸. In addition, while it has a primary focus on sport, the ethos of the Active Living No Limits Plan (2016-2021) is valuable for Council to observe also. Council is therefore committed to address the barriers that prevent young people participating in active recreation including play and will give consideration to the formulation of an implementation group when embarking on inclusive play initiatives. This in turn will enable improved communication and further enhance relations between community and Council.

¹⁸ Children with Disabilities Strategic Alliance Manifesto (2012)

6.4. Best Practice - Parks

6.4.1. Green Flag Award

The Green Flag Award scheme recognises and rewards well managed parks and green spaces, setting the benchmark standard for the management of recreational outdoor spaces across the United Kingdom and around the world.

Purpose and Aims

- To ensure that everybody has access to quality green and other open spaces, irrespective of where they live
- To ensure that these spaces are appropriately managed and meet the needs of the communities that they serve
- To establish standards of good management, and to promote and share best practice amongst the green space sector
- To recognise and reward the hard work of managers, staff and volunteers

Successful sites show that they manage a quality space with clear aims and objectives and who they aim to serve. Award applicants are judged against 27 different criteria and must submit their active management plan, showing that they understand:

- the users – who they are, who they could be, what they want, how they are informed and involved
- the site – what is special about its history, biodiversity, landscape, social and physical setting, and what it is trying to achieve; and
- the management – that what is there is safe, in line with legislation and policy, well maintained, and that there are plans for the future.

This flexible and useful management framework is the key to the Green Flag Award, making it relevant to any green space. It is deliberately conceived not to be a formulaic list of things to have or to do, but instead as a guide to how professionals and communities can approach the management of their sites. It also helps to quantify what they are doing now and in the future, helping to prove value to customers, colleagues and funders¹⁹

In Mid Ulster Dungannon Park and The Walled Garden, Maghera have achieved Green Flag Status.

6.4.2. Blue Flag Award

The Blue Flag Award is truly a world-renowned accreditation trusted by millions around the globe. A world-renowned eco-label trusted by millions around the globe, the Blue Flag programme is operated under the auspices of the Foundation for Environmental Education and is headquartered in Copenhagen, Denmark. In order to qualify for this prestigious award, a series of stringent environmental, educational, safety-related and access-related criteria must be met and maintained. Central to the ideals of the Blue Flag programme is the aim of connecting the public with their surroundings and encouraging them to learn more about their environment. As such, environmental education activities must be offered and promoted in addition to a permanent display of information relevant to the site in terms of biodiversity, ecosystems and environmental phenomena²⁰. With its marina, caravan and park facilities, Ballyronan Marina currently has a Blue Flag award.

¹⁹ Raising the Standard – The Green Flag Award Guidance Manual, Katharine Ellicott (2016)

²⁰ <http://www.blueflag.global/>

6.5. Benefits - Parks and Play

Open/green spaces, sport and outdoor recreation are important components of life. They provide many cultural, social, economic and environmental benefits and contribute positively to physical and mental health and a better quality of life. Everyone, particularly children, the elderly and those with disabilities should have easy access to open space and the opportunity to participate in sport and outdoor recreational pursuits. Council attach great importance to the retention of existing open spaces, the creation of attractive new spaces and the promotion of more opportunities to participate in sport and outdoor recreation in the future. Mid Ulster District Council have a key role in the provision of recreational facilities, along with bodies such as local sports clubs, schools and colleges, and Sport NI.²¹

6.5.1. Community Cohesion and Social inclusion

Open spaces and public parks are often the seen as the hub of a community, bringing people together and promoting social inclusion. They are open to all, regardless of ethnic origin, age or gender, and as such they represent a democratic forum for citizens and society. These spaces shape the cultural identity of an area, are part of its unique character and provide a sense of place for local communities²² Furthermore OFMDFM supports the development of play areas for children, and in doing so produced the 'Play and Leisure Policy' (2008). According to the Play and Leisure Policy Statement:

Provisions for play areas are crucial as:

- Children contribute to the community and to society when they are visible and when their environment offers them maximum opportunities to play.

Facilities and areas for play act as focal points for communities offering social interaction for children and the wider community, which all help in the generation of community cohesion.

- Good play provision and appropriately designed spaces for children create a positive environment, and contribute to the sense of wellbeing and security that children have with their surroundings²³

However as with all public spaces, there are risks of vandalism and antisocial behaviour, however (Gill, 2014) highlights that play and youth facilities in public spaces have led to reductions in levels of anti-social behaviour and vandalism thus highlighting the importance of public parks as a focal point for the community, taking ownership and pride in their area. Gill comments further on reports (Hall Aitken 2013) where an evaluation of Community Spaces, a £57.5 million Big Lottery Fund programme run by Groundwork UK in which playgrounds and youth recreation spaces were a major component, concluded that "all 'major issue' indicators have improved since the completion of the projects, with the most significant reduction being antisocial behaviour²⁴. It is acknowledged that community associations, groups and clubs play a key role to community life in Mid Ulster. It is felt that the formulation of strategic alliances and partnerships between Council and community organisations will undoubtedly facilitate the development of public park and play provision in the areas that will benefit from it most.

²¹ Local Development Plan 2030 - Preferred Options Paper (Mid Ulster District Council, November 2016)

²² The Value of Public Space - Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment

²³ Play Areas in Residential Developments NI (NI Assembly, June 2010)

²⁴ The Play Return: A review of the wider impact of play initiatives (Tim Gill, July 2014)

6.5.2. The Economic Value of Public Space

A high-quality public environment can have a significant impact on the economic life of town centres big or small, and is therefore an essential part of any successful regeneration strategy. As towns increasingly compete with one another to attract investment, the presence of good parks, squares, gardens and other public spaces becomes a vital business and marketing tool: companies are attracted to locations that offer well-designed, well-managed public places and these in turn attract customers, employees and services. In town centres, a pleasant and well-maintained environment increases the number of people visiting retail areas, otherwise known as 'footfall'. A good public landscape also offers very clear benefits to the local economy in terms of stimulating increased house prices, since house-buyers are willing to pay to be near green space.

6.5.3. Value for Biodiversity and Nature

The significant increase in hard surfacing and the reduction in green spaces lead to higher temperatures in towns and cities than in the surrounding countryside. This is known as the 'heat island effect'. Vegetation – whether in public spaces or private gardens – can help to redress this imbalance. It brings many important environmental benefits to urban areas, including the cooling of air and the absorption of atmospheric pollutants. Vegetation also provides an opportunity for people to be close to 'nature', with the associated positive impact that this can bring in terms of mental health and the simple pleasure of experiencing trees, birds, squirrels, ladybirds and other wildlife in an urban situation ²⁵

6.5.4. Health and Well Being

Indeed, the link between active outdoor recreation and leisure participation and improved physical and mental health is well documented through research²⁶. Access to good-quality, well-maintained public spaces can help to improve our physical and mental health by encouraging us to walk more, to play sport, or simply to enjoy a green and natural environment. It has been noted that play is central to the development of good physical and mental health and children's overall development. Reports (Nuffield Foundation 2013, Twenge 2000, Gray 2011) have shown that the decline in opportunities to enjoy freely chosen outdoor play has been a key factor in the decline in children's mental wellbeing²⁷.

The Play Safety Forum - Managing Risk in Play Provision outlines several benefits of play provision²⁸

Places to play	Children need and have the right to play, and play provision offers them places where they can play freely in the ways they choose, without direction from adults.
Space to meet and hang out	Children and young people actively seek out places to meet and hang out, and facilities for them are high on the list of local priorities in many neighbourhoods. There is wide spread agreement that in many areas, young people in particular have a poor choice of leisure activities.

²⁵ The Value of Public Space - Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment

²⁶ A Countryside for health and well-being- the physical and mental health benefits of green exercise (CRN, 2005)

²⁷ Play - A report by the All-Party Parliamentary Group on a Fit and Healthy Childhood (Appg, October 2015)

²⁸ Managing Risk in Play Provision: Implementation Guide, Play Safety Forum, David Ball, Tim Gill and Bernard Spiegel (2013)

Space to have fun	Like adults, children need to enjoy their lives, to have times and spaces where they can simply have fun. Good play environments offer a wide range and choice of play experiences.
Support for parents and carers	Good, accessible play provision helps parents and carers extend their children's play experiences. It can help to reduce conflict and relieve stress levels inside the home by providing other places where children spend their time.
A community gathering point	Centrally located play facilities can bring different age groups together and foster interactions and connections between children, and between children and adults. Good multi-functional provision can help to build neighbourliness and a sense of community.
A chance to encounter nature	Children value the chance to interact with nature, and such experiences help them to appreciate the importance of the natural world and the environment. There is growing evidence of the health benefits of access to green, outdoor environments.
A place to make friends	The opportunity to make friends and develop friendships is one of the most important experiences in childhood. In addition to this, such opportunities help children build their confidence and social competences.
Encourages physical activity	Most children are naturally physically active when they play out of doors. Comparative studies have shown that children can be as active in spontaneous outdoors play as in structured sport activities.
Learning how to manage risks	Rich, challenging, engaging play environments allow children to test themselves and explore their abilities. They can learn the penalties of misjudging a risk – or simply having bad luck – in managed environments that reduce the likelihood of serious harm.
Developing a sense of one's abilities	Self-directed play experiences give children the opportunity to try out for themselves ways to solve problems and achieve goals, without the interference of adults. These experiences are likely to foster children's abilities and resilience.
Catering for the adventurous	Some children and young people actively seek out risky situations. Play provision can give them the chance to satisfy their search for excitement in a managed context, potentially reducing the risk that these children will spend time in truly dangerous environments.

TABLE 4 EXAMPLES OF THE BENEFITS OF PLAY PROVISION

The benefits of play to children are not only present at the time of playing but also benefit them over time:

Benefits that are experienced at the time that the child is playing

- Provides children with opportunities to enjoy freedom, and exercise choice and control over their actions
- Offers children opportunities for testing boundaries and exploring risk
- Offers a very wide range of physical, social and intellectual experiences for children

Benefits that develop over time

- Fosters children's independence and self-esteem
- Develops children's respect for others and offers opportunities for social interaction
- Supports the child's well-being, healthy growth and development
- Increases children's knowledge and understanding
- Promotes children's creativity and capacity to learn ²⁹

²⁹ Best Play - What Play Provision Should Do For Children (National Playing Fields Association, March 2000)

7. Current Provision

7.1. Parks and Play Areas

Within the Council area, there are 102 public parks/play parks, most of these are located within the towns but a number of villages also benefit from equipped play areas. Figure 2 shows the distribution of play provision throughout Mid Ulster. The breakdown of equipped play areas in each DEA provided by Mid Ulster Council are identified in the table below.

DEA	Number of Public Parks/Play Parks
Carntogher	11
Moyola	9
Magherafelt	6
Cookstown	28
Torrent	15
Dungannon	19
Clogher Valley	14

TABLE 5 NUMBER OF PUBLIC PARKS/PLAY PARKS BY DEA

As well as play, a number of parks within Mid Ulster offer additional provision including walking and cycling trails, water recreation, caravanning and visitor facilities. These locations range in size from small areas of 0.5 acres to parkland of up to 70 acres. These 3 public park sites are detailed in the table below and are mapped in Figure 7.

Park ID	Park Site	DEA
1	Ballyronan	Magherafelt
2	Dungannon Park	Dungannon
3	Railway Park	Dungannon

TABLE 6 PARK SITES IN MID ULSTER

As detailed in Position Paper Seven – Open Space, Recreation and Leisure, with regards assessing existing play space provision, it needs to be analysed on two tiers: the overall quantum and the spatial distribution. The NPFA standard (operating as Fields in Trust) for children’s play space is 0.80 hectares per 1000 population. Relative to each other, the spatial distribution is seen as more important as it relates to access to provision within the various settlements – in relation to children’s homes³⁰.

Fields In Trust classify fixed play under its benchmark guidelines for open space and equipped play areas based on walking time from the home as well as the nature of the play facility (Table 7 below). In line with Position Paper Seven these are as follows:

Local Area for Play (LAP) - These are unsupervised small open spaces specifically designed for young children for play activities close to where they live. Although without play equipment, LAPs have characteristics that make the area conducive to children’s play. Such characteristics include ease of access, a relatively level site, informal surveillance and modest provision of landscaping so that play is not inhibited. The NPFA consider that LAPs should be within 1 minute walking time of home.

A Local Equipped Area for Play (LEAP) - These are unsupervised play areas that are equipped for children of early school age. While sharing similar characteristics to LAPs, LEAPs feature a range of

³⁰ Position Paper Seven – Open Space, Recreation and Leisure³⁰ (Mid Ulster District Council, June 2015)

different types of play equipment. The NPFA consider these should be located within 5 minutes walking time of home.

A Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play (NEAP) - These are also unsupervised but they are intended to service a substantial residential area. While sharing similar characteristics to LEAPs, NEAPs feature a significant range of different types of play equipment. It is equipped mainly for older children but also having opportunities for play for younger children. The NPFA recommend these should be located within 15 minutes walking time of home.

Nature of play facility	Walking Time	Pedestrian Route	Straight Line Distance
LAP	1 minute	100 metres	60 metres
LEAP	5 minutes	400 metres	240 metres
NEAP	15 minutes	1000 metres	600 metres

TABLE 7 NATURE OF PLAY FACILITY AND DISTANCE FROM THE HOME

Figure 3 shows the locations of the playparks relative to their classification. Appendix 1 provides a full list of Mid Ulster District Council play areas in terms of their classification.

While the NPFA standard has been formulated essentially for urban areas, it is useful in assessing spatial distribution in the regional towns of Cookstown, Dungannon and Magherafelt and the smaller towns of Coalisland and Maghera.

In addition, in order to help assess the current provision and identify gaps of play provision in more rural areas, Mid Ulster Council has been mapped using population data (Census 2011) to show the distribution of young children aged 0-15 years (Figure 4 Population of Mid Ulster Under 15 Years). This map highlights a number of areas in Mid Ulster that have youthful population. Furthermore Figure 5 shows the areas that have both a youthful population and where play provision is located. In order to further support the analysis for under provision or indeed over provision of play facilities, household pointer data from Land and Property Services (LPS) has been used to indicate the more densely populated areas across the Council area with clusters of data points showing the areas with a greater number of households (see Figure 6). From Figure 6 it can be seen that there is a high concentration of play provision within the towns of Dungannon and Cookstown but in comparison Magherafelt is somewhat lacking in play provision. Despite this, there is a good spread of play provision across the Council area with more rural areas in Clogher Valley catered for as well as the Western side of the region.

However, based on the NPFA standards as well as the supporting population and household pointer data, Council have set out to address the balance of play provision across the 7 DEAs considering capacity and facilities at each site, the presence of a youthful population as well as indicative household data. This analysis is detailed in Section 8 of the report, with the provision of public parks and play provision in each DEA covered in detail.

In addition to its public parks/play parks, Mid Ulster District Council also has a number of open/green space parks within its ownership (see table below). These areas do not necessarily offer an equipped play area but may once have provided play or indeed may facilitate future play or public park opportunities (Figure 8). These sites have also been mapped alongside current play locations as shown in Figure 9.

ID	DEA	Park Site
1	Carntogher	Ballymacombs Road
2	Moyola	Cahore Road
3	Dungannon	Castlehill
4	Carntogher	Clady
5	Carntogher	Coleraine Road
6	Dungannon	Drumglass Wood
7	Magherafelt	Glenburn
8	Moyola	Glenelly Villas
9	Carntogher	Glenone
10	Magherafelt	Greenvale Spires Park
11	Magherafelt	Manor Park
12	Moyola	Newferry Slipway
13	Moyola	O'Neill Park
14	Moyola	Riverside
15	Magherafelt	Sperrin View
16	Moyola	Tradd Point
17	Moyola	Tradd House
18	Dungannon	Windmill Wood
19	Carntogher	Upperlands
20	Torrent	Henderson Park

TABLE 8 OPEN/GREEN SPACE SITES

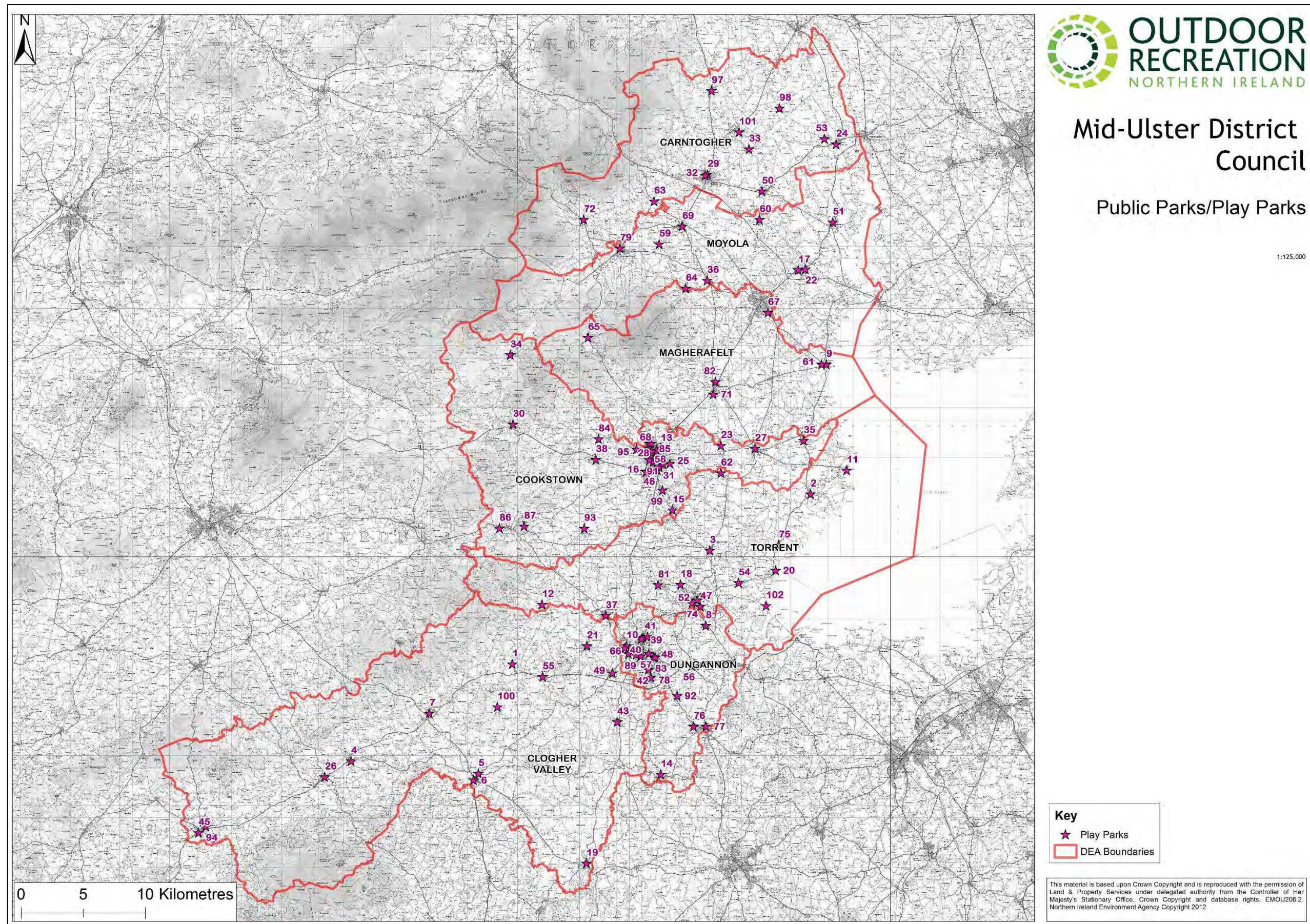


FIGURE 2 CURRENT PLAY PROVISION IN MID ULSTER

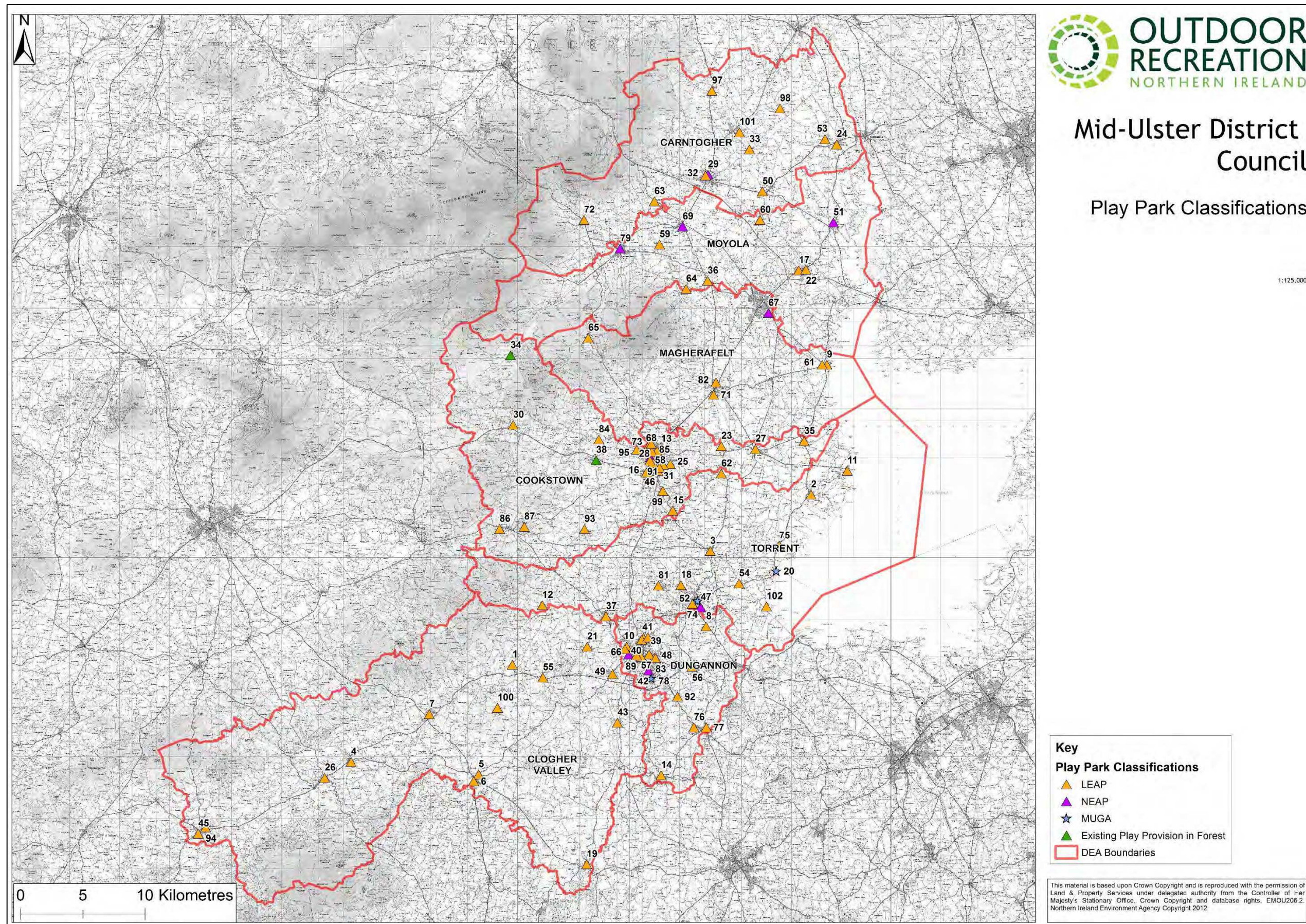


FIGURE 3 PLAY PARK CLASSIFICATIONS

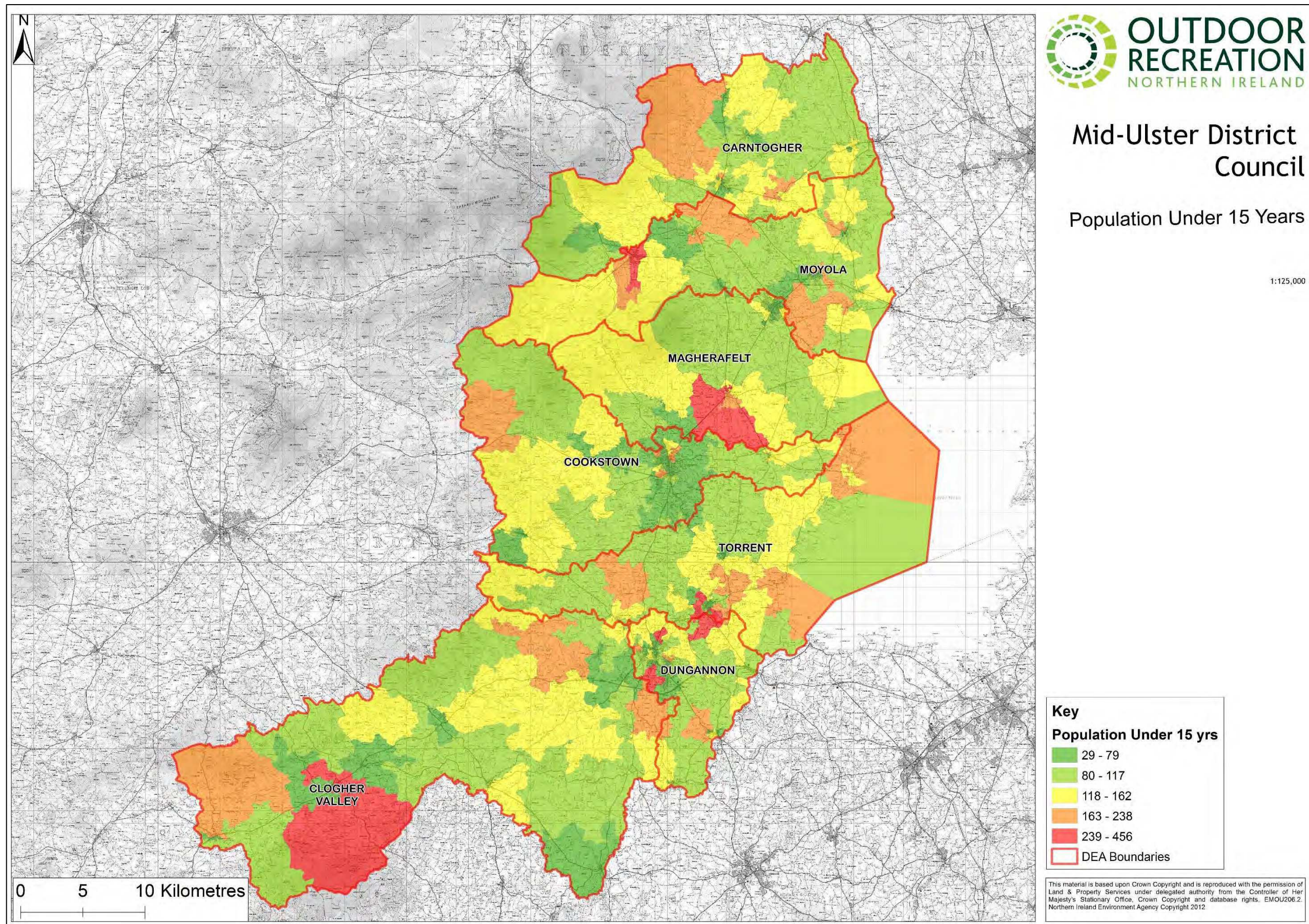


FIGURE 4 POPULATION OF MID ULSTER UNDER 15 YEARS

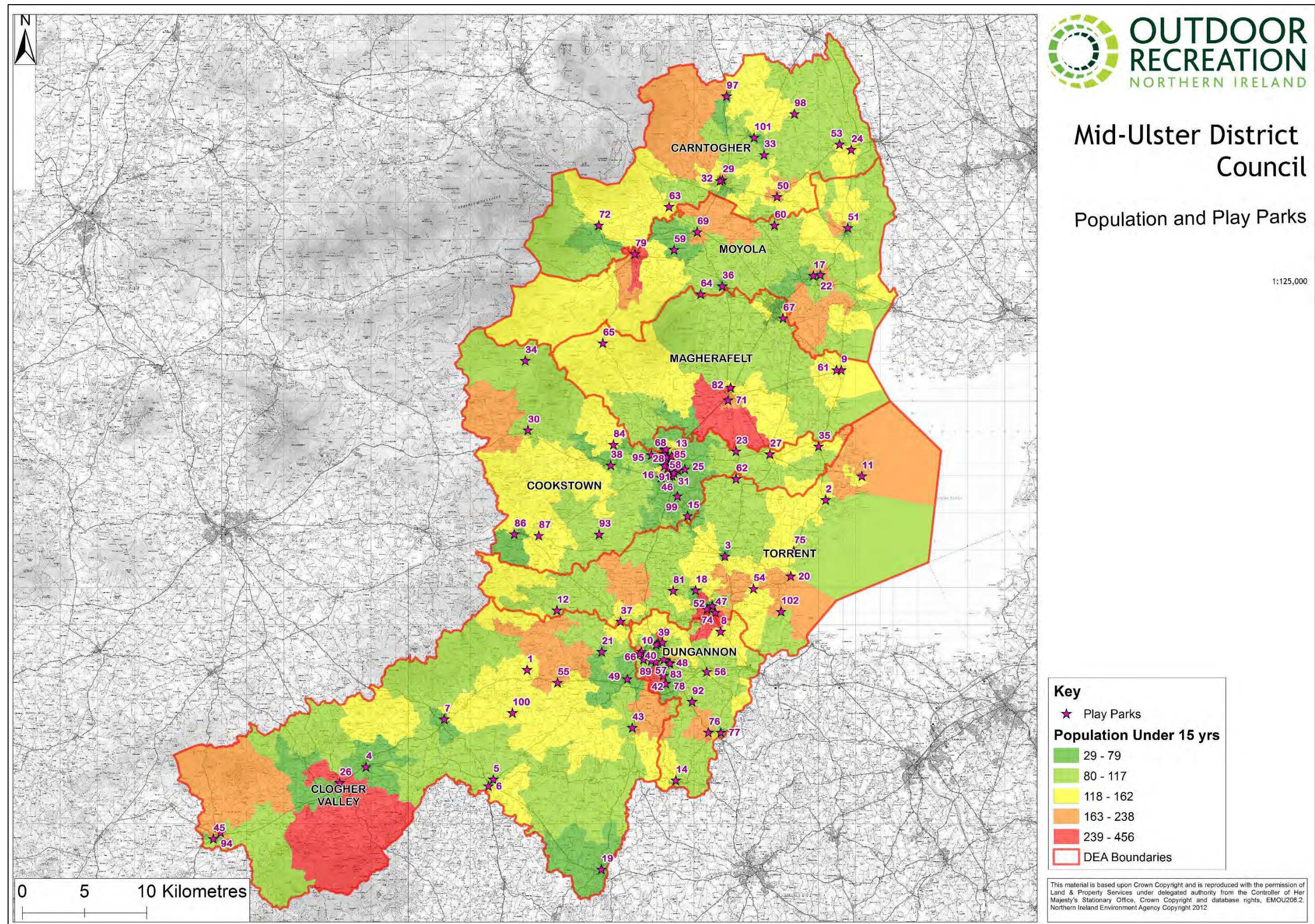


FIGURE 5 POPULATION UNDER 15 YEARS AND PLAY PROVISION LOCATIONS

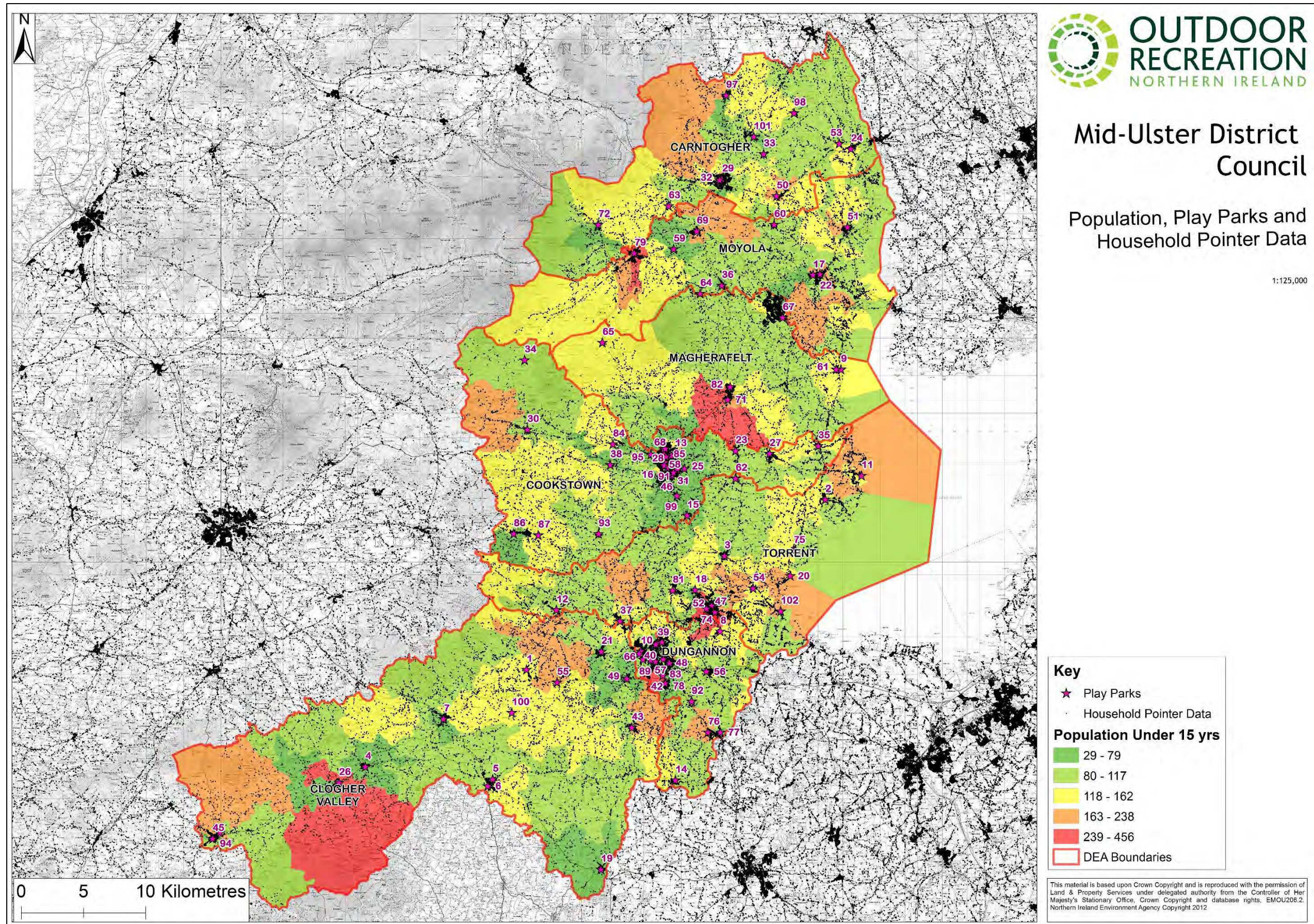


FIGURE 6 POPULATION UNDER 15 YEARS, PLAY PROVISION LOCATIONS AND HOUSEHOLD POINTER DATA

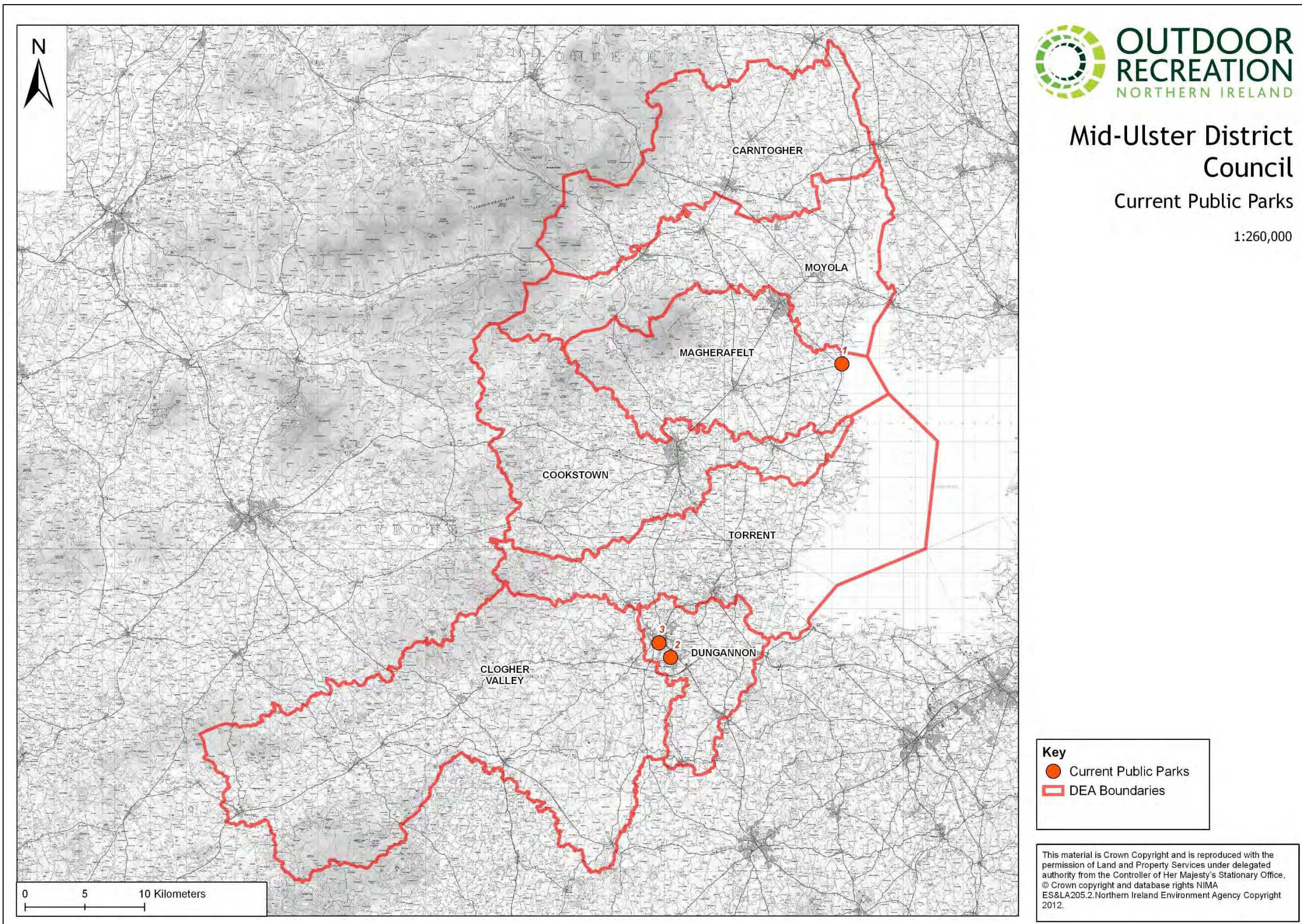


FIGURE 7 CURRENT PUBLIC PARKS

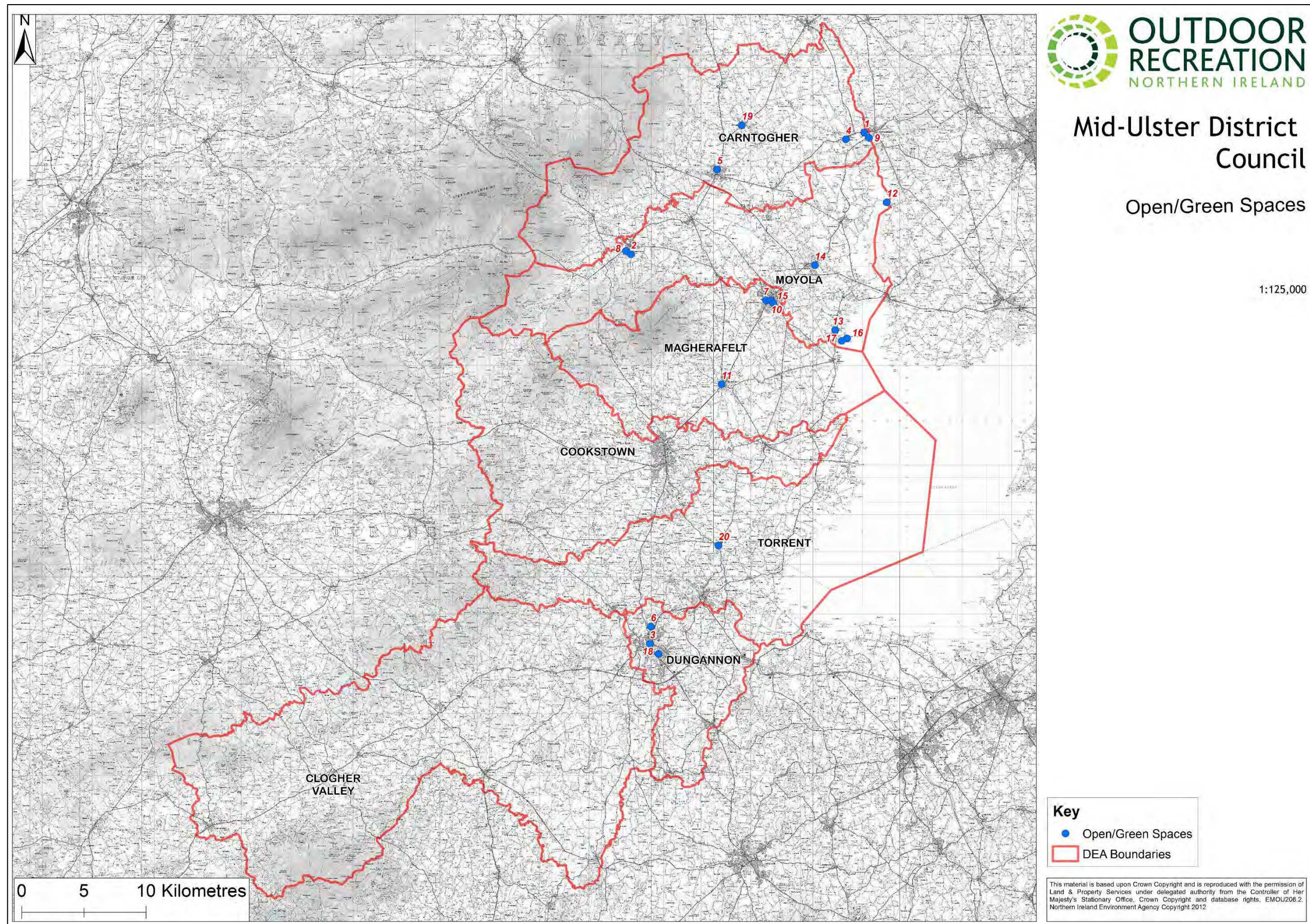


FIGURE 8 OPEN/GREEN SPACE LOCATIONS IN MID ULSTER

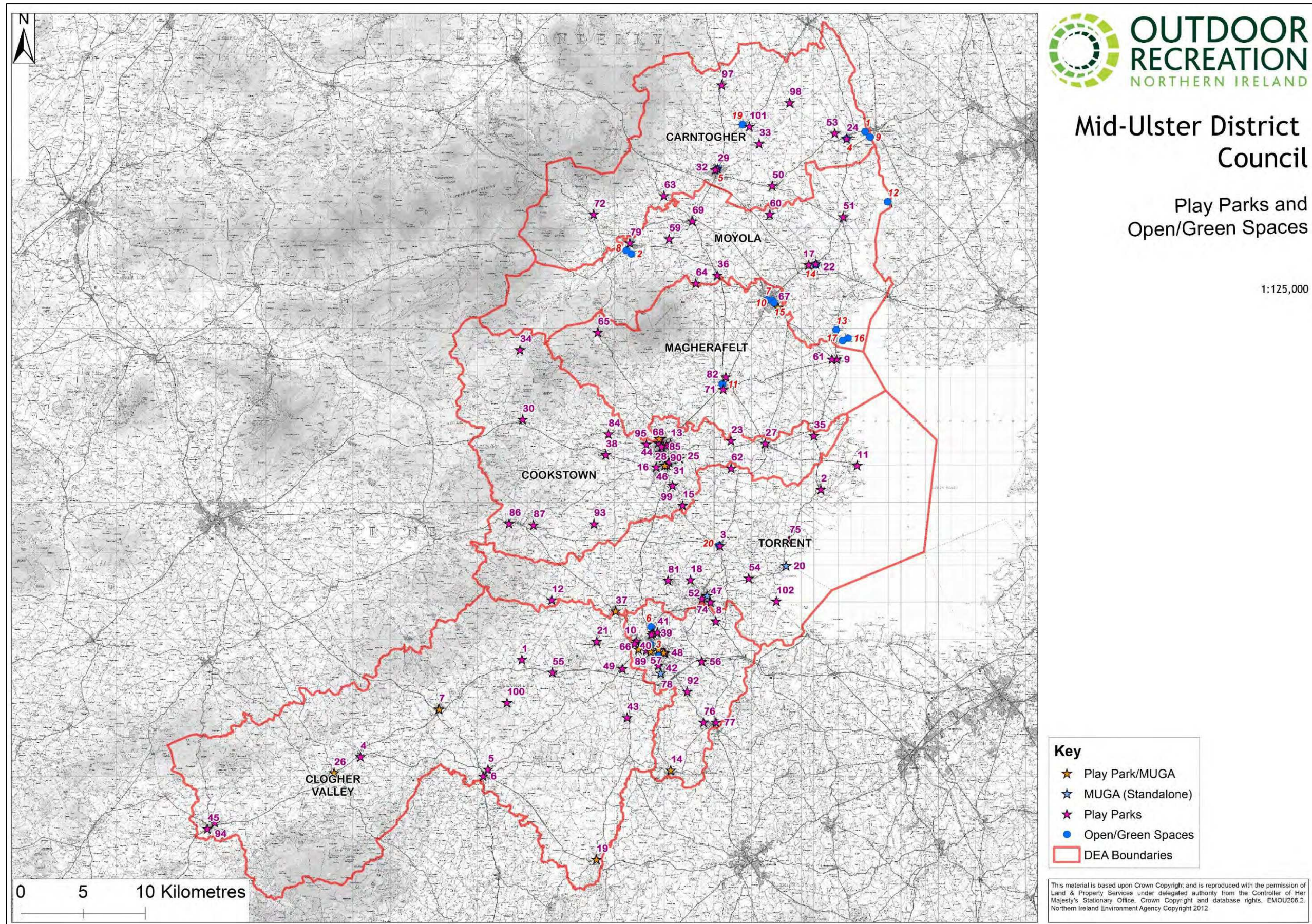


FIGURE 9 PLAY PROVISION AND OPEN/GREEN SPACE LOCATIONS

7.2. Quality of Play Provision

In order to meet the needs of the local population, the play opportunities provided by Mid Ulster District Council need not only be accessible but also maintained to a satisfactory level so they deliver a satisfactory play experience as well as ensuring the safety of the child.

Mid Ulster District Council currently has a team of Park Officers who inspect, maintain and repair play equipment and facilities within the Council area. In addition, Mid Ulster Council recently employed the services of an independent auditor to assess the standard of play provision within the District. Each of the 102 play parks were assessed in terms of the standard of each piece of play equipment, number of inclusive pieces, play surfaces and ancillary items. Each piece was given a score and then an overall mean score provided. Table 9 below provides an overview of the audit:

Overall Results	Play Areas
Total no. of parks with a score of 8+	55
Total no. of parks with a score of 5-7	43
Total no. of parks with a score of 1-4	4
Highest quality scoring parks	Ackinduff Augher Ballynakelly Castledawson Crawfordsburn Drumcoo Green Innishrush Killeen Kilross Lindsayville, Ballyronan Mullaghmore Pomeroy Forest Tamlaght Upperlands
Lowest quality scoring parks	Drumcoo, Killymaddy, Moneyneena
Percentage of inclusive play across the district	13%

TABLE 9 OVERVIEW OF QUALITY AUDIT

The above information has been mapped on Figure 10 showing the location of play parks categorised by their audit score. A full list of scores is detailed in Appendix 1

The audit scores provide an important overview of those facilities which require immediate attention. Indeed those facilities that fall within the lowest band, scoring 1-4, will need to be considered in terms of the quality of equipment they offer the local communities that they serve and indeed if a change of use is required or if these sites should be considered on the basis of their recommended life span.

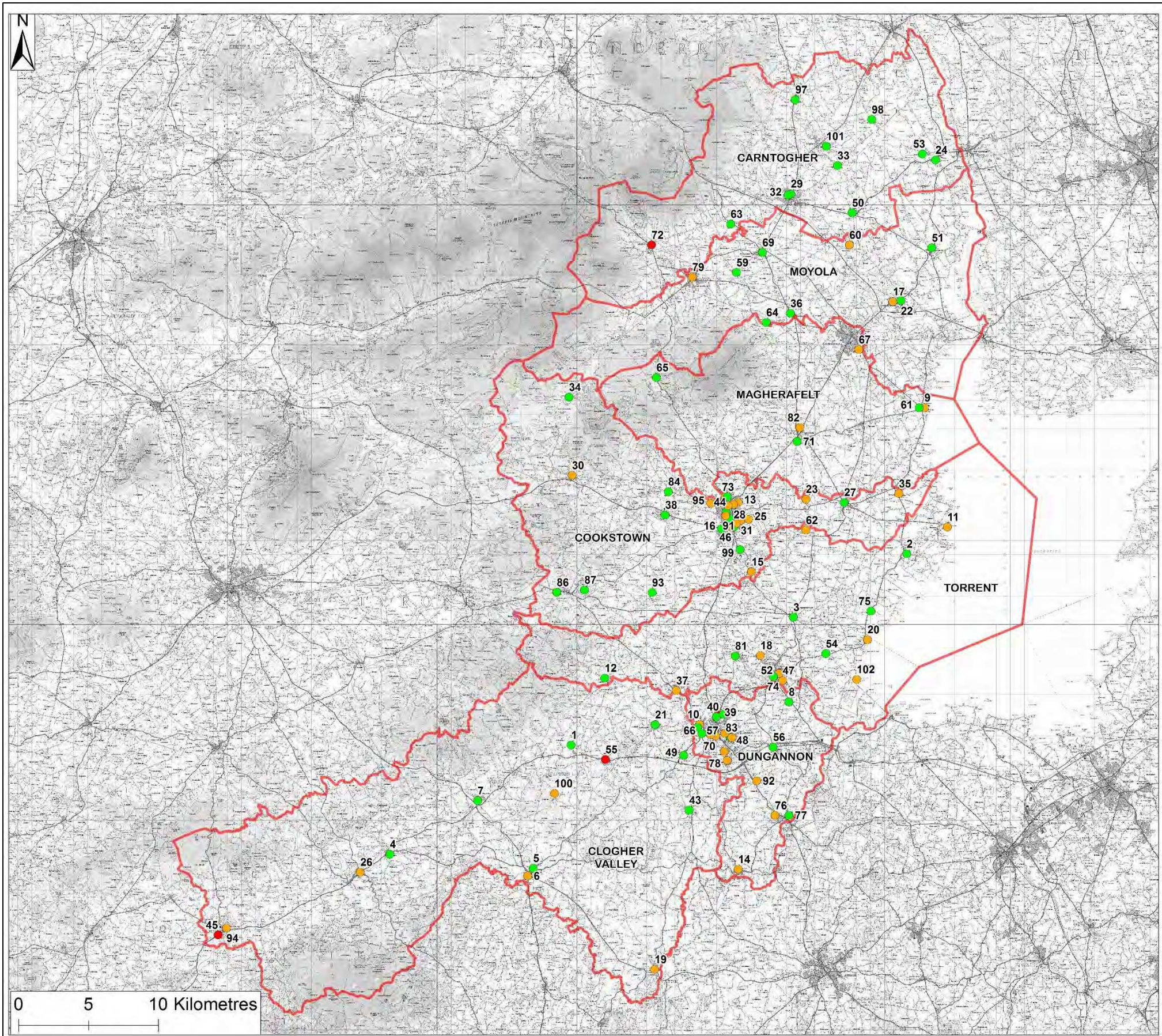
Play parks scoring 5-7 fall short of the satisfactory quality level indicating a degree of attention and upgrade to prevent them falling into the lower quality level of play provision in Mid Ulster.

Finally play facilities that fall within the uppermost band are those that meet the quality level of play provision that Council aspire that all its facilities should meet. These areas require continued monitoring and maintenance to ensure their standards are retained.

Mid-Ulster District Council

Play Park Quality Audits

1:125,000



Key

Play Park Quality Audits

- 2 - 4
- 5 - 7
- 8 - 10

□ DEA Boundaries

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FIGURE 10 PLAY PARK QUALITY AUDIT SCORES

8. Future Park and Play Provision

As detailed in section 7, Mid Ulster Council has utilised four key pieces of research to analyse the current play provision in Mid Ulster:

- Fields In Trust Benchmark Guidelines
- Population data from the 2011 census
- Household pointer data from LPS
- Play Park Quality Inspection Audit

Supporting information was also gathered through consultation and the Mid Ulster Parks and Play and Outdoor Recreation Survey 2017.

This information has assisted in the strategic planning for equipped play provision and provision of open/green space across the 7 DEAs in Mid Ulster. In addition, the suggested actions within this Strategy are proposed in line with the following planning considerations as laid out in the Local Development Plan 2030 - Preferred Options Paper (Mid Ulster District Council, November 2016):

- safeguard existing open space and sites identified for future such provision;
- ensure that areas of open space are provided as an integral part of new residential development and that appropriate arrangements are made for their management and maintenance in perpetuity;
- facilitate appropriate outdoor recreational activities in the countryside that do not negatively impact on the amenity of existing residents;
- ensure that new open space areas and sporting facilities are convenient and accessible for all sections of society, particularly children, older people and those with disabilities;
- achieve high standards of siting, design and landscaping for all new open space areas and sporting facilities;
- ensure that the provision of new open space areas and sporting facilities is in keeping with the principles of environmental conservation and helps sustain and enhance biodiversity.³¹

³¹ Local Development Plan 2030 - Preferred Options Paper (Mid Ulster District Council, November 2016)

8.1. Activity Hubs

Through analysis of current provision, feedback from the 7 DEA consultation events and action points from village plans, it is apparent there are a number of parks that require immediate attention but also a demand for new facilities to be provided. This is not uncommon, public parks and play parks are an emotive issue and provide a focal point in the community. Furthermore with regards inclusive play, the percentage of all ability equipment fell short to what Council aspires to provide. Just 13% of play within Mid Ulster District Council is classed as inclusive. While the 3 main special schools (1. Glenview Primary, 2. Kilroroan and 3. Sperrinview) have facilities on site (see Figure 11 for locations in relation to public park/play park facilities) the provision for families of both abled bodied and disabled children to enjoy a day out together as one unit is deficient.

In line with the Mid Ulster Council Community Plan, one the 15 outcomes is to 'give our children and young people the best chance in life'³². Within this Strategy, it is the aim of Council to address this deficiency and ensure children of all abilities are adequately provided for. Therefore, a matrix (Table 10) has been devised to assess a number of potential sites within Mid Ulster District Council against set criteria regards their suitability for 'District Hubs' and more specifically investigating suitability of sites for an all ability Activity Centre(s).

It is envisaged that 'Activity Centres' will be a visitor-destination style facility with enhanced all ability play, changing provision and facilities. These sites will also offer a range of other outdoor reaction facilities such as walking and cycling trails, water recreation and camping/caravanning.

'District Play Hubs' will offer enhanced NEAP play provision, catering for all age groups within a designated catchment area. District hubs have been considered based on geographic distribution, capacity of site, current status/classification, existing facilities, footfall and access.

2 Activity Centres have been identified for potential development:

- Dungannon Park, Dungannon
- Ballyronan, Magherafelt

5 District Play Hubs have been identified for potential development:

- Fairhill, Churchview, Cookstown
- Gortgonis, Torrent
- Maghera Leisure Centre, Carntogher
- Meadow Bank, Magherafelt
- Roundlake, Clogher Valley

These proposed facilities have been mapped in Figure 12. This map shows the geographic distribution of these locations across the Council area with each DEA benefiting from at least one enhanced facility or a facility bordering their DEA.

³² Mid Ulster District Council Community Plan – 10 Year Plan for Mid Ulster

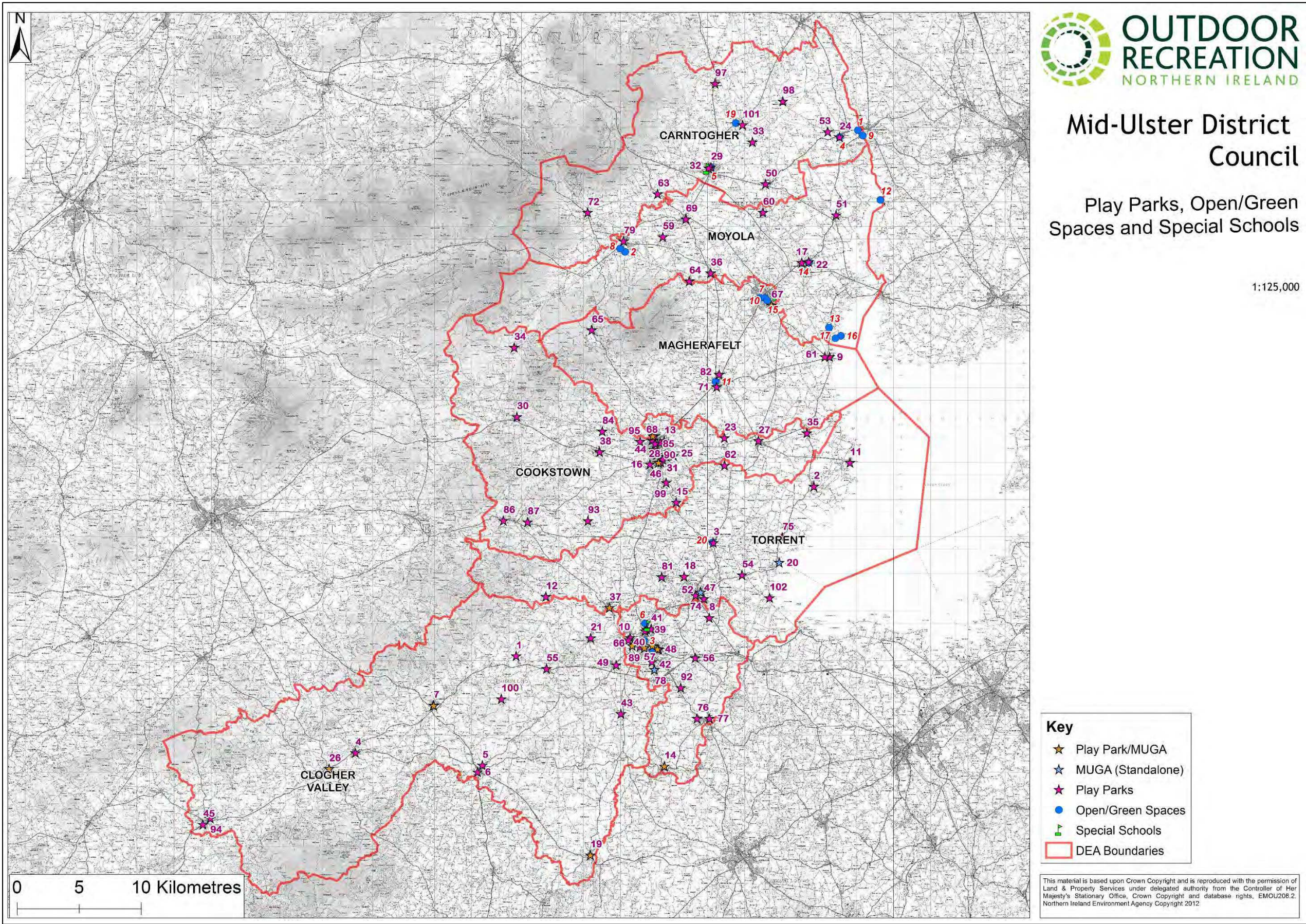
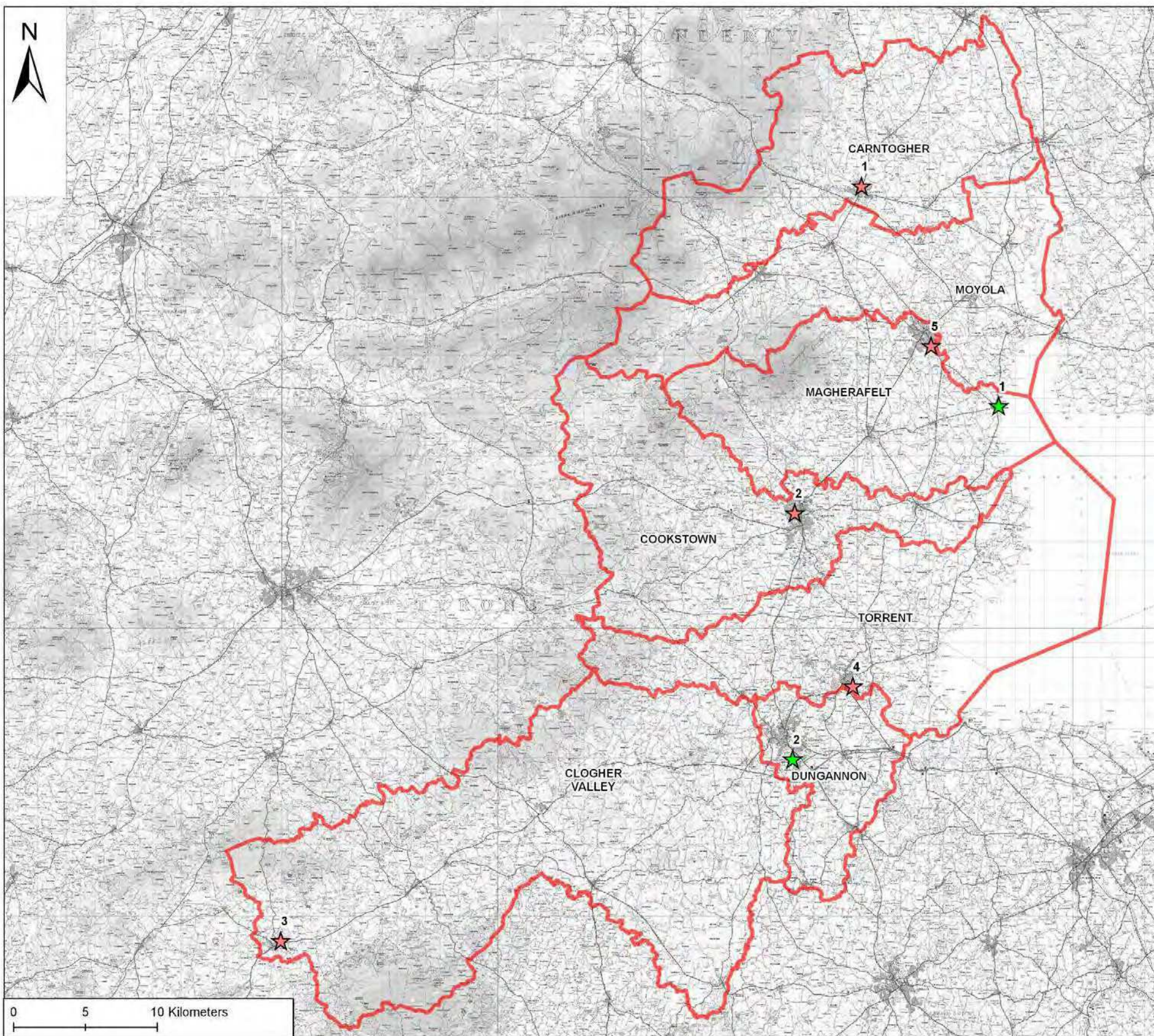


FIGURE 11 LOCATION OF SPECIAL SCHOOLS RELATIVE TO PUBLIC PARK/PLAY PARK FACILITIES

Site Name	Augher	Ballyronan Marina	Ballygawley	Clogher	Dungannon Park	Fairhill, Churchview	Fivemiletown Fairgreen	Gortgonis	Maghera Leisure Centre	Meadow Bank	Roundlake
DEA	Clogher Valley	Moyola	Clogher Valley	Clogher Valley	Dungannon	Cookstown	Clogher Valley	Torrent	Carntogher	Magherafelt	Clogher Valley
Location											
Size of Site (min 0.5 acre)	✖	✓	✓	✖	✓	✓	✖	✓	✖	✓	✓
MUDC Ownership	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Onsite Management/Manned	✖	✓	✓	✖	✓	✖	✖	✓	✓	✓	✓
Potential Planning Issues - Absent	✖	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Potential Specialist Planning - Absent	✖	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Risks											
Protected re Antisocial Behaviour	✖	✓	✓	✖	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ancillary Structures											
Existing Boundary Fencing	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
No further fencing required	✓	✖	✖	✓	✖	✓	✖	✖	✖	✓	✖
Gates	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Signs/Seats/Bins	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Protected/Gated/Fenced	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✖
Paths & General Surfaces Good	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Parking											
Adequate Parking Proximity/Number	✖	✓	✓	✖	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Disabled Parking	✖	✓	✓	✖	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Coach/Mini Bus Parking	✖	✓	✓	✖	✓	✓	✖	✓	✖	✓	✓
Potential for Extended Parking	✖	✓	✖	✖	✓	✓	✖	✓	✖	✖	✓
On main road for easy visibility/access	✓	✓	✖	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Facilities											
Existing Toilets	✖	✓	✓	✖	✓	✓	✖	✓	✓	✓	✓
Disabled Toilet	✖	✓	✓	✖	✓	✖	✖	✓	✓	✓	✓
Room for Toilet/Disabled Toilet Expansion	✖	✓	✓	✖	✓	✓	✖	✓	✓	✓	✓
Visitor Services: Coffee shop etc.	✖	✓	✖	✖	✓	✖	✖	✖	✖	✓	✖
Potential for Visitor Services	✖	✓	✖	✖	✓	✖	✖	✓	✖	✓	✓
Visitor/Tourist Destination	✖	✓	✖	✖	✓	✖	✖	✖	✖	✖	✓
Flat Access	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Existing Footfall	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Recreation facilities on site e.g. walking trails, cycle trails and water recreation	✖	✓	✓	✖	✓	✖	✖	✓	✖	✖	✓

TABLE 10 PLAY HUB MATRIX



Mid-Ulster District Council

Potential Play Hub Provision

1:250,000

Key

- ★ Potential Activity Centres
- ★ Potential District Play Hubs
- DEA Boundaries

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FIGURE 12 MID ULSTER POTENTIAL PLAY HUB PROVISION

8.2. Parks Development

As highlighted in section 7 Mid Ulster has currently 3 public parks offering a wide range of outdoor recreation and visitor facilities. The most notable being Dungannon Park and Ballyronan Marina which also offer water recreation and caravanning and camping. The third location, Railway Park has potential for significant development with proposals for a £1,000,000 project within the strategy period, subject to available funding. These larger park sites attract high footfall and are also well used by the surrounding community. However, there are a number of areas in Mid Ulster that are lacking in open/green space and it is recognised that there is a need for additional public parks particularly in Cookstown and Magherafelt.

Within Cookstown, it is felt that Fairhill has potential to be the flagship park facility with the forthcoming development in Gortgonis offering improved park facilities such as a woodland walk and links to the canal in the neighbouring DEA of Torrent.

Development opportunities in Magherafelt include Polepatrick as well as a potential significant project at Sounding Hill quarry in association with the Trustees of this site. In addition, Council do have a number of open/green space and play sites across the district which offer public park development potential. Table 11 outlines the 14 sites that have been considered for public park development using the Matrix to assess their suitability against set criteria. The sites identified are geographic mapped in Figure 13. Any such development will require Master Planning and match funding to progress. While the below sites hold potential for public park development, it should be noted that O'Neill Park, in line with Council's current Capital Projects, is a potential development site for play with suggestions for a LEAP facility to be installed at this location.

Park ID	Park Site	DEA
1	Ballymacombs	Carntogher
2	Castlehill	Dungannon
3	Clady	Carntogher
4	Fairhill	Cookstown
5	Henderson Park	Torrent
6	Hunters Park	Moyola
7	Manor Park	Magherafelt
8	Mill Park	Moyola
9	Moykeeran	Moyola
10	Railway Park	Dungannon
11	Parkview/Riverside	Moyola
12	Roundlake	Clogher Valley
13	Swatragh	Carntogher
14	Windmill Wood	Dungannon

8.3. Bespoke Woodland Parks

In line with the Mid Ulster District Council Outdoor Recreation Strategy (2017) it is recommended that a number of key forest and woodland locations across Mid Ulster undergo development. The majority are important recreation sites that are well used by the community. Other sites hold potential in terms of creating a much-needed recreation and play facility for the community while increasing Mid Ulster Council's recreation offering for the visitor. Therefore, it is suggested that to further add value and improve the visitor experience, a natural play element should be included alongside the enhanced

recreation provision. Table 12 below shows a list of the relevant sites across the 7 DEAs and suggests a significant or small woodland play element be introduced with these locations mapped in Figure 14.

Site Name	Ballymacombs	Castlehill	Clady	Fairhill	Henderson Park	Hunters Park	Manor Park	Mill Park	Moykeeran	Railway Park	Parkview Riverside	Roundlake	Swatragh	Windmill Wood	*O'Neill Park (Play only)
Site ID	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	-
DEA	Carntogher	Dungannon	Carntogher	Cookstown	Torrent	Moyola	Magherafelt	Moyola	Moyola	Dungannon	Moyola	Clogher Valley	Carntogher	Dungannon	Moyola
Location															
Size of Site (min 0.5 acre)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
MUDC Ownership	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Onsite Management/Manned	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗
Potential Planning Issues - Absent	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Potential Specialist Planning - Absent	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓
Risks															
Protected re Antisocial Behaviour	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗
Ancillary Structures															
Existing Boundary Fencing	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	-
No further fencing required	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Gates	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗
Signs/Seats/Bins	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗
Paths & General Surfaces Good	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗
Parking															
Adequate Parking Proximity/Number	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
Disabled Parking	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗
Coach/Mini Bus Parking	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗
Potential for Extended Parking	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓
On main road for easy visibility/access	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗
Facilities															
Existing Toilets	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗
Disabled Toilet	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗
Room for Toilet/Disabled Toilet Development	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Visitor Services: Coffee shop etc.	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Potential for Visitor Services	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
Visitor Destination	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
Flat Access	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Existing Footfall	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
Recreation facilities on site e.g. walking trails, cycle trails and water recreation	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗

TABLE 11 PROPOSED PUBLIC PARK LOCATION

DEA	Small Woodland Play	Ownership	Significant Woodland Play	Ownership
Carntogher			Derrynoyd Forest (1)	<i>Forest Service</i>
Clogher Valley	Knockmany Forest (1)	<i>Forest Service</i>	Parkanaur Forest (2)	<i>Forest Service</i>
	Bantry Lough and Forest (3)	<i>Forest Service</i>		
Cookstown*	Cabin Wood (4)	<i>Council</i>	Drum Manor (4)	<i>Forest Service</i>
			Pomeroy Forest (3)	<i>Forest Service</i>
Dungannon	Windmill Wood (2)	<i>Council</i>		
Magherafelt	Inniscarn Forest (5)	<i>Forest Service</i>		
	Lissan House (6)	<i>Lissan House Trust</i>		
Moyola	Traad Point (7)	<i>Council</i>	Drumlamph (5)	<i>Development Assoc.</i>

TABLE 12 BESPOKE WOODLAND PLAY LOCATIONS




*Cookstown – Element of play provision already established at Pomeroy and Drum Manor Forest

Mid-Ulster District Council

Current Public Parks and
Potential Parks Development

1:260,000

Key

-  Potential Park Sites
-  Current Public Parks
-  DEA Boundaries

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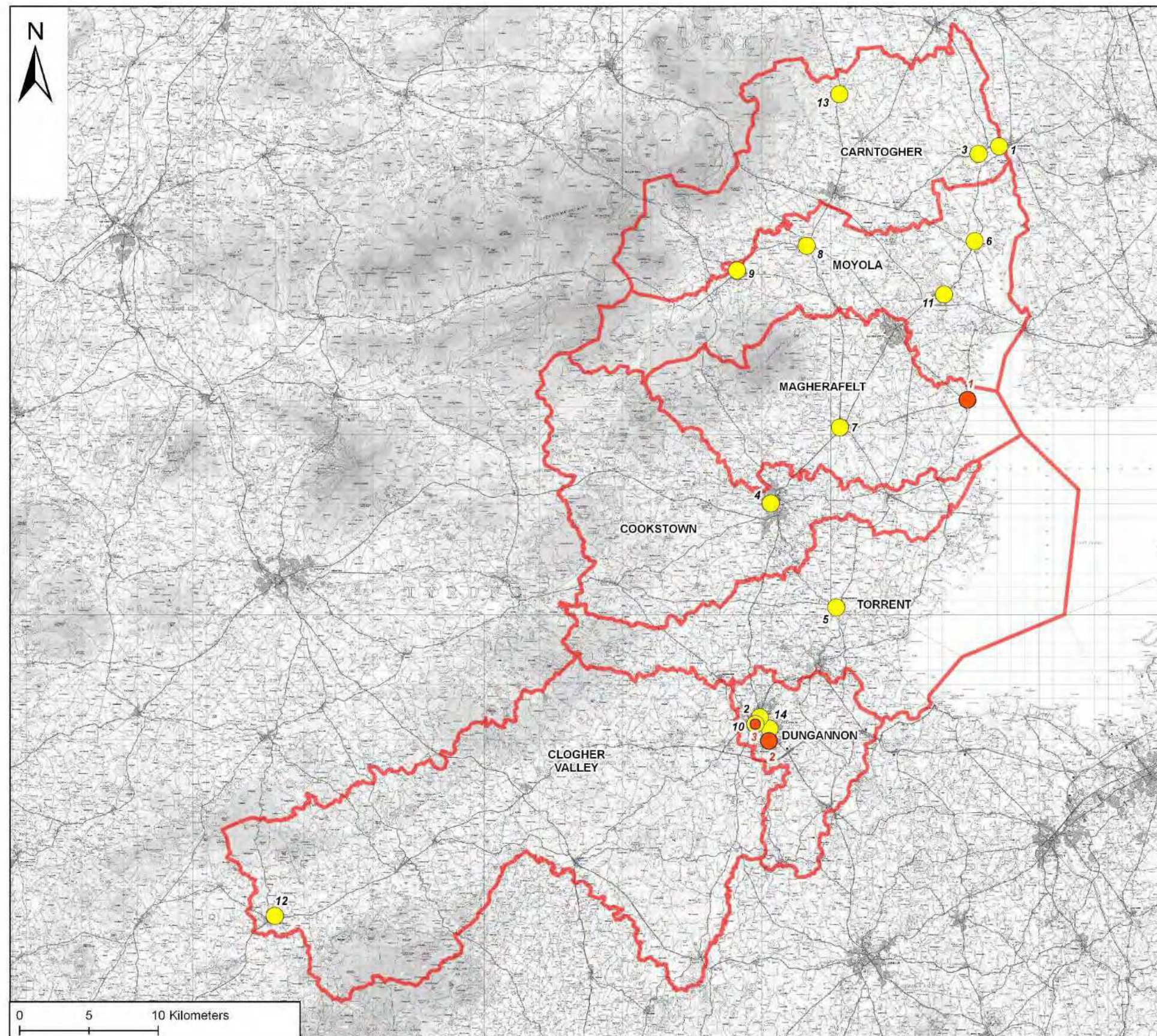
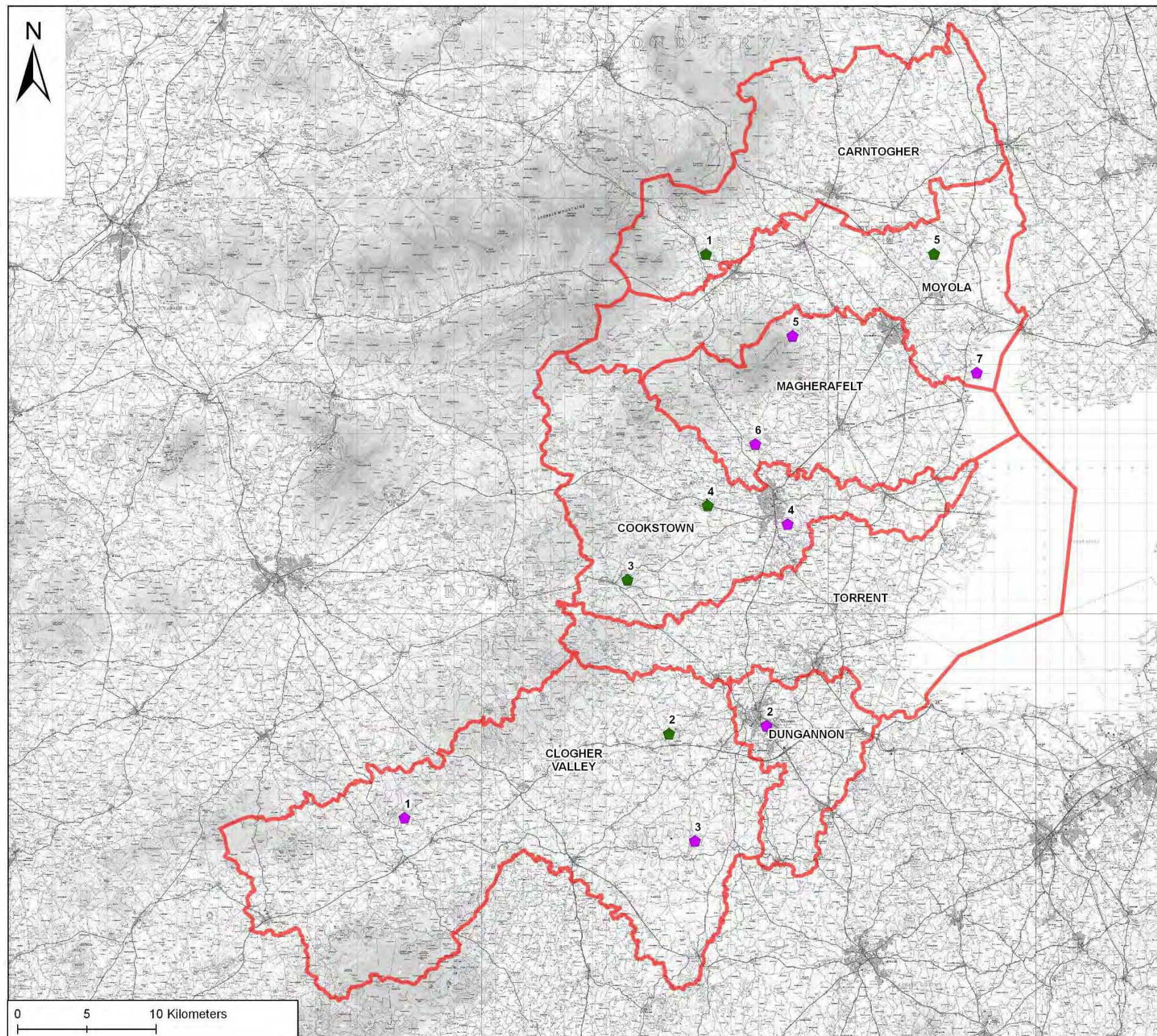


FIGURE 13 POTENTIAL PUBLIC PARK DEVELOPMENT



Mid-Ulster District Council

Bespoke Woodland Play

1:260,000

Key

- Small Woodland Play
- Significant Woodland Play
- DEA Boundaries

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FIGURE 14 MID ULSTER POTENTIAL WOODLAND PLAY PROVISION

8.4. Dungannon

There are 19 public parks/play parks within Dungannon DEA as well as 3 open/green space sites as shown in Figure 15.

According to Mid Ulster District Council Planning Paper Seven – Open Space, Recreation and Leisure, much of Dungannon is deficient in terms of equipped play provision with no play areas easily accessible from the town centre by foot. It was also noted that the residential areas in the south and west of the town were also deficient in play provision.

Deemed as deficient in the number of equipped play areas, the spatial distribution of play provision in Dungannon is not considered to be strategic. Therefore the proposed recommendations have considered the sites surrounding the town centre as well as utilising the open/green spaces which hold potential for future development.

The 4 zones within Dungannon in Figure 15 are shown in detail in the accompanying ‘Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Dungannon’. In this report, maps showing the current provision are mapped against population of 0-15 year olds as well as household pointer data. The recommendations made within Table 10 are then shown to provide a visual of how the recommendations could potentially shape play provision in Dungannon.

Table 13 details the public parks/play parks that fall within the Dungannon DEA boundary along with proposed recommendations. For more detailed analysis, please refer to ‘Mid Ulster Maps Report – Dungannon’ as necessary.

Table 14 details two potential open/green space sites within Dungannon that could potentially be developed into new play locations. In response to the Mid Ulster District Council Planning Paper Seven – Open Space, Recreation and Leisure, it is suggested that the Castlehill (3) is developed into a public park facility with LEAP which will address the gap of park and play provision within the centre of Dungannon. In addition, in line with Mid Ulster’s Outdoor Recreation Strategic Plan 2017, it is suggested that Windmill Wood is further enhanced with regards its outdoor recreation provision. This site holds potential for development of a NEAP as well as a small, bespoke woodland play element site making use of the natural surrounding materials to create animal carvings and other imaginary play pieces.

Table 15 highlights two new potential play locations that have been identified for the DEA of Dungannon. As per Figure 1 & 2 in ‘Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Dungannon’, it can be seen that the community of Springfield is not catered for with regards a public park/play facility. In addition, this is an area with a high density of housing and a relatively youthful population. Therefore, it is suggested that Council investigates the potential of suitable land for park/play provision in this area.

Table 16 highlights the proposed parks sites that will receive funding under Rural Development Programme in Dungannon. Some sites are already confirmed while other locations are pending on suitable sites being identified. Where relevant, sites not mapped within this strategy have been labelled as such.

Finally, as part of the wider proposed £1m development plan for Railway Park (subject to available funding), it is suggested that the current play provision at Railway Park has the potential to move within the park boundary, thus facilitating the development of a NEAP in the north west of the town. This would address the relatively youthful population while providing an enhanced facility for the area.

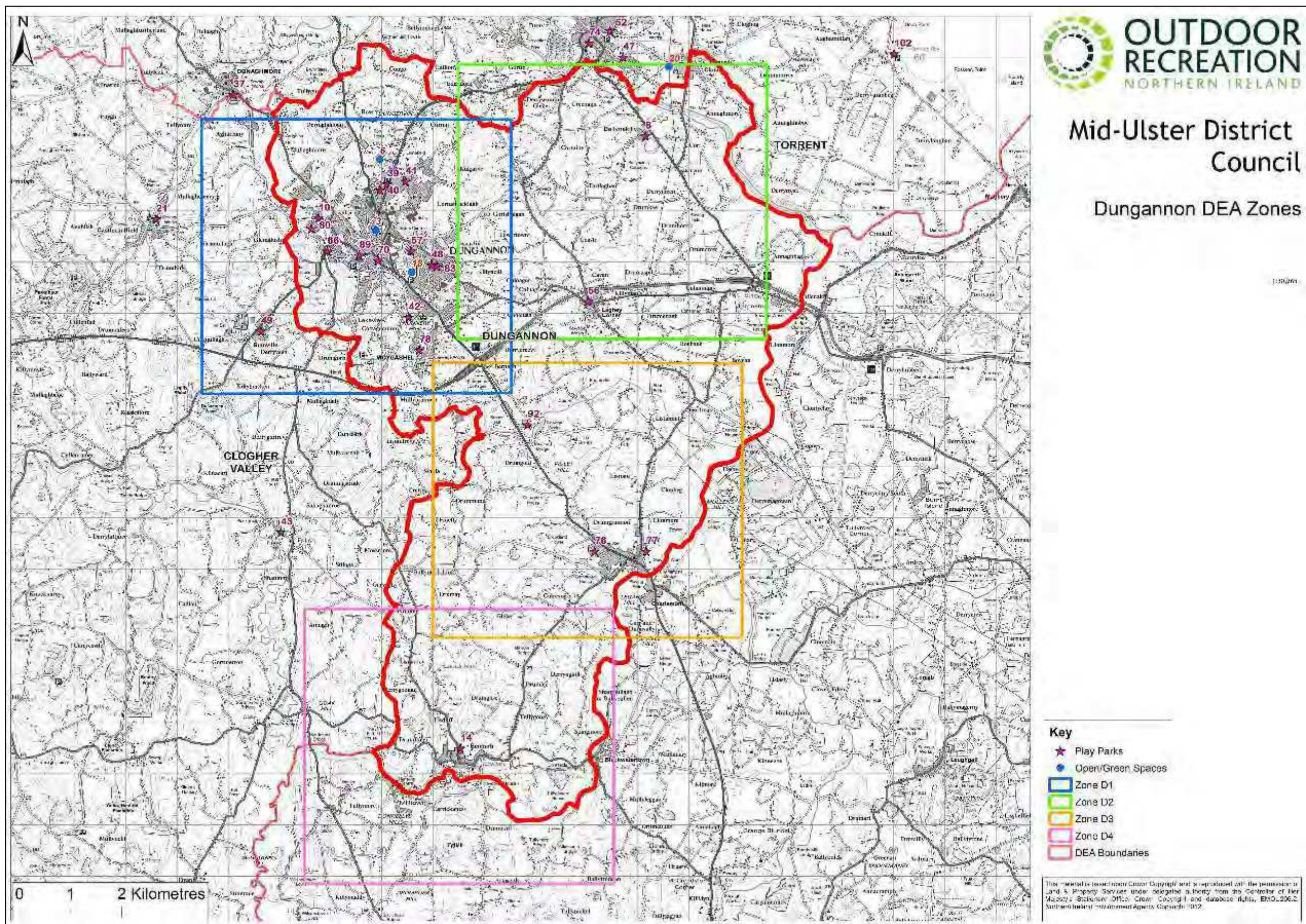


FIGURE 15 DUNGANNON DEA OVERVIEW

Map Zone	Public Park/ Play Park ID	Name of Facility	Quality Score	LEAP/NEAP Current Status	Overview	Indicative Cost	Timing
D1	10	Ballysaggart	6	LEAP	As part of the wider development plan for Railway Park and the potential development of a NEAP, it is suggested the current play provision at Ballysaggart should be reviewed based on its recommended life span. It is felt the enhanced provision at Railway Park would cater for the community once served by Mullaghmore (Figures 1 & 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Dungannon').	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+
D1	39	Drumcoo	2	LEAP	The Drumcoo site no longer exists as an equipped area for play. Therefore it is suggested that this site is considered at community consultation with regards a change of use to better serve the surrounding community (Figures 1 & 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Dungannon').	TBC	TBC
D1	40	Drumcoo Green	10	LEAP	The LEAP at Drumcoo Green holds potential to be developed into a NEAP thus providing the surrounding population with a larger equipped play facility (Figures 1 & 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Dungannon').	£50,000	5 Years+
D1	41	Dunavon	8.8	LEAP	It is suggested that Dunavon will continue to exist as a LEAP and will be monitored and maintained to ensure it continues to provide high quality play provision (Figures 1 & 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Dungannon').	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+
D1	42	Dungannon Park	7.5	NEAP	It is suggested that Dungannon Park is further developed into one of two 'Activity Centres'. These sites aim to offer a visitor destination style facility with enhanced all ability play, changing provision and facilities. Activity Centres offer not only enhanced play but also a range of other outdoor reaction facilities such as walking and cycling trails, water recreation and even camping/caravanning. (Figures 1 & 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Dungannon').	£250,000 (subject to funding)	5 Years+
D1	48	Gortnasoar	8.8	LEAP	With the suggestion of significant play provision being developed at Windmill Wood, it is felt that the play provision at Gortnasoar should be reviewed based on its recommended life span. However, it is suggested that the MUGA facilities could still be retained (Figures 1 & 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Dungannon').	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+
D1	57	Killymerron	5	LEAP	With the suggestion of significant play provision being developed at Windmill Wood (Figures 1 & 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Dungannon'), it is felt the play provision at Killymerron should be reviewed based on its recommended life span (Figures 1 & 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Dungannon').	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+
D1	66	Meadowbank	9.6	NEAP	The NEAP and MUGA facilities at Meadowbank will continue to exist in their current form and will be monitored and maintained to ensure they provide high quality play and recreation (Figure 1 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Dungannon').	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+
D1	70	Milltown	7.5	LEAP	Milltown will continue to exist as a LEAP with MUGA but given the quality score of play equipment, it is suggested that this site undergoes continued maintenance with a degree of enhancement (Figure 1 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Dungannon').	£25,000	Year 3
D1	78	Moygashel Jacksonville	7.5	MUGA	It is suggested that the MUGA site at Moygashel Jacksonville holds potential for development into a LEAP (Figures 1 & 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Dungannon').	£50,000	Year 3

D1	80	Mullaghmore	10	LEAP	It is suggested the current play provision at Mullaghmore should be reviewed based on its recommended life span. It is felt the enhanced provision at Railway Park would cater for the community once served by Mullaghmore (Figures 1 & 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Dungannon').	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+
D1	83	Northland Village	6.8	LEAP	With the suggestion of significant play provision being developed at Windmill Wood, it is felt that the play provision at Northland Village would not continue in its current form and undergo change of use dependant on community consultation (Figures 1 & 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Dungannon').	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+
D1	89	Railway	5	LEAP	The current play provision at location 89 has potential to be relocated within the Railway Park boundary, facilitating the development of a NEAP in the north west of the town. This would address the high population of young people and allow Mullaghmore and Ballysaggart to run to be reviewed based on recommended life span (see site 89 on Figure 1 with the potential relocation mapped at site 2 on Figure 2) within the 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Dungannon'. In addition, Council have plans for a £1,000,000 development proposal for Railway Park offering improved visitor experience, infrastructure and events space. (subject to available funding and programming, which may alter current strategic projections in terms of scheduling and indicative costs)	£150,000 £100,000 (£1,000,000 Development subject to available funding)*	Year 2 5 Years+
D2	8	Ballynakelly	10	LEAP	Ballynakelly will continue to exist as a LEAP and will be monitored and maintained to ensure it continues to provide high quality play provision (Figure 3 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Dungannon').	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+
D2	56	Killyman	9	LEAP	In line with the Rural Development Programme - Village Renewal, it is planned that Killyman will benefit from £38,103 in order to enhance existing play facilities (Figure 3 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Dungannon').	RDP*	Year 1
D3	76	Moy Curran's Brae	7.9	LEAP	Moy Curran's Brae has potential to be developed into a NEAP which would better serve the town. It would serve the area that was once catered for by Moy Oakfield (Figures 4 & 5 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Dungannon').	£50,000	Year 4
D3	77	Moy Oakfield	9.5	LEAP	Given the potential development at Moy Curran's Brae, it is suggested that the site at Moy Oakfield should be reviewed based on its recommended life span, as this NEAP will cater for the whole of the town (Figures 4 & 5 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Dungannon').	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+
D3	92	Redford	5	LEAP	Redford will continue to exist as a LEAP but given the quality score of play equipment, it is suggested that this site undergoes continued maintenance with a degree of enhancement (Figures 4 & 5 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Dungannon').	£25,000	Year 1
D4	14	Benburb	7.8	LEAP with MUGA	Benburb will continue to exist as a LEAP with MUGA but given the quality score of play equipment at Benburb, it is suggested that this site undergoes continued maintenance with a degree of enhancement (Figure 6 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Dungannon').	£25,000	Year 4

TABLE 13 DUNGANNON PUBLIC PARK/PLAY PARK RECOMMENDATIONS

Map Zone	Park/Play Park ID	Facility Name	Quality Score	LEAP/NEAP Status	Overview	Indicative Cost	Timing
D1	3	Castlehill	n/a	Proposed LEAP	It is suggested that the Castlehill site is developed into a LEAP which will therefore address the gap of play provision within the centre of Dungannon as highlighted in the Mid Ulster District Council Planning Paper Seven – Open Space, Recreation and Leisure. (Figures 1 & 2 ‘Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Dungannon’).	£150,000 (subject to funding)	5 Years+
D1	18	Windmill Wood	n/a	Proposed NEAP	It is suggested that Windmill Wood would benefit from a NEAP style play facility made from materials appropriate to the setting (Figures 1 & 2 ‘Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Dungannon’). There are a number of sites within this location that Council should consider for this development. Windmill Wood also offers potential to be developed into a public park facility for Dungannon.	£150,000 (subject to funding)	5 Years+
Bespoke Woodland Play	Site 2			Small Woodland Play element	It is suggested that Windmill Wood benefit from a small, bespoke, woodland play element (Figures 1 & 2 ‘Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Dungannon’). It is felt that this would complement the recommendations made in the Outdoor Recreation Strategic Plan, 2017 to enhance the outdoor recreation provision at this site (Table 12 Bespoke Woodland Play Locations).	£25,000 (subject to funding)	5 Years+
D1	6	Drumglass Wood	n/a	n/a	This site is currently not open to the Public as there is no access. It has however potential to be a Conservation project for the area.	TBC	TBC

TABLE 14 DUNGANNON OPEN/GREEN SPACE AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Map Zone	Park/Play Park ID	Facility Name	Quality Score	LEAP/NEAP Status	Overview	Indicative Cost	Timing
D1	1	Springfield	n/a	Proposed LEAP	Given the high density of households combined with a relatively youthful population, it is suggested that Springfield is considered as an area of need with regards play provision. It is advised that Council seek to acquire land in the Springfield area for a potential LEAP (Figure 2 ‘Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Dungannon’).	TBC	TBC

TABLE 15 DUNGANNON POTENTIAL NEW PLAY LOCATION RECOMMENDATIONS

Map Zone	Park/Play Park ID	Facility Name	Quality Score	LEAP/NEAP Status	Overview	Indicative Cost	Timing
Site unmapped	n/a	Ballynakelly/Tamnamore	n/a	TBC	In line with the Rural Development Programme - Village Renewal, it is planned that Ballynakelly/ Tamnamore will benefit from £18,000 to develop a new play facility located at the Education Centre.	RDP*	Year 2

TABLE 16 DUNGANNON PROPOSED RDP PARK SITES

Totals							Total
							£325,000

TABLE 17 DUNGANNON INDICATIVE COSTS

**Total excludes RDP expenditure, Railway Park £1m development proposal, contingency @ 10% and those estimated costs occurring after 5 years*

8.5. Cookstown

Serving a mix of urban and rural communities, there are 28 public parks/play parks within Cookstown DEA as shown in Figure 16. With a number of locations easily accessible by foot, Cookstown town centre is adequately provided for with regards play provision. However, given the high degree of overlap with regards play location catchment, the spatial distribution of fixed play sites is not considered to be strategic. In comparison with the rest of the town, it can be seen that the east and north-east areas are lacking in play provision.

Outside the town centre, Cookstown's play provision is comprised of a number of rural locations. Given the large proportion of households located in these settlements and villages, it is felt that the existence of play facilities in these locations hold social and environmental importance. Indeed this thinking is in line with the Mid Ulster Local Development Plan and the acknowledgement that its policies and the recommendations within this Strategy are subject to Rural Proofing. The Northern Ireland Assembly recently embarked on an exercise to enhance the rural proofing process by placing it on a statutory footing. As a result, the Rural Needs Act received Royal Assent on the 9th May 2016 and will commence for Local Council's on 1 June 2017. The Act seeks to safeguard the needs of rural communities, to promote a fair and inclusive rural society by introducing a duty on government and councils to consider the needs of rural dwellers when developing policies and delivering public services. This new legislation, imposes a statutory duty on Mid Ulster Council to consider rural needs when developing, adopting, implementing or revising policies, strategies and plans and designing and delivering public services³³

The 6 zones within Cookstown in Figure 14 are shown in detail in the accompanying 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Cookstown'. In this report, maps showing the current provision are mapped against population of 0-15 year olds as well as household pointer data. The recommendations made within Table 14 are then shown to provide a visual of how the recommendations could potentially shape play provision in Cookstown.

Table 18 details the public parks/play parks that fall within the Cookstown DEA boundary along with proposed recommendations for each. For more detailed analysis, please refer to 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Cookstown' as necessary.

Table 19 details three new potential play locations that have been identified for the DEA of Cookstown with regards small or significant woodland play. These include Cabin Wood, Pomeroy Forest and Drum Manor Forest. In line with the Mid Ulster District Council Outdoor Recreation Strategy, 2017 it is recommended that a number of key areas including forest sites across Mid Ulster undergo development. These are important recreation sites that are well used by the community while some other locations hold real potential in terms of creating a much-needed facility for the community as well as increasing Mid Ulster Council's recreation offering for the visitor. Therefore, it is suggested that to further enhance these sites and to improve the visitor experience, a natural woodland play element should be included also. As already highlighted, it is envisaged that this would consist of natural animal wood carvings and other imaginary 'play' pieces to add interest and value to the natural surroundings.

³³ Local Development Plan 2030 - Preferred Options Paper, Mid Ulster District Council (November 2016)

It should be noted that Cookstown is somewhat deficient in open/green space and Council are advised to investigate the potential of developing a public park. The Sports Recreation Grounds opposite the Fairhill site may hold potential and could provide this much needed provision in the Cookstown DEA. The playing fields could be relocated at the Mid Ulster Sports Area (MUSA) to allow for redevelopment of the current playing fields into a public park to include an events space with an enhanced play facility opposite this site. It is estimated that development of Fairhill would cost a minimum of £250,000.

Finally, Table 20 highlights the proposed parks sites that will receive funding under Rural Development Programme in Cookstown. Some sites are already confirmed while other locations are pending on suitable sites being identified. Where relevant, sites not mapped within this strategy have been labelled as such.

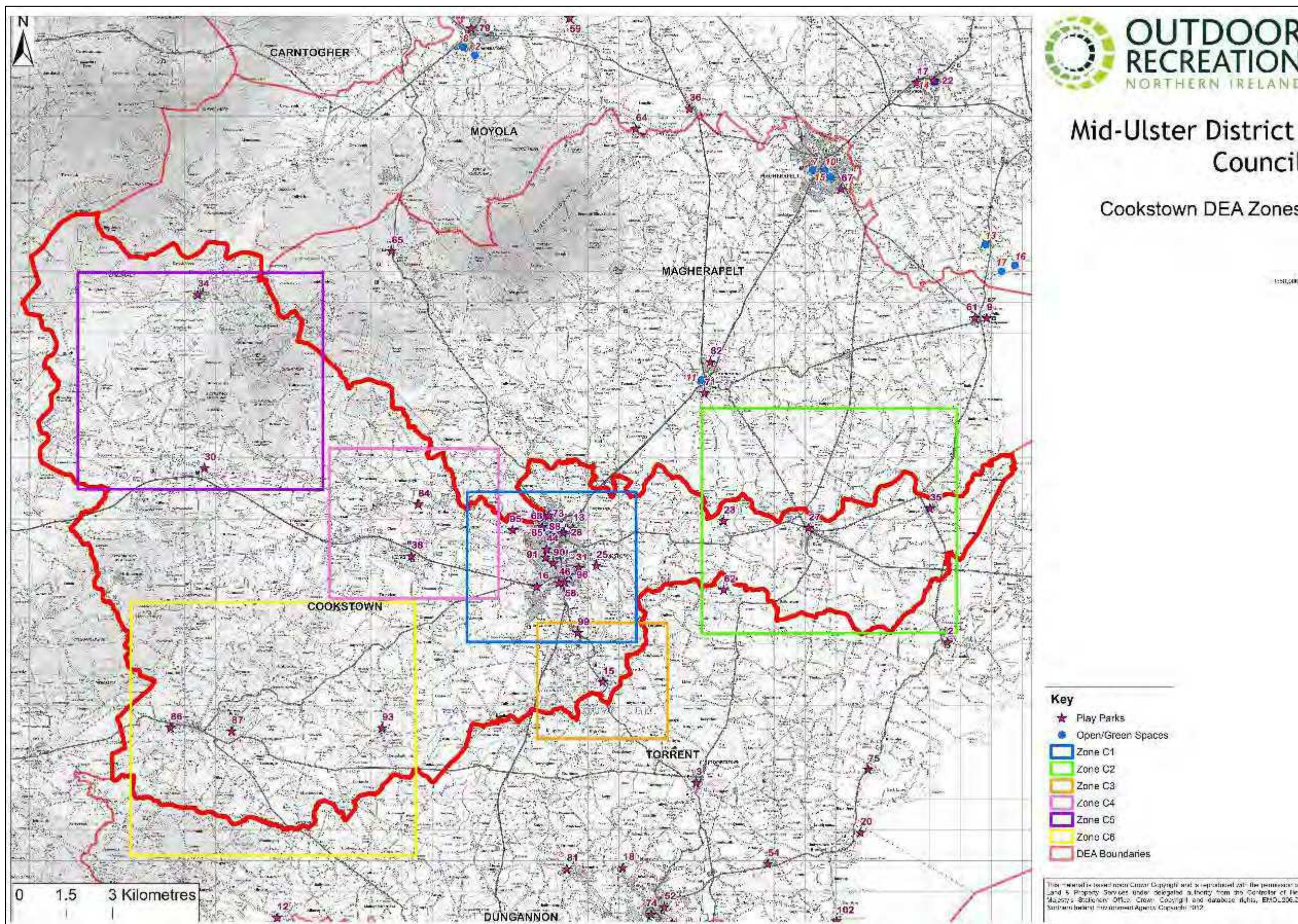


FIGURE 16 COOKSTOWN DEA OVERVIEW

Map Quadrant	Public Park/ Play Park ID	Name of Facility	Quality Score	LEAP/NEAP Status	Overview	Indicative Cost	Timings
C1	13	Beechway	5.8	LEAP	In-keeping with a strategic approach to play provision, it is suggested that the site at Beechway is upgraded to a NEAP in order to serve the larger surrounding area. Taking in site 28 at Coagh Street, this provision would be collectively known as 'Cookstown East'. (Figures 1 & 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Cookstown').	£50,000	Year 1
C1	16	Blackhill	8.5	LEAP	Blackhill will continue to exist as a LEAP and will be monitored and maintained to ensure it continues to provide high quality play provision. In addition, there is potential for a riverside walk to be developed above Blackhill and an option for the site to benefit from open/greenspace development (Figure 1 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Cookstown').	£25,000	Year 5
C1	25	Clare	6.5	LEAP	It is suggested that the play provision at Clare at Festival Park (25) should be reviewed based on its recommended life span. Given the potential to develop the site at Coolnafranky as a NEAP, it is intended that it will provide for the community (Figures 1 & 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Cookstown').	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+
C1	28	Coagh Street	6	LEAP	It is suggested that the limited play provision at Coagh Street should be reviewed based on its recommended life span to consider the upgrade of the larger facility at Beechway (13) to become a NEAP (Figures 1 & 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Cookstown').	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+
C1	31	Coolnafranky	5.5	LEAP	The site at Coolnafranky offers potential to be developed into a NEAP. It is intended that this larger facility would be known as 'Cookstown South' and provide for the wider area once served by Stewart Avenue (96) which should be reviewed based on its recommended life span (Figures 1 & 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Cookstown').	£50,000	Year 1
C1	44	Fairhill	8.5	NEAP	It is proposed that the NEAP status of Fairhill is further enhanced to one of 5 District Play Hubs. District Play Hubs have been considered based on geographic distribution, capacity of site, current status/classification, existing facilities, footfall and access. In addition, with regards parkland, the playing fields at Fairhill offer potential to be developed into a public park, offering much needed open/green space provision within 'Cookstown Central' (Figures 1 & 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Cookstown').	£100,000 (subject to funding) £150,000	5 Years+ 5 Years+
C1	46	Gortalowry	7.7	LEAP	Gortalowry will be retained alongside Killymoon (58) and will be collectively known as Cookstown South. Given the quality score of play equipment at Gortalowry, it is suggested that this site along with Killymoon undergo continued maintenance with a degree of enhancement (Figures 1 & 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Cookstown').	£25,000	Year 4
C1	58	Killymoon	8	LEAP	Killymoon will be retained alongside Gortalowry (46) and will be collectively known as Cookstown South. It is suggested that this site along with Gortalowry are enhanced offering equipment for older children and subsequently NEAP coverage (Figures 1 & 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Cookstown').	£25,000	Year 4
C1	68	Milburn Close	9.3	LEAP	It is suggested that the play provision at Milburn Close (68) should be reviewed based on its recommended life span. Given the potential to develop Monrush as a NEAP and Princess Avenue as an improved LEAP, it is intended that these sites known as	Maintenance Budget+-	5 Years+

					'Cookstown North' will provide for the community served by Milburn Close (Figures 1 & 2, 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Cookstown').		
C1	73	Monrush	7.1	LEAP	The site at Monrush provides potential to be developed into a NEAP with the land north of this site (over 6 acres) offering significant open/greenspace for Cookstown North. It is intended that Monrush will provide for the wider area once served by Millburn Close (68) which is reviewed based on its recommended life span. Monrush will provide play primarily for older children (Figures 1 & 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Cookstown').	£50,000	Year 3
C1	85	Orritor St.	7.2	LEAP	It is suggested that the play provision at Orritor Street (85) should be reviewed based on its recommended life span given the potential hub development at Fairhill (44) (Figures 1 & 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Cookstown').	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+
C1	88	Princess Avenue	8.1	LEAP	In conjunction with the suggested reclassification of Monrush (73) as a NEAP, Princess Avenue and Monrush will be collectively known as 'Cookstown North'. While Monrush will cater primarily for older children, it is intended that Princess Avenue will continue to provide play opportunities for younger children. While both facilities are located a short distance from each other, their collective offering will serve the area once provided for by Millburn Close (68) which should be reviewed based on its recommended life span (Figures 1 & 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Cookstown').	£25,000	Year 4
C1	90	Rathbeg	8.9	LEAP	Given the suggested enhancement of Fairhill (44) to become one of 5 play hubs within the District, it is felt that Rathbeg should be reviewed based on its recommended life span as the surrounding area will be served by the enhanced provision at Fairhill (Figures 1 & 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Cookstown').	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+
C1	91	Ratheen	6.4	LEAP	Given the suggested enhancement of Fairhill (44) to become one of 5 play hubs within the District, it is felt that Ratheen should be reviewed based on its recommended life span as the area it serves will be catered for by the enhanced provision at Fairhill (Figures 1 & 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Cookstown').	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+
C1	95	Sperrinview	6	LEAP	It is felt that the site at Sperrinview should be considered for a change of use with the play space to be used as an area for the community as a whole, dependant on community consultation (Figures 1 & 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Cookstown').	Maintenance Budget	Year 1
C1	96	Stewart Avenue	7	LEAP	It is suggested that the play provision at Stewart Avenue (96) should be reviewed based on its recommended life span as the area it serves will be catered for by the enhanced provision at Coolnafranky (NEAP) (Figures 1 & 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Cookstown').	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+
C1	99	Tullywiggan	8.3	LEAP	Tullywiggan will continue to exist as a LEAP. It is suggested that this site is monitored and maintained to ensure it provides high quality play provision. Alternatively, the play provision could be relocated within the MUSA (Mid Ulster Sports Arena). Figure 1 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Cookstown'.	£25,000	Year 5
C2	27	Coagh Park, Coagh	8.3	LEAP	Coagh Park will continue to exist as a LEAP but given the concerns about localised flooding, demarcation between the river and playpark will need to be undertaken with additional protective fencing installed. This site will continue to be monitored and	£25,000	Year 5

					maintained to ensure it provides high quality play provision (Figure 3 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Cookstown').		
C2	35	Derrychrin, Ballinderry	7.2	LEAP	Derrychrin will continue to exist as a LEAP but given the quality score of play equipment, it is suggested that this site undergoes continued maintenance with a degree of enhancement (Figure 3 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Cookstown').	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+
C3	15	Berkeley Square, T'hogue	7.8	LEAP	The play provision at Berkeley Square will be retained as a LEAP. However, given the quality score it is suggested that this site undergoes continued maintenance with a degree of enhancement in line with the Rural Development Programme. It is planned that Berkeley Square will benefit from £38,103 (Figure 4 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Cookstown').	RDP*	Year 2
C4	38	Drum Manor Forest	8.2	Existing play provision in forest	The current play provision at Drum Manor adds value to those who visit the forest. However, it is recognised that this site does not offer inclusive play options. Therefore, it is suggested that this site is reviewed, monitored and maintained to ensure it continues to provide high quality play while acknowledging the need for an element of inclusive play under the Bespoke Woodland Play as highlighted in Section 8.2 (See Figure 5 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Cookstown').	£30,000	Year 1
C4	84	Orritor	9.2	LEAP	Orritor will continue to exist as a LEAP and will be monitored and maintained to ensure it provides high quality play provision (Figure 5 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Cookstown').	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+
C5	30	Conway Close	7.8	LEAP	Conway Close will continue to exist as a LEAP but given the quality score of play equipment, it is intended that this site undergoes continued maintenance with a degree of enhancement (Figure 6 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Cookstown').	£25,000	Year 4
C5	34	Davagh Forest	9.5	Existing play provision in forest	Davagh will continue to offer an element of play provision within the Forest and in line with the Outdoor Recreation Strategic Plan 2017, this site will be positioned as a strategic location with regards outdoor recreation. This will further complement the Observatory Building and Camping within the Davagh Forest Hub as detailed within MUDC Capital Programme 2016 – 2020 (Figure 6 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Cookstown').	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+
C6	86	Parkview, Pomeroy	8.8	LEAP	Parkview at Pomeroy will continue to exist as a LEAP and it is suggested that this site is monitored and maintained to ensure it provides high quality play (Figure 7 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Cookstown').	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+
C6	87	Pomeroy Forest	10	LEAP	As per the village plans, it is suggested that the level of play in Pomeroy Forest is upgraded to raise the status of play to a NEAP. This suggestion is also line with the Outdoor Recreation Strategy, 2017, which focuses on enhancing the Council's current forestry offering. In addition, it is suggested that better pedestrian and cycling access is developed from Parkview and Orritor to Pomeroy Forest. The car park facilities will benefit from funding under MUDC Capital Programme 2016 – 2020 (Figures 7 & 8, 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Cookstown').	£25,000	5 Years+
C6	93	Rockdale, Rock	8	LEAP	Rockdale will continue to exist as a LEAP. It is suggested that this site is monitored and maintained to ensure it provides high quality play provision. As per the Village Plan, it is acknowledged that this site requires upgrade of its play equipment (Figure 7, 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Cookstown').	£25,000	Year 4

TABLE 18 COOKSTOWN PUBLIC PARK/PLAY PARK RECOMMENDATIONS

Map	Small/Significant Park ID	Facility Name	Quality Score	Proposed Status	Overview	Indicative Cost	Timing
Figure 14 Mid Ulster Potential Woodland Play Provision	Site 4 - Small Woodland Play	Cabin Wood	n/a	Proposed Small Woodland Play	It is suggested that Cabin Wood would benefit from a small, bespoke, woodland play element. It is felt that this would complement the recommendations made within the Mid Ulster District Council Outdoor Recreation Strategy (2017) to enhance the outdoor recreation provision at this site (Figure 14 Mid Ulster Potential Woodland Play Provision).	£25,000 (subject to funding)	5 Years+
Figure 14 Mid Ulster Potential Woodland Play Provision	Site 4 - Significant Woodland Play	Pomeroy Forest	n/a	Proposed Significant Woodland Play	In addition to upgrading the play at Pomeroy to NEAP status, it is suggested that Pomeroy Forest would benefit from a small, bespoke, woodland play element. It is felt that this would complement the recommendations made within the Mid Ulster District Council Outdoor Recreation Strategy (2017), enhancing the outdoor recreation provision at this site (Figure 14 Mid Ulster Potential Woodland Play Provision).	£25,000 (subject to funding)	5 Years+
Figure 14 Mid Ulster Potential Woodland Play Provision	Site 5 - Significant Woodland Play	Drum Manor Forest	n/a	Proposed Significant Woodland Play	It is suggested that Drum Manor would benefit from a significant, bespoke, woodland play element. It is felt that this would complement the recommendations made within the Mid Ulster District Council Outdoor Recreation Strategy (2017) to enhance the outdoor recreation provision at this site (Figure 14 Mid Ulster Potential Woodland Play Provision).	£50,000 (subject to funding)	5 Years+

TABLE 19 SIGNIFICANT AND SMALL BESPOKE WOODLAND PLAY RECOMMENDATIONS

Map Zone	Park/Play Park ID	Facility Name	Quality Score	LEAP/NEAP Status	Overview	Indicative Cost	Timing
C2	23	Churchview, Drumullan	7.5	LEAP	In line with the Rural Development Programme - Village Renewal, it is planned that Churchview will benefit from £38,103 in order to enhance existing play facilities (Figure 3 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Cookstown').	RDP*	Year 2

TABLE 20 COOKSTOWN PROPOSED RDP PARK SITES

Totals						Indicative Cost	Total
							£380,000

TABLE 21 COOKSTOWN INDICATIVE COSTS

*Total excludes RDP expenditure, contingency @ 10% and those estimated costs occurring after 5 years

8.6. Magherafelt

There are 6 public parks/play parks within Magherafelt DEA as shown in Figure 17. With only one Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play (NEAP), the centre of Magherafelt is almost entirely deficient in terms of play provision. Therefore, it is suggested that Meadowbank Leisure Centre is further enhanced to one of 5 District Play Hubs. District Play Hubs have been considered on the basis of geographic distribution, capacity of site, current status/classification, existing facilities, footfall and access. This provision would enhance the current fixed play at this site.

While it is acknowledged that the north east of the town is deficient in fixed play provision, it should be noted that the population of 0-15 is relatively low compared to other areas of Magherafelt. However, it is suggested that Council should give future consideration to investigating potential sites around Rainey Endowed School and Mid Ulster Hospital. It is felt that land in these areas would address a potentially emerging youthful population as well as serving a number of residential areas.

The 4 zones within Magherafelt in Figure 15 are shown in more detail in the accompanying 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Magherafelt' document. In this report, maps showing the current provision are mapped against population of 0-15 year olds as well as household pointer data. The recommendations made within Table 17 are then shown to provide a visual of how the recommendations could potentially shape play provision in Magherafelt.

Table 22 details the public parks/play parks that fall within the Magherafelt DEA boundary along with proposed recommendations for each. For more detailed analysis, please refer to 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Magherafelt' as necessary.

It should be noted that the centre of the Magherafelt area benefits from a number of open/green spaces which are detailed in Table 23 along with recommendations. Manor Park in Moneymore, is a valuable site with regards its open/green space offering and it is recommended that it should be retained and developed into a public park for Magherafelt. While Polepatrick offers the green space for passive leisure, the development opportunities are limited given its proximity to the cemetery. However, the disused 'Sounding Hill' quarry on Tobermore Road could hold development potential and address the under provision of public parks in Magherafelt. Council is therefore advised to initiate discussions with the Trustees of this site. It should be noted that development at the Sounding Hill quarry could result in a development project costing in the region of £1,000,000 - £1,500,000.

Table 24 details recommendations for Woodland Play sites in Magherafelt while Table 25 highlights the proposed parks sites that will receive funding under Rural Development Programme in Magherafelt. Some sites are already confirmed while other locations are pending on suitable sites being identified. Where relevant, sites not mapped within this strategy have been labelled as such.

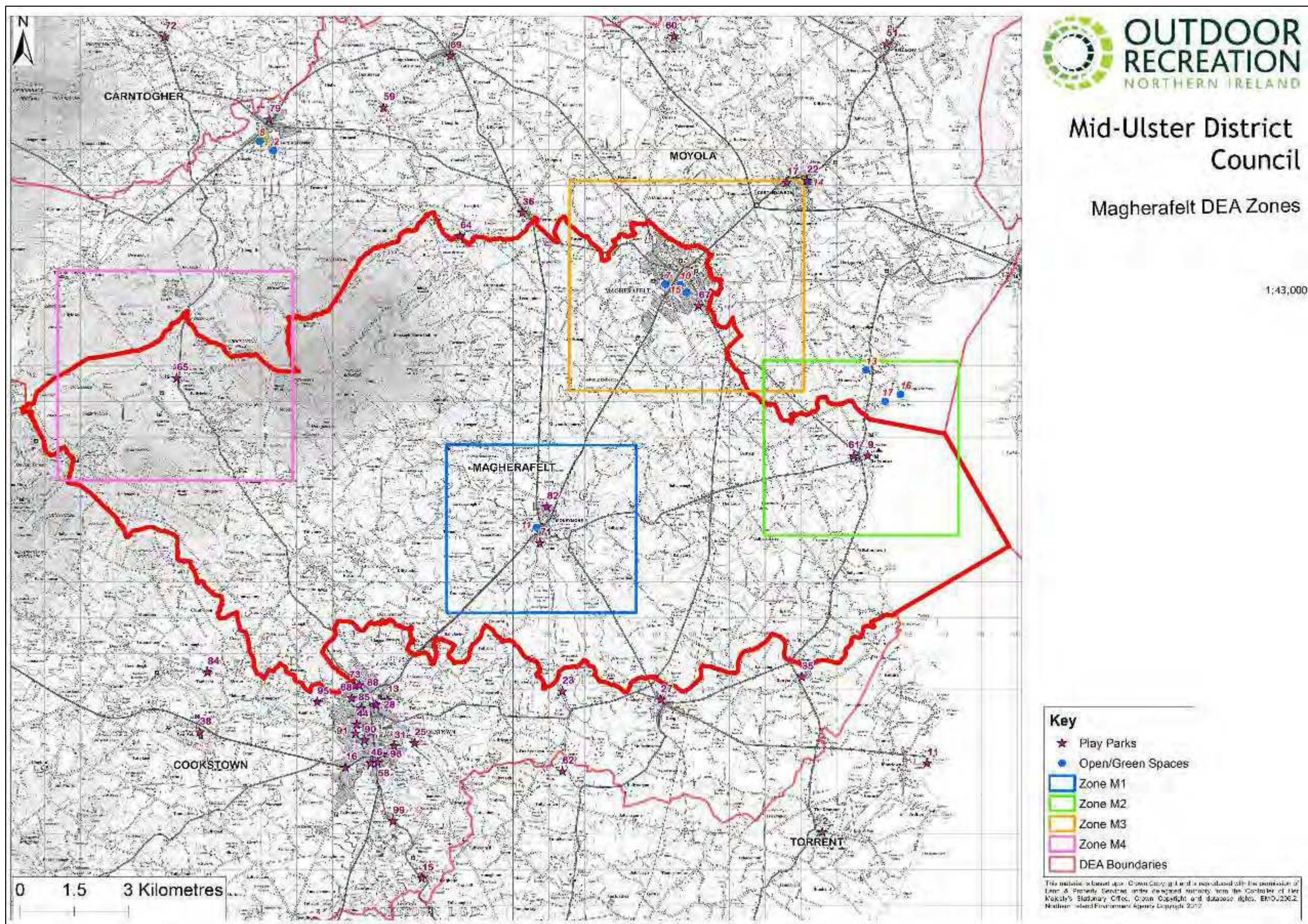


FIGURE 17 MAGHERAFELT DEA OVERVIEW

Map Quadrant	Public Park/ Play Park ID	Name of Facility	Quality Score	LEAP/NEAP Status	Overview	Indicative Cost	Timings
M1	71	Moneymore RC	9.1	LEAP	The LEAP at Moneymore RC will continue to exist as a LEAP and will be monitored and maintained to ensure it provides high quality play provision (Figure 1, 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Magherafelt').	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+
M1	82	Northland Moneymore	6.1	LEAP	The LEAP at Northland Moneymore will continue to exist as a LEAP and will be monitored and maintained to ensure it provides high quality play provision (Figure 1, 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Magherafelt').	£20,000	Year 1
M2	9	Ballyronan	6.5	LEAP	With several sites having been considered within the play matrix, it is suggested that the facility at Ballyronan is further developed into one of two 'Activity Hubs'. These sites aim to offer a visitor destination style facility with enhanced all ability play, changing provision and facilities. The Activity Hub sites offer not only enhanced play but also a range of other outdoor reaction facilities such as walking and cycling trails, water recreation and even camping/caravanning. This recommendation for Ballyronan is in line with the 'Projects Under Consideration' within the Council Capital Programme 2016 – 2020 (Figure 3, 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Magherafelt').	£250,000 (subject to funding)	5 Years+
M2	61	Lindsayville, Ballyronan	10	LEAP	With the development of an Activity Hub at Ballyronan, Lindsayville Ballyronan should be reviewed based on its recommended life span (Figures 2 & 3, 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Magherafelt').	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+
M3	67	Meadowbank (Leisure Centre)	7.9	NEAP	It is anticipated that the NEAP at Meadowbank Magherafelt is further enhanced to one of 5 District Play Hubs. District Play Hubs have been considered based on geographic distribution, capacity of site, current status/classification, existing facilities, footfall and access (Figures 4 & 5, 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Magherafelt').	£100,000 (subject to funding)	5 Years+
M4	65	Lough Fea	9.6	LEAP	Lough Fea will continue to exist as a LEAP and will be monitored and maintained to ensure it provided high quality play provision (Figure 6, 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Magherafelt').	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+

TABLE 22 MAGHERAFELT PUBLIC PARK/PLAY PARK RECOMMENDATIONS

Map Quadrant	Public Park/ Play Park ID	Name of Facility	Quality Score	LEAP/NEAP Status	Overview	Indicative Cost	Timings
M1	11	Manor Park, Moneymore	n/a	n/a	It is suggested that Manor Park (site 11 open/green space parks) is retained as and further developed into a public park for Moneymore, providing a much-needed facility for this DEA.	£150,000 (subject to funding)	5 Years+
M3	7	Glenburn	n/a	n/a	Glenburn is a disused play site. Future development potential to be considered.	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+
M3	10	Greenvale Spires Park	n/a	n/a	Greenvale Spires Park is a disused play site. Future development potential to be considered.	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+
M3	15	Sperrin View	n/a	n/a	Sperrinview is a disused play site. Future development potential to be considered.	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+

TABLE 23 MAGHERAFELT OPEN/GREEN SPACE AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Map Zone	Park/Play Park ID	Facility Name	Quality Score	LEAP/NEAP Status	Overview	Indicative Cost	Timing
Bespoke Woodland Play	Site 1	Inniscarn Forest	N/A	Small Woodland Play element	It is suggested that Inniscarn Forest would benefit from a small, bespoke, woodland play element. It is felt that this would complement the recommendations made in the Outdoor Recreation Strategic Plan 2017 to enhance the outdoor recreation provision at this site (Table 12 Bespoke Woodland Play Locations).	£25,000 (subject to funding)	5 Years+
Bespoke Woodland Play	Site 2	Lissan House	N/A	Small Woodland Play element	It is suggested that Lissan House would benefit from a small, bespoke, woodland play element. It is felt that this would complement the recommendations made in the Outdoor Recreation Strategic Plan 2017, to enhance the outdoor recreation provision at this site (Table 12 Bespoke Woodland Play Locations).	£25,000 (subject to funding)	5 Years+

TABLE 24 MAGHERAFELT SMALL BESPOKE WOODLAND PLAY RECOMMENDATIONS

Map Quadrant	Public Park/ Play Park ID	Name of Facility	Quality Score	LEAP/NEAP Status	Overview	Indicative Cost	Timings
Site unmapped	n/a	Loup	n/a	TBC	In line with the Rural Development Programme - Village Renewal, it is planned that Loup will benefit from £38,103.	RDP*	Year 2

TABLE 25 MAGHERAFELT RDP SITES

Totals							Total
							£20,000

TABLE 26 MAGHERAFELT INDICATIVE COSTS

**Total excludes RDP expenditure, contingency @ 10% and those estimated costs occurring after 5 years*

8.7. Carntogher

Carntogher has 11 public parks/play parks as well as 5 open/green space sites as shown in Figure 18.

Overall Carntogher scored well on the quality assessment with all but one facility falling into the upper band during the audit. It is anticipated that the NEAP at Coleraine Road is further enhanced to one of 5 District Play Hubs. District Play Hubs have been considered based on geographic distribution, capacity of site, current status/classification, existing facilities, footfall and access.

Given the planned enhancement at Coleraine Road it is anticipated that the play provision at Crawfordsburn is considered on the basis of its recommended life span with the open/green space site on the Coleraine Road now surplus to requirements - providing council an opportunity for Council to relinquish this site.

Another key development area in Carntogher is Upperlands. Highlighted in the Outdoor Recreation Strategic Plan (2017) as a key recreation site, the community of Upperlands is to benefit from £252,250 under Rural Development Programme - Village Renewal. A proportion of the total spend will be allocated to parks and play namely a MUGA at Alexander Park and a play park at the Linehall Centre.

The 5 zones within Carntogher mapped in Figure 18 are shown in detail in the accompanying 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Carntogher' document. In this report, maps showing the current provision are mapped against population of 0-15 year olds as well as household pointer data. The recommendations made within Table 27 are then shown to provide a visual of how the recommendations could potentially shape play provision in Carntogher.

Table 27 details the public parks/play parks that fall within the Carntogher DEA boundary along with proposed recommendations for each. For more detailed analysis, please refer to 'Mid Ulster Maps Report – Carntogher' as necessary.

Carntogher also has a number of open/green space sites which are detailed in Table 28 along with recommendations. Substantial land at Ballymacombs Road holds potential to re-establish a play facility as well as public park development. The informal green space at Clady also has development potential with regards a public park. The site at Swatragh also lends itself to public park development. The infrastructure as well as the riverside walk would contribute to parkland development based on a site assessment. Finally, it should be noted that the Walled Garden in Maghera should also be considered by Council with regards public park and play development for Carntogher this would complement the Public Realm Programme under MUDC Capital Programme 2016 – 2020 to improve Maghera town centre.

Finally Table 29 details recommendations for potential Woodland Play sites in Carntogher.

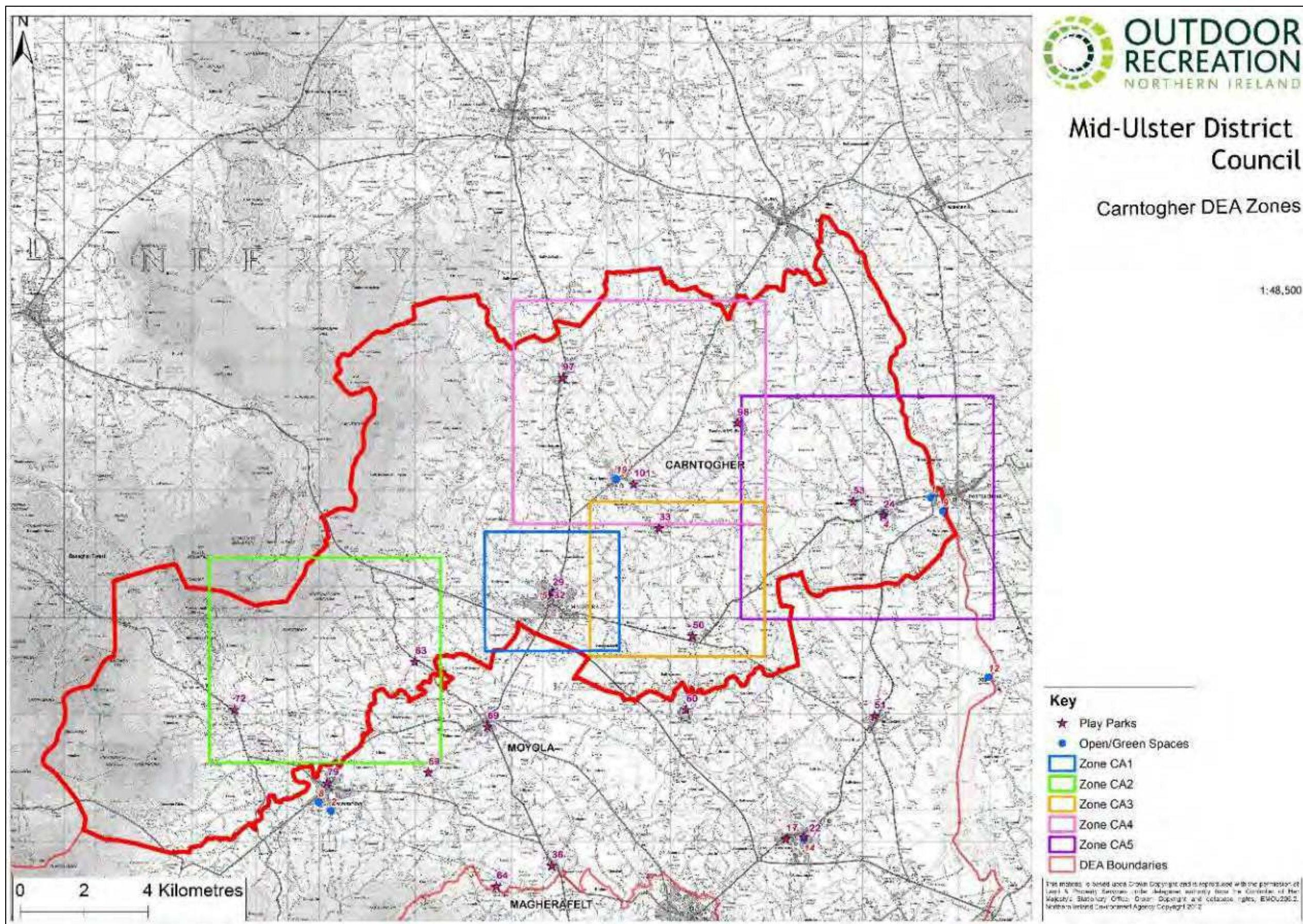


FIGURE 18 CARNTOGHER DEA OVERVIEW

Map Quadrant	Public Park/ Play Park ID	Name of Facility	Quality Score	LEAP/NEAP Status	Overview	Indicative Cost	Timings
CA1	29	Coleraine Road	8.6	NEAP	It is anticipated that the NEAP at Coleraine Road is further enhanced to one of 5 District Play Hubs. Play hubs have been considered based on geographic distribution, capacity of site, current status/classification, existing facilities, footfall and access (Figures 1 & 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Carntogher').	£100,000 (subject to funding)	5 Years+
CA1	32	Crawfordsburn	10	LEAP	With the site at Coleraine Road undergoing development to become a District Play Hub, it is suggested that Crawfordsburn (32) should be reviewed based on its recommended life span as the new facilities provided at Coleraine Road will serve the catchment area that Crawfordsburn catered for (Figures 1 & 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Carntogher').	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+
CA2	63	Lisnamuck	9.3	LEAP	Lisnamuck will continue to exist as a LEAP and will be monitored and maintained to ensure it provides high quality play provision (Figures 3 & 4 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Carntogher').	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+
CA2	72	Moneyneena	2	LEAP	Given the poor quality rating given to the play at Moneyneena, it is suggested that the fixed play provision is removed and the site used for alternative development dependant on community consultation (Figures 3 & 4 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Carntogher').	Maintenance Budget	Year 1
CA3	33	Culnady	9.3	LEAP	Culnady will continue to exist as a LEAP and will be monitored and maintained to ensure it continues to provide high quality play (Figure 5 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Carntogher').	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+
CA3	50	Gulladuff	9.7	LEAP	Gulladuff will continue to exist as a LEAP and will be monitored and maintained to ensure it provides high quality play provision. In addition, the site holds potential for the development of a MUGA (Figure 5 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Carntogher').	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+
CA4	97	Swatragh	8.2	LEAP	In line with the Rural Development Programme - Village Renewal, it is planned that Swatragh will benefit from £38,103. It is suggested that the play provision at Swatragh undergo development to become a NEAP. This recommendation is also in line with the feedback gathered at Consultation as it was felt the provision at this site could be upgraded (Figures 6 & 7 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Carntogher'). In addition, the existing infrastructure as well as the riverside walk at Swatragh adds to the potential for this site to be further developed into a larger public park.	RDP* £140,000	Year 2 5 Years+
CA4	98	Tamlaght	10	LEAP	Tamlaght will continue to exist as a LEAP. It is suggested that this site is monitored and maintained to provide high quality play provision (Figures 6 & 7 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Carntogher').	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+
CA4	101	Upperlands	10	LEAP	The community of Upperlands is to benefit from £246,000 under Rural Development Programme - Village Renewal. £101,000 will be allocated for a MUGA at Alexander Park with £145,000 allocated for play at the Linenhall Centre community centre (not mapped).	RDP*	Year 1

CA5	24	Clady	8.3	LEAP	Clady will continue to exist as a LEAP and will be monitored and maintained to ensure it continues to provide high quality play (Figure 8 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Carntogher').	£25,000	Year 5
CA5	53	Innishrush	10	LEAP	Innishrush will continue to exist as a LEAP and will continue to be monitored and maintained to ensure it provides high quality play provision (Figure 8 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Carntogher').	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+

TABLE 27 CARNTOGHER PUBLIC PARK/PLAY PARK RECOMMENDATIONS

Map Quadrant	Public Park/Play Park ID	Name of Facility	Quality Score	LEAP/NEAP Status	Overview	Indicative Cost	Timings
CA1	5	Coleraine Road - Tamney Crescent	n/a	n/a	Given the play hub development at Coleraine Road, Tamney Crescent is considered surplus to requirements.	TBC	TBC
CA4	19	Upperlands	n/a	n/a	It may be possible for Council to relinquish this site or suggest developments for a change of use (Figure 6 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Carntogher').	TBC	TBC
CA5	1	Ballymacombs Road	n/a	n/a	There is potential to reinstate play a LEAP/NEAP facility at Ballymacombs Road as well as developing a public park facility at this site (Figure 8 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Carntogher'). Ballymacombs will also benefit from £38,103 through Rural Development Programme - Village Renewal.	£100,000 (subject to funding) RDP*	5 Years+ Year 2
CA5	4	Clady	n/a	n/a	There is potential to extend development around the existing play site at Clady to create a public park facility (Figure 8 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Carntogher').	£100,000 (subject to funding)	5 Years+
CA5	9	Glenone	n/a	n/a	The site at Glenone is an active green space including Fishing Stands. Public access and angling currently exists at this location. It is anticipated that the Fishing Stands will benefit from funding under MUDC Capital Programme 2016 – 2020 to make structural improvements subject to match funding (Figure 8 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Carntogher').	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+

TABLE 28 CARNTOGHER OPEN/GREEN SPACE AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Map Zone	Park/Play Park ID	Facility Name	Quality Score	LEAP/NEAP Status	Overview	Indicative Cost	Timing
Bespoke Woodland Play	Site 1	Derrynoyd Forest	N/A	Significant Woodland Play element	It is suggested that Derrynoyd Forest would benefit from a small, bespoke, woodland play element. It is felt that this would complement the recommendations made in the Outdoor Recreation Strategic Plan (2017) to enhance the outdoor recreation provision at this site (Table 12 Bespoke Woodland Play Locations).	£50,000 (subject to funding)	5 Years+

TABLE 29 CARNTOGHER SIGNIFICANT AND SMALL BESPOKE WOODLAND PLAY RECOMMENDATIONS

Totals							Total
							£25,000*

TABLE 30 CARNTOGHER INDICATIVE COSTS

**Total excludes RDP expenditure, contingency @ 10% and those estimated costs occurring after 5 years*

8.8. Moyola

Play provision within Moyola DEA is located in the main towns and villages. With 9 play locations and 7 open/green space sites, this DEA boasts 3 NEAP facilities as shown in Figure 19. The NEAP at Hunters Park is one of the most established Parks in Mid Ulster and dates back to the 1950s. With a significant community footprint, this site continues to be an important location not only in terms of play but also offering an appropriate setting for an Eco-Park development similar to that at Aughnacloy. Hunters Park could also assist in the relocation of the allotments from the Seamus Heaney HomePlace offering a number of additional plots at this site. Hunters Park would require improved access and lighting to facilitate this potential development.

It is planned that Mill Park Tobermore will receive £38,103 from the Rural Development Programme - Village Renewal. It is envisaged this funding will extend the existing play facility with the addition of low level lighting at the site also. Mill Park provides opportunity for development of an open/green space to become a public park that is suitable for walking through an improved path network, landscaping, an events area as well as basic facilities.

The parkland surrounding the Moykeeran site in Draperstown also provides an opportunity for the community to benefit from a public park facility with enhanced walking provision through landscaping, lighting and maintenance of paths. This path network could hold potential for walkers and runners alike and even provide pockets of natural play for younger user groups. With increased recreation potential, there would be a requirement for improved visitor facilities including car park, toilets etc. In the interim, the current play facilities will continue to exist within their current form, with some enhancement to improve the quality score.

The 6 zones within Moyola mapped in Figure 19 are shown in detail in the accompanying 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Moyola'. In this report, maps showing the current provision are mapped against population of 0-15 year olds as well as household pointer data. The recommendations made within Table 31 are then shown to provide a visual of how the recommendations could potentially shape play provision in Moyola.

Table 31 Moyola Public Park/Play Park Recommendations details the public parks/play parks that fall within the Moyola DEA boundary along with proposed recommendations for each. For more detailed analysis, please refer to 'Mid Ulster Maps Report – Moyola' as necessary.

Table 32 also details the open/green space sites within Moyola and associated recommendations.

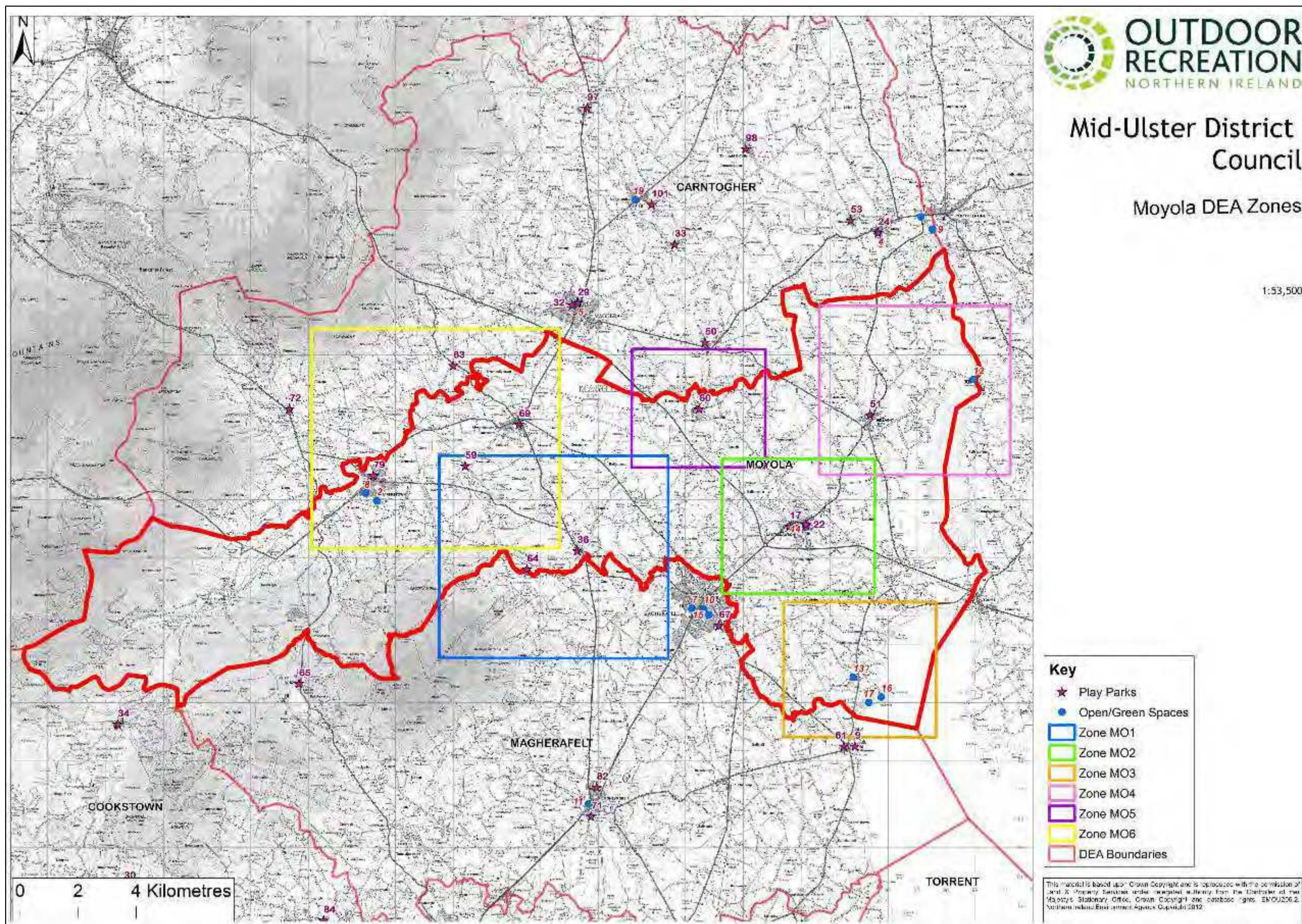


FIGURE 19 MOYOLA DEA OVERVIEW

Map Quadrant	Public Park/ Play Park ID	Name of Facility	Quality Score	LEAP/NEAP Status	Overview	Indicative Cost	Timings
MO1	36	Desertmartin	8.8	LEAP	Desertmartin will continue to exist as a LEAP and will be monitored and maintained to ensure it provides high quality play provision (Figure 1 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Moyola').	£25,000	Year 5
MO1	59	Kilross	10	LEAP	Kilross will continue to exist as a LEAP and will be monitored and maintained to ensure it provides high quality play provision (Figure 1 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Moyola').	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+
MO1	64	Longfield	9	LEAP	Longfield will continue to exist as a LEAP. However, a review of current stock is required. This site will be monitored and maintained to ensure it provides high quality play provision (Figure 1 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Moyola').	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+
MO2	17	Boyne Row	5	LEAP	Boyne Row will continue to exist as a LEAP but given the quality score of play equipment it is suggested that this site undergoes continued maintenance with a degree of enhancement (Figure 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Moyola').	£25,000	Year 1
MO2	22	Castledawson	10	LEAP	Castledawson will continue to exist as a LEAP and will be monitored and maintained to ensure it provides high quality play provision (Figure 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Moyola').	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+
MO4	51	Hunters Park	9.2	NEAP	The play provision at Hunters Park will be retained in its current form with a degree of enhancement. However, it is suggested that this site undergoes further development with regards it's open/ green space as detailed in the table below (Figure 5 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Moyola').	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+
MO5	60	Knockloughrim	6.3	LEAP	Knockloughrim will continue to exist as a LEAP but given the quality score of play equipment, it is suggested that this site undergoes continued maintenance with a degree of enhancement (Figure 6 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Moyola').	£25,000	Year 1
MO6	69	Mill Park	9.4	NEAP	In line with the Rural Development Programme - Village Renewal, it is planned that Tobermore will benefit from £38,103 in order to extend the existing play facility with the addition of low level lighting also. Mill Park also provides opportunity for development of its open/green space to become a public park that is suitable for walking through an improved path network, landscaping, an events area as well as basic facilities (Figure 7 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Moyola').	RDP* £100,000 (subject to match funding)	Year 1 5 Years+
MO6	79	Moykeeran	7.2	NEAP	Moykeeran offers potential for parkland development with works including landscaping, lighting and maintenance of existing paths. The land at the top of the pathway could be used for a pump track with possible exercise equipment along the path network for runners or alternatively pockets of natural play. With increased recreation potential, there would also be a requirement for improved facilities including a car park, toilets etc. In the interim, the current play facilities will continue to exist within their current form, with some enhancement to improve the quality score (Figure 7 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Moyola').	£100,000	5 Years+

TABLE 31 MOYOLA PUBLIC PARK/PLAY PARK RECOMMENDATIONS

Map Quadrant	Public Park/ Play Park ID	Name of Facility	Quality Score	LEAP/NEAP Status	Overview	Indicative Cost	Timings
MO6	2	Cahore Road	n/a	n/a	The open space at Cahore Road is considered surplus to Council requirements.	n/a	TBC
MO6	8	Glenelly Villas	n/a	n/a	Glenelly Villas is a disused play site with no development potential and is considered surplus to Council requirements.	n/a	TBC
MO4	51	Hunters Park	9.2	NEAP	Hunters Park provides an appropriate setting for an Eco-Park (similar to that provided at Aughnacloy). Enhanced access and lighting would also be incorporated into the suggested works at this site as well as relocating the allotments from the Seamus Heaney HomePlace (Figure 5 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Moyola').	£125,000 (subject to funding)	5 Years+
MO4	12	Newferry Slipway	n/a	n/a	This is an active public slipway. There is development potential at this site including the linear riverside link to Glenone.	TBC	TBC
MO3	13	O'Neill Park	n/a	LEAP	In line with Council's current Capital Projects, O'Neill Park is a potential development site for a LEAP facility. No current provision currently exists on site. Funding of £50,000 planned for this location under MUDC Capital Programme 2016 – 2020 (Figures 3 & 4 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Moyola').	£50,000 (subject to funding)	5 Years+
MO2	14	Parkview/Riverside - Castledawson	n/a	n/a	Playing fields and allotments are located at this site. A former Community House and play site are also situated close by which are currently under NIHE ownership. Mid Ulster Council is currently seeking a transfer of land and facility from NIHE to Council (Figure 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Moyola').	£150,000 (subject to funding)	5 Years+
MO3	16	Tradd Point	n/a	n/a	Current Capital development project with potential (Figures 3 & 4 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Moyola').	TBC	TBC
MO3	17	Tradd House	n/a	n/a	Current Capital development project with potential (Figures 3 & 4 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Moyola').	TBC	TBC

TABLE 32 MOYOLA OPEN/GREEN SPACE AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Map Zone	Park/Play Park ID	Facility Name	Quality Score	LEAP/NEAP Status	Overview	Indicative Cost	Timing
Bespoke Woodland Play	Site 1	Traad Point	N/A	Small Woodland Play element	It is suggested that Traad Point would benefit from a small, bespoke, woodland play element. It is felt that this would complement the recommendations made in the Outdoor Recreation Strategic Plan 2017, to enhance the outdoor recreation provision at this site (Table 12 Bespoke Woodland Play Locations).	£25,000 (subject to funding)	5 Years+
Bespoke Woodland Play	Site 1	Drumlamph Forest	N/A	Small Woodland Play element	It is suggested that Drumlamph Forest would benefit from a small, bespoke, woodland play element. It is felt that this would complement the recommendations made in the Outdoor Recreation Strategic Plan 2017, to enhance the outdoor recreation provision at this site (Table 12 Bespoke Woodland Play Locations).	£50,000 (subject to funding)	5 Years+

TABLE 33 MOYOLA SIGNIFICANT AND SMALL BESPOKE WOODLAND PLAY RECOMMENDATIONS

Totals							Total
							£75,000*

TABLE 34 MOYOLA INDICATIVE COSTS

**Total excludes RDP expenditure, contingency @ 10% and those estimated costs occurring after 5 years*

8.9. Torrent

Torrent benefits from a number of Lough shore public park/play park sites as well as some key in-land locations. Currently a capital development project namely, Gortgonis will incorporate improvements to play provision through further enhancement to one of 5 Play Hubs within the District. As previously stated, play hubs have been considered based on geographic distribution, capacity of site, current status/classification, existing facilities, footfall and access (Figure 1 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Torrent').

In line with Village Plans for the Torrent DEA, there is a development schedule for Henderson Park with the development of a NEAP/LEAP to be included. This development also holds potential for the relocation of the play provision at Stewartstown to a larger site within Henderson Park.

The 6 zones within Torrent are mapped in Figure 20 and are shown in detail in the accompanying 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Torrent' document. In this report, maps showing the current provision are mapped against population of 0-15 year olds as well as household pointer data. The recommendations made within Table 35 are then shown to provide a visual of how the recommendations could potentially shape play provision in Torrent.

Table 35 details the public parks/play parks that fall within the Torrent DEA boundary along with proposed recommendations for each. For more detailed analysis, please refer to 'Mid Ulster Maps Report – Torrent' as necessary.

Table 36 outlines the open/green space recommendations for Torrent, namely Henderson Park while Table 37 details recommendations for potential Woodland Play sites in Torrent.

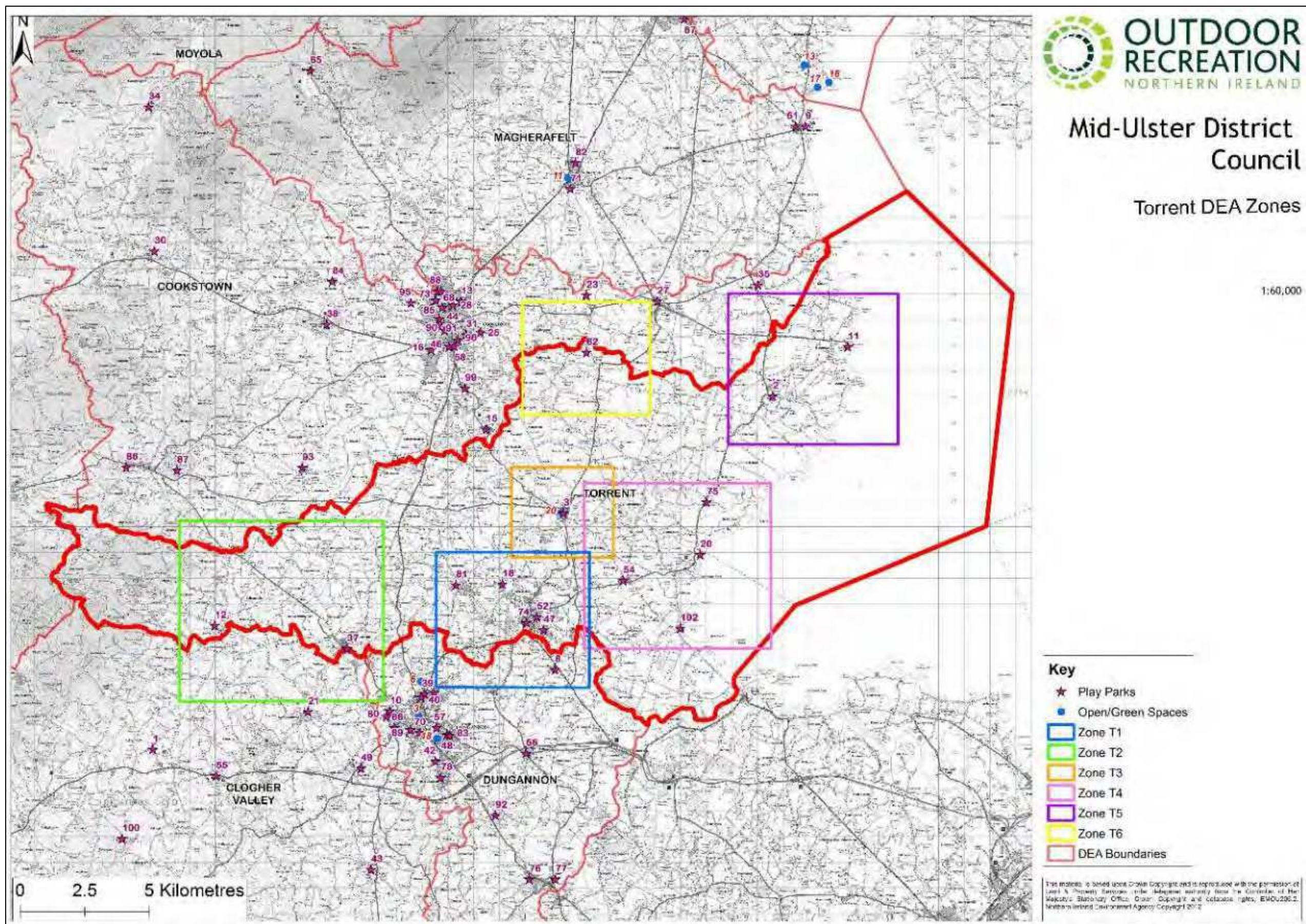


FIGURE 20 TORRENT DEA OVERVIEW

Map Quadrant	Public Park/ Play Park ID	Name of Facility	Quality Score	LEAP/NEAP Status	Overview	Indicative Cost	Timings
T1	18	Brackaville	6.8	LEAP	Brackaville will continue to exist as a LEAP but given the quality score of play equipment it is suggested that this site undergoes continued maintenance with a degree of enhancement (Figures 1 & 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Torrent').	£25,000	Year 2
T1	47	Gortgonis	7.2	NEAP	Given the future development plans for Gortgonis, it is suggested that Gortgonis is further enhanced to one of 5 play hubs within the District. Play Hubs have been considered based on geographic distribution, capacity of site, current status/classification, existing facilities, footfall and access (Figures 1 & 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Torrent').	£100,000 (subject to funding)	5 Years+
T1	52	Innishmore	6	MUGA	It is suggested that Innishmore undergoes a change of use from a MUGA to a LEAP to better serve the surrounding community (Figures 1 & 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Torrent'). This project is subject to funding via Gortgonis Community Hub Development Project.	£40,000 (subject funding via Gortgonis Community Hub Development Project)*	Year 2
T1	74	Mountcairn Coalisland	9	LEAP	Mountcairn will continue to exist as a LEAP and will be monitored and maintained to ensure it provides high quality play provision (Figures 1 & 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Torrent').	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+
T1	81	Newmills	9.7	LEAP	Newmills will continue to exist as a LEAP and will continue to be monitored and maintained to ensure it provides high quality play provision (Figures 1 & 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Torrent').	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+
T2	12	Beechline, Galbally	8.3	LEAP	Beechline, Galbally will continue to exist as a LEAP and will be monitored and maintained to ensure it continues to provide high quality play provision (Figure 3 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Torrent').	£25,000	Year 5
T2	37	Donaghmore	6.7	LEAP	Donaghmore will continue to exist as a LEAP with MUGA but given the quality score of play equipment, it is suggested that this site undergoes continued maintenance with a degree of enhancement (Figure 3 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Torrent').	£25,000	Year 2
T3	3	Ardstewart, Stewartstown	9	LEAP	There are two options available for the play provision at Ardstewart - the site will continue to exist as a LEAP. Alternatively, the current site could be reviewed based on its recommended life span with development of a new play location at Henderson Park (Figures 4 & 5 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Torrent').	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+
T4	20	Castlebay, Brocagh	7.5	MUGA	In line with the Rural Development Programme - Village Renewal, it is planned that Brocagh will benefit from £38,103 (Figure 6 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Torrent').	RDP*	Year 2
T4	54	Killeen	10	LEAP	Killeen will continue to exist as a LEAP and will be monitored and maintained to ensure it provides high quality play provision (Figure 6 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Torrent').	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+

T4	75	Mourneview, Carnan	8.3	LEAP	Mourneview will continue to exist as a LEAP and will be monitored and maintained to ensure it provides high quality play provision (Figure 6 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Torrent').	£25,000	Year 5
T4	102	Washingbay	7.4	LEAP	Washing Bay will continue to exist as a LEAP but given the quality score of play equipment, it is suggested that this site undergoes continued maintenance with a degree of enhancement (Figure 6 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Torrent').	£25,000	Year 3
T5	2	Ardboe	9.7	LEAP	In line with village plans, it is anticipated that the fixed play provision at Ardboe is relocated to a more central location within the neighbouring housing development. Until such time, the Ardboe site will be monitored and maintained to ensure it continues to provide high quality of play provision (Figure 7 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Torrent').	£50,000	5 Years+
T5	11	Battery Harbour	7.2	LEAP	Battery Harbour will continue to exist as a LEAP but given the quality score of play equipment, it is suggested that this site undergoes continued maintenance with a degree of enhancement (Figure 7 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Torrent').	£25,000	Year 3
T6	62	Lisnahall	6.7	LEAP	Lisnahall will continue to exist as a LEAP but given the quality score of play equipment, it is suggested that this site undergo continued maintenance and enhancement (Figure 8 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Torrent').	£25,000	Year 2
Site unmapped	n/a	Annaghmore/Clone	n/a	TBC	In line with the Rural Development Programme - Village Renewal, it is planned that Annaghmore/Clone will benefit from £38,103.	RDP*	Year 2

TABLE 35 TORRENT PUBLIC PARK/PLAY PARK RECOMMENDATIONS

Map Quadrant	Public Park/Play Park ID	Name of Facility	Quality Score	LEAP/NEAP Status	Overview	Indicative Cost	Timings
T3	20	Henderson Park	n/a	n/a	Henderson Park will benefit from £38,103 through the Rural Development Programme - Village Renewal. The village plan outlined a development schedule for Henderson Park with the development of a NEAP/LEAP to be included. This development also holds potential for the relocation of the play provision at Stewartstown to a larger site within Henderson Park. There is also future potential to extend development around the play site to create a public park facility at Henderson Park.	RDP* £50,000 (subject to funding)	Year 2 5 Years+

TABLE 36 TORRENT OPEN/GREEN SPACE AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Map	Small/Significant Park ID	Facility Name	Quality Score	Proposed Status	Overview	Indicative Cost	Timing
Bespoke Woodland Play	Site 1	Cookstown (Drumcairne) Forest	N/A	Small Woodland Play element	It is suggested that Cookstown (Drumcairne) Forest would benefit from a small, bespoke, woodland play element. It is felt that this would complement the recommendations made in the Outdoor Recreation Strategic Plan (2017) to enhance the outdoor recreation provision at this site (Table 12 Bespoke Woodland Play Locations).	£25,000 (subject to funding)	5 Years+

TABLE 37 TORRENT SMALL BESPOKE WOODLAND PLAY RECOMMENDATIONS

Totals							Total
							£175,000*

Table 38 Torrent Indicative Costs

**Total excludes RDP expenditure, Innishmore £40k funded proposal, contingency @ 10% and those estimated costs occurring after 5 years*

8.10. Clogher Valley

Due to its size and scale, play provision within Clogher Valley is widely dispersed with Granville and Eglis in the east of the DEA and Fivemiletown Fairgreen at the very western edge. However, this DEA currently benefits from a substantial amount of funding from the Rural Development Fund under the Village Renewal measure, improving facilities for its rural communities

Furthermore, in line with the strategic approach to play provision in Mid Ulster, it is suggested that the site at The Roundlake is upgraded to one of the five District Play Hubs. As previously stated, play hubs have been considered based on geographic distribution, capacity of site, current status/classification, existing facilities, footfall and access in comparison with other sites within the DEA and indeed Mid Ulster as a whole. Other sites in Clogher Valley were considered for this provision within the play matrix including Ballygawley. However, it is suggested that Augher and Ballygawley (through RDP) as well as Clogher and Fivemiletown should benefit from enhanced play facilities ensuring equal provision across these villages. In addition, due to the importance of the Roundlake, it is felt that this site should be developed further raising its status to a public park facility for Clogher Valley. It is estimated that development of the Roundlake site would cost upwards of £200,000.

The 7 zones within Clogher Valley are mapped in Figure 21 and are shown in detail in the accompanying 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Clogher Valley' document. In this report, maps showing the current provision are mapped against population of 0-15 year olds as well as household pointer data. The recommendations made within Table 39 are also shown providing a visual of how the recommendations could potentially shape play provision in Clogher Valley.

Table 39 details the public parks/play parks that fall within the Clogher Valley DEA boundary along with proposed recommendations for each while Table 40 outlines the proposals for significant and small bespoke woodland play within Clogher Valley Forests. For more detailed analysis, please refer to 'Mid Ulster Maps Report – Clogher Valley' as necessary.

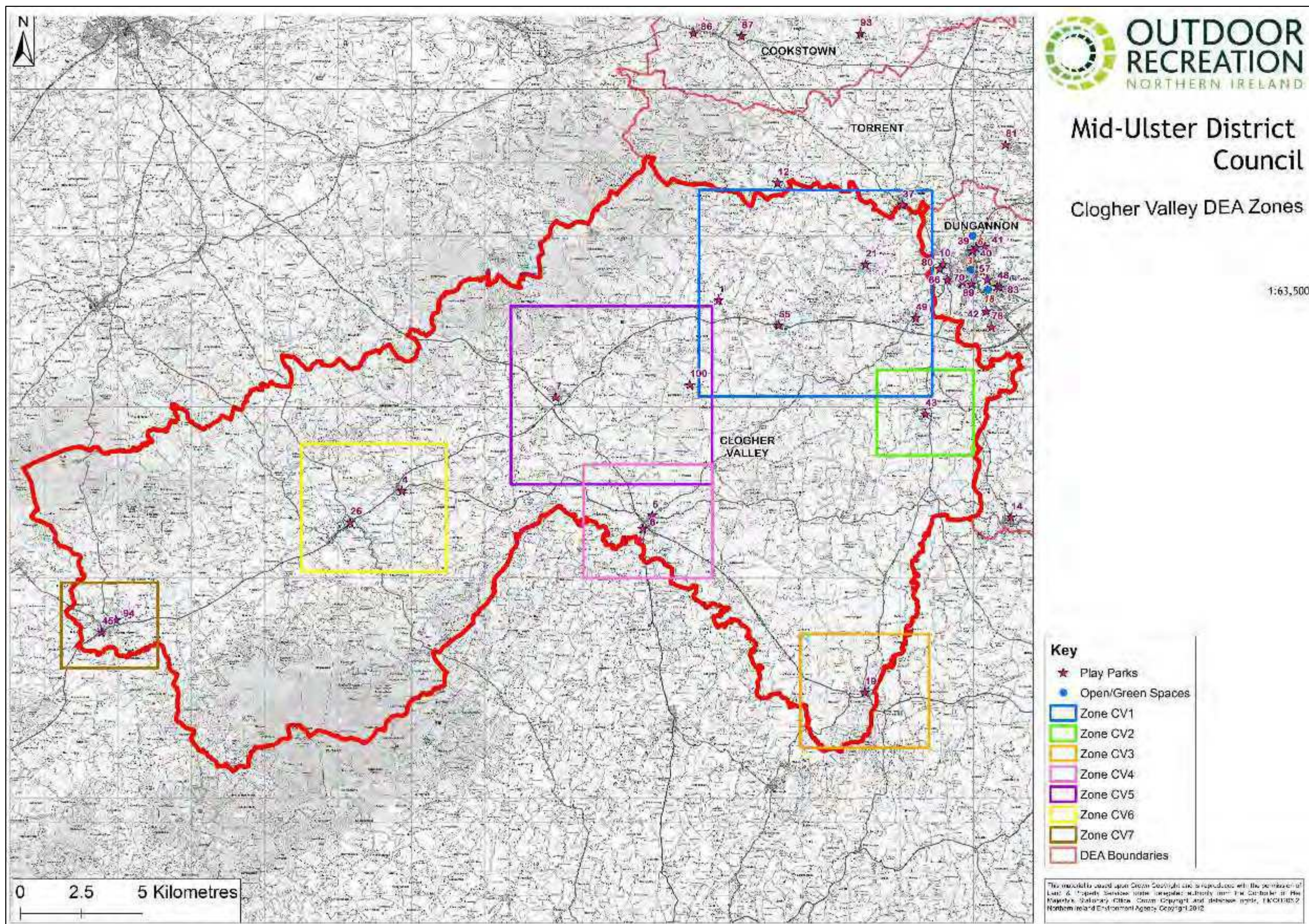


FIGURE 21 CLOGHER VALLEY DEA OVERVIEW

Map Quadrant	Public Park/ Play Park ID	Name of Facility	Quality Score	LEAP/NEAP Status	Overview	Indicative Cost	Timings
CV1	1	Ackinduff	10	LEAP	Ackinduff will continue to exist as a LEAP and will be monitored and maintained to ensure it continues to provide high quality play provision (Figures 1 & 2, 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Clogher Valley').	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+
CV1	21	Castlecaulfield	8.3	LEAP	In line with the Rural Development Programme - Village Renewal, it is planned that Castlecaulfield will benefit from £17,000 (Figures 1 & 2, 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Clogher Valley').	RDP*	Year 2
CV1	49	Granville	9.7	LEAP	In line with the Rural Development Programme - Village Renewal, it is planned that Granville will benefit from £38,103 in order to enhance existing play facilities (Figures 1 & 2, 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Clogher Valley').	RDP*	Year 1
CV1	55	Killymaddy	2	LEAP	Once a Tourist Information Centre (TIC) site, a small area of play was provided at Killymaddy. However with the TIC no longer on site and given the poor quality rating of play at Killymaddy, it is suggested that the fixed play provision is removed and the site undergoes a change of use. It is acknowledged that this proposal should be considered at community consultation (Figures 1 & 2, 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Clogher Valley').	Maintenance Budget	Year 1
CV2	43	Eglish	8.8	LEAP	In line with the Rural Development Programme - Village Renewal, it is planned that Eglish will benefit from £17,000 in order to enhance existing play facilities within the village (Figure 3 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Clogher Valley').	RDP*	Year 1
CV3	19	Caledon	6.8	LEAP	In line with the Rural Development Programme - Village Renewal, it is planned that Caledon will benefit from £38,103 in order to enhance existing play facilities (Figure 4 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Clogher Valley').	RDP*	Year 1
CV4	5	Aughnacloy	8.6	LEAP	The site at Aughnacloy offers potential to be developed into a NEAP close to where the playing fields are located (an Eco Park and sports changing facilities are already located here) Figures 5 & 6, 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Clogher Valley'.	£50,000	Year 5
CV4	6	Aughnacloy - Coronation Park	7.3	LEAP	Given the potential development within Aughnacloy, it is suggested that Coronation Park should be reviewed based on its recommended life span as the potential NEAP will cater for the wider community in Aughnacloy (Figures 5 & 6, 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Clogher Valley').	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+
CV5	7	Ballygawley	8.5	LEAP	In line with the Rural Development Programme – Village Renewal, it is planned that Ballygawley will benefit from £51,000 in order to enhance existing play, extension to existing perimeter and carry out resurfacing. This will address the high density of households surrounding the Ballygawley site. It is suggested that this location is further developed into a NEAP (Figures 7 & 8 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Clogher Valley').	RDP*	Year 1
CV5	100	U.S. Grants	7.5	LEAP	Given the quality score of equipment at U.S. Grants, it is suggested that this site undergoes continued maintenance with a degree of enhancement (Figures 7 & 8 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Clogher Valley').	£25,000	Year 4

CV6	4	Augher	10	LEAP	In line with the Rural Development Programme - Village Renewal, it is planned that Augher will benefit from £38,103 in order to enhance existing play (Figures 9 & 10 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Clogher Valley').	RDP*	Year 1
CV6	26	Clogher	7	LEAP	Clogher will be enhanced from a LEAP with MUGA to a NEAP with MUGA to better serve those aged between 0-15 years (Figures 9 & 10 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Clogher Valley'). While capacity is limited at the Clogher site, it is recognised that Council may need to investigate additional land in the area in order to adequately cater for the youthful population.	£50,000	Year 3
CV7	45	Fivemiletown Fairgreen	4.6	LEAP	In line with the Rural Development Programme - Village Renewal, it is planned that Fivemiletown Fairgreen will benefit from £160,000 in order to enhance the current LEAP to a NEAP (Figure 11 & 12 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Clogher Valley').	RDP*	Year 1
CV7	94	Roundlake, Fivemiletown	5.5	LEAP	It is anticipated that the LEAP status of Roundlake is further enhanced to one of 5 play hubs within the District. Play Hubs have been considered based on geographic distribution, capacity of site, current status/classification, existing facilities, footfall and access (Figures 11 & 12 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Clogher Valley'). In addition, it is suggested that the Roundlake undergoes additional development to increase its status to a public park for the DEA of Clogher Valley.	£100,000 (subject to funding) £100,000	5 Years+ 5 Years+

TABLE 39 CLOGHER VALLEY PUBLIC PARK/PLAY PARK RECOMMENDATIONS

Map Zone	Park/Play Park ID	Facility Name	Quality Score	LEAP/NEAP Status	Overview	Indicative Cost	Timing
Bespoke Woodland Play	Site 1	Knockmany Forest	N/A	Small Woodland Play element	It is suggested that Knockmany Forest would benefit from a small, bespoke, woodland play element. It is felt that this would complement the recommendations made in the Outdoor Recreation Strategic Plan (2017) to enhance the outdoor recreation provision at this site (Table 12 Bespoke Woodland Play Locations).	£25,000 (subject to funding)	5 Years+
Bespoke Woodland Play	Site 2	Brantry Lough and Forest	N/A	Small Woodland Play element	It is suggested that Brantry Lough and Forest would benefit from a small, bespoke, woodland play element. It is felt that this would complement the recommendations made in the Outdoor Recreation Strategic Plan (2017) to enhance the outdoor recreation provision at this site (Table 12 Bespoke Woodland Play Locations).	5 Years+ (subject to funding)	5 Years+
Bespoke Woodland Play	Site 3	Parkanaur	N/A	Significant Woodland Play element	It is suggested that Parkanaur would benefit from a significant, bespoke, woodland play element. It is felt that this would complement the recommendations made in the Outdoor Recreation Strategic Plan (2017) to enhance the outdoor recreation provision at this site (Table 12 Bespoke Woodland Play Locations).	£50,000 (subject to funding)	5 Years+

TABLE 40 CLOGHER VALLEY SIGNIFICANT AND SMALL BESPOKE WOODLAND PLAY RECOMMENDATIONS

Totals							Total
							£125,000*

TABLE 41 CLOGHER VALLEY INDICATIVE COSTS

**Total excludes RDP expenditure, contingency @ 10% and those estimated costs occurring after 5 years*

9. Case Studies

9.1. Nature Play at Tollymore and Castlewellan

Aim:

The project at Castlewellan was developed to help deliver a strategic vision for the redevelopment of Castlewellan Forest Park positioning it as a key outdoor recreation and activity tourism venue. Designed for four to eleven year olds, 'Animal Wood' in Castlewellan Forest Park and the 'Big Deer' in Tollymore Forest Park are aimed at bringing each park's natural and built heritage to life whilst providing a safe environment for children to play and interact with the outdoors.

Background:

These developments represent a shift away from traditional catalogue play parks which aim to help encourage an important 'early years connection' with nature and woodland environments resulting in a host of health benefits from physical development to mental and emotional well-being.

'Animal Wood' incorporates a short path with wild woodland animals including a badger and its den, a red squirrel and a giant spider. In addition, it boasts a wooden play structure with a tower in the image of The Moorish Tower where children can enjoy the climbing wall, fireman's pole and rope-bridge over to a hollow tree stump slide and Red Kite nest. In Tollymore, the aptly named 'Big Deer' includes a giant timber Fallow Deer, castle turret, folly tower and hollow tree all connected through a series of rope-bridges, tunnels, spider webs, basket swings and slides.

Result:

Both these new play facilities were managed by Outdoor Recreation Northern Ireland having secured funding through the NGO Challenge Fund (Forest Service Northern Ireland) administered by NI Environment Link alongside Down District Council. This example shows how a shared vision and effective partnerships between Forest Service Northern Ireland, Down District Council and Outdoor Recreation NI help develop and shape a wealth of recreation facilities across Northern Ireland.

Estimated costs:

£80,000 (across both projects)



FIGURE 22 ANIMAL WOOD AT CASTLEWELLAN FOREST PARK



FIGURE 23 'BIG DEER' AT TOLLYMORE FOREST PARK

9.2. Diversity Park at Flowerfields – Portstewart

Aim:

In September 2013, the Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council opened Diversity Park in Portstewart. Taking on board the views and needs of consumers and stakeholders in the delivery of Council Services, the decision to develop an all-ability play park suitable for children and young people of all ages was taken.

Background:

Council undertook several research methods, reviewed relevant legislation as well as Council's current Disability Action Plan. The consultation with relevant agencies including governing bodies and a local special school proved to be invaluable in assessing the needs of those with disabilities within the Borough. While Council recognised its playparks included inclusive pieces of equipment, it acknowledged its stock did not address some of the sensory needs highlighted through the consultation process. Further research and analysis of a number of sites within the Borough was carried out within the Council's estate led to Flowerfields Arts Centre being chosen as the preferred

Result:

Council opted to develop a new park with landscaping and sensory paths to provide a suitable inclusive spectrum of sensory experiences for both disabled and non-disabled children. In addition, and of equal importance, Council installed a number of disabled toilets as well a fully equipped changing area to allow all children and young people to avail of (visitor) services in an equal manner as outlined in Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998.

In the very short time it has been open, Diversity Park has aimed to change how diversity is seen. It is a site that facilitates all who use it and by being inclusive it is not exclusive to those with special or complex needs – the elderly grandparent within the family group, a parent with young child in a buggy, a wheelchair using partner or a group of students with learning difficulties are all accommodated, everyone is welcome and catered for at this facility.

Estimated costs:

£250,000



FIGURE 25 SENSORY APPARATUS AT FLOWERFIELDS



FIGURE 24 PLAY EQUIPMENT AT FLOWERFIELDS

9.3. National Trust – Mount Stewart

Aim:

The 'Magic Ink Pot' aims to provide natural play in a setting in which families can play and learn. Children develop an affinity with nature and let their imagination run wild with balance beams, stepping logs, traversing beams, tree cave, squirrel run, see-saw / teeter-totter, and sea dragon climbing frame.

Background:

Natural play at Mount Stewart has taken on an extra dimension with the structures based around the stories penned by Lady Londonderry. Edith, Lady Londonderry wrote these stories for her children combining ideas from fairy tales and Irish legends. She called it "The Magic Inkpot" after a well-known object in the house. In the book, the inkpot is transformed into Dagda Mor, the ancient Irish King of the fairies and takes two of the children, Mairi and Robin on exciting and marvellous adventures. Dagda Mor is always there to intervene in times of trouble, but the children are also protected by the Stewart Dragon, magically brought to life from the Londonderry coat of arms.

Result:

It is clear to see that the materials used at Mount Stewart are not only in-keeping with its environment within the woodland but it offers challenging, natural play which combined with creative storytelling, inspires children to develop their imaginations which is important in children's cognitive development.

Estimated Costs: Work carried out in-house by National Trust and volunteers.



FIGURE 26 WOODEN CHARACTER CARVINGS FROM THE 'MAGIC INK POT'



FIGURE 27 BALANCE BEAMS AND WOOD CARVINGS AT MOUNT STEWART



FIGURE 28 UPTURNED TREES AND STORY CHAIR FROM THE 'MAGIC INK POT' AT MOUNT STEWART

9.4. National Trust – Bishops Play Trail

Aim:

Part of the Downhill Demesne at Bishop's Gate, this relatively new play development is aimed to entertain the kids during family walks.

Background:

The trail was built mainly from Downhill's resources with the National Trust team at Downhill taking the opportunity to use what they already had on the Estate. As part of their woodland management plan they began thinning out selected trees. This helped encourage greater growth of specialist trees and provide a healthier woodland thus benefiting both projects. Woodchip for the ground was provided by chipping fallen tree branches from across the estate.

Result:

Tackling the spider's web, climbing the causeway stones and challenging the walking see-saw are just some of the adventures on offer at the Bishop's Trail. The Trail is accessible all year round and everyone is encouraged to give it a go, young and old alike. It also links in the National Trust 50 things to do before 11 ¾ activities.

Estimated Costs: Work carried out in-house by National Trust



FIGURE 29 NATURAL SIGNAGE AT BISHOPS PLAY TRAIL



FIGURE 30 BALANCE BEAMS AT BISHOPS PLAY TRAIL



FIGURE 31 NATURAL CARVINGS AT BISHOPS PLAY TRAIL



FIGURE 32 NATURAL CLIMBING STRUCTURES AT BISHOPS PLAY TRAIL

10. Funding

A number of funding schemes have been investigated including Ulster Garden Villages, Land Fill Tax funding (including Ulster Wildlife, Biffa and Groundwork NI) and Everybody Active 20:20 – Outdoor Spaces. Council's non-charitable status however means it does not meet the criteria for the aforementioned schemes. However, Council in association with its community groups and associations may be eligible for Big Lottery and Heritage Lottery funding. In addition, a number of villages highlighted within the Strategy are already benefiting from RDP funding and it is worth noting that some of the development highlighted within this works programme may be eligible for support from RDP in the future.

10.1. Big Lottery

The 'People and Communities' programme is designed to support projects that work with local people to bring about positive changes in a community. Projects must meet the three key themes of –

- **People-led:** local people are meaningfully involved in development, design and delivery
- **Strengths-based:** supports people and communities to build on knowledge, skills and experience they already have to make the changes they want
- **Connected:** projects demonstrate a good understanding of other activities and services in the community and how the project complements these.

Grants range from £30,000 to £500,000 for projects lasting 2-5 years. Grants for small scale capital projects is capped at £100,000 but up to 100% of costs.

Eligible applicants are voluntary or community groups such as a charity, co-operative, social enterprise or community interest company. Partnerships are also eligible where the lead partner is one of the above.

The programme is open for applications all year round. To apply, applicants must phone and discuss the project with a Project Officer. Only if the project is deemed to 'ready' will the applicant be invited to submit an application form. A decision is typically given within 4 months.

For more information see - <https://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/peopleandcommunities>

10.2. Heritage Lottery Fund

10.2.1. Our Heritage

The Our Heritage open programme is for any type of project related to national, regional or local heritage in the UK.

Under Our Heritage, HLF accept applications from not-for-profit organisations, private owners of heritage and partnerships. If individuals or for-profit organisations are involved, the public benefit from the project must be greater than any private gain.

Grants of £10,000 to £100,000 are available at up to 100%. There are no application deadlines for this programme; applications can be made at any time and are turned around within 8 weeks.

More information is available at: <https://www.hlf.org.uk/looking-funding/our-grant-programmes>

10.2.2. Heritage Grants

The Heritage Grants open programme is for any type of project related to the national, regional or local heritage in the UK. Under this programme, HLF fund applications from not-for-profit organisations; and partnerships led by not-for-profit organisations.

The application process is in two rounds with success at stage 2 involving substantial development work.

Funding is available from £100,000 up to £2 million or £5 million.

For those applying for grants of less than £1million, applicants must provide at least 5% of the development costs and 5% of the delivery phase costs

For those applying for grants of more than £1million, applicants must provide at least 10% of the development costs and 10% of the delivery phase costs

More information is available at: <https://www.hlf.org.uk/looking-funding/our-grant-programmes>

10.2.3. Parks and Places

The Parks for People programme is for projects related to historic parks and cemeteries in the UK.

Under this programme, HLF fund applications from not-for-profit organisations and partnerships led by not-for-profit organisations.

The application process is in two rounds with success at stage 2 involving substantial development work. Funding is available from £100,000 up to £5 million.

For those applying for grants of less than £1million, applicants must provide at least 5% of the development costs and 5% of the delivery phase costs

For those applying for grants of more than £1million, applicants must provide at least 10% of the development costs and 10% of the delivery phase costs

More information is available at: <https://www.hlf.org.uk/looking-funding/our-grant-programmes>

10.3. Rural Development Programme (2014-2020)

The Rural Development Programme (RDP) is jointly funded through the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) and the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) and is administered in Northern Ireland by DAERA. It supports a range of projects with the aim of developing the economic potential of rural areas.

10.3.1. Basic Services Scheme

The Basic Services Scheme supports capital investments which provide access to basic services or improvements in social infrastructure to improve the welfare and access of those living in rural areas which are an integral part of and in line with the Council Community Plan.

Capital grants available range from £5,000 to £250,000 up to 75%. Confirmation of match funding must be in place at the time of application with 5% from Council, 5% from the applicant and 15% other.

The following should be taken into consideration –

- to be eligible to apply, applicants must attend a pre-application workshop followed by submission of an Expression of Interest (Eoi) form.
- if the Eoi is successful, application will be asked to submit full application in addition to a business plan
- all procurement must be carried out at time of full application
- projects must relate directly to the MUDC's Community Plan
- projects with a total cost exceeding £250,000 require a greenbook economic appraisal
- evidence in form of a written letter from Planning Service for projects where planning permission is not required
- Mid Ulster Council submitted an EOI for Davagh Forest under 1st call

Decisions are circulated 90 days after deadline closes.

Applicants must attend mandatory workshops, the first round of which have already taken place in Mid Ulster see <http://www.midulstercouncil.org/Business/Rural-Development/Funding-Workshops>. It is anticipated there will be a 2nd call available.

10.3.2. Village Renewal Scheme Summary

At the time of report writing this scheme was still under development by Mid Ulster Rural Development Partnership (a recently formed Local Action Group). Full details of the Village Renewal Scheme have still to be confirmed but the following applies –

- the Scheme will provide financial support for the renewal of rural villages through village plans – this infers that any project which is included or specifically mentioned within the Village Plan will be eligible for funding through this scheme
- potential projects must fit with the Council's Community Plan – which this project does
- the purchase or lease of land is not eligible
- only local authorities (i.e. Councils) in partnership with local community associations are eligible to apply
- the maximum grant available is likely to be £200,000 at 75% for capital grants
- match funding of £25% must be provided by the Council
- there will be a call for Expressions of Interest with those successful asked to submit a full application with business case completed and all procurement carried out

For more information, contact Eamon Gallogly

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11. Revenue Resourcing

Resourcing the Strategy with appropriate staff is fundamental to its future delivery and ultimate success. Given that suggested Activity Centres, District Play Hubs and New Public Park proposals are heavily dependent on sourcing external funding streams and are scheduled beyond the initial five year delivery programme, immediate staff resources are not a requirement. Suggested staff requirements have been correlated as an indicator in relation to potential revenue costs and could be factored into development projects on a rolling basis.

Activity Centres

One part-time staff post at Ballyronan Marina, one full-time and one part-time posts at Fairhill and one part-time post at The Roundlake are proposed in order to support existing part-time resources at these proposed hub sites. It is suggested that the newly appointed staff at Fairhill will be based at the central public park site (Cookstown Central) and also provide supervisory services to all of the proposed NEAPs in Cookstown North, Cookstown South and Cookstown East and also the LEAP at Blackhill. Current staff provision at Dungannon Park, Gortgonis, Maghera Leisure Centre and Meadowbank Magherafelt will manage the hub provision at these sites, without any additional cost (see Appendix 3).

New Public Park and Play sites

Council currently has a number of play park Caretaker roles in place at Clady, Hunters, Moykeeran, Swatragh, Manor Park and Upperlands. It is envisaged that this resource would assist in the management of the public park proposals at these sites. Therefore it is anticipated that 2 similar 7hr per week posts would be created for Ballymacombs and Parkview/Riverside (see Appendix 3).

Put this all in the appendix 3.

12. Recommendations

12.1. Strategic

This Strategy has afforded the opportunity to review in detail public parks, play and open/green spaces sites across Mid Ulster. While the legacy Councils were committed to providing high quality play and public park provision, on reviewing the District as a whole, it has become apparent that this provision is no longer adequate in serving the population of Mid Ulster. A more strategic approach has led to the following recommendations which should be implemented over the life of the Strategy from 2017-2022. These include:

- Consultation – It is recommended that Council place consultation with the community at the centre of any proposed future development regards the recommendations for Activity Centres and District Play development as well as those sites considered on the basis of their recommended life span, change of use, enhancement, upgrade, relocation, new park development and woodland play provision. It is felt the proposals for the Activity Centres and District Play should undergo a thorough public consultation process with input from children and young people as well as representation from those with a disability. The establishment of a Steering Group made up of members of the community, Special Education representation as well as relevant agencies would be beneficial and is recommended (including but not limited to Disability Action, MENCAP, RNIB, Guide Dogs NI). In addition, it is felt that a Statistical Disabilities Analysis of children within Northern Ireland and more specifically Mid Ulster would further determine all-ability, facility need.
- Inclusive Play – As highlighted in the Mid Ulster Local Development Plan 2030 - Preferred Options Paper (Mid Ulster District Council, November 2016), planning must: “ensure that new open space areas and sporting facilities are convenient and accessible for all sections of society, particularly children, older people and those with disabilities”. Should Council embark on the process of developing two Activity Centres, it is recommended that these facilities are designed for the groups in need, with consideration being given to the young and those with disabilities. These all ability facilities will not only provide for the community of Mid Ulster but will also enhance the offering for the visitor. **Development of the activity centres would be subject to sourcing funding within a 5+year span.**
- Public Park Development – **Include reference to Railway Park development – estimated cost and subject to sourcing funding.** With a lack of open/green space in some DEA’s (e.g. Cookstown, Magherafelt and Moyola), it is suggested that Mid Ulster Council consider developing 14 of its current park sites and its open/green space sites into public parks as well as including a play element in its Forests. Potential new public park sites include: Ballymacombs - Carntogher, Castlehill - Dungannon, Clady - Carntogher, Fairhill - Cookstown, Henderson Park - Torrent, Hunters Park - Moyola, Manor Park - Magherafelt, Mill Park - Moyola, Moykeeran - Moyola, Railway Park - Dungannon, Parkview/Riverside - Moyola, Roundlake - Clogher Valley, Swatragh - Carntogher and Windmill Wood - Dungannon. **Public Park development would be subject to sourcing funding within a 5+year span.**
- Woodland Play – With a high concentration of woodland and forests across Mid Ulster, it is proposed that a Woodland Play element be developed in some of the key forest sites. This will add value to these locations for the local community and will help support visitor numbers.

8 Small Woodland Play sites and 5 Significant Woodland Play sites have been identified. The 8 Small Woodland Play site identified are: Knockmany Forest, Windmill Wood, Brantry Lough and Forest, Cabin Wood, Inniscarn Forest, Lissan House, Traad Point and Drumcairne Forest. The Significant Woodland Play sites identified include: Derrynoyd Forest, Parkanaur Forest, Pomeroy Forest, Drum Manor Forest and Drumlamph Forest. **Woodland Play development would be subject to sourcing funding within a 5+year span.**

- Public Parks and Play Strategy complemented by other Council Strategies – As highlighted above, this Strategy should be considered alongside other relevant Council Strategies including the Outdoor Recreation Strategy, Tourism Strategy and Sports Facility Strategy to ensure the recommendations in each achieve their full potential.
- Harness Community Relationships – The consultation process highlighted that Mid Ulster has strong community involvement with a number of groups developing recreational facilities for their own communities and successfully funding these programmes through relevant grants. One of the 5 themes in the Mid Ulster Council Community Plan is: *‘Vibrant and Safe Communities - promote and develop shared space across the area and make more use of existing facilities’*. Therefore, it is recommended that where gaps in provision exist, that Council work alongside the community including established community groups and associations as well as local sports clubs and other bodies such as schools and Forest Service.
- Assessments and Audits – While Quality Inspections take place on an annual basis, it is suggested that a Play Value Assessment takes place alongside the forthcoming Quality Audit. Play Value assessments consider the range of play types and the experiences that children derive from the equipment as well as locational and environmental factors and access issues. A Play Value Assessment will be instrumental when determining the enhancements, upgrades and relocations of play sites.
- Risk-Benefit Approach to Play – When considering future play development in Mid Ulster it is suggested that a Risk-Benefit Approach is adapted. The benefits of challenging play have been highlighted in previous sections but this is a relatively new way of thinking when developing fixed play. Health and safety considerations in the past have meant that play provision is somewhat lacking in challenging play which offers essential developmental skills. However, Council needs to consider that providing a high standard of play means that children and young people are challenged, whilst minimising unnecessary danger through a common-sense approach.
- Land availability – Land availability is at a premium across Mid Ulster, especially in the DEA of Magherafelt. However, this Strategy acknowledges the lack of provision of open/green space in Magherafelt and it is suggested that Council focus its efforts on investigating possible areas for development and work with other statutory bodies to identify potential sites e.g. Education Authority and Northern Ireland Housing Executive.
- Residential Planning – In line with Council’s Preferred Options Paper, it is suggested that Council adopt a strengthened policy approach to ensure that the loss of open space is prevented unless it can be demonstrated that redevelopment would bring substantial community benefit that outweighs the loss of the open space. This strengthened approach

takes account of the Regional Development Strategy, SPSS and the Local Development Plan objectives where the relevant criteria are met.

- Manned/Staff provision – Park sites that have a staffing element are proven to suffer reduced levels of anti-social behaviour and vandalism. While additional staff resources are not an immediate requirement, suggested staff requirements within the Strategy have been correlated as an indicator in relation to potential revenue costs and should be factored into development projects on a rolling basis. While the development of Activity Centres, District Play and new Public Park proposals are heavily dependent on sourcing external funding streams and are also scheduled beyond the initial five year delivery programme, **should** the number of these larger facilities **develop or increase, staffing will need to be reviewed. it is suggested that Council investigate increasing staffing levels with 1 x full time post and 5 part-time positions (2 x 7hrs/week, 1 x 15hrs/week, 2 x 25hrs/week contracts) as outlined in Appendix 3.**

12.2. Product Development:

The Strategy has identified a range of actions that have been attributed estimated costs in order to deliver. Timescales have been indicated were possible subject to available funding streams. **Development of Railway Park needs included here subject to funding and business case.**

Development	DEA	Park Site	Action	Year	Indicative Cost
Activity Centre Development (2)					
	Magherafelt	Ballyronan	Activity Centre	5 Years+	£250,000 (subject to funding)
	Dungannon	Dungannon Park	Activity Centre	5 Years+	£250,000 (subject to funding)
District Play Development (5)					
	Torrent	Gortgonis	District Play	5 Years+	£100,000 (subject to funding)
	Clogher Valley	Roundlake	District Play	5 Years+	£100,000 (subject to funding)
	Cookstown	Fairhill	District Play	5 Years+	£100,000 (subject to funding)
	Carntogher	Coleraine Road	District Play	5 Years+	£100,000 (subject to funding)

	Magherafelt	Meadowbank	District Play	5 Years+	£100,000 (subject to funding)
Removed (1)					
	Dungannon	Drumcoo		-	-
Recommended Life Span (15)					
	Clogher Valley	Aughnacloy - Coronation Park	Recommended Life Span	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Dungannon	Ballysaggart	Recommended Life Span	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Cookstown	Clare	Recommended Life Span	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Cookstown	Coagh Street	Recommended Life Span	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Dungannon	Killymerron	Recommended Life Span	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Cookstown	Orritor St.	Recommended Life Span	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Cookstown	Ratheen	Recommended Life Span	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Cookstown	Stewart Avenue	Recommended Life Span	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Carntogher	Crawfordsburn	Recommended Life Span	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Dungannon	Gortnasoar	Recommended Life Span	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Magherafelt	Lindsayville – Ballyronan	Recommended Life Span	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Cookstown	Milburn Close	Recommended Life Span	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Dungannon	Moy Oakfield	Recommended Life Span	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Dungannon	Mullaghmore	Recommended Life Span	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Cookstown	Rathbeg	Recommended Life Span	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
Change of Use/Remove (3)					
	Clogher Valley	Killymaddy	Remove	Year 1	Maintenance Budget
	Carntogher	Moneyneena	Remove	Year 1	Maintenance Budget
	Cookstown	Sperrin View	Remove	Year 1	Maintenance Budget
	Dungannon	Northland Village	Change of Use	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Torrent	Innishmore	Change of use MUGA to LEAP.	Year 2	£40,000

			Subject to funding via Gortgonis Community Hub Development Project		
Maintenance/ Enhancements (45)					
	Moyola	Boyne Row	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Year 1	£25,000
	Moyola	Knockloughrim	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Year 1	£25,000
	Magherafelt	Northland Moneymore	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Year 1	£20,000
	Dungannon	Redford	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Year 1	£25,000
	Torrent	Brackaville	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Year 2	£25,000
	Torrent	Donaghmore	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Year 2	£25,000
	Torrent	Lisnahall, Ardtrea	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Year 2	£25,000
	Torrent	Battery Harbour	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Year 3	£25,000
	Dungannon	Milltown	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Year 3	£25,000
	Torrent	Washingbay	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Year 3	£25,000
	Cookstown	Conway Close	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Year 4	£25,000
	Cookstown	Gortalowry	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Year 4	£25,000
	Cookstown	Killymoon	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Year 4	£25,000
	Cookstown	Rockdale, Rock	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Year 4	£25,000
	Clogher Valley	U.S. Grants	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Year 4	£25,000
	Dungannon	Benburb	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Year 4	£25,000
	Torrent	Beechline, Galbally	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Year 5	£25,000
	Cookstown	Blackhill	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Year 5	£25,000
	Carntogher	Clady	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Year 5	£25,000
	Cookstown	Coagh Park, Coagh	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Year 5	£25,000

	Moyola	Desertmartin	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Year 5	£25,000
	Torrent	Mourneview, Carnan	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Year 5	£25,000
	Cookstown	Tullywiggan	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Year 5	£25,000
	Clogher Valley	Ackinduff	Maintenance	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Dungannon	Ballynakelly	Maintenance	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Moyola	Castledawson	Maintenance	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Carntogher	Culnady	Maintenance	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Cookstown	Davagh Forest	Maintenance	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Cookstown	Derrychrin, Ballinderry	Maintenance	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Dungannon	Dunavon	Maintenance	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Carntogher	Gulladuff	Maintenance	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Moyola	Hunters Park	Maintenance	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Carntogher	Innishrush	Maintenance	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Torrent	Killeen	Maintenance	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Moyola	Kilross	Maintenance	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Carntogher	Lisnamuck	Maintenance	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Moyola	Longfield	Maintenance	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Magherafelt	Lough Fea	Maintenance	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Dungannon	Meadowbank	Maintenance	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Magherafelt	Moneymore RC	Maintenance	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Torrent	Mountcairn Coalisland	Maintenance	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Torrent	Newmills	Maintenance	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Cookstown	Orritor	Maintenance	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Cookstown	Parkview, Pomeroy	Maintenance	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Carntogher	Tamlaght	Maintenance	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget

Upgrades (12)					
	Cookstown	Coolnafranky	Upgrade	Year 1	£50,000
	Cookstown	Beechway	Upgrade	Year 1	£50,000
	Cookstown	Drum Manor Forest	Upgrade to provide inclusive play options	Year 1	£30,000
	Dungannon	Railway	Upgrade and relocation. Subject to major match funded project	Year 2	£100, 000
	Clogher Valley	Clogher	Upgrade	Year 3	£50,000
	Cookstown	Monrush	Upgrade	Year 3	£50,000
	Dungannon	Moygashel Jacksonville	Upgrade MUGA to include LEAP	Year 3	£50,000
	Dungannon	Moy Curran's Brae	Upgrade	Year 4	£50,000
	Cookstown	Princess Avenue	Upgrade	Year 4	£25,000
	Clogher Valley	Aughnacloy	Upgrade	Year 5	£50,000
	Dungannon	Drumcoo Green	Upgrade	5 Years+	£50,000
	Cookstown	Pomeroy Forest	Upgrade	5 Years+	£25,000
Relocation (2)					
	Dungannon	Railway Park	Relocation	Year 2	£50,000
	Torrent	Ardboe	Relocation	5 Years+	£50,000

Park Development	DEA	Park Site	Action	Year	Indicative Cost
RDP Funded (19)					
	Clogher Valley	Caledon	RDP Funded	Year 1	£38,103
	Clogher Valley	Fivemiletown Fairgreen	RDP Funded	Year 1	£160,000
	Clogher Valley	Ballygawley	RDP Funded	Year 1	£51,000
	Clogher Valley	Eglis	RDP Funded	Year 1	£17,000
	Dungannon	Killyman	RDP Funded	Year 1	£38,103
	Clogher Valley	Granville	RDP Funded	Year 1	£38,103
	Clogher Valley	Augher	RDP Funded	Year 1	£38,103
	Carntogher	Upperlands	RDP Funded	Year 1	£145,000 Play park £101,000 MUGA
	Moyola	Mill Park Tobermore	RDP Proposal subject to match funding	Year 1 5 Years+	£38,103 New Public Park
	Clogher Valley	Castlecaulfield	RDP Funded	Year 2	£17,000
	Cookstown	Berkeley Square, T'hogue	RDP Funded	Year 2	£38,103
	Carntogher	Swatragh	RDP Proposal subject to match funding	Year 2 5 Years+	£38,103 New Public Park
	Carntogher	Ballymacombs	RDP Funded	Year 2	£38,103
	Torrent	Henderson Park	RDP Funded	Year 2	£38,103
	Magherafelt	LOUP	RDP Funded	Year 2	£38,103
	Dungannon	Ballynakelly	RDP Funded	Year 2	£18,000
	Torrent	Annaghmore/Clonoe	RDP Funded	Year 2	£38,103
	Torrent	Castlebay, Brocagh	RDP Funded	Year 2	£38,103
	Cookstown	Churchview, Drumullan	RDP Funded	Year 2	£38,103

Woodland Park Development					
Small Woodland Parks (8)	Clogher Valley	Knockmany Forest	Small Woodland Park (subject to funding)	5 Years+	£25,000
	Clogher Valley	Brantry Lough and Forest	Small Woodland Park (subject to funding)	5 Years+	£25,000
	Dungannon	Windmill Wood	Small Woodland Park (subject to funding)	5 Years+	£25,000
	Moyola	Traad Point	Small Woodland Park (subject to funding)	5 Years+	£25,000
	Cookstown	Cabin Wood	Small Woodland Park (subject to funding)	5 Years+	£25,000
	Magherafelt	Inniscarn Forest	Small Woodland Park (subject to funding)	5 Years+	£25,000
	Magherafelt	Lissan House	Small Woodland Park (subject to funding)	5 Years+	£25,000
	Torrent	Drumcairne Forest	Small Woodland Park (subject to funding)	5 Years+	£25,000
Significant Woodland Parks (5)					
	Moyola	Drumlamph Forest	Significant Woodland Park (subject to funding)	5 Years+	£50,000
	Carntogher	Derrynoyd Forest	Significant Woodland Park (subject to funding)	5 Years+	£50,000
	Clogher Valley	Parkanaur Forest	Significant Woodland Park (subject to funding)	5 Years+	£50,000
	Cookstown	Pomeroy Forest	Significant Woodland Park (subject to funding)	5 Years+	£25,000
	Cookstown	Drum Manor Forest	Significant Woodland Park (subject to funding)	5 Years+	£50,000

Park Development	DEA	Park Site	Action	Year	Indicative Cost
New Park Sites (15* O'Neill Play only)					
	Moyola	O'Neill Park*	Park Development (subject to funding)	5 Years+	£50,000
	Magherafelt	Manor Park	Park Development (subject to funding)	5 Years+	£150,000
	Moyola	Mill Park	Park Development (subject to funding)	5 Years+	£100,000
	Carntogher	Swatragh	Park Development (subject to funding)	5 Years+	£140,000
	Carntogher	Ballymacombs	Park Development (subject to funding)	5 Years+	£100,000
	Moyola	Parkview/Riverside	Park Development (subject to funding)	5 Years+	£150,000
	Clogher Valley	Roundlake, Fivemiletown	Park Development (subject to funding)	5 Years+	£100,000
	Carntogher	Clady	Park Development (subject to funding)	5 Years+	£100,000
	Cookstown	Fairhill	Park Development (subject to funding)	5 Years+	£150,000
	Dungannon	Windmill Wood	Park Development (subject to funding)	5 Years+	£150,000
	Dungannon	Castlehill	Park Development (subject to funding)	5 Years+	£150,000
	Moyola	Hunters Park	Park Development (subject to funding)	5 Years+	£125,000
	Moyola	Moykeeran	Park Development (subject to funding)	5 Years+	£100,000
	Dungannon	Railway Park This needs to be in Yr 1- 5	Park Development (subject to funding)	5 Years+	£100,000
	Torrent	Henderson Park	Park Development (subject to funding)	5 Years+	£50,000

APPENDIX 1

District Electoral Area (DEA)	Play Park ID Number	Public Park/Play Park	LEAP or NEAP Status	Quality Score
Clogher Valley	1	Ackinduff	LEAP	10
Torrent	2	Ardboe	LEAP	9.7
Clogher Valley	4	Augher	LEAP	10
Clogher Valley	5	Aughnacloy	LEAP	8.6
Clogher Valley	6	Aughnacloy - Coronation Park	LEAP	7.3
Clogher Valley	7	Ballygawley	LEAP	8.5
Dungannon	8	Ballynakelly	LEAP	10
Dungannon	8	Ballynakelly	LEAP	10
Magherafelt	9	Ballyronan Marina	LEAP	6.5
Dungannon	10	Ballysaggart	LEAP	6
Torrent	11	Battery Harbour	LEAP	7.2
Torrent	12	Beechline, Galbally	LEAP	8.3
Cookstown	13	Beechway	LEAP	5.8
Dungannon	14	Benburb	LEAP	7.8
Cookstown	15	Berkeley Square, T'hogue	LEAP	7.8
Cookstown	16	Blackhill	LEAP	8.5
Moyola	17	Boyne Row	LEAP	5
Torrent	18	Brackaville	LEAP	6.8
Clogher Valley	19	Caledon	LEAP	6.8
Torrent	20	Castlebay, Brocagh	MUGA/LEAP	7.5
Clogher Valley	21	Castlecaulfield	LEAP	8.3
Moyola	22	Castledawson	LEAP	10
Cookstown	23	Churchview, Drumullan	LEAP	7.5
Carntogher	24	Clady	LEAP	8.3
Cookstown	25	Clare	LEAP	6.5
Clogher Valley	26	Clogher	LEAP	7
Cookstown	27	Coagh Park, Coagh	LEAP	8.3
Cookstown	28	Coagh Street	LEAP	6
Carntogher	29	Coleraine Road	NEAP	8.6
Cookstown	30	Conway Close	LEAP	7.8
Cookstown	31	Coolnafranky	LEAP	5.5
Carntogher	32	Crawfordsburn	LEAP	10
Carntogher	33	Culnady	LEAP	9.3
Cookstown	34	Davagh Forest	Existing play provision in forest	9.5
Cookstown	35	Derrychrin, Ballinderry	LEAP	7.2
Moyola	36	Desertmartin	LEAP	8.8
Torrent	37	Donaghmore	LEAP	6.7
Cookstown	38	Drum Manor Forest	NEAP	8.2
Dungannon	39	Drumcoo	LEAP	2
Dungannon	40	Drumcoo Green	LEAP	10
Dungannon	41	Dunavon	LEAP	8.8
Dungannon	42	Dungannon Park	NEAP	7.5

Clogher Valley	43	Eglis	LEAP	8.8
Cookstown	44	Fairhill	NEAP	8.5
Clogher Valley	45	Fivemiletown Fairgreen	LEAP	4.6
Cookstown	46	Gortalowry	LEAP	7.7
Torrent	47	Gortgonis	NEAP	7.2
Dungannon	48	Gortnasoar	LEAP	8.8
Clogher Valley	49	Granville	LEAP	9.7
Carntogher	50	Gulladuff	LEAP	9.7
Moyola	51	Hunters Park	NEAP	9.2
Torrent	52	Innishmore	MUGA	6
Carntogher	53	Innishrush	LEAP	10
Torrent	54	Killeen	LEAP	10
Clogher Valley	55	Killymaddy	LEAP	2
Dungannon	56	Killyman	LEAP	9
Drumcoo	57	Killymerron	LEAP	5
Cookstown	58	Killymoon	LEAP	8
Moyola	59	Kilross	LEAP	10
Moyola	60	Knockloughrim	LEAP	6.3
Magherafelt	61	Lindsayville, Ballyronan	LEAP	10
Torrent	62	Lisnahall, Ardtrea	LEAP	6.7
Carntogher	63	Lisnamuck	LEAP	9.3
Moyola	64	Longfield	LEAP	9
Magherafelt	65	Lough Fea	LEAP	9.6
Dungannon	66	Meadowbank	NEAP	9.6
Magherafelt	67	Meadowbank (leisure centre)	NEAP	7.9
Cookstown	68	Milburn Close	LEAP	9.3
Moyola	69	Mill Park Tobermore	NEAP	9.4
Dungannon	70	Milltown	LEAP	7.5
Magherafelt	71	Moneymore RC	LEAP	9.1
Carntogher	72	Moneyneena	LEAP	2
Cookstown	73	Monrush	LEAP	7.1
Torrent	74	Mountcairn Coalisland	LEAP	9
Torrent	75	Mourneview, Carnan	LEAP	8.3
Dungannon	76	Moy Curran's Brae	LEAP	7.9
Dungannon	77	Moy Oakfield	LEAP	9.5
Dungannon	78	Moygashel Jacksonville	MUGA	7.5
Moyola	79	Moykeeran	NEAP	7.2
Dungannon	80	Mullaghmore	LEAP	10
Torrent	81	Newmills	LEAP	9.7
Magherafelt	82	Northland Moneymore	LEAP	6.1
Dungannon	83	Northland Village	LEAP	6.8
Cookstown	84	Orritor	LEAP	9.2
Cookstown	85	Orritor St.	LEAP	7.2
Cookstown	86	Parkview, Pomeroy	LEAP	8.8
Cookstown	87	Pomeroy Forest	LEAP	10
Cookstown	88	Princess Avenue	LEAP	8.1
Dungannon	89	Railway	LEAP	5
Cookstown	90	Rathbeg	LEAP	8.9
Cookstown	91	Ratheen	LEAP	6.4

Dungannon	92	Redford	LEAP	5
Cookstown	93	Rockdale, Rock	LEAP	8
Clogher Valley	94	Roundlake, Fivemiletown	LEAP	5.5
Cookstown	95	Sperrinview	LEAP	6
Cookstown	96	Stewart Avenue	LEAP	7
Carntogher	97	Swatragh	LEAP	8.2
Carntogher	98	Tamlaght	LEAP	10
Cookstown	99	Tullywiggan	LEAP	8.3
Clogher Valley	100	U.S. Grants	LEAP	7.5
Carntogher	101	Upperlands	LEAP	10
Torrent	102	Washingbay	LEAP	7.4

TABLE 42 PLAY PROVISION CLASSIFICATION

APPENDIX 2

Details of the seven public consultation events:

- 23 rd January, Cookstown Leisure Centre	Cookstown DEA
- 31 st January, Maghera Leisure Centre	Carntogher DEA
- 31 st January, Seamus Heaney Homeplace, Bellaghy	Moyola DEA
- 2 nd February, Dungannon Park	Dungannon DEA
- 2 nd February, Cornmill Centre, Coalisland	Torrent DEA
- 6 th February, Ballygawley BADA Community Hall,	Clogher Valley DEA
- 8 th February, Meadowbank Sports Arena	Magherafelt DEA

APPENDIX 3

Revenue Resourcing Activity Centres

Activity Centre	Site	Contract	Gross Cost to Council
	Ballyronan Marina	1x 15hr per week post	£11,645
District Play Hub	Site	Contract	Gross Cost to Council
	Fairhill	1 x 37hr per week post	£28,571
	Fairhill	1 x 25hr per week posts	£19,414
	Roundlake	1x 25hr per week post	£19,414
			£79,044

Revenue Resourcing New Public Park and Play sites

Public Park	Site	Contract	Gross Cost to Council
	Ballymacombs	1 x 7hr per week post	£4,784
	Parkview/Riverside	1 x 7hr per week post	£4,784
			£9,568
Total Gross Cost			£88,612

APPENDIX 4

Questionnaire and Questionnaire Results

Outdoor Recreation NI has recently been engaged by Mid Ulster Council to develop a Parks and Play Strategy and an Outdoor Recreation Strategy for the Mid Ulster area.

The Strategic Plans will provide direction for the Council in managing and developing parks and play facilities, programs, infrastructure, resources and investment over the next three-year period that reflects the Corporate Priorities of the Council and also the needs of the community.

Outdoor Recreation NI has developed this short survey to gain your views on the current provision and opportunities for development.

The survey should take no longer than 10 minutes.

All responses are completely confidential and will remain anonymous. Please rest assured that any information made available will be combined in aggregate to give a view of the park and play and outdoor recreation provision in Mid Ulster.

Section 1 Most frequented park

Q1. In which village/town of Mid Ulster do you live?

Q2. Do you use public parks/play parks in Mid Ulster? (please note this excludes National Trust properties including Springhill and Wellbrook Beating Mill)

Yes

No

(if no please state why from the options below. Thank respondent and close)

Filtered question

Q6. Why do you not use public parks/play parks in Mid Ulster?

Have no need to go to a park

No personal transport to travel to park

No public transport available to park

No safe off road route to walk to park

Presence of anti-social behaviour within the park

Poor facilities (toilets, parking, bins, café)

Lack of inclusion (limited or non-existent facilities for special needs)

Lack of facilities for those with limited mobility

Q3. If yes (at Q1b), please can you state which park/play park you use **most often**? (If you cannot locate the park you require from the drop down list please state name or street name)

- Q4. How often would you use this park/play park?
- Everyday
 - A few times/week
 - Once/week
 - Few times/month
 - Once/month
 - Few times per year
- Q5. Who do you normally visit this park/play park with?
- Partner/Spouse
 - Family/Children
 - Friends
 - Group/Club (Formal e.g. Running or cycling club, formal/arranged event)
 - Group/Club (Informal e.g. Members of a club arrange to go and run/cycle of their own accord)
 - Just myself
- Q7. How far approximately is this park/play park from your home? (miles)
- Less than 0.5 mile
 - 0.5 < 1 mile
 - 1 < 1.5 miles
 - 1.5 < 2 miles
 - 3-5 miles
 - 5 miles+
- Q8. How do you travel to this park/play park?
- Walk
 - Bike
 - Car
 - Public Transport
 - Mini Bus (Club/Group)
 - Other (please state)

- Q9. What is your **primary** reason for visiting this park? (choose 1)
- To get the children outdoors for half an hour
 - Have a fun day out with the family
 - To enjoy a stroll/get some fresh air
 - Take the dog for a walk
 - Exercise
- Q10. What do you do at this park/play park?
- Make use of playpark facilities
 - Running
 - Walking
 - Cycling
 - Water sports
 - Sports club/training
 - Nature/wildlife observation
 - Have a picnic
 - Attend an event
 - Other (please state)
- Q11. On a scale of 1-5 (1 meaning Poor and 5 meaning Excellent) how would you **rate** this park/play park on each of the following (include a DK and n/a option for each):
- Provision of play equipment
 - Provision of toilets
 - Provision of parking
 - Provision of bins
 - Provision of dog Bins
 - Café
 - Provision of off road family cycle trails
 - Accessible paths for those with limited mobility/wheelchair user
 - Access to green space (for walking or running)
 - Provision of events
 - Feeling safe
 - Cleanliness/well maintained
 - Ambience

Q12. On a scale of 1-5 (1 being not important at all and 5 very important), how **important** are the following in relation to this park/play park (include a DK option for each):

Provision of play equipment

Provision of toilets

Provision of parking

Provision of bins

Provision of dog Bins

Café

Provision of off road family cycle trails

Accessible paths for those with limited mobility/wheelchair user

Access to green space (for walking or running)

Provision of events

Feeling safe

Cleanliness/well maintained

Ambience

Section 2 Favourite Park

Q13. Please can you state which park/play park is your favourite park? (If you cannot locate the park you require from the drop down list please state name or street name)

Q14. How often would you use this park/play park?

Everyday

A few times/week

Once/week

Few times/month

Once/month

Few times per year

Q15. Who do you normally visit this park/play park with?

Partner/Spouse

Family/Children

Friends

Group/Club (Formal e.g. Running or cycling club, formal/arranged event)

Group/Club (Informal e.g. Members of a club arrange to go and run/cycle of their own accord)

Just myself

Q16. How far approximately is this park/play park from your home? (miles)

Less than 0.5 mile

0.5 <1 mile

1 < 1.5 miles

1.5 < 2 miles

3-5 miles

5 miles+

Q17. How do you travel to this park/play park?

Walk

Bike

Car

Public Transport

Mini Bus (Club/Group)

Other (please state)

Q18. What is your **primary** reason for visiting this park? (choose 1)

To get the children outdoors for half an hour

Have a fun day out with the family

To enjoy a stroll/get some fresh air

Take the dog for a walk

Exercise

Q19. What do you do at this park/play park?

Make use of playpark facilities

Running

Walking

Cycling

Water sports

Sports club/training

Nature/wildlife observation

Have a picnic

Attend an event

Other (please state)

- Q20. On a scale of 1-5 (1 meaning Poor and 5 meaning Excellent) how would you rate this park/play park on each of the following (include a DK and n/a option for each):

Provision of play equipment

Provision of toilets

Provision of parking

Provision of bins

Provision of dog Bins

Café

Provision of off road family cycle trails

Accessible paths for those with limited mobility/wheelchair user

Access to green space (for walking or running)

Provision of events

Feeling safe

Cleanliness/well maintained

Ambience

- Q21. On a scale of 1-5 (1 being not important at all and 5 very important), how important are the following in relation to this park/play park (include a DK option for each):

Provision of play equipment

Provision of facilities:

Provision of toilets

Provision of parking

Provision of bins

Provision of dog Bins

Café

Provision of off road family cycle trails

Accessible paths for those with limited mobility/wheelchair user

Access to green space (for walking or running)

Provision of events
Feeling safe
Cleanliness/well maintained
Ambience

Section 3 Other Parks

Q22. Which park/play park outside the Council district have you visited in the last 12 months?
(please chose from options below)

Loughgall Country Park, Loughgall
Castle Archdale Country Park, Fermanagh
Carnfunnock Country Park, Larne
The Peoples Park, Ballymena
Wallace Park, Lisburn
Sir Thomas and Lady Dixon Park, Belfast
Stormont Park, Belfast
Other (please state)

Q23. Who did you visit this park/play park with?
Partner/Spouse
Family/Children
Friends
Group/Club (Formal e.g. Running or cycling club, formal/arranged event)
Group/Club (Informal e.g. Members of a club arrange to go and run/cycle of their own accord)
Just myself

Q24. What was your **primary** reason for visiting this park/play park? (choose 1)
It was somewhere different to go
Good range of play facilities for all ages
Provided a 'day out' for the family
Good visitor service facilities e.g. Visitor Centre, café, toilets etc.
Well maintained
Themed park/play park visitor attraction

Q25. What did do you do at this park/play park?

Make use of playpark facilities

Walking

Cycling

Water sports

Nature/wildlife observation

Have a picnic

Attend an event

Other (please state)

Section 4 Playpark Facilities:

Q26. Please can you state **again** which park/play park is your **favourite** park in Mid Ulster? (If you cannot locate the park you require from the drop down list please state name or street name)

Q27. Did you have children accompanying you who used the play park?

Yes (go to Q28)

No (go to section 5)

Q28. What age were the children who used this play park?

Children under 4yrs

Children 5-8yrs

Children 9-12yrs

Children 13yrs and over

Q29. On a scale of 1-5 (1 meaning Poor and 5 meaning Excellent) how would you rate this park/play park on each of the following (include a DK and n/a option for each):

Provision of play equipment

Provision of toilets

Provision of parking

Provision of bins

Provision of dog Bins

Café

Provision of off road family cycle trails

Accessible paths for those with limited mobility/wheelchair user

Access to green space (for walking or running)

Provision of events

Feeling safe

Cleanliness/well maintained

Ambience

Q30. On a scale of 1-5 (1 being not important at all and 5 very important), how important are the following in relation to this park/play park (include a DK option for each):

Provision of play equipment

Provision of facilities:

Provision of toilets

Provision of parking

Provision of bins

Provision of dog Bins

Café

Provision of off road family cycle trails

Accessible paths for those with limited mobility/wheelchair user

Access to green space (for walking or running)

Provision of events

Feeling safe

Cleanliness/well maintained

Ambience

Q31. How could this playpark be improved? (please state)

Section 5: Future Provision

Q32. What other outdoor recreation facilities would you like to see in your local public park/play park in Mid Ulster (You can choose more than one option)

Walking Trails

Park Run

Park Walk

Bike Trails/Pump Track

Water sports (including Angling)

Improved play facilities

Alternative play facilities e.g.

- Nature Play (the provision of a play opportunity using something from the natural environment rather than a purpose-built piece of equipment. For example, the use of a tree trunk as a climbing frame or balance beam. The piece is usually modified to provide safer access)
- Wild Play (opportunistic play with the visitor using something they would expect to encounter in the environment e.g. climb a tree)

Other (please state)

None

Q33. How far would you travel from your home address if the above was provided in a public park in Mid Ulster

0-10 miles

11-20 miles

21-30 miles

31 - 40 miles

Section 6: Additional Comments

Q34. Please provide any further comments or observations you feel are important to the future development of outdoor recreation and parks and play provision in Mid Ulster.

Section 7: Demographics

Q35. Please select your age bracket

- ☐ Under 16
- ☐ 16 - 25
- ☐ 26 -35
- ☐ 36 -45
- ☐ 46 - 55
- ☐ Over 55

Q36. Please select your gender

- ☐ Male
- ☐ Female

Q37. Can you please tell me which of the following best describes your working status

- Working full time
- Working part time
- Parent or carer
- Self employed
- Unemployed
- In full time education
- Retired
- Not working due to illness or disability

Q38. What is your approximate total annual income in your household (before tax)

- Under 10,000
- £10,000 – £20,000
- £21,000 - £30,000
- £31,000 - £50,000
- £51,000 - £75,000
- £76,000 or more

Q39. Please state the number of children in your household in the age brackets below (if relevant)

Under 4 years

5-8 years

9-12 years

13 years and over

Q40. Do one of your children have a disability?

Yes

No

Q41. What age is the child who has a disability?

0-4 years

5-8 years

9-12 years

13 years and over

Q42. What is their disability?

Physical

Hearing

Sight

Learning

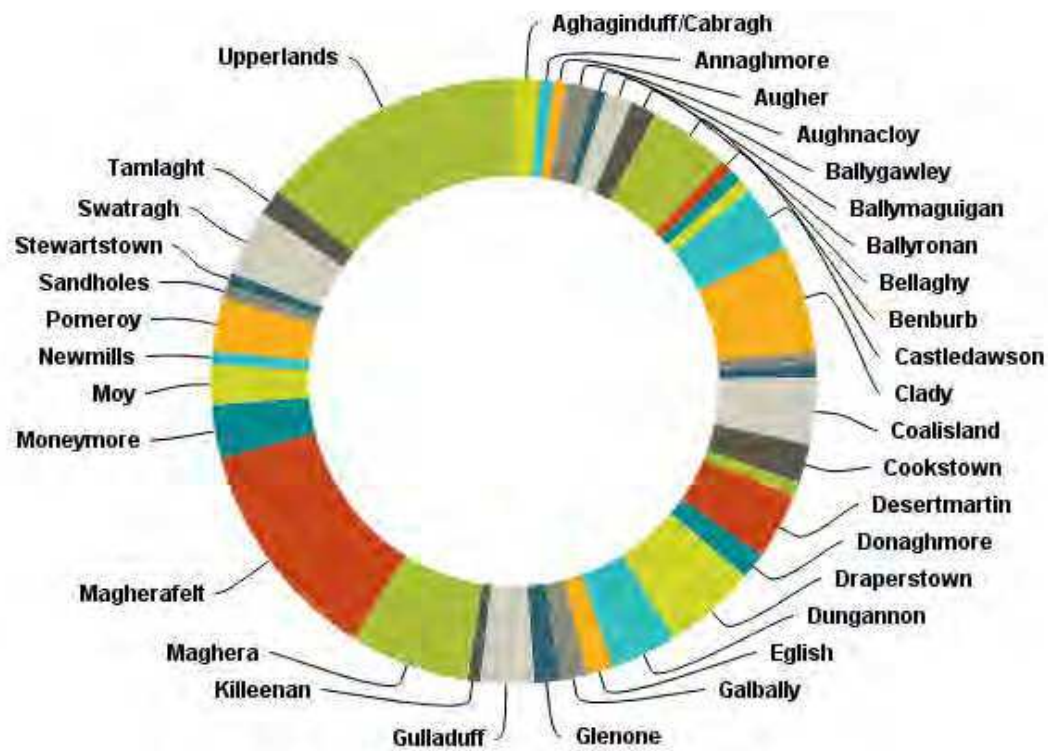
Mental Health

Hidden

Other (please specify)

Q1 In which village/town of Mid Ulster do you live?

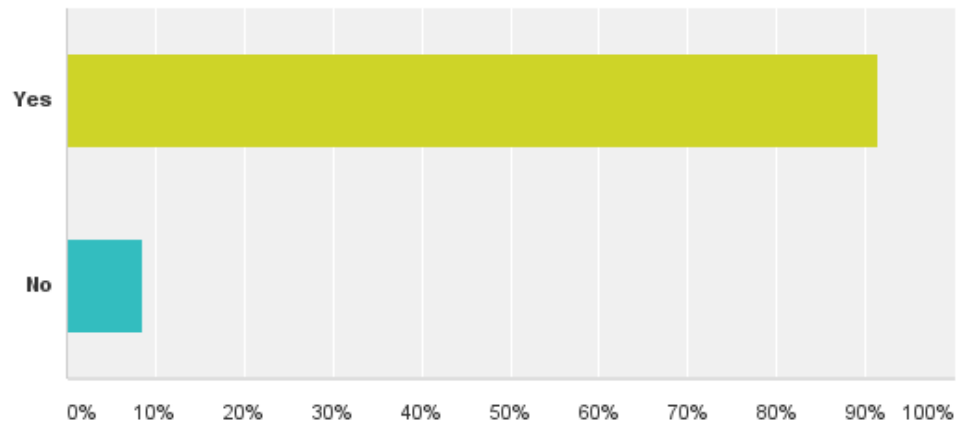
Answered: 141 / Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses	
→ Aghaginduff/Cabragh	1.42%	2
→ Annaghmore	0.71%	1
→ Augher	0.71%	1
→ Aughnacloy	1.42%	2
→ Ballygawley	0.71%	1
→ Ballymaguigan	1.42%	2
→ Ballyronan	1.42%	2
→ Bellaghy	4.26%	6
→ Benburb	0.71%	1
→ Brockagh/Mountjoy	0.71%	1
→ Caledon	0.71%	1
→ Castledawson	3.55%	5
→ Clady	5.67%	8
→ Clogher	0.71%	1
→ Coagh	0.71%	1
→ Coalisland	3.55%	5
→ Cookstown	2.13%	3
→ Creagh	0.71%	1
→ Desertmartin	3.55%	5
→ Donaghmore	1.42%	2
→ Draperstown	4.96%	7
→ Dungannon	3.55%	5
→ Eglish	1.42%	2
→ Galbally	1.42%	2
→ Glenone	1.42%	2
→ Gulladuff	2.84%	4
→ Killeenan	0.71%	1
→ Maghera	6.38%	9
→ Magherafelt	12.06%	17
→ Moneymore	2.84%	4
→ Moy	2.13%	3
→ Newmills	0.71%	1
→ Pomeroy	2.84%	4
→ Sandholes	0.71%	1
→ Stewartstown	0.71%	1
→ Swatragh	3.55%	5
→ Tamlaght	1.42%	2
→ Upperlands	14.18%	20
Total		141

Q2 Do you use public parks/play parks in Mid Ulster?

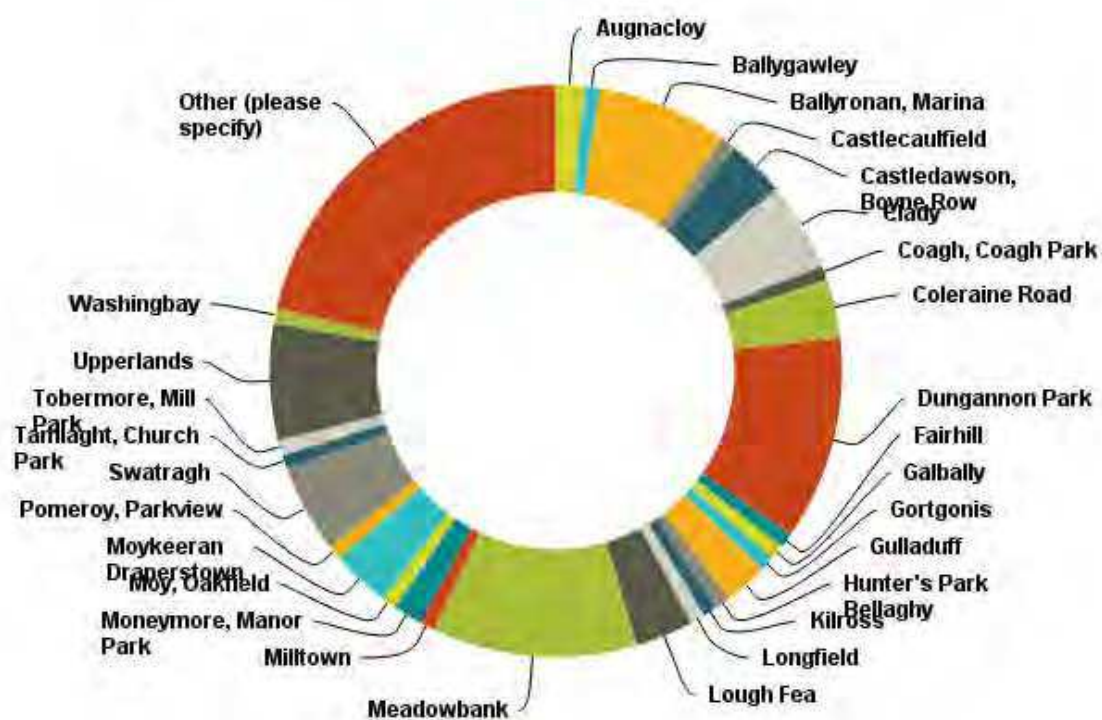
Answered: 141 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	91.49%	129
No	8.51%	12
Total		141

Q3 Please can you state which park/play park you use most often? (If you cannot locate the park you require from the drop down list please state name or street name under 'Other' at bottom of the drop down list).

Answered: 121 Skipped: 28



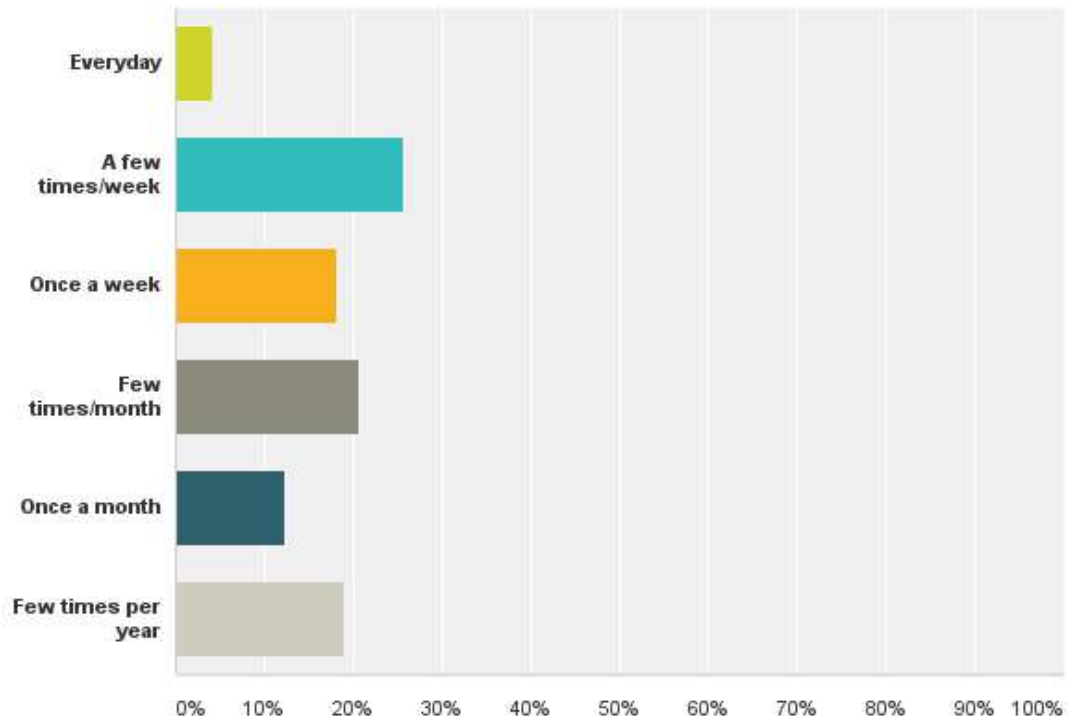
Answer Choices	Responses	
→ Augnacloy	1.65%	2
→ Ballygawley	0.83%	1
→ Ballyronan, Marina	7.44%	9
→ Castlecaulfield	0.83%	1
→ Castledawson, Boyne Row	3.31%	4
→ Clady	4.96%	6
→ Coagh, Coagh Park	0.83%	1
→ Coleraine Road	3.31%	4
→ Dungannon Park	11.57%	14
→ Fairhill	0.83%	1
→ Galbally	0.83%	1
→ Gortgonis	0.83%	1
→ Gulladuff	2.48%	3
→ Hunter's Park Bellaghy	0.83%	1
→ Kilross	0.83%	1
→ Longfield	0.83%	1
→ Lough Fea	3.31%	4
→ Meadowbank	11.57%	14
→ Milltown	0.83%	1
→ Moneymore, Manor Park	1.65%	2
→ Moy, Oakfield	0.83%	1
→ Moykeeran Draperstown	3.31%	4
→ Pomeroy, Parkview	0.83%	1
→ Swatragh	4.96%	6
→ Tamlaght, Church Park	0.83%	1
→ Tobermore, Mill Park	0.83%	1
→ Upperlands	6.61%	8
→ Washingbay	0.83%	1
→ Other (please specify)	Responses 21.49%	26

OTHER PARKS/PLAY PARKS

Drum Manor - 3; Polepatrick, Magherafelt -3; and Maghera – 3; Maghera Leisure Centre – 2; Pomeroy Forest – 2; Glenone – 2. Other singular mentions: Kilrea; Antrim; Killylea, County Armagh; Moorside Villas; Maghera Rec; Glenmore Walk; Gortgonis; Knockmany; Moneymore; U.S. Grant homeplace; Drumnaph; Windmill Wood.

Q4 How often would you use this park/play park?

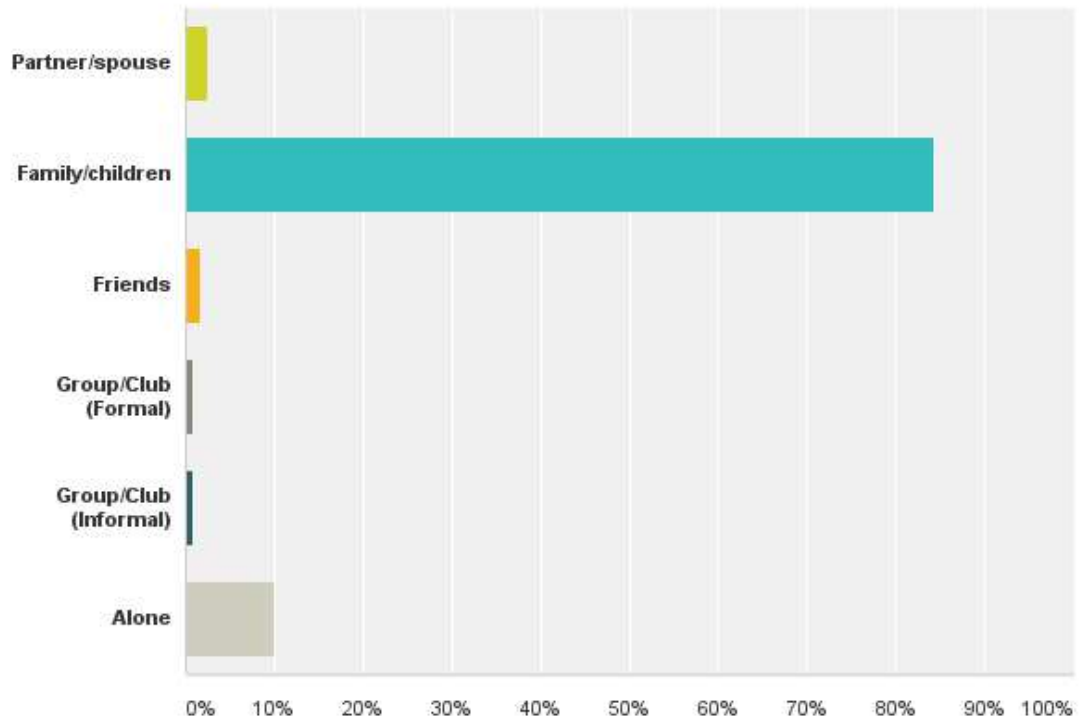
Answered: 121 Skipped: 20



Answer Choices	Responses	
Everyday	4.13%	5
A few times/week	25.62%	31
Once a week	18.18%	22
Few times/month	20.66%	25
Once a month	12.40%	15
Few times per year	19.01%	23
Total Respondents: 121		

Q5 Who do you normally visit this park/play park with?

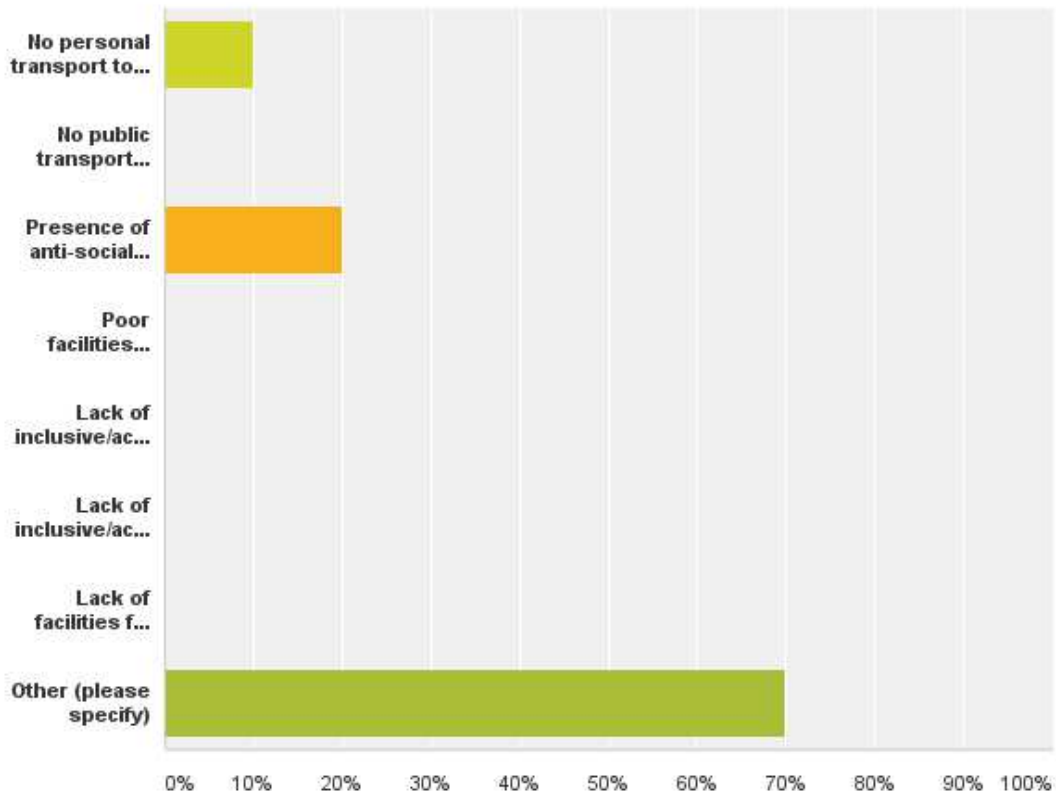
Answered: 121 Skipped: 20



Answer Choices	Responses
Partner/spouse	2.48% 3
Family/children	84.30% 102
Friends	1.65% 2
Group/Club (Formal)	0.83% 1
Group/Club (Informal)	0.83% 1
Alone	9.92% 12
Total	121

Q6 What is your primary reason for not using public parks/play parks in Mid Ulster?

Answered: 10 Skipped: 131



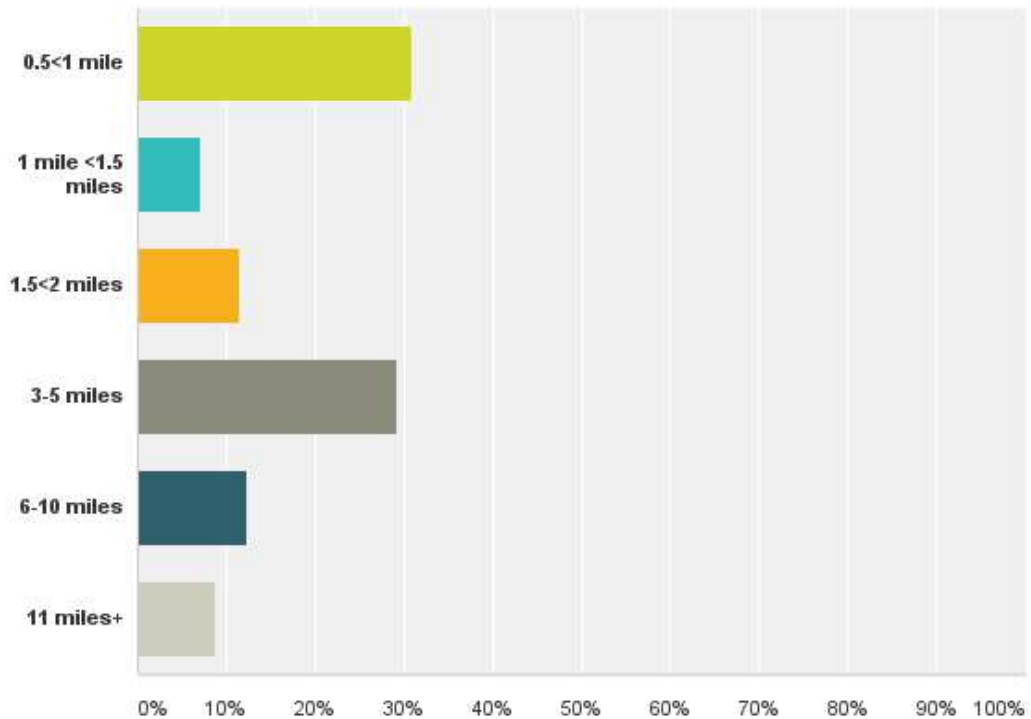
Answer Choices	Responses
▼ No personal transport to travel to park	10.00% 1
▼ No public transport available to park	0.00% 0
▼ Presence of anti-social behaviour within the park	20.00% 2
▼ Poor facilities (toilets, parking, bins, café)	0.00% 0
▼ Lack of inclusive/accessible play (limited or non-existent play facilities and changing for people with a disability - Physical, hearing, sight, learning, mental health or hidden)	0.00% 0
▼ Lack of inclusive/accessible toilet/changing facilities (facilities for those people with a disability - Physical, hearing, sight, learning, mental health or hidden)	0.00% 0
▼ Lack of facilities for those with limited mobility	0.00% 0
▼ Other (please specify) Responses	70.00% 7
Total Respondents: 10	

OTHER REASONS

Outdated equipment – 1; Distance – 1; Lack of parkland - 1; Nothing of interest/no reason to – 3.

Q7 How far approximately is this park/play park from your home? (miles)

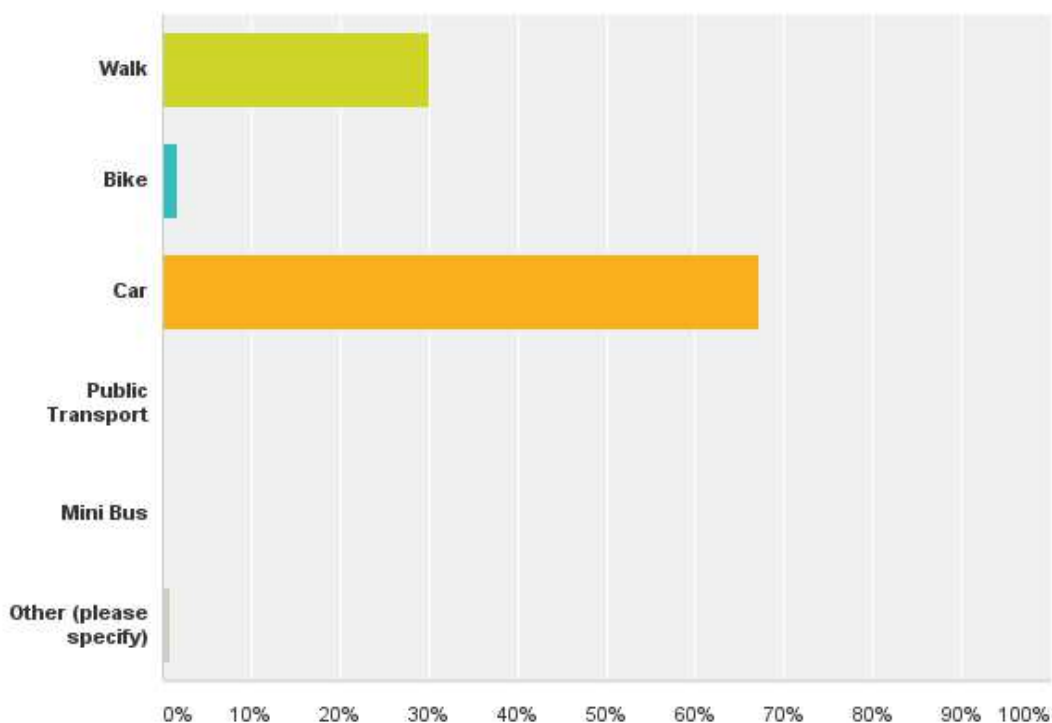
Answered: 113 Skipped: 28



Answer Choices	Responses	
0.5<1 mile	30.97%	35
1 mile <1.5 miles	7.08%	8
1.5<2 miles	11.50%	13
3-5 miles	29.20%	33
6-10 miles	12.39%	14
11 miles+	8.85%	10
Total		113

Q8 How do you travel to this park/play park

Answered: 113 Skipped: 28



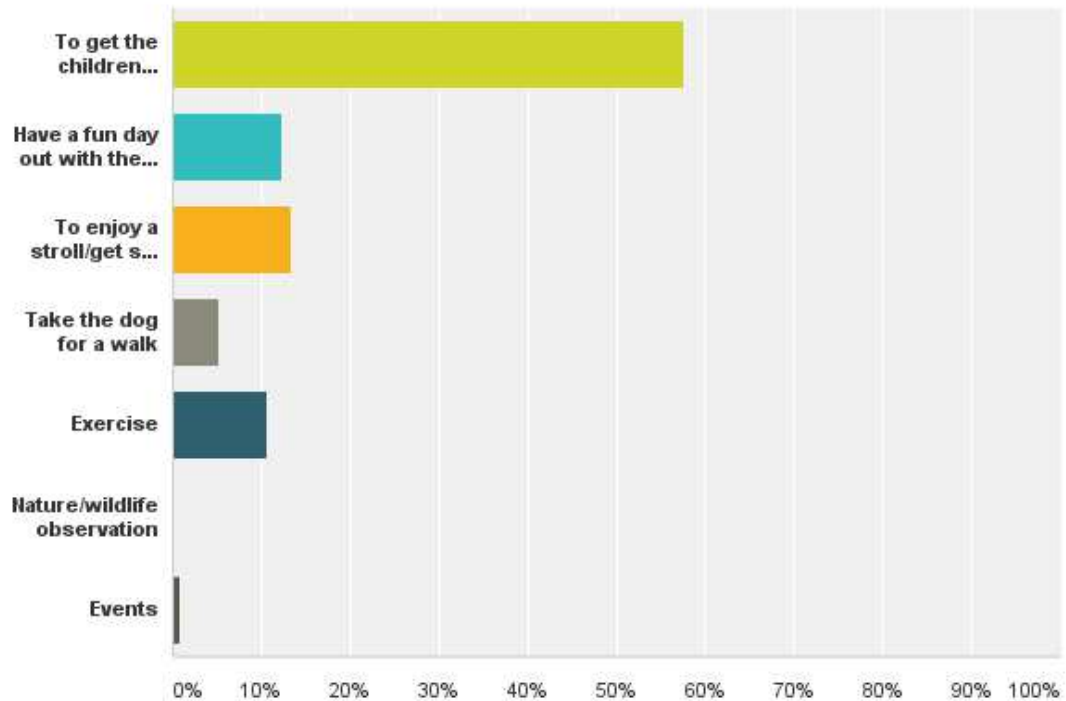
Answer Choices	Responses	
Walk	30.09%	34
Bike	1.77%	2
Car	67.26%	76
Public Transport	0.00%	0
Mini Bus	0.00%	0
Other (please specify)	0.88%	1
Total		113

OTHER RESPONSES

The other response indicated that they walk but that the route was not ideal

Q9 What is your primary reason for visiting this park/play park?

Answered: 113 Skipped: 28



Answer Choices	Responses	
▼ To get the children outdoors for half an hour	57.52%	65
▼ Have a fun day out with the family	12.39%	14
▼ To enjoy a stroll/get some fresh air	13.27%	15
▼ Take the dog for a walk	5.31%	6
▼ Exercise	10.62%	12
▼ Nature/wildlife observation	0.00%	0
▼ Events	0.88%	1
Total	113	

ADDITIONAL COMMENTARY

Also, to kill time between school runs.

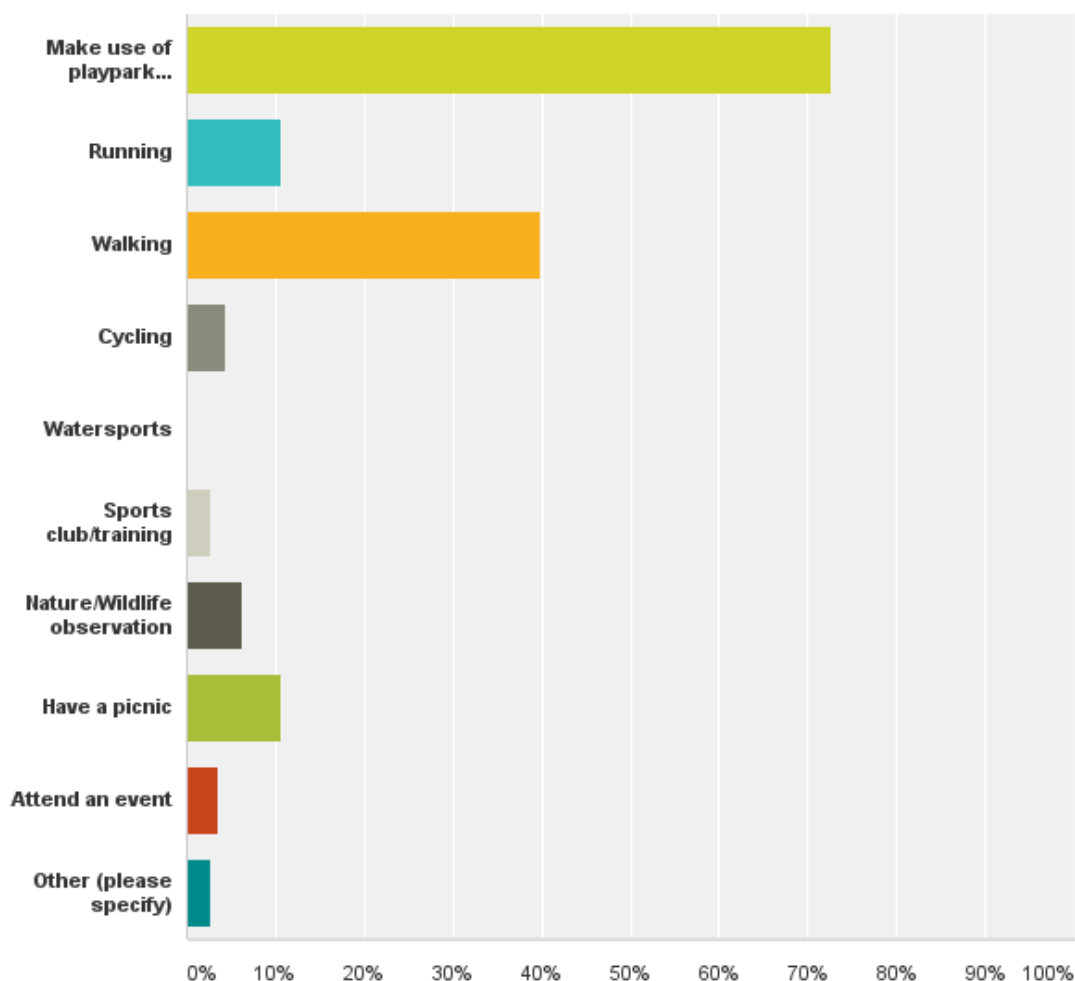
The closest play park for the children.

With my granddaughter.

To walk my disabled child.

Q10 What do you do at this park/play park?

Answered: 113 Skipped: 28



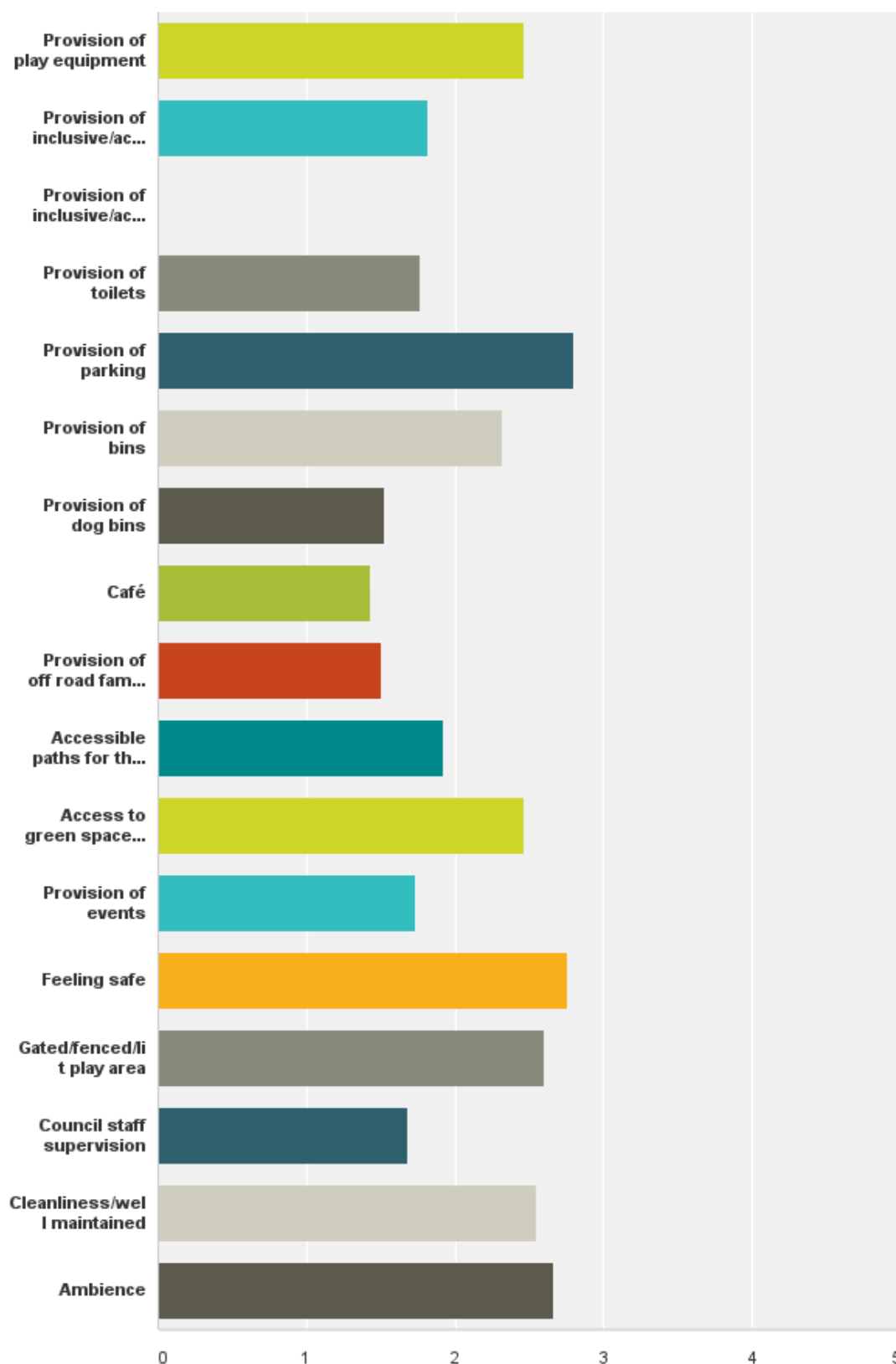
Answer Choices	Responses	
Make use of playpark facilities	72.57%	82
Running	10.62%	12
Walking	39.82%	45
Cycling	4.42%	5
Watersports	0.00%	0
Sports club/training	2.65%	3
Nature/Wildlife observation	6.19%	7
Have a picnic	10.62%	12
Attend an event	3.54%	4
Other (please specify)	2.65%	3
Total Respondents: 113		

OTHER ACTIVITIES

It is perfect for walking laps and we can choose to bring our young nephews to enjoy the river and small maze. Let the children play on the only 2 swings that are there. Just sit for a while nothing, there is for children with special needs to do.

Q11 On a scale of 1-5 (1 meaning Poor and 5 meaning Excellent) how would you rate this park/play park on each of the following?

Answered: 99 Skipped: 42

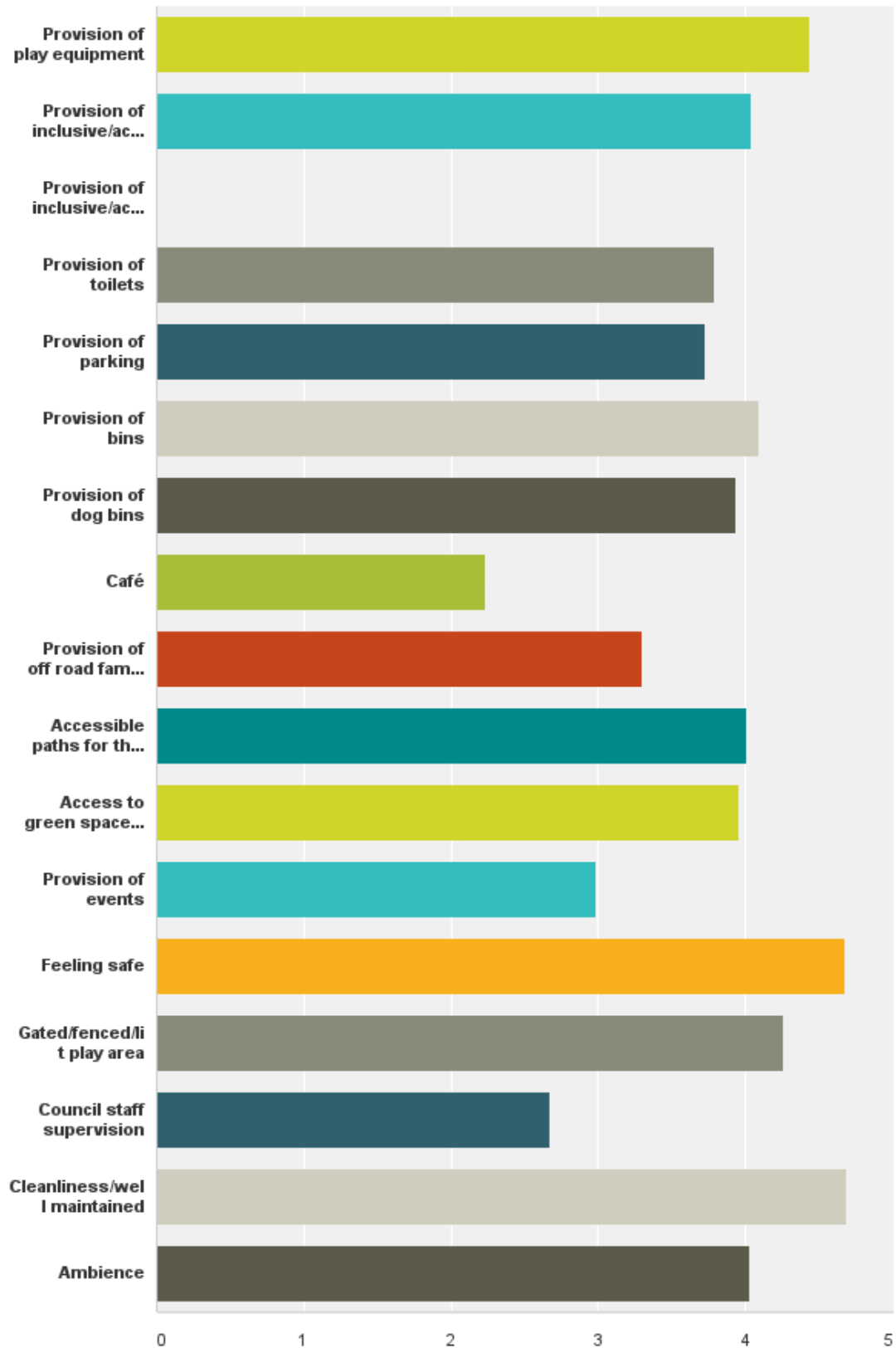


170

	Poor	Satisfactory	Good	Very Good	Excellent	N/A	Total	Weighted Average
Provision of play equipment	25.25% 25	27.27% 27	21.21% 21	16.16% 16	5.05% 5	5.05% 5	99	2.46
Provision of inclusive/accessible play equipment (play facilities and changing for people with a disability - Physical, hearing, sight, learning, mental health or hidden)	54.55% 54	14.14% 14	10.10% 10	11.11% 11	2.02% 2	8.08% 8	99	1.82
Provision of inclusive/accessible toilet/changing facilities (facilities for people with a disability - Physical, hearing, sight, learning, mental health or hidden)	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0	0.00
Provision of toilets	53.54% 53	12.12% 12	13.13% 13	5.05% 5	3.03% 3	13.13% 13	99	1.76
Provision of parking	18.18% 18	20.20% 20	33.33% 33	15.15% 15	11.11% 11	2.02% 2	99	2.80
Provision of bins	19.19% 19	40.40% 40	29.29% 29	6.06% 6	3.03% 3	2.02% 2	99	2.32
Provision of dog bins	49.49% 49	19.19% 19	7.07% 7	1.01% 1	1.01% 1	22.22% 22	99	1.52
Café	48.48% 48	8.08% 8	4.04% 4	1.01% 1	2.02% 2	36.36% 36	99	1.43
Provision of off road family cycle trails	57.58% 57	6.06% 6	2.02% 2	2.02% 2	5.05% 5	27.27% 27	99	1.50
Accessible paths for those with limited mobility/wheelchair user	45.45% 45	15.15% 15	16.16% 16	2.02% 2	6.06% 6	15.15% 15	99	1.92
Access to green space (for walking or running)	24.24% 24	27.27% 27	19.19% 19	11.11% 11	8.08% 8	10.10% 10	99	2.46
Provision of events	44.44% 44	13.13% 13	9.09% 9	6.06% 6	1.01% 1	26.26% 26	99	1.73
Feeling safe	14.14% 14	28.28% 28	32.32% 32	18.18% 18	7.07% 7	0.00% 0	99	2.76
Gated/fenced/lit play area	23.23% 23	21.21% 21	29.29% 29	13.13% 13	8.08% 8	5.05% 5	99	2.60
Council staff supervision	41.41% 41	17.17% 17	10.10% 10	1.01% 1	2.02% 2	28.28% 28	99	1.68
Cleanliness/well maintained	18.18% 18	33.33% 33	27.27% 27	15.15% 15	5.05% 5	1.01% 1	99	2.55
Ambience	19.19% 19	30.30% 30	19.19% 19	18.18% 18	9.09% 9	4.04% 4	99	2.66

Q12 On a scale of 1-5 (1 meaning Poor and 5 meaning Excellent) how important are each of the following at this park/play park?

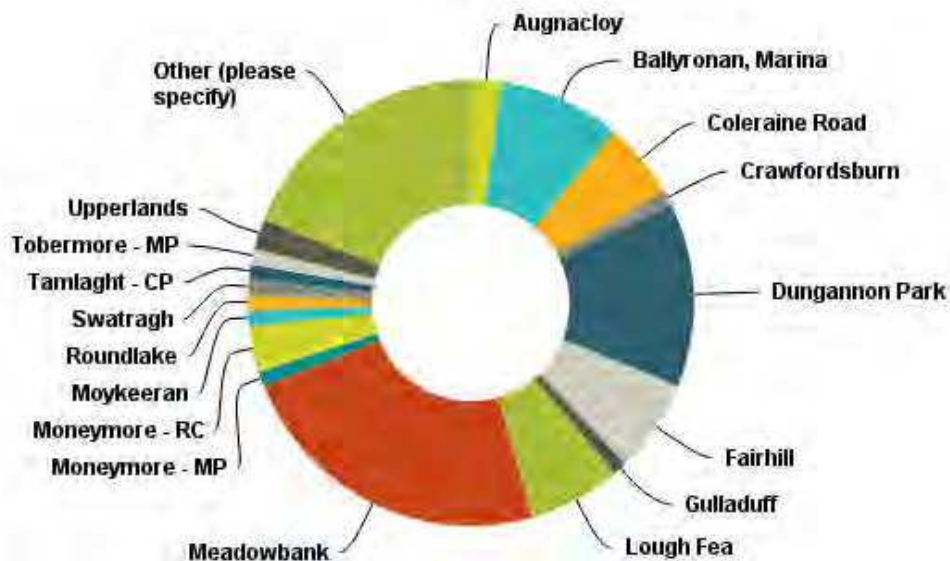
Answered: 99 Skipped: 42



	Not important at all	Slightly important	Important	Very important	Extremely important	N/A	Total	Weighted Average
Provision of play equipment	2.02% 2	2.02% 2	11.11% 11	18.18% 18	63.64% 63	3.03% 3	99	4.44
Provision of inclusive/accessible play equipment (play facilities and changing for people with a disability - Physical, hearing, sight, learning, mental health or hidden)	2.02% 2	6.06% 6	21.21% 21	21.21% 21	43.43% 43	6.06% 6	99	4.04
Provision of inclusive/accessible toilet/changing facilities (facilities for people with a disability - Physical, hearing, sight, learning, mental health or hidden)	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0	0.00
Provision of toilets	7.07% 7	11.11% 11	17.17% 17	22.22% 22	40.40% 40	2.02% 2	99	3.79
Provision of parking	1.01% 1	12.12% 12	30.30% 30	24.24% 24	31.31% 31	1.01% 1	99	3.73
Provision of bins	1.01% 1	4.04% 4	19.19% 19	35.35% 35	39.39% 39	1.01% 1	99	4.09
Provision of dog bins	2.02% 2	2.02% 2	28.28% 28	29.29% 29	32.32% 32	6.06% 6	99	3.94
Café	36.36% 36	22.22% 22	14.14% 14	11.11% 11	7.07% 7	9.09% 9	99	2.23
Provision of off road family cycle trails	9.09% 9	12.12% 12	30.30% 30	16.16% 16	20.20% 20	12.12% 12	99	3.30
Accessible paths for those with limited mobility/wheelchair user	4.04% 4	2.02% 2	25.25% 25	21.21% 21	42.42% 42	5.05% 5	99	4.01
Access to green space (for walking or running)	3.03% 3	5.05% 5	25.25% 25	20.20% 20	40.40% 40	6.06% 6	99	3.96
Provision of events	14.14% 14	16.16% 16	25.25% 25	19.19% 19	12.12% 12	13.13% 13	99	2.99
Feeling safe	0.00% 0	1.01% 1	6.06% 6	16.16% 16	75.76% 75	1.01% 1	99	4.68
Gated/fenced/lit play area	2.02% 2	3.03% 3	16.16% 16	22.22% 22	53.54% 53	3.03% 3	99	4.26
Council staff supervision	17.17% 17	27.27% 27	26.26% 26	11.11% 11	10.10% 10	8.08% 8	99	2.67
Cleanliness/well maintained	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	3.03% 3	24.24% 24	70.71% 70	2.02% 2	99	4.69
Ambience	1.01% 1	3.03% 3	29.29% 29	21.21% 21	41.41% 41	4.04% 4	99	4.03

Q13 Please can you state which park/play park is your favourite park/playpark in Mid Ulster? (If you cannot locate the park you require from the drop down list please state name or street name under 'Other' at bottom of the drop down list).

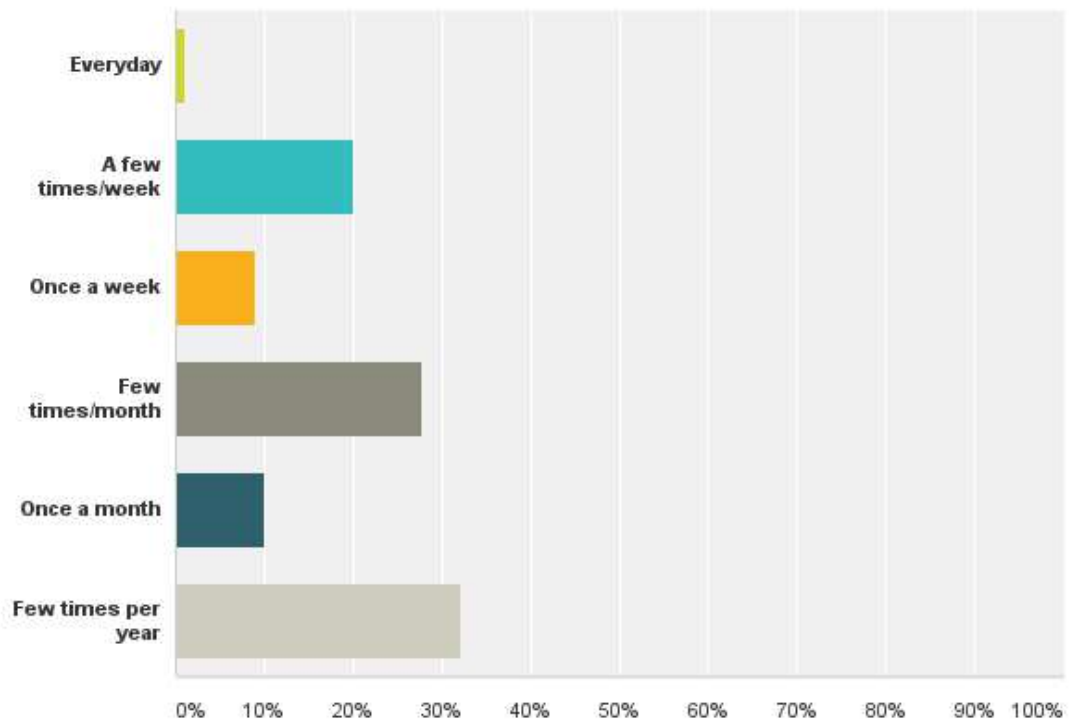
Answered: 90 Skipped: 51



Answer Choices		Responses	
➤	Augnacloy	2.22%	2
➤	Ballyronan, Marina	8.89%	8
➤	Coleraine Road	5.56%	5
➤	Crawfordsburn	1.11%	1
➤	Dungannon Park	13.33%	12
➤	Fairhill	6.67%	6
➤	Gulladuff	1.11%	1
➤	Lough Fea	6.67%	6
➤	Meadowbank	23.33%	21
➤	Moneymore, Manor Park	1.11%	1
➤	Moneymore, Recreation Centre	3.33%	3
➤	Moykeeran Draperstown	1.11%	1
➤	Roundlake Fivemiltown	1.11%	1
➤	Swatragh	1.11%	1
➤	Tamlaght, Church Park	1.11%	1
➤	Tobermore, Mill Park	1.11%	1
➤	Upperlands	2.22%	2
➤	Other (please specify)	Responses 18.89%	17
Total			90

Q14 Thinking about your favourite park/playpark, how often would you use this park/play park?

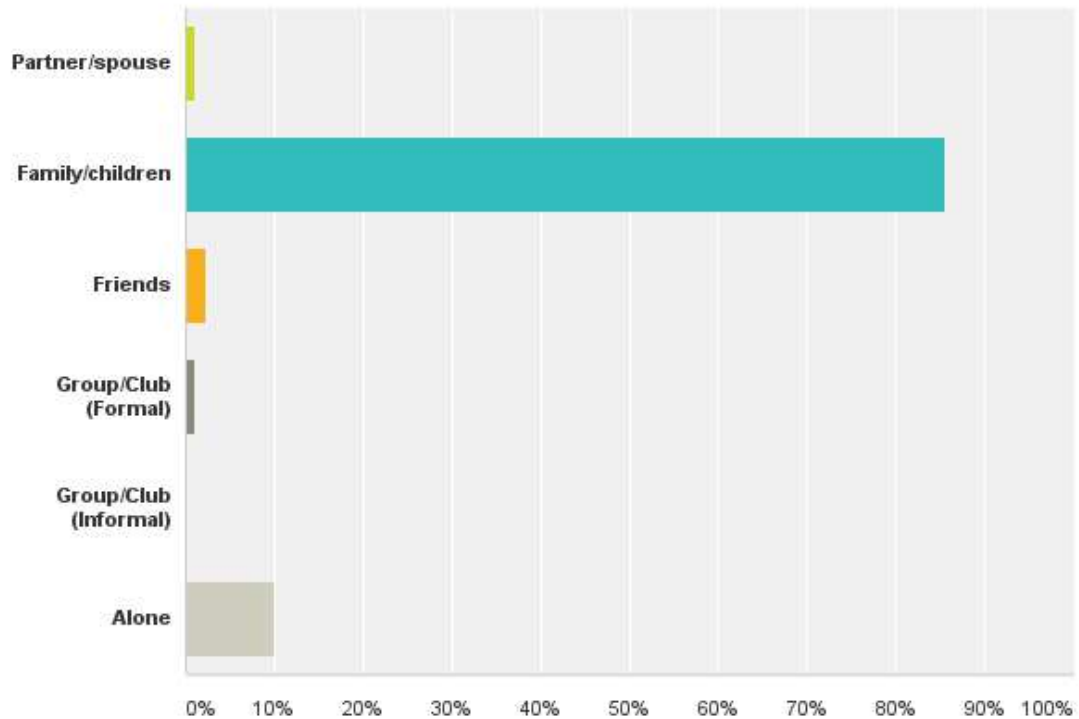
Answered: 90 Skipped: 51



Answer Choices	Responses	
Everyday	1.11%	1
A few times/week	20.00%	18
Once a week	8.89%	8
Few times/month	27.78%	25
Once a month	10.00%	9
Few times per year	32.22%	29
Total		90

Q15 Who do you normally visit this park/play park with?

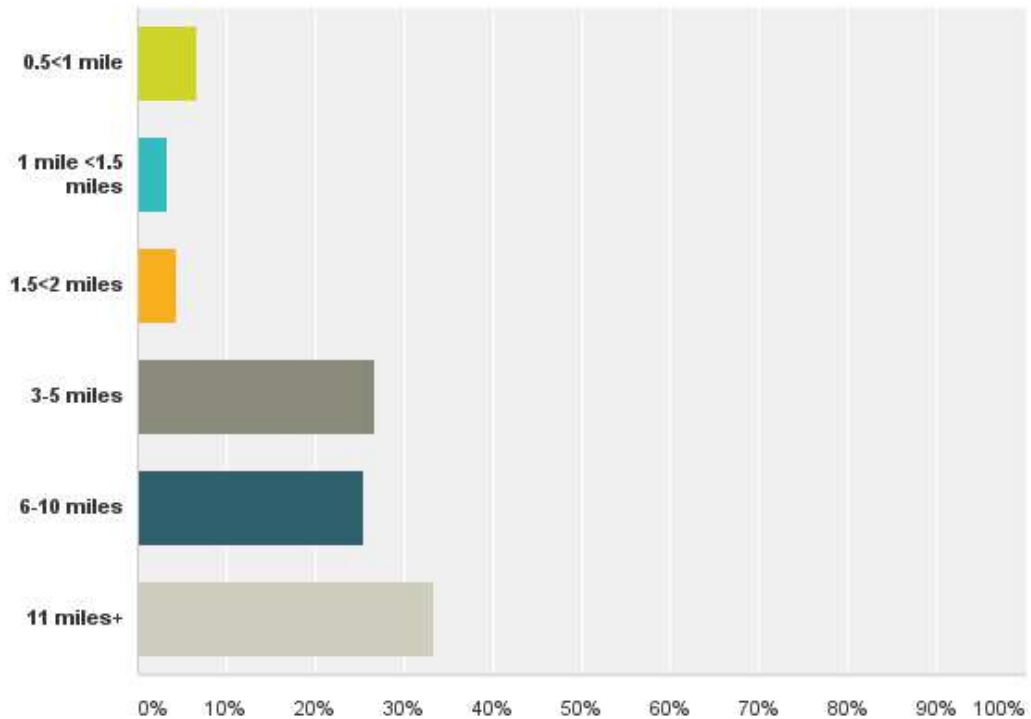
Answered: 90 Skipped: 51



Answer Choices	Responses	
Partner/spouse	1.11%	1
Family/children	85.56%	77
Friends	2.22%	2
Group/Club (Formal)	1.11%	1
Group/Club (Informal)	0.00%	0
Alone	10.00%	9
Total		90

Q16 How far approximately is this park/play park from your home? (miles)

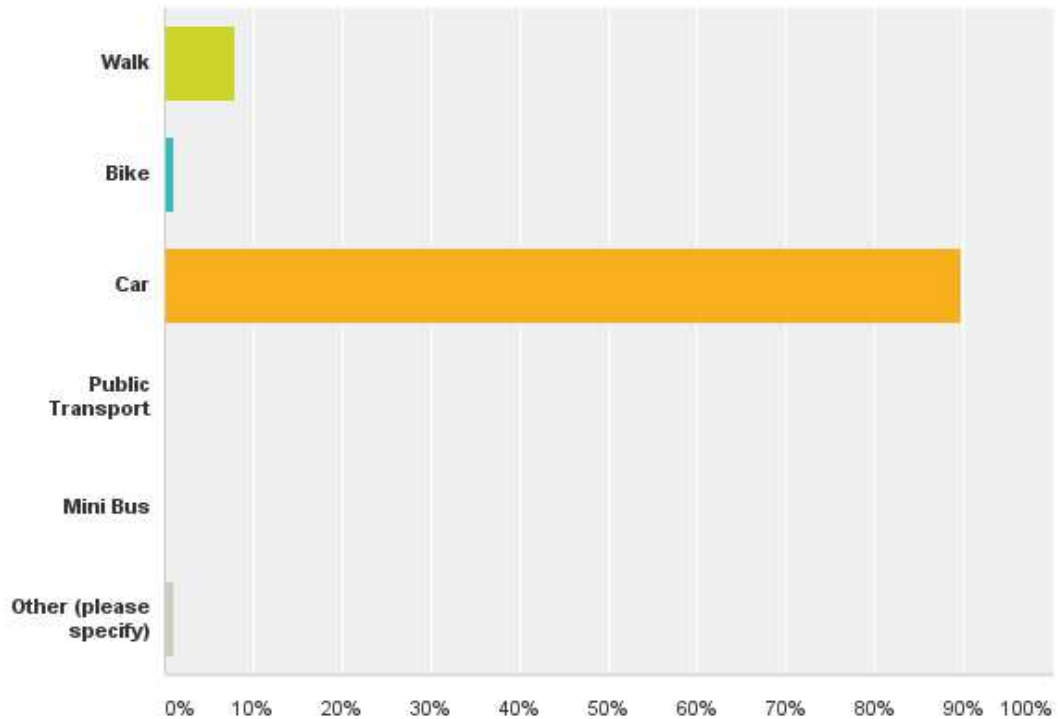
Answered: 90 Skipped: 51



Answer Choices	Responses	
0.5<1 mile	6.67%	6
1 mile <1.5 miles	3.33%	3
1.5<2 miles	4.44%	4
3-5 miles	26.67%	24
6-10 miles	25.56%	23
11 miles+	33.33%	30
Total		90

Q17 How do you travel to this park/play park

Answered: 88 Skipped: 53



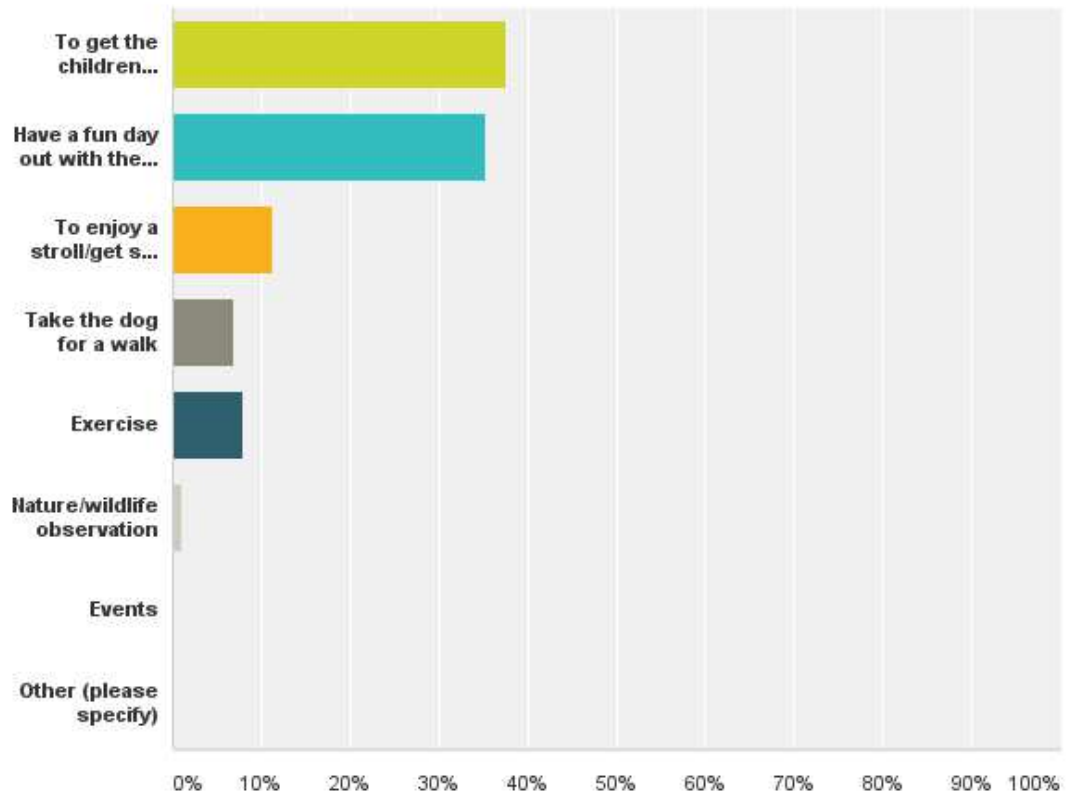
Answer Choices	Responses	
Walk	7.95%	7
Bike	1.14%	1
Car	89.77%	79
Public Transport	0.00%	0
Mini Bus	0.00%	0
Other (please specify)	1.14%	1
Total		88

OTHER COMMENTS

Irrelevant as it highlights only a lack of a good local park.

Q18 What is your primary reason for visiting this park/play park?

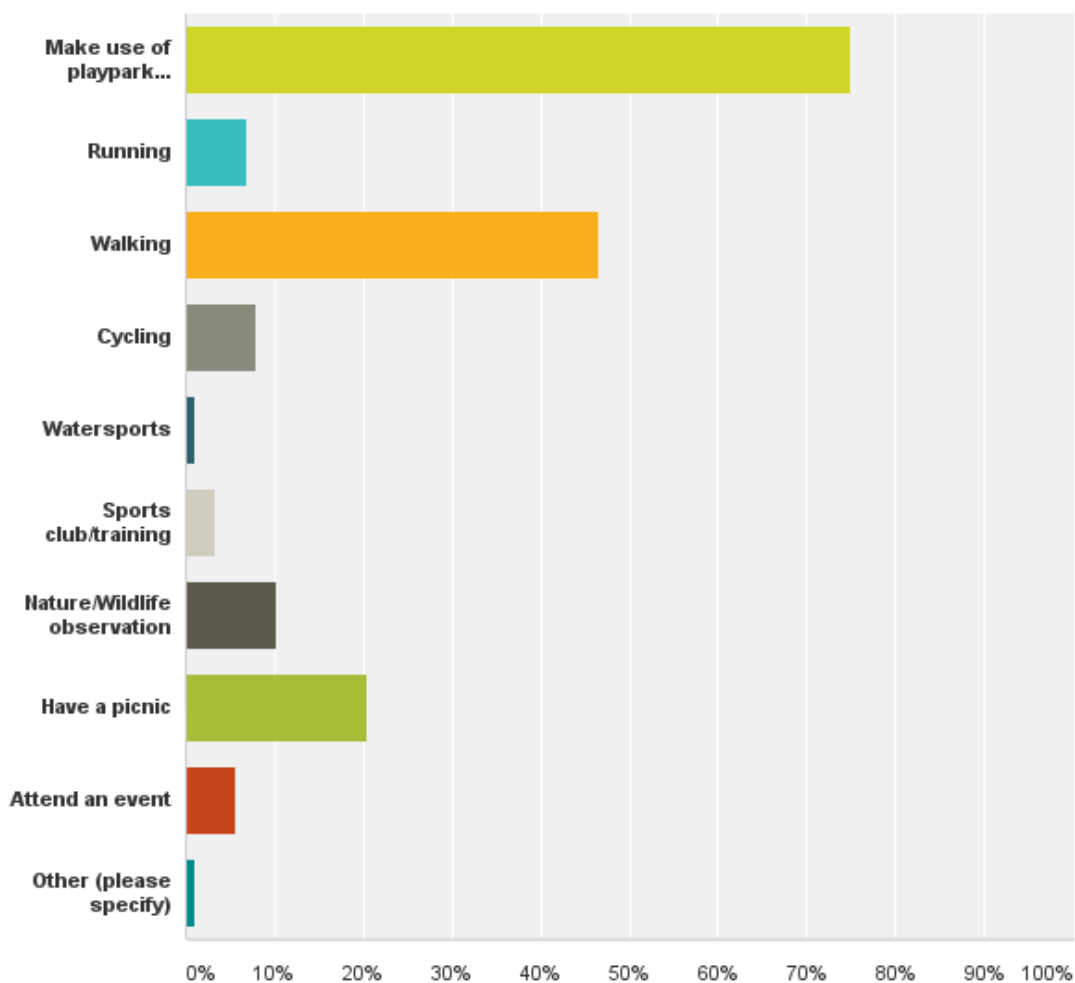
Answered: 88 Skipped: 53



Answer Choices	Responses	
▼ To get the children outdoors for half an hour	37.50%	33
▼ Have a fun day out with the family	35.23%	31
▼ To enjoy a stroll/get some fresh air	11.36%	10
▼ Take the dog for a walk	6.82%	6
▼ Exercise	7.95%	7
▼ Nature/wildlife observation	1.14%	1
▼ Events	0.00%	0
▼ Other (please specify)	0.00%	0
Total		88

Q19 What do you do at this park/play park?

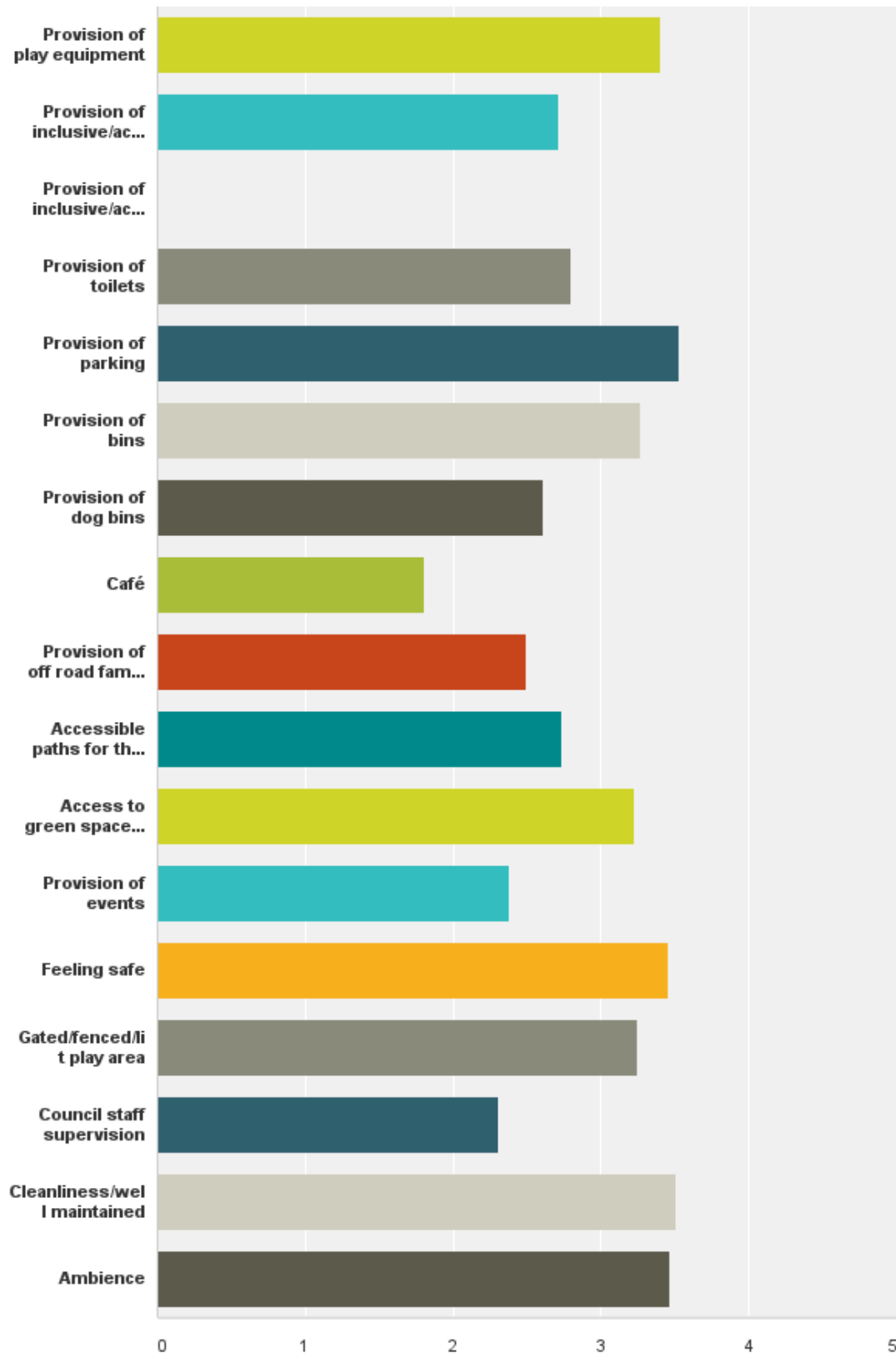
Answered: 88 Skipped: 53



Answer Choices	Responses	
Make use of playpark facilities	75.00%	66
Running	6.82%	6
Walking	46.59%	41
Cycling	7.95%	7
Watersports	1.14%	1
Sports club/training	3.41%	3
Nature/Wildlife observation	10.23%	9
Have a picnic	20.45%	18
Attend an event	5.68%	5
Other (please specify)	1.14%	1
Total Respondents: 88		

Q20 On a scale of 1-5 (1 meaning Poor and 5 meaning Excellent) how would you rate your favourite park/play park on each of the following

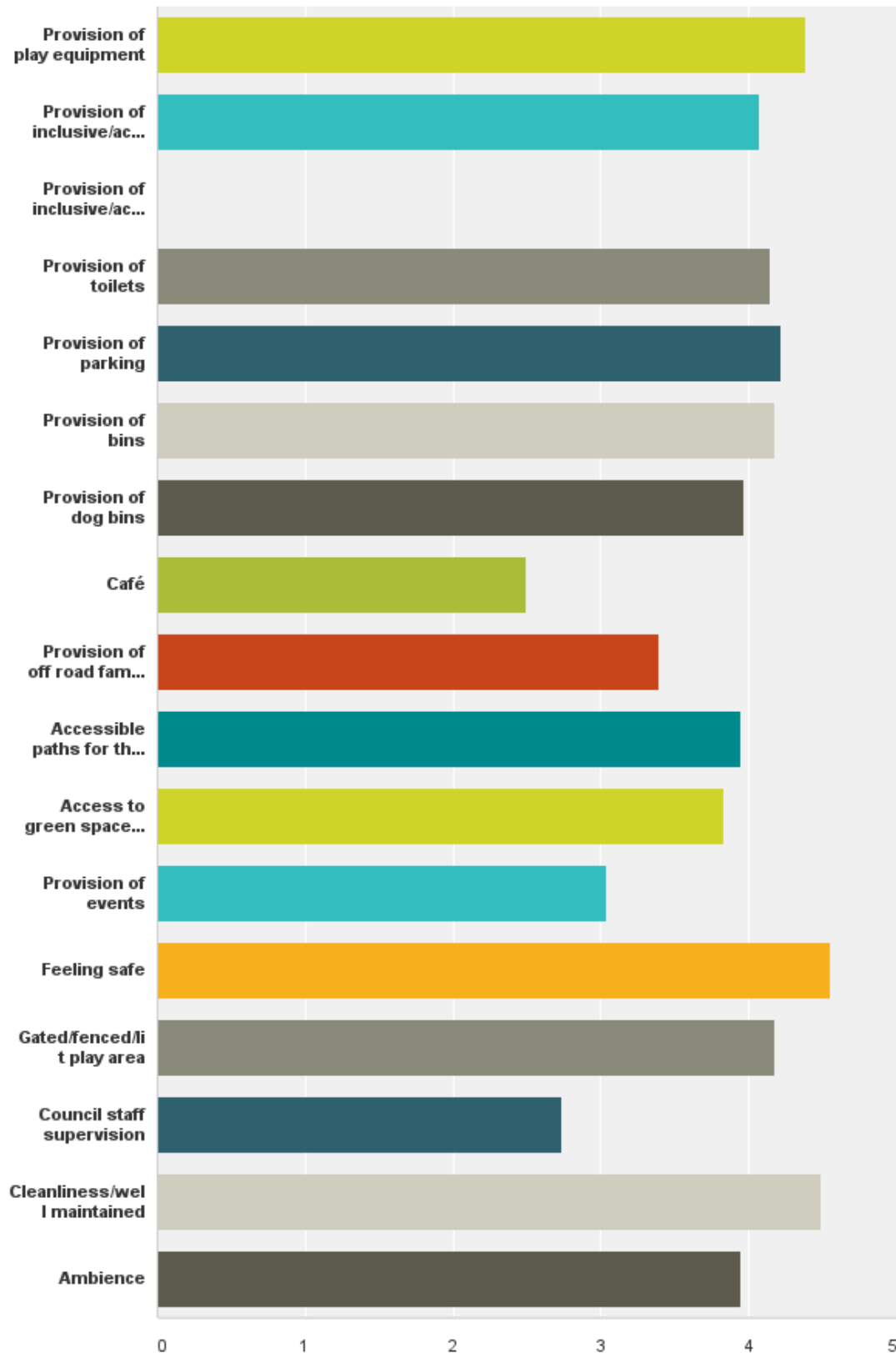
Answered: 78 Skipped: 63



	Poor	Satisfactory	Good	Very Good	Excellent	N/A	Total	Weighted Average
Provision of play equipment	8.97% 7	15.38% 12	23.08% 18	25.64% 20	23.08% 18	3.85% 3	78	3.40
Provision of inclusive/accessible play equipment (play facilities and changing for people with a disability - Physical, hearing, sight, learning, mental health or hidden)	24.36% 19	17.95% 14	24.36% 19	11.54% 9	14.10% 11	7.69% 6	78	2.71
Provision of inclusive/accessible toilet/changing facilities (facilities for people with a disability - Physical, hearing, sight, learning, mental health or hidden)	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0	0.00
Provision of toilets	25.64% 20	8.97% 7	26.92% 21	16.67% 13	12.82% 10	8.97% 7	78	2.60
Provision of parking	5.13% 4	11.54% 9	33.33% 26	23.08% 18	25.64% 20	1.28% 1	78	3.53
Provision of bins	1.28% 1	20.51% 16	43.59% 34	16.67% 13	16.67% 13	1.28% 1	78	3.27
Provision of dog bins	16.67% 13	20.51% 16	25.64% 20	7.69% 6	7.69% 6	21.79% 17	78	2.61
Café	33.33% 26	7.69% 6	7.69% 6	3.85% 3	2.56% 2	44.87% 35	78	1.81
Provision of off road family cycle trails	28.21% 22	11.54% 9	11.54% 9	6.41% 5	12.82% 10	29.49% 23	78	2.49
Accessible paths for those with limited mobility/wheelchair user	20.51% 16	17.95% 14	23.08% 18	12.82% 10	11.54% 9	14.10% 11	78	2.73
Access to green space (for walking or running)	15.38% 12	11.54% 9	21.79% 17	19.23% 15	21.79% 17	10.26% 8	78	3.23
Provision of events	21.79% 17	23.08% 18	20.51% 16	3.85% 3	7.69% 6	23.08% 18	78	2.38
Feeling safe	2.56% 2	17.95% 14	34.62% 27	19.23% 15	24.36% 19	1.28% 1	78	3.45
Gated/fenced/lit play area	11.54% 9	20.51% 16	21.79% 17	16.67% 13	25.64% 20	3.85% 3	78	3.25
Council staff supervision	24.36% 19	24.36% 19	14.10% 11	5.13% 4	7.69% 6	24.36% 19	78	2.31
Cleanliness/well maintained	2.56% 2	12.82% 10	32.05% 25	32.05% 25	17.95% 14	2.56% 2	78	3.51
Ambience	3.85% 3	12.82% 10	33.33% 26	28.21% 22	19.23% 15	2.56% 2	78	3.47

Q21 On a scale of 1-5 (1 meaning Poor and 5 meaning Excellent) how important to you are each of the following at your favourite park/play park?

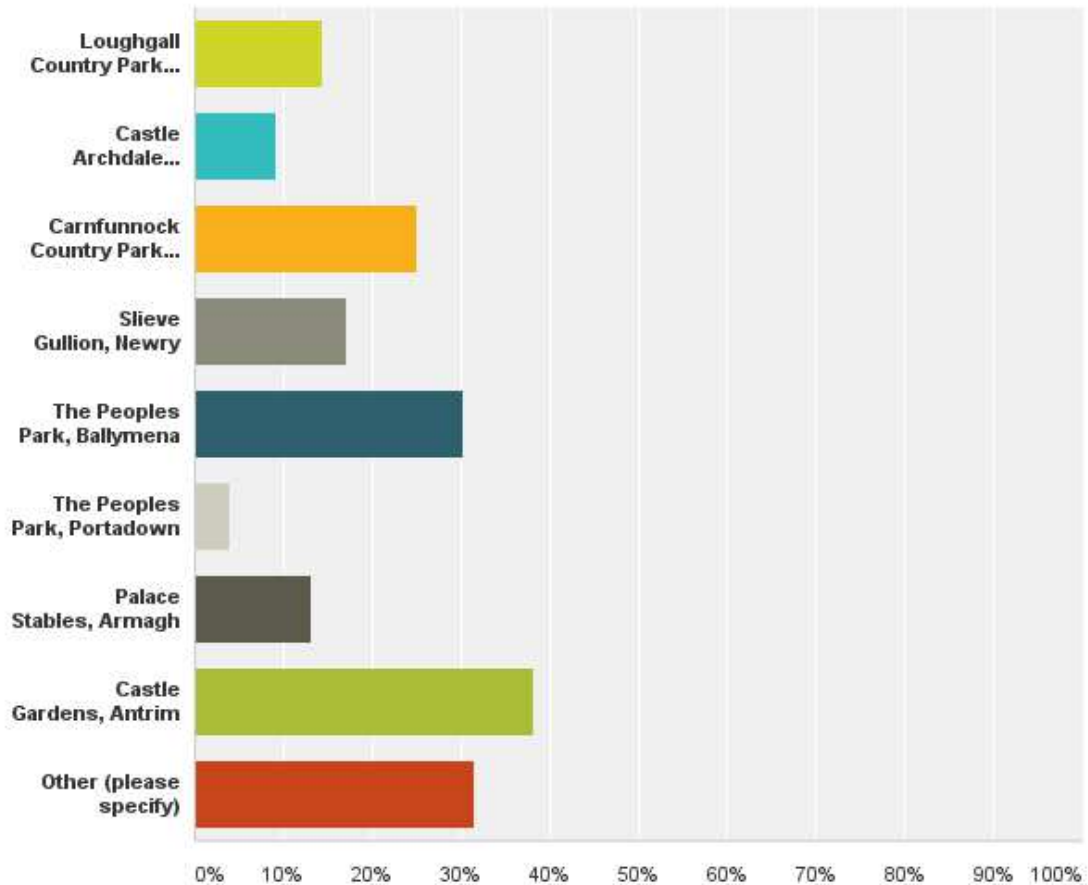
Answered: 78 Skipped: 63



	Not important at all	Slightly important	Important	Very important	Extremely important	N/A	Total	Weighted Average
Provision of play equipment	2.56% 2	5.13% 4	7.69% 6	19.23% 15	62.82% 49	2.56% 2	78	4.3
Provision of inclusive/accessible play equipment (play facilities and changing for people with a disability - Physical, hearing, sight, learning, mental health or hidden)	2.56% 2	5.13% 4	15.38% 12	33.33% 26	39.74% 31	3.85% 3	78	4.0
Provision of inclusive/accessible toilet/changing facilities (facilities for people with a disability - Physical, hearing, sight, learning, mental health or hidden)	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0	0.0
Provision of toilets	3.85% 3	1.28% 1	17.95% 14	29.49% 23	46.15% 36	1.28% 1	78	4.1
Provision of parking	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	19.23% 15	38.46% 30	41.03% 32	1.28% 1	78	4.2
Provision of bins	0.00% 0	2.56% 2	17.95% 14	35.90% 28	41.03% 32	2.56% 2	78	4.1
Provision of dog bins	0.00% 0	5.13% 4	24.36% 19	32.05% 25	32.05% 25	6.41% 5	78	3.9
Café	26.92% 21	19.23% 15	21.79% 17	8.97% 7	10.26% 8	12.82% 10	78	2.5
Provision of off road family cycle trails	7.69% 6	14.10% 11	28.21% 22	16.67% 13	24.36% 19	8.97% 7	78	3.3
Accessible paths for those with limited mobility/wheelchair user	1.28% 1	5.13% 4	26.92% 21	24.36% 19	35.90% 28	6.41% 5	78	3.9
Access to green space (for walking or running)	1.28% 1	3.85% 3	35.90% 28	24.36% 19	30.77% 24	3.85% 3	78	3.6
Provision of events	14.10% 11	15.38% 12	32.05% 25	11.54% 9	17.95% 14	8.97% 7	78	3.0
Feeling safe	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	11.54% 9	21.79% 17	65.38% 51	1.28% 1	78	4.5
Gated/fenced/lit play area	2.56% 2	6.41% 5	14.10% 11	21.79% 17	52.56% 41	2.56% 2	78	4.1
Council staff supervision	19.23% 15	17.95% 14	30.77% 24	10.26% 8	11.54% 9	10.26% 8	78	2.7
Cleanliness/well maintained	1.28% 1	1.28% 1	8.97% 7	23.08% 18	64.10% 50	1.28% 1	78	4.4
Ambience	2.56% 2	0.00% 0	34.62% 27	23.08% 18	37.18% 29	2.56% 2	78	3.9

Q22 Which park(s)/play park(s) outside the Council district have you visited in the last 12 months?

Answered: 76 Skipped: 65



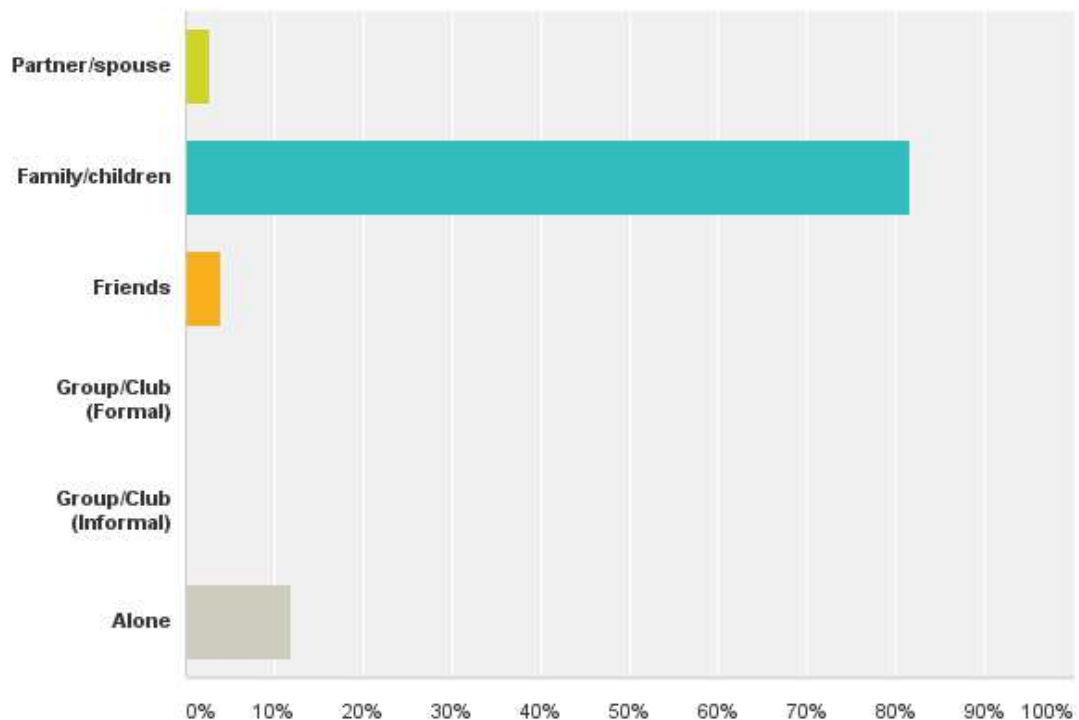
Answer Choices	Responses	
▼ Loughgall Country Park, Loughgall	14.47%	11
▼ Castle Archdale Country Park, Fermanagh	9.21%	7
▼ Carnfunnock Country Park, Larne	25.00%	19
▼ Slieve Gullion, Newry	17.11%	13
▼ The Peoples Park, Ballymena	30.26%	23
▼ The Peoples Park, Portadown	3.95%	3
▼ Palace Stables, Armagh	13.16%	10
▼ Castle Gardens, Antrim	38.16%	29
▼ Other (please specify)	31.58%	24
Total Respondents: 76		

OTHER PARKS

No parks outside District – 7; Peatlands Park – 2; Singular mentions: Ballycastle; Victoria Park; Banagher Dam; Cranfield Play Parks; Lurgan; Craigavon Lakes; Portrush; Claudy; Kilrea; Roe Valley Country Park; Ballymoney; Address; Navan; Portglenone; Marine Gardens Carrickfergus; Flower Arts Centre Portstewart.

Q23 Who did you visit this park/play park with?

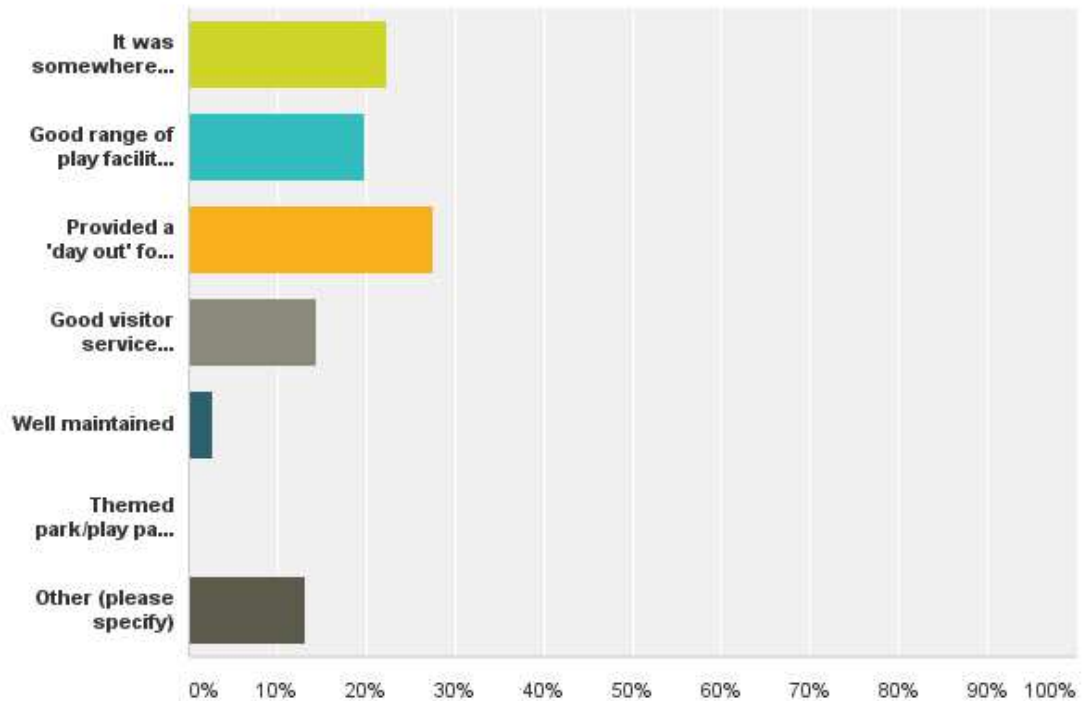
Answered: 76 Skipped: 65



Answer Choices	Responses
Partner/spouse	2.63% 2
Family/children	81.58% 62
Friends	3.95% 3
Group/Club (Formal)	0.00% 0
Group/Club (Informal)	0.00% 0
Alone	11.84% 9
Total	76

Q24 What was your primary reason for visiting this park(s)/play park(s)?

Answered: 76 Skipped: 65



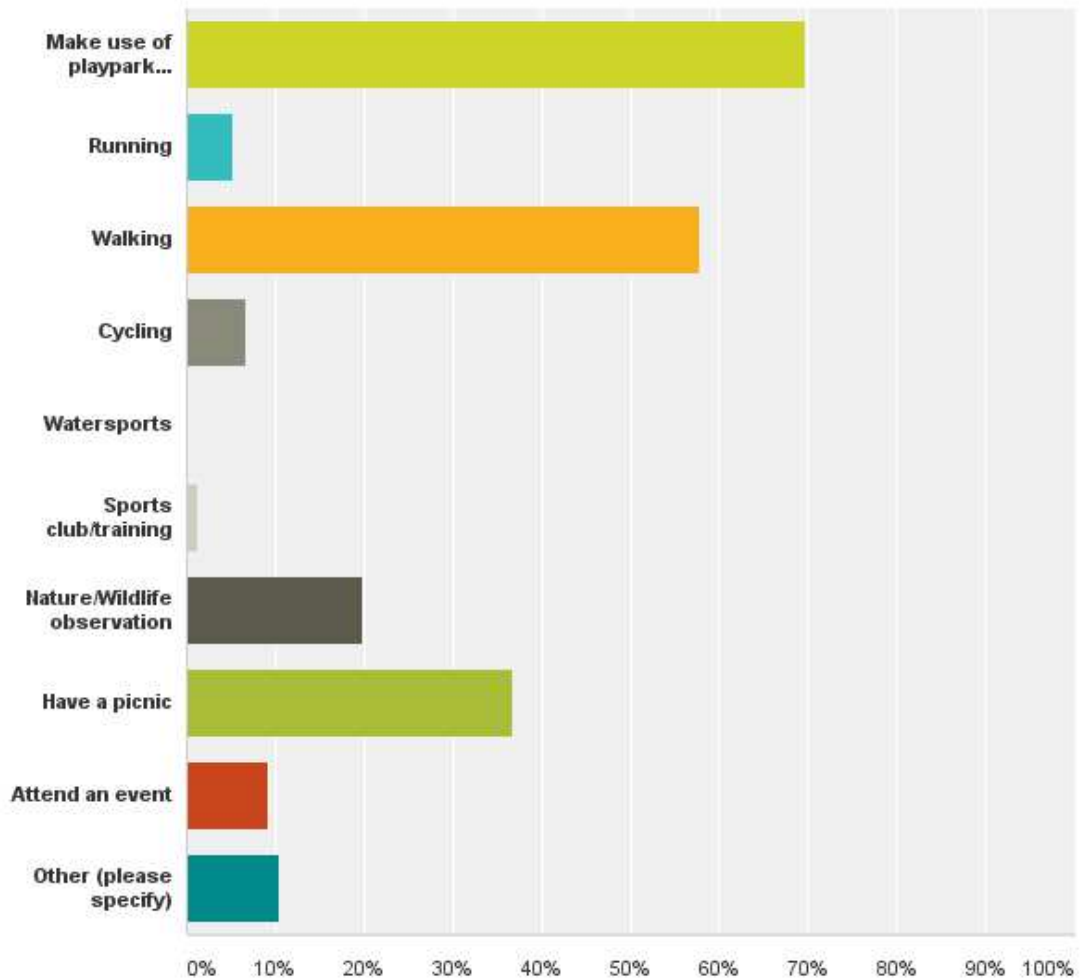
Answer Choices	Responses	
▼ It was somewhere different to go	22.37%	17
▼ Good range of play facilities for all ages	19.74%	15
▼ Provided a 'day out' for all the family	27.63%	21
▼ Good visitor service facilities e.g. Visitor Centre, café, toilets etc.	14.47%	11
▼ Well maintained	2.63%	2
▼ Themed park/play park visitor attraction	0.00%	0
▼ Other (please specify) Responses	13.16%	10
Total		76

OTHER RESPONSES

Not applicable – 6; Nature and natural unkempt features – 2. Singular responses: event such as Park Run; Close to home; changing facilities for disabled person.

Q25 What did do you do at this park/play park?

Answered: 76 Skipped: 65



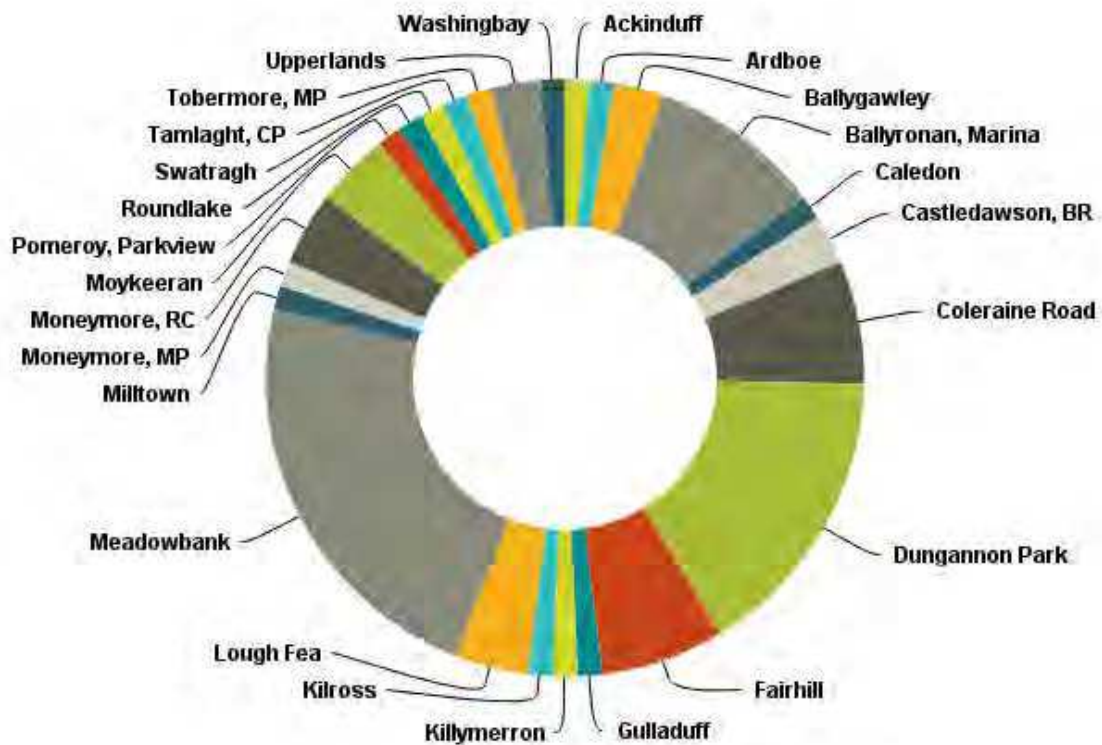
Answer Choices	Responses	
Make use of playpark facilities	69.74%	53
Running	5.26%	4
Walking	57.89%	44
Cycling	6.58%	5
Watersports	0.00%	0
Sports club/training	1.32%	1
Nature/Wildlife observation	19.74%	15
Have a picnic	36.84%	28
Attend an event	9.21%	7
Other (please specify)	10.53%	8
Total Respondents: 76		

OTHER RESPONSES

Nothing – 5; walked the dog -2; Singular response - It has full range of disabled facilities and inclusive play for my disabled daughter to play with others with no disabilities together, it has also got sensory garden and disabled picnic tables for wheelchair use.

Q26 Can you please can you state again which park/play park is your favourite park in Mid Ulster? (If you cannot locate the park you require from the drop down list please state name or street name).

Answered: 75 Skipped: 66



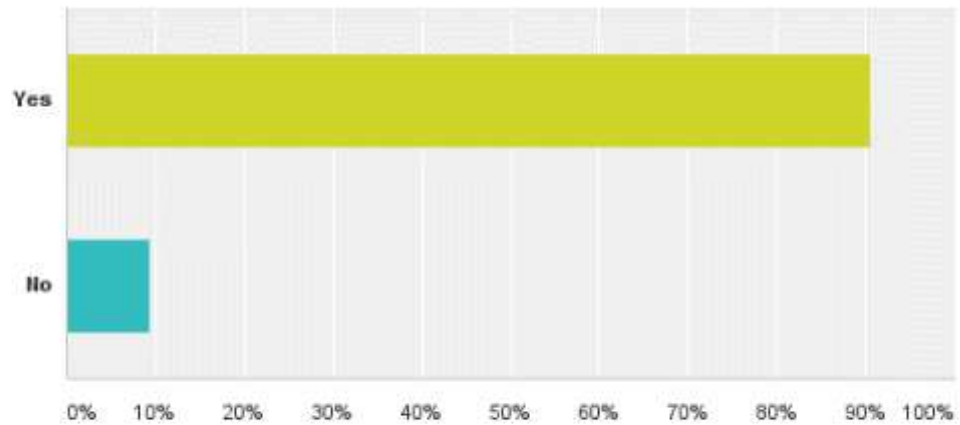
Answer Choices	Responses	
Ackinduff	1.33%	1
Ardboe	1.33%	1
Ballygawley	2.67%	2
Ballyronan, Marina	9.33%	7
Caledon	1.33%	1
Castledawson, Boyne Row	2.67%	2
Coleraine Road	6.67%	5
Dungannon Park	16.00%	12
Fairhill	6.67%	5
Gulladuff	1.33%	1
Killymerron	1.33%	1
Kilross	1.33%	1
Lough Fea	4.00%	3
Meadowbank	22.67%	17
Milltown	1.33%	1
Moneymore, Manor Park	1.33%	1
Moneymore, Recreation Centre	4.00%	3
Moykeeran	4.00%	3
Pomeroy, Parkview	1.33%	1
Roundlake	1.33%	1
Swatragh	1.33%	1
Tamlaght, Church Park	1.33%	1
Tobermore, Mill Park	1.33%	1
Upperlands	2.67%	2
Washingbay	1.33%	1
Total		75

OTHER PARKS/PLAY PARKS

Drum Manor - 3; Pomeroy Forest – 2. Other singular mentions: Glenmore Walk; Maghera; Maghera Leisure Centre.

Q27 Did you have children accompanying you who used the play park?

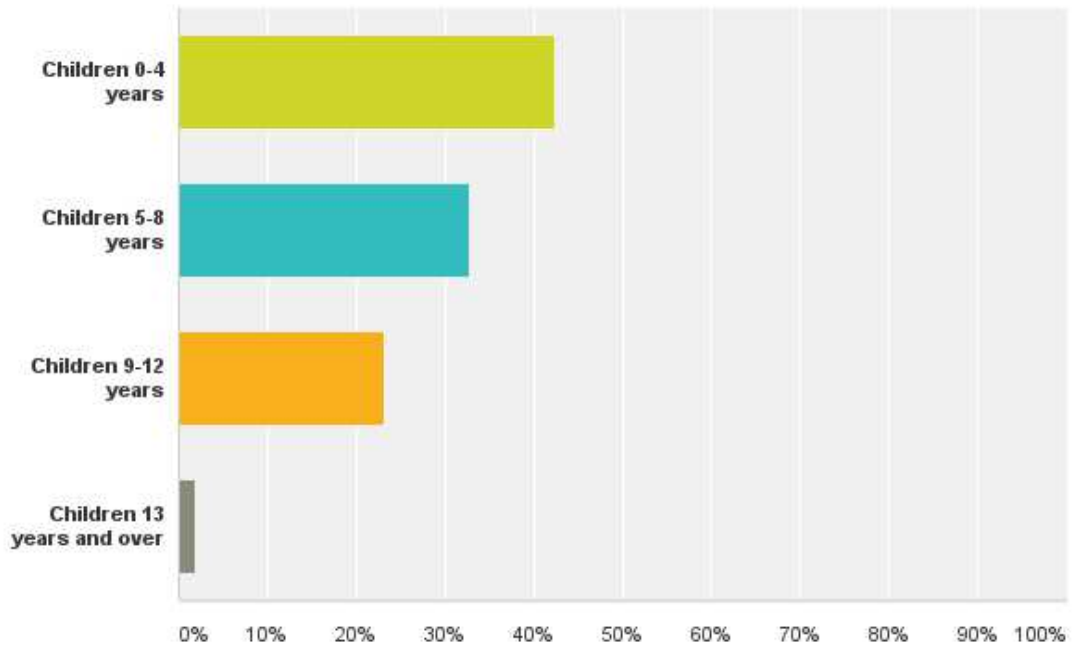
Answered: 75 Skipped: 66



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	90.67%	68
No	9.33%	7
Total		75

Q28 What age were the children who use this play park?

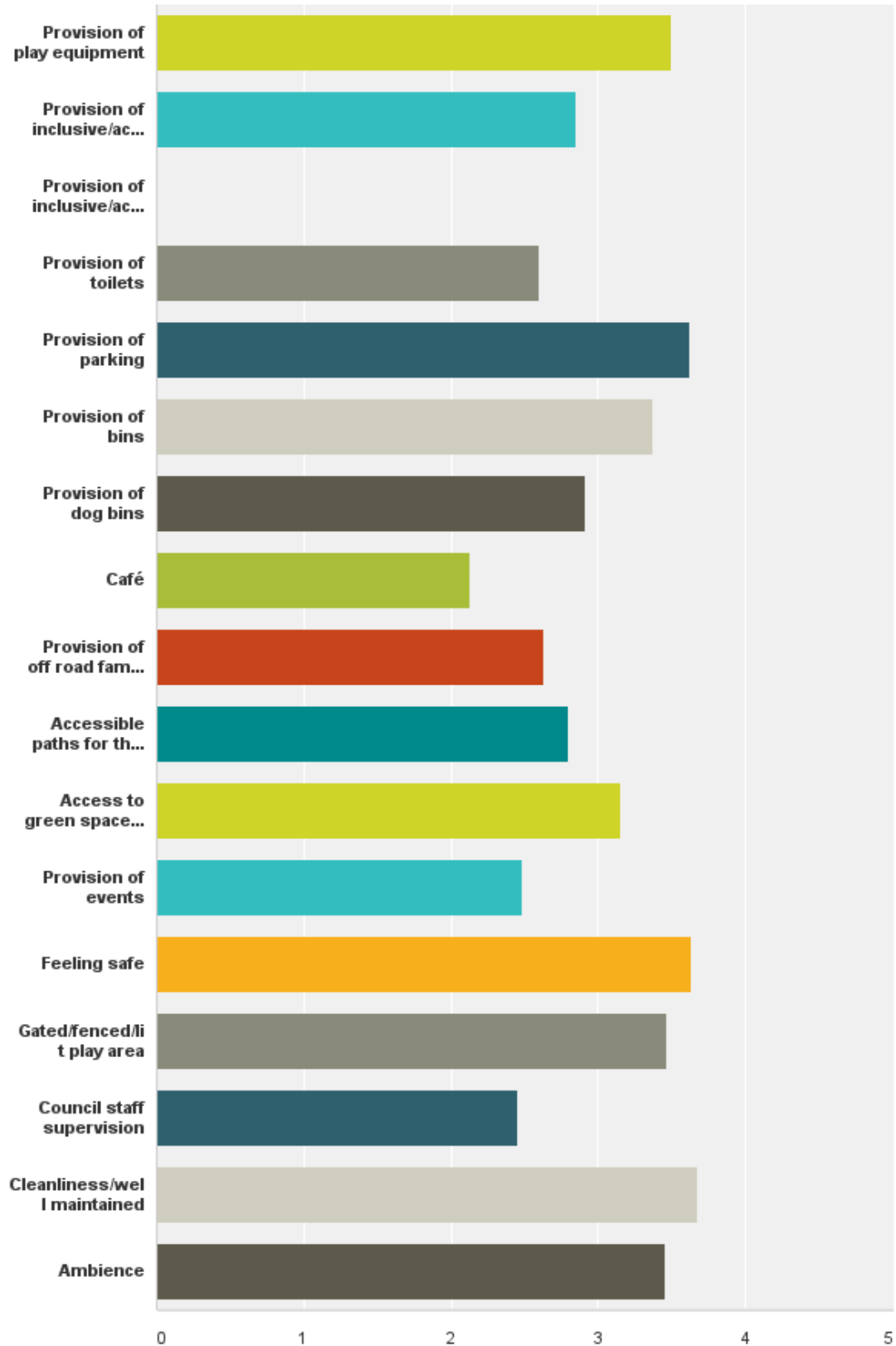
Answered: 52 Skipped: 89



Answer Choices	Responses	
Children 0-4 years	42.31%	22
Children 5-8 years	32.69%	17
Children 9-12 years	23.08%	12
Children 13 years and over	1.92%	1
Total		52

Q29 On a scale of 1-5 (1 meaning Poor and 5 meaning Excellent) how would you rate this play park on each of the following

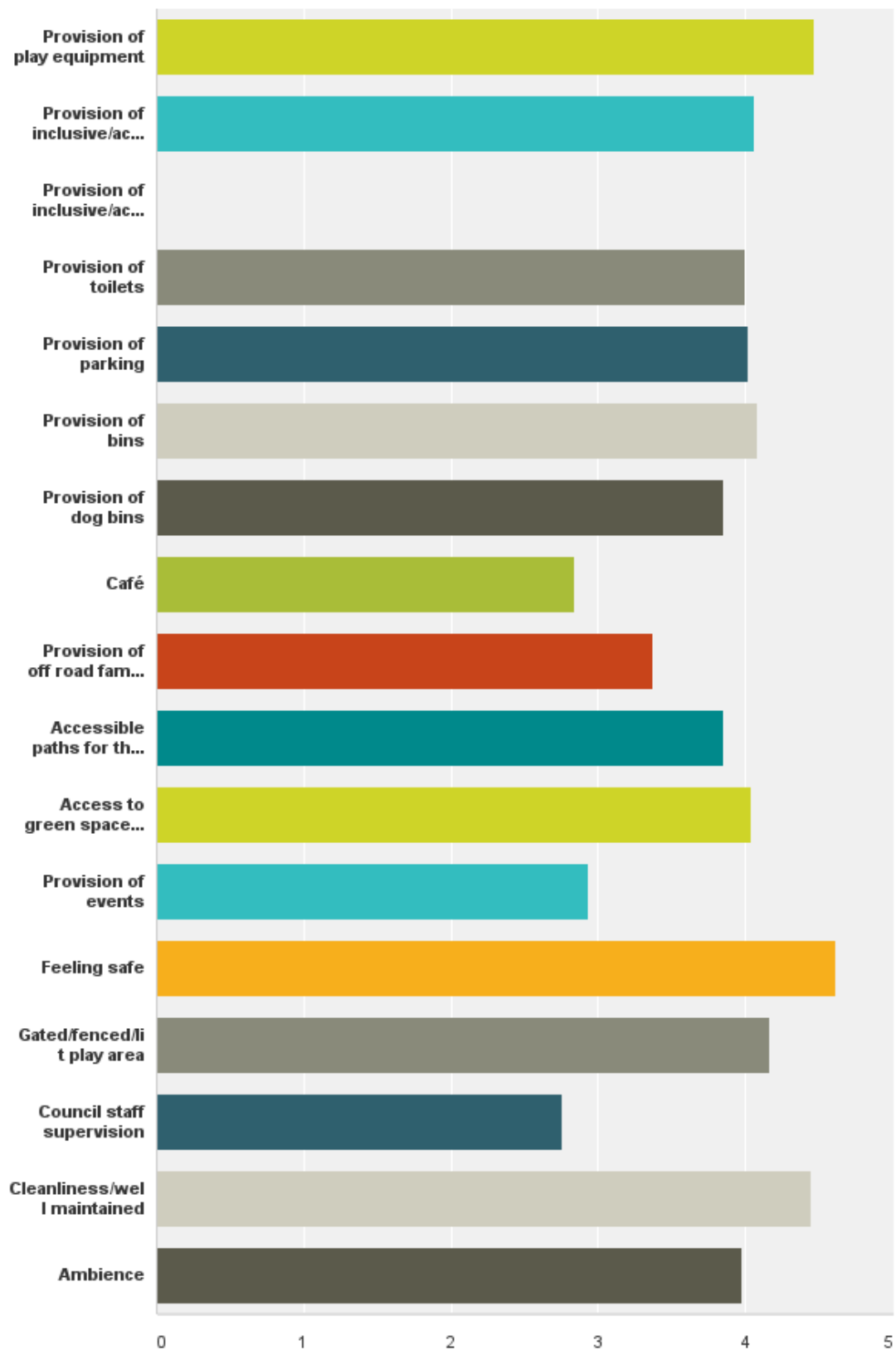
Answered: 52 Skipped: 89



	Poor	Satisfactory	Good	Very Good	Excellent	N/A	Total	Weighted Average
Provision of play equipment	9.62% 5	13.46% 7	19.23% 10	32.69% 17	25.00% 13	0.00% 0	52	3.50
Provision of inclusive/accessible play equipment (play facilities and changing for people with a disability - Physical, hearing, sight, learning, mental health or hidden)	28.85% 15	9.62% 5	13.46% 7	23.08% 12	15.38% 8	9.62% 5	52	2.85
Provision of inclusive/accessible toilet/changing facilities (facilities for people with a disability - Physical, hearing, sight, learning, mental health or hidden)	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0	0.00
Provision of toilets	34.62% 18	11.54% 6	21.15% 11	15.38% 8	13.46% 7	3.85% 2	52	2.60
Provision of parking	7.69% 4	9.62% 5	19.23% 10	40.38% 21	23.08% 12	0.00% 0	52	3.62
Provision of bins	7.69% 4	13.46% 7	26.92% 14	38.46% 20	13.46% 7	0.00% 0	52	3.37
Provision of dog bins	11.54% 6	17.31% 9	30.77% 16	13.46% 7	9.62% 5	17.31% 9	52	2.91
Café	28.85% 15	9.62% 5	13.46% 7	5.77% 3	3.85% 2	38.46% 20	52	2.13
Provision of off road family cycle trails	30.77% 16	3.85% 2	17.31% 9	13.46% 7	11.54% 6	23.08% 12	52	2.63
Accessible paths for those with limited mobility/wheelchair user	21.15% 11	15.38% 8	23.08% 12	13.46% 7	13.46% 7	13.46% 7	52	2.80
Access to green space (for walking or running)	17.31% 9	3.85% 2	28.85% 15	25.00% 13	13.46% 7	11.54% 6	52	3.15
Provision of events	26.92% 14	9.62% 5	25.00% 13	7.69% 4	7.69% 4	23.08% 12	52	2.48
Feeling safe	3.85% 2	7.69% 4	30.77% 16	34.62% 18	21.15% 11	1.92% 1	52	3.63
Gated/fenced/lit play area	9.62% 5	9.62% 5	25.00% 13	32.69% 17	21.15% 11	1.92% 1	52	3.47
Council staff supervision	19.23% 10	21.15% 11	19.23% 10	7.69% 4	5.77% 3	26.92% 14	52	2.45
Council staff supervision	19.23% 10	21.15% 11	19.23% 10	7.69% 4	5.77% 3	26.92% 14	52	2.45
Cleanliness/well maintained	3.85% 2	9.62% 5	21.15% 11	46.15% 24	19.23% 10	0.00% 0	52	3.67
Ambience	5.77% 3	11.54% 6	30.77% 16	28.85% 15	19.23% 10	3.85% 2	52	3.46

Q30 On a scale of 1-5 (1 meaning Poor and 5 meaning Excellent) how important are each of the following at this play park?

Answered: 52 Skipped: 89



	Not important at all	Slightly important	Important	Very important	Extremely important	N/A	Total	Weighted Average
Provision of play equipment	1.92% 1	3.85% 2	5.77% 3	21.15% 11	65.38% 34	1.92% 1	52	4.47
Provision of inclusive/accessible play equipment (play facilities and changing for people with a disability - Physical, hearing, sight, learning, mental health or hidden)	1.92% 1	3.85% 2	21.15% 11	26.92% 14	40.38% 21	5.77% 3	52	4.06
Provision of inclusive/accessible toilet/changing facilities (facilities for people with a disability - Physical, hearing, sight, learning, mental health or hidden)	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0	0.00
Provision of toilets	1.92% 1	5.77% 3	19.23% 10	32.69% 17	36.54% 19	3.85% 2	52	4.00
Provision of parking	0.00% 0	3.85% 2	23.08% 12	38.46% 20	32.69% 17	1.92% 1	52	4.02
Provision of bins	0.00% 0	1.92% 1	17.31% 9	48.08% 25	28.85% 15	3.85% 2	52	4.08
Provision of dog bins	1.92% 1	5.77% 3	23.08% 12	32.69% 17	26.92% 14	9.62% 5	52	3.85
Café	15.38% 8	21.15% 11	21.15% 11	15.38% 8	11.54% 6	15.38% 8	52	2.84
Provision of off road family cycle trails	9.62% 5	13.46% 7	21.15% 11	23.08% 12	21.15% 11	11.54% 6	52	3.37
Accessible paths for those with limited mobility/wheelchair user	1.92% 1	5.77% 3	30.77% 16	19.23% 10	34.62% 18	7.69% 4	52	3.85
Access to green space (for walking or running)	0.00% 0	3.85% 2	21.15% 11	34.62% 18	32.69% 17	7.69% 4	52	4.04
Provision of events	15.38% 8	13.46% 7	30.77% 16	11.54% 6	13.46% 7	15.38% 8	52	2.93
Feeling safe	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	9.62% 5	19.23% 10	69.23% 36	1.92% 1	52	4.61
Gated/fenced/lit play area	1.92% 1	5.77% 3	13.46% 7	30.77% 16	46.15% 24	1.92% 1	52	4.16
Council staff supervision	19.23% 10	17.31% 9	28.85% 15	11.54% 6	11.54% 6	11.54% 6	52	2.76
Cleanliness/well maintained	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	15.38% 8	23.08% 12	59.62% 31	1.92% 1	52	4.45
Ambience	3.85% 2	0.00% 0	25.00% 13	32.69% 17	34.62% 18	3.85% 2	52	3.98

Q31 How could this play park be improved?

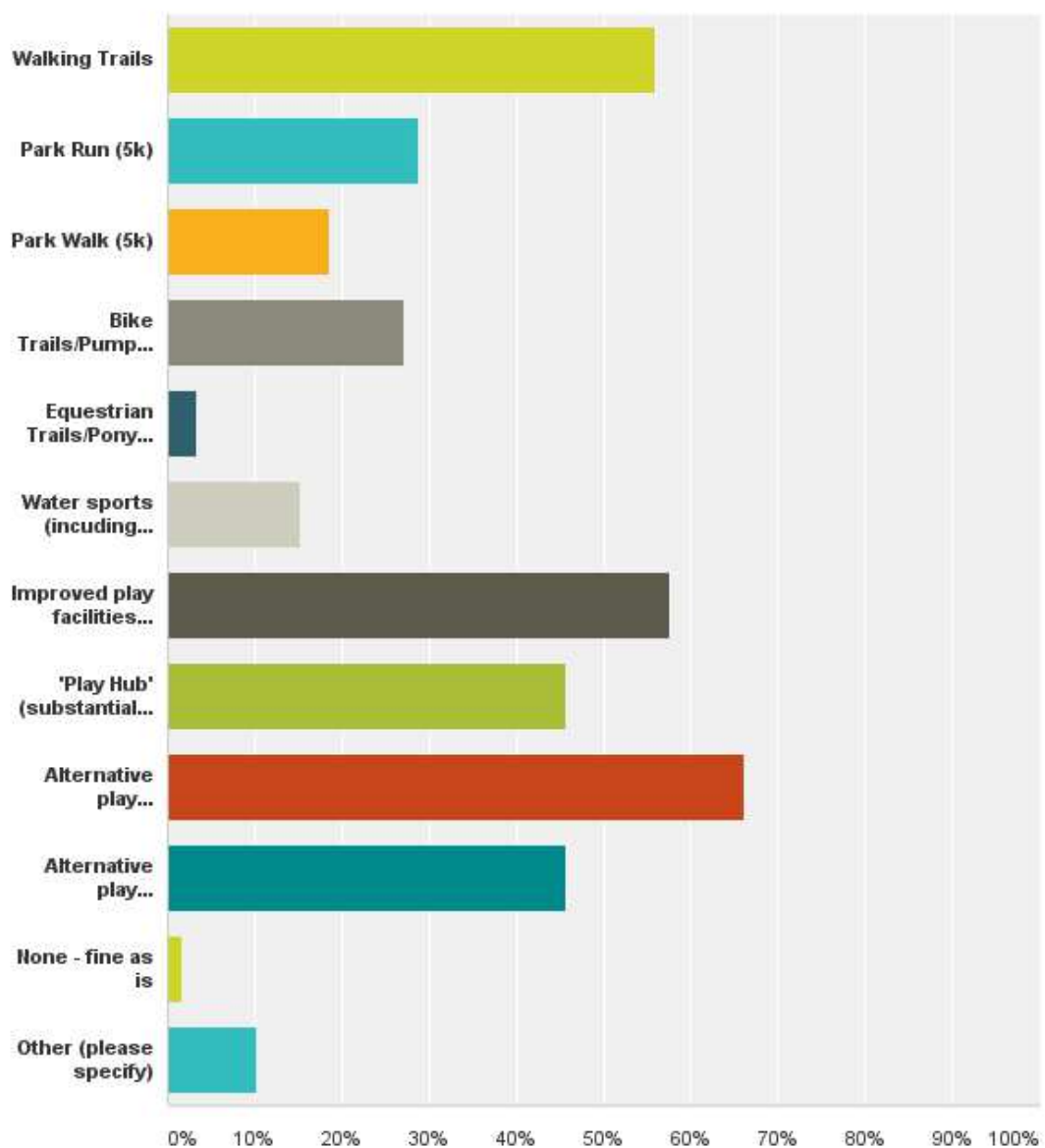
Response Number	Verbatim Response
1	<i>It is quite good I think improvements needed to be focused and made instead to parks that aren't good in the likes of smaller villages like mine Upperlands</i>
2	<i>Couldn't</i>
3	<i>It could be covered so it could be used all year round as we do not have the weather in this country for parks in general. There should also be more provision in Upperlands.</i>
4	<i>It's a disgrace that drum manor play park is not meeting the needs of disabled children in this community.</i>
5	<i>It couldn't I just wish we didn't have to travel so far to this standard of park and we had something more local for our children to play in more regularly</i>
6	<i>Improved????? How about planning on putting a park onsite please? There are 2 useable swings for older children. I had to answer N/A for most of the questions as there is no park to answer the questions too!!! Personally, i think it's a disgrace what the children in and around Caledon have! As a mum of quite a large family of a big age range i know my kids, as are other children from the 3 schools in Caledon are missing out!</i>
7	<i>Excellent playground but could have more equipment for toddler age range</i>
8	<i>cycling routes toilets changing rooms Events better equipment Ball well swing rope More for older children</i>
9	<i>More lamps (evening time) safety</i>
10	<i>It's fine as it is</i>
11	<i>More play facilities. Play area fenced in. Seats for adults when children playing.</i>
12	<i>More challenging equipment for age 10 plus. E.g. Sandwell play park in West Bromwich, Lake Windermere play park. There is no green space, cycle paths areas to walk, picnic tables. No opportunity for a day out in the area - apart from to the local cemetery. No thanks</i>
13	<i>Tables for picnic</i>
14	<i>More seating</i>
15	<i>More walks</i>
16	<i>Better lighting</i>
17	<i>Extra trails orienteering tracks water sports</i>
18	<i>The green area is always saturated when it rains. Park green therefore can experience limited use. Park is not lit at night which could limit potential use in evening for at least 4months of the yr.</i>
19	<i>n/a</i>
20	<i>Put in a play park.</i>
21	<i>More parking better toilets</i>
22	<i>Dungannon park - the grass gets very muddy between the play spaces. There are a few very steep/sudden steps off the soft areas that could hurt someone (esp. if you're standing watching you could tumble off - at the edge of the large climbing frame especially). There also is a lack of facilities for children between toddlers and those 6/7+ who can use the larger equipment.</i>
23	<i>Improved play park facilities</i>
24	<i>Toilets</i>
25	<i>More facilities for infants</i>

26	<i>Made bigger. More use of the green space beside it</i>
27	<i>Space for family fun</i>
28	<i>Moneymore main park needs to protected more between anti-social behaviour and children trying to cross what is an extremely dangerous fast road and the park being locked it's not an accessible place to let the children go to</i>
29	<i>We need more than one park in Magherafelt. We need adventure type parks made with wood and rope etc., not all metal. The park is closed on bank holidays and at other times when we would be likely to use it.</i>
30	<i>Made much larger to accommodate for the population of Cookstown the same goes for Coagh park.</i>
31	<i>Better parking. Kids can run out straight to carpark which is very busy</i>
32	<i>made bigger</i>
33	<i>Gravel carpark beside play park extended and tarmacked. Toilet provision.</i>
34	<i>MADE BIGGER</i>
35	<i>It seems unwelcoming of the Protestant/ unionist community. The staff are cold, suspicious and uninterested. It appears to run NYA small group of people that run the Maria centre for themselves. It needs new staff and managers.</i>
36	<i>More seats and modern equipment</i>
37	<i>More walking trails nearby</i>
38	<i>more equipment, facilities, paths and disabled access</i>
39	<i>Meadowbank is quite good which I have answered these questions for. Castledawson park is very small and quite basic</i>
40	<i>None</i>
41	<i>Water safety for children events</i>
42	<i>It's very good</i>
43	<i>I don't think it needs to be improved however better provision in smaller villages would be better</i>
44	<i>Supervised play</i>
45	<i>I would love a park with this mix of play equipment, green space and shared walking/cycling paths nearer my home in Maghera.</i>
46	<i>Keep working with local groups and clubs and let them input into the development of the park.</i>
	<i>Too many parks are over manicured, Windmill wood is great for both kids and adults.</i>
47	<i>This park is excellent compared to our local park it's a shame our local park isn't better. We need a more central to the village of Upperlands rather than just the residents of Alexander park. The park in Alexander park is treat like it is owned by the residents of that estate as it is so close to the estate and is not very welcoming to those from outside the estate and those from outside the village would certainly not go down there to use it. Our village for being rural has a big intake of children in Ampertaine and also little amps and there are also children nearby in Culnady, St John's Swatragh, crossroads, Maghera and Kilrea. I would love to see a mutual park in the centre of the village near the main Kilrea road open and welcoming to all as the coffee shop is also near that road and walks around nearby dams so people could make more of a day out</i>
48	<i>No dogs allowed in this or any parks or play parks in Mid Ulster. Instead introduce dog walking fields, secured/fenced in so those without dogs can get peace to actually enjoy our parks</i>
49	<i>Further development</i>

50	N/A
51	Replicated elsewhere in the District!
52	Knock it down and rebuild a fully inclusive play park. Add changing places toilet to Meadowbank building. Or find new location in Magherafelt for a fully inclusive play park with green area for picnics/ walking too.

Q32 What other outdoor recreation facilities would you like to see in your local public park/play park in Mid Ulster (You can choose more than one option)

Answered: 59 Skipped: 82



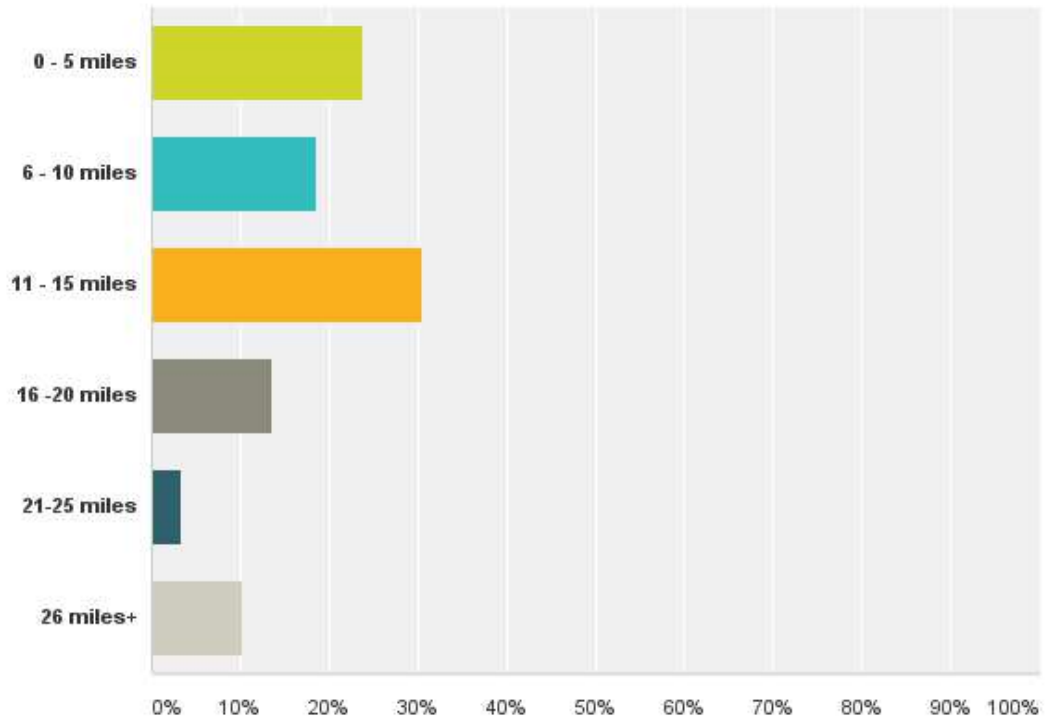
Answer Choices	Responses
▼ Walking Trails	55.93% 33
▼ Park Run (5k)	28.81% 17
▼ Park Walk (5k)	18.64% 11
▼ Bike Trails/Pump Track	27.12% 16
▼ Equestrian Trails/Pony Trekking Trails	3.39% 2
▼ Water sports (including Angling)	15.25% 9
▼ Improved play facilities (better swings, slides etc)	57.63% 34
▼ 'Play Hub' (substantial, equipped play resource catering for all age groups and abilities on a single site with in a designated catchment area)	45.76% 27
▼ Alternative play facilities: Nature Play (the provision of a play opportunity using something from the natural environment rather than a purpose-built piece of equipment. For example, the use of a tree trunk as a climbing frame or balance beam. The piece is usually modified to provide safer access)	66.10% 39
▼ Alternative play facilities: Wild Play (opportunistic play with the visitor using something they would expect to encounter in the environment e.g. climb a tree)	45.76% 27
▼ None - fine as is	1.69% 1
▼ Other (please specify) Responses	10.17% 6
Total Respondents: 59	

OTHER RESPONSES

Add inclusive play – 2; Singular mentions: build a playpark; green gym for adults; refurbish Swatragh; build toilets at Clady.

Q33 How far would you travel from your home address if the above was provided in a public park in mid Ulster? (miles)

Answered: 59 Skipped: 82



Answer Choices	Responses	
0 - 5 miles	23.73%	14
6 - 10 miles	18.64%	11
11 - 15 miles	30.51%	18
16 -20 miles	13.56%	8
21-25 miles	3.39%	2
26 miles+	10.17%	6
Total		59

Q34 Finally, please provide any further comments or observations you feel are important to the future development of outdoor recreation and parks and play provision in Mid Ulster.

Response Number	Verbatim Response
1	<i>We need more money spent on a proper park for our village of Upperlands. I have 3 children of varying age ranges and we don't have a fit for purpose park for them. I feel our village of Upperlands and children are forgotten although we are a smaller village we have a lot of children locally with nowhere to go and nothing to do in their village which isn't fair, they should get the same chances as others regardless of where they live. I hope our council can start to invest in a proper park facility and events etc. in our village and small villages like ours as I have to drive for miles for a park facility to suit them all and therefore can't take them to the park as much as they want to go. I hope to see a cap and less investment in already good standard parks and more in developing the same or similar for all children.</i>
2	<i>The park in Upperlands is awful that's why we visit so little as the children from that estate feel they have ownership of it and sometimes you don't feel very welcome we need a park for all the children of the village and outside it, it's not fair that only alexander park has their own park, we need a better bigger park that all can use on neutral ground in the village. I hope something can be done as this is a big issue locally and lots of people have this same opinion. Meadowbank etc. does not need any more money spent on it we need money in rural parks now to make a fit for purpose park in our village for all to use and events shouldn't always have to be held in just Meadowbank they should be spread about the smaller villages too so everyone gets a chance to attend something local and other people can come into each other's villages.</i>
3	<i>I feel that the questionnaire is a bit leading and not enough focus put on where you would like future provision being placed. The questions I answered were about parks I used and if I liked them or not. I did not feel that I was able to contribute to the debate that Upperlands is held within a high deprivation area and has a vast walkable area and space for a play park for old and young. This could also be used for allotments and wheelchair friendly picnic tables.</i>
4	<i>These areas need to be able to meet the diverse needs of all children and family and include play equipment for children with special needs.</i>
5	<i>Our nearest park is Upperlands and it is in one of the housing estates which I don't think is fair to those who don't live in that estate, we need a larger fit for purpose park that all people around the village and outside of the village can comfortably use. We have to travel quite a distance to allow our children to use good standard and variety park facilities like Meadowbank and would like to see that our Council can now focus and invest in the more rural parks outside of the council area to improve them and make them fit for purpose for all the local children.</i>
6	<i>We NEED a playpark for our children in Caledon! There are 2 useable swings (which can only be used by older children), what is there has been there for over 30 years! We need something for our children!!</i>
7	<i>Feedback from tourists to the area commented on lack of cycleways.</i>

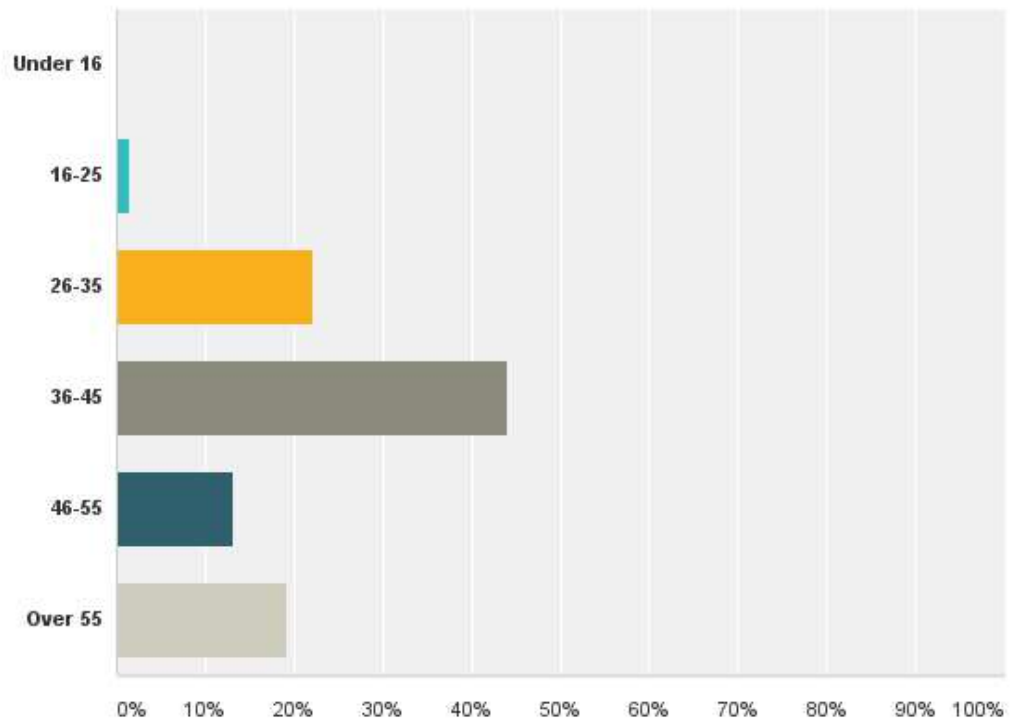
8	<i>I think we need to improve our parks in our local areas so we can get children outside into parks away from electronic games etc. and get fresh air have fun and meet their friends Also football pitches for older boys and girls to play football hurling rugby etc.</i>
9	<i>Would love to see a running track at the Marina.</i>
10	<i>More run/ walk tracks.</i>
11	<i>I generally use my local roads to walk my dog.</i>
12	<i>Events at weekends as we are always trying to go somewhere to entertain our children.</i>
13	<i>There are no safe walking routes on the roads around Moneymore, in fact the volume of traffic in the village itself means that it is difficult for a pensioner like me to get to the Manor Park.</i>
14	<i>Provision for open spaces is really poor in our local area. The new sports facilities at Meadowbank and Greenvale are outstanding, but there is nowhere close to go for a safe walk, bike ride with family. Current play parks are only suitable for up to 9 years of age. We need some beautiful outdoor space for our community with challenging play equipment. Polepatrick cemetery but not an option for my family - feels totally disrespectful.</i>
15	<i>None.</i>
16	<i>The area of Slaughtneil / Carntogher has a great centre in An Carn and the Drumlamph Woodland Trust but no play area which would be very popular.</i>
17	<i>More areas for walking / cycling (kids) in Magherafelt.</i>
18	<i>A play park for Sandholes village.</i>
19	<i>A green way for walking and cycling.</i>
20	<i>More adventures. Make orienteering available to all.</i>
21	<i>Most of the timber structure within the park is coming out of its build for purpose state. There are two bridges for viewing water and they are in need of attention.</i>
22	<i>N/A.</i>
23	<i>More walkways.</i>
24	<i>Look at options around water for water sports etc.</i>
25	<i>Overall quality is good. Moy park seems totally underused and a bit lonely at times. Dungannon park is brilliant, a bit of an upgrade to the play area would make it perfect!</i>
26	<i>Please improve the basic facilities at Knockmany Forest Park to that we continue to safely use them as a running group and as a family with young children. Thank you.</i>
27	<i>Nicer green space with events like Antrim castle garden.</i>
28	<i>Parkrun is great for any community and should be helped.</i>
29	<i>Bigger selection of swings slides or climbing frames for older children.</i>
30	<i>'Open space' parks are needed for walking/ running/picnics etc. in each locality</i>
31	<i>Stop anti-social behaviour at kids play area it's a disgrace.</i>
32	<i>We need more than one park in Magherafelt. We need a park that is not located as an afterthought within a car park. We need other facilities around the park. We need equipment created from natural resources such as wood and rope in an adventure playground style, not metal equipment. We need a facility that is open on bank holidays and at other times when we would like to use it, not closed because council staff are off.</i>

33	<i>The Parks in the Dungannon area tend to be very well kept and are a great asset for the MUD area to develop further.</i>
34	<i>To attract tourists, we need modernised play parks that are open to everyone and not situated in housing estates. If we had modernised play parks and green gyms families would be much healthier and it would suit all those on low incomes, but need to be locked at night time to prevent anti-social behaviour with floral decorations and plants like what we see in other countries.</i>
35	<i>More equipment.</i>
36	<i>Play areas should be enclosed for safety.</i>
37	<i>Parks must be clean and free for rubbish.</i>
38	<i>Toilet provision is very important and safe.</i>
39	<i>Swatragh playpark has been neglected for years and has been 'improved' in bits and pieces but it stands out, in contrast to places like Kilrea, Moneymore and Maghera that have seen very significant investment and vision!! and Maghera.</i>
40	<i>No mention of Davagh Forest Park in this survey.</i>
41	
42	<i>Just 4 swings in any play area is inadequate.</i>
43	<i>More open green spaces and forests with walking trails is needed closer to Bellaghy and Castledawson area.</i>
44	<i>More local play areas without leaving that area.</i>
45	<i>Castledawson park needs updated and improved. There are virtually no safe walk trails in Castledawson.</i>
46	<i>Upperlands needs a park most villages have a park in a central location.</i>
47	<i>Encouraging children to be active in the environment is critical to protecting our environment and our children health.</i>
48	<i>A play park in Upperlands would be excellent.</i>
49	<i>Simple basic equipment is what our children look for a good swing a slippery slide etc.</i>
50	<i>Upperlands needs a better park safer away from main road.</i>
51	<i>The town of Maghera is sorely missing green space and walking/cycling/running paths.</i>
52	<i>Kids need to be challenged and not wrapped in cotton wool. They need to learn to assess and manage risk at an early age.</i>
53	<i>Our local park in Upperlands is no good; it is not open and accessible to all. We need a park more central to the village of Upperlands rather than just the residents of Alexander park. The park in Alexander Park is treat like it is owned by the residents of that estate as it is so close to the estate and is not very welcoming to those from outside the estate and even less welcoming to those from outside the village would certainly not go down there to use it. Our village for being rural has a big intake of children in Ampertaine and also little amps approximately 170 kids not all of whom live in that estate and there are also children nearby in Culnady, St. John's Swatragh, Crossroads, Maghera and Kilrea. I would love to see a mutual park in the centre of the village near the main Kilrea road open and welcoming to all as the coffee shop is also near that road and walks around nearby dams so people could make more of a day out, I hope the council can take all this feedback on board as every child and parent from inside and outside the village should be provided with a neutral park that they can freely use and mix with other children regardless of background.</i>

54	<i>Please, please return play equipment of some shape or form to Glenone Park, located at the junction of Clady Road and Ballymacombs Rd. Even swings would be great as a start. This small settlement had seen a significant rise in population with the development of The Orchards, housing development, yet incrementally over the years all the play equipment had been removed. For the sake of the significant of young children living in close proximity to this park please put something back into it so they can play e.g. mounded grass, puzzles or roads painted on the pavers so kids can be entertained on foot or on small bikes. Also, please ban dogs from Glenone Park and all other parks in Mid Ulster, they are a safety hazard to children & adults and foul over pitches, grass play areas, and footpaths which is disgusting.</i>
55	<i>None</i>
56	<i>Clady park would be nice if it was well maintained.</i>
57	<i>I would like to see my other local play park in Glenone being restored to somewhere families can take their children to. I played there as a child and would love my child to have this opportunity. There is currently only an open space where a park once was. It was used by so many was slowly got less and less play equipment over years until none at all. Now a football pitch is only functional thing. Now council workers waste time blowing leaves and cutting grass.</i>
58	<i>In regard to the park in Glenone, which is very close to my house, it used to be a well-equipped play park with a skateboard rink. The rink and all the equipment has incrementally been removed over 20 years, so all that is left is a bricked surface, with no equipment whatsoever. This is the only public green space in the small settlement of Glenone, which currently has a large housing development under construction (with no green space, thanks to the Developer manipulating to avoid Planning Policy Statement 8 requirements!), namely the Orchards (where there is a high number of young families). In addition to the car park and playing field in this park, it needs either gated children's play equipment reinstated, even the most basic equipment would be welcomed. Gated because the previous equipment was vandalised by teenagers in the past, particularly on a Friday night when they gathered to get a bus to a teenage disco. If at present the council cannot afford a full equipped play park, natural play equipment (logs, balance beam, contoured surface) would even be an improvement. Come on new council, get your act together and give this park the TLC it has missed for so many years (once people came from all over the Magherafelt District to use the park - now council workers brush up leaves and trim trees in a space devoid of anything for children to play on/with, which just seems such a waste). On a wider note, and no doubt this will be controversial, I do not think dogs (either on or off leads) should be permitted in ANY park due to the danger to children and dog fouling. Council should provide dedicated agricultural fields/areas for those who have to walk their dogs, clearly signed, so the rest of us know to avoid these areas. Our parks, forests and woods in the District (including Glenone Woods) have been taken over by dogs making them an unattractive location for everyone else to walk- this is extremely unfair as I pay my rates and do not feel safe using a local amenity to walk and am forced to walk on public roads following a number of dog attacks in Glenone Wood/Molloys Ford. Let's look after the people and children of the Borough NOT the give the dogs priority.</i>

Q35 Please select your age bracket

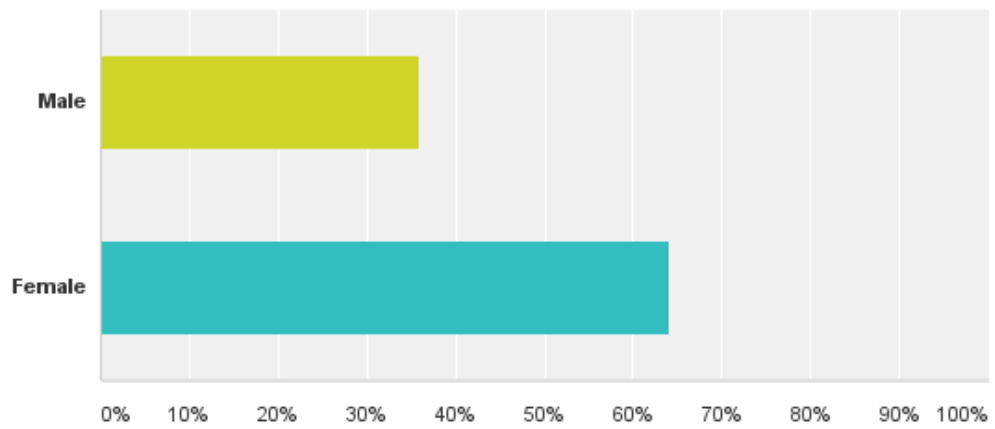
Answered: 68 Skipped: 73



Answer Choices	Responses
Under 16	0.00% 0
16-25	1.47% 1
26-35	22.06% 15
36-45	44.12% 30
46-55	13.24% 9
Over 55	19.12% 13
Total	68

Q36 Please select your gender

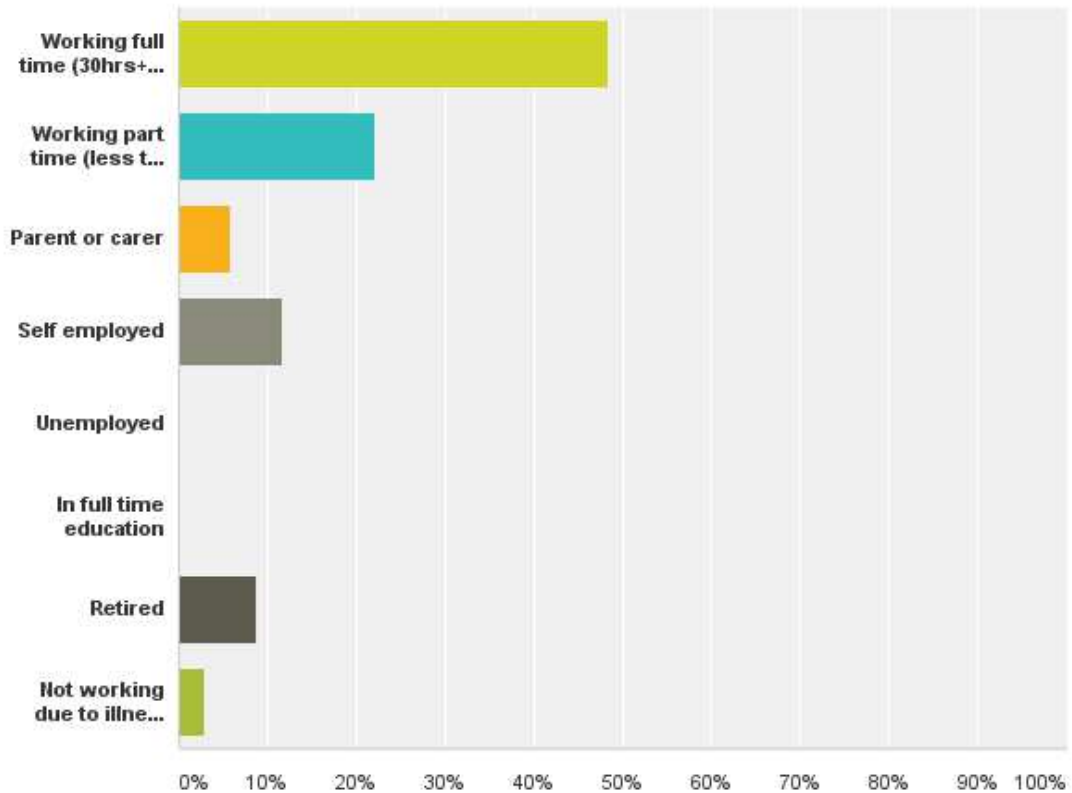
Answered: 67 Skipped: 74



Answer Choices	Responses	
Male	35.82%	24
Female	64.18%	43
Total		67

Q37 Can you please tell me which of the following best describes your working status?

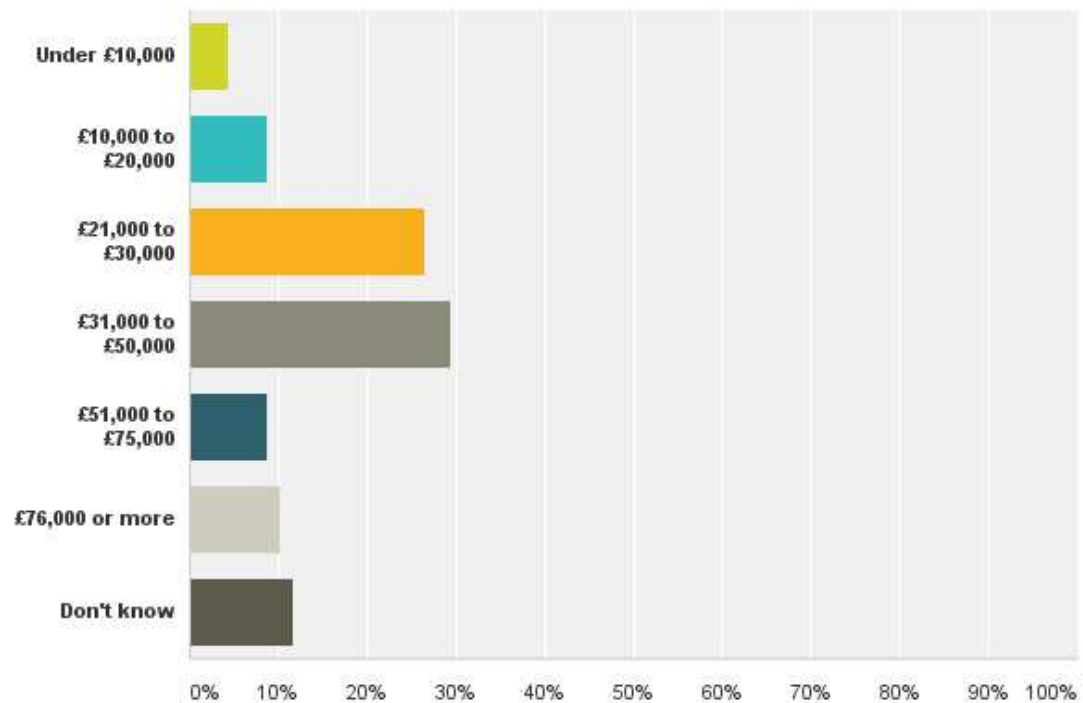
Answered: 68 Skipped: 73



Answer Choices	Responses	
Working full time (30hrs+ per week)	48.53%	33
Working part time (less than 30hrs per week)	22.06%	15
Parent or carer	5.88%	4
Self employed	11.76%	8
Unemployed	0.00%	0
In full time education	0.00%	0
Retired	8.82%	6
Not working due to illness or disability	2.94%	2
Total		68

Q38 What is your approximate total annual income in your household (before tax)?

Answered: 68 Skipped: 73



Answer Choices	Responses	
Under £10,000	4.41%	3
£10,000 to £20,000	8.82%	6
£21,000 to £30,000	26.47%	18
£31,000 to £50,000	29.41%	20
£51,000 to £75,000	8.82%	6
£76,000 or more	10.29%	7
Don't know	11.76%	8
Total		68

Q39

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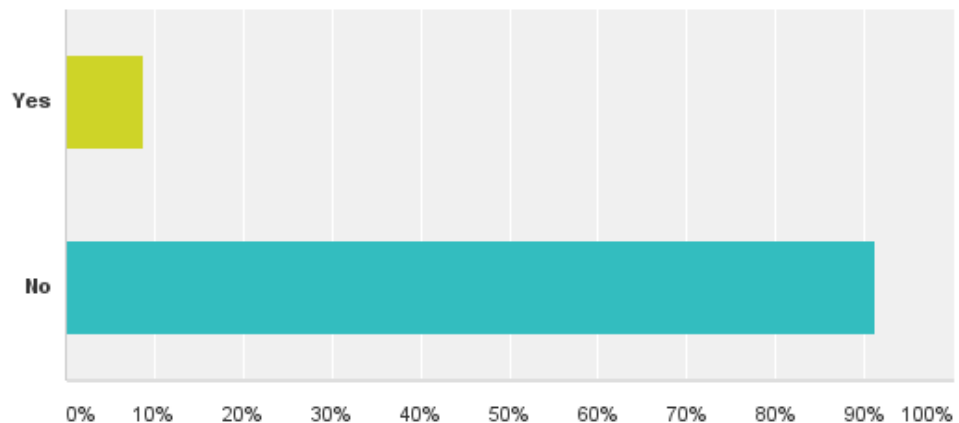
Please state the number of the children in your household in the age brackets below (if relevant)

Answered: 68 Skipped: 73

Answer Choices		Responses	
Under 4 years	Responses	64.71%	44
5-8 years	Responses	58.82%	40
9-12 years	Responses	39.71%	27
13 years and over	Responses	47.06%	32

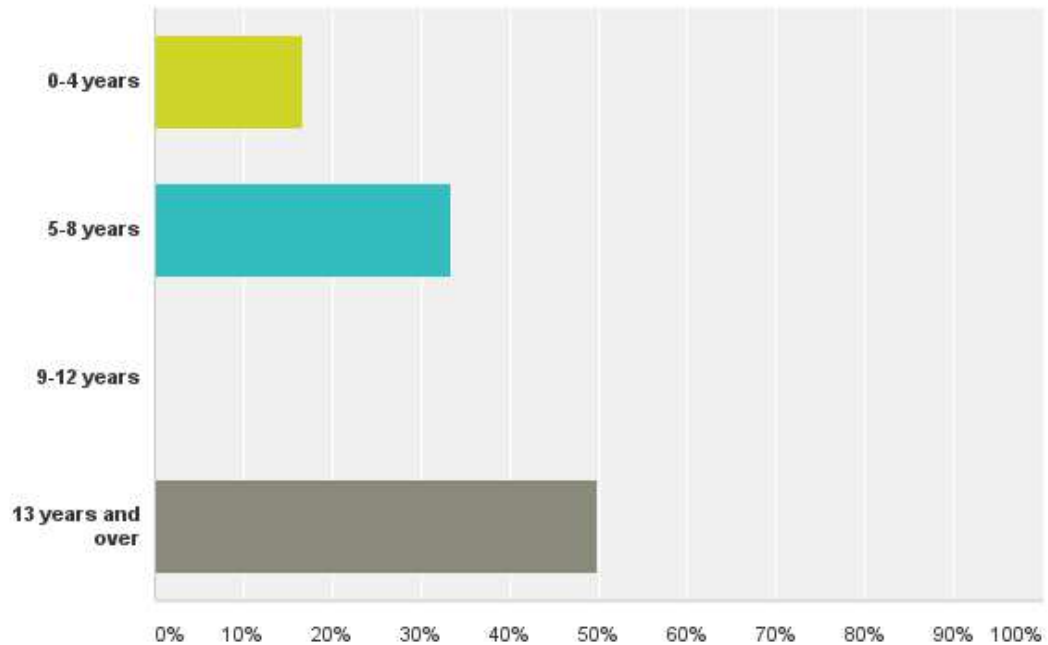
Q40 Do one of your children have a disability?

Answered: 68 Skipped: 73



Q41 What age is the child who has a disability?

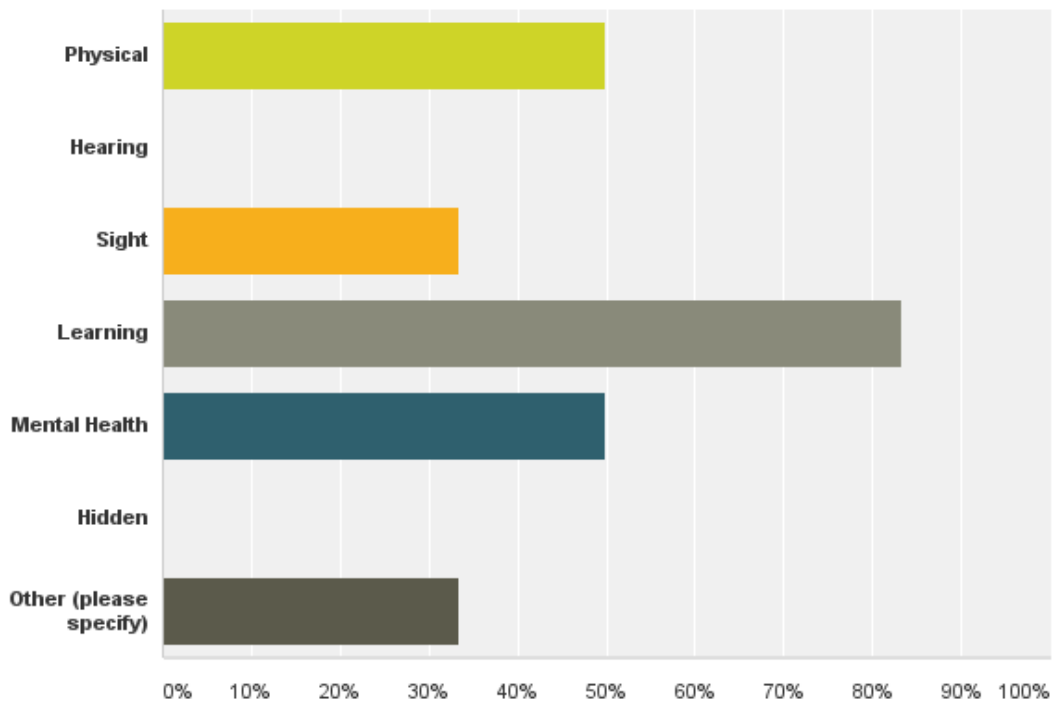
Answered: 6 Skipped: 135



Answer Choices	Responses	
0-4 years	16.67%	1
5-8 years	33.33%	2
9-12 years	0.00%	0
13 years and over	50.00%	3
Total		6

Q42 What is their disability?

Answered: 6 Skipped: 135



Answer Choices	Responses	
Physical	50.00%	3
Hearing	0.00%	0
Sight	33.33%	2
Learning	83.33%	5
Mental Health	50.00%	3
Hidden	0.00%	0
Other (please specify)	33.33%	2
Total Respondents: 6		

OTHER RESPONSES

Add inclusive play – 2; Singular mentions: build a playpark; green gym for adults; refurbish Swatragh; build toilets at Clady. ☐

- Cerebral palsy and blind. Benefits from sensory garden smells, sounds and movement in a wheelchair swing etc.
- Autism

APPENDIX 5

45 villages in the Mid Ulster area have had Village Community Plans completed.

The table below provide an overview of each of the village plans in relation to the current and future opportunities for outdoor recreation and play development.

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The table below provide an overview of each of the village plans in relation to the current and future opportunities for outdoor recreation and play development.

Village Plan	Current status	Future potential
Annaghmore (Clonoe) Dungannon	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Insufficient community provision and existing facilities are oversubscribed• New signage required - The area has a rich heritage and has potential to attract visitors• Insufficient range of activities to help Older People stay healthy and active. Need to increase access to transport for older people• Insufficient recreational facilities for women and families	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Development of off-road cycle tracks, walkways, sensory garden, allotments, additional sporting area• Signage would improve information for visitors and define Clonoe as a definite destination• Develop a range of events and activities in Clonoe Community Centre to encourage an active lifestyle. Make better use of community transport scheme• Range of events and activities in Clonoe Community Centre: Play park at football pitch grounds
Ardboe Cookstown	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Green in Lakeview is being used for bonfire• Existing play park needs updates• Eco projects and ecotourism potential not developed• No centre community greenspace• Lack of provision for the elderly• Loss of tourism potential from key sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop green as potential play for older children• Update existing play park to include disability and older children• Develop eco-tourism with the help of RSPB and site on the shores of the Lough at Brookend through nature walks• Develop a community greenspace as centre point of the village• Establish older person's group that will run activities including a walking group

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ardboe Cross no toilets, car parking, security 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a Lough Shore mini guide to support the wider tourism development of water and land based recreation – charter boating, fishing, walking, cycling, wildlife, birdwatching trails. • Develop toilets and car parking at Abbey.
Augher Clogher Valley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Footpaths in poor condition around the village • Upgrade sections of walkway along the river • Basic facilities at Knockmany need improved • New social housing developments are being planned for the village 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Footpaths need to be maintained on a regular basis and replaced where there are problems • Conduct survey on the walkway along River Blackwater and identify areas where work is needed • Investment needed at Knockmany to bring facility up to standard for local people and visitors. • Ensure social housing schemes complement area
Aughnacloy Clougher Valley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current play park needs upgrading • Orange Hall requires additional provision to meet need of young people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upgrading of play park to provide new play equipment and safety surface • Provision of a playpark outside the Orange Hall to service the rural community of the Bawn.
Ballinascreen (Ballinascreen, Moneyneany, Straw and Sixtowns) Moyola	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Park for Moneyneena had been earlier identified • No safe place to go off road walking or running in Straw and the 'Big bridges' • No play park in Straw • Development of Derrynoyd Forest and Rural College • Tourism potential is not utilised 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate further • Provision of safe off-road walking and cycling track – Old railway line considered a possibility. • Develop a play park in the area • Look at options to revive the facility and its surroundings • Natural assets in the local areas need to be developed and promoted
Ballinderry Cookstown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of suitable and appropriate play areas • Loss of tourism potential from key sites of Ballinderry River and Cott Lane (fishing, walking, etc) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to upgrade play park facilities • Creation of a Tourism Strategy for the Loughshore area

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Angling facilities inadequate • Canoeing facilities inadequate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of Cot Lane and Gortmoss Walkway and better signage at Cott Lane • Information boards at key sites • Develop a walkway along the Ballinderry River • Angling infrastructure needs improved • Develop a canoe trail along the Ballinderry River
Ballygawley Dungannon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lighting around walkway at playing field is a major concern particularly in dark evenings • Walkway is prone to flooding at times 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Erect floodlights around walkway • Install proper drainage along pathway
Ballymaguigan Moyola	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good Tourism potential • Lack of footpaths and cycle lanes • No children's play park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of soccer pitch to include walkway and running track • Health and wellbeing activities – sports activities and walks cross country • New Cross Community play park at TRAAD point.
Ballyronan Magherafelt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pathway from Ballyronan to Ballinderry required • Tourism potential of Lough and Marina need to be maximised 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan to develop between legacy Councils to be resurrected • Tourism Strategy/Marketing Plan needed for the area
Bellaghy Moyola	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inadequate access from Bawn to Church of Ireland • Inadequate signage • No heritage trail linking Seamus Heaney landmarks noted in his poetry • More health and well-being projects required • Wetlands underused 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development and link Bawn by path to Church of Ireland • New signage of heritage sites e. Lough Beg, Toners Bog • Develop Seamus Heaney Trail • Develop cross country walks and walking group • Development of famous wetlands

Benburb Dungannon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upgrade to playground required • Family walking and cycling trails needed • Need to develop community facilities • Require a safer environment for the children and elderly • Improved infrastructure at Benburb Playing Fields • To improve spaces for people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Redevelop Benburb playing fields using funding secured from Big Lottery 'Space & Place' • Develop walking and cycling routes in Benburb Valley Park along Ulster Canal Greenway • Develop a community fishing hub at River Black Water • Develop a park ranger service to manage the eco system in Benburb Valley and River Blackwater • Car park development at recreational area • To develop a Good Relations Programme for Benburb Playing Fields
Brocagh Torrent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boats cannot access the quay because of sandbars • Need to develop permissive paths and Greenway • Exploit Heritage Sites • Little opportunity for older people to stay healthy and active as well as no recreational facilities for women and families • Develop play park and 3G games area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contract to dredge channel into the quay and maintain on an annual basis • Develop off-road cycle tracks to allow young people and families to walk and cycle safely between shops, school and Brocagh Community Centre • Develop tours, walks and events for visitors to the area • Develop range of events and activities in Brocagh Community Centre to encourage active lifestyle • Develop play park, site to be confirmed
Broughderg Cookstown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximization of use of Davagh Forest and increased visitor services and experience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bird watching facilities - Development of Forest Garden / Nature Trail (link schools) - More walking trails, geared towards families, challenging and non-challenging - Angling Facilities, stock river, salmon spawn/sea trout - Incorporate disability access where possible - Showers / changing area

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need for evening classes/activities for community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - camping facility / glamping pods - Brick built BBQ facilities (Island in middle of carpark suggested for picnic are / tables) - Activities / Equipment for older children outside of play park, e.g. Zip lines - Seating in/near play park - Cycle rental / repair (consistent times) - GPS App of Forest developed (dependent on broadband) • Sessions on natural local environment, heritage, astronomy (link to tourism opportunities)
Bush Dungannon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significant development in village for necessary footpaths. Potential for a settlement mini Greenway with pedestrian/cycle path around the village • Lack of recreational amenities – play park, MUGA facilities need upgraded 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Footpath link to Dungannon/Tamnamore/Clairefields required • Play park required (pending site availability)
Caledon Clogher Valley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State of footpaths in the village need improvements • Caledon has a wealth of natural resources which could be promoted as a valuable rural tourism tool. The Blackwater River, and Ulster Canal, represent a vital part of Caledon's fabric and are a valuable resource to the village and its heritage – Glaslough/Caledon walkway and famine wall project • Upgrade need to play park facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paving flags on Main Street need repaired – footpath require on Carricklane with lighting and signage • Opportunities to promote natural resource tourism – potential for Greenway/Riverside/Outdoor Gym/Cross Border walk way project – needs ongoing maintenance needed to check over growth on riverbank – picnic area spruce-up, - dog fouling provision of scoop-bag and waste bin • Play park in state of neglect and needs to be re-vamped to meet growing need for the village
Churchtown/Lissan Magherafelt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No play provision in the area for the wider community. Play area in Lissan House closed due to vandalism and insurance • Lissan House and grounds is a key asset – yet little evidence of buy in from the local community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play area required • Establish a Working Group with reps from Lissan House Trust and Community. Local needs analysis to be undertaken. • Learning journey to other successful community/heritage projects

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited disability access for anglers and ramblers at Lough Fea • Valuable local assets are under developed, under-promoted and under-utilised due to access and wider knowledge • Inadequate infrastructure support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase accessibility at Lough Fea • Project development and feasibility associated with Lissan House, Lough Fea and Slieve Gallion • Accommodation provision within the area to be further investigated (including B&B, bunk barns, bothys glamping etc)
Clady Carntogher	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of footpath from Fisherman's Walk to Portglenone. Lacking facilities also. • Opportunity for walkway/Greenway circuit from Clady -Innishrush-Glenone-Clady. Highway to Health route • Council playing fields at Ballymacombs well used but lack of facilities including play park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of river walkways and Bann (walk from Bann Bridge to Molloy's Ford) • Walkway to be investigated • Potential for 3G pitch at playing fields, play park, access to water and toilets
Clogher Clogher Valley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Footpaths in poor condition around the village • Basic facilities at Fardross Forest need improved • The caravan park brings a lot of visitors to the Clogher Valley area and needs to be promoted • New social housing developments are planned for the village • Play park in Clogher requires upgrading 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Footpaths need to be maintained and replaced where there are problems • Investment needed at Fardross to bring facility up to standard for local people and visitors • Encourage maintenance of the caravan park and encourage greater usage through MUDC tourism information • Ensure social housing schemes are in-keeping with local developments and that the local community can access • Identify sources of funding for upgrade or refurbishment of play facilities
Coagh Cookstown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximisation of the area's natural resources in developing a rural tourism product to support the local village economy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop walks including Hanover House to the old mill, linking up with Ballinderry along the River and creating a

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inadequate angling facilities Safety concerns in play park – low fencing, swing gate given proximity to river, when river floods it leaves waste deposits Need for safe route for walking trails to encourage health and well being 	<p>circuit from Hanover House to the football club and back into Coagh along the Ballinderry Road (CP)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve existing infrastructure Identification of potential routes and liaison with local landowners Develop names and signage for walks Liaise with Rivers Agency re provision of angling facilities in Ballinderry River Liaise with local angling club to confirm requirements regarding use of anglers' huts Play park fencing and upgrade of facilities to include disability friendly equipment Development of an all-weather walking track around the perimeter of the Sports Centre grounds
Culnady, Innisrush and Tamlaght Carntogher	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stone bridge linking Innisrush to Clade needs maintained and enhanced as part of a walking trail River walk along Clady River consistently floods Lack of opportunities for activities within the three villages and limited provision of space for development of activities Existing play facilities in the 3 villages need upgrading. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop points of interest board for users of the walk Walk needs better protected to allow users full access Develop green space for recreational walking and cycling. Potential for creation of allotments. Dedicated space for Mother and Toddler provision Upgrading of the play facilities
Desertmartin Moyola	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Iniscarn Forest has minimal development but has high potential for tourism. There are few health and well-being projects outside mainstream sports Elderly isolated Loss of tourism potential from Slieve Gallion and surrounding Sperrins 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of Iniscarn Forest. Establish community allotments, walkway circuit (CP) Establish walking group Develop a walking trail from Lough Fea to Slieve Gallion

Drummullan Cookstown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximise potential of the area's natural resources in developing a rural tourism product to support the local village economy • Increasing interest in walking and cycling in the area - need for safe routes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop walking routes identifying local beauty spots/historical places of interest e.g. Ballinderry River/St Patrick's Well/The Drummullan Giant – link to Springhill • Tourism signage and interpretation developed • Develop floodlit walkway around football pitch • Development of footpath to link up two rural roads providing a safe walk (CP) • Support plans for Greenway Development and connect Drummullan
Edendork Dungannon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cullion Lake under developed in terms of local wetland/heritage/ecosystem resource • No footpath provision off the Coalisland Road 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential development as local amenity/educational resource with access pathways and signage • Lobby DfI for provision of adequate foot paving off the main Coalisland Road
Eglis Clogher Valley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing play park is well used • Very few areas for open recreation in the village 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upgrade existing play park and minor planting • Identify potential Greenways and walking routes in the area
Fivemiletown Clogher Valley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Round Lake is a major asset • The play park is well used but needs to be improved/updated • Heritage Tourism product in the area is good but could be developed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure Round Lake is maintained on a regular basis • Additional equipment would be welcomed • Look towards enhancing tourism product in the area to include Brantry Lough/ Brantry Woods/Cowans House
Galbally and Cappagh Torrent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The reservoir is an asset that should be enhanced and developed • The area has many natural resources which should be enhanced as potential tourism products 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carry out feasibility study on potential development at Cappagh Reservoir in relation to environmental and tourism potential • Carry out scoping exercise of local natural resources with tourism potential

Granville Clogher Valley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The council football pitch in the area is a valuable asset but is not kept up to a reasonable standard • The current play park needs repair and updating 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure pitch is maintained throughout the year • Update of play park
Gulladuff / Termoneeny Carntogher	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need for safer routes for walking and cycling • Not enough green space and play park provision around housing estates • Lack of developed walkways - Scullions Cross/chapel walk and others • Cycling/running/walking clubs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - St Brigid's Cross making - Gymnastics-additional activities to GAA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improvements to roadways, footpaths and roadside verges. • The creation of a cycle lane network, specifically from the Termoneeny centre to Gulladuff village. • Look at the potential for developing off road cycling. • Not enough green space and play park provision around housing estates • Developing walkways - Scullions Cross/chapel walk, Dreenan Road and others • Continue to develop social and sporting activities within Lavey/TCA
Killeeshill and Ackinduff Clogher Valley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Little or poor play provision for children in the area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update existing play park and investigate potential new play park at the community centre
Killyman Dungannon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Footpaths in the village are wholly inadequate - Significant development in the village without necessary footpaths • Potential for a settlement mini Greenway with pedestrian/cycle path around the village • Street lighting needs to be improved – some areas are poorly lit and places with no lighting • Lack of Recreational amenities – Play park, MUGA facilities need upgraded 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lobby DfI for provision of adequate foot paving – need a footpath link to Dungannon / Tamnamore, Clairefields, safe routes to schools initiative. • Need a dropped kerb at Cavanagh Rd • Tamnamore Rd • Enhance the provision children's play park – potential to open-up the 3G facility at the local school for wider community use.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilise existing village assets such as the MUGA at local school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liaise with school to explore potential for usage of MUGA outside of core time and school facilities for community use.
Moortown Torrent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HLF Landscape Partnership produced a three part report including cross country walking and heritage trails with key points within the village Lack of suitable and appropriate play areas No secure outdoor recreational space for young people Loss of tourism potential from key sites of Airfield, The Battery Harbour and the Old Cross Lack of water based recreation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information sharing with key agencies and Council Tourism Strategy. Join up all initiatives to ensure a strategic approach to planning Need to upgrade play park facilities – provision for teenagers Create secure outdoor recreation space at the Youth centre Exploit the area's water and land base outdoor recreation, charter boating, fishing, walking, cycling wildlife, birdwatching trails – links to Kinturk centre Progress ORNI report on water based recreation at the Battery Harbour
Moygashel Dungannon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Entrance to Dungannon Park at Moygashel end isn't aesthetically pleasing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tidy up entrance and ensure it is maintained. Need to maintain and enhance the area at Bleach Field that links the village to Dungannon Park
Newmills Torrent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited play space for families and children Provide opportunity for local people to walk and cycle safely on an off-road path. Develop permissive paths and Greenway to aqueduct 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of off-road cycle tracks
Orritor Cookstown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instilling a greater sense of pride in the local area as well as helping contribute to the health and well-being of local residents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Play area/MUGA developed
Pomeroy Cookstown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maximising the use of Pomeroy Forest 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extension and development of pathways, signage and information boards, picnic tables Install toilet facilities with open access for playpark use Additional bins installed

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Car parking needed beside play park • Develop access path and lighting linking the forest entrance at front and rear back to the village • Suitable area for various outdoor activities • Develop campsite facilities /glamping • Safe access route between Queen Elizabeth II Primary school and the Forest (CP) • Re develop old forestry school building and out building as a multi-use shared assets of the community • Redevelop old forestry school building and out buildings as a multi-use shared assets of the community e.g. toilets and accommodation for forest users
Sandholes Cookstown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No play provision in the area despite increasing number of under 16 year olds • Local recreation assets under developed, promoted and under utilised 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop play facility at Church Hall for wider community use • Develop river walkways along the Tullylagan River • Develop access to Tullylagan House and gardens
Stewartstown Torrent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Almost ¼ of population have a limiting long term illness, health problem of disability • Few opportunities for walking and cycling • Henderson Park play facility not catering for children 10+ years • Local recreation assets under developed, promoted and under utilised 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop play facilities at GAA pitch • Develop walking routes at Drumcairne Forest • Map walking and cycling routes around the Village • NCN route at Drumcairne • Walking routes at Drumcairne • Consider new play facility for 10+ years at Henderson Park • Link both areas together and create a shared space 'village green' • Develop access trail to Crieve Lough and erect interpretation panels, signage etc • Explore feasibility of improving Stuart Hall • Develop walking, cycling and play infrastructure at Drumcairne Forest

Swatragh Carntogher	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play park equipment in need of an upgrade. Play equipment for children with physical disabilities is required. • Playing fields at park in poor condition • Railings at play park entrance need repaired • River Walkway cycle route/nature walk along the river. Extend cycle lane throughout the village to connect with Maghera • Activities for older people required 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play park upgrade and additional piece of equipment for those with disabilities. • Upgrade playing fields to an 'All Weather Surface' • Railings to be repaired in line with Health and Safety standards • Informal walkway could be developed between Swatragh and Upperlands – a substantial amount of works required including installation of stiles and crossings • Undertake consultation to establish level of interest in walking group.
The Loup Cookstown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of footpath linkage between key sites in village • Need for safe walking routes • Need for safe route for walking trails to encourage health and well-being • Young population but no play/games area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop footpaths and lighting from Primary School and village to Loup GAC sports and community facilities Extend footpath on Loup Road on to end of 40mph zone • Develop all weather path around football pitch as this is already lit • Development of an all-weather walking track around the perimeter of the Football pitch as lighting already in place • Investigate funding opportunities for development – Football area suggested as possible site to include tennis/outdoor games. •
The Rock & Slatequarry Cookstown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is demand for access and improvement to The Church Moss as a safe walking route • Upgrading of play park • Road Safety Issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintenance and extension of walkway at Church Moss (problem with Japanese Knotweed) needs removed • Play park at Rockdale Close requires upgrade of play equipment for younger and older children

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of youth provision, leisure facilities • Lack of organized activity for those over 50 – issues around rural and social isolation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tullyodonnell Bridge and footpath (extremely dangerous for school children using this route between school, chapel and football pitch) - extend existing path and lighting, footbridge on the outside of bridge. • Lights and kerbing on Rockdale Road • Engage young people in community activity, sports etc - assess need for youth club and link key agencies. • Feasibility study to assess local need. Proactively link with other areas and initiatives – Pomeroy, Agewell project, outreach provision.
Tamnamore Ballinakelly Dungannon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of play facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New play park at Education Centre
Tobermore Moyola	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requirement for youth facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to investigate provision of recreational facilities with MUDC and play park upgrade.
Tullyhogue Cookstown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunity to enhance village environment • Current play provision is small • Valuable local assets are under promoted and under-utilised such as Tullyhogue Fort 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop footpaths to Tullyhogue Fort • Opportunity to upgrade the play area for the community including security fencing, parking, signage and change of entrance • Project development and feasibility associated with access to Tullyhogue Fort and associated walkways and trails
Upperlands Carntogher	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amphitheatre area opposite the enterprise centre has become run down and derelict • Existing play facility (Alexander Park) in Upperlands need upgrading and installation of new equipment. Not enough facilities for younger children. Access to the play facility also needs to be improved • Lack of recreational space in the village 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Redevelopment of the amphitheatre area as a park and recreational space for the village with links to the pathways along the river and redevelopment of the civic space entrance area • Upgrading of play park with suitable facilities – refurbished recently but some equipment too high (monkey bars)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People of the village need to be presented with a range of options to participate in healthy and physical activity • The village's strong heritage and valuable built fabric must be retained and respected • Natural resources in the area that are not being used could be promoted as a valuable rural tourism tool. The village's natural resources need to be capitalised upon. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look at potential to develop all weather pitch at Alexander Park with green surface • Identify accessible routes for walk/cycle paths. Develop waymarked walking routes, allotments, walking clubs – possible linkages with Dams project • Develop a scheme for the development of the Beetling Dams as a natural asset providing green accessible space, water based activities, walking and fishing • Phased project required. Phase 1 to involve the completion of a feasibility study and development plan, phase 2 – securing the necessary funding and phase 3 – implementation of the Plan.
Washing Bay Torrent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to develop small scale capital infrastructure to retain and attract visitors • Lack of accessible and useable Walkways is an issue especially for families potentially linking with other areas - Coalisland etc • The Wetlands are a local resource that should be enhanced and developed • The bogland area at Washingbay need preserved to ensure longevity • The nature walk is an asset that needs to be kept clear and clean for visitors • The beach area at Washingbay is in need of developing and linking in with pathway • • Footpaths to and from community buildings are either non-existent or of poor quality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pathways, street lighting street lighting, softening of hard areas, flower beds, community gardening, green, camping site redevelopment, cycle store, hire of boats, quayside and beach development • Create a fully accessible and safe walkway for residents which will potentially link in current pitch at Derrylaughan with nature walk and canal / river and Greenways • Investigate better ways to enhance the wetland features including better access to the Lough • Initiate a scheme to preserve the existing bogland • Clear shrubbery and tidy nature walk area and develop an appropriate management plan for same • Develop sandy beach and open up to link in with existing pathway • Identify priority areas that need addressed to include Washingbay Road to football field Prioritizing footways for high risk areas.



PUBLIC PARKS AND PLAY STRATEGIC PLAN - MAP REPORT DUNGANNON

2017 - 2022

[October 2017](#)

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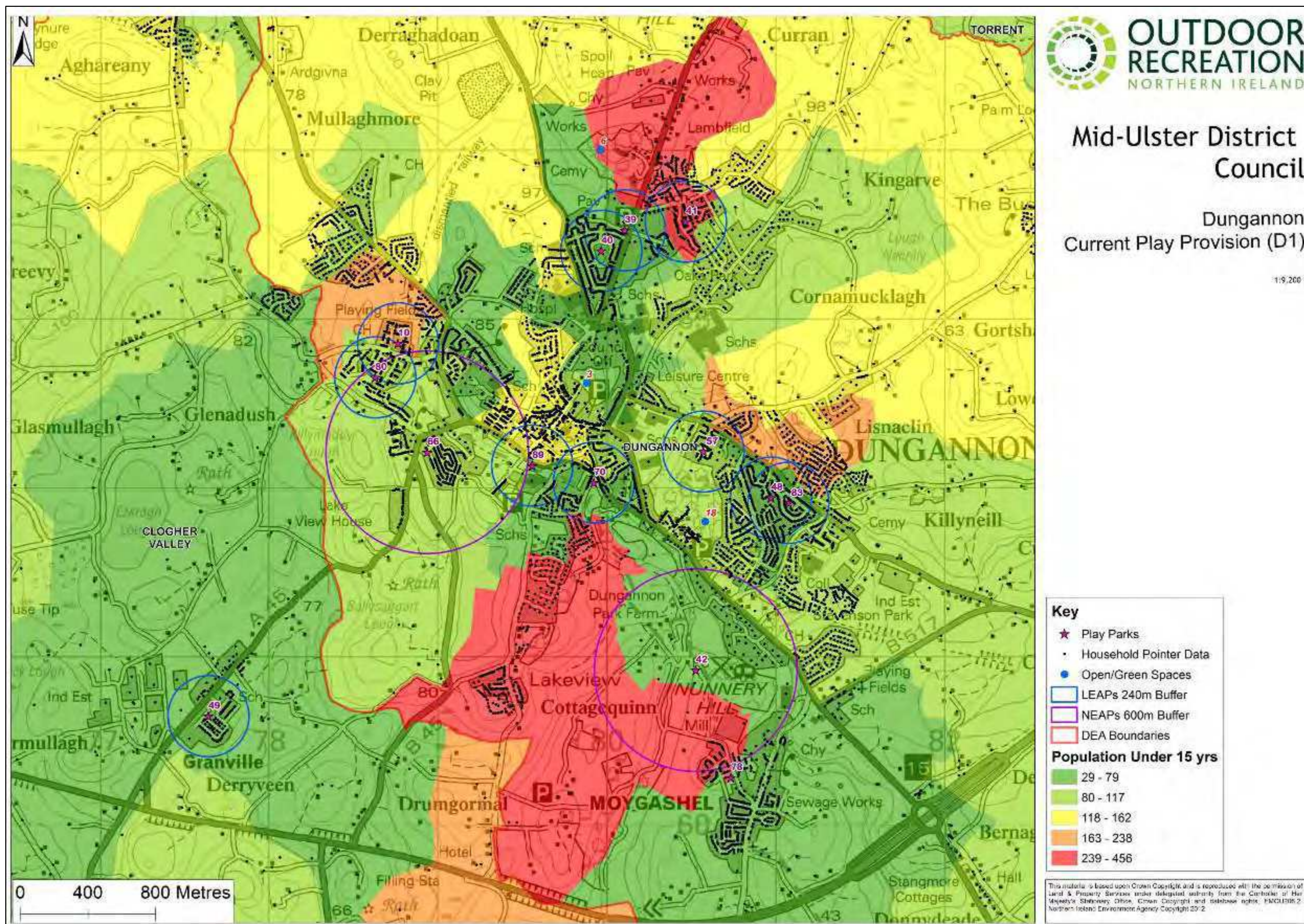


FIGURE 1 DUNGANNON CURRENT PLAY PROVISION (D1)

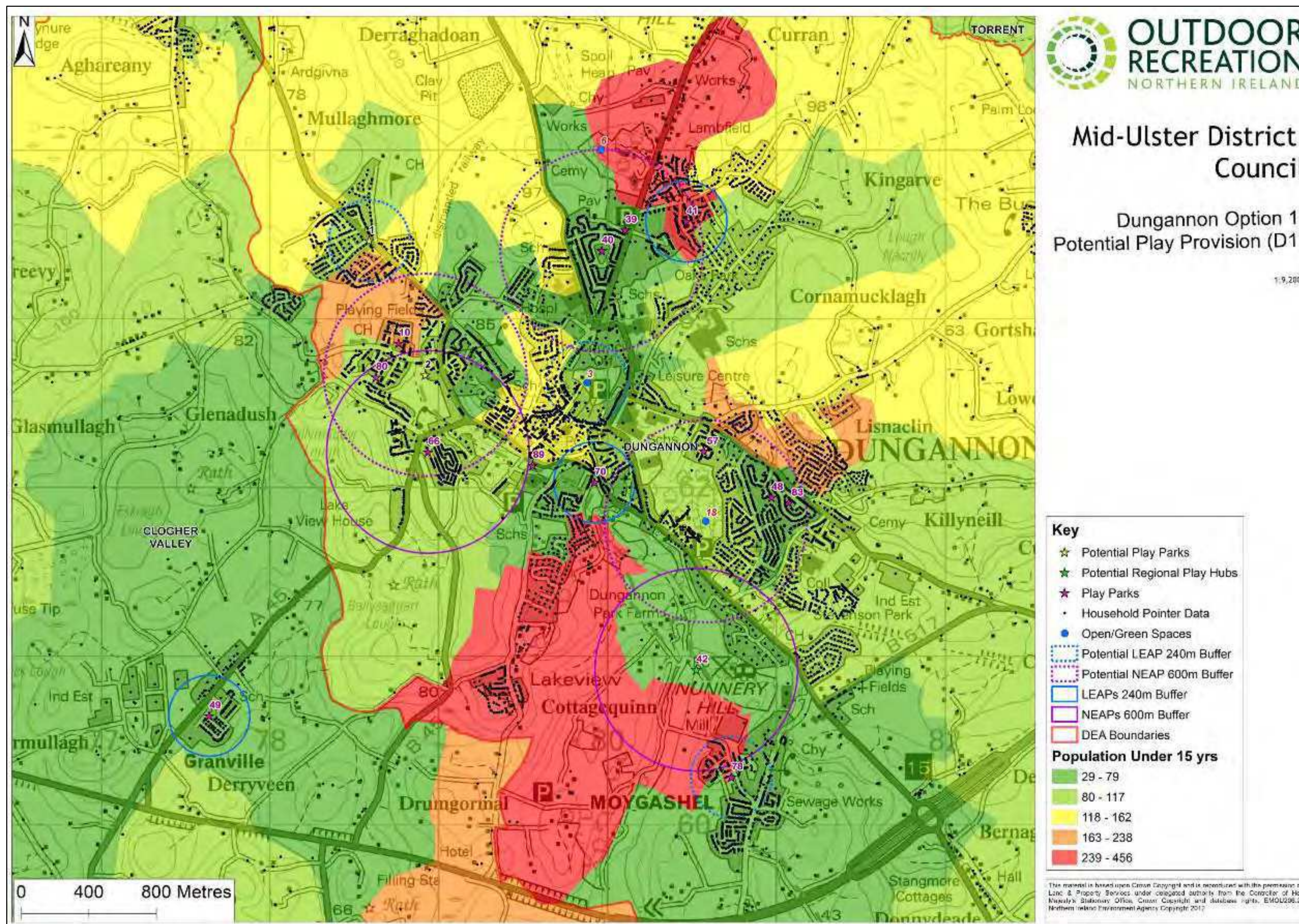


FIGURE 2 DUNGANNON POTENTIAL PLAY PROVISION (D1)

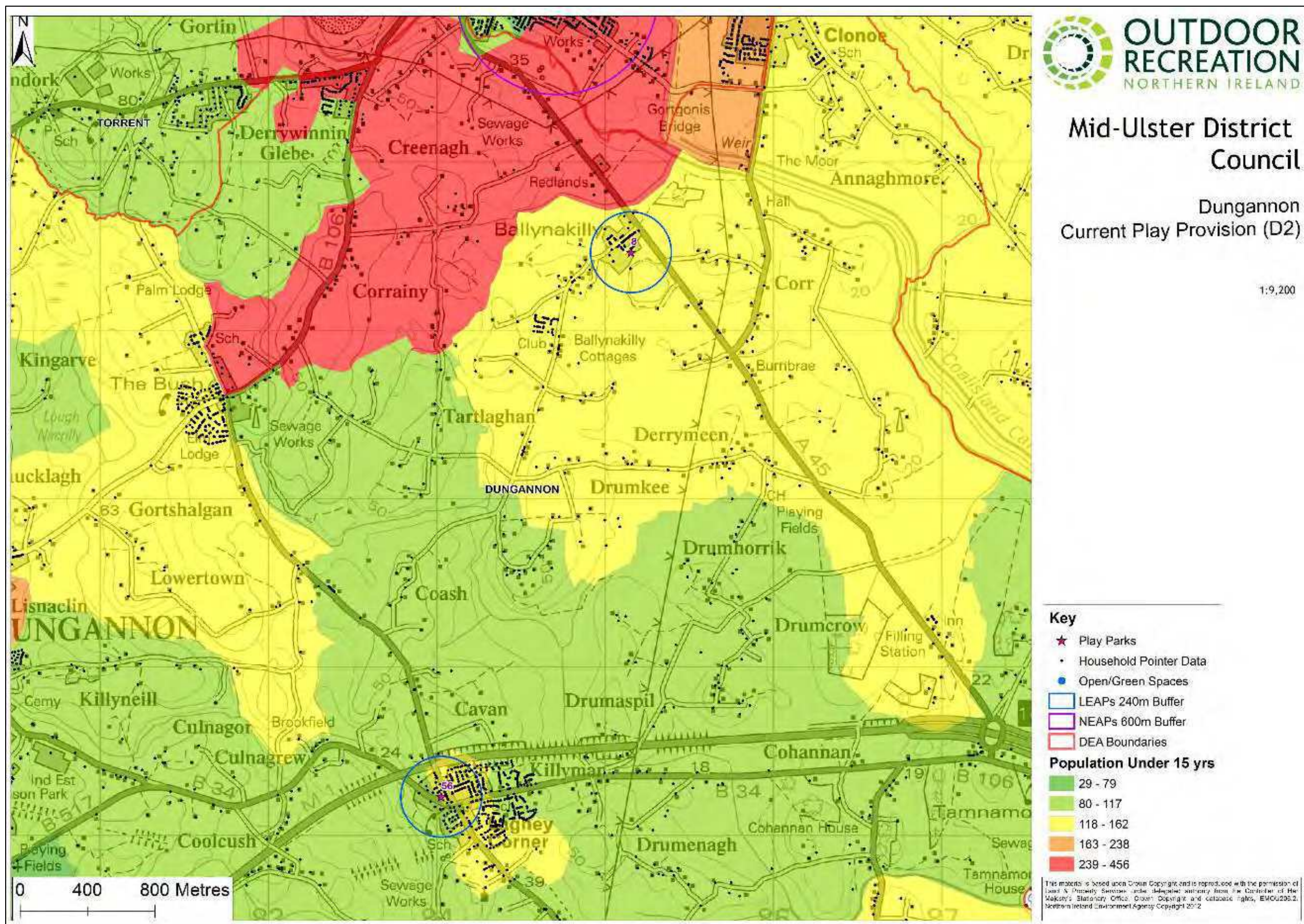


FIGURE 3 DUNGANNON CURRENT PLAY PROVISION (D2)

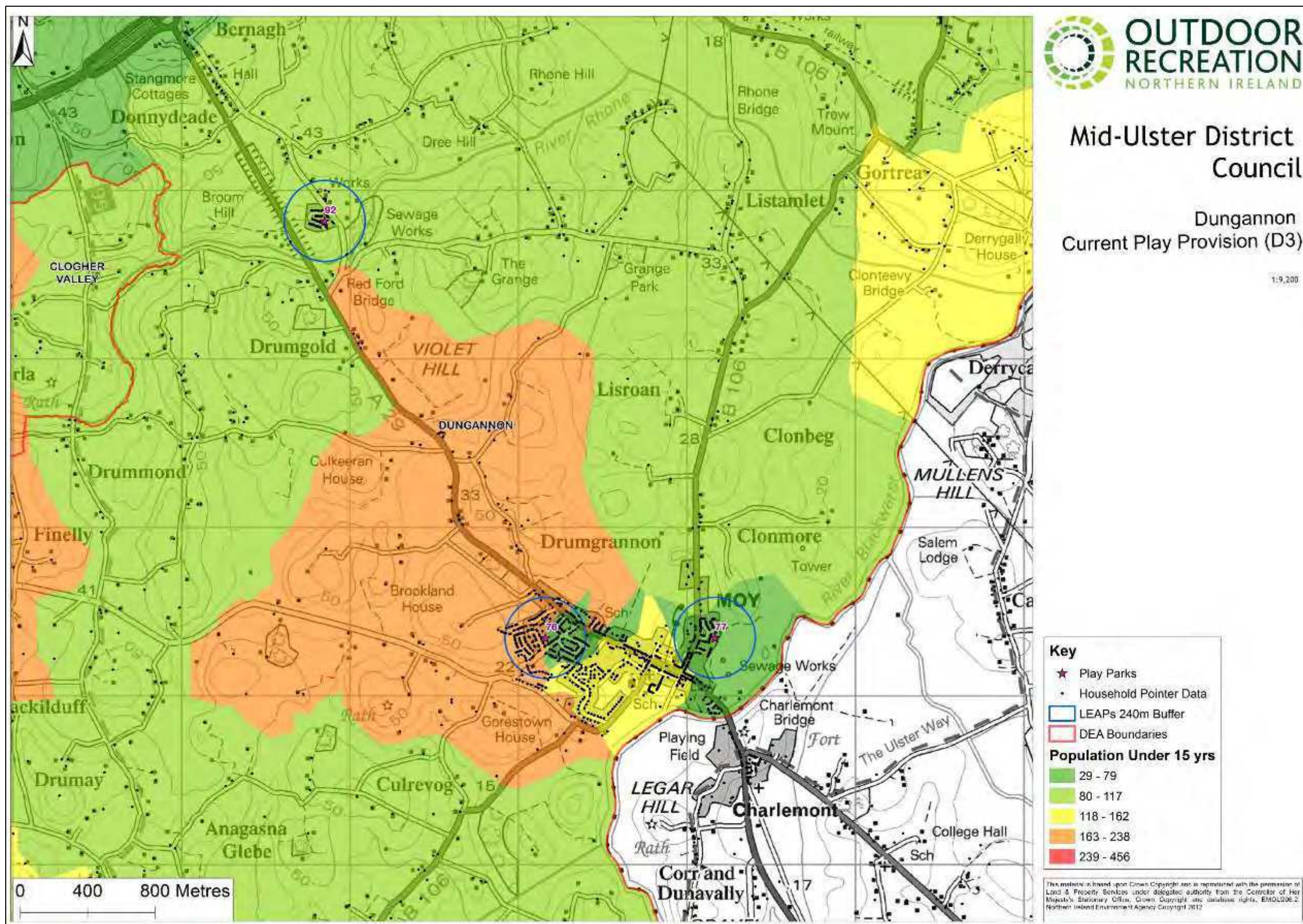


FIGURE 4 DUNGANNON CURRENT PLAY PROVISION (D3)

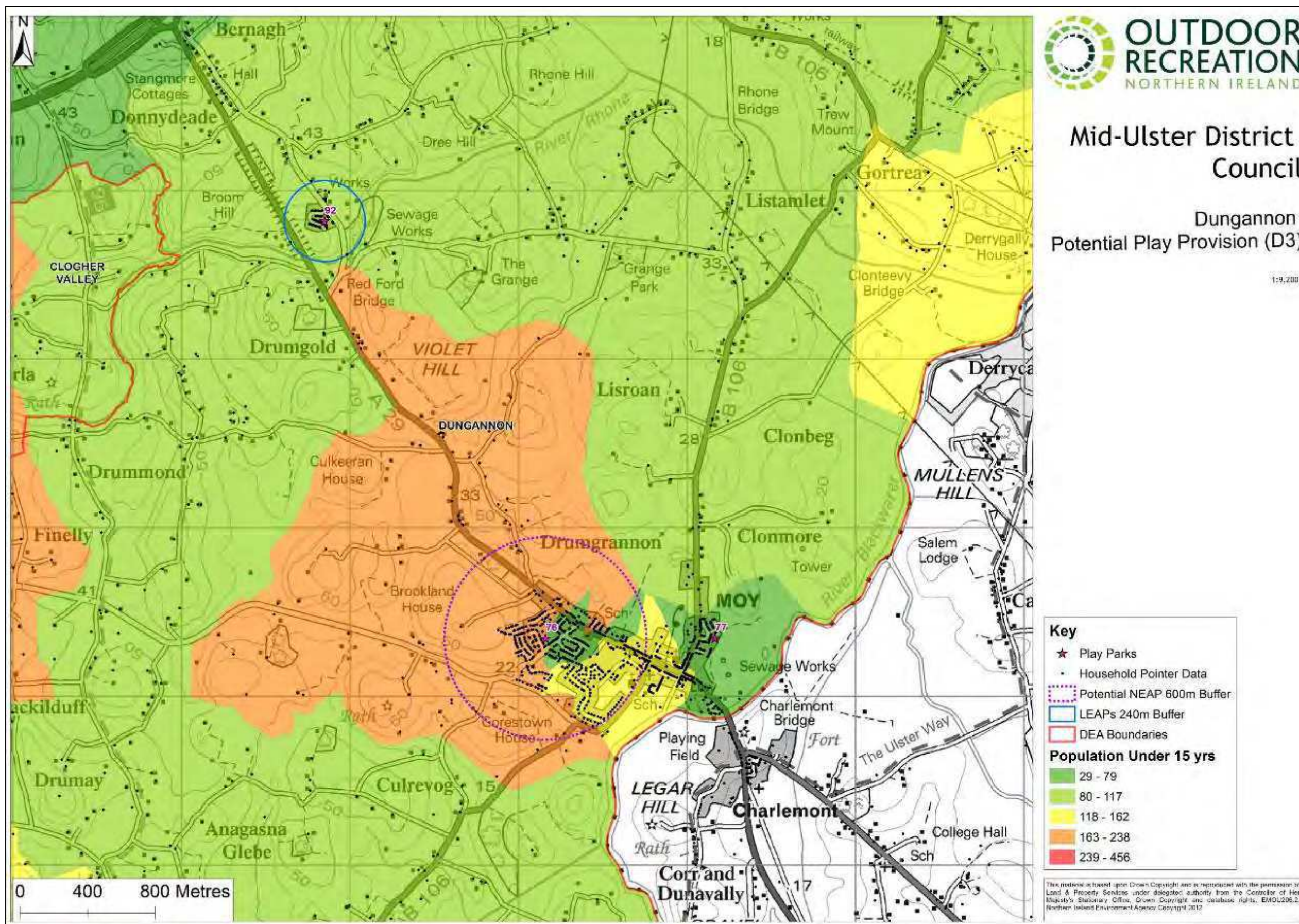


FIGURE 5 DUNGANNON POTENTIAL PLAY PROVISION (D3)

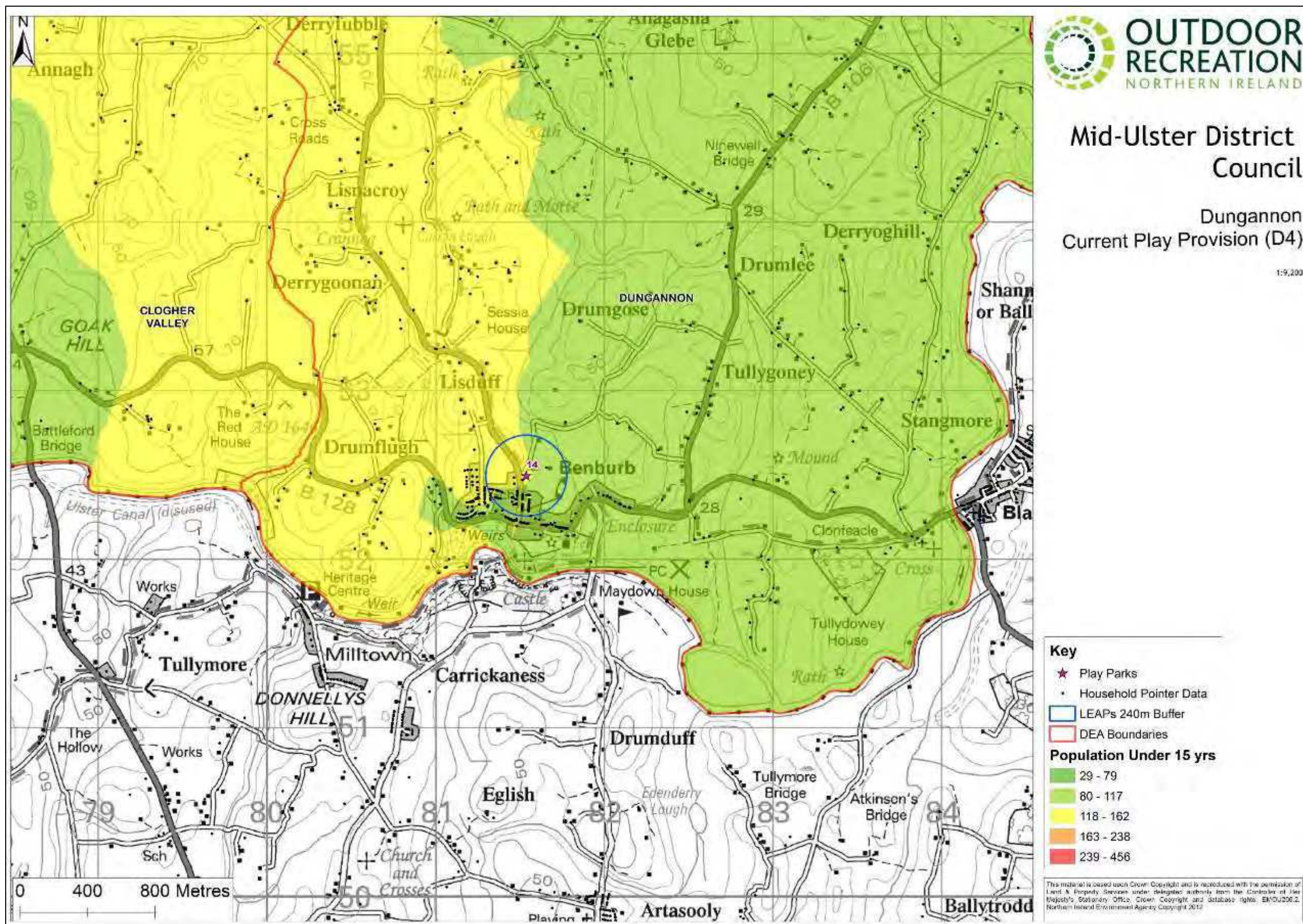


FIGURE 6 DUNGANNON CURRENT PLAY PROVISION (D4)



PUBLIC PARKS AND PLAY STRATEGIC PLAN - MAP REPORT COOKSTOWN

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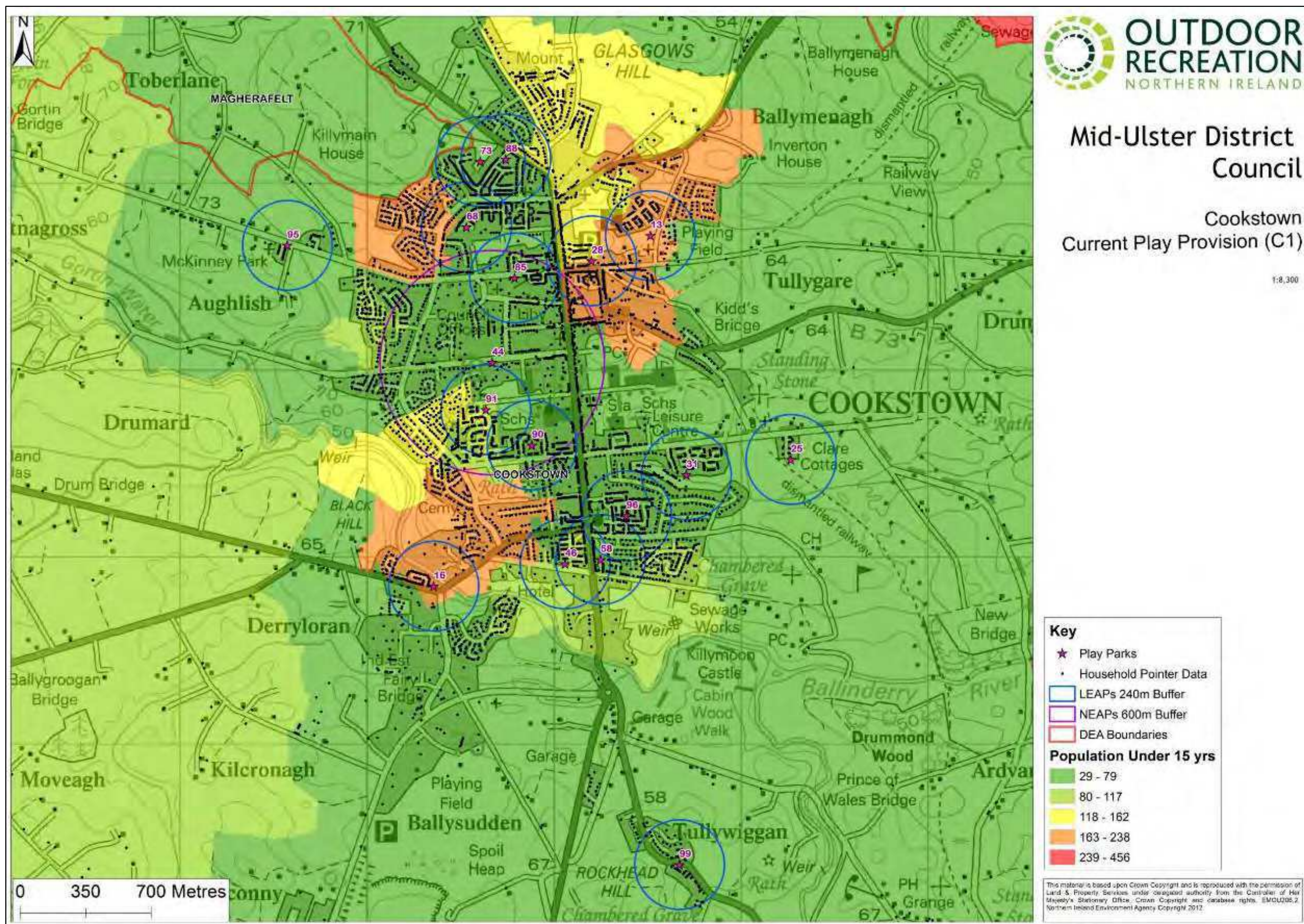


FIGURE 1 COOKSTOWN CURRENT PLAY PROVISION (C1)

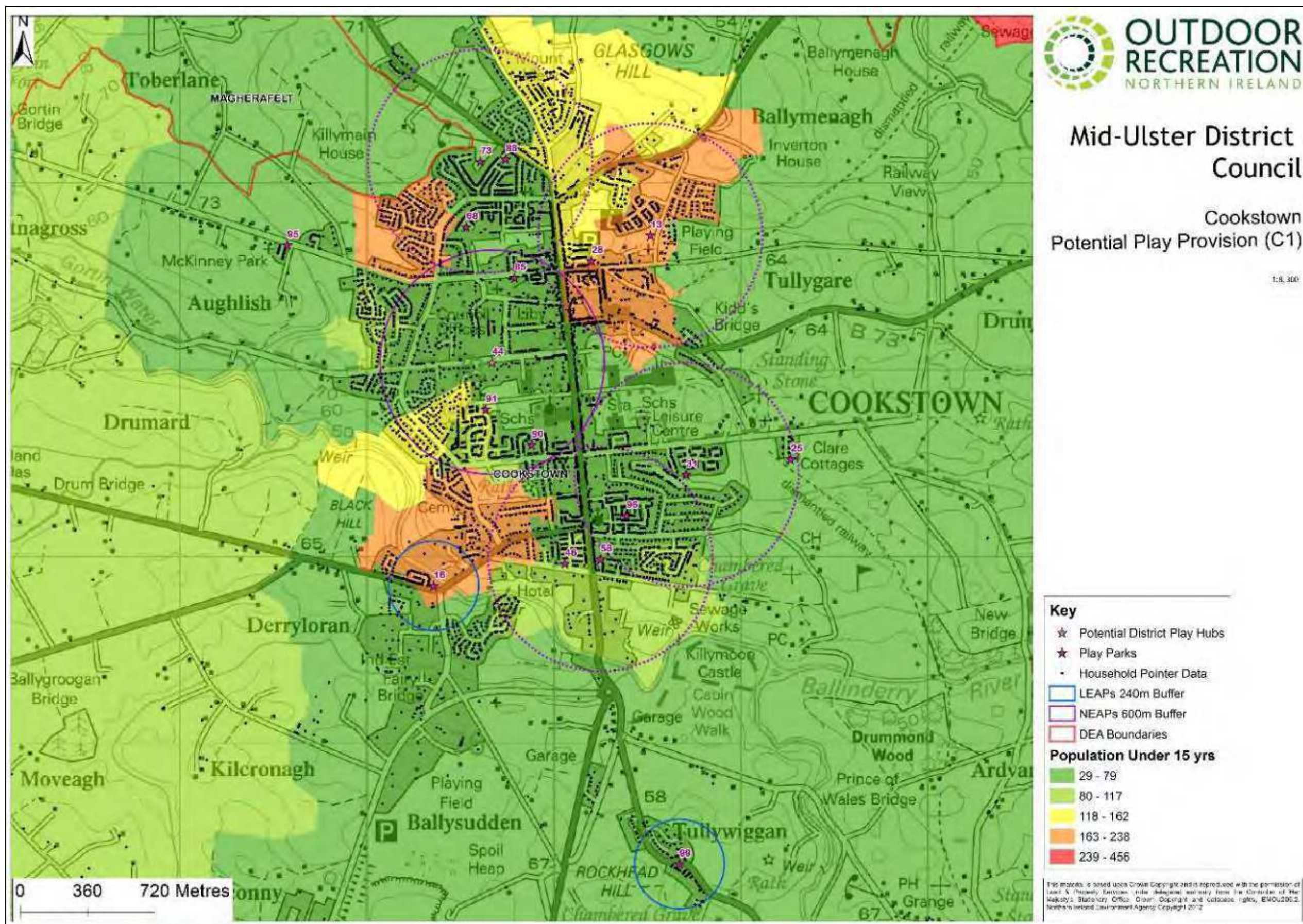


FIGURE 2 COOKSTOWN POTENTIAL PLAY PROVISION (C1)

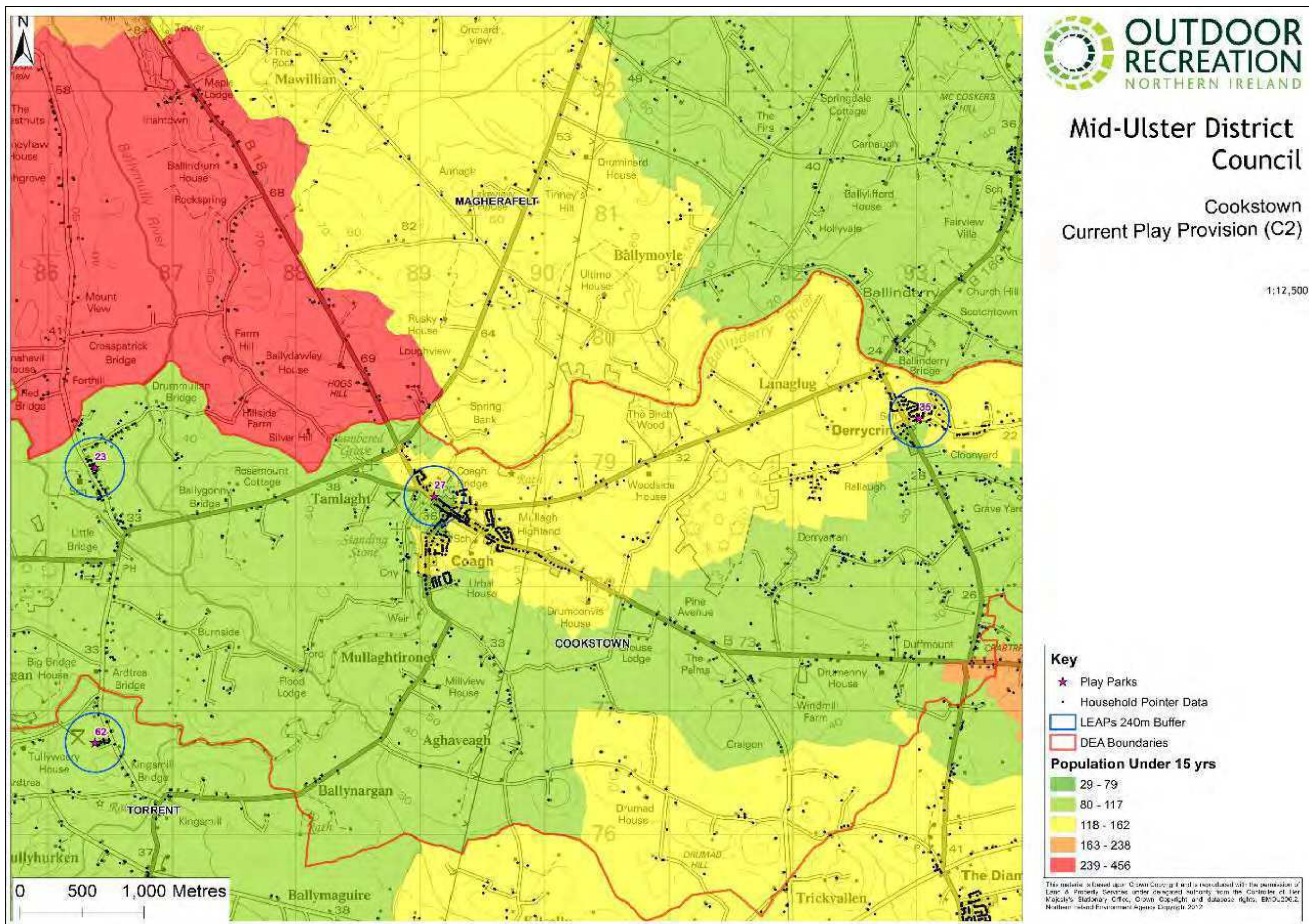


FIGURE 3 COOKSTOWN CURRENT PLAY PROVISION (C2)

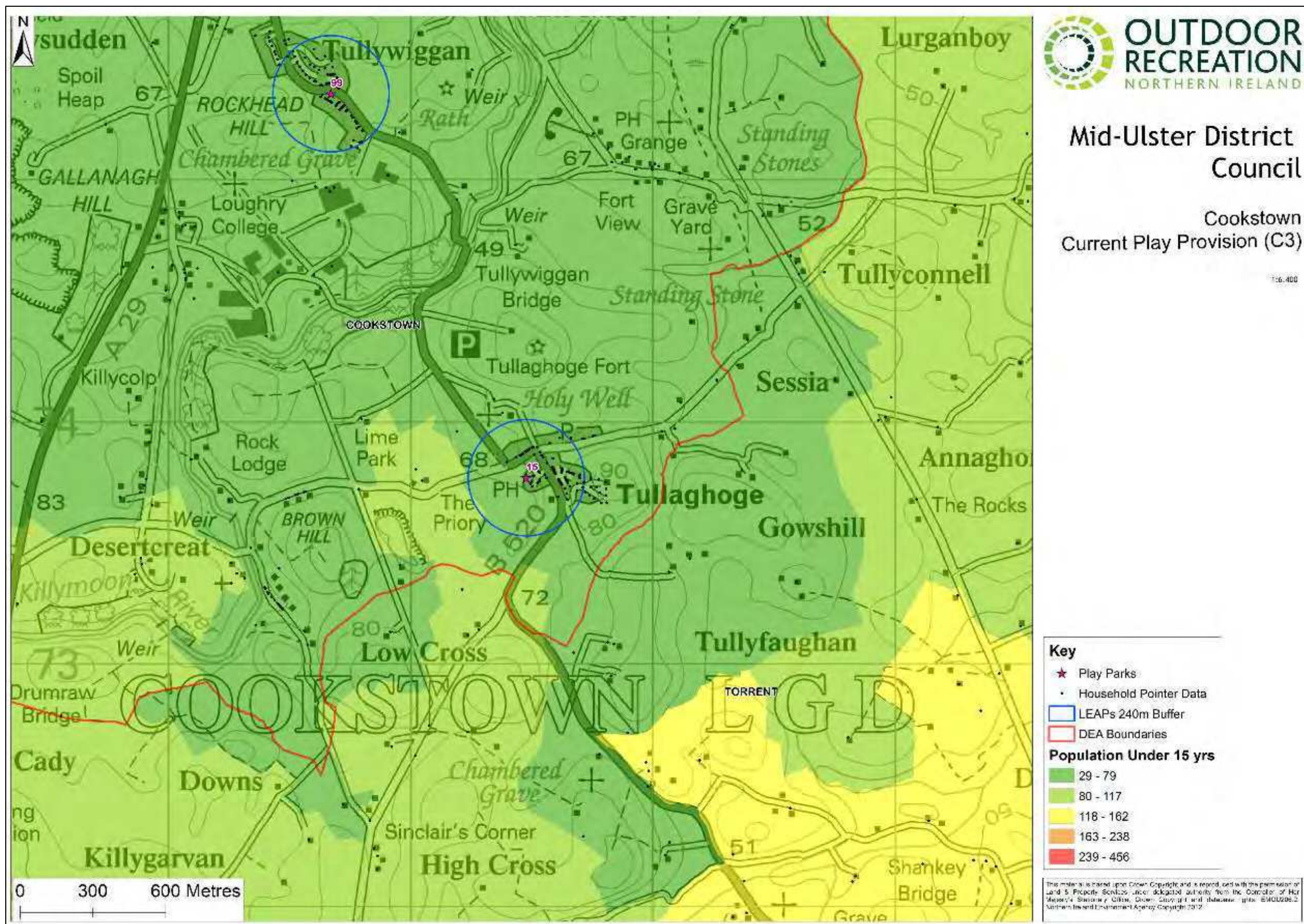


FIGURE 4 COOKSTOWN CURRENT PLAY PROVISION (C3)

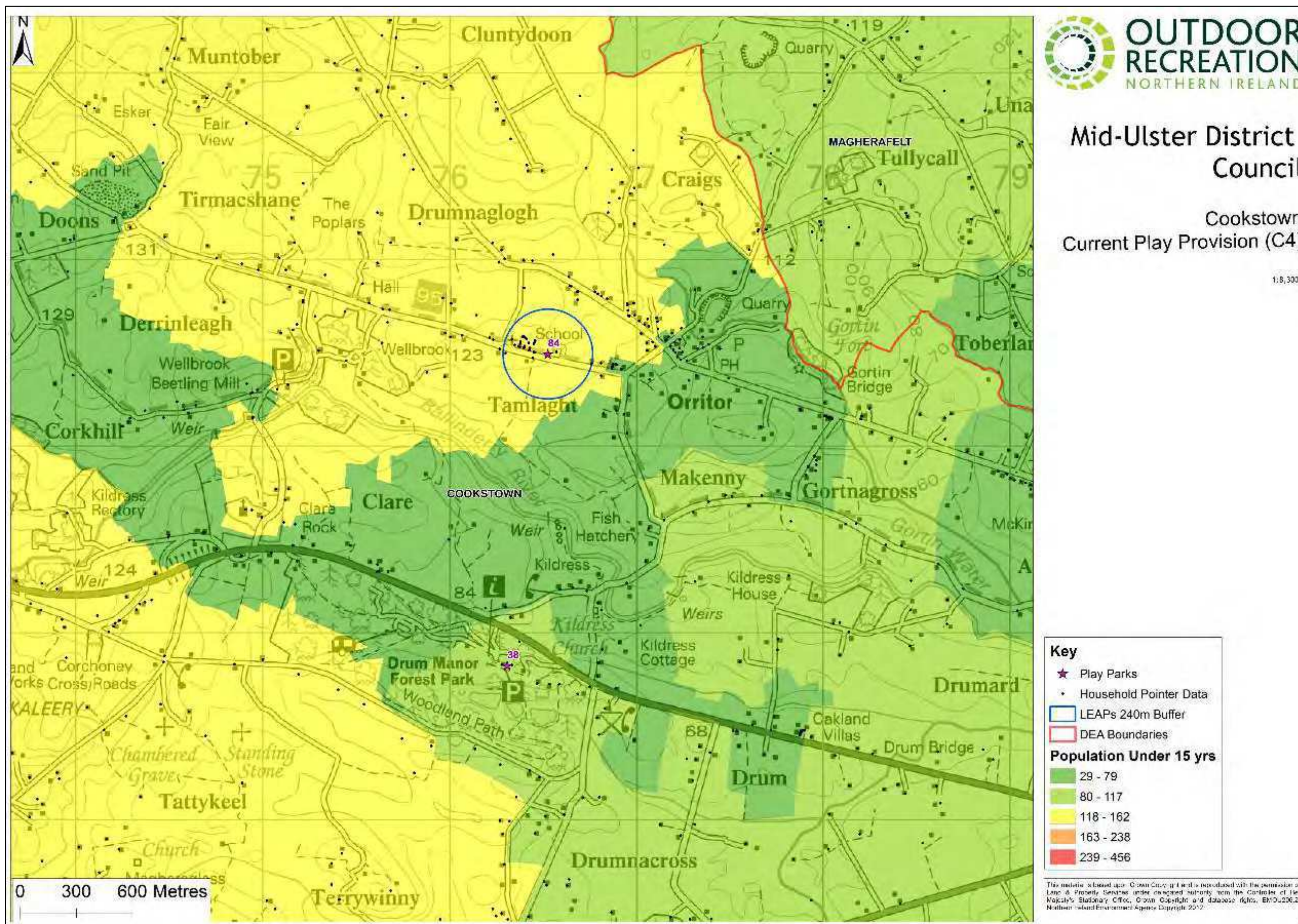


FIGURE 5 COOKSTOWN CURRENT PLAY PROVISION (C4)

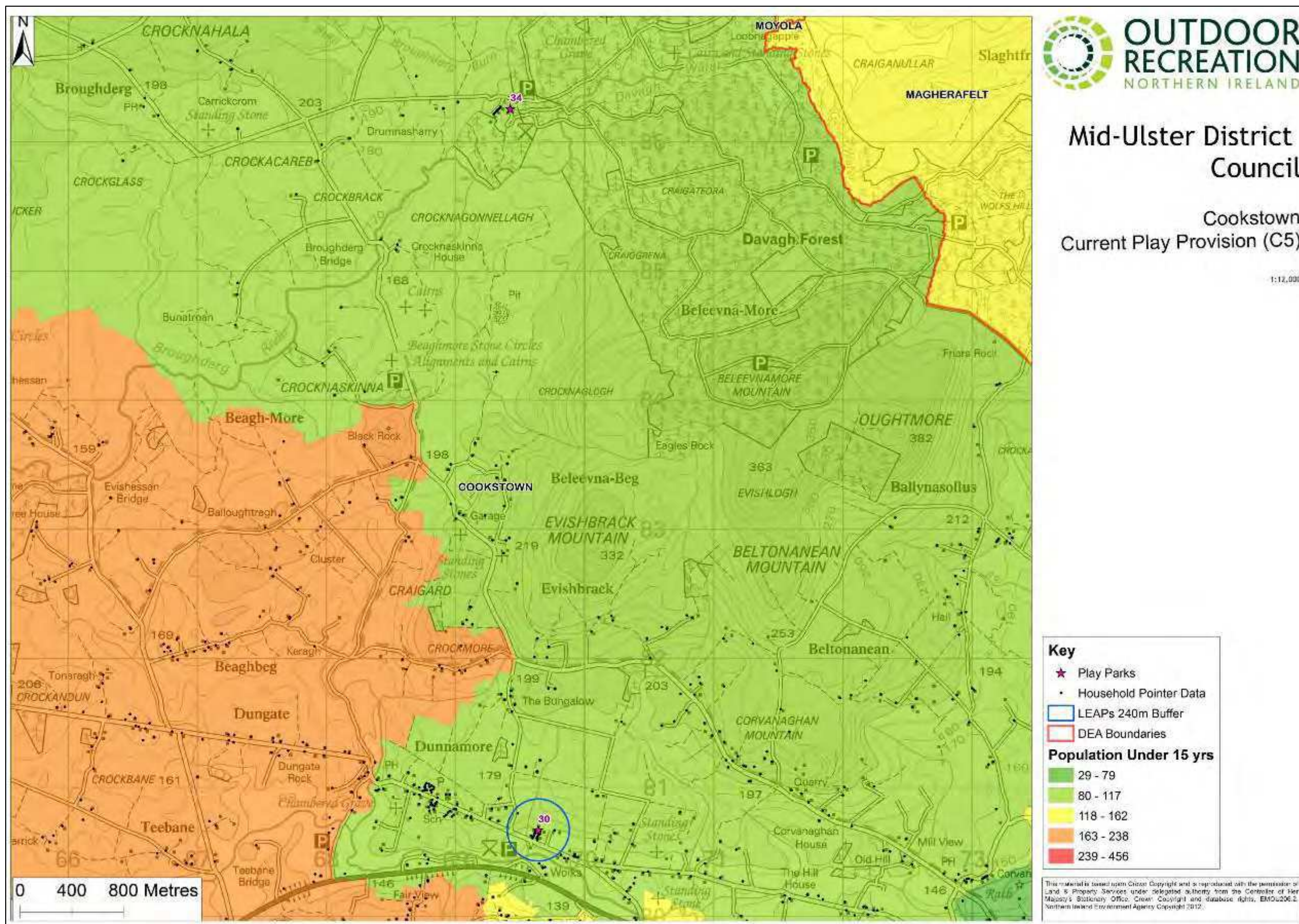


FIGURE 6 COOKSTOWN CURRENT PLAY PROVISION (C5)

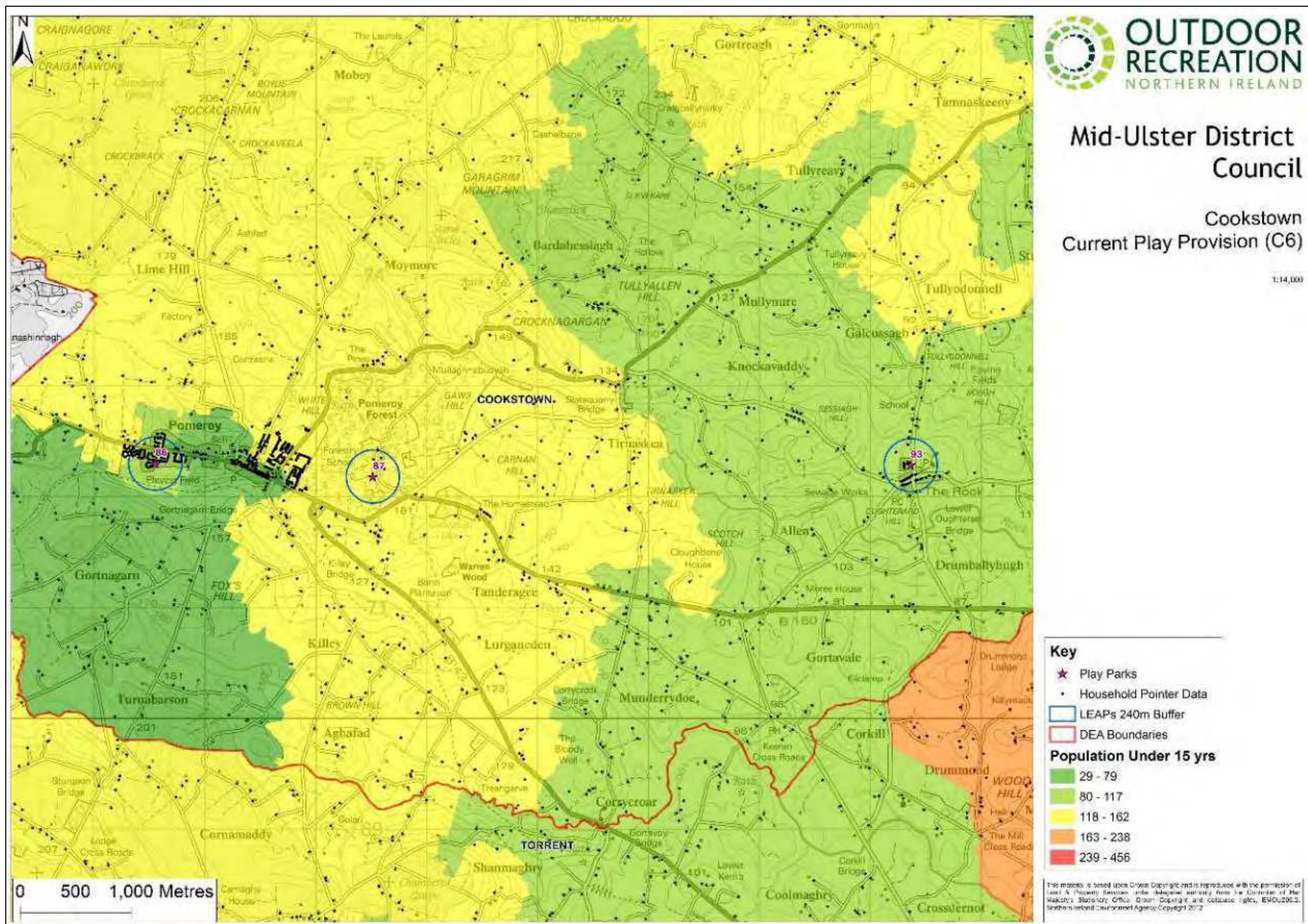


FIGURE 7 COOKSTOWN CURRENT PLAY PROVISION (C6)

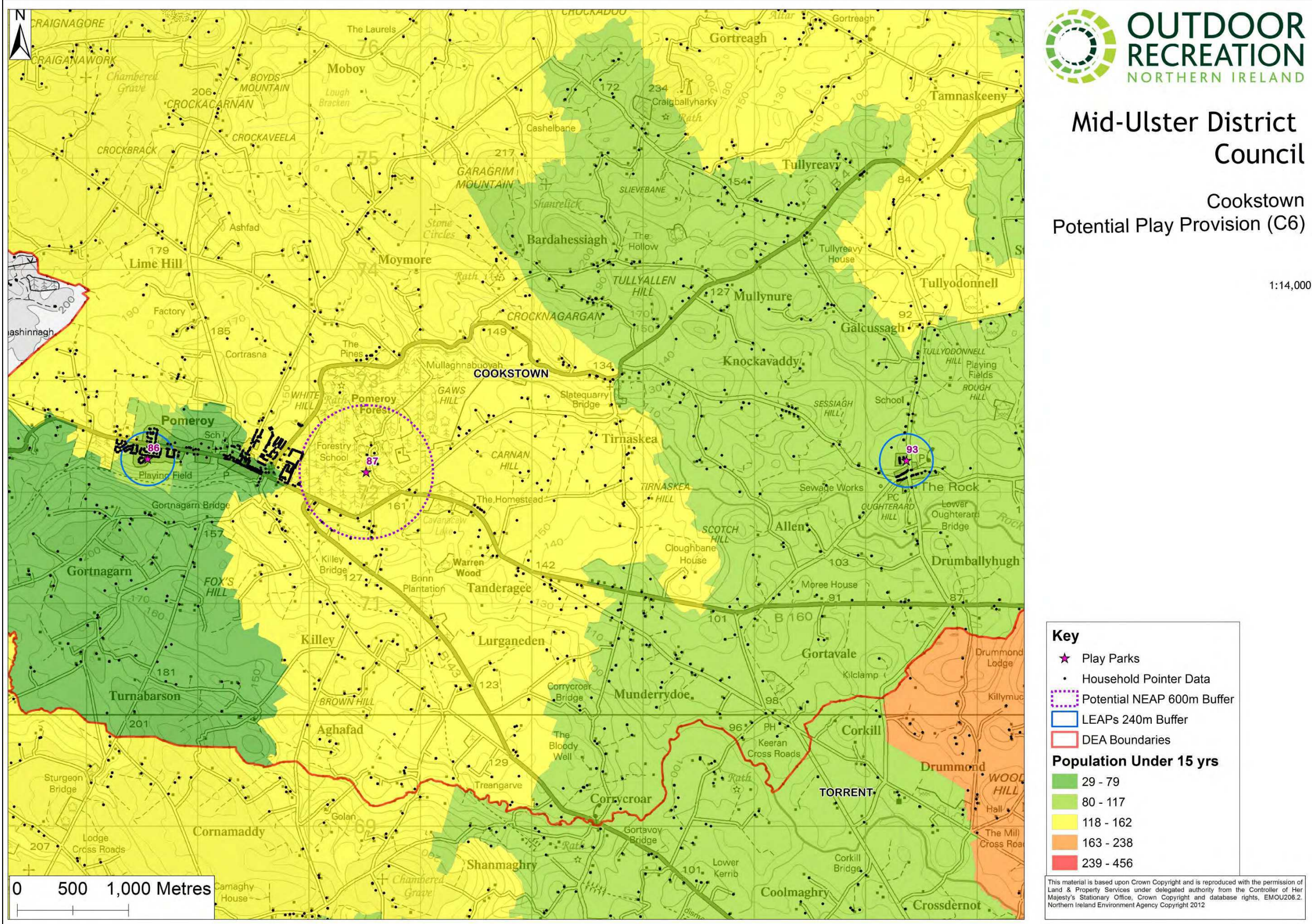


FIGURE 8 COOKSTOWN POTENTIAL PLAY PROVISION (C6)



PUBLIC PARKS AND PLAY STRATEGIC PLAN - MAP REPORT MAGHERAFELT

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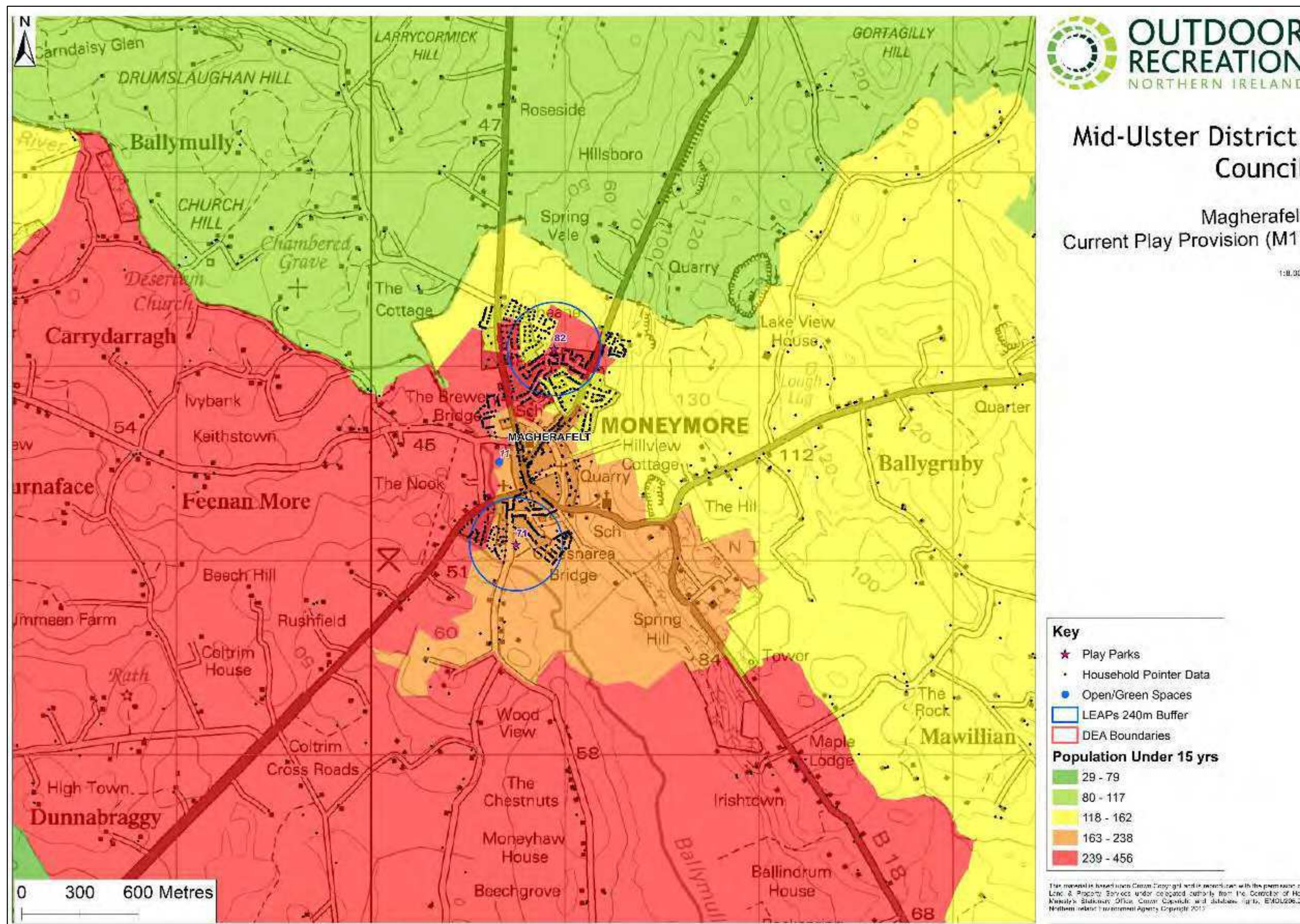


FIGURE 1 MAGHERAFELT CURRENT PLAY PROVISION (M1)

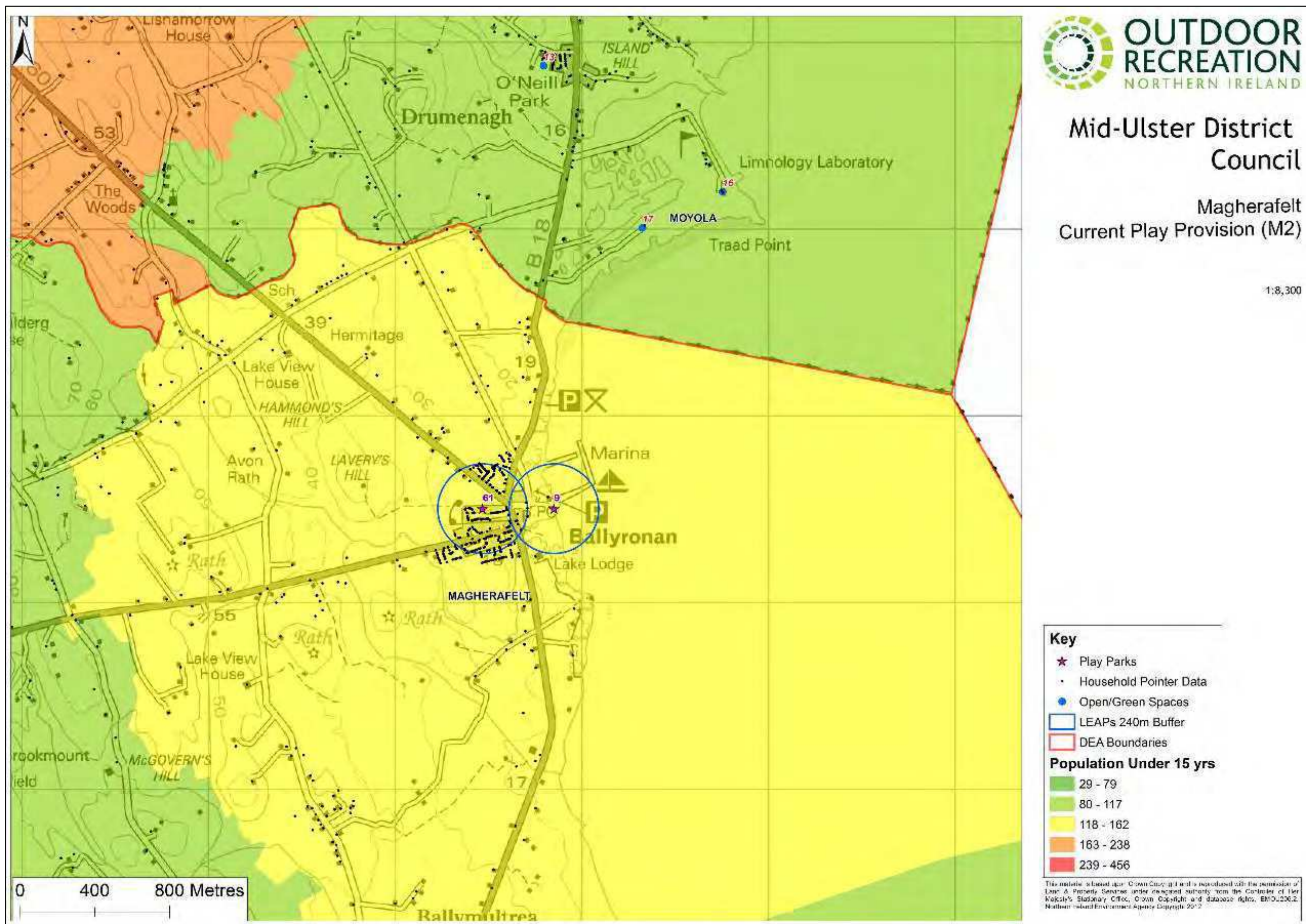


FIGURE 2 MAGHERAFELT CURRENT PLAY PROVISION (M2)

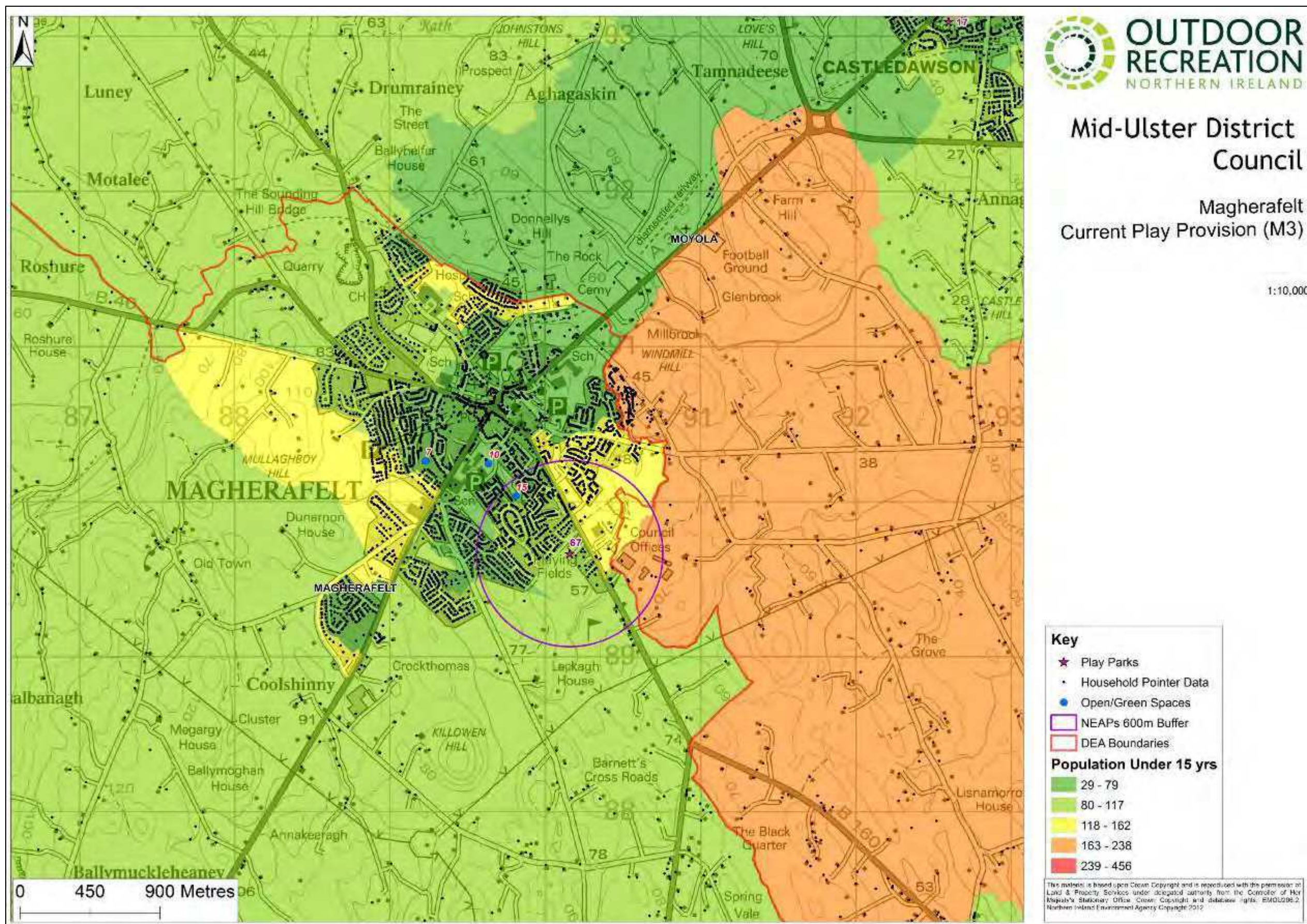


FIGURE 4 MAGHERAFELT CURRENT PLAY PROVISION (M3)

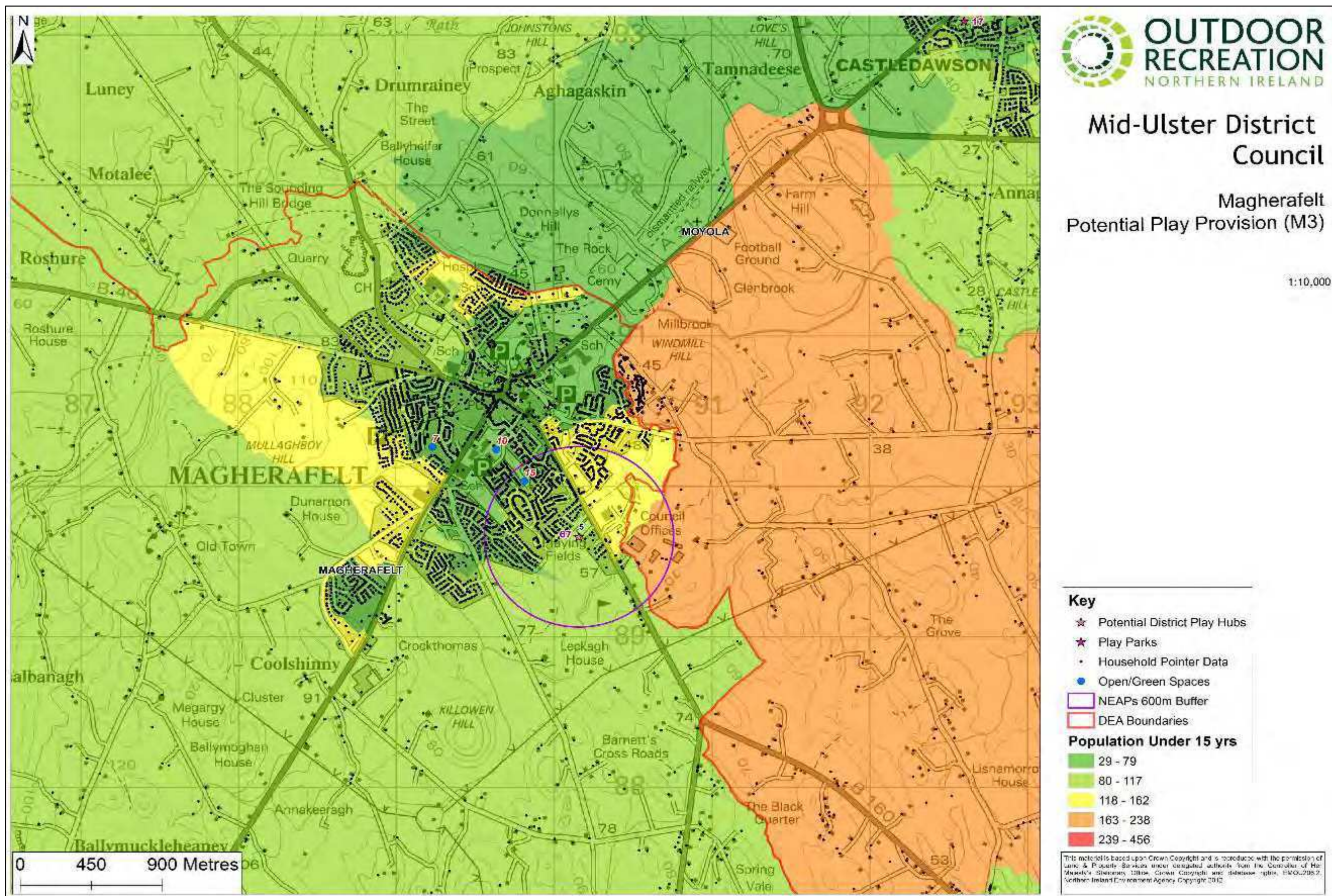


FIGURE 5 MAGHERAFELT POTENTIAL PLAY PROVISION (M3)

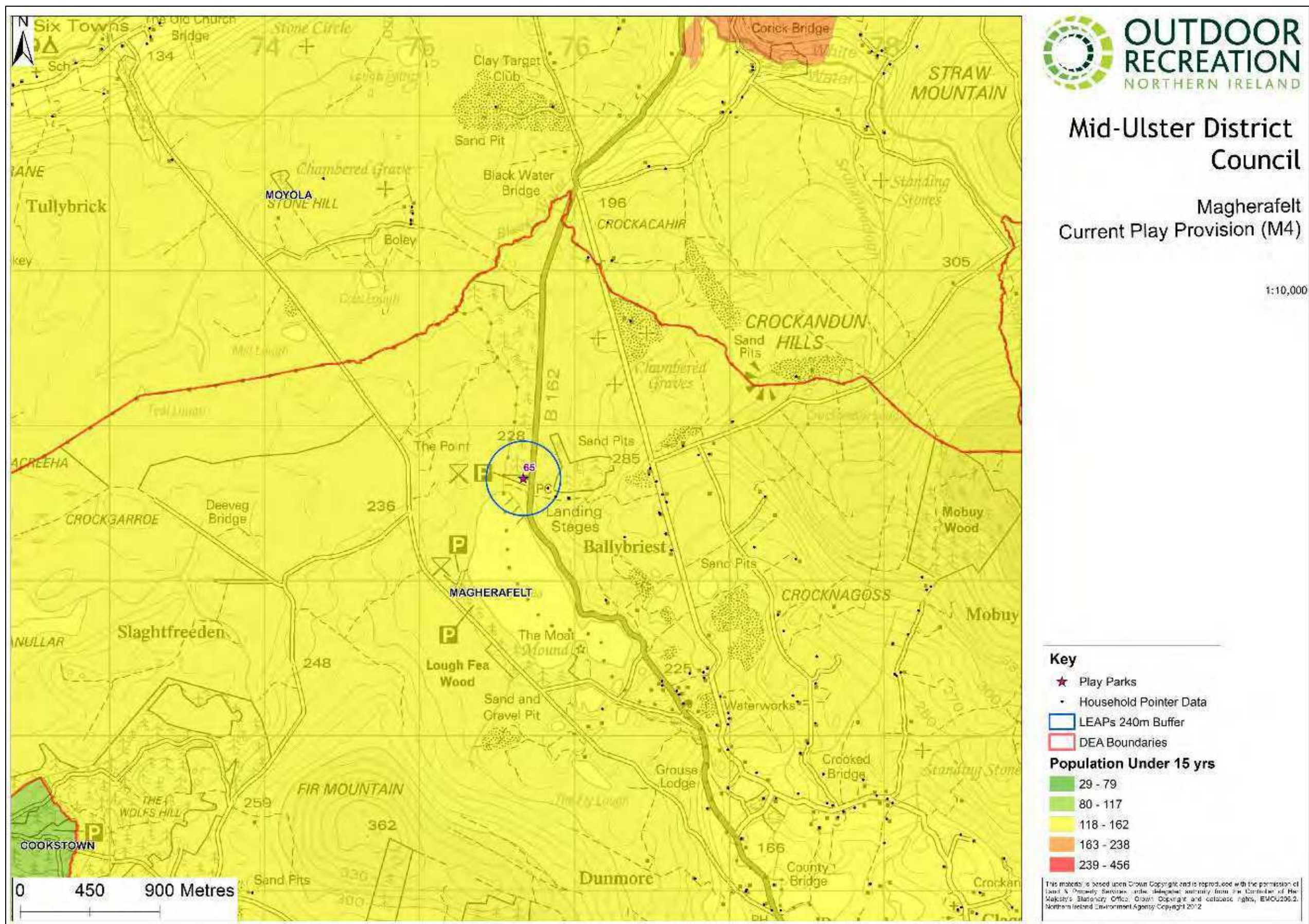


FIGURE 6 MAGHERAFELT CURRENT PLAY PROVISION (M4)



PUBLIC PARKS AND PLAY STRATEGIC PLAN - MAP REPORT CARNTOGHER

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FIGURE 9 CARNTOGHER POTENTIAL PLAY PROVISION (CA5)	11

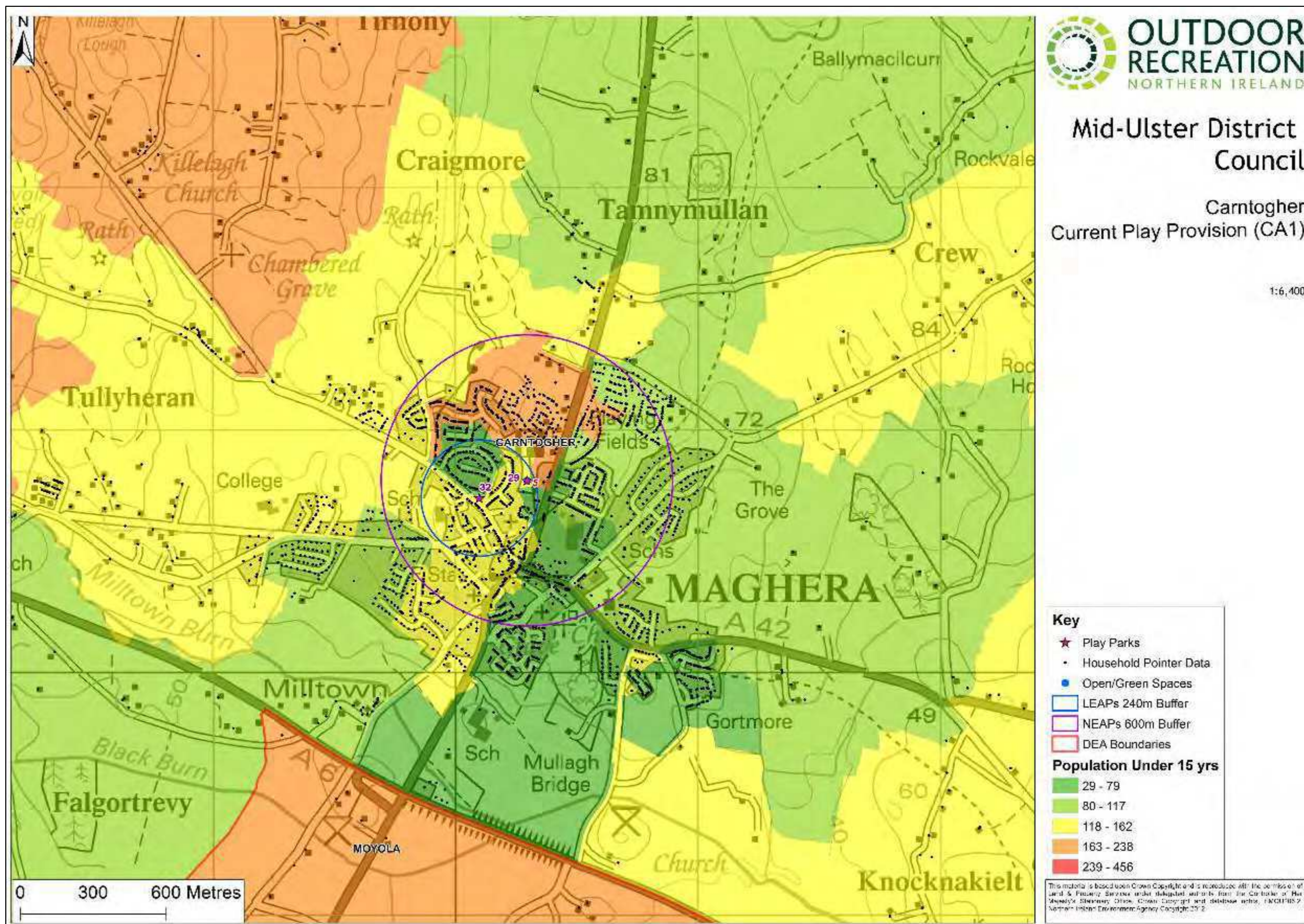
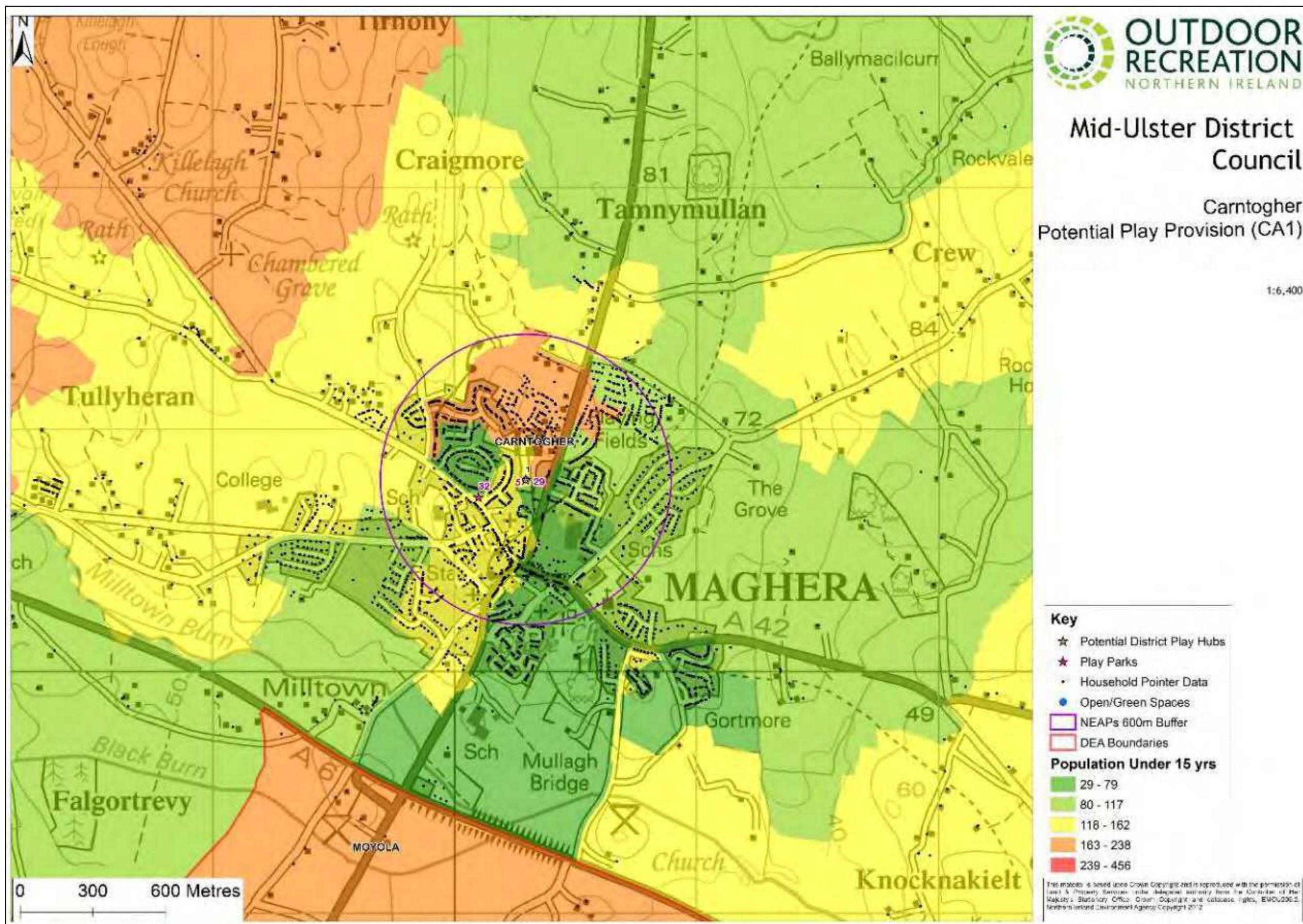


FIGURE 1 CARNTOGHER CURRENT PLAY PROVISION (CA1)



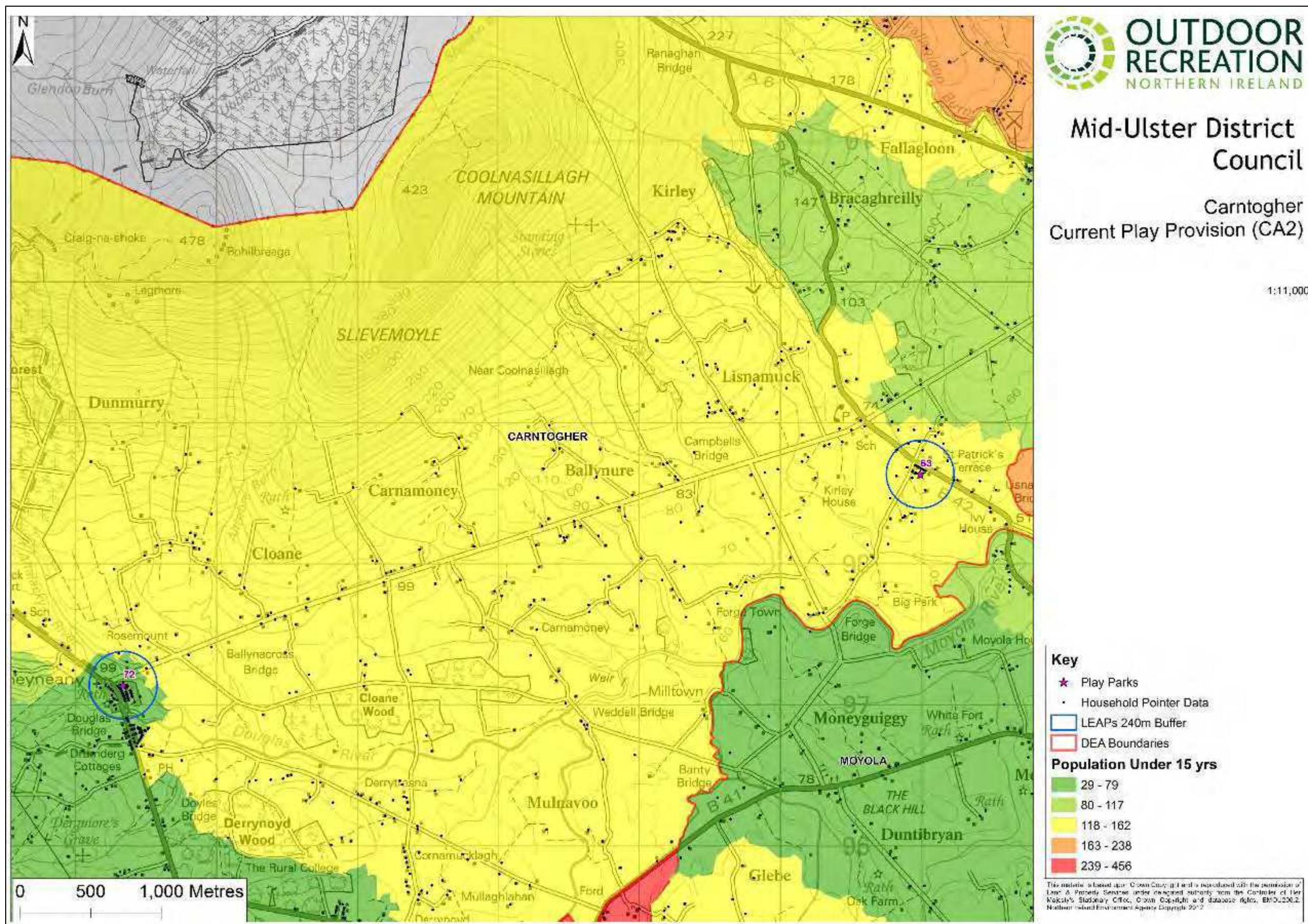


FIGURE 3 CARNTOGHER CURRENT PLAY PROVISION (CA2)

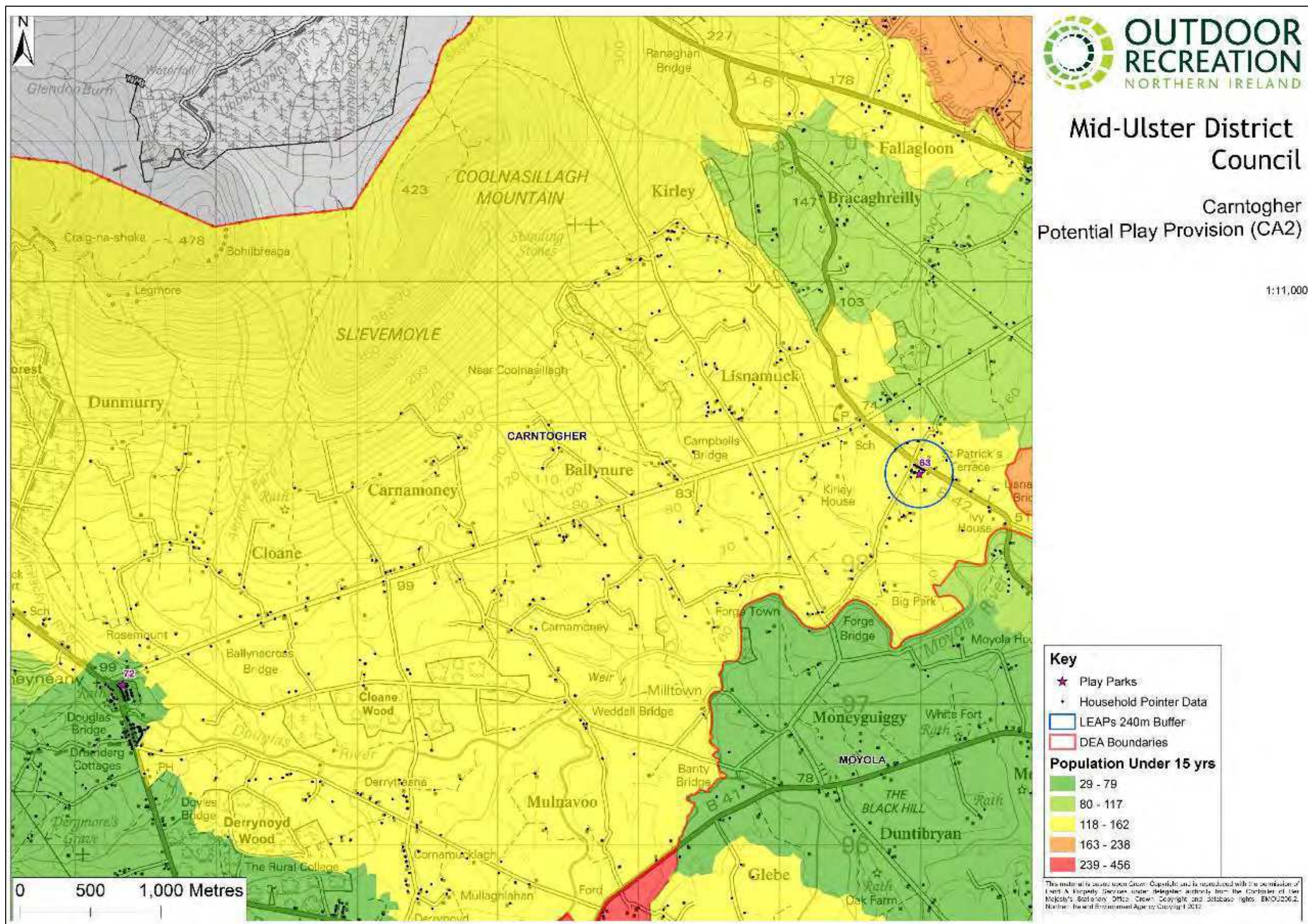


FIGURE 4 CARNTOGHER POTENTIAL PLAY PROVISION (CA2)

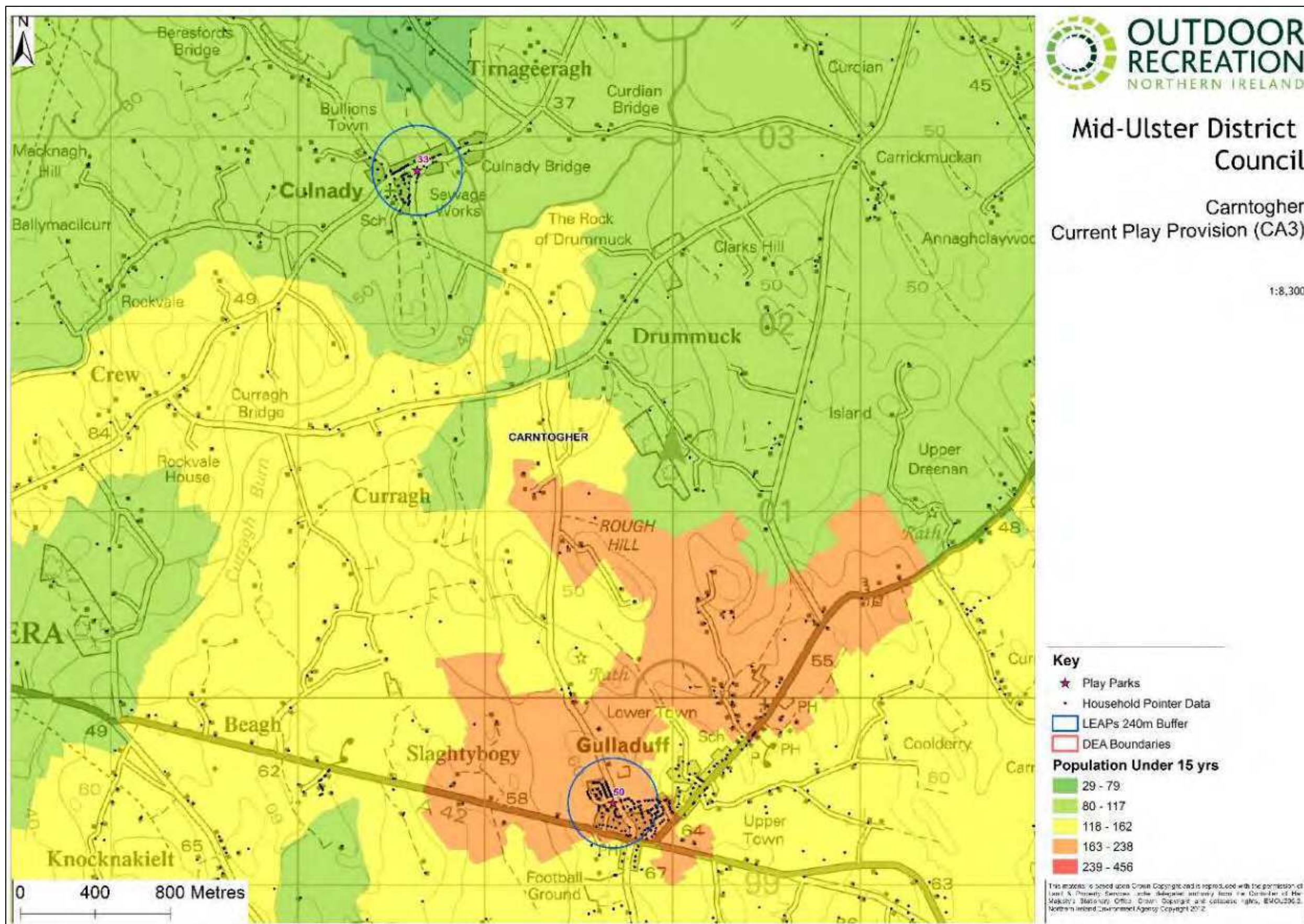


FIGURE 5 CARNTOGHER CURRENT PLAY PROVISION (CA3)

Mid-Ulster District Council

Carntogher Current Play Provision (CA4)

1:23,000

Key

- Household Pointer Data
- Open/Green Spaces
- ★ Play Parks
- LEAPs 240m Buffer
- DEA Boundaries

Population Under 15 yrs

- 29 - 79
- 80 - 117
- 118 - 162
- 163 - 238
- 239 - 456

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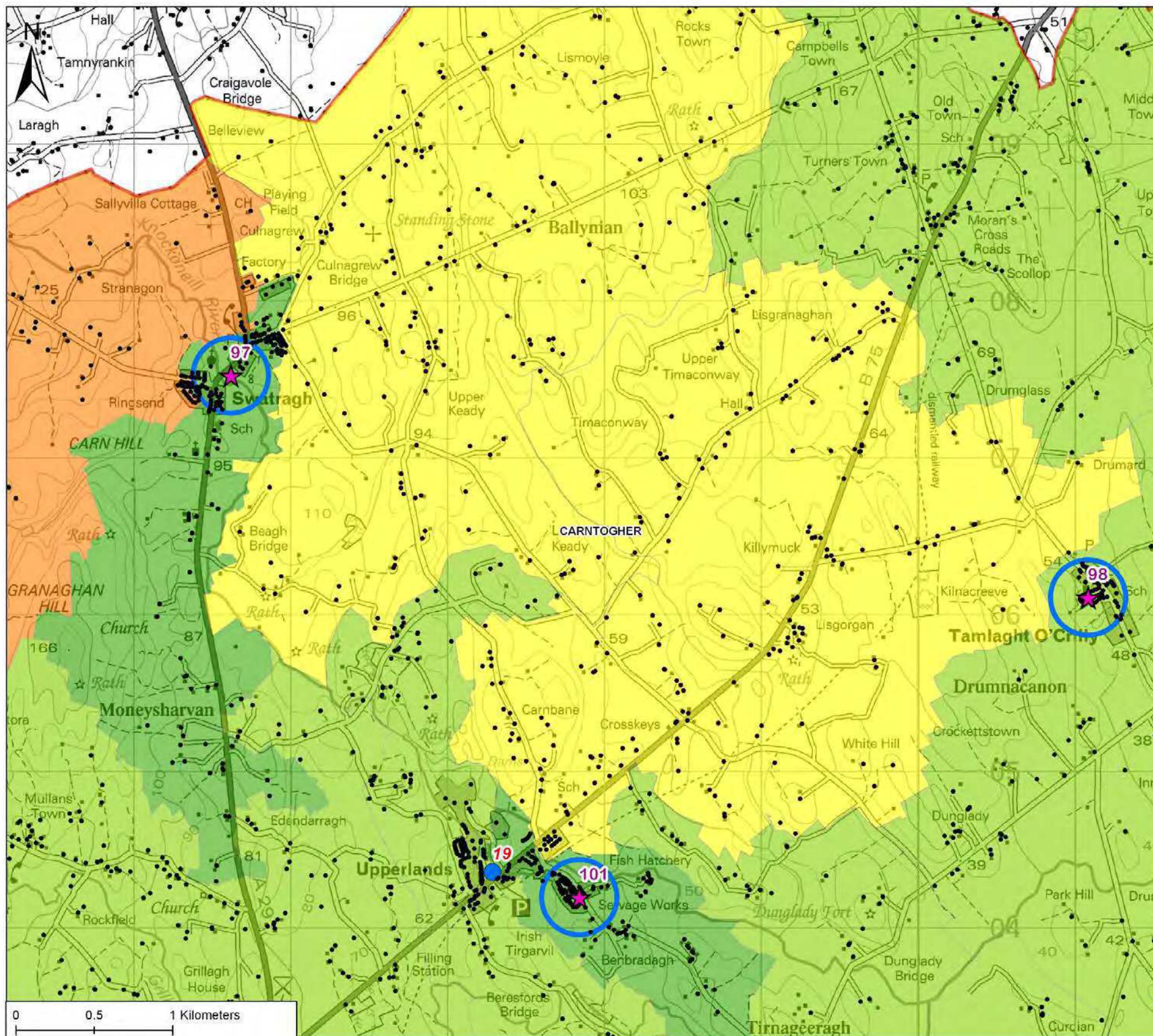
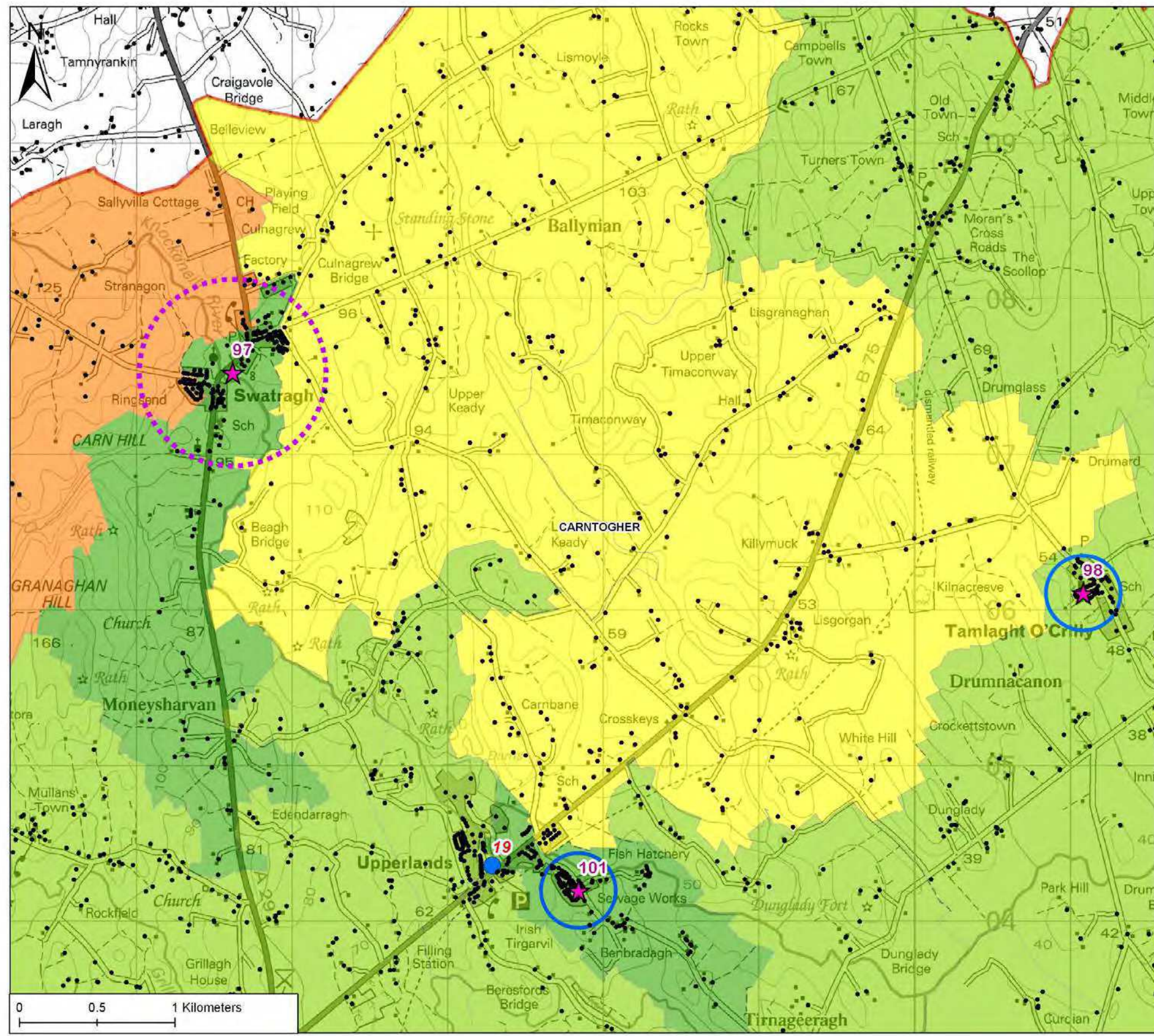


FIGURE 6 CARNTOGHER CURRENT PLAY PROVISION (CA4)

Mid-Ulster District Council

Carntogher Potential Play Provision (CA4)

1:23,000



Key

- Household Pointer Data
- Open/Green Spaces
- Play Parks
- LEAP 240m Buffer
- Potential NEAP 600m Buffer
- DEA Boundaries

Population Under 15 yrs

- 29 - 79
- 80 - 117
- 118 - 162
- 163 - 238
- 239 - 456

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FIGURE 7 CARNTOGER POTENTIAL PLAY PROVISION (CA4)

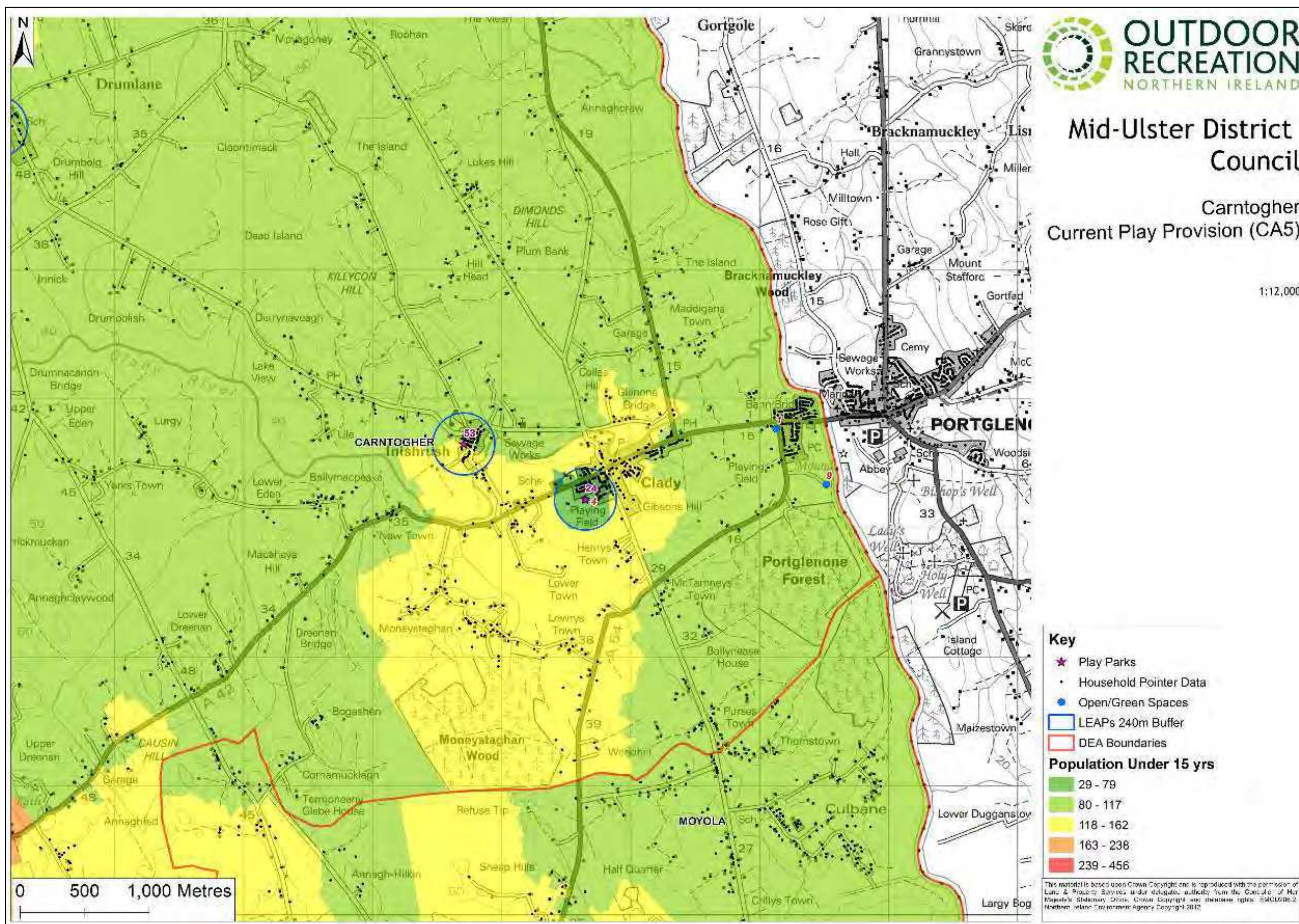


FIGURE 8 CARNTOGHER CURRENT PLAY PROVISION (CA5)

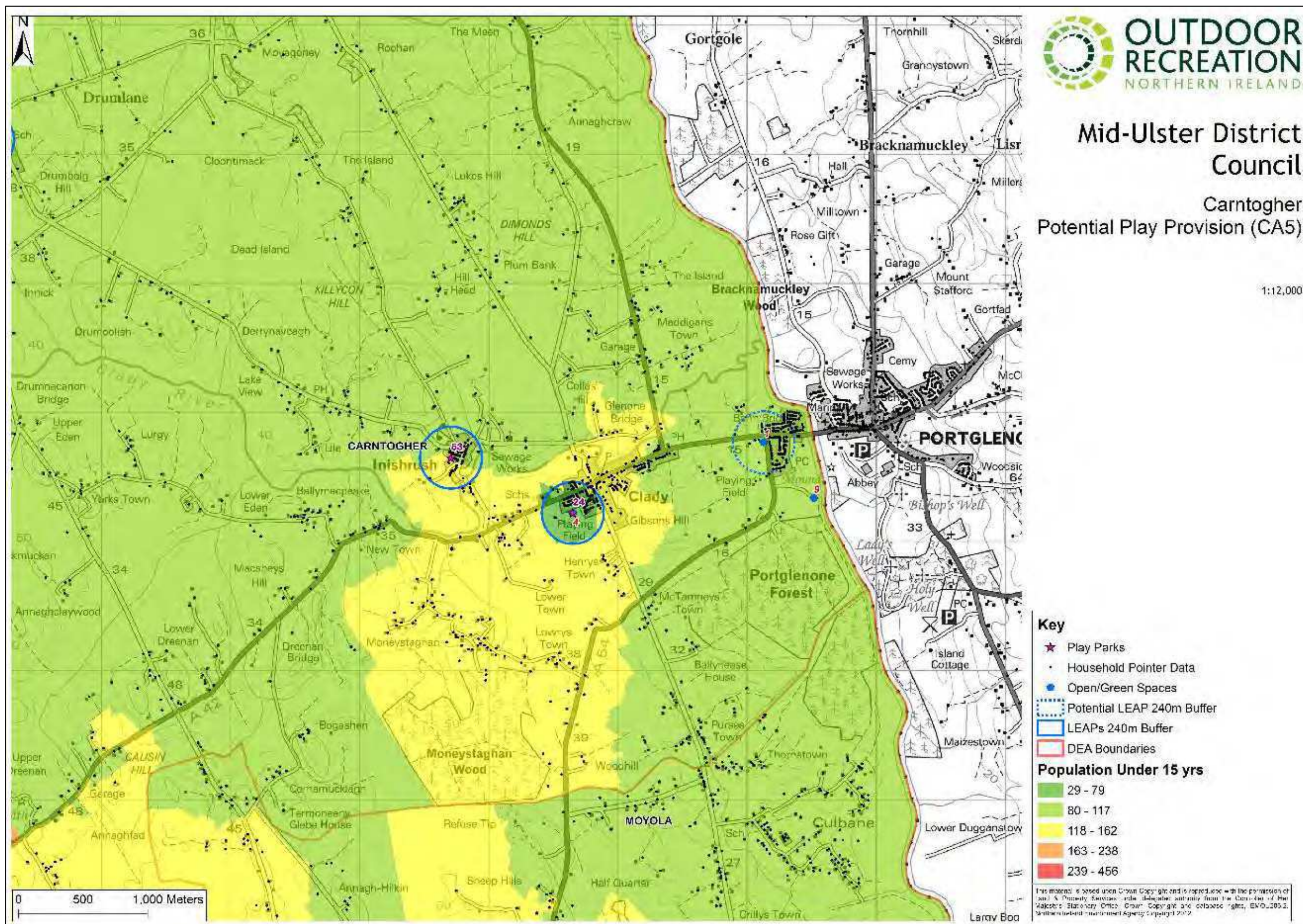


FIGURE 9 CARNTOGHER POTENTIAL PLAY PROVISION (CA5)



PUBLIC PARKS AND PLAY STRATEGIC PLAN - MAP REPORT MOYOLA

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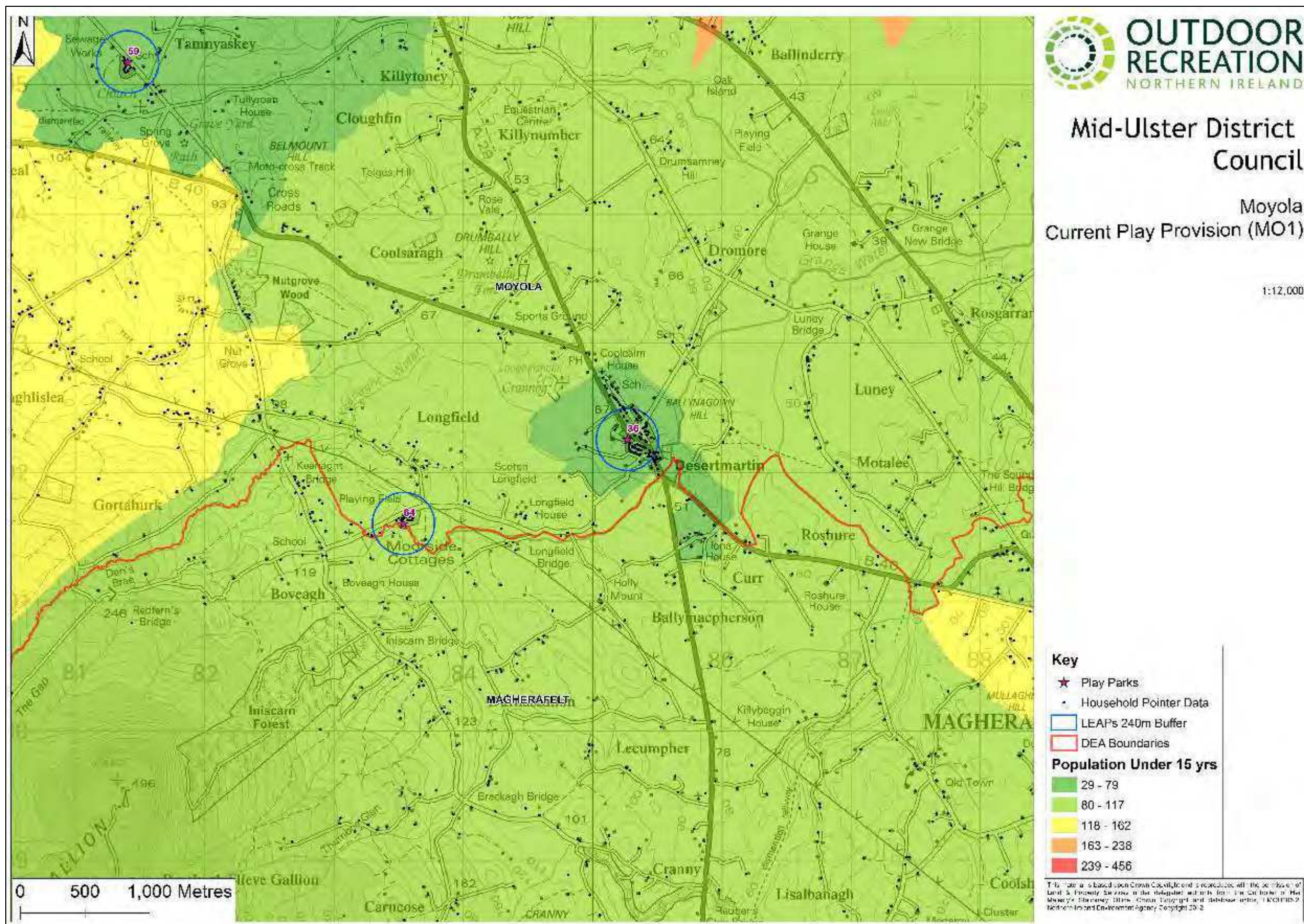


FIGURE 1 MOYOLA CURRENT PLAY PROVISION (MO1)

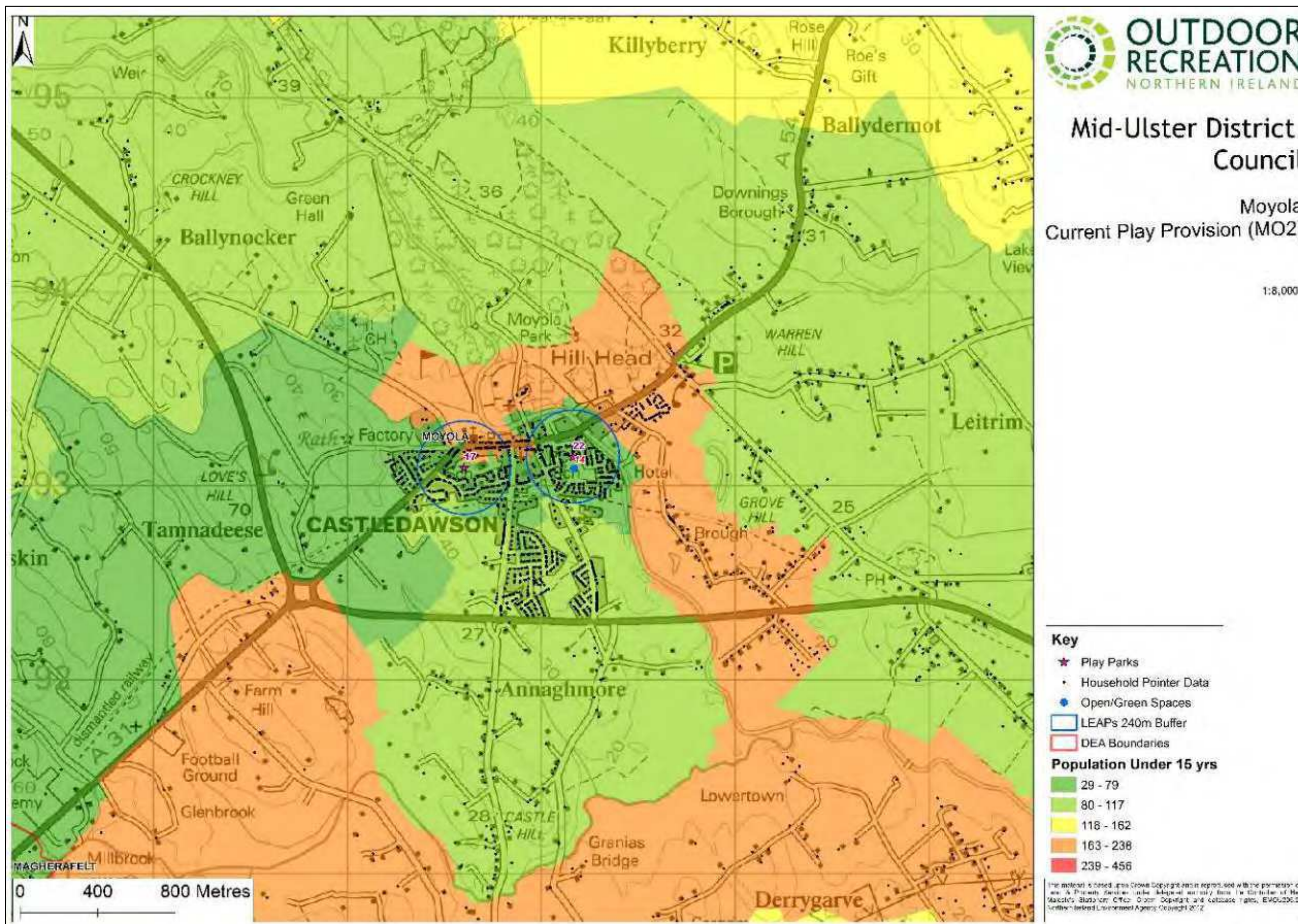


FIGURE 2 MOYOLA CURRENT PLAY PROVISION (MO2)

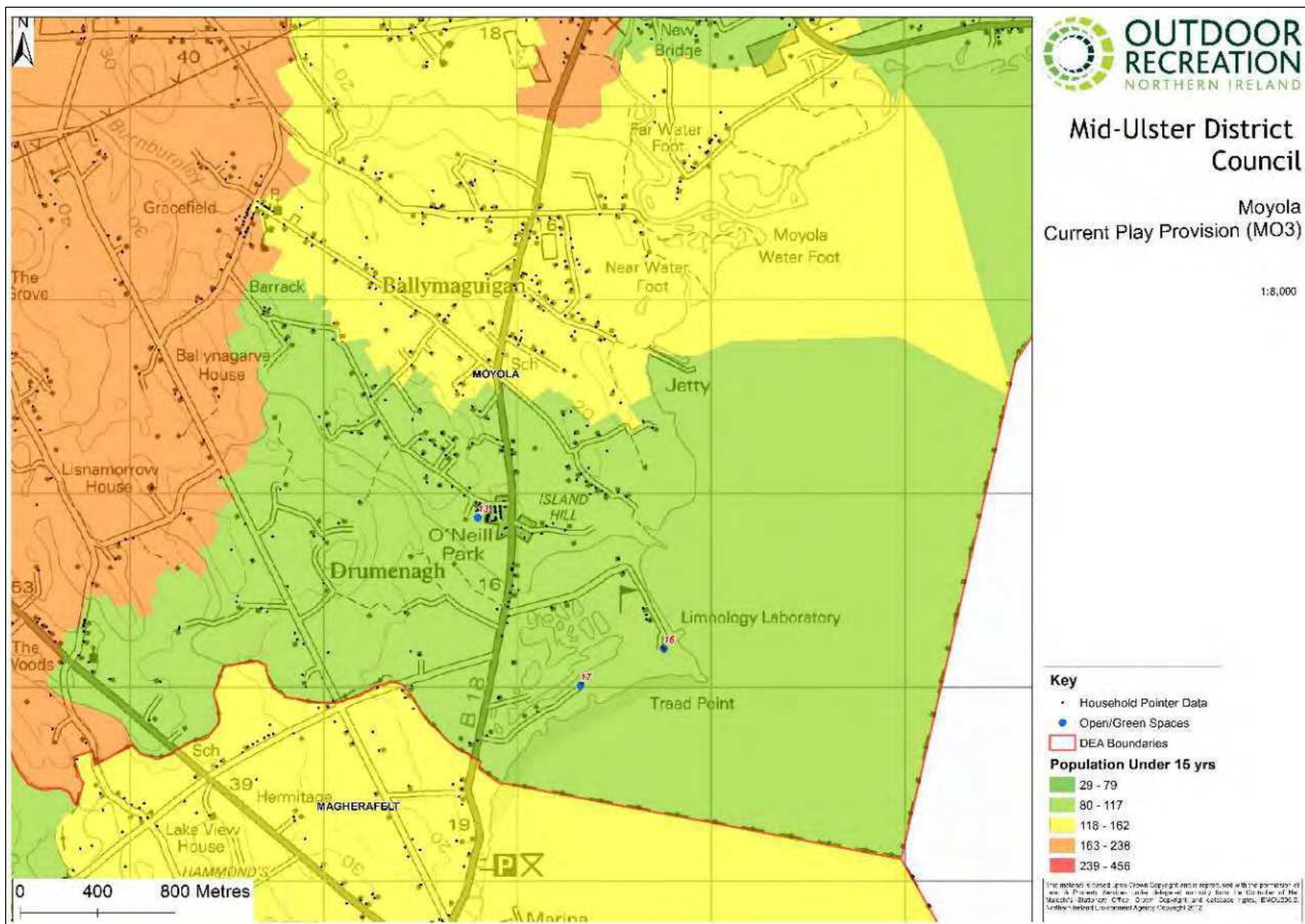


FIGURE 3 MOYOLA CURRENT PLAY PROVISION (MO3)

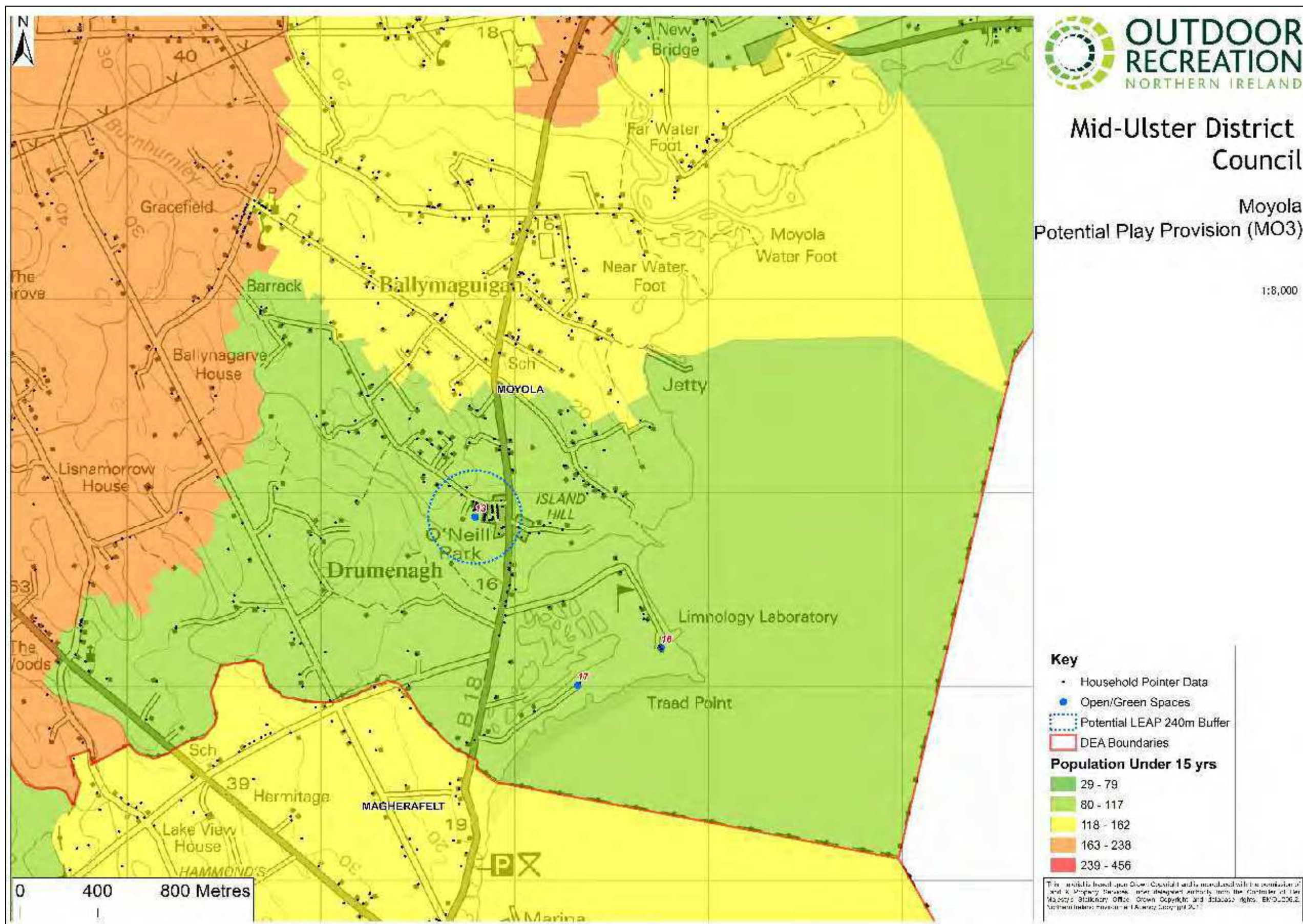


FIGURE 4 MOYOLA POTENTIAL PLAY PROVISION (MO3)

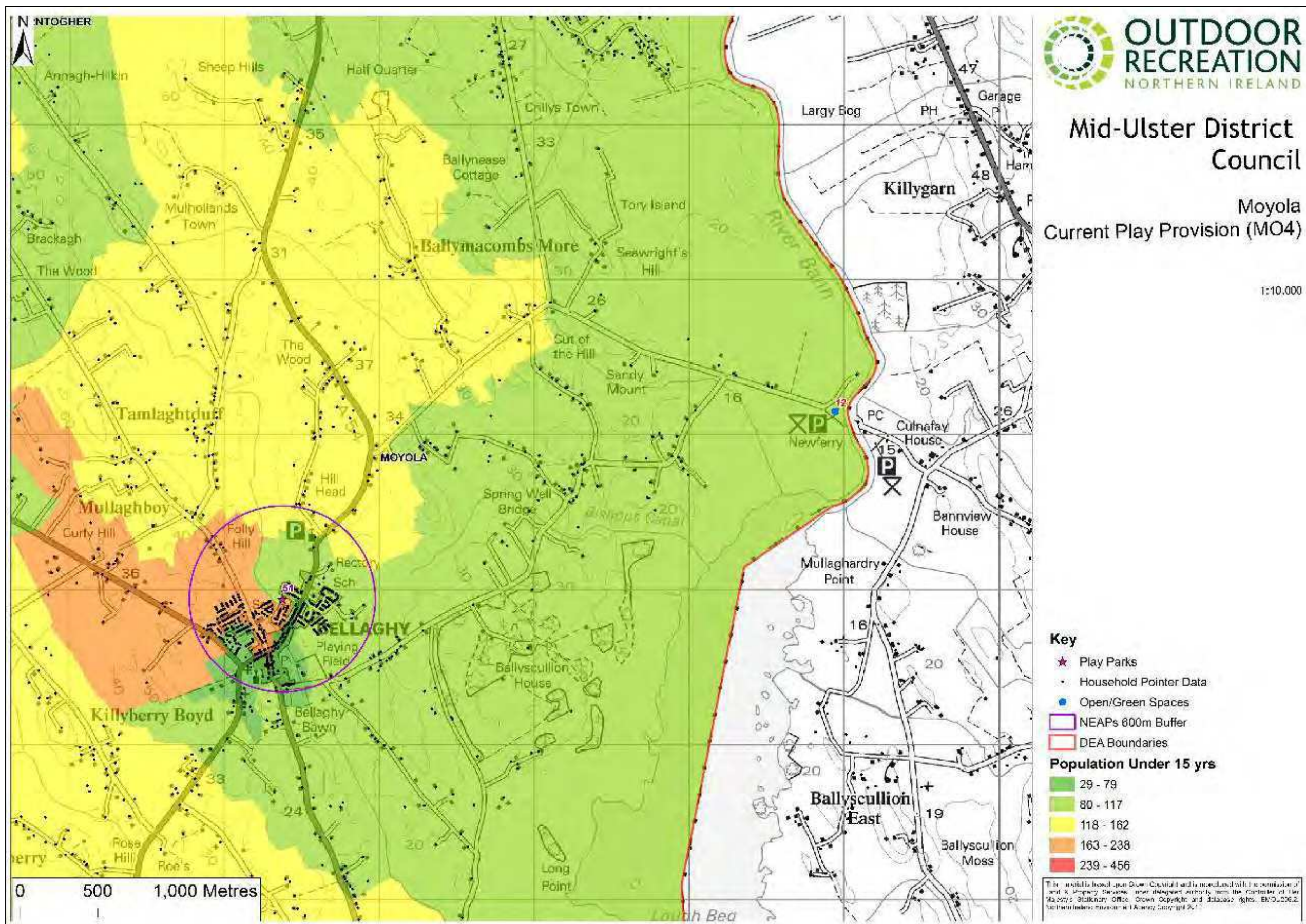


FIGURE 5 MOYOLA CURRENT PLAY PROVISION (MO4)

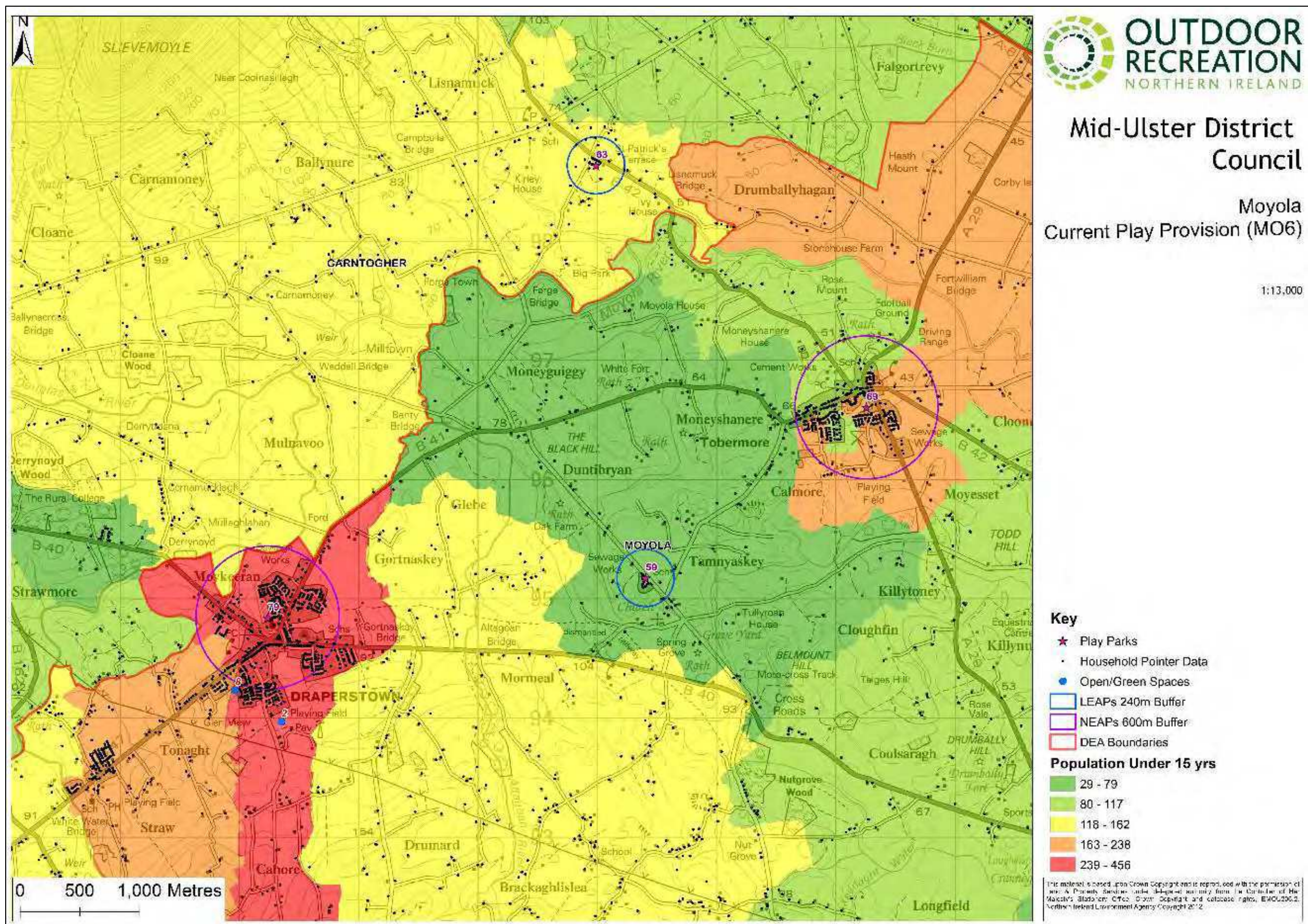


FIGURE 7 MOYOLA CURRENT PLAY PROVISION (MO6)



PUBLIC PARKS AND PLAY STRATEGIC PLAN - MAP REPORT TORRENT

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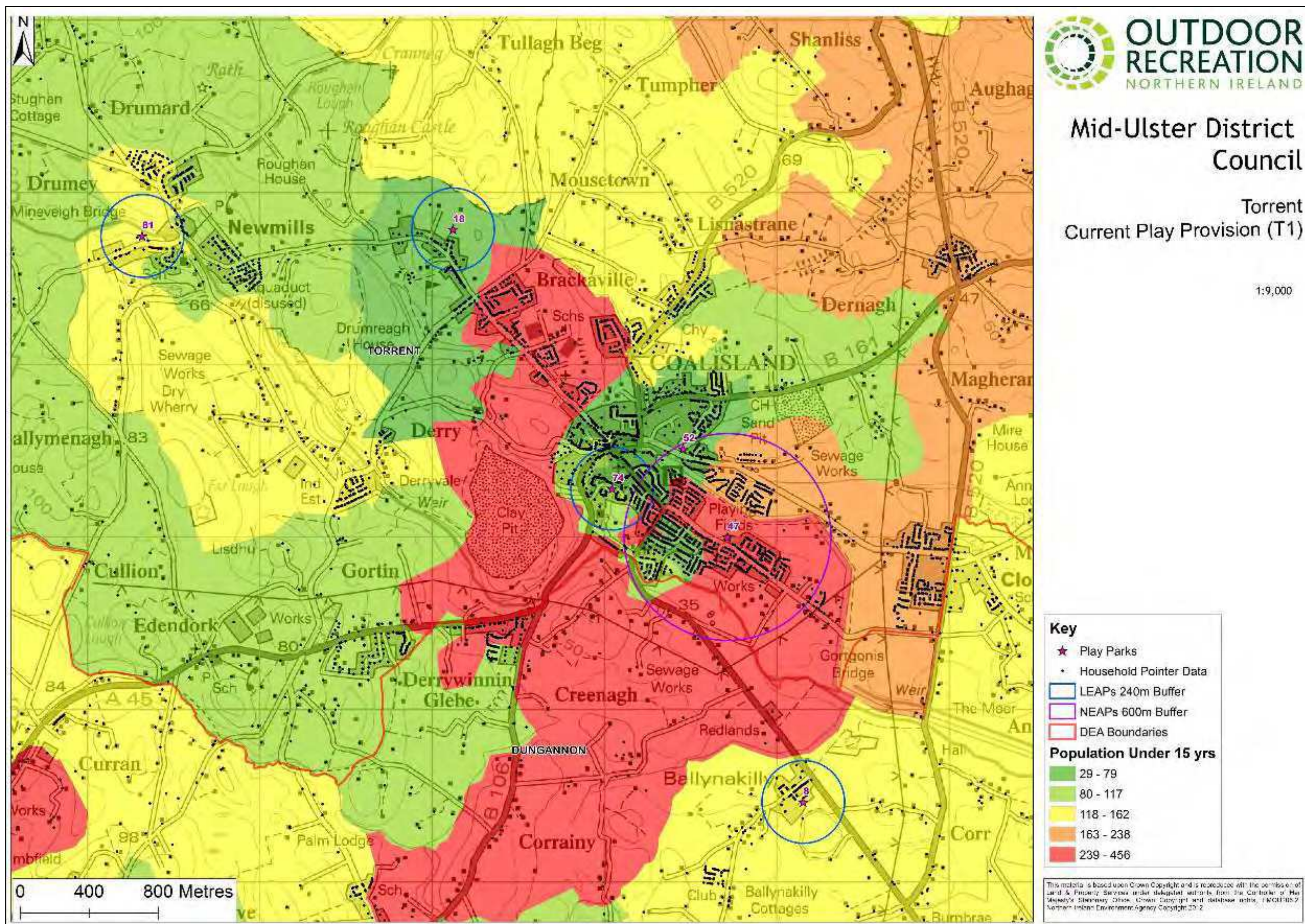


FIGURE 1 TORRENT CURRENT PLAY PROVISION (T1)

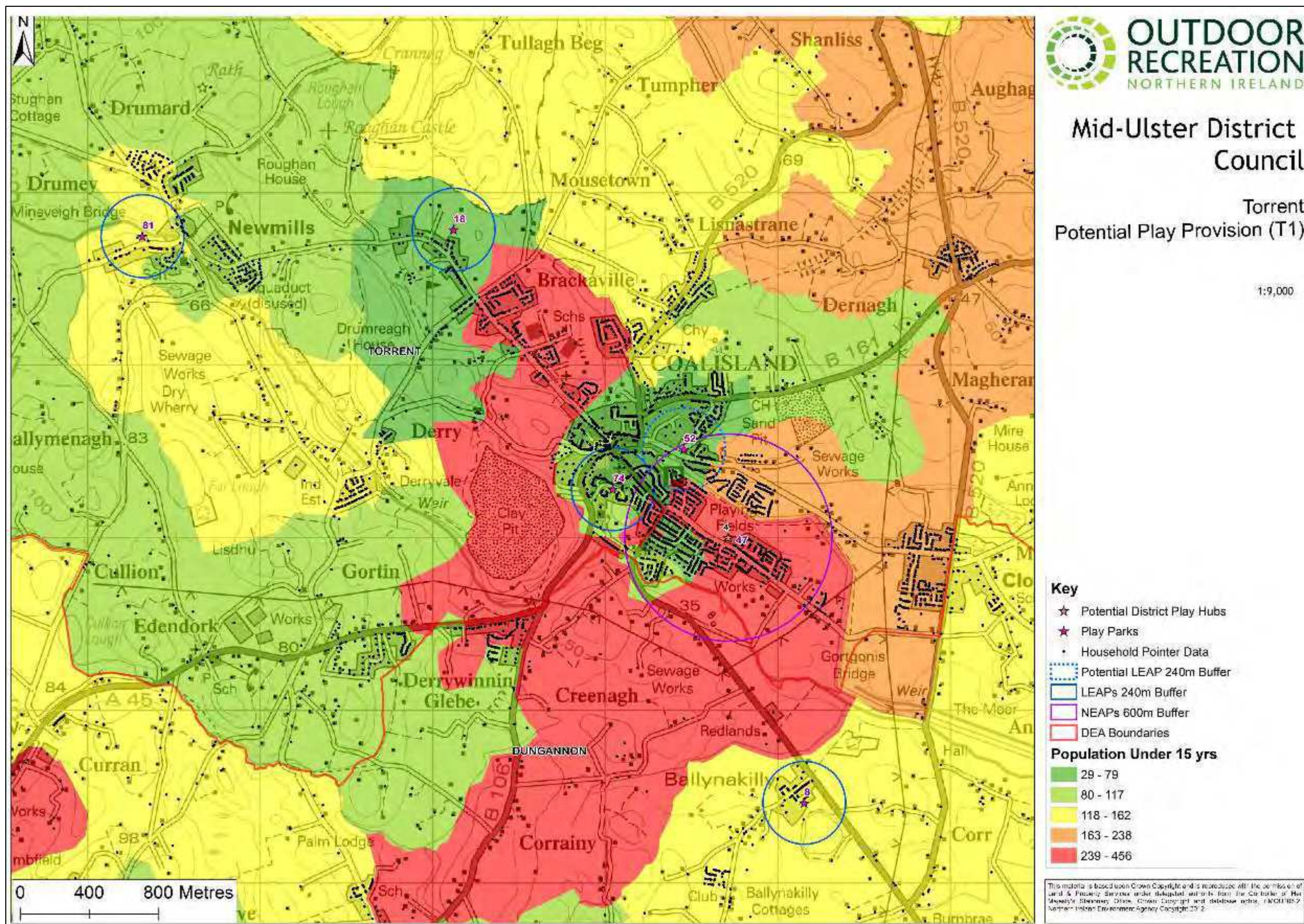


FIGURE 2 TORRENT POTENTIAL PLAY PROVISION (T1)

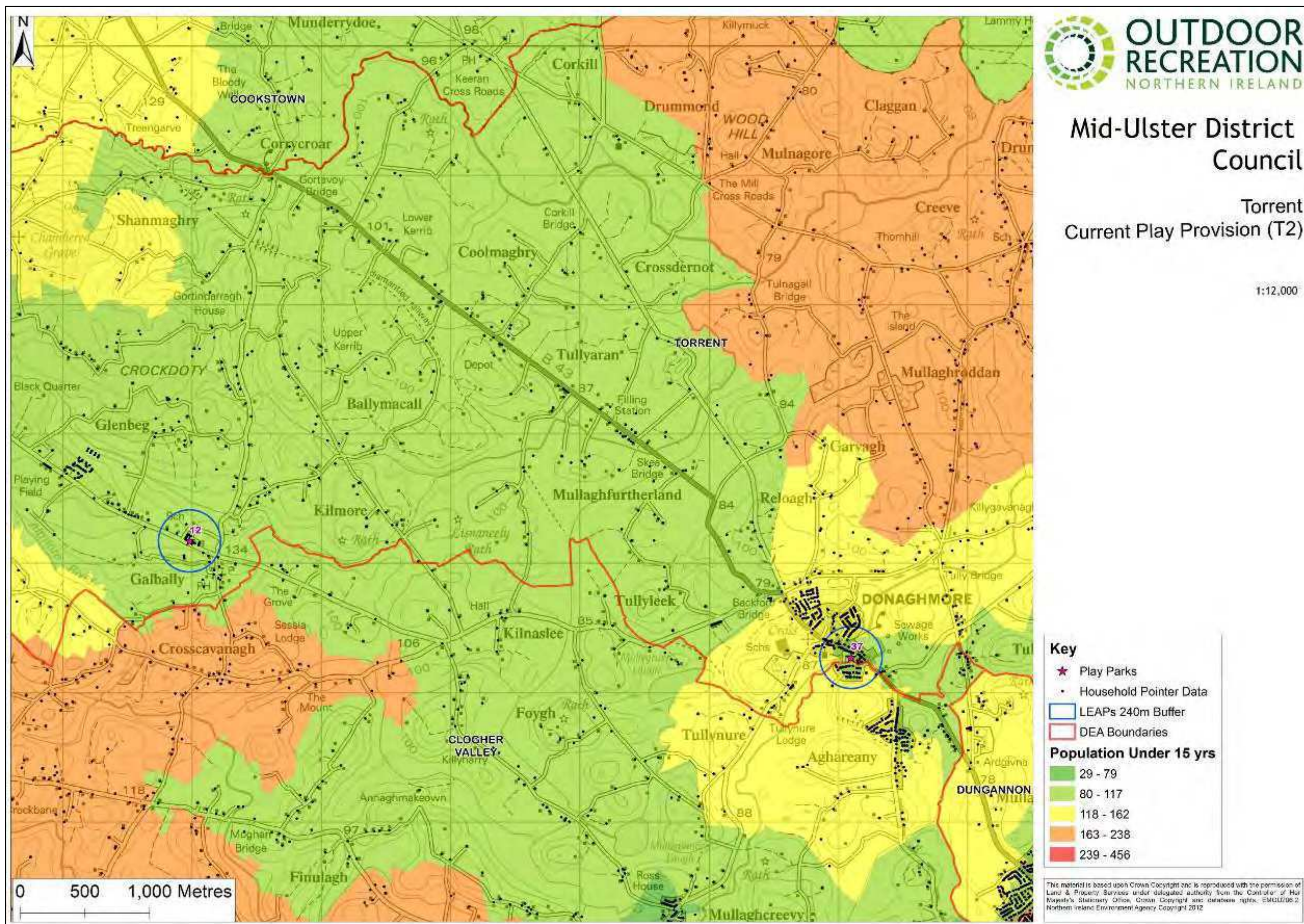


FIGURE 3 TORRENT CURRENT PLAY PROVISION (T2)

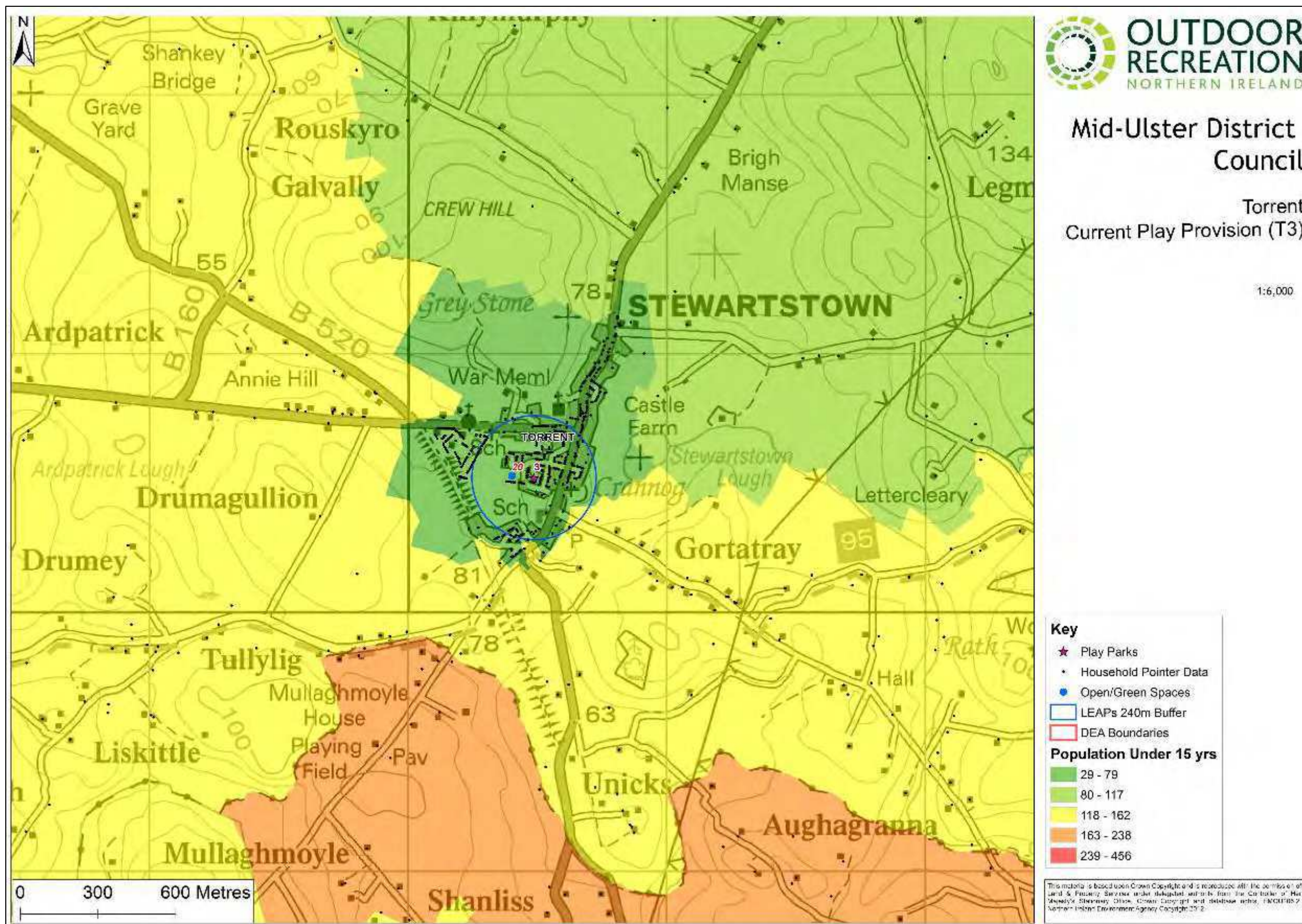
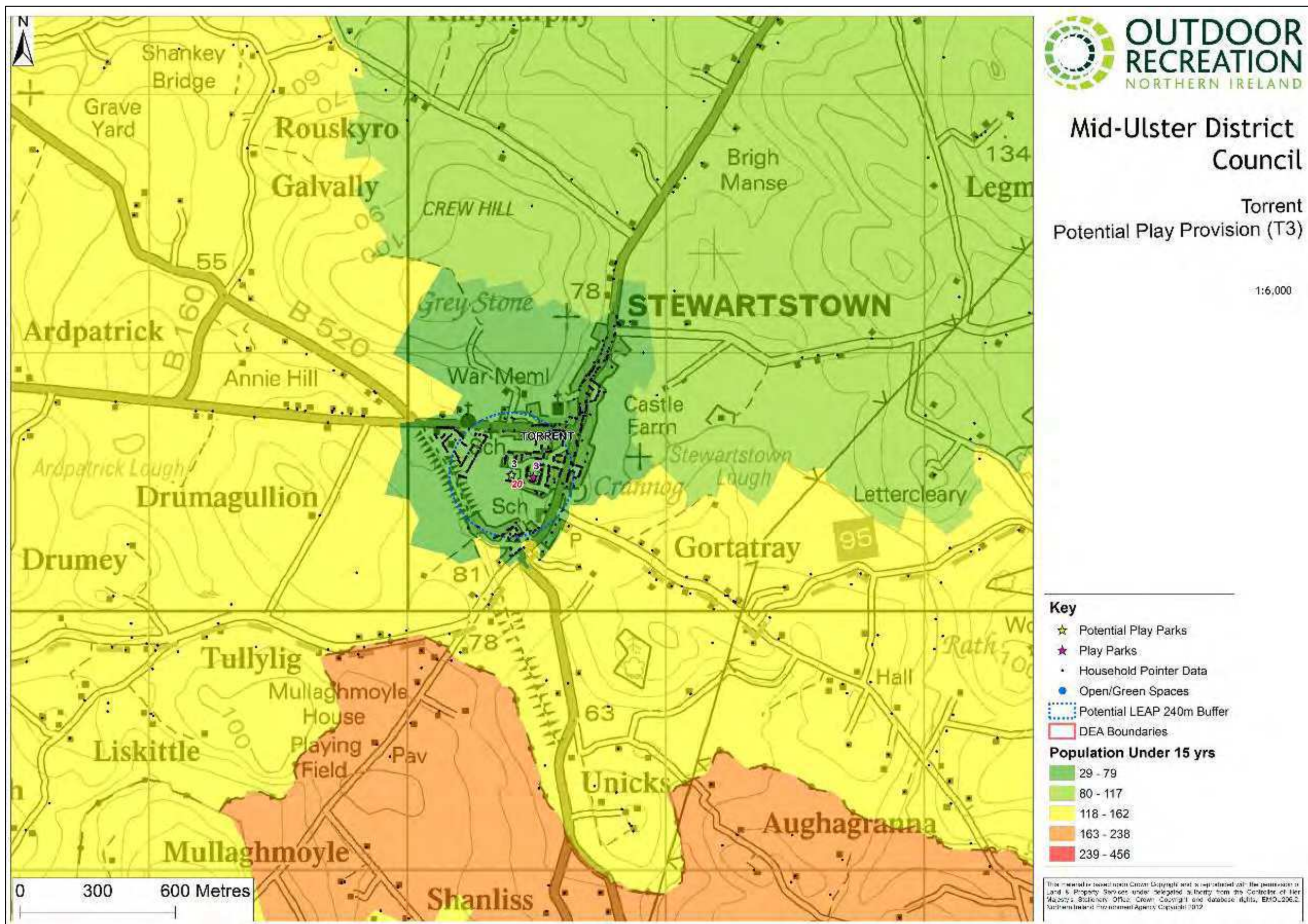


FIGURE 4 TORRENT CURRENT PLAY PROVISION (T3)



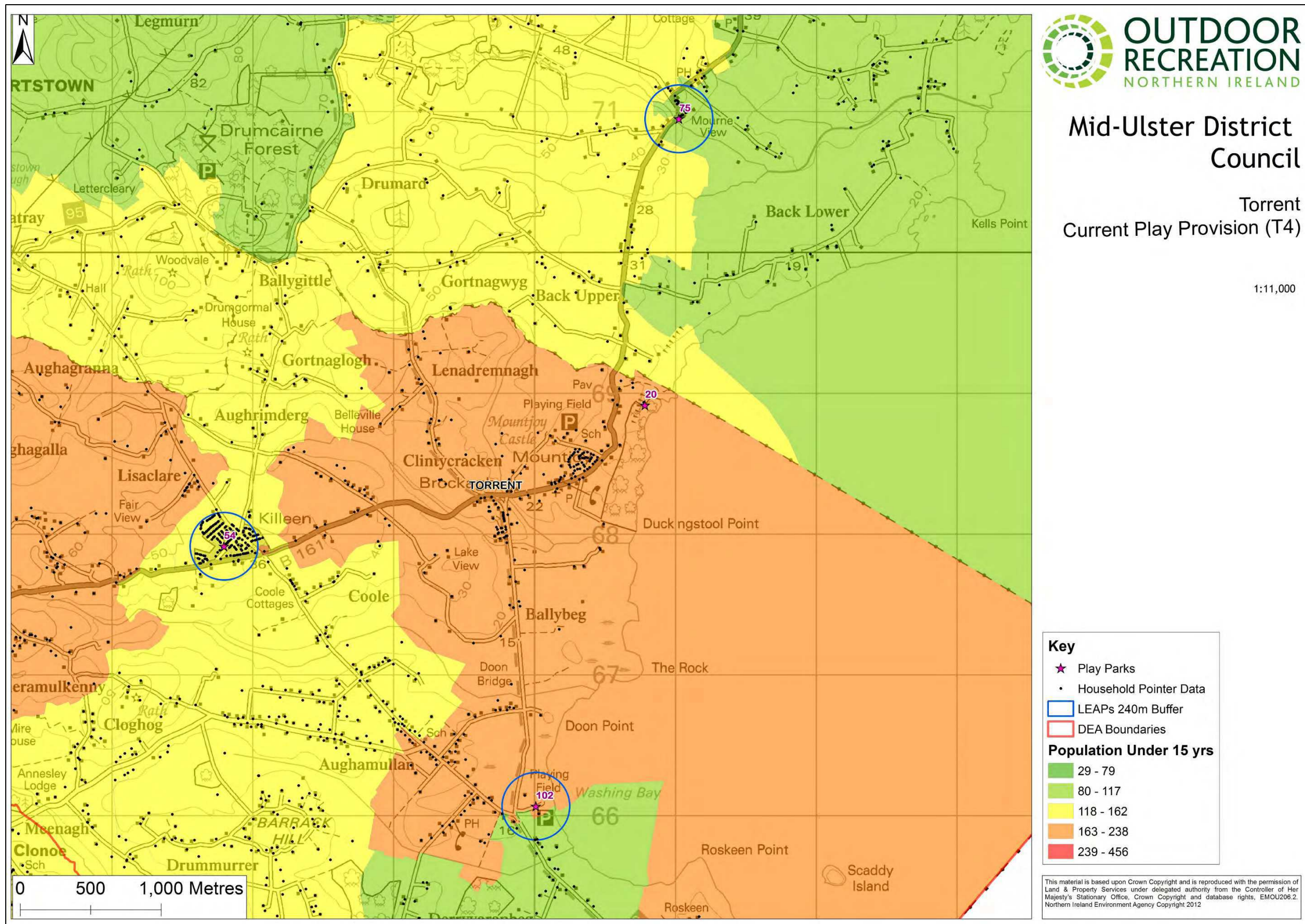


FIGURE 6 TORRENT CURRENT PLAY PROVISION (T4)

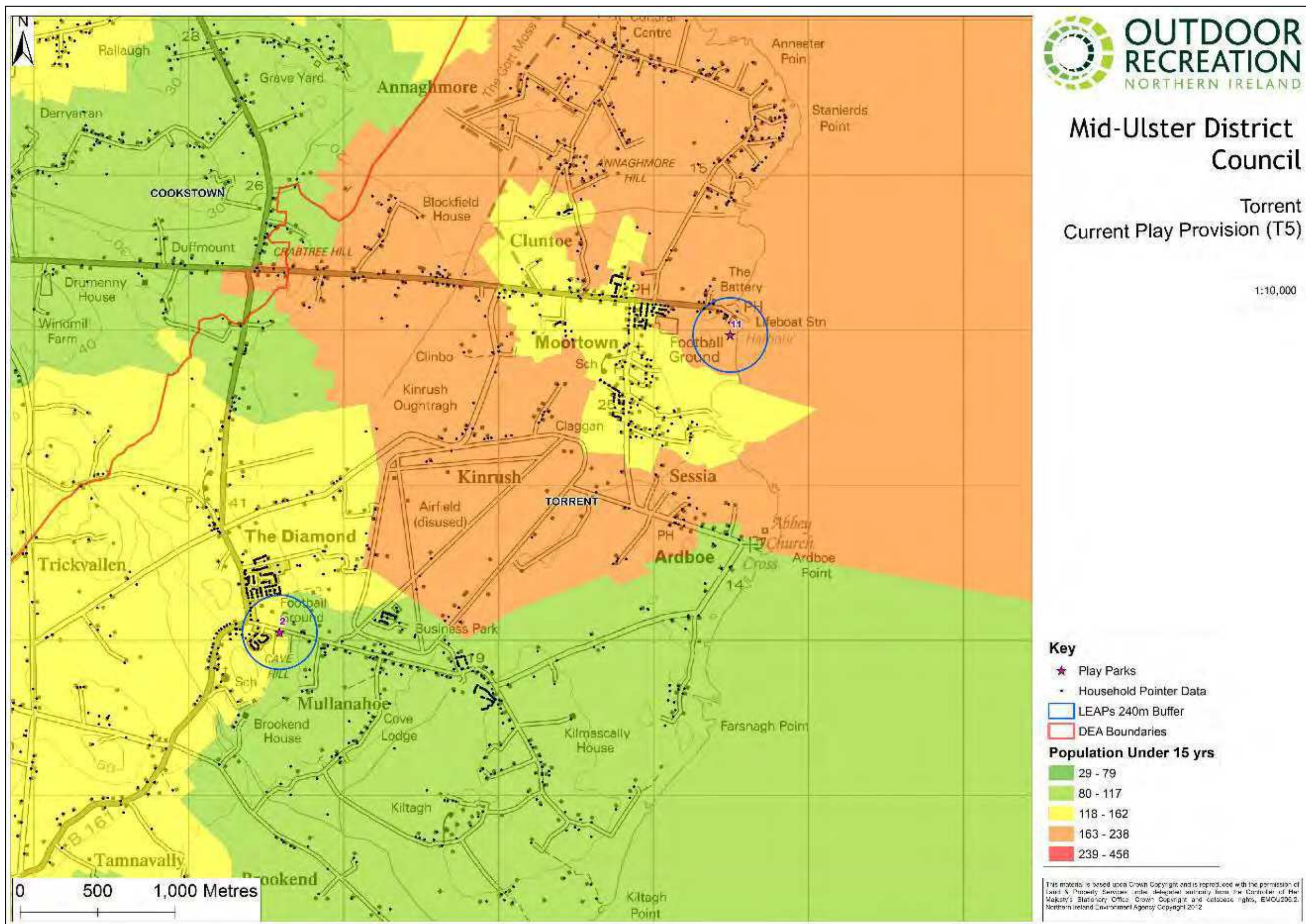


FIGURE 7 TORRENT CURRENT PLAY PROVISION (T5)

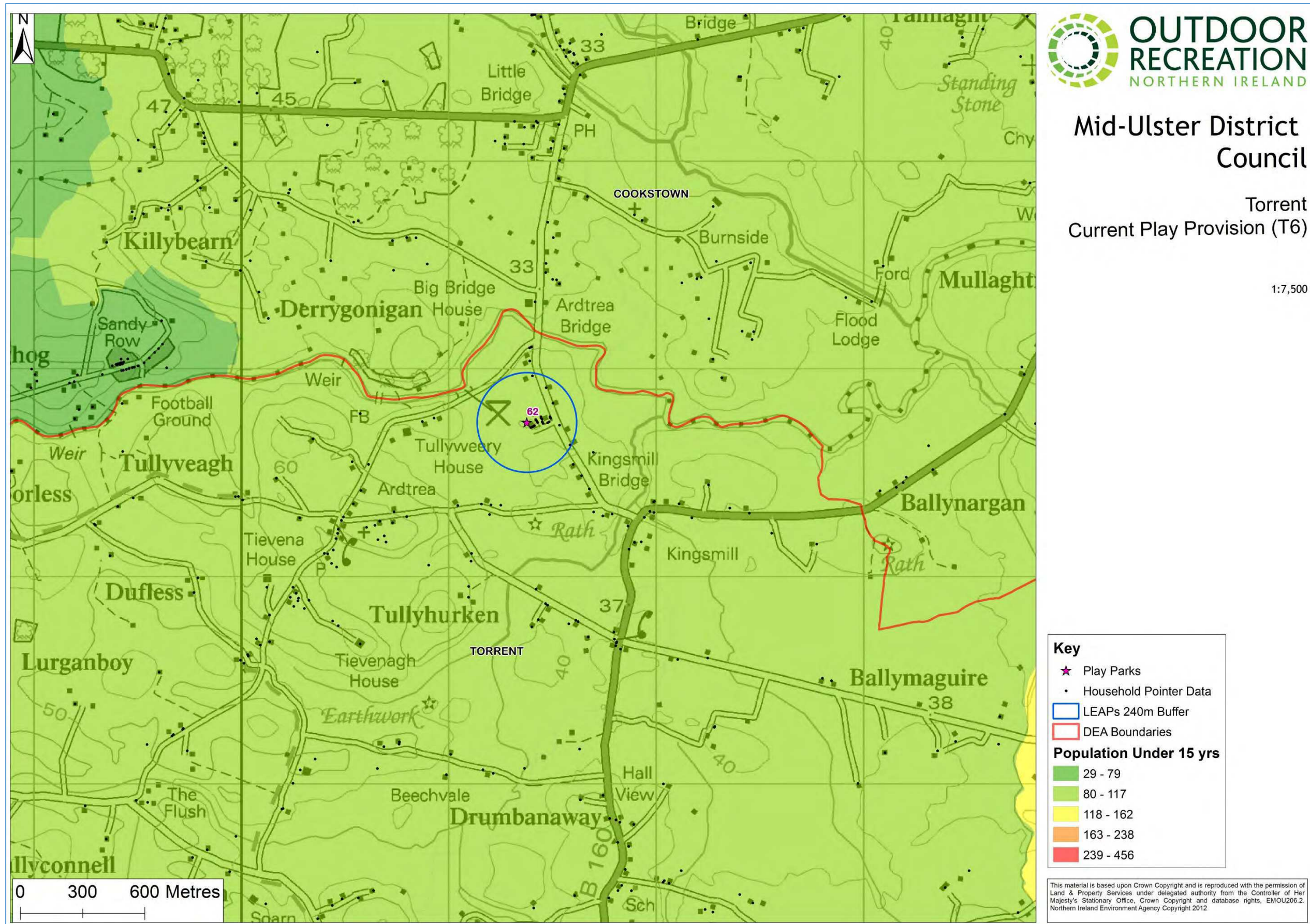


FIGURE 8 TORRENT CURRENT PLAY PROVISION (T6)



PUBLIC PARKS AND PLAY STRATEGIC PLAN - MAP REPORT CLOGHER VALLEY

2017 - 2022

[October 2017](#)

**Produced by Outdoor Recreation NI
on behalf of Mid Ulster District Council**

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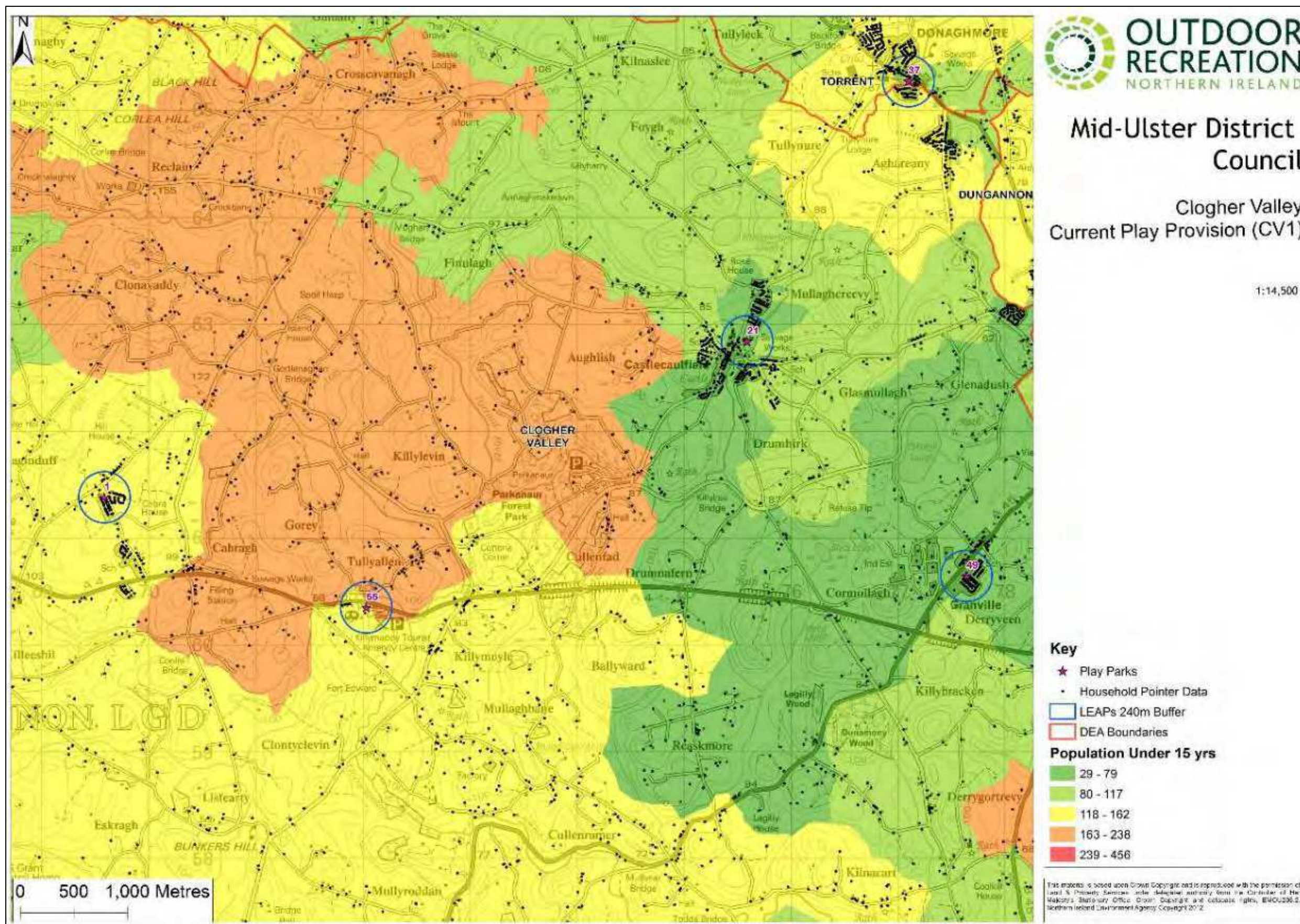


FIGURE 1 CLOGHER VALLEY CURRENT PLAY PROVISION (CV1)

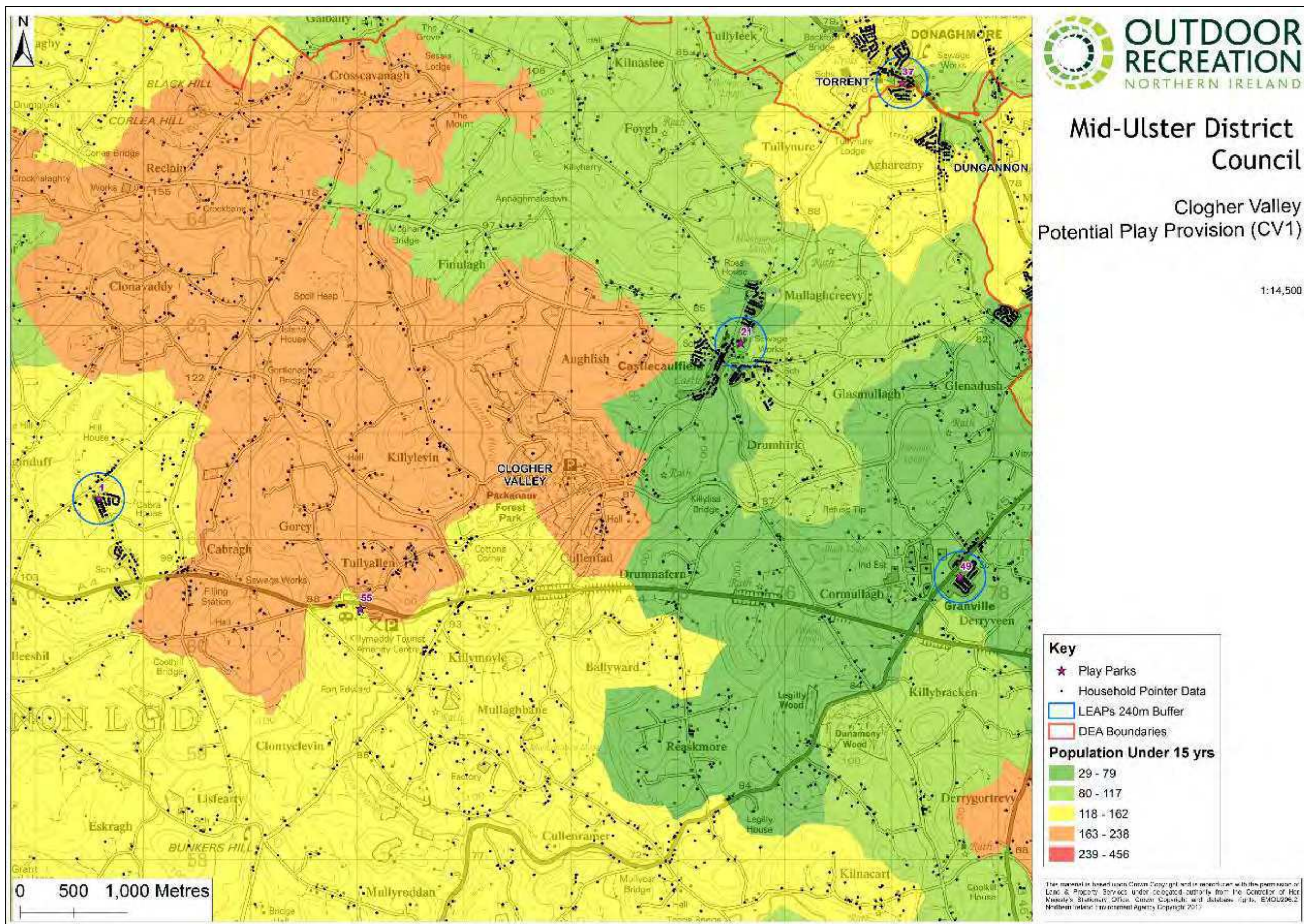


FIGURE 2 CLOGHER VALLEY POTENTIAL PLAY PROVISION (CV1)

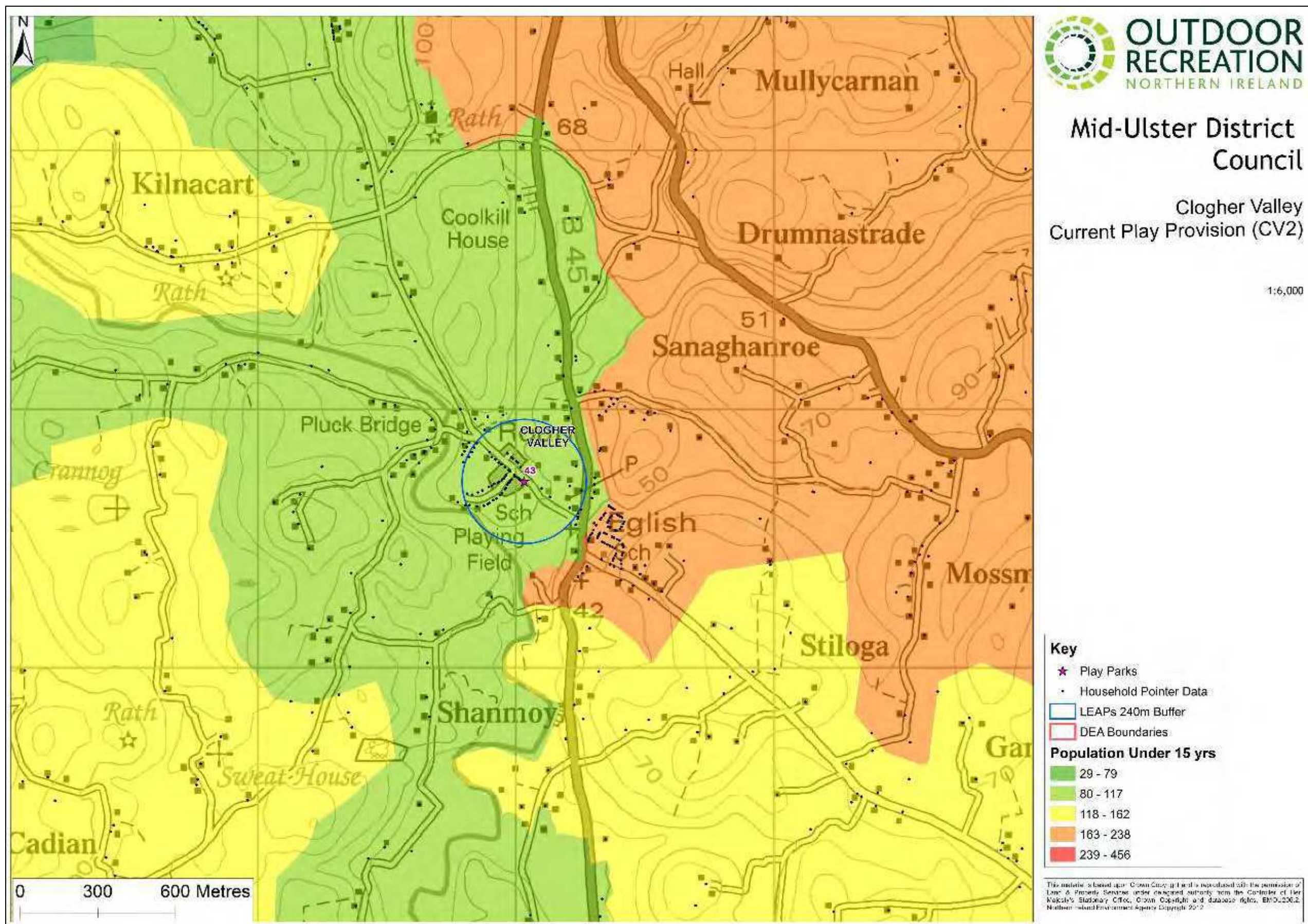
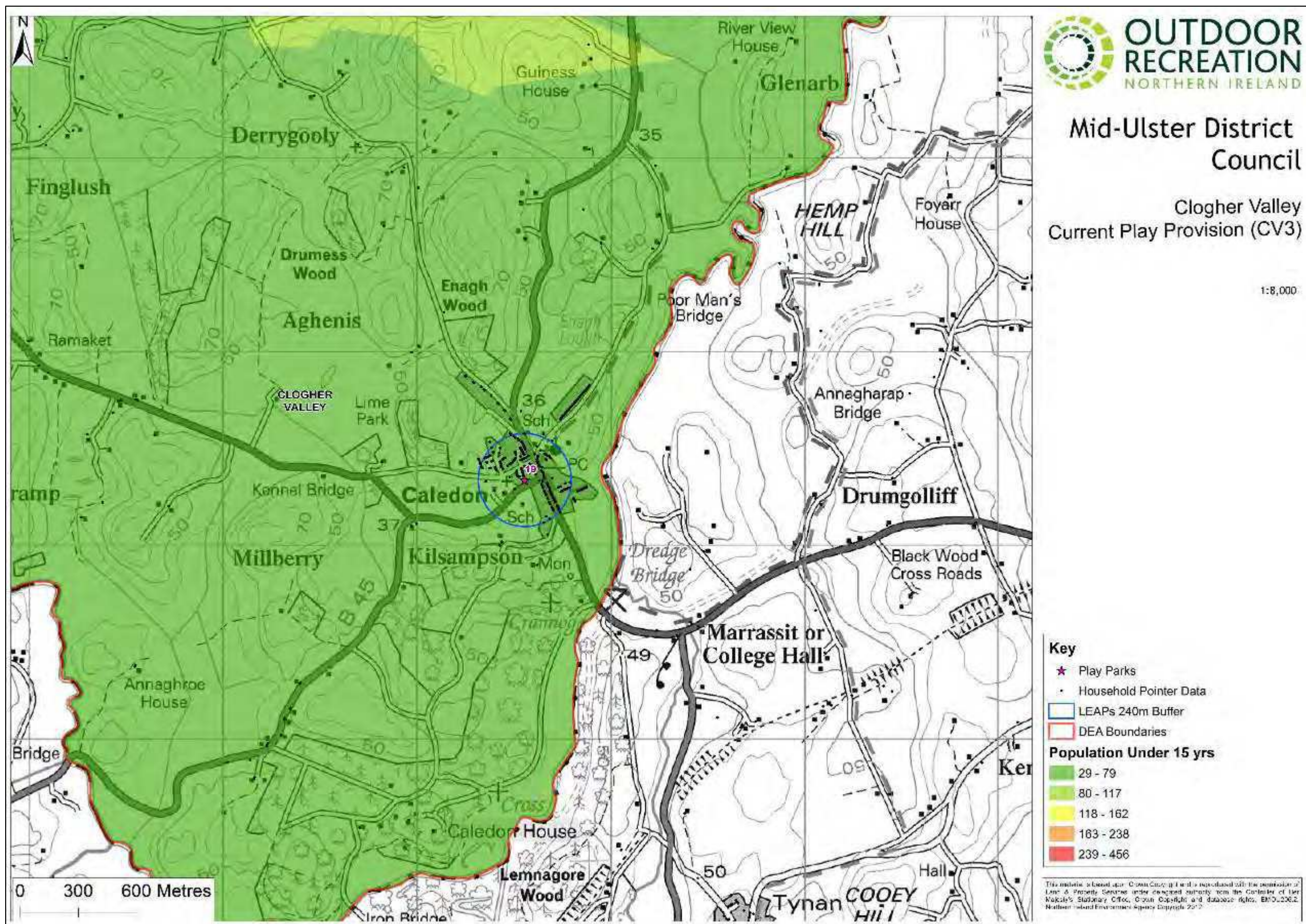


FIGURE 3 CLOGHER VALLEY CURRENT PLAY PROVISION (CV2)



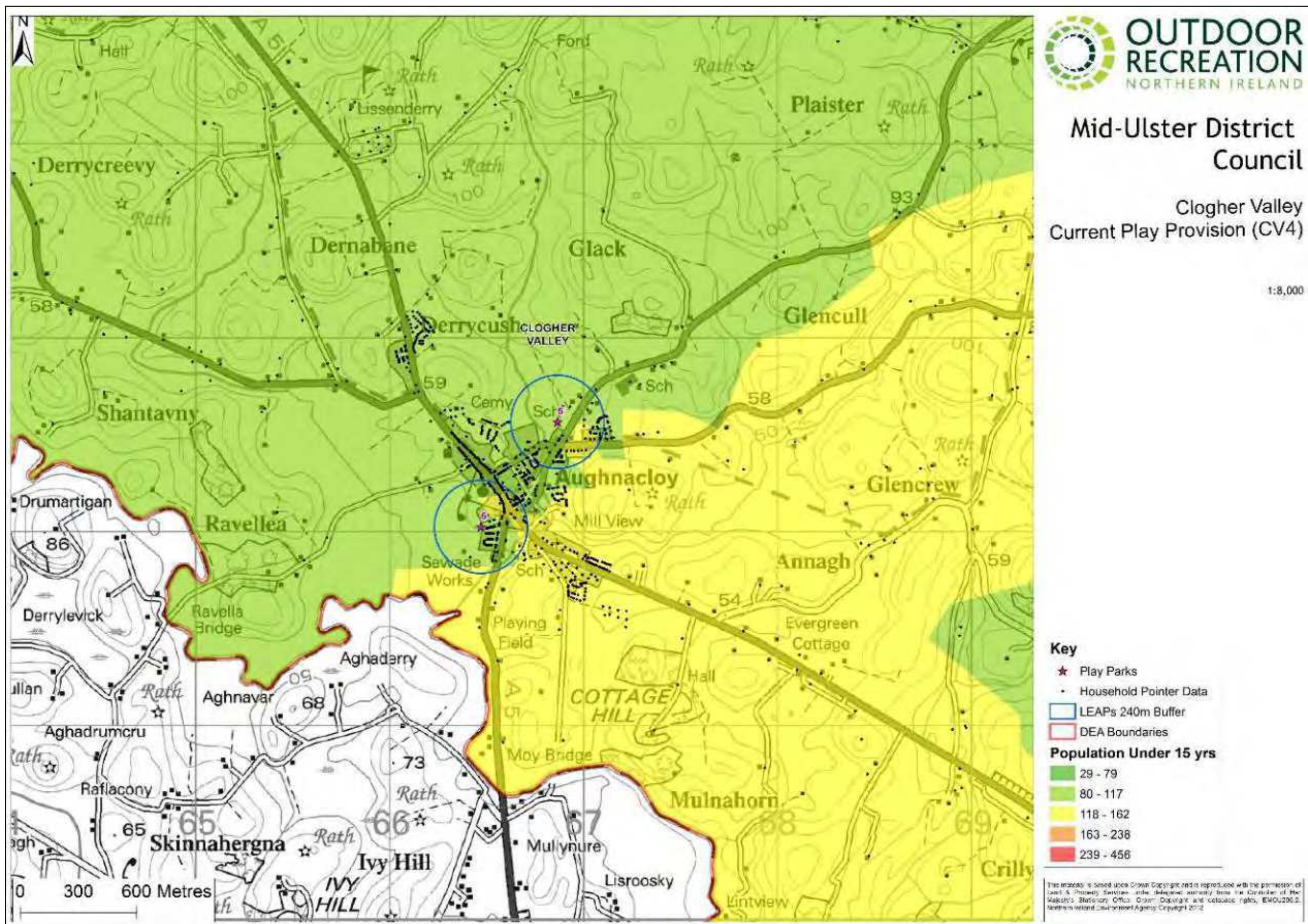


FIGURE 5 CLOGHER VALLEY CURRENT PLAY PROVISION (CV4)

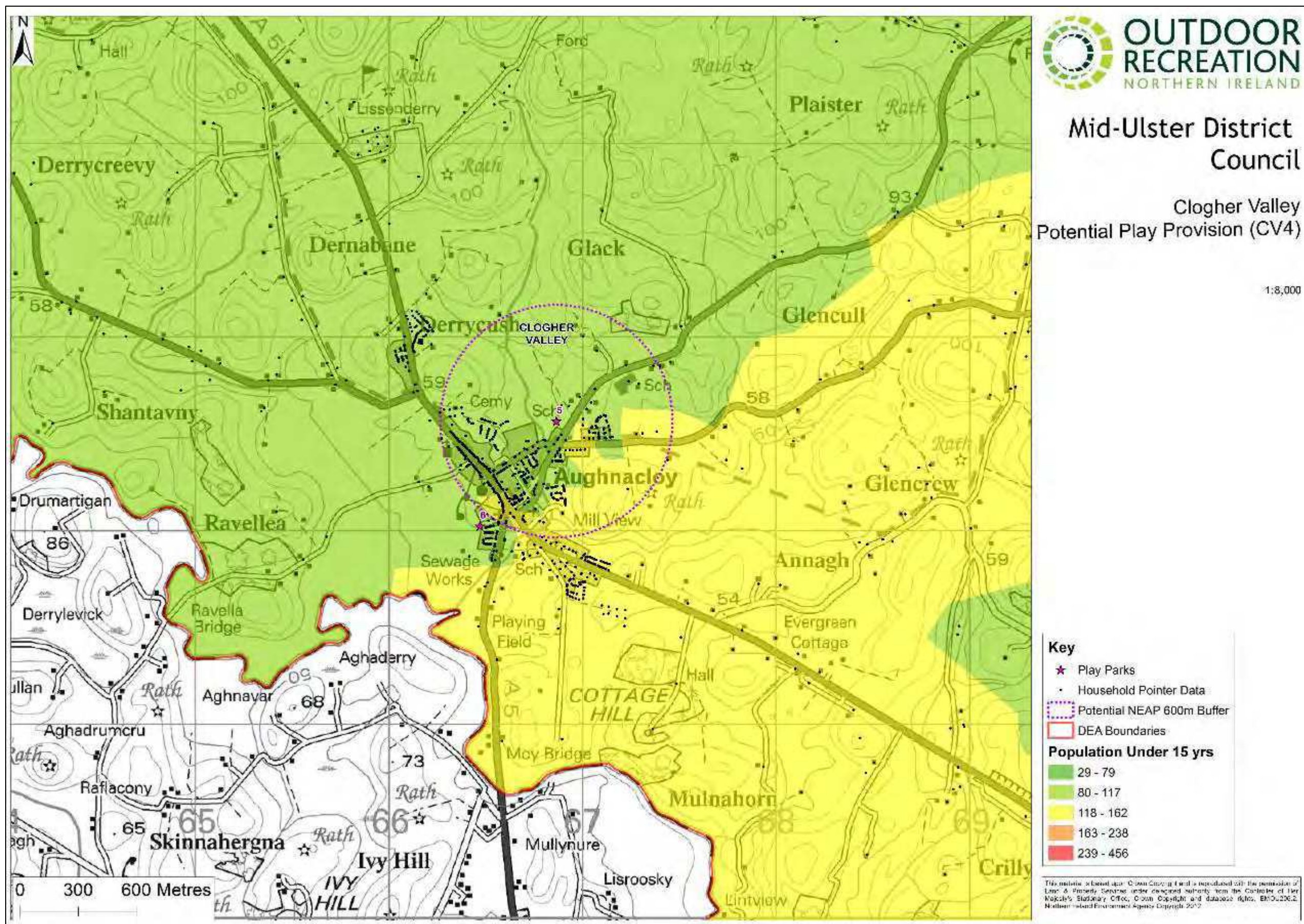


FIGURE 6 CLOGHER VALLEY POTENTIAL PLAY PROVISION (CV4)

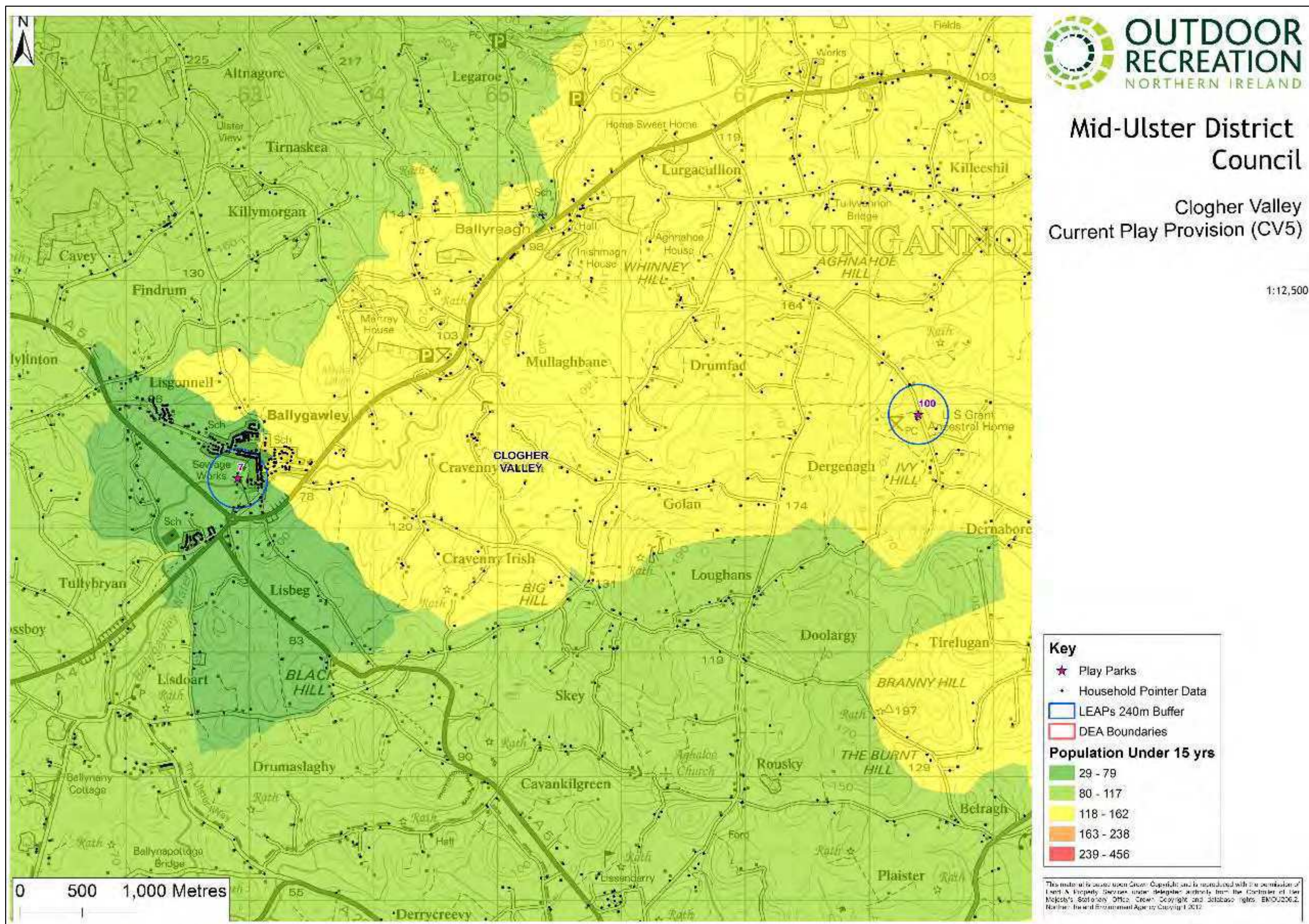


FIGURE 7 CLOGHER VALLEY CURRENT PLAY PROVISION (CV5)

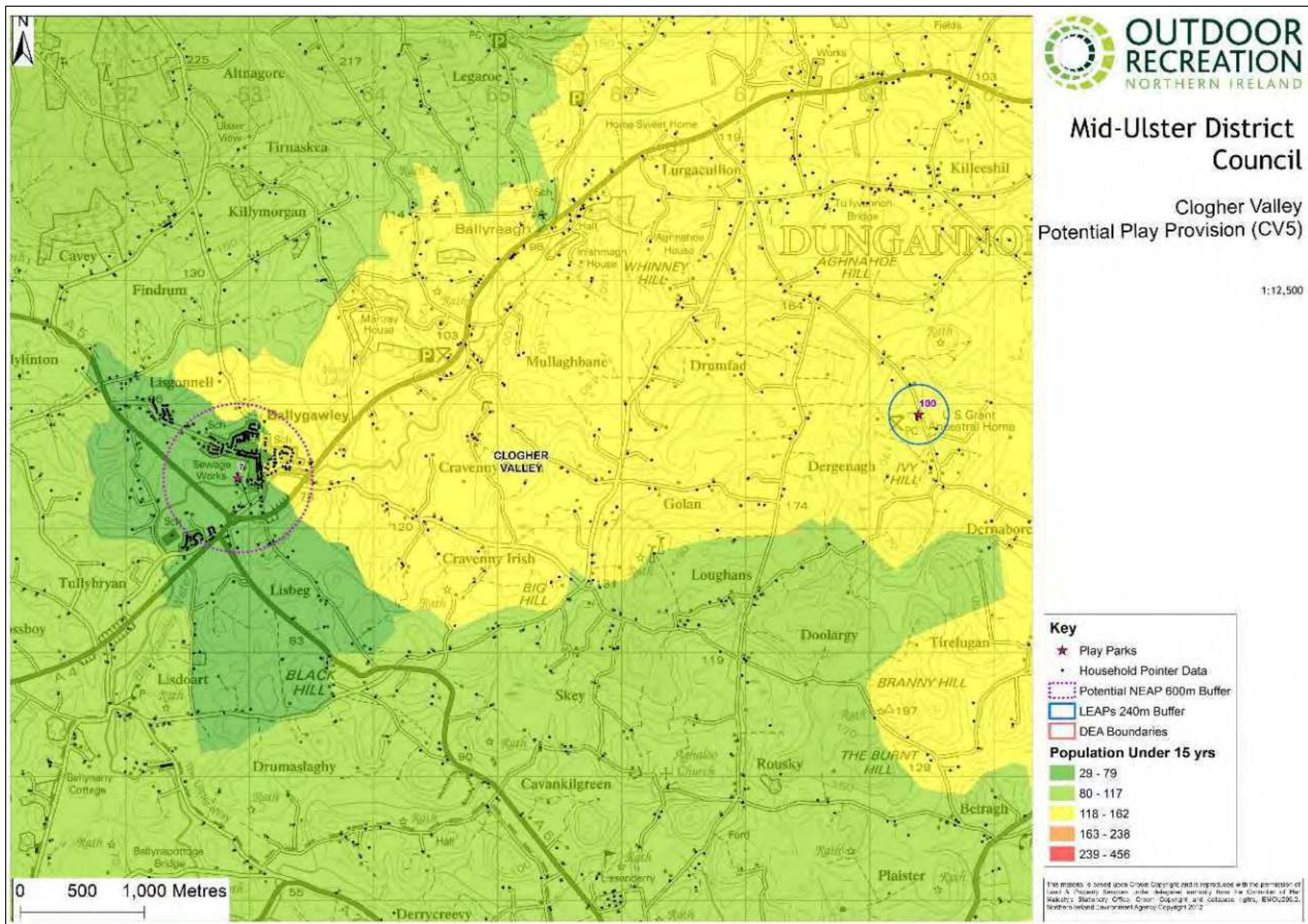


FIGURE 8 CLOGHER VALLEY POTENTIAL PLAY PROVISION (CV5)

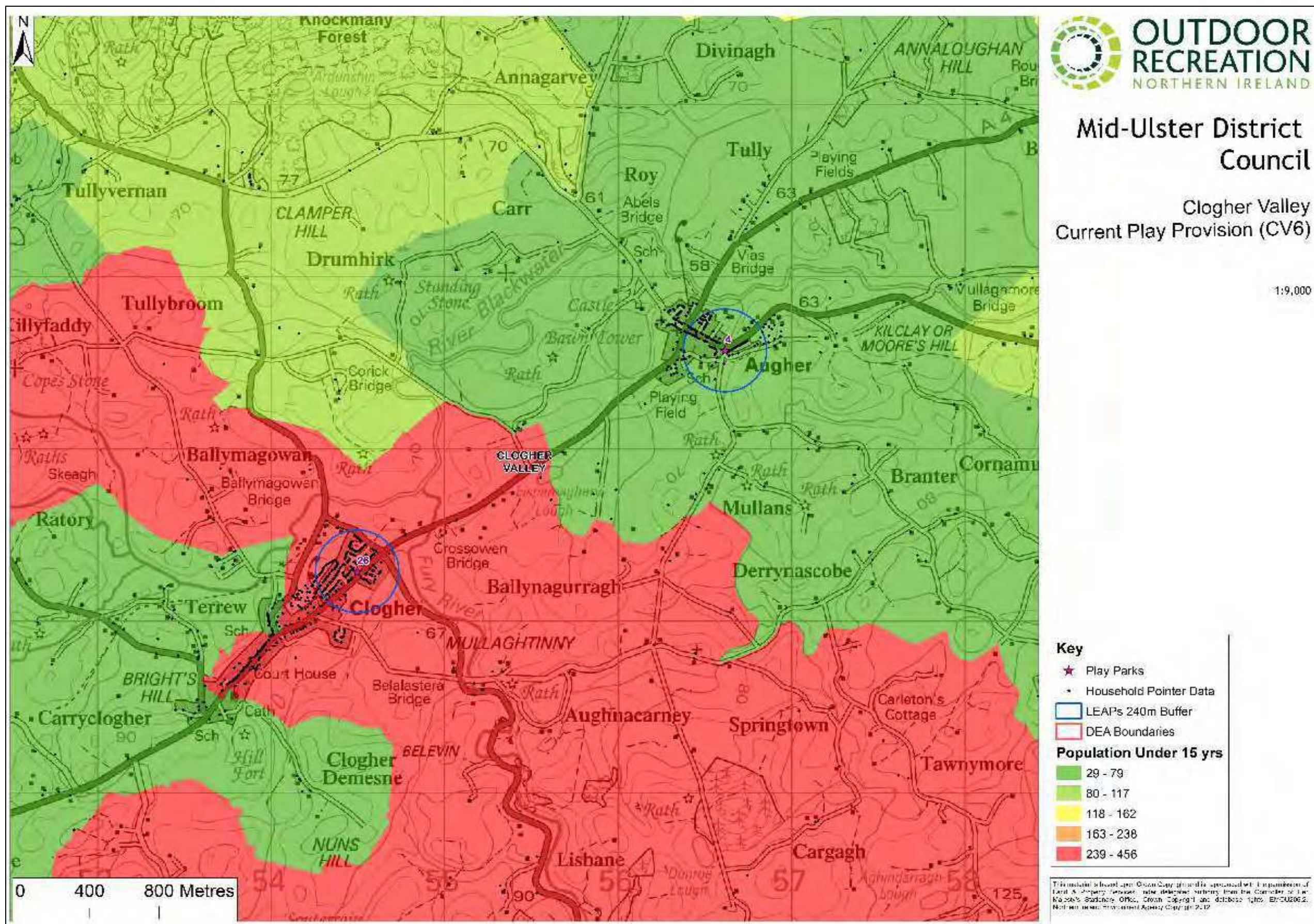


FIGURE 9 CLOGHER VALLEY CURRENT PLAY PROVISION (CV6)

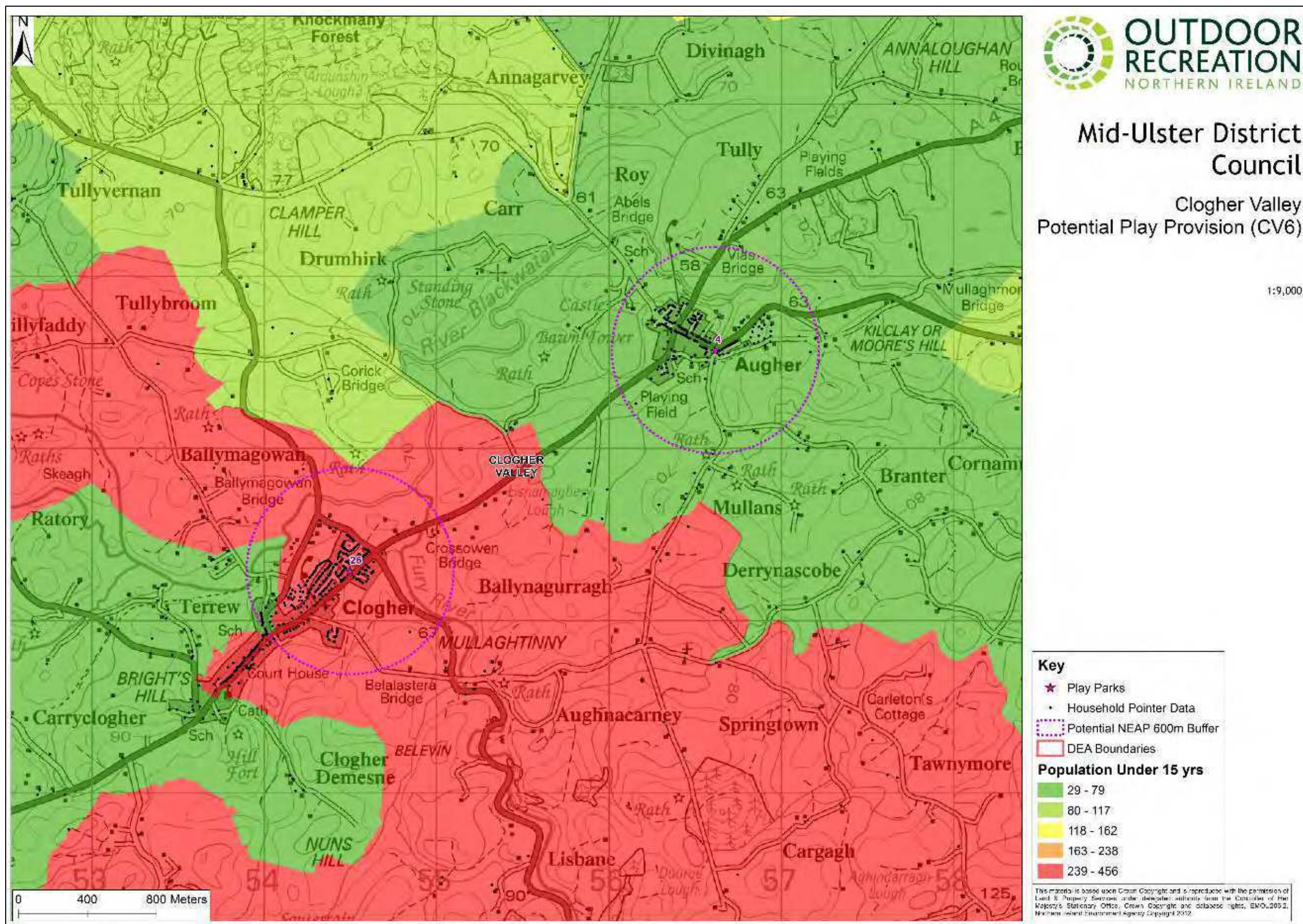
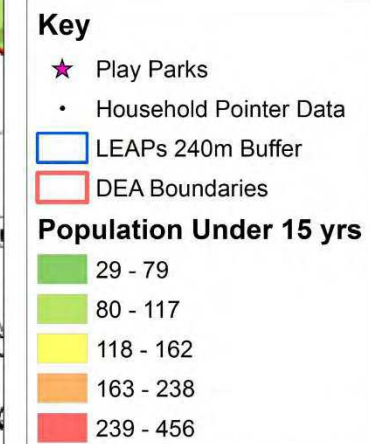
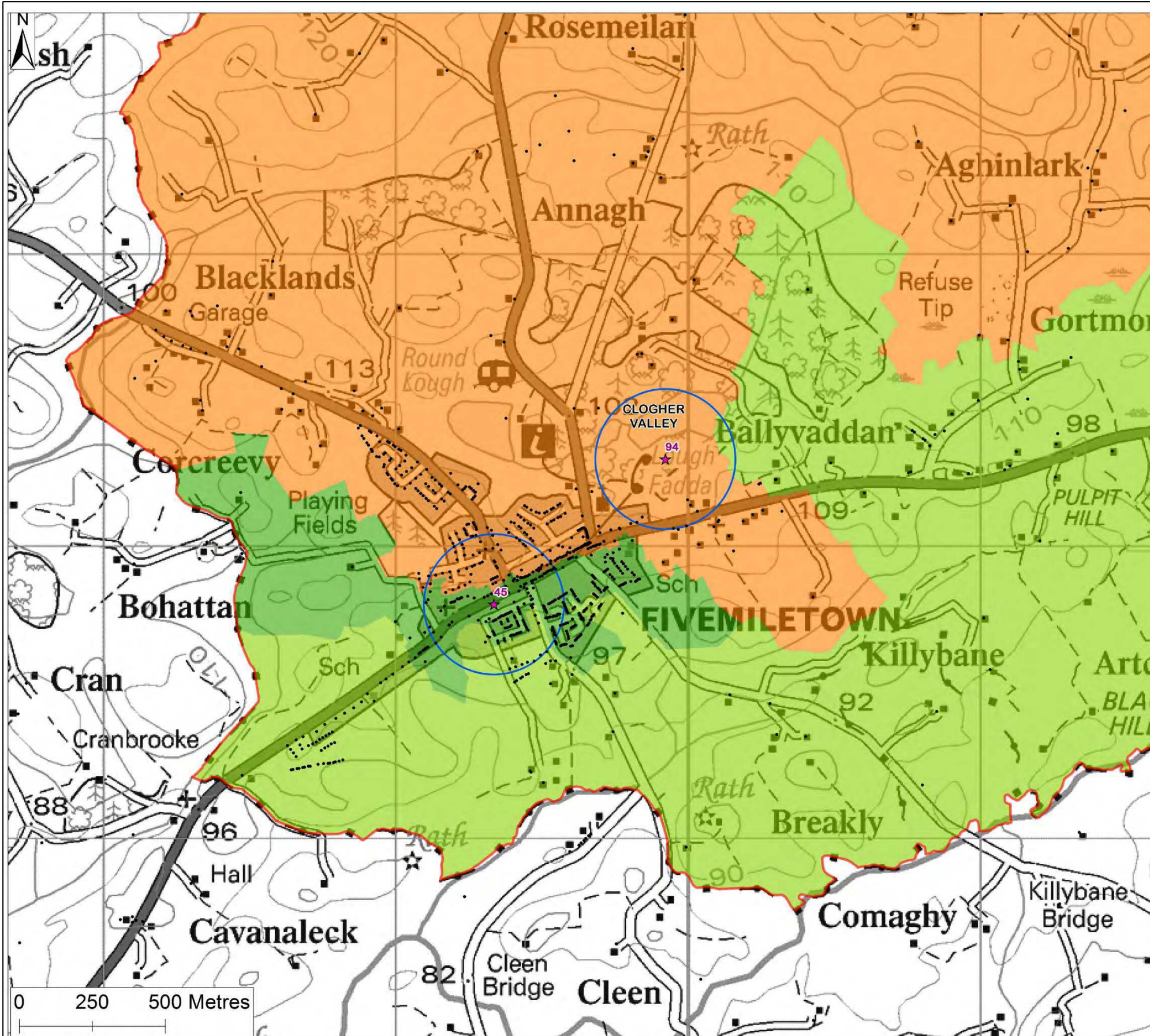


FIGURE 10 CLOGHER VALLEY POTENTIAL PLAY PROVISION (CV6)

Mid-Ulster District Council

Clogher Valley
Current Play Provision (CV7)

1:6,000



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FIGURE 11 CLOGHER VALLEY CURRENT PLAY PROVISION (CV7)

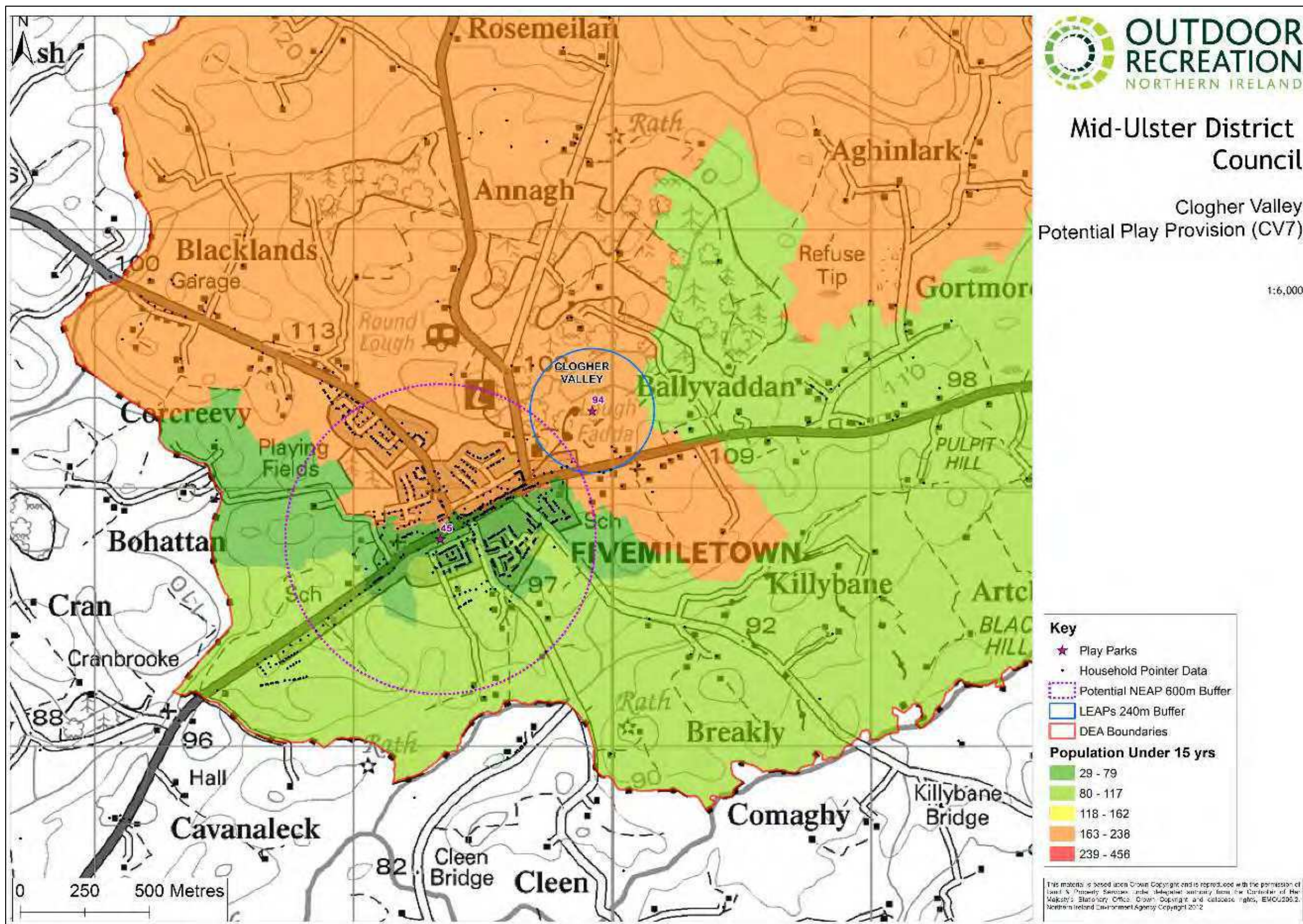


FIGURE 12 CLOGHER VALLEY POTENTIAL PLAY PROVISION (CV7)

**Minutes of Meeting of the Development Committee of Mid Ulster District Council
held on Thursday 10 May 2018 in the Council Offices, Burn Road, Cookstown**

Members Present

Councillor Wilson, Chair

Councillors Burton, Clarke, Cuddy, Doris, Elattar, McAleer (7.05 pm), McEldowney, McFlynn, Milne, Molloy, Monteith (7.09 pm), G Shiels

**Officers in
Attendance**

Ms Campbell, Director of Leisure and Outdoor Recreation
Mr McCreesh, Director of Business and Communities
Mr Browne, Head of Tourism
Mr Hill, Head of Parks
Ms Linney, Head of Community Development
Mr McCance, Head of Culture and Arts
Ms McKeown, Head of Economic Development
Mr McShane, Acting Head of Leisure
Ms Grogan, Democratic Services Officer

**Others in
Attendance**

Agenda Item 4 – Deputation

Muintir na Mointeach (Washingbay Community Group)
Mr Conor Corr, (Muintir na Mointeach & CSWAN)
Dr William Burke, (Lough Neagh Landscape Partnership)

The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm.

The Chair advised that he had to leave early

D087/18 Apologies

Councillors Forde and McNamee.

D088/18 Declaration of Interests

The Chair reminded members of their responsibility with regard to declarations of interest and advised any declarations could be taken throughout the meeting.

D089/18 Chair's Business

The Chair, Councillor Wilson passed on the sympathy of the Committee to the Acting Head of Leisure on the recent death of his father.

Councillor McAleer entered the meeting at 7.05 pm.

D090/18 Deputation – Muintir na Mointeach (Washingbay Community Group)

Councillor Monteith entered the meeting at 7.09 pm.

The Chair welcomed representatives from Mr Conor Corr and Dr William Burke from Muintir na Mointeach (Washingbay Community Group) to the meeting and invited them to make their presentation.

Mr Corr advised that the Washing Bay Wetlands Parks was “A centre for recreation, healthy living & Heritage interpretation”.

The representatives provided an overhead presentation on the projects as outlined:

- Project 1 – Walkway with park lighting
- Project 2 – Lough Neagh Access Project
- Legal Issues
- Financial Issues
- Technical Issues
- Partnership

The advised that they would like the Council to give consideration and approve:

- Endorsing the Washingbay Masterplan
- Providing a £25,000 contribution to Project 1
- Relevant permissions for Muintir na Mointeach working in partnership with LNLP and MUDC Officers to progress Project 1 as Lead Partner
- Providing a £1,000 contribution to LNLP who will take Project 2 to Technical Design Stage (RIBA Stage 4) for submission to MURDP Lough Neagh Cooperation programme

The Chair thanked the Mr Corr and Dr Burke for their presentation and stated that it was a good ambitious project and asked for members comments.

In response to Councillor G Shiels query, Mr Corr took members through the map and advised that the new route would be within the Council's boundary with updated existing walkway, which would be created in a circular route for walking. He said that engagement had taken place with the local football club who owned the pitch and stated that they were content as this was within their objectives. He referred to the perimeter fence and advised that this was leased to the Council by the football club and that the carpark was managed by both the Council and Lough Neagh Partnership.

The Chair thanked Mr Corr and Dr Burke for their attendance at which the left the meeting at 7.19.

The Chair advised that the recommendation of the Council would be to agree to the proposal in principle, pending a full report being brought back to committee by the Head of Parks.

Proposed by Councillor Molloy
Seconded by Councillor McAleer and

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council to agree to the proposal in principle pending a further report being submitted by the Head of Parks.

Matters for Decision

D091/18 The Heart of Ancient Ulster Landscape Partnership Scheme (THoAULP) – Approval to Tender and Appoint an External Consultant

The Head of Tourism drew attention to the previously circulated report to update the Council on the Heart of Ancient Ulster Landscape Partnership Scheme (THoAULP) and request to tender and appoint an External Consultant to assist with the development of the Landscape Character Area Plan.

Proposed by Councillor Doris
Seconded by Councillor Clarke and

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council that approval be granted to tender and appoint an External Consultant to assist with the Landscape Character Area Plan.

The Head of Tourism advised that the proposal was approved by Fermanagh and Omagh District Council last Tuesday night.

D092/18 Tourism Ireland Stand at Royal Highland Show, Edinburgh 21-24 June 2018

The Head of Tourism drew attention to the previously circulated report and sought approval to promote Seamus Heaney Experience and Mid Ulster Council Tourism product at Royal Highland Show, 2018 on the Tourism Ireland stand.

Proposed by Councillor Burton
Seconded by Councillor McFlynn and

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council to continue engagement with Tourism Ireland and participate in Northern Ireland Industry Co-Operative Programme by promoting at Royal Highland Show, Edinburgh from 21–24 June 2018.

D093/18 Tourism Services Improvement Plan 2018-19

The Head of Tourism drew attention to the previously circulated report and sought approval for the Tourism Service Improvement Plan for 2018-19.

Councillor Monteith said although there was nothing he could argue with within the plan, there was a glaring omission regarding the lack of beds within Dungannon and the surrounding area and asked why this wasn't a key objective as there was a need to attract an hotel to the region and why there wasn't ambition to pursue this.

The Head of Tourism agreed that Councillor Monteith raised a valid point but that the ultimate plan would be to build an ultimate product. He said that his team were working with the private sector to try and remedy this and were also working with Lake Torrent to try and get a possible opportunity for beds in the area. He advised that

Officers were continuously working in the background to try and bring beds to the Dungannon area.

Councillor Cuddy referred to item 1.4 – Performance Overview in 2017/18 and enquired how much the Council had travelled in the terms of enhancing visitor numbers and felt that to date there should be more evidence on how we are progressing in terms of Tourism.

The Head of Tourism stated that tourism was progressing well as the Burnavon had been awarded a 4* rating and anticipating for a 5* rating for the Seamus Heaney HomePlace.

Councillor Clarke said that he agreed with Councillor Monteith's sentiments and referred to the Sperrins, which includes the Dark Skies Project, Slieve Gallion and Davagh Forest to name a few and said that whilst talking to tourists they are concerned about the lack of accommodation in the district as they wished to experience of staying overnight to witness the Dark Skies etc. He said that there was a need to have an in-depth look at how this could be developed, as there needs to be a financial return for the area.

Councillor Monteith said that he was fed up listening to promises year on year on the provision of beds and hotels in Dungannon, but said that he would be happy to propose the Officer recommendation presented tonight as long as there was an assurance of beds and hotels being brought to the area.

Councillor G Shiels said that it may be useful if literature and other promotional material was left at hotels or other tourist venues in Belfast to advertise the Dungannon area.

Councillor Burton said that it was her understanding that an hotel would be brought to the Dungannon area through the Ann Street Project.

The Director of Business and Communities advised that this was part and parcel of the developer's proposal.

Councillor Burton referred to Fivemiletown and the other Clogher Valley areas and stated that they were the gateway into Fermanagh and felt that the beauty of the local area needed to be showcased. She said that there were a pile of new B&B's coming on board as part of Tourism Forum and they wished to get involved. She said that she had received complaints regarding the Round Lake, including the pavilion and toilets becoming very dilapidated and in dire need of being revamped, increase in anti-social behaviour and trees overgrown around the route of the lake. She stated that during the term of the legacy Dungannon Council, a boat was sent out every year to clean the lake out and since the new Mid Ulster Council became operational, this was not the case. She said that she hoped that something could be done in the area as tourism needed to be attracted to the area and deterrents set in place to combat anti-social elements entering the area.

She also referred to Aughnacloy as a gateway to the border area and felt that it should be a base going forward.

Councillor Wilson referred to the performance overview and highlighted the issue of absent hotels and B&B's in the Dungannon area and stated that whilst it wasn't our responsibility, there was a need to work in conjunction to help the situation, as 18 years to wait for an hotel in Dungannon area was unacceptable and that there was also the need to take into consideration the rural areas. He said that there were a number of issues needing looked at.

Councillor Monteith reiterated that he had no issue with the plan but would have issues around waiting numerous years for the construction of a hotel in Dungannon.

Councillor Burton referred to the two hotels in the Clogher Valley area and said that sometimes hotels outside our area are favoured over ours and asked that the local hotels be considered in the future for events.

Proposed by Councillor Monteith
Seconded by Councillor Cuddy and

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council to approve the Tourism Services Improvement Plan for 2018-19 and investigations be carried out on how beds can be provided in the Dungannon area.

D094/18 Redevelopment of the former Maghera High School Site, Maghera

The Director of Business and Communities drew attention to the previously circulated report to update Members on progress of the redevelopment of the former High School Site, Maghera.

Proposed by Councillor G Shiels
Seconded by Councillor McFlynn and

In response to Councillor G Shiels' query of whether a walkway could be provided at the site, the Director of Business and Communities advised that the site would be developed as an industrial park but consideration could be given to the request during the design stage. He said that it was a very ambitious project to accommodate local business needs and that the Planning PAN process would allow for this. He stated that findings would be brought back to Council for consideration, with full planning permission submitted by August 2018 and completion of project by June 2019.

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council to approve the submission of PAN including outline site map/drawing (in Appendix 1) in order to commence the formal planning application process and to note progress.

The Chair, Councillor Wilson advised members that this would be his last meeting as Chair of the Development Committee and thanked them for all their support throughout the year.

The Chair left the meeting at 7.35 pm, and the Deputy Chair, Councillor Doris took the Chair.

Councillors Burton and Cuddy left the meeting at 7.35 pm.

D095/18 Community Development

The Head of Community Development drew attention to the previously circulated report to:

- 1) Seek Committee approval for Good Relations and Community Festivals rolling grant award recommendations
- 2) Agree the Peace IV Partnership recommendations
- 3) Consider a partner initiative with the Southern Health and Social Care Trust and community regarding a new learning disability base in Dungannon
- 4) Consider the request to continue to support the VPRS scheme storage provision (£273 annual contribution) supporting the transfer of Refugees into accommodation and to resettle in Northern Ireland
- 5) Agree GDPRP (Government Data Regulation Protection) requirements for community development
- 6) Update on Community Development

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council that approval be granted to:

Proposed by Councillor Molloy
Seconded by Councillor McAleer and

Resolved: 1) Grant award recommendations under the Community Local Festivals Grants and Good Relations Grant as per Appendix 1 £8,299 and £6,490.

Proposed by Councillor McFlynn
Seconded by Councillor Doris and

Resolved: 2) Peace IV Partnership recommendations for the Cross Border Literary Programme procurement to a maximum budget of £20,000 and Phase II Grants to a maximum budget of £148,340.10.

Proposed by Councillor McAleer
Seconded by Councillor McFlynn and

Resolved: 3) Additional statement as detailed within the report to the Community Grants Policy 2018-19.

Proposed by Councillor Molloy
Seconded by Councillor McAleer and

Resolved: 4) Support to the VPRS storage scheme at a cost of £273 from Good Relations budget to Kiltonga Charity.

Proposed by Councillor Doris
Seconded by Councillor Molly and

Resolved: 5) The partner delivery and SLA with the Southern Health and Social Care Trust for the provision of a pilot Day Opportunities base in Dungannon
Proposed by Councillor Molloy
Seconded by Councillor McFlynn

Resolved: 6) Note the Community Development Update report.

D096/18 Community Development Service Improvement Plan 2018-19

The Head of Community Development drew attention to the previously circulated report and sought approval for the Community Development Service Improvement Plan for 2018-19.

Proposed by Councillor Monteith
Seconded by Councillor Molloy and

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council to approve the Community Development Service Improvement Plan for 2018-19.

D097/18 Economic Development

The Head of Economic Development presented previously circulated report which provided an update on the following –

- **Mid Ulster Village Spruce Up Scheme**
 - **Phase 1 – Evaluation Report**
Progress Noted
 - **Phase 2 – Reserve List**

Councillor Molloy said the Village Spruce Up Scheme had been very successful to date and asked that a scoping exercise be carried out before the next financial year to determine interest in a further Village Spruce Up Scheme for 2019/20 as some business owners had missed out.

The Head of Economic Development said that the member's views would be taken on board.

Proposed by Councillor Molloy
Seconded by Councillor Clarke and

Resolved: That it be recommended to Council to note the 44 successful applicants on the reserve list (ie Phase 2) and to approve the additional elements of works for grant aid on applications VSS17/64, to the value of £750 and VSS17/157 to the value of £315.

- **Home Office – EU Settlement Scheme**

Councillor Monteith asked what benefits the Officers saw in this project. He added that Council had built up a good reputation with the local migrant community and

would be fearful of putting that at risk by getting involved in this project with the Home Office.

The Head of Economic Development advised that this pilot project sought to engage with the local migrant community now on settlement issues post Brexit.

Councillor Monteith said that he would be very sceptical regarding the scheme.

The Director of Business and Communities said that he took on board Councillor Monteith's concern and that there would be no reason why Officers couldn't go back to NILGA and seek further clarity and bring back to a future meeting before a decision can be made.

Proposed by Councillor Molloy
Seconded by Councillor Monteith and

Resolved: That it be recommended to Council that Officers seek further clarity from NILGA and bring back to Committee before a decision is made.

- **Cookstown Continental Market – 2–3 June 2018**
Note details of the event
- **Village Renewal Project**
Progress Noted.
- **Coalisland Public Realm**
Progress Noted.
- **Hong Kong Trade Visit**
Progress Noted.
- **GDPR Business Seminar**
Note the event.
- **Mid Ulster Skills Forum**
Note Minutes – 13 December 2017.
- **World Butchers Challenge**
Members noted report on the World Butchers Challenge.
- **Broadband Correspondence from Dept for the Economy**
Members noted correspondence from Dept for the Economy.
- **Economic Development Achievements 2017/18**
Members noted Economic Development achievements in 2017/18.

D098/18 Economic Development Service Improvement Plan 2018-19

The Head of Economic Development drew attention to the previously circulated report and sought approval for the Economic Development Service Improvement Plan for 2018-19.

Councillor Monteith enquired if Planners had ever sought the views from Economic Development regarding their opinions on planning applications related to town centre proposals.

The Director of Business and Communities advised that this does not happen formally.

Councillor Monteith stated that there were many large empty retail units which the Planning Department granted approval to change the use of and felt that this was unacceptable as they should have been liaising with officers within Economic Development. He said he has concerns over decisions that Planners have taken concerning urban applications and is still awaiting the finished Development Plan, which was 6-7 years behind schedule. He said that there was a fundamental weakness within the organisation as planning applications are being made on issues without the input of Economic Development staff.

The Director of Business and Communities said that his officers do not be consulted on these issues but that there was participation on shaping the new Development Plan especially in relation to our towns and villages. He said this is what happens currently, but he would raise the issue with Council's SMT and seek a response for the Member.

Councillor Monteith said if the Council were serious, then retail space needs to be protected and if there was any proposed change of use in existing retail units then views could be sought from Economic Development.

Councillor G Shiels said that it was evident that no planning has been considered within towns for years and it was gradually getting worse. He said that the Community Plan was too aspirational and felt that it gave people in Mid Ulster a false sense of hope citing as an example the Health Service which has no money available for services.

Proposed by Councillor Monteith
Seconded by Councillor McAleer and

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council to approve the Economic Development Service Improvement Plan for 2018-19

Proposed by Councillor Monteith
Seconded by Councillor G Shiels and

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council that concerns relating to planning decisions being taken for town centre retail space without input from Council's economic development section be brought to the attention of the SMT to raise members concerns.

Councillor Clarke said that he agreed with previous comments about planning and felt that there should be an opportunity to get infrastructure sorted out when planning permission was approved for a dwelling in urban areas such as footpaths across the

front of properties should be included as part of the criteria for approval as some areas do not have any. He referred to Dunamore and advised that although it was classed as a small settlement and not a village, there was a massive population with schools, churches, shops and a nursing home and this was a good example of a concentrated village and this needed to be addressed.

D099/18 Business Programmes – Updated Proposals to EU Growth & Jobs Programmes

The Head of Economic Development drew attention to the previously circulated report to provide Members with an update on key activities as detailed below:

- Gearing for Growth Programme
- Digital First Programme
- Tender Ready Programme
- Transform Programme

In response to the Chair's query, the Head of Economic Development said that for every £1,000 of funding received from the EU Growth & Jobs Measure, one fulltime job or equivalent had to be created.

Councillor Molloy felt that the Council should be an enabler and that an outside body like the Enterprise Centre should be the provider, with the Council providing assistance in the background. He enquired what the penalties were if jobs were not provided.

The Head of Economic Development advised that Councils had been advised initially that we needed to ensure 'best endeavours' to achieve the £1,000 a job target, but this has since been revised to achieving 'reasonable endeavours' however, there is still lack of clarity on what this actually means. She further indicated that this particular source of funding is a local government measure and cannot be transferred to third parties, but third parties could bid for the delivery of such programmes from Council.

Councillor Molloy said that he would be dubious over the initiative.

Proposed by Councillor Clarke
Seconded by Councillor McFlynn and

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council to approve the submission of 4 applications for Business Support Programmes (Gearing for Growth Programme, Digital First Programme, Tender Ready Programme and Transform Programme) requiring a contribution from Council's Economic Development budget of up to £240,440 over a four year period.

The Director of Business and Communities advised that the Council would recruit in the region of 660 local businesses to these programmes which were totally compliant and aligned to Council's Economic Development Strategy. He said that officers had spent a great deal of time in preparing these applications reassured members that it was a good opportunity to support local businesses.

Councillor Molloy agreed said that he wasn't questioning officers' abilities, rather the programmes.

D100/18 Culture and Arts Service Improvement Plan 2018-19

The Head of Culture & Arts drew attention to the previously circulated report and sought approval for the Culture and Arts Service Improvement Plan for 2018-19.

Proposed by Councillor Molloy
Seconded by Councillor McFlynn and

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council to approve the Culture and Arts Service Improvement Plan for 2018-19.

D101/18 Angling Summer Schools Programme 2018

The Head of Parks drew attention to the previously circulated report to seek approval to accept funding from Department for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) under their Outreach Programme and private sector contributions from local businesses.

Proposed by Councillor McFlynn
Seconded by Councillor McAleer and

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council to accept funding from Department for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) under their Outreach Programme and private sector contributions from local businesses.

D102/18 Traffic Management System for Davagh Forest

The Head of Parks drew attention to the previously circulated report to seek approval for the installation of a Traffic Management System at Davagh Forest with the capacity to generate revenue income.

Councillor Clarke said that he wasn't aware of this proposal, as it was the first he had heard of it. He said initially this issue was raised but didn't think anything more about it and it might be more advisable to have discussions with the community before proceeding with this.

The Head of Parks said that this was part of a budget setting process with targets across the range of services and that the figure was challenging.

The Director of Leisure and Outdoor Recreation advised members that a paper was previously presented to include the rate setting process.

Councillor Clarke said that it would be usual to have a more detailed discussion around this matter.

The Head of Parks said that there was a target to be met this financial year with the added provision of a rolling programme of incremental increases over the next two years that would achieve alignment with Blessingbourne mountain bike trials. He said that a target had been set which has to include the delivery and meeting of objectives.

The Director of Leisure and Outdoor Recreation said that Officers could meet the community within Davagh and explain their plans and defer this proposal for a month or so until agreement was reached.

The Head of Parks referred to the wider user groups at Davagh and advised that mountain bikers etc pay for services elsewhere and the biggest knock on effect would be the local communities and said that carparking tariffs would be kept as low as possible and that any revenue gained should be reinvested in the facility.

He said that the mountain biking product needed investment as there was a slight fall in bike users coming to Davagh and that there was a need to implement trails to keep it as an attractive product.

Councillor Molloy referred to Kilbroney Forest Park and advised that there was no charge to use their mountain bike trails and asked if there was any liaison for their track.

The Head of Parks said that there was no direct liaison with Kilbroney and that their country park had other income generated schemes i.e caravan provision, camping etc. He said that officers would be looking at other streams to see what else could be identified as an income generator.

Councillor Molloy said that when he compared the cost of town centre parking with Davagh, and said that it was very expensive as it costs 40p to park in a town centre for an hour and it is anticipated to cost £5 per hour at Davagh. He said that this wasn't very family friendly as the playpark at Davagh could be the only one around within a 10 mile radius and expensive for local families to visit.

The Head of Parks said that some user groups may have issues and that officers would look at the logistics at putting a system together in which would be more manageable. He said that work was ongoing to see how to differentiate between user groups but that the principle would be to try and generate revenue.

Councillor Elattar enquired about the 50:50 split in generated income for Blessingbourne Estate and enquired if this would be the same for Davagh.

The Head of Parks advised that the lease agreement from Forest Service allowed the Council to keep any generated income without splitting it.

Councillor McFlynn agreed that the admission charge of £5 was very expensive for families to visit the playpark, but there was a requirement to pay at other forest parks like Drum Manor and Lissan House also, but still thought that a £5 admission fee was very steep.

Councillor Monteith advised the committee that the local people were already paying for the facilities at Davagh through their rates.

Proposed by Councillor McAleer
Seconded by Councillor McFlynn and

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council to defer the issue of traffic management at Davagh until officers have an opportunity to have a further consultation with the local community, with a report being brought back to committee on outcome.

D103/1/8 Parks Service Improvement Plan 2018-19

The Head of Parks drew attention to the previously circulated report and sought approval for the Parks Service Improvement Plan for 2018-19.

Proposed by Councillor Monteith
Seconded by Councillor McEldowney

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council to approve the Parks Service Improvement Plan for 2018-19.

D104/18 Sports Facility Strategy

The Acting Head of Leisure drew attention to the previously circulated report to seek approval for the Mid Ulster District Council (MUDC) Sports Facility Strategy.

Councillor Monteith enquired what the status of this document entailed with clubs applying for funding as there was a need not to hinder any possible opportunities. He said that the strategy was unreflective of the provision of pitches, whether GAA, Rugby, Soccer or 4G pitches and to say there was not a need for grass pitches in the Dungannon area was ludicrous. The ladies GAA team in Dungannon had to travel 25 miles to use a grass pitch and said there was a need to enhance what we have.

The Acting Head of Leisure referred to recommendation no. 3 Playing Pitch Strategy on artificial and grass pitches and infrastructure.

The Director of Leisure and Outdoor Recreation advised that the difficulty arose when the three legacy councils came together, it was realised that there was no evident data research information on what pitches were in our ownership as Officers couldn't locate any relevant information. She said that funding was available from SportsNI at the moment and if clubs were thinking about applying for funding that this would be the route to go down.

Councillor Monteith said that the clubs were advised that funding was for a new pitch and our Mid Ulster Strategy was for the enhancement of existing pitches only.

The Acting Head of Leisure advised that there was new playing pitch funding available.

Councillor Monteith said that the funding application was closing this Friday and clubs wouldn't be ready. He said that he found it amazing that after three years of this

Council, there was still no database of club pitches within the area. He suggested contacting all the local recognised Sporting organisations requesting information on ownership of their pitches in the area.

The Director of Business and Communities advised that individual clubs were asking for letters of support.

Councillor Molloy said that there was a need for a scoping exercise for demand on the pitches to include usage etc.

Proposed by Councillor Monteith
Seconded by Councillor Molloy and

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council to approve the Mid Ulster District Council Sports Facility Strategy and the recommended framework included within.

Proposed by Councillor Monteith
Seconded by Councillor Molloy and

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council that an assessment of grass pitches in the area be carried out immediately and that a draft report be brought to the September meeting.

D105/18 Leisure Services – Service Improvement Plan 2018-19

The Acting Head of Leisure drew attention to the previously circulated report to seek approval for the Leisure Services – Service Improvement Plan for 2018-19.

Councillor Monteith referred to the closing of roads and said that it was agreed at last month's committee meeting that people would be contacted with information but that he was unaware of this happening. He said that two months down the line, all we are hearing are horror stories about the Belfast Marathon being under threat and there was a need for clarification and who were taking the lead on this.

The Head of Tourism said that responsibility sits with the Environmental Health Licensing section. He said that discussions have taken place with organisers of the Fleadh and the Clogher Valley Show to try and work out issues. He advised that all relevant information had been put on the website and that Letters of Offer being sent out have informed the local communities of the situation and since the last meeting an advert has been placed on the newsletter going out.

Councillor McFlynn said that four events had been identified through the Environment Committee last Tuesday night and advised that a fee of £415 was sought for a licence and a further fee for street management plan. She said that people would have to be inventive and seek other ways to hold events rather than closing the roads.

The Head of Tourism advised that the advice from the DfI was that enforcement just didn't relate to road closures, but to traffic disturbances and they are saying that only four management companies were eligible to carry this out, but that this was only a recommendation and doesn't have to be one of them if another could be identified.

He stated that this was hard on communities raising funds for charities with no clear guidance from the department.

Councillor Elattar advised that within her area that there was a Cycle Against Suicide and were lucky enough as it included the PSNI who were happy to provide traffic management themselves as they were involved in the cycle.

Councillor Clarke suggested whatever decision was made that it would be inclusive and said that he didn't know why any department was taking this initiative forward when the characters involved were not even in the equation and should be put back.

Councillor Monteith asked if events had a limited number throughout the calendar year, as this would be a hindrance. He suggested that the Council write to the Permanent Secretary of the DfI expressing this Council's concerns.

The Head of Tourism advised that he wasn't aware of the limited number of events proposed.

Proposed by Councillor Monteith
Seconded by Councillor Clarke and

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council to approve the Leisure Services – Service Improvement Plan for 2018-19.

Proposed by Councillor Monteith
Seconded by Councillor Doris and

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council that a letter be written to the Permanent Secretary of the DfI expressing this Council's concerns relating to issues around road closures for events.

Matters for Information

D106/18 Minutes of Development Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 11 April 2018

Members noted Minutes of Development Committee held on Wednesday 11 April 2018.

D107/18 External Investment Leverage 2017-18

Members noted previously circulated report on External Investment Leverage 2017-18.

Cllr McAleer left the meeting at 8.40 pm.

D108/18 Regional and Minority Language Implementation Working Group Minutes of Meeting held on Monday 16 April 2018

Members noted Minutes of Regional and Minority Language Implementation Working Group held on Monday 16 April 2018.

D109/18 Events – May–July 2018

Members noted previously circulated report on Events – May-July 2018.

D110/18 Pilgrimage Trail between Ardboe Cross and Battery Harbour

Members noted previously circulated report on Pilgrimage between Ardboe Cross and Battery Harbour.

Local Government (NI) Act 2014 – Confidential Business

Proposed by Councillor Clarke
Seconded by Councillor McFlynn and

Resolved: In accordance with Section 42, Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014 that Members of the public be asked to withdraw from the meeting whilst Members consider items D111/18 to D113/18.

Matters for Decision

D111/18 Path from Newell Road to Railway Park
D112/18 Tender to Supply Willow to Cookstown Leisure Centre

Matters for Information

D113/18 Confidential Minutes of Development Committee held on
Wednesday 11 April 2018

D114/18 Duration of Meeting

The meeting commenced at 7 pm and concluded at 9.05 pm

CHAIR _____

DATE _____

Report on	Upskilling Tourism & Hospitality
Date of Meeting	7 June 2018
Reporting Officer	Michael Browne
Contact Officer	Mary McGee

Is this report restricted for confidential business?	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	X

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To report and inform Council of a skills initiative developed by Mid Ulster Council Tourism Team, SW College and NR College, targeting the Hospitality & Tourism sector in the region
2.0	Background
2.1	The hospitality and tourism industry continue to face a crisis in terms of staffing and skills as evidenced in the skills cluster work to date and feedback from the industry. In order to try to address issues with staffing, recruitment, retention of staff and skills in the Mid-Ulster area, the council and the two local colleges have invited the industry to outline the challenges they are experiencing on a day-to-day basis – getting the right people with the right skills. This information will guide and inform the Colleges on how best to allocate resources and will seek to put in place a structure that will have a real, lasting, positive and practical impact on local businesses.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p>This initiative gives local business an opportunity to have one to one time to think about their own needs and look at measures that can be taken to futureproof local business from the staffing challenges they have identified. Staff from the two college will present to the tourism cluster members on 30th May and have also with tourism staff organised one to one clinics scheduled to take place in the Burnavon Arts and Cultural Centre on Tuesday 12th June. The focus of these clinics will be to try and pin down the issues the industry have, these could be:</p> <p>What needs to be done to improve the customer experience – are all staff customer focused?</p> <p>Do they need help to refine their menu offering – can they accommodate the changing food trends?</p> <p>Do they need to train existing staff in core technical skills – kitchen, food service, reception?</p>

	<p>Are existing staff equipped to mentor new employees and ensure they can integrate into the team quickly and successfully?</p> <p>Do they need advice or support on the best ways to recruit and attract staff or to use social media to enhance business opportunities?</p> <p>Both council and colleges have a range of existing strategies and are really keen to find out if they will work for business and also need to know what is needed to make a real difference to business and the local economy. These clinics are a first step in addressing this.</p>
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial:
	Human: Staff time where applicable.
	Risk Management:
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications:
	Rural Needs Implications:
5.0	Recommendation(s)
	For information.
6.0	Documents Attached&References

Report on	Mid Ulster District Council Tourism Development Group
Date of Meeting	7 June 2018
Reporting Officer	Michael Browne
Contact Officer	Mary McGee

Is this report restricted for confidential business?	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	X

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To inform and update members on the work of the Tourism Development Group. The group met on 13 March 2018 at Ranfurly House, Dungannon. Aubrey Irwin, Head of NI at Tourism Ireland attended and gave a presentation on Growing International Markets.
2.0	Background
2.1	The Tourism Development Group, comprises members from the local authority, tourism business representatives and key stakeholders in the tourism sector. This group is a working group taking leadership and membership from and reporting to Mid Ulster District Council Development Committee.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	Ratified minutes of the Tourism Development Group meeting dated 13 March 2018 are attached as Appendix 1.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial:
	Human: Staff time where applicable.
	Risk Management:
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications:
	Rural Needs Implications:

5.0	Recommendation(s)
	For information
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	Appendix 1.

MID ULSTER TOURISM DEVELOPMENT GROUP

Tuesday 13 March 2018 at 10.00am in Ranfurly House, Dungannon

Attendees:

Chair Cllr S Clarke – MUDC
N Bell - Lissan House
M McGeehan – J&K Coaches
T McCrory – Heraldic Craft
A Irwin – Tourism NI

Apologies:

Cllr M Kearney – MUDC
N Somerville – Horses Welcome
A M McFerron – The Old Thatch Inn
R Mullholland – Ballyscullion Park
A McCreesh - Director of Business & Communities
M McKeown – Tourism Manager

Officers:

M Browne – Head of Tourism
M McGee - Business Engagement
M Beattie – Tourism
G Bell – Tourism Officer
C Bell- Tourism Officer
G Major – Tourist Information Supervisor
J Robinson – Manager HOTO/RH
A O’Keefe – Business Support

1. Minutes of Meeting held on 9 January 2018

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 January 2018 were circulated in advance and taken as read and correct.

Proposed: T McRory

Seconded: N Bell

2. Matters Arising - None

3. Preview of Tourism Hub/Digital Strategy – G Major

M Browne gave a brief background of the Tourism Hub concept:

- To inform industry and exchange information
- Share information from the industry
- Provide feedback to Council

A resource pack will be available to support industry and staff can provide assistance over the phone. M Browne stressed that in order for the hub to be useful it will require resource and urged industry to engage.

4. Tourism Ireland Presentation – Aubrey Irwin

A Irwin, Head of NI at Tourism Ireland (TIL) provided a presentation on Growing International Markets, taking in the following topics:

- Visitor Statistics
- Experiential Tourism
- Industry Opportunities
- Ireland.com/Community Hub

- New Development/Themes in the Marketplace

He spoke of the changes in collating stats from bed nights to expenditure as this gives an indication of real financial value of visitors to the region, rather than VFR (family and friends). M Browne informed the meeting of how MU collate stats and the issues involved. A Irwin encouraged tourism businesses to avail of all TIL platforms and stated that if a business has identified a real opportunity and wishes to target a particular market the NI Co-Operative Programme will provide funding to assist with this. He spoke of the importance of being digitally ready, sharing experiential offers, stories and good images, allowing 6 to 8 weeks in advance of events.

The Chair thanked A Irwin for attending and welcomed B Murphy, TNI, who will be attending each meeting.

5. Cluster Reports

Officers read each Cluster report, circulated in advance of the meeting

6. Brown Signage Update

G Bell updated members that an application had been forwarded to a self-catering property for completion, one hotel had been refused due to location on an A class road and a number of signs have been revamped around the US Grants Visitor attraction.

7. Mid Ulster Tourism Strategy

Head of Tourism gave a brief synopsis on achievements in the last year since the launch of the Tourism Strategy, which included funding applications to HLF to develop Home Ground trails in Bellaghy, the new Visitor Centre associated with the Dark Skies Project at Davagh and the Heart of Ancient Ulster projects. He also discussed the new Mid Ulster Digital Hub and collaborating with TNI to maximise distribution across platforms. Higher-level national online presence being considered by TNI and MUDC will await the outcome of this proposal. This could be innovative and potentially create one NI online solution.

8. Industry Update

8.1 Lissan House

N Bell informed that coaches now have access to drop off at the front of the house and spoke of events scheduled for Mothers Day and St Patricks Day, as well as several coach tour bookings.

8.2 Hill of the O'Neill & Ranfurly House

J Robinson outlined upcoming events, new interpretative signage on Hill of the O'Neill, participating in the Customer Learning Journey and awaiting the outcome of TNI grading scheme.

8.3 Heraldic Craft

Craft producer enquired as to whether a similar template to the Magherafelt craft group will be available in Dungannon and Cookstown. Head of Tourism responded that following a meeting with Head of Arts & Culture it was decided to invite quality craft producers with the opportunity to sell in the Bridewell VIC.

He hopes to bring a similar template to Dungannon in the future. He informed that Council now purchase corporate gift clocks from the local producer.

8.4 J & K Coaches

M McGeehan informed that there was an increase in Chinese visitors to Ireland and now was the time to plan tours and feed into London based tour operators. He hoped to have 2 days stop included for the Mid Ulster area.

Two members raised the issue of no assigned coach parking in the three main town centres of mid ulster, stating that this was detrimental to not only day groups visiting but also the night-time economy.

9. District Wide Monitoring Results

Tourist Information Supervisor outlined the Visitor Information Stats from January – February 2017 and district wide Monitoring Results 2017, circulated in advance of the meeting. He informed that no comparisons could be made until figures for the same quarter in 2018 were released. He advised that all staff in Council VIC's are now trained to use the same method in collating statistics.

10. TDG & Cluster Review

Business Engagement Officer circulated and read the Mid Ulster TDG & Clusters Workshop and Survey Report prepared by Community Places dated February 18. Head of Tourism gave a brief background to the purpose of the report, to look at what has been successful or not and to make recommendations moving forward.

Head of Tourism raised the idea of a Mid Ulster tourism brand to the meeting as it was raised during the workshop. He stated that he felt that a brand was in contradiction of the Tourism Strategy and the three themes. Following discussions, it was agreed to procure a branding expert.

B Murphy noted that TNI are looking at branding the whole of N Ireland and advised that mid Ulster would have greater positioning within a NI brand.

11. Any Other Business

Chair requested that reappointment of the position of Chair/Vice-chair be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

Meeting ended at 12.10pm.

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 8 May 2018 at 10.00am Mid Ulster Council Offices, Magherafelt

Report on	Seamus Heaney Cluster /Invest NI Update
Date of Meeting	7 June 2018
Reporting Officer	Michael Browne
Contact Officer	Mary McGee

Is this report restricted for confidential business?	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	X

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To report and inform Council of developments to date in Seamus Heaney Cluster in particular Collaborative Growth Funding.
2.0	Background
2.1	The Seamus Heaney Cluster has been developed as part of our Mid Ulster Council Tourism Strategy delivery, it has gone from strength to strength in the past year. The group comprises 11 local businesses and meets every two months. Richard Mulholland from Ballyscullion Park chairs the cluster and through Richard the group report to the Tourism Development Group every two months.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p>The group have recently been successful in achieving £25,000 from Invest NI to deliver a scoping study for the cluster members. This study will examine the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The cluster can explore the potential market for their product in particular focussing on its relationship with Seamus Heaney HomePlace. • Assess the specific businesses in the cluster and their capacity to deliver a quality visitor experience. • Examine how they can capitalise on the development of Seamus Heaney HomePlace. • Scope out employment and business development opportunities in the region capitalising on the Seamus Heaney story. • Develop the skills to package and sell their product in domestic and international marketplace. • Realise the marketing and PR potential of their unique product Vis a Vis Seamus Heaney HomePlace and their associations to this centre. • Examine the issue of branding vis a vis the Seamus Heaney brand and its importance for the businesses. • Examine and explain how existing and potential partnerships such as Tourism Ireland, Tourism NI etc. can benefit the cluster businesses.

	<p>Marks Consulting led by Liesa Johnston has been appointed by the group to work with them over the next 6-9 months to deliver the study.</p> <p>The first full meeting of consultants and the group is scheduled for Wednesday 30th May at 10am in Magherafelt Council offices.</p>
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial:
	Human: Staff time where applicable to support Marks and the cluster members.
	Risk Management:
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications:
	Rural Needs Implications:
5.0	Recommendation(s)
	For information
6.0	Documents Attached&References

Report on	US Consulate Visit to US Grant Homestead Visit
Date of Meeting	7 June 2018
Reporting Officer	Michael Browne
Contact Officer	Charmain Bell / Genevieve Bell

Is this report restricted for confidential business?	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	X

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To inform council on the recent visit of the US Consul General to US Grant Homestead on Friday 27 th April 2018.
2.0	Background
2.1	On January 5 th 2018, the USA Consul General sent a letter to Councillor Kim Aston informing the council of his initiative called "Five Presidents in Five Days", and to provide an opportunity for council to get involved during his visit to US Grant Homestead, Dungannon.
2.2	The tour was scheduled for the week beginning Monday 26 th February 2018, ending on Friday 2 nd March 2018 at US Grant Homestead.
2.3	On behalf of Cllr Aston, council's Tourism Development Officers made contact with Peter McKittrick at the US Consulate to make appropriated arrangements for the visit on Friday 2 nd March 2018.
2.4	With the severe weather conditions from the "Beast from the East" the visit on Friday 2 nd March was cancelled at short notice, and re-scheduled for Friday 27 th April 2018, the birth date of US Grant.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	The US Consulate visit commenced at Ranfurly House and The Hill of The O'Neill at 12.30pm on Friday 27 th April. US Consul General, Mr Danial Lawton and his colleague Peter McKittrick were greeted by Michael Browne, Head of Tourism; Charmain Bell, Tourism Development Officer; Joanne Robinson, Centre Manager at Ranfurly House; and Angela O'Connor, Promotions Officer, Ranfurly House,
3.2	The Consul General had lunch in the Tower Room, with members of the community, organised by the US Consulate.
3.3	Angela O'Connor provided a guided tour of The Hill of The O'Neill, before their departure.

3.4	The US Consul General arrived at US Grant Homestead at 2.30pm, greeted by Cllr. Kim Aston. Attendance at the site included, Michael Browne, Head of Tourism; Mary McKeown, Tourism Manager; Genevieve Bell, Tourism Development Officer; Kate Keys, Marketing & Communications Officer, Ted Sharkey, Site Warden; Jim Kerr, photographer, and representatives from the local Killeeshil & Clonanese historical society and COSTA.
3.5	Ted Sharkey provided a guided tour of the site, showing the new interactive interpretation panels recently installed onsite, before introducing the Consul General to “US Grant” himself (a living history character hired for the occasion).
3.6	As the 27 th April is the birth date of US Grant, a birthday cake was arranged. The event concluded with tea and birthday cake in the newly refurbished audio visual room. The US Consul presented Cllr Kim Aston with an American Seal medal. In return Cllr Kim Aston presented the US Consul with a Mid Ulster District Council corporate gift
3.7	Positive PR included social media posts and editorial in local papers.
3.8	The following email was received from Peter McKittrick on the evening of the 27 th April: “Just a brief but very sincere word of thanks for your professionalism in hosting our Consul General earlier. At every level today, I genuinely felt that I was dealing with Council Officers who are passionate about what they do, and proud of the place in which they serve. Sincere thanks again for making today such a pleasure and for presenting Dungannon and the wider Mid Ulster District in such a positive light.”
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial:
	Human:
	Risk Management:
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications:
	Rural Needs Implications:
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	For information
6.0	Documents Attached & References

Report on	The Heart of Ancient Ulster Landscape Partnership Scheme (HoAULP) – Update on Community Consultations
Date of Meeting	7 June 2018
Reporting Officer	Michael Browne
Contact Officer	Mary McKeown

Is this report restricted for confidential business?	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	X

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To inform Council of community consultations for the Heart of Ancient Ulster Landscape Partnership Scheme.
2.0	Background
2.1	The purpose of this report is to provide an update on The Heart of Ancient Ulster Landscape Partnership Scheme to May 2018.
2.2	The Heart of Ancient Ulster Landscape Partnership Scheme (HoAULP) is currently developing a Landscape Character Area Plan (LCAP): a fully-budgeted five year programme which forms the core of the Round 2 application to be submitted to Heritage Lottery in November 2018.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	The LP first met in February 2018 and received two sessions of Good Governance training delivered by Michael Kelly, Rural Development Council. Membership of the Landscape Partnership Board was formalised in March 2018 and a Chair and Vice-chair nominated for the remainder of the development phase. The board consists of the following members:
3.2	<p>Chair Monica Coyle, Greencastle Community Development Association</p> <p>Vice-Chair Sean Clarke, Councillor, MUDC</p> <p>Member Brian McCrory, Ballynagilly Community and Heritage Preservation Group</p> <p>Member Perry McCrory, Broughderg Community Development Association</p> <p>Member Damien Donnelly, Cappagh Village Regeneration</p> <p>Member Sean Curran, Loughmacrory Community Association</p> <p>Member John Donaghy, An Creggan</p> <p>Member Angela O'Brien, Owenkillew Community Association</p> <p>Member Martin Tracey, Landowner</p> <p>Member Diarmuid McGurk, Mid Ulster Community Arts Trust</p> <p>Member Anita Kelly, Mid Ulster Seniors Network</p> <p>Member Mary T Conway, Omagh Forum for Rural Associations</p>

	<p>Member Bert Wilson, Councillor FODC</p> <p>Member Sean Clarke, Councillor FODC</p> <p>Member Cathal Mallaghan, Councillor MUDC</p> <p>Member Cathy Smith, NIEA</p> <p>Member Prof Mark Bailey, Armagh Observatory, retired</p>
3.3	Due to capacity issues representatives from Historic Environment Division (CfC), Forestry Service and DAERA will not sit on the board. However, they will continue to provide guidance to the Project Development Officer and assist with developing the Round 2 application to HLF.
3.4	The Project Development Officer, Moira O'Rourke, returned to work 23/04/2018 after a three month absence due to a car accident.
3.5	<p>Community consultations were held during January early February in the following locations:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pomeroy • Broughderg • An Creggan • Galbally • Carrickmore • Greencastle <p>Due to inclement weather conditions the final consultation was held at Sixmilecross in April 2018. A presentation was also given to Camowen Farmers Ltd in January 2018. The consultations were well attended with a total of 163 participants.</p>
3.6	Project 'Expression of Interest' forms, whereby groups provide an outline of heritage projects they wish to be included within the Landscape Character Area Plan and to be undertaken during the Delivery Phase (2019-2023), were distributed at the consultations and also made available online via FODC and MUDC websites, social media and community websites. The submission date of 23rd March was extended to 27th April due to the rescheduling issues with the Sixmilecross consultation. A total of 50 Expression of Interest forms were received, ranging from trails, publications, exhibitions, school projects, biodiversity, vernacular cottage restoration, WWI, industrial heritage, archaeology, and bog restoration. The EOIs have been preliminary assessed according to HLF's Nine Core Heritage Values and will be presented to the LP board at the June meeting for consideration.
3.7	<p>Invitation to tender for two audits were issued in April 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills Development Plan • Access and Signage <p>Dr William Burke was the preferred candidate for the Skills Development Audit and has commenced works. Due to a lack of interest and one late submission, the Access and Signage audit was re-issued in April; JM Consulting is the preferred candidate and has commenced works. A Built Heritage Audit is being completed in-house by the Project Development Officer which results a savings within the overall budget.</p>
3.8	<p>Both the LP and Grantee boards met jointly on 15th May 2018 and were presented with an update by the Project Development Officer (PDO).</p> <p>This was followed by:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an overview of the function and structure of Landscape Partnership Schemes

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> critical timeline for both Development (2017-2018) and Delivery phase (2019-2024) budget allocation final evaluation 10 year maintenance plan post-delivery phase
3.9	The PDO updated the board on the EOI submissions, and provided insight on the heritage needs and issues facing HoAULP landscape as provided by a survey of community Heritage Interest conducted between December 2017 and April 2018.
3.10	The board was informed that overall the project is six months behind; three months due to HLF issues with start dates and three months with PDO being on sick leave. As a result of this both FODC and MUDC have set aside financial assistance to provide an external consultant to assist the PDO in developing the LCAP and ensuring that it is submitted by 14th November 2018.
3.11	Four officers representing both councils were present: Michael Brown and Tony McCance (MUDC), Kieran McCrory, Ian Davidson and George Bradshaw (all FODC). Both the Development Officer, Moira O'Rourke, and Project Administrator, Gail Lees, were also present.
3.12	Dates and location of future LP board meetings (June - October 2018) were agreed. The board was also informed that a Fam Trip to the Heart of the Glens Landscape Partnership Scheme (based in Armoy) is scheduled for 6th June 2018.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: N/A
	Human: N/A
	Risk Management: N/A
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: N/A
	Rural Needs Implications: N/A
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	For information.
6.0	Documents Attached & References

Report on	Leisure Services Summer Activity Programme 2018/19
Date of Meeting	14 June 2018
Reporting Officer	Oliver McShane
Contact Officer	Oliver McShane

Is this report restricted for confidential business?	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	x

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To inform members on the Leisure Services Summer Activity Programme 2018.
2.0	Background
2.1	The Leisure Service has developed an extensive range of sporting and recreational activities across MUDC area which also includes activities for both Parks and Arts and Culture Services.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p>Summer 2018</p> <p>A comprehensive Summer Sports & Leisure Programme has been compiled in conjunction with Leisure Centre Managers. A wide range of sports and activities will be on offer every week of the summer across the district including water sports, sports specific camps, schemes and disability sports. This year's programme also sees further links with Governing Bodies with the inclusion of IFA, GAA and Ulster Hockey all delivering camps across the Mid Ulster area.</p>
3.2	A further extension of the disability programme to include additional sessions in Magherafelt has been included for this year.
3.3	Summer schemes times include early morning drop offs and new for this year Meadowbank Sports Arena will deliver their summer scheme both morning and afternoon.
3.4	It is hoped to draw down additional funding to assist in the provision of weekly trips primarily to other MUDC facilities. An official launch is planned for June with advertisements in local media and radio scheduled for the month of June. (See Appendix 1 for the full Programme).

4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: The cost of the Summer programme is included within the 2018/19 budget allocated by Council.
	Human: The programme will be delivered by Council staff and partner organisations.
	Risk Management: N/A
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: N/A
	Rural Needs Implications: N/A
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	The Summer Activity Programme brochure is noted for information.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix 1: Summer Activity Programme 2018.

June, July
& August
2018

Summer

Activity Programme



A summer of fun!

In Mid Ulster



Summer Programme 2018 Registration Form

Please complete all relevant details in BLOCK Capitals, and return with the appropriate fee payable to the relevant centre:

Name Of Child:

D.O.B.

Programmes	Dates	Times
.....		
.....		
.....		
.....		
.....		
.....		
.....		

Watersports Participants Only:

My child can swim 50m in light clothing. Yes ☐ No ☐

Name of Parent/Guardian:

Address:

Telephone Number:.....

Mobile Number:.....

Email:

Signature:

Date:

Please list disability or medical condition we should be aware of:
.....
.....

Please note the age restrictions on each programme. Places will be allocated on a first come first served basis and postal/email applications cannot be guaranteed.
FEEL FREE TO PHOTOCOPY THIS FORM.

We may use your email address to contact you with details of block bookings, events and holiday schemes throughout the year. If you do not wish to receive this information, ☐

We may use your mobile number to contact you with information on our events and services during the year. If you do not wish to receive this information, please tick this box. ☐

If you do not wish your child's photograph to be taken during the programme(s), please tick this box. ☐

We will keep you on our mailing list unless you advise otherwise.

A summer of fun!

What's On In Mid Ulster

Sport & Leisure	Area	Page
Canoeing	Cookstown	4
Tennis & Bowling	Cookstown	5
Summer Scheme	Cookstown	6
Gymnastics	Cookstown	6
IFA Football Camp	Cookstown	7
IFA Goalkeepers Camp	Cookstown	7
Tennis Camp	Cookstown	7
Disability Friday Club	Cookstown	8
Multi Sport	Cookstown	8
Gaelic Camp	Cookstown	9
Ulster Hockey	Cookstown	9
Multi Sport Camp	Dungannon	10
Summer Scheme	Dungannon	10
Gymnastics	Dungannon	11
Teen Disability Camp	Dungannon	11
Gaelic Football Camp	Dungannon	12
Tennis Camp	Dungannon	12
Ulster Hockey	Dungannon	12
Summer Scheme	Magherafelt	13
Gymnastics	Magherafelt	13
Summer Scheme	Maghera	14
Gymnastics	Maghera	14
Kinetic Dance Camp	Maghera	14
Summer Scheme	Moneymore	15
Tennis Camp	Moneymore	15
Summer Scheme	Magherafelt	16
GAA Camp	Magherafelt	16
Disability Camp	Magherafelt	16
Athletics for children	Magherafelt	17
IFA Football Camp	Magherafelt	17
Golf Camp	Tobermore	18

Parks (Fishing)

Dungannon Parklake	Dungannon	19
Bradley's Lake	Maghera	19

Arts

The Burnavon	Cookstown	20 - 21
Seamus Heaney HomePlace	Bellaghy	22
Hill of The O'Neill & Ranfurly House	Dungannon	23

Ballyronan Marina

Get everyone signed up for an active summer with our new programme of arts, crafts, sports and summer schemes running throughout June, July and August in Mid Ulster, featuring more than 70 separate activities across the summer months across the district in leisure centres, arts venues and sports arenas.

Swimming, tennis, golf, canoeing, soccer, gaelic games, athletics, rugby, golf and gymnastics, and much more are all on offer in venues across Cookstown, Dungannon, Maghera, Magherafelt, Ballyronan, Money more and Tobermore. Have a browse through the following pages and book now!

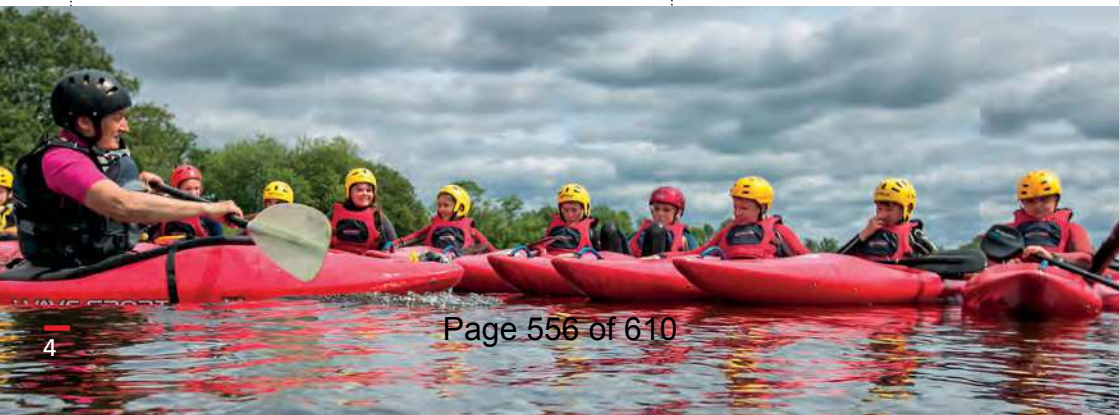
Get Active Canoeing

- Monday 2nd – Friday 6th July
- Monday 30th July – Friday 3rd August
- Monday 6th – Friday 10th August

10.00am – 12.30pm | 11-16 years | £35 per week
Participants must be able to swim 50m in light clothing.



Enrol via Mid Ulster Sports Arena
Call 028 8676 7135



Fairhill Tennis & Bowling

Get Active Tennis

- Monday 2nd – Friday 6th July
- Monday 13th – Friday 17th Aug

10.00am – 11.30am		7-10 years		£20 per week
11.30am – 1.00pm		7-14 years		£20 per week

Enrol online from 1st June www.midulstercouncil.org

Get Active Bowling

- Monday 30th – Friday 3rd August

10.00am – 12.00pm 7-10 years £5 per week

To book contact 07837 383 028 or direct message
Cookstown Bowling Club (@CookstownBC) on Facebook



Enrol via Cookstown Leisure Centre
Call 028 8676 3853



Cookstown
Leisure Centre



Summer Scheme

Monday 16th July – Friday 10th August

10.30am – 1.00pm		6-12 years		£3
1.30pm – 4.00pm		6-12 years		£3
Supervised Lunch from 1.00pm – 1.30pm				

Breakfast Club	8.45am – 9.15am		£2
(Price includes early drop off)			
Early Drop off from (only)	9.15am – 10.15am		£1

Gymnastics

Monday 6th – Friday 10th August (enrol online from 1st June)

10.00am – 11.00am		5 - 6 years		£20 per week
11.00am – 12.00pm		7 - 9 years		£20 per week
12.00pm – 1.00pm		10+ years		£20 per week



Enrol via Cookstown Leisure Centre
Call 028 8676 3853



Mid Ulster Sports Arena

IFA Hughes Insurance Summer Football Camp

- **Monday 2nd – Friday 6th July**
10.00am – 1.00pm | 5 - 13 years
- **Monday 6th – Friday 10th August**
10.00am – 1.00pm | 5 - 13 years

Book online at www.irishfa.com

IFA Hughes Insurance Goalkeepers Camp

- **Monday 9th – Tuesday 10th July**
10.00am – 1.00pm | 7-13 years

Book online www.irishfa.com

Get Active Tennis Camp

- **Monday 23rd – Friday 27th July**

10.00am – 11.30am		7-10 years		£20 per week
11.30am – 1.00pm		7-14 years		£20 per week



Mid Ulster Sports Arena

Everybody Active 2020 **Adults Disability Friday Club**

- **Fridays only - for 6 weeks commences 27th July**
11am - 12.30pm | £2 per day or £10 for 6 weeks
-

Everybody Active 2020 **Kids Disability Friday Club**

- **Fridays only - for 6 weeks commences 27th July**
1pm - 2.00pm | £2 per day or £10 for 6 weeks
-

Everybody Active 2020 **Multi Sport Camp**

- **Monday 30th July – Thursday 2nd August**
10.00am – 12.30pm | £2 per day



Mid Ulster Sports Arena

Get Active **Gaelic** Football Camp

■ Monday 13th – Friday 16th August

2.00pm – 4.30pm

|

7-11 years

|

£20 per week

With special appearance from Tyrone GAA player.

Cookstown Hockey Club

Cookstown High School **Ulster** Hockey

■ Monday 16th - Thursday 19th July inclusive

10am - 3pm

|

£60

|

Cookstown Hockey Club

Book online www.ulsterhockey.com



Dungannon Leisure Centre

Everybody Active **Multi Sport Camp**

■ **Monday 2nd – Wednesday 11th July**
10.00am – 12.30pm | £2 per day

Summer Scheme

■ **Monday 16th July – Friday 10th August**

9.30am – 12.00pm & 1.00pm – 3.30pm | **6-12 years**
(Swimming activity unavailable to under 8's)
Supervised Early Drop off 8.30am – 9.30am | **£1 per child**

Unsupervised Lunch 12.00pm – 1.00pm (Lunch Not Provided)

£3 per child per session | **£25 for 10 sessions**



Enrol via Dungannon Leisure Centre
Call 028 8772 0370



Dungannon Leisure Centre

Gymnastics

■ **Monday 13th – Friday 17th August** (enrol online from 1st June)

10.00am – 11.00am		5 – 6		£20 per week
11.00am – 12.00 noon		7 - 9		£20 per week
12.00pm – 1.00pm		10+		£20 per week

Everybody Active 2020 **Teen Disability Camp**

■ **Monday 20th - Thursday 23rd August**

12.00pm – 2.00pm		£2 per day
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Enrol via Dungannon Leisure Centre
Call 028 8772 0370



Drumcoo Playing Fields

Get Active Gaelic Football Camp

■ Monday 16th – Friday 20th July

2.00pm – 4.30pm

|

7-11 years

|

£20 per week

With special appearance from Tyrone GAA player.

Enrol via Dungannon Leisure Centre 028 8772 0370

or online from 1st June www.midulstercouncil.org

Dungannon Park

Get Active Tennis Camp

■ Monday 30th July – Friday 3rd August

10.00am – 11.30am

|

7-10 years

|

£20 per week

11.30am – 1.00pm

|

7-14 years

|

£20 per week

Enrol via Dungannon Leisure Centre 028 8772 0370

or online from 1st June www.midulstercouncil.org

Hockey Club Dungannon

Ulster Hockey

■ Monday 30th July - Thursday 2nd August

10.00am - 3.00pm

|

£60

|

Dungannon Hockey Club

Book online www.ulsterhockey.com

Greenvale Leisure Centre



Summer Scheme

Monday to Friday from 23rd July – 17th August

10am – 3.00pm		Members FREE
Supervised Lunch		Non-Members £5 per day

Greenvale LC summer scheme registration forms available from: 1st June (to be returned by 17th June) **Scheme places allocated: 24th June**

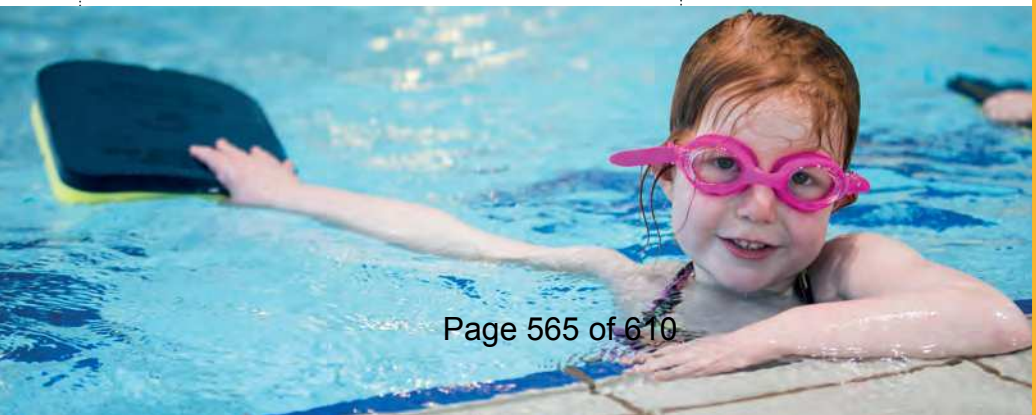
Gymnastics

Monday 16th – Friday 20th July

10.00am – 11.00am		5 - 6		£20 per week
11.00am – 12.00noon		7 - 9		£20 per week
12.00noon – 1.00pm		10+		£20 per week



Enrol via Greenvale Leisure Centre
Call 028 7963 2796



Maghera
Leisure Centre



Summer Scheme

Monday to Friday from 2nd July – 24th August

10am – 12.30pm		1.30pm – 4.00pm		6-14 years
Early Drop Off 9am		£1		
Supervised Lunch		12.30pm – 1.30pm		
£2.60 per session		10 sessions for £20.60		

Gymnastics

Monday 30th July – Friday 3rd August

12.00am – 1.00pm		5 - 6 years		£20 per week
1.00pm – 2.00pm		7 - 9 years		£20 per week
2.00pm – 3.00pm		10+ years		£20 per week

Get Active Kirsty's Kinetic Dance Camp

Monday 13th – Friday 11th August

10.00am – 11.15am		£18.50 per week
11.15am – 12.00pm		



**Moneymore
Recreation Centre**



Summer Scheme

- **Monday 16th July – Friday 3rd August**
- **Monday 13th August – Friday 24th August**

10.00am – 12.30pm		6-14 years
1.00pm - 3.30pm		6-14 years
Early Drop Off 9am		£1
£2.60 per session		10 sessions for £20.60

Get Active Tennis Camp

- **Monday 6th – Friday 10th August**

10.00am – 11.30am		7-10 years		£20 per week
11.30am – 1.00pm		7-14 years		£20 per week



Enrol via Moneymore Recreation Centre
Call 028 8674 7974



Meadowbank
Sports Arena



Summer Scheme

Monday 2nd July – Friday 24th August

10am – 12.30pm		6-14 years
1.30pm – 4.00pm		6-14 years
Early Drop Of at 9am		£1
Supervised Lunch		12.30pm – 1.30pm
£2.60 per session		10 sessions for £20.60

Get Active GAA Camp with Enda Muldoon

Monday 16th – Friday 20th July

1.30pm – 4.00pm		7-11 years		£20 per week
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Everybody Active 2020 Disability Camp

Monday 30th July - Thursday 2nd August

2.00pm - 4.00pm		5-11 years		£2 per day
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Meadowbank Sports Arena

Athletics Star Tracking **Fun Athletics** for Children

■ Monday 6th – Friday 10th August

10.00am – 1.00pm		Ages 5 -7, 8-10, 11-15
£30 per Child		Family Discount £25 subsequent child

IFA Hughes Insurance **Summer Football Camp**

■ Monday 13th – Friday 17th August

10.00am – 1.00pm		5-13 years
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Book online at www.irishfa.com



Enrol via Meadowbank Sports Arena
Call 028 7939 7117



**Tobermore
Golf Centre**

**Junior Summer
Golf Camp PGA Tuition**

- Tuesday 3rd – Thursday 5th July
- Tuesday 24th – Thursday 26th July
- Wednesday 1st – Friday 3rd August
- Tuesday 14th – Thursday 16th August
- Tuesday 28th – Thursday 30th August

Camp 1	10am – 1pm	Age Group 7 - 14 years (coach ratio 1-7)
Camp 2	2pm – 5pm	Age Group 7 - 14 years (coach ratio 1-7)

£41.20 per camp



Enrol via Tobermore Golf Centre
Call 028 7939 7939



PARKS

Dungannon Park

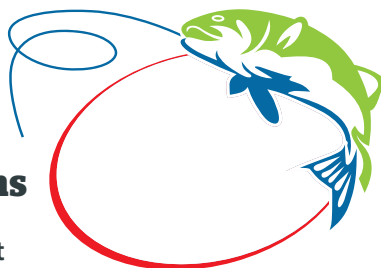
Dungannon Park Lake Coarse Fishing Taster Sessions

■ Fridays 13, 20, 27th July & 3rd August

6.30pm - 8.30pm

Sessions: 25 minutes

FREE



Dungannon Park Lake Coarse Angling Summer School

■ Wednesday 8th to Fri 10th August

Boys & Girls 11 years+

£15

Session one: 9.30am - 12.30pm (Daily)

Session two: 1.30pm - 4.30pm (Daily)

Bradleys Lake, Maghera

Bradleys Lake Angling Summer School

■ Monday 30th July - Friday 3rd August from 10am to 2pm

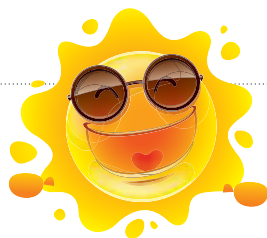
Boys & Girls 11 years+

£25



Enrol via Dungannon Park
Call 028 8772 8690

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The Burnavon, Cookstown

Father's Day Card & Present Making

■ **Saturday 16th June**

10am – 12pm | £7 | Ages 7-11

Why not make daddy a special gift this Father's Day? Kids are invited to come along to our workshop and enjoy a fun filled session making beautiful cards and photo frames! All materials supplied.

Pipes & Drums Summer School

■ **Monday 23rd July – Friday 27th July**

10am – 3pm daily | £40 | Ages 9+

This summer programme will involve instrument tuition and music theory on: highland bagpipes, snare drum, tenor drum, and bass drum. Pupils will also be introduced to Scottish smallpipes and low and high whistles, finishing with a fantastic showcase at the end of the week. Please note patrons should bring their own instruments. Beginners are welcome.

Burnavon Summer Scheme

■ **Monday 30th July – Friday 3rd August**

11am – 1pm daily | £35 | Ages 5 - 8 years
2pm – 4pm daily | £35 | Ages 8 - 11 years

Our Summer Scheme will be running over 5 days. On each day we will be hosting a different type of activity. So if your children are interested in crafts, iPad animation, clay, and painting, this is a great opportunity for them to explore a wide range of techniques through a variety of fun filled workshops. All materials supplied.

The Burnavon, Cookstown

Ballet Ireland Summer School

- **Monday 6th August – Friday 10th August**
10.30am – 12.30pm & 2pm – 4pm daily | £40 for 1 week

This week starts each day with class on stage with Ballet Ireland's professional dancers. Participants will have an unforgettable time working with the dancers creating their very own ballet, complete with props and designing their costumes before performing it for friends and family at the end of the week. The programme is suitable for boys and girls ages 6 – 18 years, with or without dance training.

Traditional Music Summer School

with tutor Donald Canavan

- **Monday 13th August – Thursday 16th August**
£20 for 1 week

Beginners Tin Whistle	10am to 11am
P4/P5 Guitar, Tin Whistle, Mandolin	11am to 12.30pm
P6/P7 Guitar, Tin Whistle, Mandolin	1pm to 2.30pm

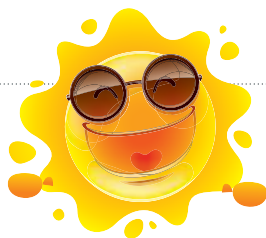
This summer programme will involve instrument tuition and music theory on: guitar, tin whistle and mandolin, finishing with a fantastic showcase at the end of the week. Beginners are welcome to attend Tin Whistle tuition between 10am and 11am.

PLEASE NOTE: P4/P5 pupils and P6/P7 pupils must already be a participant of the TMIS programme within their school. Patrons should bring their own instruments.



Enrol via The Burnavon, Cookstown
Call 028 8676 9949

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Seamus Heaney HomePlace, Bellaghy

Cinema Day

■ Bank Holiday Monday 27th August

Join the team at Seamus Heaney HomePlace as they take part in Film Hub NI's annual celebration of film, Cinema Day, on Bank Holiday 27th August. The full programme, with details of the screening at HomePlace will be announced in July 2018. In conjunction with **Film Hub NI**.

Say Hello To Haiku!

■ Saturday 4th August

11am – 3pm | Cost: £5 (adult) | £3 (child)

A poetry workshop for families with Colin Dardis and Geraldine Dardis-O'Kane. Seamus Heaney and W.B. Yeats both had a fascination with the Japanese poetic form haiku. In this fun and accessible workshop, parents/carers and their children can work together to create their own haiku.



Enrol via Seamus Heaney HomePlace
Call 028 7938 7444



Hill of The O'Neill & Ranfurly House Dungannon

Geoff Ukulele Hour

■ **Sunday 10th June**

£5 | 2.30pm – 3.30pm | Square Box

Geoff Hatt's Guitar Hour

■ **Sunday 8th July**

£5 | 2.30pm – 3.30pm | Square Box

Mr Bloom

■ **Sunday 22nd July**

£5 | 2pm – 4pm | Hill of The O'Neill
(includes activities and 45 minute stage show at 3pm)

Go Fly Your Kite

■ **Sunday 29th July**

£5 | 2pm – 3.30pm | Hill of The O'Neill | 5-11years

Mr. Hullabloo's Summer Fun

■ **Sunday 5th August**

£5 | 3pm – 4pm | Square Box

The Hedgehog Prince *Banyan Theatre Company*

■ **Sunday 19th August**

£5 | 2pm – 4pm | Square Box



Leisure, Parks & Arts Facilities

■ Cookstown Leisure Centre Fountain Road, Cookstown BT80 8QF		028 8676 3853
■ Dungannon Leisure Centre Circular Road, Dungannon BT71 6DT		028 8772 0370
■ Greenvale Leisure Centre Greenvale Park, Magherafelt BT45 6DR		028 7963 2796
■ Maghera Leisure Centre Coleraine Road, Maghera BT46 5BN		028 7954 7400
■ Meadowbank Sports Arena Ballyronan Road, Magherafelt BT45 6EH		028 7939 7117
■ Mid Ulster Sports Arena 47 Tullywiggan Rd, Cookstown BT80 8SG		028 8676 7135
■ Moneymore Recreation Centre 4 Moneyhaw Road, Magherafelt BT45 7XJ		028 8674 7974
■ Fairhill Tennis Courts Fairhill Road, Cookstown BT80 8AG		028 8676 3853
■ Tobermore Golf Centre Ballyronan Road, Magherafelt BT45 6EH		028 7939 7939
■ Burnavon Arts & Cultural Centre Burn Road, Cookstown BT80 8DN		028 8676 9949
■ Hill of The O'Neill & Ranfurly House Market Square, Tyrone, Dungannon BT70 1AB		028 8772 8600
■ Seamus Heaney HomePlace Main Street, Bellaghy, Magherafelt BT45 8HT		028 7938 7444
■ Ballyronan Marina Shore Road, Ballyronan, Magherafelt BT45 6JA		028 7941 8399
■ Dungannon Park Moy Road, Dungannon BT71 6DY		028 8772 8690

Report on	Leisure Service Quarterly Update Report
Date of Meeting	14 June 2018
Reporting Officer	Oliver McShane
Contact Officer	Oliver McShane

Is this report restricted for confidential business?	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	x

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To update Members of the progress being made regarding activities in Leisure Services and highlight events that will be occurring in the future.
2.0	Background
2.1	Mid Ulster District Council recognises the important role that leisure plays in today's society and that the equitable availability of accessible, high quality sport and leisure provision can enhance the quality of life, health and wellbeing of the local community. The facilities and programmes provided in Mid Ulster are designed to maximise participation in sport and leisure activities from all sections of the community and provide pathways that enable every resident within the Mid Ulster area to maximise their health, sporting abilities, aspirations and potential.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p>Full details of key elements of Leisure Service provision in the last quarter is included in Appendix 1. A summary of key highlights or is provided below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easter Bootcamp at Maghera LC • Golf Coaching for Juniors and Improvers at Tobermore Golf Centre • Masters Swimming Programme in Dungannon LC • Sports Development activities including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ladies Only Circuits ○ Carefully Yours Project for over 55yrs ○ Multi Sport Fitness Programme ○ Schools Swimming Gala • Fit for Life Programme in Meadowbank Sports Arena • Colour Run at Mid Ulster Sports Arena • Dungannon LC hosted the Feis • March Madness Mind and Body Programme – Cookstown Leisure Centre • Ulster Rugby Youth finals – Mid Ulster Sports Arena

4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: N/A
	Human: N/A
	Risk Management: N/A
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: N/A
	Rural Needs Implications: N/A
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Members are asked to note activities being undertaken in Leisure Services in the last quarter and the events that will be occurring in the future.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix 1 - Key elements of Leisure Service provision in the last quarter.

Every Body Active 2020 Update

February saw the commencement of the Ladies Only Circuits Programme at Mid Ulster Sports Arena. The Programme takes place every Tuesday evening and is proving to be a great success with 60 Ladies attending each week.



An additional Ladies Only Circuits Programme run in partnership with local workplace Loughry College commenced in March. The programme takes place every Tuesday at lunch time and attracts 20 ladies and hopes to increase the health and wellbeing of the female workforce.



January saw the commencement of a 6-week programme with 'The Carefully Yours Project'. This project aims to provide support to over 55's in Magherafelt and the surrounding Mid Ulster area. Activities are open to all over 55's including those suffering from, or at risk of, dementia; ill health; disability; or experiencing isolation and loneliness.

By offering a wide range of social activities, as well as training and volunteering opportunities, the Carefully Yours Project aims to promote positive health and well-being, social inclusion and independence of an ageing population, focusing on preventative approaches and early intervention.

As part of this service physical activity classes are delivered through the Mid Ulster Council Everybody Active 2020 programme. These physical activity sessions help to make small changes to the participant's daily lives in order to improve on their health and wellbeing.



During February the Everybody Active 2020 Disability coach supported the Magherafelt Marvels a Special Olympics Athletics Club for those in the Magherafelt.

This club includes a mixture of community-based and service based participants who avail of training, events and sports competitions throughout the year as part of the Special Olympics Ireland programme.

The sport of athletics encourages the Marvel athletes of all abilities and ages to compete at their optimum level. Through the track-and-field-based athletics-training program, participants can develop total fitness to compete in any sport.



March saw the commencement of a 12-week Multi-Sports fitness programme for people with mental health.

This programme is currently being held every Thursday (2.30-3.30pm) at Meadowbank Sports Arena Magherafelt, with over 10 participants attending each week.

The programme aims to help promote and sustain independence, wellbeing and social inclusion through sport and physical activity.



January and February saw the multisport programme taking place with Cookstown Primary School P5's and Holy Trinity Primary P4's participating in a range of different sports such as Dodgeball, Olympic Handball and Football.

To finish off the programme 150 Cookstown PS and Holy Trinity PS pupils took part in a fun session at Mid Ulster Sports.

February saw multisport programmes taking place at Moneymore P.S, Cookstown HS, St Joseph's College, Coalisland and Aughnacloy College.

Sports played were - Dodgeball, Olympic Handball and Uni hockey.

The programme was aimed at girls and boys aged between 9-14 years and was delivered over a period of 6 weeks.



During March EBA 2020 organised and delivered a social netball programme for women in the Dungannon Area. This programme, based at The Integrated College in Dungannon on a Tuesday night from 8.15-9.15pm has proven very popular.

Over 25 women registered for this programme with between 14-18 women attending each night. Due to its popularity, it was decided to extend the programme for a further 6 weeks. These girls have not played Netball from High School days so they are enjoying the fitness and social side to the sport.

March also saw the first Social Netball Tournament for women across the Mid Ulster Council area. Teams from Fivemiletown, Cookstown, Dungannon, Tobermore and Draperstown came to Cookstown Leisure Centre to compete against each other.

Over 60 women turned up to play in what turned out to be a great evening of netball that showed how popular netball has become at all levels. It is hoped that this will become an annual tournament that will give women and girls the opportunity to participate in physical activity in a fun environment.



Schools Swimming Gala

This is the first year that MUDC hosted a District wide Primary Schools Swimming Gala, with 62 schools (see list below) and more than 400 children taking part. The top 2 Primary schools from each gala were invited to take part in a Finals Gala at Greenvale Leisure Centre on 26 April.

Dungannon	18 schools	400 children took part across the three Gala Heats
Magherafelt	24 Schools	
Cookstown	20 Schools	

Colour Run

Sports Development and EBA 2020 hosted a Colour Run at Mid Ulster Sports Arena. Local schools were invited to send Year 8 girls to take part in the paint based event. 350 girls braved the wind rain and paint to complete the 2km fun run. This fun event encourages girls to take part in a non-competitive fun based event when statistically they are more likely to drop out of organised sport / activity.



Coach Development Program

This year's Coach Development Programme in partnership with The Performance Lab has now finished, over the last few months an extensive range of courses have been offered to local sports coaches with more than 200 volunteers attending from January - March.

Courses included Safeguarding, First Aid, Sports Science, Governing Body Coaching Qualifications, Specialist Disability training and Club Development workshops.

MUDC Disability Hub

The Hub's specialist disabled equipment including, various trikes and hand powered trikes, sports wheelchairs and specialist sporting equipment is now in operation.

Mid Ulster Sports Arena is hosting wheel chair hurling and EBA 2020 disability classes that includes boccia, sensory sessions, hand cycles and wheel chair activities.

A Road Show exhibiting the equipment and activities available is planned for May with a Fun Day scheduled for Saturday 16 June.

MUSA Parkrun

Coming up to its 5th birthday in May the MUSA Parkrun continues to be a huge success with up to 130 people from a range abilities either running, jogging or walking the 5K course each week. All participants from council C25K programmes graduate on week 9 at the MUSA Parkrun to encourage them to sustain their physical activity levels.

Health & Physical Activity Fair

Sports Development teamed up with Environmental Health to host its first ever Health & Physical Activity Fair in Cookstown Leisure Centre on Tuesday 6 February. The aim of the event was provide information to Mid Ulster citizens to enable them to take future steps to improve their health and well-being.

With a wide range of free activities on offer including spinning, tai chi, circuits, sleep clinics and health checks as well as information stands from across the spectrum of health & wellbeing the event was big success with more than 300 people attending.



Feedback was very positive and plans are already in place to build on the event for next year.

Magherafelt Junior Parkrun

March saw the first ever Junior Parkrun established in Mid Ulster taking place in Polepatrick Magherafelt. Set up by Sports Development, this free 2K timed run for 4-14 year olds takes place every Sunday morning at 9.30am and is managed by a hard working team of volunteers.

Partnership funding for the Junior Parkrun was secured from the Northern Partnership for Physical Activity.

Already the Junior Parkrun attracts more than 120 children each week.

C25K & Beyond Programme

The first C25K & Beyond Programme of the new year saw more than 250 sign up for the sessions in Gortgonis, MUSA and Meadowbank. It should be noted that there was a large increase in numbers of those attending the Gortgonis Programme this time round.

Graduation took place on Saturday 24 March at the MUSA Parkrun.



The next programme began in April with graduation planned for 16 June.

Cookstown Leisure Centre

February and March saw Lissan GAA, Father Rocks GAA and Cookstown Youth FC all take up opportunities to avail of additional or pre-season training with our instructors with options of Bootcamps, Hydro Power classes, Spinning, Circuits and Boxercise sessions to supplement their regular training.

The newly introduced “Metcon” (short for Metabolic Conditioning), has been very popular.



December 20th, 2017 was a very successful “on-line “wet enrolment with over 700 swimming lesson places on offer to the public. This generated £29,750.00 on the day, and by the commencement date of lessons.

Cookstown Leisure Centre hosted a second “Community Health and Well-being Fair” for Council staff, with this year also being open to the public. The event ran on Tuesday the 6th February, commencing at 3pm to 7pm. This event offered a wide range of information stands offered visitors helpful information and advice. The usual health check was available via the mobile health screening bus. The nurses were overwhelmed on the day, but all feedback to organisers was positive. Event this year saw a few new clinics catering for issue with sleep and pain, and again well attended. The centre provided a range of taster sessions from Tai Chi to spinning which was well attended.

Annual Cookstown Swimming gala took place on March 20th 2018, with 20 schools from the Cookstown area participating. Holy Trinity were the overall winners, with Bush and Moneymore PS runners up. Holy Trinity and Moneymore will now proceed to the regional finals on April 26th at Greenvale Leisure Centre.



Evolve Fitness

In January 2018, we held our New Year Promotion 'Make a Change' on offer is 2 months free on 12-month cash sales and a free month to new members. Existing members who take out a 3 month, 6 months or 12 month DD membership during January and the promotion was advertised on posters within the centre and on the centre Facebook page.

**NEW YEAR NEW YOU
MAKE A CHANGE**

SPEAK TO AN INSTRUCTOR TODAY

Exclusions, T & C's apply

Make a Change during January and evolve FITNESS will give you
2 MONTHS FREE MEMBERSHIP

evolve
FITNESS

**"DON'T EXPECT TO SEE A CHANGE
IF YOU DON'T MAKE ONE"**

To help motivate users a Stepper Challenge was held during January 2018 whereby members had to climb 4km over a 4 week period. Thirty- nine people entered and 29 completed the challenge within the period.

evolve
FITNESS

STEPPER CHALLENGE

**Climb 4km during the Month
of January**

Can you rise to the challenge?

02/01/18 – 31/01/18

Everyone who completes the challenge will receive a
A FREE MONTHLY TOTAL BODY FITNESS MEMBERSHIP*

**1 Month Free
Membership
for all
participants***

For February, we held a promotion over Valentines weekend and again during March we held a promotion over St Patrick's weekend in that if you joined on those weekends you got a free month. The return on these was not as expected therefore may decide not to run them again next year as a result.



Our final challenge of the year was held in March whereby members had to row 100km over a 4 week period. Twenty- three entered, with 12 completing the challenge.



These promotions have assisted with the good start to the year with 26 new members signing up 46 new members over the first three months of 2018.

The “Physical Activity Programme” has taken off with currently 90 and clients, either at the initial 12 weeks’ stage by the “phase three practitioners (Cardiac), local GP’s, and Charis (Cancer) or re-referred by their local GP’s.

Cookstown Leisure Centre ran a three-day scheme over the Easter week holidays (6th -8th April). The daily attendance was on average 150 children per day. The scheme offered the usual daily activities and an Easter hunter in the soft play area, which proved very popular with the children. Refresh offered a breakfast club in conjunction with an early drop off “Arts and Crafts”, although number were not great.

The scheme offered great value at £8.00 for a full day of supervised activities and is something to build on for next year.

On Saturday 31st March, we hosted a Baby & Child Market, which was well attended by both buyers and people selling. Thirty-six vendors hired tables to offer a range of products to potential customers from prams, baby clothes and other baby accessories.

The organiser was charged a commercial rate for the venture and has provisionally booked a second event later in the year.

MUSA

Outdoor Pitches

The grass and synthetic pitches continue to be in demand for bookings by soccer; rugby and GAA Clubs as well as schools during January to March there were large number schools matches, blitzes and tournaments. The conversion of Pitch 4 to a multi-use pitch, has allowed us to facilitate pitch rest for Pitch 2, with the school bookings during daytime hours using pitch 4 and reserving Pitch 2 for floodlit evening matches.

Most of the outdoor pitches were closed for almost a week during mid-January due to snow and frost and again for a few days in early February. The winter verti-draining paid dividend, and praise to Gerard Glackin must be made as the grass pitches over the early weeks with minimal disruption. A senior schools Gaelic tournament took place on 12th of March, following a heavy frost and snow the previous night and all parties praised the condition of grass field.

The IFA Elite Performance Centre, National League and Mid Ulster League 9 aside and 11 aside leagues continue weekly.

January saw a new initiative with a new morning Couch to 5k in the mornings. Organiser targeting mothers dropping of children at school, and then looking for an early morning workout. The pilot was very successfully with 25 to 30 participants weekly. The organisers are planning a second course at the end of April.

Indoor Pitches

The indoor pitches continue to be popular and especially during the colder period with club bookings and birthday parties from January to March.

Acorns Cross Country

The annual Acorns Athletic Cross Country was held on 13 January 2018 with approximately 200 participants in this event. Due to poor weather conditions leading up to the event, the area utilised on the site sustain more damage than usual.



Ulster GAA College Finals

Several Ulster GAA college cup finals were held at MUSA including the Oisín McGrath Memorial finals.

NI School Boys and NI School Girls Soccer Finals

A few NI School boys' and girls' quarter and semifinals were held on the synthetic soccer pitch during February and March.

Ulster Rugby

Ulster Rugby U14, 16 and 18s Ulster Youth Plate, Bowl and Shield Finals were held in March and continued into April.



Ulster Wheel Chair Hurling

Regular training sessions are currently being held on the indoor court, for Ulster Wheel Chair Hurling Initiative sessions.

SVP races

SVP held 5mile and 10 mile charity run in February with over 150 participants.



Tyrone Super Cup

The Tyrone Junior and Senior cup trials and selected squad training has commenced at MUSA.

Cumann na Bunscoil

The Tyrone indoor regional football finals for Primary Schools were held in March.



Block Bookings

The new block bookings commenced on the first week of January and continue until the end of April, with a very high demand for outdoor and indoor facilities

Bookings received by Gaelic Clubs for their youth/Senior teams to use the indoor/outdoor facilities from January to March (with some continuing through April) were at a record high for this year.

The new block booking has been advertised and will run from Monday 30 April to Sunday 2 September 2018.

EVENTS/BOOKINGS DURING THIS TIME

- Parkrun continues every Saturday morning at 9.30am (100+ participants weekly)
- Mid Ulster Youth League 9 aside and 11 aside matches each Saturday
- National League matches on Pitch 1
- Couch to 5K Programme on Tuesday and Thursday evenings with 150 register participants for this course
- IFA GRDO Small Sided games centre
- CYFC Development Centre – 200+ children
- Usage of the Trim Trail by walkers and runners remains steady especially during the day. Estimated numbers using this facility in the region of 100 per day.
- Ulster Colleges Matches and Tournaments
- Ulster Camogie Weekly Blitzes
- Tyrone Hurling Centre of Excellence
- Ulster Ladies GAA Trials
- Ulster Camogie All Star Trials
- Cookstown Hockey Club – indoor hockey
- IFA Girls
- IFA Futsal
- Tyrone GAA and Hurling under 21s and seniors
- Eater Camps
- Birthday Parties

FUTURE EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

- Ulster Rugby U14, 16 and 18s Ulster Youth Plate, Bowl and Shield Finals
- 22nd and 29th April and 6th May
- Park Run – still taking place every Saturday morning
- Streets League Competition
- Sports Development Fun Day
- IFA National Football League youth finals 7 and 12 May 2018
- Preparations are underway for Fireworks Display 28 October 2018
- Summer Sports Camps

Dungannon Leisure Centre

Dry Activity Classes and Courses

January was a very busy month as customers keep their New Year's resolutions. Fitness classes continue to be very popular an extra spin classes added to the programme to meet demand.

Yoga and Pilates have also grown in popularity and have booked out.

Wet Activity Classes and Courses

Swimming Lessons

The School of Aquatics swimming programme was fully subscribed.

January – March 2018 1-1 lessons were also popular with over 500 classes sold.

Aqua Fit classes remain a popular activity with classes sold out.

Masters Swimming also attracts large numbers of participants at the three classes provided per week.

School swimming programme this comprehensive swimming programme provided to local schools.

Rookie Lifeguard_young swimmers are given the opportunity to learn basic skills of water safety and some rescue techniques during lively interactive classes.

Ladies Night takes place every Monday night this club provides women with the opportunity to swim in a female only environment.

Swimmer Development Class has gone from strength to strength this quarter and regularly attracts over twenty swimmers. Young people attending these classes are up early every Saturday morning to travel from as far away as Strabane, Portadown, Omagh, Cookstown and Armagh.

Fitness Suite

During January, February and March customers were given the opportunity to challenge themselves by meeting targets set by the Fitness Instructors on the treadmill, cross trainer and rowing machine. The incentive was well received and encouraged more interaction between customers they challenged each other as well as themselves. Staff are currently preparing the next challenge.

Teen fitness is available for 13-16 year old and popular after school activity as young people come in small groups to use the facility.

January to March has seen an increase of disability users both in group and individual use.

Clubs

A wide variety of clubs and classes use the centre for training and practice. These include, Ren Bu Ken Judo Club, Kobra Kai Karate Club, Tae Kwon Do Club, 50+ Club, Special Olympics, Irish Dancing and Oksana's Dance Academy.

Tyrone Towers Basketball play their home games in the centre and train their various adult and junior teams here too.

Men's Health

Men's Health club takes place on Wednesday's and those who attend continue to enjoy the activities available.

In addition, Dungannon Leisure Centre hosted two swimming galas, the SELB Music event and Dungannon Feis. All events were well attended.



An audience of over 900 waiting in anticipation for Dungannon Feis to start.

Greenvale Leisure Centre

Group Swimming Lessons

The 'Learn to Swim' programme at Greenvale continues to attract a large volume of children (aged 3.5-12yo) to the Centre for weekly swimming lessons. The recently launched Spring term of lessons attracted over 1175 participants, representing the largest enrolment since the Centre reopened in 2012.

Additionally, private swimming lessons continue to run at full capacity, with over 150 sessions booked per week.

School Gala 28th February

Greenvale welcomed participants from 25 local schools to the inaugural Schools Gala (organised in partnership with Sports Development). The event was a huge hit, with a Grand Final, featuring schools from Cookstown, Dungannon and Magherafelt due to be held at the Centre on Thursday 26th April 2018.



Kids Fitness Classes

Greenvale recently launched two pilot children's Activity classes, with a view to offering an extensive kids fitness programme from September, includes a 'Strength Academy' for 12-15yo's and Kids Bootcamp for 8-14yo's. Both programmes have

launched very successfully with the 12-week Strength Academy fully booked, and weekly Bootcamp classes catering for over 40 children per week.

50+ Group Birthday

The weekly 50+ group at Greenvale recently celebrated its second birthday. The programme, designed to provide a wide range of fitness and social activities for users over the age of 50yo, continues to grow and has benefited from recently added walking, jive, and aqua aerobics sessions.

In order to celebrate the landmark, a small event was held for participants at Greenvale in April:



Easter Scheme

The Easter Camp ran on 4-6th April, and was again over-subscribed. Around 120 children, aged between 4-12yo attended the scheme each day, taking part in a wide range of activities, including sports, swimming, soft play and a variety of Easter themed games.

Autism Friendly Soft Play Sessions

Following the successful participation in World Autism Awareness Day, Greenvale launched weekly Autism friendly session within the soft play area, every Sunday 10.00-12.00noon. The sessions, which commenced in February, provide a quiet sanctuary for children with Special needs and allow a social space for parents to meet. The sessions have been utilised by several local families, with extremely positive feedback received to date

Network Personnel Job Fair

Greenvale was delighted to host Network Personnel's Job Fair at the Centre on Friday 2nd January. Attracting over 50 local businesses, and hundreds of jobseekers to the Centre:



Meadowbank Sports Arena

Winter Programme

The Arena, Pavilion, 3G Pitches and Outdoor Track at Meadowbank have been well booked and heavily used over the Winter period (Jan – Mar). The weekly programme is as follows (Not including Casual and Block Bookings):

Mondays

- MUDC 'Couch 2 5K' - Track 6.30 - 7.30pm
- Pregnancy and Post Natal Yoga – Pavilion 6.30 - 8pm
- Magherafelt Reds & Sofia Farmer FC – 3G 7 – 8pm
- Tafelta Running Club – Track 7.30 – 8.30pm
- Drum Majoring – Maxi 1 7- 8pm
- Ulster Rugby - U 16 & U18s 3G 6 - 9pm
- Tobermore Youth Soccer - Maxi 1 & 2 7 – 8pm

Tuesdays

- Secondary Schools Hockey U13's & 15's – Indoor Pitch 7 – 9pm
- RSP Fitness – Bootcamp – Top Floor 7 – 9pm
- Sky Blues 2006 & 2010 – 3G Soccer 7 – 8pm
- Mid Ulster Athletic Club – Primary & Secondary Schools 7 - 9pm
- Karate Club – Café Area 7- 9pm
- ROB RFC Senior Training – 3G Rugby 7 – 9pm
- Sky Blues Senior Training – 3G Soccer 8 – 10pm
- Rossa U14's - Gaelic 3G 8 – 9pm

Wednesdays

- Buggy Fit – Outdoor Track/Gym 11 – 1pm
- Sky Blues 2011 – Mini Pitch 6 – 7pm
- Sky Blues 2004 – 3G Soccer 6 – 7pm
- Sky Blues 2007 – 3G Rugby 6 - 7pm
- Pregnancy & Post Natal Yoga – Pavilion Hall 6.30 – 8pm
- MUDC 'Couch 2 5K' – Track 6.30 - 7.30pm
- Sky Blues 2009 – Maxi Pitch 7 – 8pm
- Magherafelt Reds & Sofia Farmer FC – 3G Soccer 7 – 8pm
- Acorns AC Training – Track 7.30 – 8.30pm
- Soccer Sixes – 3G Soccer 8 – 10pm
- Magherafelt Marvels - Maxi Pitch 7 – 8pm

Thursdays

- ROB Youth Rugby Training – 3G Gaelic Pitch 6 – 7pm
- St Colmcille Girl Guides – Café Area 6.30 – 8pm
- ROB RFC Senior Training – 3G Rugby 7 – 9pm
- Sky Blues 2008 – 3G Soccer 7 – 8pm
- Sofia Farmer FC – 3G Soccer 7 – 8pm
- Mid Ulster Athletics Club Secondary School age group – Track 7 – 9pm
- Sky Blues Senior Training – 3G Soccer 8 – 10pm
- Yoga – Pavilion 7 - 8.30pm

Fridays

- Primary Schools Hockey – Hockey Pitch 4 – 5pm
- Sky Blues 2004 – Mini Pitch 6 – 7pm
- ROB Mini Rugby – 3G Rugby 6 – 8pm
- Tennis Club – Maxi Pitch – 7 – 9pm
- Derry GAA Underage Gaelic – 2 x Maxi Pitch – 7 – 10pm

Saturdays

- Sky Blues Minis – 2 x Mini Pitch 10 – 11am
- Yoga – Pavilion 10.30 – 12pm
- Mother and Toddler Group – Pavilion 10.30 – 11.30am
- Mary Hill Ballet School – Pavilion 3.30 – 6.30pm

Sundays

- NI School Boys Soccer – 3G Soccer 10am – 12pm
- Rossa Ladies – 3G Soccer 12 – 1pm
- Rossa Underage Gaelic – 2 x Maxi Pitch & 2 x Mini Pitch 12 - 1pm
- Castledawson GAC Underage Gaelic – Maxi Pitch 11 - 12pm

Special Events

- Ulster GAA Schools Gaelic Blitz Mon 15th Jan – 40 Pupils
- Primary School Sports Hall Athletics Thu 18th Jan – 300 Pupils
- Ulster GAA Underage Gaelic Blitz Sat 20th Jan – 50 Kids
- Ulster GAA Schools Gaelic Blitz Tue 23rd Jan – 200 Pupils
- Ulster GAA Underage Gaelic Blitz Sat 27th Jan – 80 Kids
- Ulster GAA Schools Gaelic Blitz Tue 30th Jan – 150 Pupils
- Primary Schools Sports Hall Athletics Thu 1st Feb – 300 Pupils
- Ulster GAA Underage Hurling Blitz Sat 3rd Feb – 165 Kids
- Ulster GAA Schools Gaelic Blitz Tue 6th Feb – 200 Pupils
- Ulster GAA Schools Hurling/Camogie Blitz Thu 8th Feb – 130 Pupils
- Ulster GAA Underage Gaelic Blitz Sat 10th Feb – 150 Kids
- Ulster Hockey Camp Thu & Fri 15th & 16th Feb – 35 Kids each day
- Ulster GAA Underage Hurling Blitz Sat 17th Feb – 130 Kids
- Ulster GAA Underage Gaelic Blitz Sat 24th Feb – 100 Kids
- Ulster GAA Underage Camogie Blitz Sun 25th Feb – 317 Kids
- St Marys Grammar School Gaelic Blitz Wed 28th Feb – 150 Pupils
- Derry GAA Underage Hurling Blitz Sun 4th Mar – 80 Kids
- Magherafelt High School Soccer Tournament Wed 7th Mar – 80 Kids
- Cuchulainn Cup Project Gaelic Games Wed 14th Mar – 200 Kids
- Sky Blues Soccer Tournament Sun 18th Mar – 200 Kids
- Ulster GAA Underage Hurling Blitz Wed 21st Mar – 200 Kids
- Ulster GAA Schools Gaelic Blitz Thu 22nd Mar – 250 Pupils
- Secondary Schools Sports Hall Athletics Thu 22nd Mar – 200 Pupils
- Ulster GAA Underage Hurling Blitz Sat 31st Mar – 200 Kids

There were 47 Birthday Parties took place between Jan – March
10 Schools took part in the Fit For Life Programme.





Maghera Leisure Centre Jan, Feb March 2018

Prize winners from Maghera Leisure Centre's Christmas promotion.



- Carn Glen Credit Union Quiz 26th January
- Karate Grading 20th March 5pm-9pm
- Easter Bootcamp



Memberships sold

The Centre remains very busy with £20/month membership selling especially well. Birthday parties are also very busy.

Centre Based Classes and Activities Jan, Feb & March.

Daily Morning session classes 10am – 11am.

- Mon -Core Stability.
- Tues – Spin.
- Wed - Circuit Training.
- Thurs - BLT Blitz.
- Fri Circuit Training.
- Early morning boot camp 6.30am – 7.15am Wed & Fri.
- Adult Centre Tuesday and Thursday.

Evening Classes

- Circuit Training Mon & Thurs.
- Kettlebells Tuesday & Thursday.
- Gymnastics Tues, Wed & Fri.
- Stomach Shred Wed.
- Senior Citizen Club Wed 2pm – 4pm.
- Fit Kids Session Mon & Thurs.
- Spinning Classes Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri & Sat.
- Sunday boot camp & Spinning class.
- Delivery of GP Referral Programme.

Out Door Pitches

- 14 bookings, a lot cancelled due to bad weather.

Clubs at Maghera Leisure Centre Jan, Feb, March 2018

- Ju Jitsu Mon – 7pm – 9.30pm & Sat 10am – 1pm.
- Leo Maguire Taekwondo Club, Main Hall Thursdays 5pm – 6 Karate Friday night.
- Floral Art.
- Womens Institute.
- Gardening Group.
- Culnady Girls Brigade
- Carn Wheelers
- Club Oige Luraigh.

Tobermore Golf Centre Jan, Feb & March 2018

January

Golf Camp 2nd & 3rd Jan 10am-2.30pm

Junior Coaching 13th Jan for 6 weeks 1.30pm-6pm. These junior coaching sessions focus on improving the young golfers' technical skills, preparing them for the next incoming golfing season.



- Lessons Trackman/ Standard 22
- Kilrea Ladies Branch.
- Moyola Junior Panel
- Sat junior Coaching.
- Killymoon Juniors.

February

Improver Course Thurs 1st Feb For 6 weeks 7pm-9pm

- Lessons Trackman/ Standard 23
- Moyola Junior Panel
- Sat junior Coaching.
- Killymoon Juniors.

March

Junior Coaching Sat 7th 1.30pm-6pm for 8 weeks

- Lessons Trackman/ Standard 23
- Sat junior Coaching
- Killymoon Juniors.
- Moyola Junior

Report on	Mid Ulster Bird Ringing Project
Date of Meeting	14 June 2018
Reporting Officer	Head of Parks
Contact Officer	Mark Edgar - Biodiversity Officer

Is this report restricted for confidential business?	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	x

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To inform and update Members of a planned activity promoting community participation in conserving and enhancing the local biodiversity resource of Mid Ulster District.
2.0	Background
2.1	As part of the Mid Ulster Biodiversity Action Plan, the Biodiversity Officer has been developing a Mid Ulster Bird Ringing Project in partnership with licenced ringers and interested individuals.
2.2	During 2015 and 2016 a number of ringing training days were held throughout the Mid Ulster area. Following an assessment of this, it became apparent that one of the best ringing sites in the area (and on a par with any in Northern Ireland) is at Traad. It was decided to undertake a concerted effort during 2017, and to run the site as a trial Constant Effort Site (CES). The CES is a national standardized ringing program where ringers operate the same mist nets in the same locations within the same site over the same time period at each session over the breeding season. There are 12 sessions undertaken, one within each of the 10 day windows specified by the BTO. There are currently over 140 CES sites throughout Britain and Ireland, but only 1 other CES site in Northern Ireland. Traad has now become registered as the second
2.3	Traad 2018 Constant Effort Site has (despite the weather) got off to a good start. Two of the 12 visits have been completed and some interesting birds have turned up. A sedge warbler originally ringed in France in 2015, which had been caught at Traad in 2016, and 2017 was retrapped again in 2018. Sedge warblers migrate, spending the winter in western and southern Africa. This bird has been to Africa (three times), returning to Lough Neagh, and was caught in the exact same net on each of the 3 years. One of our own reed warblers first ringed as an adult in 2015 has also been retrapped in 2018. Several birds ringed at Traad have been caught in France and southern England.
2.4	While recoveries of birds in or from other countries creates excitement, the value of the information obtained from Traad's own birds is important in understanding local population dynamics. The numbers of sedge warblers and particularly reed warblers being ringed at the site is significant on a Northern Ireland scale. Ringing records for Northern Ireland for sedge warblers show: 32 ringed in 2014; 9 in 2015; 57 in 2016 (17 of which were from

	Traad), and 144 ringed at Traad in 2017. The importance of the site for information on reed warblers is even more significant with no reed warblers ringed in Northern Ireland in either 2014 or 2015, and only 17 ringed in 2016 (16 of which were from Traad). In 2017, 29 reed warblers were ringed at Traad. (Totals for NI for 2017 are not available yet).
3.0	Main Report
3.1	The success of the Traad Bird Ringing Project relies on the good will of licenced ringers and volunteers giving their time and effort to ensure each ringing session can be undertaken. In addition to the vital data on birds being obtained, the training opportunities being provided have been recognised. As well as local people becoming involved and starting the training process, trainees from over Northern Ireland (Belfast, Ballymena, Ballynahinch, Carrickfergus, Warrenpoint, Portadown, etc.) have attended ringing sessions to 'experience Traad'.
3.2	During 2017, one of the ringing sessions in mid-July resulted in a large number of sedge warblers ringed. It is thought these warblers were gathering around and passing through Lough Neagh to feed up before migration to Senegal. If more sedge warblers (or any migrating bird) can be ringed, there is more chance they will be reported from England, France, Spain, Morocco, etc. giving us a better picture of the migration routes of Lough Neagh birds.
3.3	To try to maximise on this 'flush' of birds, it is proposed to have a camp at Traad to enable ringers travelling to be on site late into the evening and for an early morning start. It is anticipated that this may result in a maximum of 4 or 5 tents, with 7 or 8 people staying on site overnight. Other ringers will travel to the site each day to join those camping. Suggested dates for this would be two or three nights of the week commencing 16 th July. This will hopefully coincide with the much larger number of warblers passing through the site.
3.4	The ringer in charge of the camp is experienced in running such events, and has Public Liability Insurance. This includes cover for camps.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: No cost to Parks budget.
	Human: Officer time (Biodiversity Officer)
	Risk Management: Risk assessments will be conducted as part of event plan.
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications:
	The project is open to residents, groups and individuals throughout the district.
	Rural Needs Implications: N/A

5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Members are asked to note the content of this report.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Traad Bird Ringing Report 2017-18 Appendix 1

Mid Ulster Bird Ringing Project

Background to Bird Ringing

Bird ringing is essential to the development of both bird science and bird conservation. The rings carry a unique number turning anonymous birds into recognisable individuals, identifiable for the rest of their lives. In addition to being the mainstay of migration studies worldwide, ring-recoveries are used to estimate annual survival rates of birds. Moreover, the biometrics collected when birds are handled provide valuable insight into other aspects of bird biology, such as breeding and moult, body weights, age and sex ratios, and even the incidence of disease.

Ringing data have shown their value in recent decades, when many bird populations declined and some species have also changed their migration patterns. If we are to detect and understand these changes, and take effective conservation measures, we need appropriate data. The most recent British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) studies combine data from ringing, nest records and counting schemes to produce demographic models of bird populations that give unprecedented detail on large-scale population dynamics. Understanding what is happening to our bird species will help direct efforts in bird conservation.



Mid Ulster Bird Ringing Project

One of the objectives of the Mid Ulster Biodiversity Action Plan is to engage local people in action for our local biodiversity. One aspect of this is to encourage the observation and recording of our local species. Previous training projects have been well supported with local people now taking part and gathering vital information through a range of surveys for bats, butterflies, moths, etc.



Bird ringing provides vital information that cannot be obtained from bird observations alone. However, bird ringing is highly regulated and can only be carried out by skilled licensed ringers with the utmost consideration for the birds' welfare. Learning as an 'apprentice' under the close supervision of experienced ringers, progress is assessed by an independent ringer so the Ringing Scheme maintains very high standards of bird welfare and scientific data. A British Trust for Ornithology ringing permit is a legal requirement for anyone ringing birds. It has to be renewed annually.

Within Northern Ireland there are a few licensed bird ringers, however, few operate 'West of the Bann'. Consequently, there is a lack of data on bird species in the Mid Ulster area that could be obtained through ringing. This information would be particularly beneficial in shaping future conservation work both through and outside the Mid Ulster Biodiversity Action Plan.

To address this situation the “Mid Ulster Bird Ringing Project” is being developed in partnership with trained licensed bird ringers. The objective of the project is to bring together people interested in becoming a licensed ringer, and to provide training opportunities to enable them to do so. Through this, vital data will be obtained on a range of bird species frequenting the Mid Ulster area.

The outcome of the project will be to have a number of trained bird ringers operating in the Mid Ulster area, gathering vital information that will be of use at local, national and even international levels.

Traad – Constant Effort Site

During 2015 and 2016 a number of ringing training days were held throughout the Mid Ulster area. Following an assessment of this, it became apparent that one of the best ringing sites in the area (and on a par with any in Northern Ireland) is at Traad. It was decided to undertake a concerted effort during 2017, and to run the site as a trial Constant Effort Site (CES). The CES is a national standardized ringing program where ringers operate the same mist nets in the same locations within the same site over the same time period at each session over the breeding season. There are 12 sessions undertaken, one within each of the 10 day windows specified by the BTO. There are currently over 140 CES sites throughout Britain and Ireland, but only 1 other CES site in Northern Ireland. Traad is now registered as the second.



Between the beginning of May and the end of August 2017, all 12 sessions within the CES windows were completed at Traad. These sessions resulted in 357 new birds ringed and 75 retraps (birds already with a ring). Some of the highlights from this are that a sedge warbler originally ringed in France in 2015, which had been caught at Traad in 2016, was retrapped again in 2017. Sedge warblers migrate, spending the winter in western and southern Africa. This bird has been to Africa (twice), returning to Lough Neagh, and was caught in 2017 within 10 metres of where it had been caught in 2016. Another sedge warbler ringed in Spain on 11th April 2017, turned up at Traad on May 2nd 2017, having travelled at least 1,968km in 21 days. Several birds ringed at Traad have been caught in France and southern England.



While recoveries of birds in or from other countries creates excitement, the value of the information obtained from Traad's own birds is important in understanding local population dynamics. The numbers of sedge warblers and particularly reed warblers being ringed at the site is significant on a Northern Ireland scale. Ringing records for Northern Ireland for sedge warblers show: 32 ringed in 2014; 9 in 2015; 57 in 2016 (17 of which were from Traad), and 144 ringed at Traad in 2017. The importance of the site for information on reed warblers is even more significant with no reed warblers ringed in Northern Ireland in either

2014 or 2015, and only 17 ringed in 2016 (16 of which were from Traad). In 2017, 29 reed warblers were ringed at Traad. (Totals for NI for 2017 are not available yet).

Traad – The Future

In addition to the vital data on birds being obtained through the Mid Ulster Bird Ringing Project, the training opportunities being provided have been recognised. As well as local people becoming involved and starting the training process, trainees from over Northern Ireland (Belfast, Ballymena, Ballynahinch, Warrenpoint, Portadown, etc.) have attended ringing sessions to ‘experience Traad’.



As bird ringing is highly regulated and can only be undertaken with trained licenced ringers present, the project has been relying on the good will of licenced ringers volunteering their time and effort to ensure each ringing session can be undertaken.

Realizing the importance of the site for the data collected, it is hoped that licenced ringers, trainees, and volunteers can be talked in to helping out again to ensure 2018 is another successful year.

Traad 2018 - quick update

The first two CES sessions of 2018 were undertaken on 12th and 20th May.

The ‘celebrity’ French ringed sedge warbler has turned up again (at both sessions).

Another sedge warbler with one of our own rings, first ringed in July 2015 at Traad (as an adult) is also back for another year.

Both these birds have made it to Senegal and back 3 times for the ‘French’ bird and at least 4 for our own adult from 2015, and turned up in the exact same place.

One of our own reed warblers ringed as an adult in 2016 has also made it back for 2018, again having migrated to Africa and back at least 3 times.

