



**PUBLIC PARKS AND PLAY FIVE YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN**

**2020 - 2025**

October 2019

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

ACRONYMS .....	6
FOREWORD .....	7
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY .....	8
1. BACKGROUND .....	20
1.1. Introduction .....	20
1.2. Aim .....	21
1.3. Objectives.....	21
2. SCOPE .....	22
2.1. Project Area .....	22
3. CONTEXT .....	24
4. METHODOLOGY .....	39
5. CONSULTATION RESULTS.....	41
5.1. Public Meetings.....	41
5.2. Public Survey.....	42
6. PLAY: DEFINITION, BEST PRACTICE, TRENDS AND BENEFITS .....	49
6.1. Play Defined .....	49
6.2. Best Practice - Play .....	50
6.2.1. Determining Fixed Play Sites.....	50
6.2.2. Designing Fixed Play and Play Value .....	50
6.2.3. Risk and Challenge .....	52
6.3. Trends - Play.....	53
6.3.1. Older Children/ Teenagers.....	53
6.3.2. Inclusive Play.....	53
6.4. Best Practice - Parks.....	56
6.4.1. Green Flag Award.....	56
6.4.2. Blue Flag Award .....	56
6.5. Benefits - Parks and Play.....	57
6.5.1. Community Cohesion and Social inclusion .....	57
6.5.2. The Economic Value of Public Space.....	58
6.5.3. Value for Biodiversity and Nature.....	58
6.5.4. Health and Well Being.....	58
7. Current Provision .....	61
7.1. Parks and Play Areas .....	61
7.2. Quality of Play Provision .....	72

8.	Planning.....	74
8.1.	Policy Statement 7 (PPS7) .....	74
8.2.	Policy Statement 8 (PPS8) .....	74
8.3.	Local Development Plan 2030 Draft Plan Strategy – OS1 Protection of Open Space.....	74
8.4.	Local Development Plan 2030 Draft Plan Strategy – Social Policies.....	75
9.	Future Park and Play Provision .....	76
9.1.	Activity Hubs .....	76
9.2.	Parks Development.....	81
9.3.	Bespoke Woodland Parks .....	81
9.4.	Dungannon.....	87
9.5.	Cookstown .....	92
9.6.	Magherafelt .....	99
9.7.	Carntogher .....	103
9.8.	Moyola .....	107
9.9.	Torrent .....	111
9.10.	Clogher Valley .....	115
10.	Case Studies .....	119
10.1.	Nature Play at Tollymore and Castlewellan .....	119
10.2.	Diversity Park at Flowerfields – Portstewart .....	121
10.3.	National Trust – Mount Stewart .....	123
10.4.	National Trust – Bishops Play Trail.....	125
11.	Funding .....	128
11.1.	Big Lottery .....	128
11.2.	Heritage Lottery Fund .....	128
11.2.1.	Our Heritage.....	128
11.2.2.	Parks and Places.....	129
11.3.	Rural Development Programme (2014-2020).....	129
11.3.1.	Heritage Grants .....	129
11.3.2.	Basic Services Scheme.....	129
11.3.3.	Village Renewal Scheme Summary .....	130
12.	Revenue Resourcing.....	131
13.	Recommendations .....	132
13.1.	Strategic .....	132
13.2.	Product Development:.....	134
	APPENDIX 1 .....	142

APPENDIX 2 .....	145
APPENDIX 3 .....	146
APPENDIX 4 .....	147
APPENDIX 5 .....	217
APPENDIX 5.....	214

## TABLE OF FIGURES

Figure 1 Mid Ulster DEA Boundaries.....	23
Figure 2 Current Play Provision in Mid Ulster.....	64
Figure 3 Play Park Classifications .....	65
Figure 4 Population of Mid Ulster Under 15 Years .....	66
Figure 5 Population Under 15 Years and Play Provision Locations.....	67
Figure 6 Population Under 15 Years, Play Provision Locations and Household Pointer Data .....	68
Figure 7 Current Public Parks.....	69
Figure 8 Open/Green Space Locations in Mid Ulster.....	70
Figure 9 Play Provision and Open/Green Space Locations .....	71
Figure 10 Play Park Quality Audit Scores .....	73
Figure 11 Location of special Schools Relative to Public Park/Play Park Facilities .....	78
Figure 12 Mid Ulster Potential Play Hub Provision .....	80
Figure 13 Potential Public Park Development .....	85
Figure 14 Mid Ulster Potential Woodland Play Provision.....	86
Figure 15 Dungannon DEA Overview.....	88
Figure 16 Cookstown DEA Overview.....	94
Figure 17 Magherafelt DEA Overview.....	100
Figure 18 Carrnaghy DEA Overview .....	104
Figure 19 Moyola DEA Overview .....	108
Figure 20 Torridge DEA Overview .....	112
Figure 21 Clogher Valley DEA Overview .....	116
Figure 22 Animal Wood at Castlewellan Forest Park.....	120
Figure 23 'Big Deer' at Tollymore Forest Park.....	120
Figure 25 Sensory Apparatus at Flowerfields .....	122
Figure 24 Play Equipment at Flowerfields .....	122
Figure 26 Wooden character Carvings from the 'Magic Ink Pot' .....	124
Figure 27 Balance Beams and Wood Carvings at Mount Stewart .....	124
Figure 28 Upright Trees and Story Chair From The 'Magic Ink Pot' at Mount Stewart.....	125
Figure 29 Natural Signage at Bishops Play Trail.....	126
Figure 30 Balance Beams at Bishops Play Trail .....	126
Figure 31 Natural Carvings at Bishops Play Trail.....	127
Figure 32 Natural Climbing Structures at Bishops Play Trail.....	127
Table 1 Consultation Methods Used During the Preparation of the Strategy.....	40
Table 2 Response Themes and Verbatim Responses.....	46



Table 3 Walking Time and Straight Line Distances from the Home to Fixed Play Provision .....	50
Table 4 Examples of the Benefits of Play Provision .....	59
Table 5 Number of Public Parks/Play Parks by DEA.....	61
Table 6 Park Sites in Mid Ulster .....	61
Table 7 Nature of Play Facility and Distance From the Home .....	62
Table 8 Open/Green Space Sites.....	63
Table 9 Overview Of Quality Audit .....	72
Table 10 Play Hub Matrix.....	79
Table 11 Proposed Public Park Location.....	83
Table 12 Bespoke Woodland Play Locations .....	84
Table 13 Dungannon Public Park/Play Park Recommendations.....	90
Table 14 Dungannon Open/Green Space and Recommendations .....	91
Table 15 Dungannon Potential New Play Location Recommendations .....	91
Table 16 Dungannon Proposed RDP Park Sites .....	91
Table 17 Dungannon Indicative Costs.....	91
Table 18 Cookstown Public Park/Play Park Recommendations .....	97
Table 19 Significant and Small Bespoke Woodland Play Recommendations .....	98
Table 20 Cookstown Proposed RDP Park Sites .....	98
Table 21 Cookstown Indicative Costs .....	98
Table 22 Magherafelt Public Park/Play Park Recommendations .....	101
Table 23 Magherafelt Open/Green Space and Recommendations.....	101
Table 24 Magherafelt Small Bespoke Woodland Play Recommendations.....	102
Table 25 Magherafelt RDP Sites.....	102
Table 26 Magherafelt Indicative Costs.....	102
Table 27 Carntogher Public Park/Play Park Recommendations .....	106
Table 28 Carntogher Open/Green Space and Recommendations.....	106
Table 29 Carntogher Significant and Small Bespoke Woodland Play Recommendations.....	106
Table 30 Carntogher Indicative Costs .....	106
Table 31 Moyola Public Park/Play Park Recommendation.....	110
Table 32 Moyola Open/Green Space and Recommendations.....	110
Table 33 Moyola Significant and Small Bespoke Woodland Play Recommendations.....	110
Table 34 Moyola Indicative Costs .....	110
Table 35 Torrent Public Park/Play Park Recommendations .....	114
Table 36 Torrent Open/Green Space and Recommendations.....	114
Table 37 Torrent Small Bespoke Woodland Play Recommendations.....	114
Table 38 Torrent Indicative Costs .....	114
Table 39 Clogher Valley Public Park/Play Park Recommendations .....	118
Table 40 Clogher Valley Significant and Small Bespoke Woodland Play Recommendations .....	118
Table 41 Clogher Valley Indicative Costs .....	118
Table 42 Play Provision Classification .....	144

## 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 2020-2025 within the Mid Ulster District Council area.

Mid Ulster District Council covers an area of some 1714 km<sup>2</sup>, 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 and projected within a five year programme. (Development programmes and time scales may vary subject to available funding streams).

- **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. Council have a £1m capital development proposal for Railway Park, deliverable within the strategy period subject to funding. Development of Public Parks would be subject to sourcing funding and projected as a five year plus programme. (Development programmes and time scales may vary subject to available funding streams).
- **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, Traad Point and Drumcairne Forest. The Significant Woodland Play sites identified include: Derrynoyd Forest, Parkanaur Forest, Pomeroy Forest, Drum Manor Forest and Drumlamph Forest. Development of Woodland Play would be subject to sourcing funding and projected as a five year plus programme. (Development programmes and time scales may vary subject to available funding streams).
- **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.
- Planning – In line with Council's Local Development Plan 2030 – Draft Plan Strategy, Council seek to protect existing areas of open space and encourage the provision of new open space. This will be achieved by identifying important parcels of open space to be protected, zoning of new open space and by formulating policy to require open space to be provided by the developer in new housing developments. In addition, Council recognise the benefits of dual use of open spaces and are working with the Education Authority to share sports pitches. Council are also working with NIHE to facilitate children's play provision on land under their control. 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 should take account of the Regional Development Strategy, SPSS 7 and 8 and the Local Development Plan 2030 Draft Plan Strategy.
- Manned/Staff provision – Park sites that have a staffing element are proven to suffer reduced levels of anti-social behaviour and vandalism. While not immediate, suggested staff requirements have been correlated as an indicator 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 total spend of £1,250,000. The Rural Development Programme (RDP) will contribute an additional £1,103,839 of play improvements during the period of the strategy with Peace money funding an Eco-Park in

Aughnacloy and improvements for Moykeeran/Planter Park and Castledawson totalling £300,000. A projected expenditure of £2,653,839 has been identified for projects to the end of 2025. This programme aims to enhance the public park and play provision across Mid Ulster. 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 9 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
<b>RDP Funded</b>				
	Clogher Valley	Augher	RDP	£38,103
	Clogher Valley	Ballygawley	RDP	£51,000
	Clogher Valley	Caledon	RDP	£38,103
	Clogher Valley	Castlecaulfield	RDP	£17,000
	Clogher Valley	Eglish	RDP	£37,000
	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
<b>Upgrades</b>				
	Cookstown	Monrush	Upgrade (Phase 1)	£50,000
	Cookstown	Monrush	Upgrade (Phase 2)	£30,000
	Dungannon	Moygashel Jacksonville	Upgrade	£50,000
	Cookstown	Drum Manor Forest	Upgrade to provide inclusive play options	£35,000
	Magherafelt	Glenburn	Upgrade	£45,000
<b>Maintenance &amp; Enhancements</b>				
	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
	Dungannon	Ballysaggart	Maintenance/ Enhancement	£20,000
	Dungannon	Killymerron	Maintenance/ Enhancement	£20,000
	Cookstown	Ratheen	Maintenance/ Enhancement	£25,000
<b>Removal</b>				
	Cookstown	Sperrinview	Removal	Maintenance Budget
	Clogher Valley	Killymaddy	Removal	Maintenance Budget



	Carntogher	Moneyneena	Removal	Maintenance Budget
<b>Total</b> (RDP Funding)				<b>£1,076,515</b> (£681,515)
Capital Programme Variations				£370,000 £ 25,000
<b>Overall Total excl RDP</b>				<b>£395,000</b>

Development Year 2	DEA	Park Site	Action	Indicative Cost
<b>RDP Funded</b>	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, Brockagh	RDP	£38,103
	Cookstown	Churchview, Drumullan	RDP	£38,103
	Torrent	Henderson Park	RDP	£38,103
	Magherafelt	Loup	RDP	£38,103
	Carntogher	Swatragh	RDP	£38,103
	Carntogher	Tamlaght O'Crilly	RDP	£12,000
	Carntogher	Innishrush	RDP	£12,000
	Moyola	Knockloughrim	RDP	£18,500
	Moyola	O'Neill Park (Ballymaguigan)	RDP	£37,000
<b>Change of Use</b>				
	Torrent	Innishmore	Change of use MUGA to LEAP	£50,000
<b>Upgrades</b>				
	Dungannon	Railway Park*	Upgrade and relocation. Funded via Capital Projects Programme	£150,000*
	Cookstown	Coolnafranky	Upgrade to NEAP	£50,000
	Cookstown	Beechway	Upgrade to NEAP	£50,000
	Torrent	Henderson Park	Upgrade MUGA	£40,000

<b>Maintenance &amp; Enhancements</b>				
	Torrent	Lisnahall, Ardtrea	Maintenance/Enhancement	£25,000
	Torrent	Donaghmore	Maintenance/Enhancement	£25,000
	Torrent	Brackaville	Maintenance/Enhancement	£25,000
	Clogher Valley	Eglis	Maintenance/Enhancement	£25,000
	Dungannon	Northland Village	Maintenance/Enhancement	£25,000
<b>Peace IV Funding</b>	Moyola	Moykeeran	Peace IV	£100,000
	Moyoa	Castledawson	Peace IV	£100,000
	Clogher Valley	Aughnacloy	Peace IV	£100,000
<b>Total</b> (RDP Funding) (Peace IV Funding)				<b>£1,018,324</b> (£378,324) (£300,000)
Capital Programme Variations				£315,000 £ 25,000
<b>Overall Total excl RDP Peace IV &amp; Railway Park Funding</b>				<b>£340,000</b>

\* Total excludes Railway Park Play proposal as funded through of MUDC capital development programme

Development Year 3	DEA	Park Site	Action	Indicative Cost
<b>Upgrades</b>				
	Clogher Valley	Clogher	Upgrade	£50,000
	Torrent	Battery Harbour	Upgrade	£50,000
<b>Maintenance &amp; Enhancements</b>				
	Cookstown	Orritor St.	Maintenance/Enhancement	£25,000
	Torrent	Washingbay	Maintenance/Enhancement	£25,000
	Clogher Valley	U.S. Grants	Maintenance/Enhancement	£25,000
	Cookstown	Stewart Avenue	Maintenance/Enhancement	£20,000
<b>Total</b> Capital Programme Variations <b>Overall Total</b>				<b>£195,000</b> £ 25,000 <b>£220,000</b>

Development Year 4	DEA	Park Site	Action	Indicative Cost
<b>Upgrades</b>				
	Dungannon	Moy Curran's Brae	Upgrade	£50,000
<b>Maintenance &amp; Enhancements</b>				
	Dungannon	Milltown	Maintenance/Enhancement	£25,000
	Cookstown	Conway Close	Maintenance/Enhancement	£25,000
	Cookstown	Gortalowry	Maintenance/Enhancement	£25,000
	Dungannon	Gortnasoar	Maintenance/Enhancement	£20,000
<b>Total Capital Programme Variations</b>				<b>£145,000</b> £ 25,000
<b>Overall Total</b>				<b>£170,000</b>

Development Year 5	DEA	Park Site	Action	Indicative Cost
<b>Upgrades</b>				
	Clogher Valley	Aughnacloy	Upgrade	£50,000
<b>Maintenance &amp; Enhancements</b>				
	Carntogher	Clady	Maintenance/Enhancement	£25,000
<b>Relocation</b>				
	Torrent	Ardboe	Relocation subject to alternative site	£25,000
<b>Total Programme Variations</b>				<b>£100,000</b> £ 25,000
<b>Overall Total</b>				<b>£125,000</b>

Development 5 Years +	DEA	Park Site	Action	Indicative Cost
<b>Activity Centre Development</b>				
	Magherafelt	Ballyronan Marina	Activity Centre Subject to funding	£250,000
	Dungannon	Dungannon Park	Activity Centre Subject to funding	£250,000
<b>District Play Development</b>				
	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
<b>Upgrades</b>				
	Dungannon	Drumcoo Green	Upgrade	£50,000
<b>Maintenance &amp; Enhancements</b>				
	Torrent	Beechline, Galbally	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Clogher Valley	Ackinduff	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Clogher Valley	Ackinduff	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Dungannon	Ballynakelly	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Dungannon	Benburb	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Cookstown	Blackhill	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Moyola	Castledawson	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Carntogher	Clady	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Cookstown	Coagh Park, Coagh	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Carntogher	Culnady	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Cookstown	Davagh Forest	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Moyola	Desertmartin	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Cookstown	Derrychrin, Ballinderry	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget

	Dungannon	Dunavon	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Carntogher	Glenone	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Carntogher	Gulladuff	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Moyola	Hunters Park	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Torrent	Killeen	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Moyola	Kilross	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Magherafelt	Lindsayville, Ballyronan	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
	Cookstown	Millburn Close	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Magherafelt	Moneymore RC	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Torrent	Mountcairn Coaliland	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Torrent	Newmills	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Cookstown	Orritor	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Cookstown	Parkview, Pomeroy	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Cookstown	Rathbeg	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Cookstown	Tullywiggan	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Torrent	Mourneview, Carnan	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Dungannon	Moy Oakfield	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
	Cookstown	Rockdale, Rock	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Maintenance Budget
<b>Recommended Lifespan</b>				
	Cookstown	Clare	Recommended Lifespan	Maintenance Budget

	Cookstown	Coagh Street	Recommended Lifespan	Maintenance Budget
	Carntogher	Crawfordsburn	Recommended Lifespan	Maintenance Budget
	Cookstown	Princess Avenue	Recommended Lifespan	Maintenance Budget
<b>Relocation</b>				
	Clogher Valley	Aughnacloy - Coronation Park	Subject to alternative site	TBC
	Moyola	Longfield	Subject to alternative site	TBC
<b>Change of Use</b>				
<b>Small Woodland Parks</b>	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
	Torrent	Drumcairne Forest	Small Woodland Park (subject to funding)	£25,000
<b>Significant Woodland Parks</b>				
	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

<b>New Pocket Park Sites (13)</b>				
	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)	£250,000
	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
	Moyola	Newferry Slipway	Park Development (subject to funding)	£75,000
<b>Total</b>				<b>£3,140,000*</b>

Development programmes and time scales may vary subject available funding streams\*

## 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)<sup>1</sup>

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 themselves<sup>2</sup>

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.

---

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

<sup>2</sup> 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 (2020-2025) outlining proposed plans for development between 2020-2025
- 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 km<sup>2</sup>, 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 <sup>3</sup>
<b>Carntogher</b>	16,972
<b>Clogher Valley</b>	19,402
<b>Cookstown</b>	23,049
<b>Dungannon</b>	21,485
<b>Magherafelt</b>	18,000
<b>Torrent</b>	22,240
<b>Moyola</b>	17,442
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>138,590</b>

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 164,671<sup>4</sup>.

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 2025<sup>5</sup>

---

<sup>3</sup> All usual residents, Northern Ireland Census 2011

<sup>4</sup> Mid Ulster Position Paper One, Population and Growth, September 2014

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



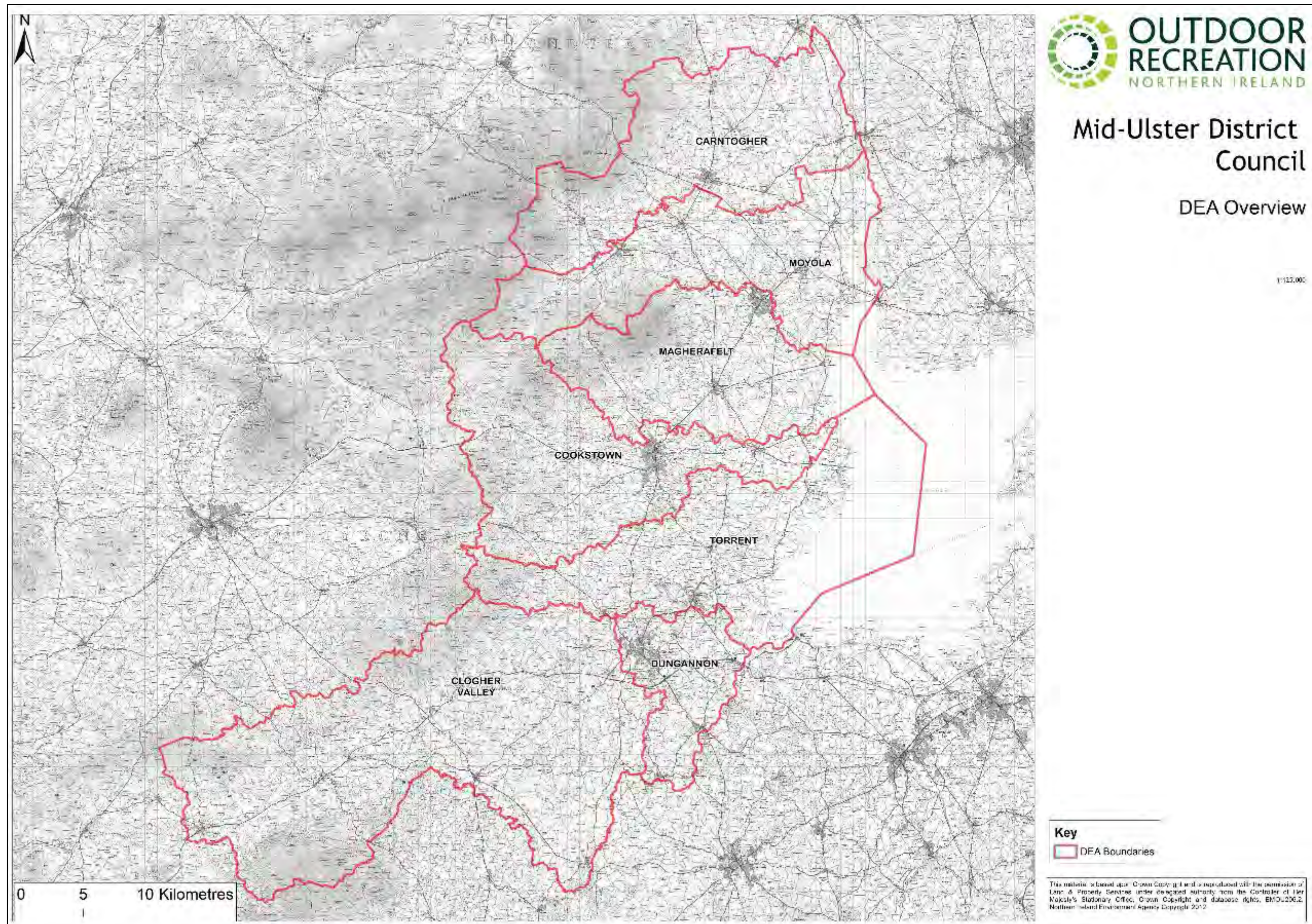


FIGURE 1 MID ULSTER DEA BOUNDARIES



### 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 UNs 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 conform 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 not only has 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: PAIMS, 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.

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

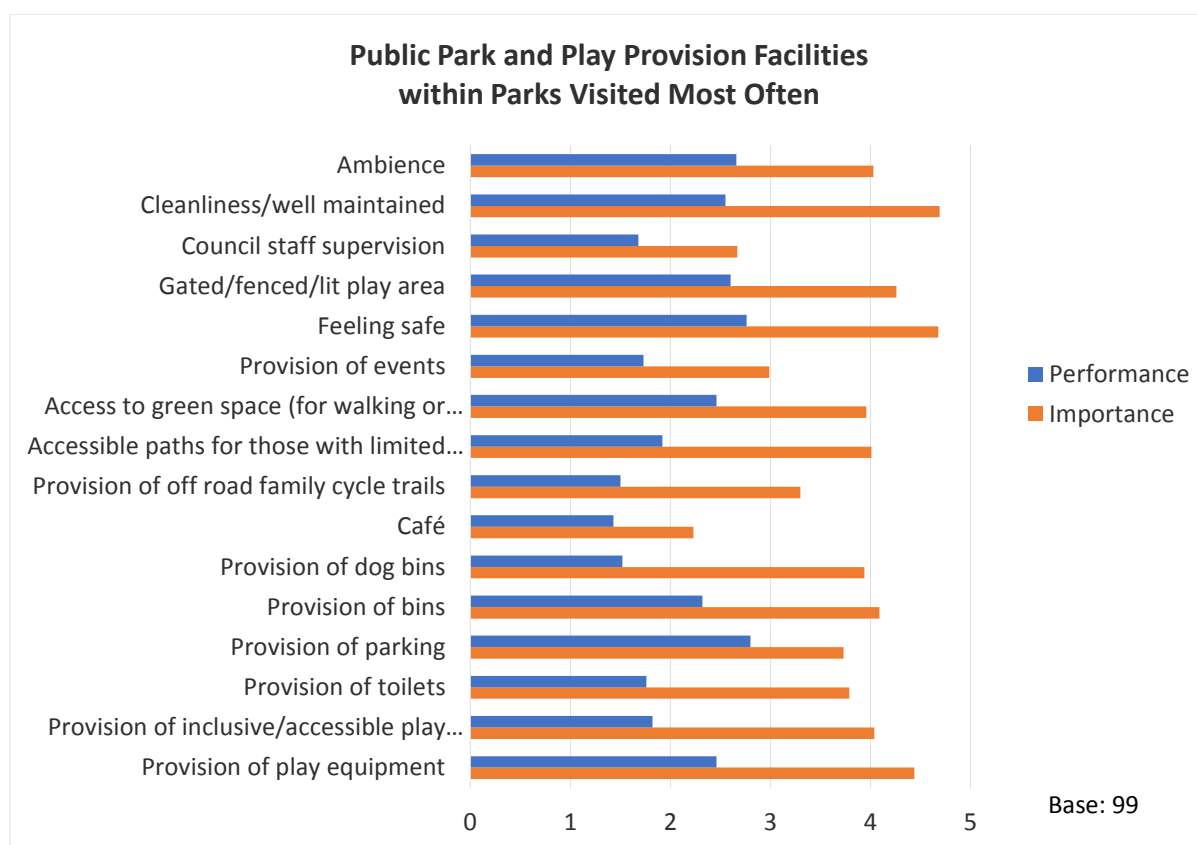
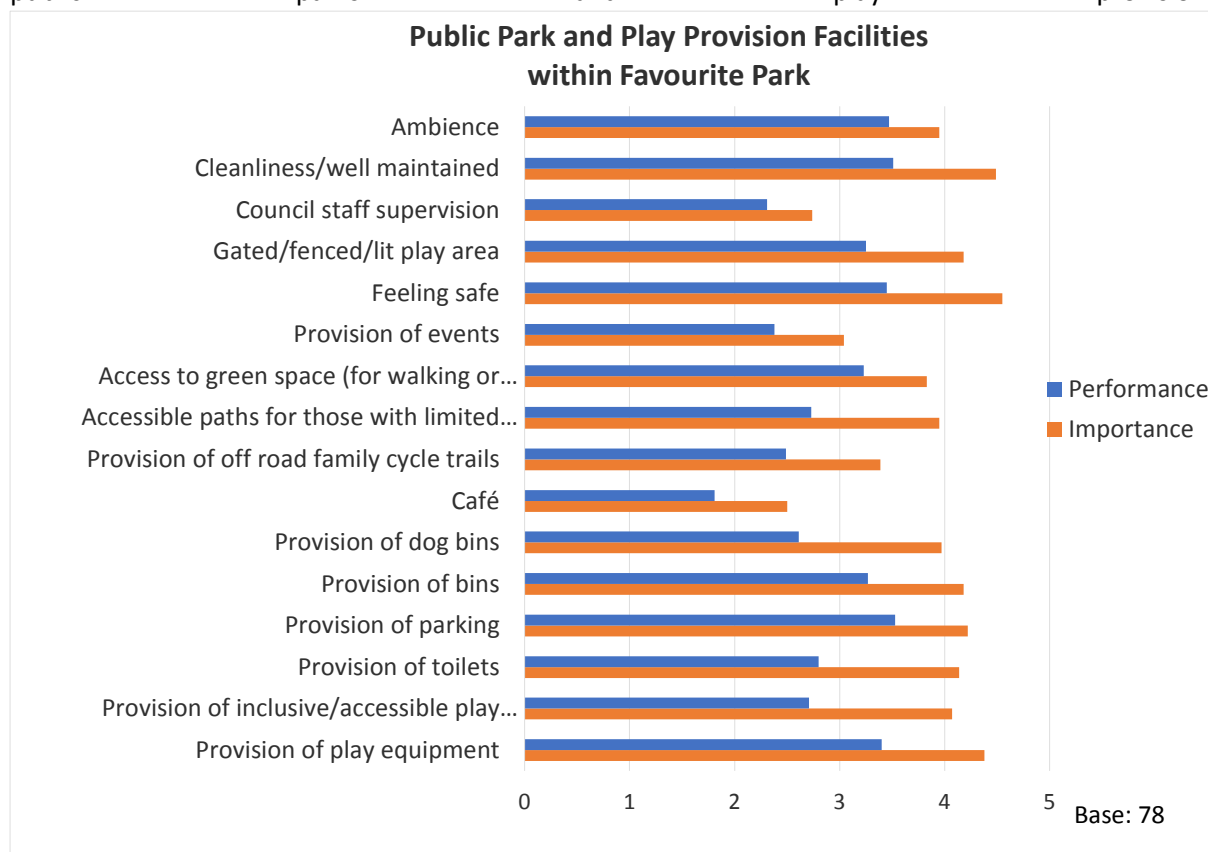


CHART 1 PUBLIC PARK AND PLAY PROVISION FACILITIES WITHIN PARKS VISITED MOST OFTEN

### 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

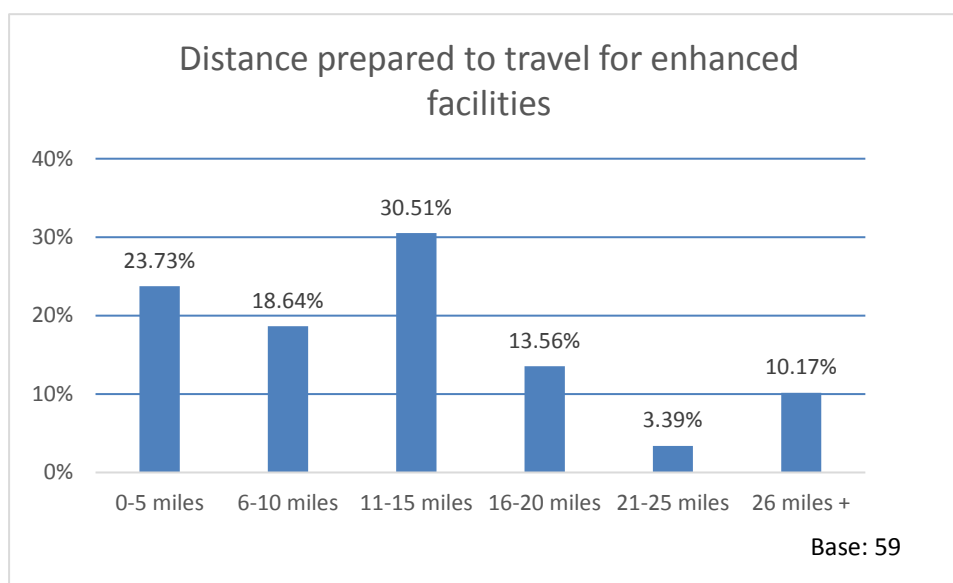
Response Themes	Additional Detail
<b>No improvement to be made (10)</b>	<i>I don't think it needs to be improved however better provision in smaller villages would be better</i>
<b>Add walking routes (7)</b>	<i>I would love a park with mix of play equipment, green space and shared walking/cycling paths nearer my home in Maghera</i>
<b>Improve equipment/ Improve quality and materials (6)</b>	<i>More play facilities. Play area fenced in. Seats for adults when children playing</i>
<b>Add parks across the district (5)</b>	<i>We need more than one park in Maghera. 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>
<b>Extend the park / add another (4)</b>	<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>
<b>Have play options for all ages (4)</b>	<i>Cycling routes, toilets, changing rooms, events better equipment, more for older children</i>

<b>Improved facilities for those with a disability (3)</b>	<i>It's a disgrace that Drum Manor play park is not meeting the needs of disabled children in this community</i>
<b>Improve lighting provision (3)</b>	<i>Park is not lit at night which could limit potential use in evening for at least 4 months of the year</i>
<b>Add seating for parents/guardians (3)</b>	<i>More seats and modern equipment</i>
<b>Add a picnic area (3)</b>	<i>Tables for picnic</i>
<b>Deal with sectarian/hostile atmosphere (2)</b>	<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>
<b>Improve drainage (2)</b>	<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>
<b>Additional car parking (2)</b>	<i>Better parking. Kids can run out straight to carpark which is very busy</i>
<b>Add cycling trails (2)</b>	<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>
<b>Fence in play area (1)</b>	<i>More play facilities. Play area fenced in. Seats for adults when children playing</i>
<b>Clamp down on anti-social behaviour (1)</b>	<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
<b>Upgrade facilities (12)</b>	<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>
<b>Multi-Use Trails (8)</b>	<i>More areas for walking / cycling (kids) in Magherafelt</i>
<b>Upperlands (8)</b>	<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>
<b>Local Provision/Rural Needs (7)</b>	<i>A play park for Sandholes village</i>
<b>Open/Green Space (5)</b>	<i>'Open space' parks are needed for walking/running/picnics etc. in each locality</i>
<b>Anti-Social Behaviour/Safety (3)</b>	<i>Play areas should be enclosed for safety</i>
<b>Outdoor Recreation (3)</b>	<i>Look at options around water for water sports etc.</i>
<b>Basic Services (2)</b>	<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>
<b>Inclusive Play (2)</b>	<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>
<b>Challenging Play (1)</b>	<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>
<b>Events (1)</b>	<i>Events at weekends as we are always trying to go somewhere to entertain our children</i>
<b>Health (1)</b>	<i>Encouraging children to be active in the environment is critical to protecting our environment and our children health</i>
<b>Magherafelt (play provision) (1)</b>	<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>
<b>Miscellaneous (5)</b>	-

#### **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)<sup>6</sup>

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’<sup>7</sup>.

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.

---

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

<sup>7</sup> 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.<sup>8</sup>

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 etc<sup>9</sup>

### 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.<sup>10</sup>

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

<sup>9</sup> Guidance for Outdoor Sport and Play – Beyond the Six Acre Standard

<sup>10</sup> 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'<sup>11</sup> 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 Children<sup>12</sup> 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.

---

<sup>11</sup> Playable Space – Quality Assessment Tool, Play England (October 2009)

<sup>12</sup> 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 removed<sup>13</sup>. 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 <sup>14</sup>.

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.

---

<sup>13</sup> Children's Play and Leisure - Promoting A Balanced Approach, September 2012

<sup>14</sup> 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"<sup>15</sup>

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.<sup>16</sup>

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

---

<sup>15</sup> Northern Ireland Executive's Children and Young People's Strategy 2017-2027 Consultation Document

<sup>16</sup> 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 them<sup>17</sup>.

---

<sup>17</sup> 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 inclusive<sup>18</sup>. 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.

---

<sup>18</sup> 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 funders<sup>19</sup>

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 phenomena<sup>20</sup>. With its marina, caravan and park facilities, Ballyronan Marina currently has a Blue Flag award.

---

<sup>19</sup> Raising the Standard – The Green Flag Award Guidance Manual, Katharine Ellicott (2016)

<sup>20</sup> <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.<sup>21</sup>

### 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 communities<sup>22</sup> 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 surroundings<sup>23</sup>

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 behaviour<sup>24</sup>. 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.

---

<sup>21</sup> Local Development Plan 2030 - Preferred Options Paper (Mid Ulster District Council, November 2016)

<sup>22</sup> The Value of Public Space - Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment

<sup>23</sup> Play Areas in Residential Developments NI (NI Assembly, June 2010)

<sup>24</sup> 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 <sup>25</sup>

### 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 research<sup>26</sup>. 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 wellbeing<sup>27</sup>.

The Play Safety Forum - Managing Risk in Play Provision outlines several benefits of play provision<sup>28</sup>

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.

<sup>25</sup> The Value of Public Space - Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment

<sup>26</sup> A Countryside for health and well-being- the physical and mental health benefits of green exercise (CRN, 2005)

<sup>27</sup> Play - A report by the All-Party Parliamentary Group on a Fit and Healthy Childhood (Appg, October 2015)

<sup>28</sup> 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 <sup>29</sup>

---

<sup>29</sup> 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 homes<sup>30</sup>.

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

<sup>30</sup> Position Paper Seven – Open Space, Recreation and Leisure<sup>30</sup> (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.

<b>Nature of play facility</b>	<b>Walking Time</b>	<b>Pedestrian Route</b>	<b>Straight Line Distance</b>
<b>LAP</b>	1 minute	100 metres	60 metres
<b>LEAP</b>	5 minutes	400 metres	240 metres
<b>NEAP</b>	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 9 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**



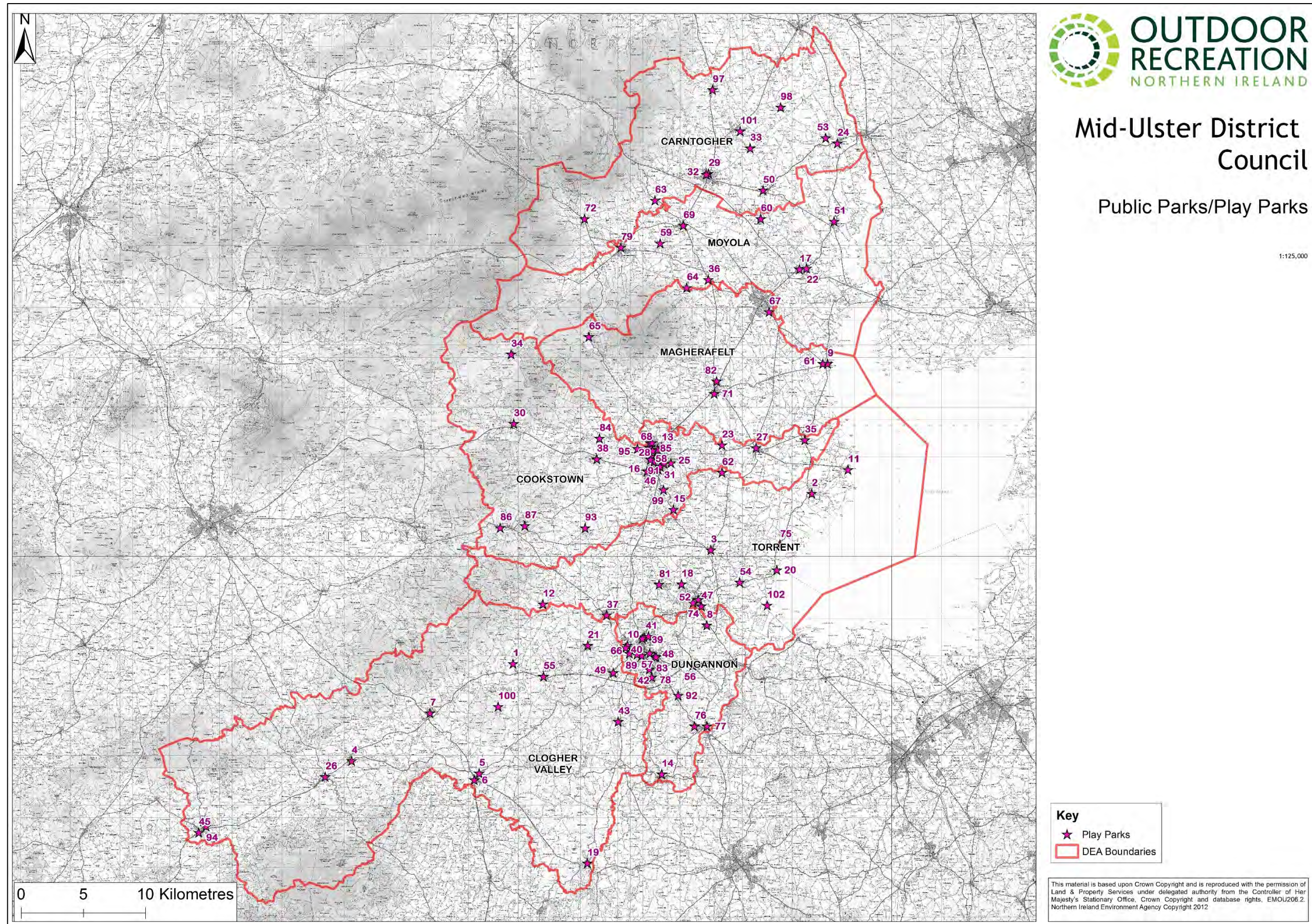


FIGURE 2 CURRENT PLAY PROVISION IN MID ULSTER



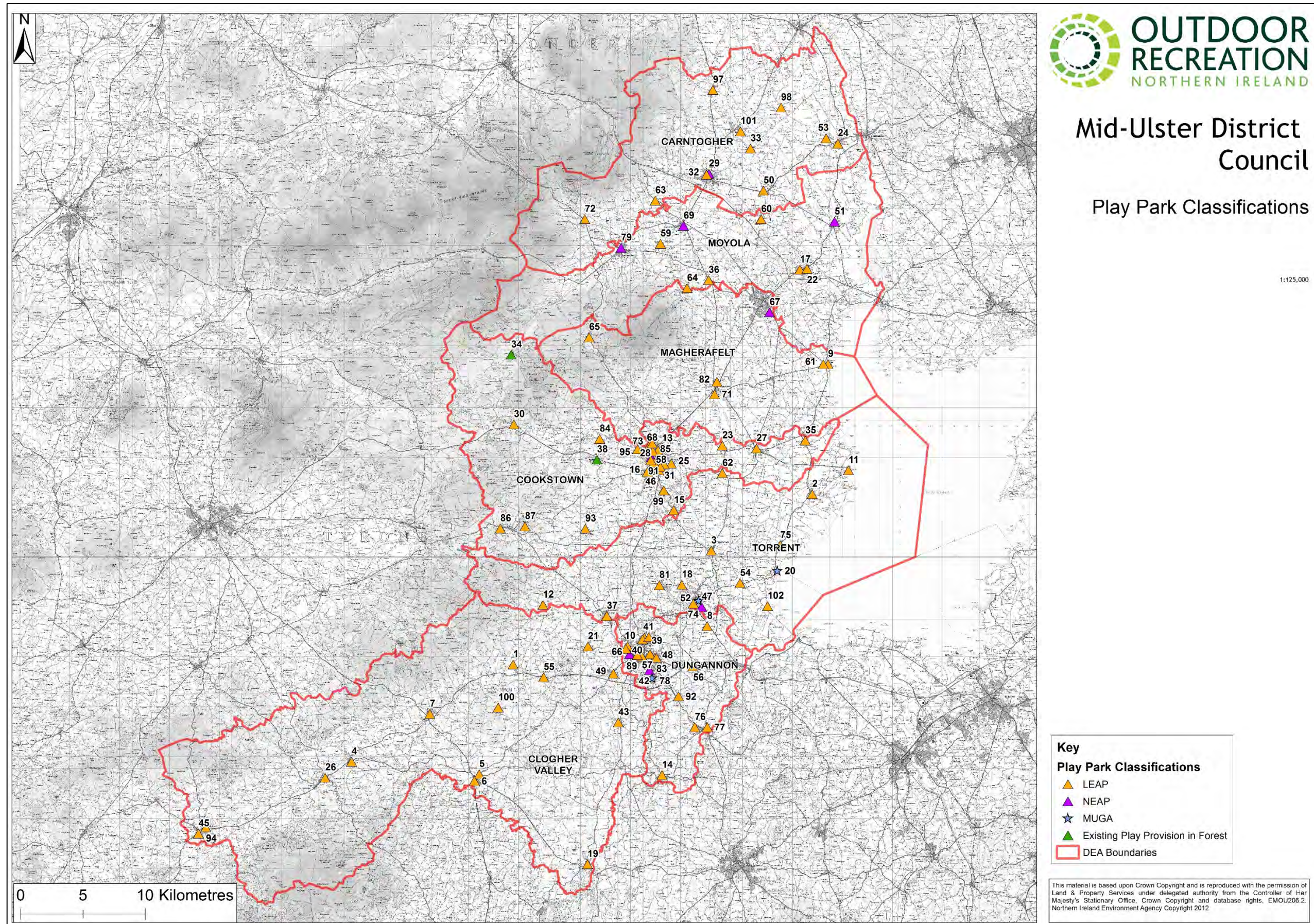


FIGURE 3 PLAY PARK CLASSIFICATIONS



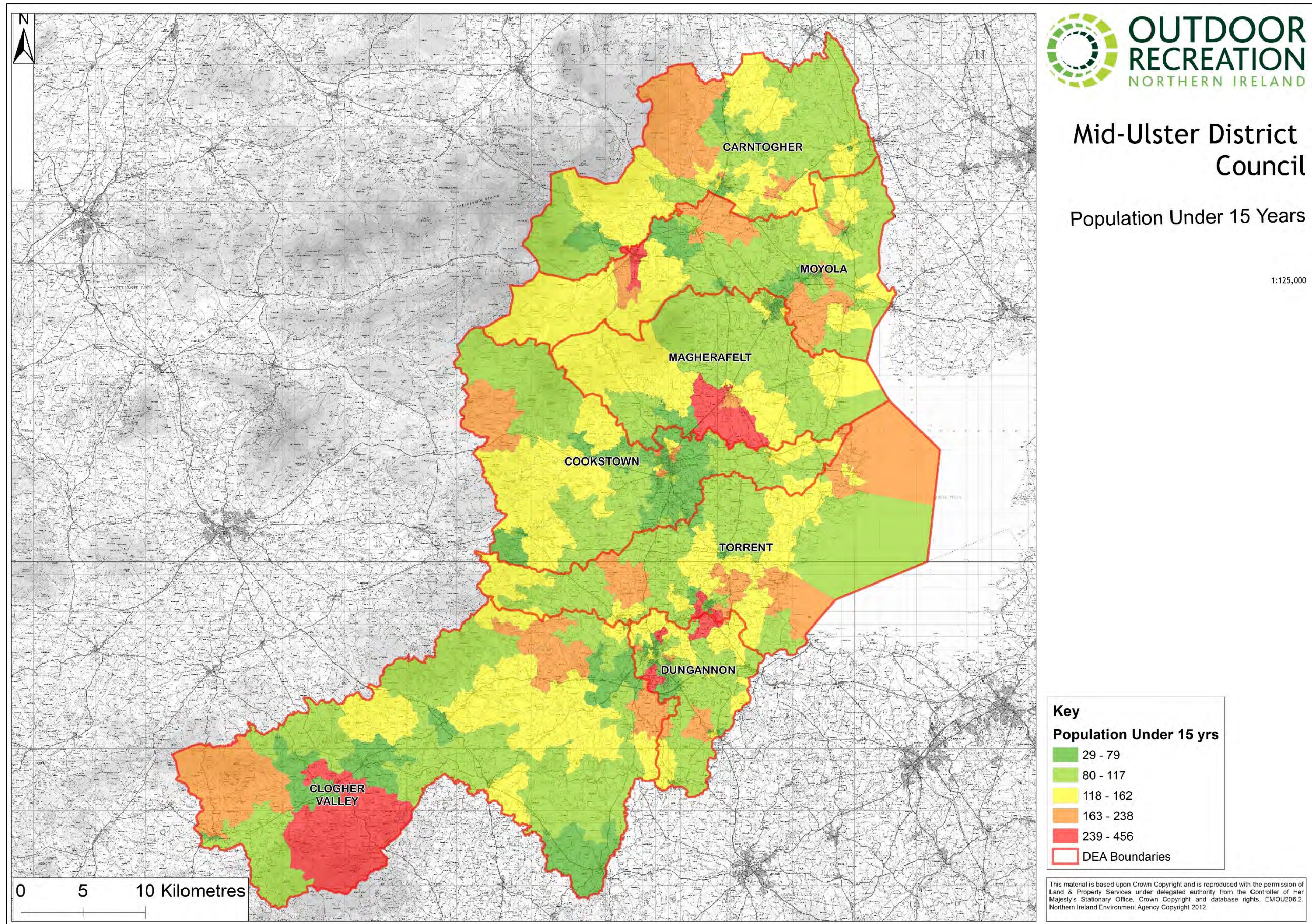


FIGURE 4 POPULATION OF MID ULSTER UNDER 15 YEARS



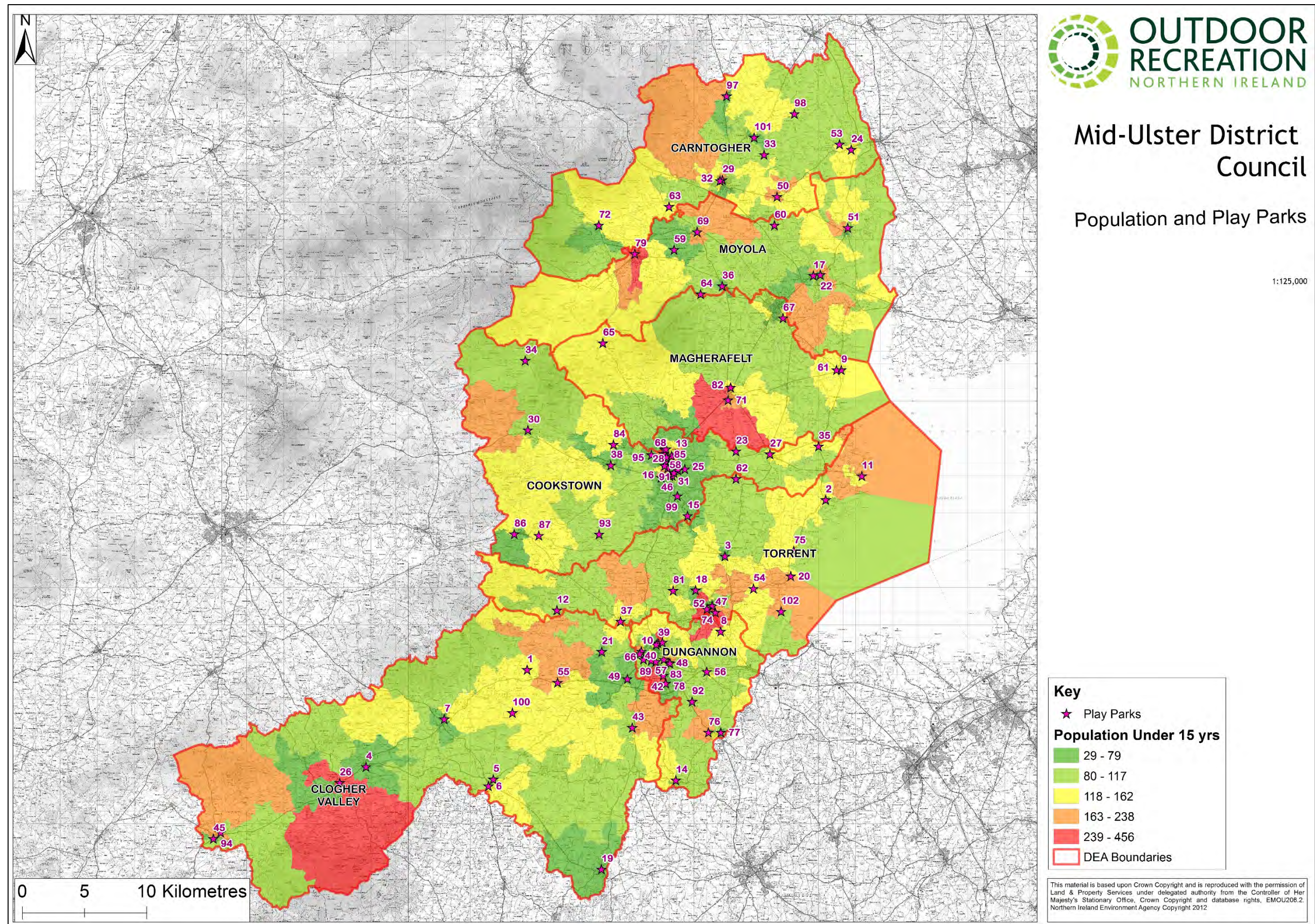


FIGURE 5 POPULATION UNDER 15 YEARS AND PLAY PROVISION LOCATIONS



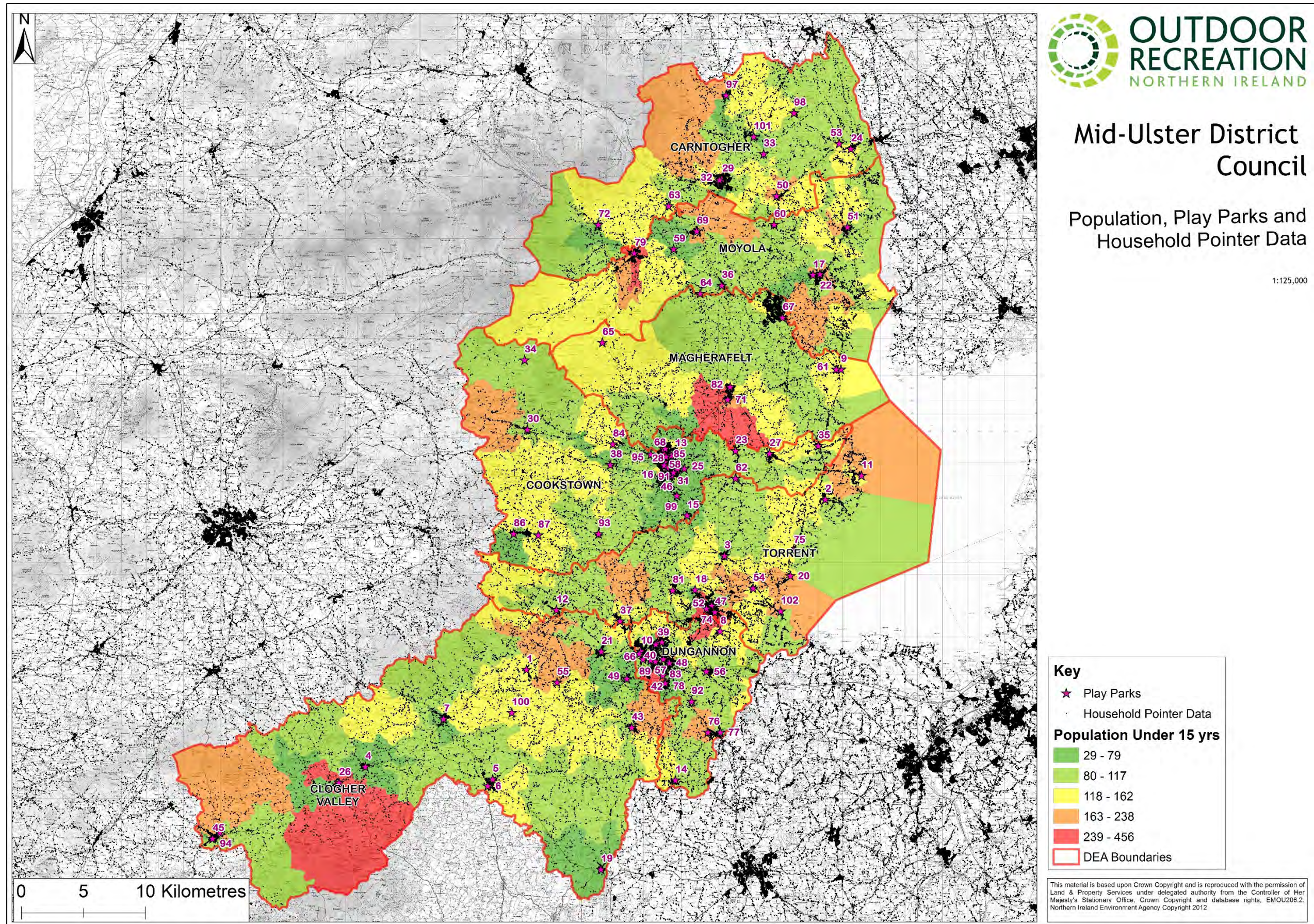


FIGURE 6 POPULATION UNDER 15 YEARS, PLAY PROVISION LOCATIONS AND HOUSEHOLD POINTER DATA



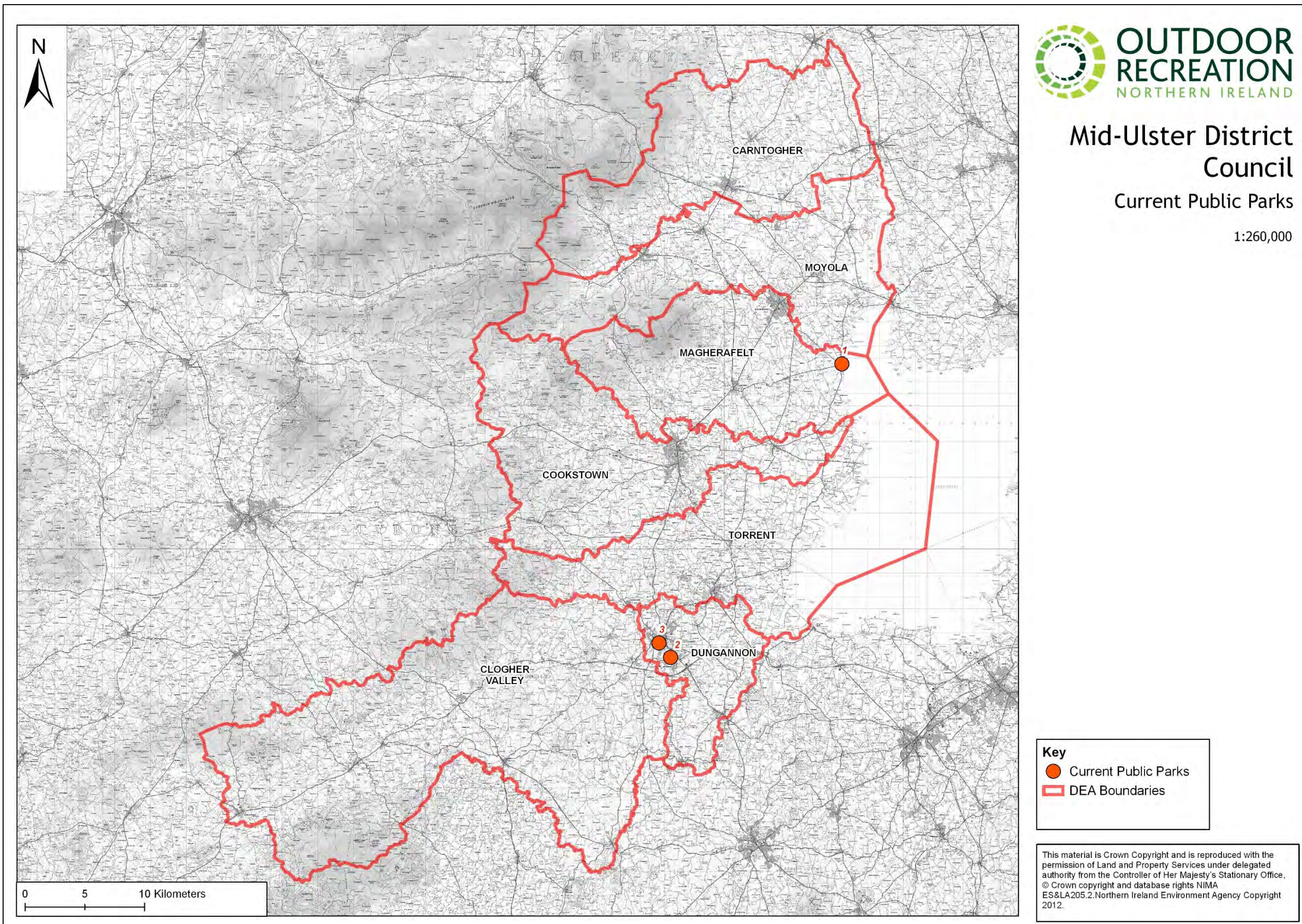


FIGURE 7 CURRENT PUBLIC PARKS



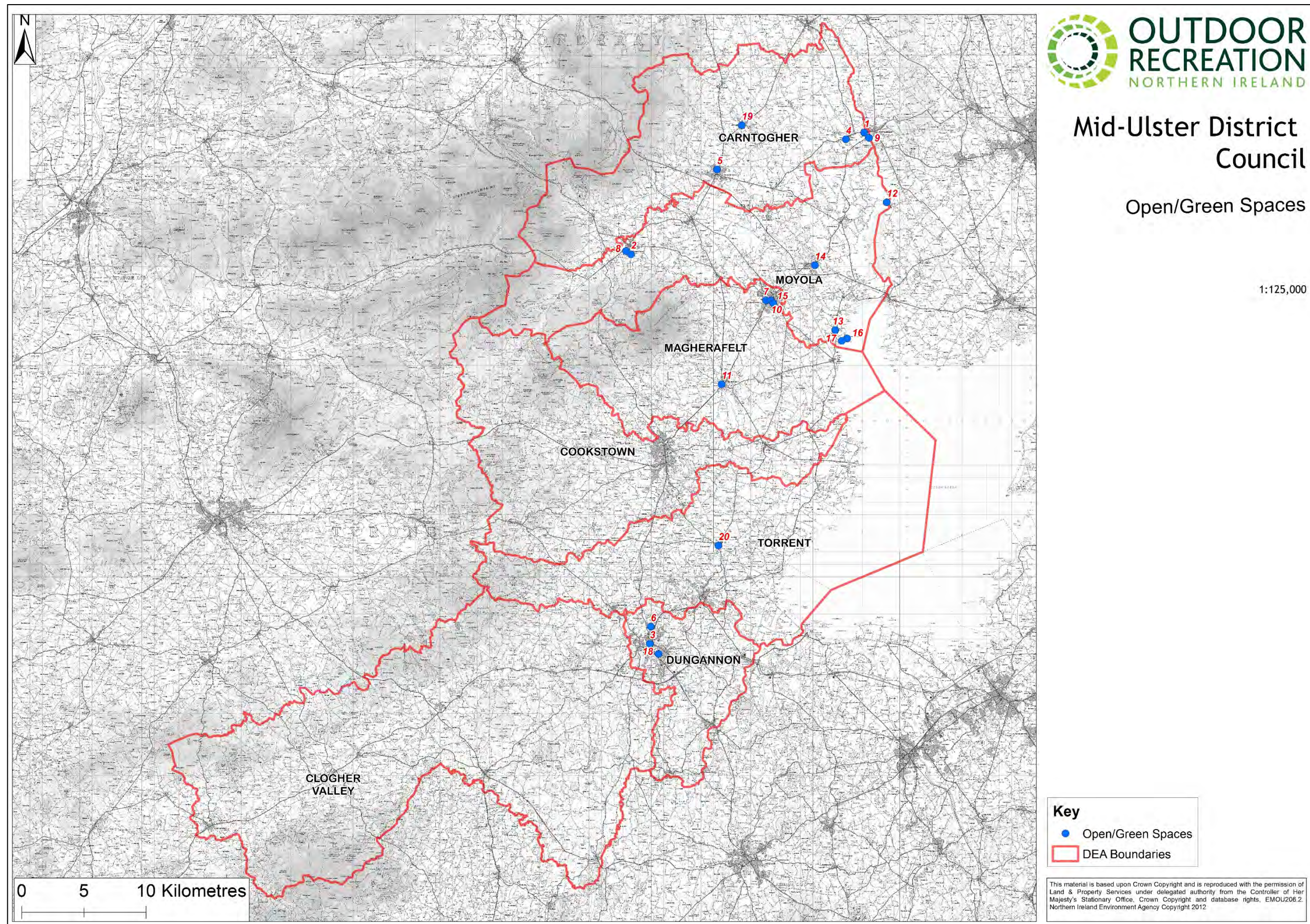


FIGURE 8 OPEN/GREEN SPACE LOCATIONS IN MID ULSTER



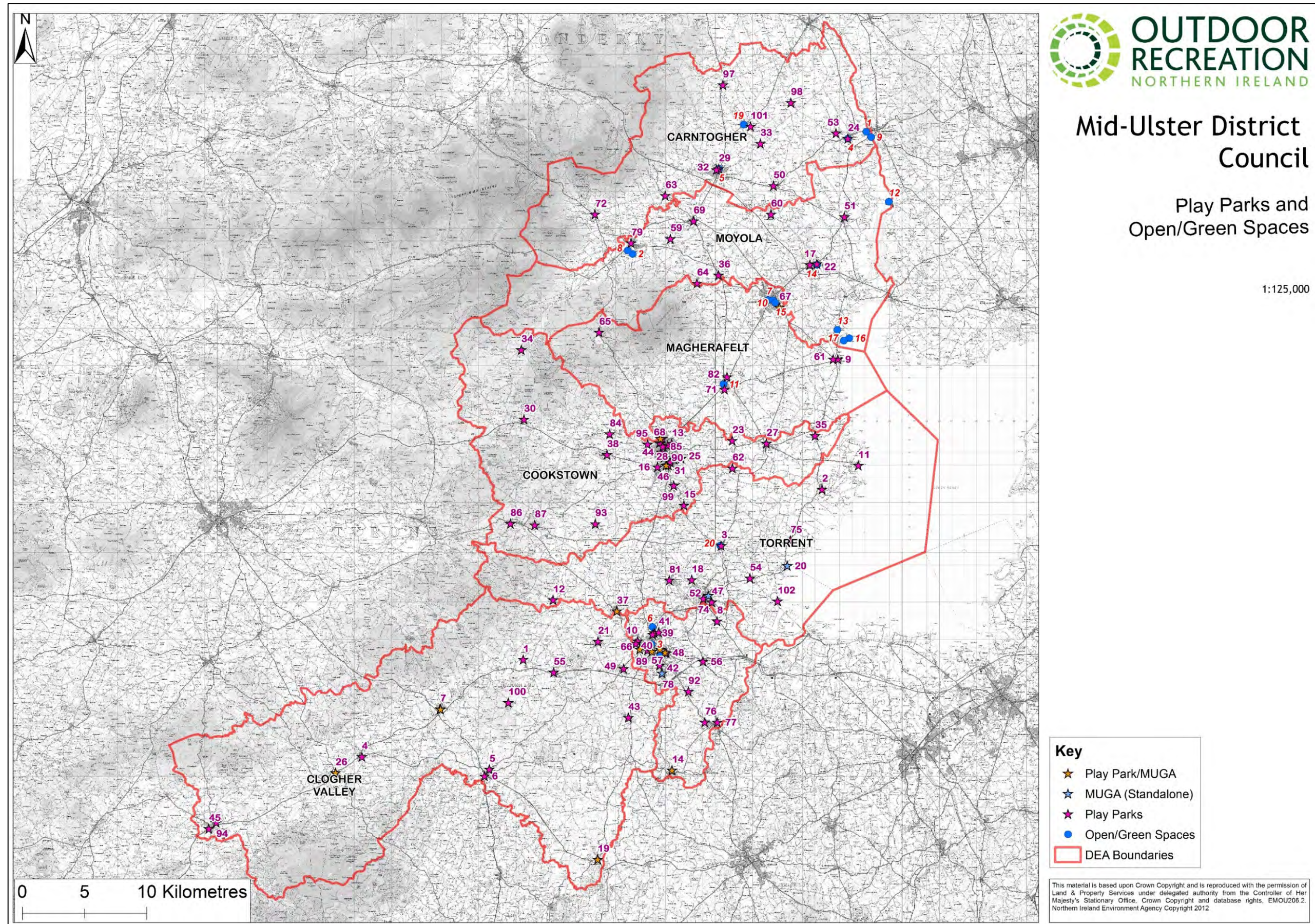


FIGURE 9 PLAY PROVISION AND OPEN/GREEN SPACE LOCATIONS



## 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.

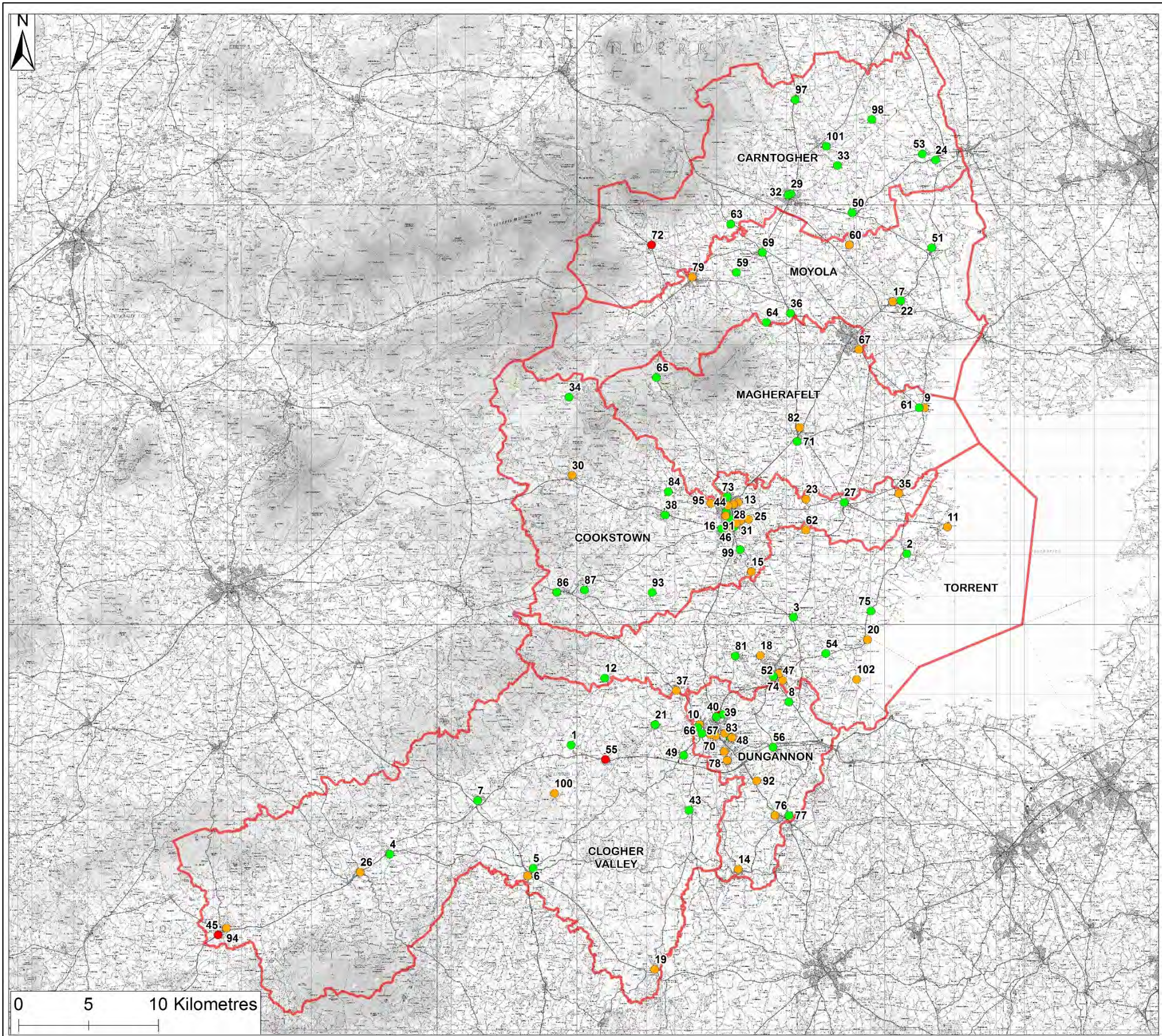
Finally play facilities that fall within the uppermost band are those that meet the quality level of play provision that Council aspire that all its facilities should meet. These areas require continued monitoring and maintenance to ensure their standards are retained.



# Mid-Ulster District Council

## Play Park Quality Audits

1:125,000



**Key**

**Play Park Quality Audits**

- 2 - 4
- 5 - 7
- 8 - 10
- DEA Boundaries

This material is based upon Crown Copyright and is reproduced with the permission of Land & Property Services under delegated authority from the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationary Office, Crown Copyright and database rights, EMOU206.2. Northern Ireland Environment Agency Copyright 2012.

FIGURE 10 PLAY PARK QUALITY AUDIT SCORES



## 8. Planning

When developing play provision Council should acknowledge the Department's planning policies for achieving quality through *Policy Statement 7 (PPS7) – Quality Residential Environments (2001)* and *Policy Statement 8 (PPS8) Open Space, Recreation and Leisure*.

### 8.1. Policy Statement 7 (PPS7)

*Policy Statement 7 (PPS7) – Quality Residential Environments (2001)* 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. All residential developments are expected to conform 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.

### 8.2. Policy Statement 8 (PPS8)

*Within Policy Statement 8 (PPS8) - Open Space, Sport and Outdoor Recreation (2004)* the Department focuses on 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.

### 8.3. Local Development Plan 2030 Draft Plan Strategy – OS1 Protection of Open Space

Mid Ulster Local Development Plan 2030 Draft Plan Strategy - February 2019 seeks to protect existing areas of open space and encourage the provision of new open space. This will be achieved by

identifying important parcels of open space to be protected, zoning of new open space and by formulating policy to require open space to be provided by the developer in new housing developments. In addition, Council recognise the benefits of dual use of open spaces and are working with the Education Authority to share sports pitches. Mid Ulster Council are also working with NIHE to facilitate children's play provision on land under their control.

Within this Local Development Plan, Council also recognise the link between open space, transport and the environment and as a consequence the strategy is to protect not only parks and gardens but also linear open spaces such as pedestrian walkways. For indoor recreation, the key considerations for any new facilities will be accessibility to the communities that they serve.

Therefore it is suggested that Mid Ulster Public Parks and Play Five Year Strategic Plan adopts *Policy OS 1 - Protection of Open Space* which states development that results in the loss of open space shall not accord with the Plan irrespective of its physical condition and appearance.

An exception can be made where it is demonstrated that it will bring substantial community benefits that outweigh the loss of the open space and it will have no significant detrimental impact on open space provision, amenity, character or biodiversity of an area.

Where appropriate, adequate compensatory measures to include provision for more intensive recreational use (3G sports pitches) on site or in other locations capable of serving the area will be given consideration. Compensatory measures should be comparable to that which is lost.

#### **8.4. Local Development Plan 2030 Draft Plan Strategy – Social Policies**

Furthermore retaining open space, creating new open space and promoting more opportunities to participate in outdoor recreation in the future is of significant importance. Mid Ulster Council's Local Development Plan 2030 has adopted *PPS 8: Open Space, Sport and Outdoor Recreation Policy, OS 2 Public Open Space in New Residential Development* as a best practice approach with regards to provision of adequate public and private open space under Social Policy. As a general rule for all residential developments over 25 units or sites of 1 hectare or more, a minimum of 10% of the site area should be allocated to public open space which is adequately equipped, landscaped and well-design to form an integral part of the proposal.

The suggested actions within the Mid Ulster Public Parks and Play Five Year Strategic Plan, should therefore be developed in line with the Mid Ulster Local Development Plan 2030 Draft Plan Strategy - February 2019 adopting the guidelines and best practice measures.

## 9. Future Park and Play Provision

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. In addition, consideration was also given to Policy Statement 7 (PPS7) and Policy Statement 8 (PPS8) and Mid Ulster Local Development Plan 2030 Draft Plan Strategy - February 2019.

### 9.1. 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. Kilroan 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'<sup>31</sup>. 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

---

<sup>31</sup> Mid Ulster District Council Community Plan – 10 Year Plan for Mid Ulster



- 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.



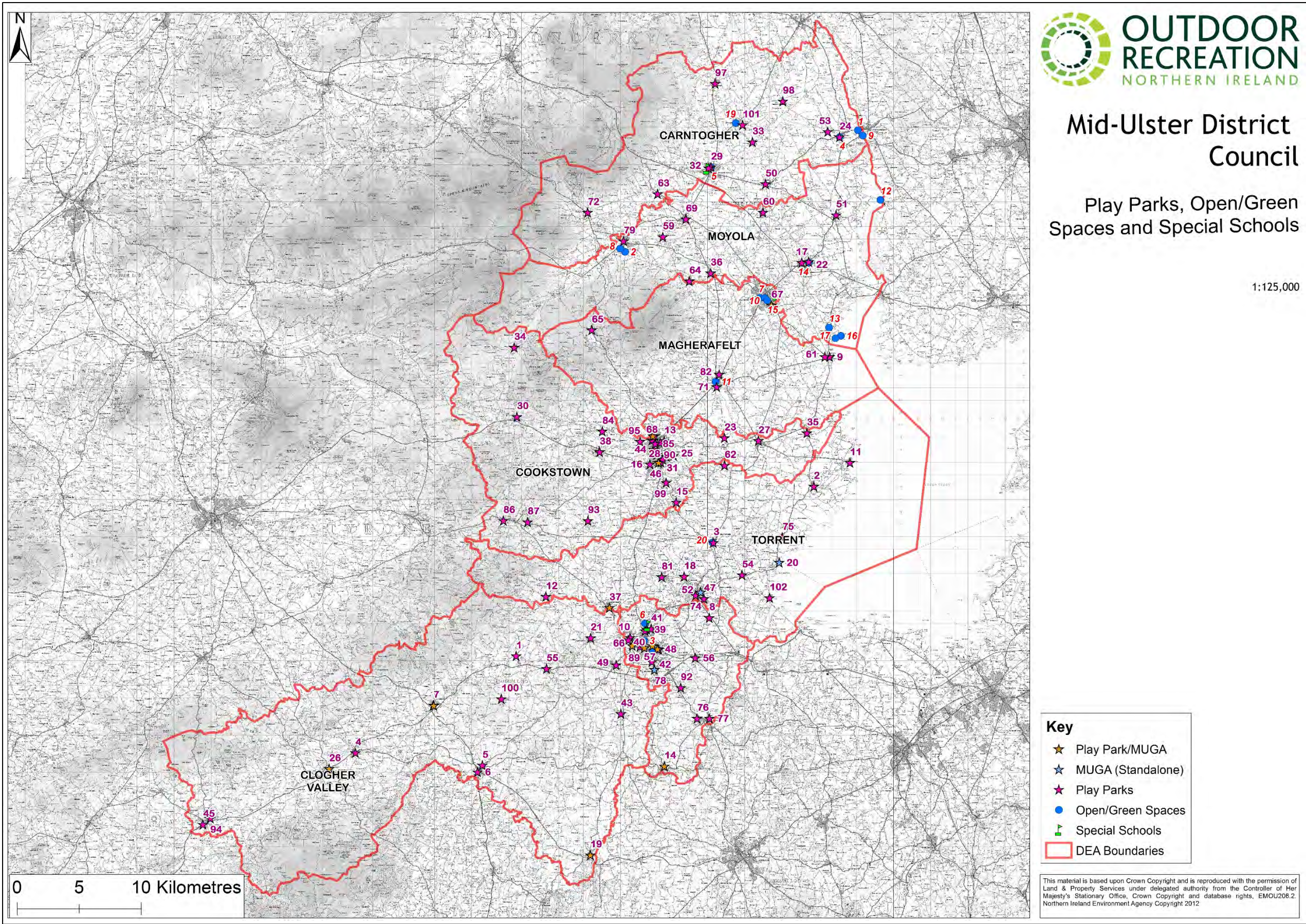


FIGURE 11 LOCATION OF SPECIAL SCHOOLS RELATIVE TO PUBLIC PARK/PLAY PARK FACILITIES



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
<b>Location</b>											
Size of Site (min 0.5 acre)	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓
MUDC Ownership	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Onsite Management/Manned	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓
Potential Planning Issues - Absent	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Potential Specialist Planning - Absent	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Risks</b>											
Protected re Antisocial Behaviour	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Ancillary Structures</b>											
Existing Boundary Fencing	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
No further fencing required	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗
Gates	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Signs/Seats/Bins	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Protected/Gated/Fenced	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
Paths & General Surfaces Good	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Parking</b>											
Adequate Parking Proximity/Number	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Disabled Parking	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Coach/Mini Bus Parking	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓
Potential for Extended Parking	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓
On main road for easy visibility/access	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Facilities</b>											
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

This material is Crown Copyright and is reproduced with the permission of Land and Property Services under delegated authority from the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationary Office, © Crown copyright and database rights NIEMA ES&LA205.2.Northern Ireland Environment Agency Copyright 2012.

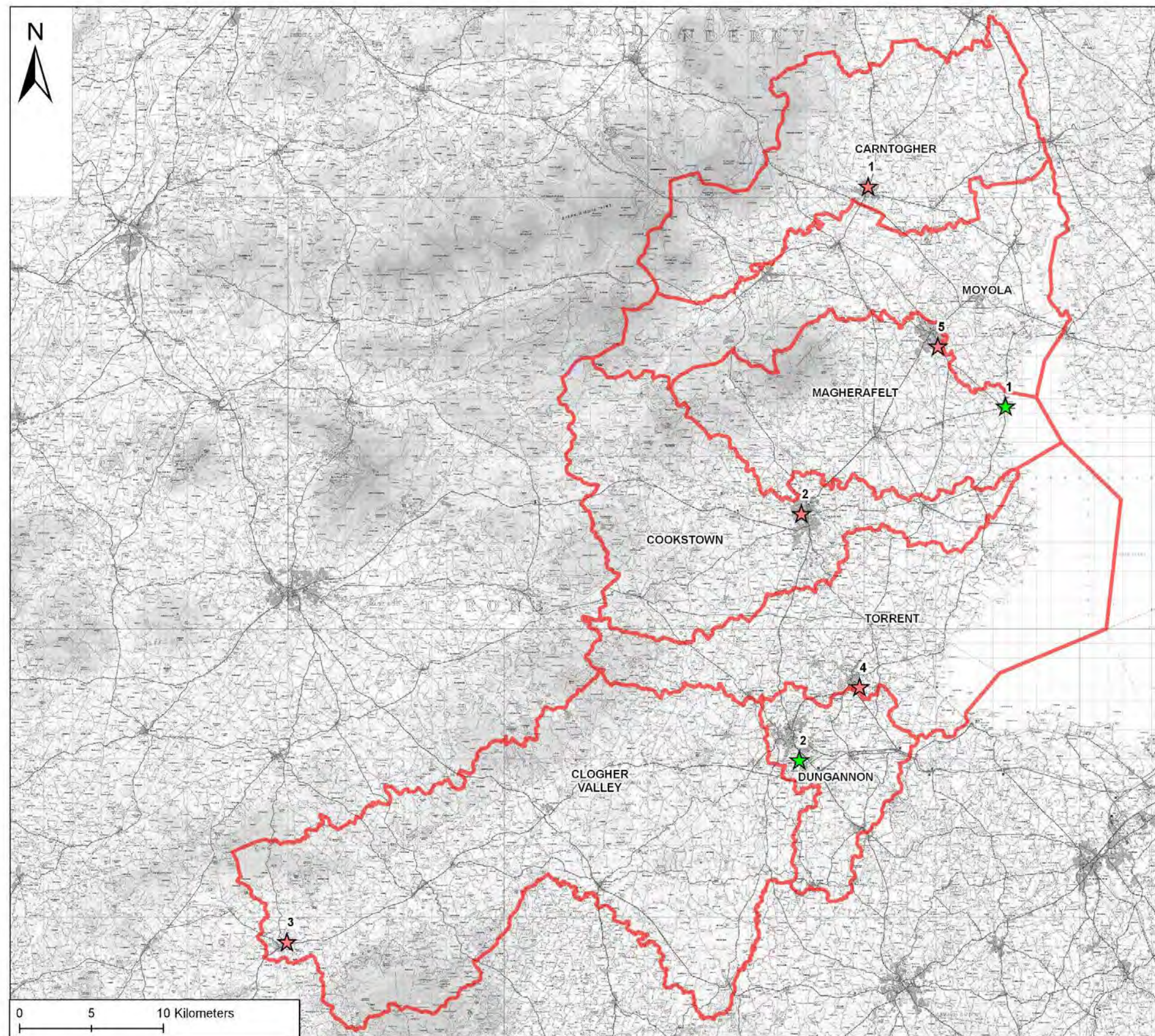


FIGURE 12 MID ULSTER POTENTIAL PLAY HUB PROVISION



## 9.2. 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 geographically 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

## 9.3. 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	
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	
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
<b>Carntogher</b>			Derrynoyd Forest (1)	<i>Forest Service</i>
<b>Clogher Valley</b>	Knockmany Forest (1)	<i>Forest Service</i>	Parkanaur Forest (2)	<i>Forest Service</i>
	Bantry Lough and Forest (3)	<i>Forest Service</i>		
<b>Cookstown*</b>	Cabin Wood (4)	<i>Council</i>	Drum Manor (4)	<i>Forest Service</i>
			Pomeroy Forest (3)	<i>Forest Service</i>
<b>Dungannon</b>	Windmill Wood (2)	<i>Council</i>		
<b>Magherafelt</b>	Inniscarn Forest (5)	<i>Forest Service</i>		
<b>Moyola</b>	Traad Point (6)	<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

This material is Crown Copyright and is reproduced with the permission of Land and Property Services under delegated authority from the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationary Office.  
© Crown copyright and database rights NIMA  
ES&LA205.2 Northern Ireland Environment Agency Copyright 2012.

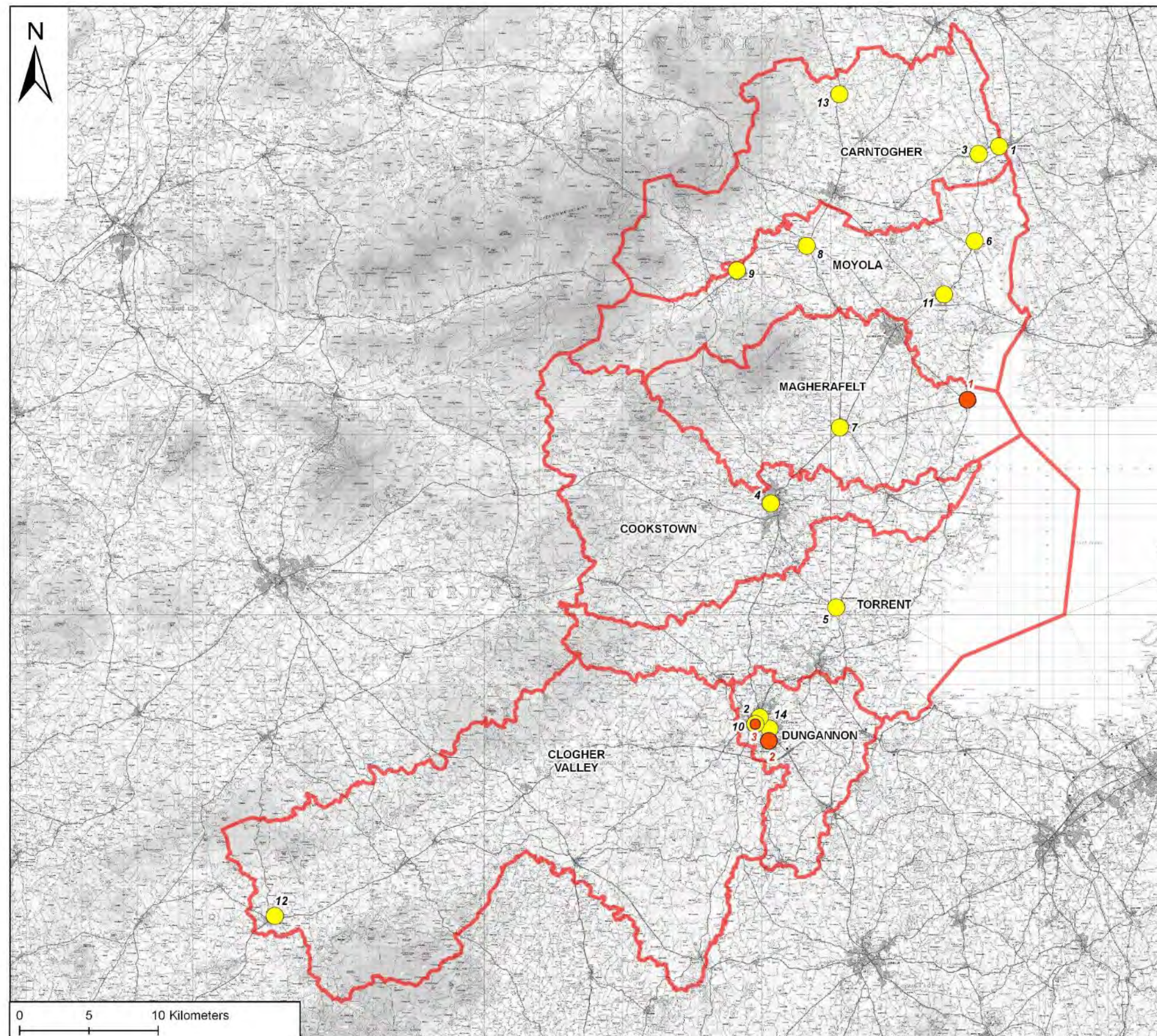


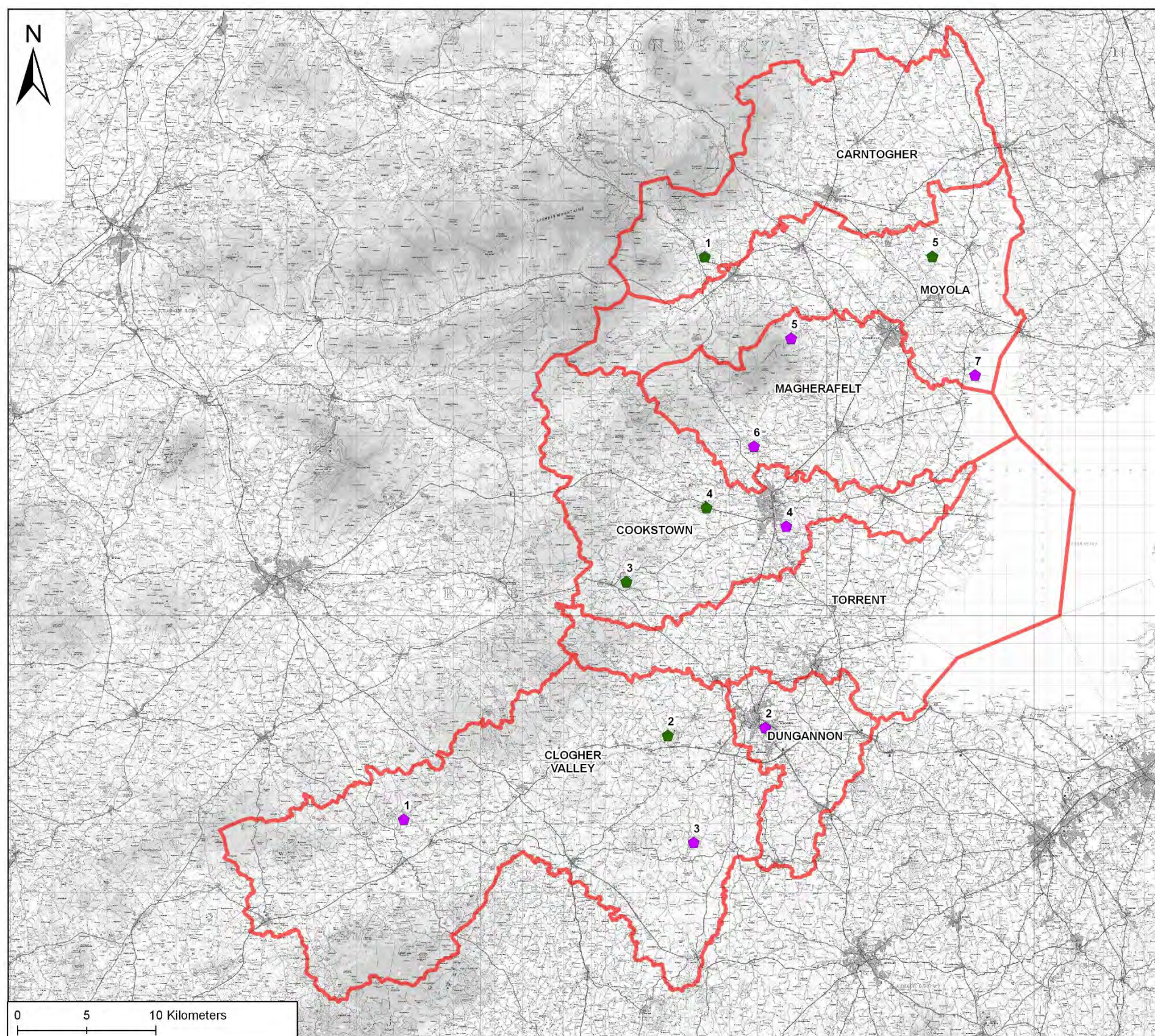
FIGURE 13 POTENTIAL PUBLIC PARK DEVELOPMENT






## Mid-Ulster District Council

### Bespoke Woodland Play

1:260,000



**Key**

-  Small Woodland Play
-  Significant Woodland Play
-  DEA Boundaries

This material is Crown Copyright and is reproduced with the permission of Land and Property Services under delegated authority from the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationary Office.  
© Crown copyright and database rights NIMA  
ES&LA205.2.Northern Ireland Environment Agency Copyright 2012.

FIGURE 14 MID ULSTER POTENTIAL WOODLAND PLAY PROVISION



#### 9.4. 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 catchment 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 capital 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.



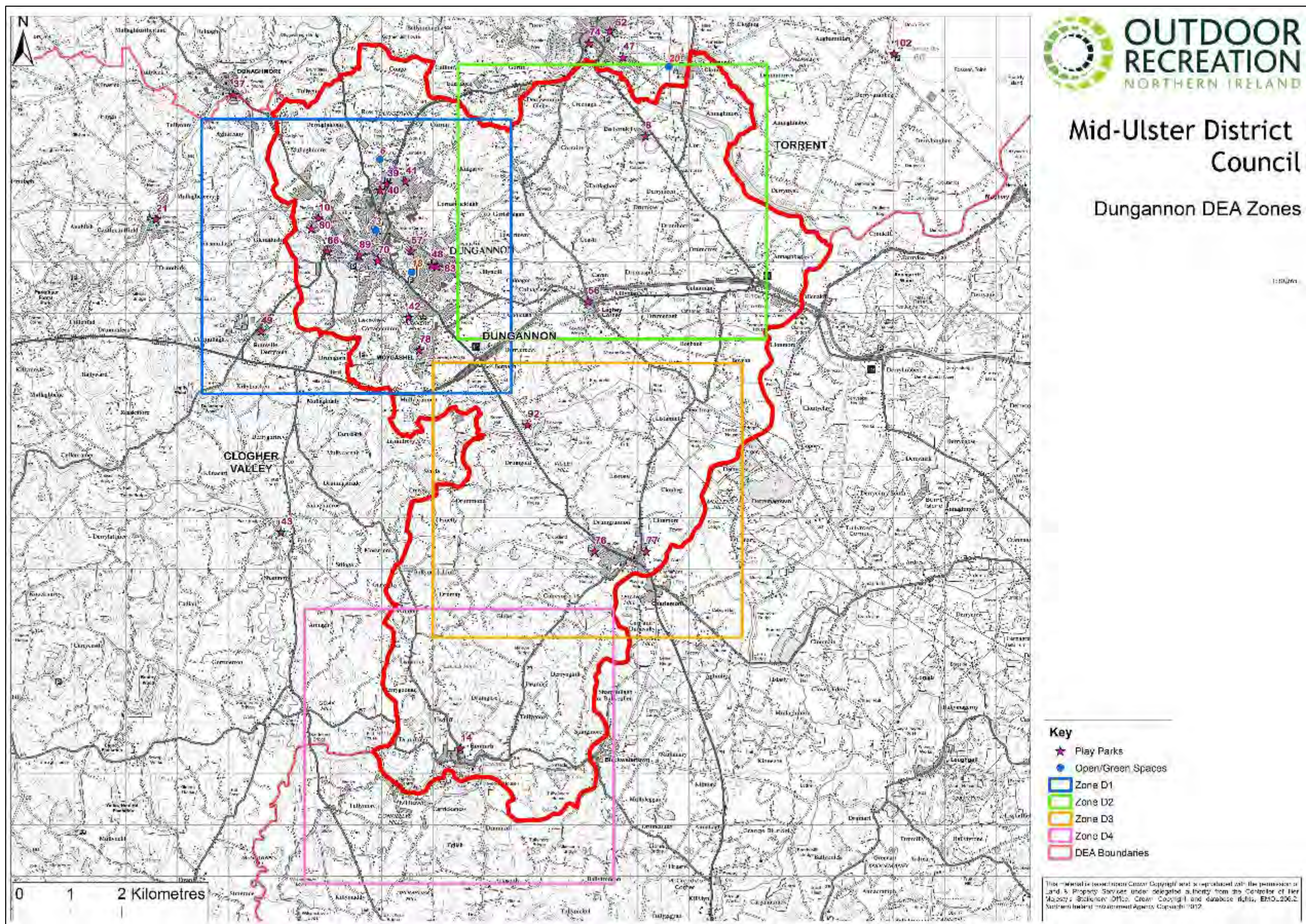


FIGURE 15 DUNGANNON DEA OVERVIEW



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	Ballysaggart will remain as a LEAP in support of the wider development plan for Railway Park and the potential development of a NEAP, it is suggested the current play provision is enhanced. (Figures 1 & 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Dungannon').	£20,000	Year 1
D1	39	Drumcoo	2	LEAP	The Drumcoo site no longer exists as an equipped area for play. Further community consultation is required to identify redevelopment potential as part of a wider proposal for Drumcoo Complex, offering a change of use to better serve the surrounding community. General maintenance to be maintained. (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)	TBC
D1	48	Gortnasoar	8.8	LEAP	Gortnasoar will remain as a LEAP in support of proposed developments at Windmill Wood with suggested enhancements. (Figures 1 & 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Dungannon').	£20,000	Year 4
D1	57	Killymerron	5	LEAP	Killymerron will remain as a LEAP and support proposed developments at Windmill Wood (Figures 1 & 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Dungannon') it is suggested that current provision is enhanced (Figures 1 & 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Dungannon').	£20,000	Year 1
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 4
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 1

D1	80	Mullaghmore	10	LEAP	Mullaghmore will remain as a LEAP in support to Railway Park development proposal. (Figures 1 & 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Dungannon').	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+
D1	83	Northland Village	6.8	LEAP	Northland Village will remain as a LEAP in support of Windmill Wood development proposal, it is felt that the play provision at Northland Village would not continue in its current form with enhancement (Figures 1 & 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Dungannon').	£25,000	Year 2
D1	89	Railway Park	5	LEAP	Council have a £1,000,000 development proposal for Railway Park offering improved visitor experience, infrastructure and events space and will include improved play provision to NEAP level. (subject to available funding and programming) 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 support existing LEAP play facilities at Mullaghmore and Ballysaggart (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'.	(£1,000,000 Development subject to available funding)*	Year 2
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	Moy Oakfield will remain as a LEAP in support of Curran's Brae NEAP proposal and will collectively cover all current and projected play requirements 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. External Community funding has provided an upgrade at Benburb not reflected in the score rating.* The site will be monitored and maintained ensure it continues to provide high quality play provision (Figure 6 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Dungannon').	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+

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 catchment 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
							£300,000

TABLE 17 DUNGANNON INDICATIVE COSTS

\*Total excludes RDP expenditure, Railway Park £1m development proposal, contingency @ 10% and those estimated costs occurring after 5 years. Mid Ulster District Council reserve the option to amend or vary specific delivery objectives associated to the Parks and Play Strategy, subject to Council approval.

### 9.5. 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 services<sup>32</sup>

The 6 zones within Cookstown in Figure 16 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 16 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, 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.

---

<sup>32</sup> 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) or an alternative suitable location, 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. This proposed development would significantly enhance the current quality of play and open green space in Cookstown.

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.



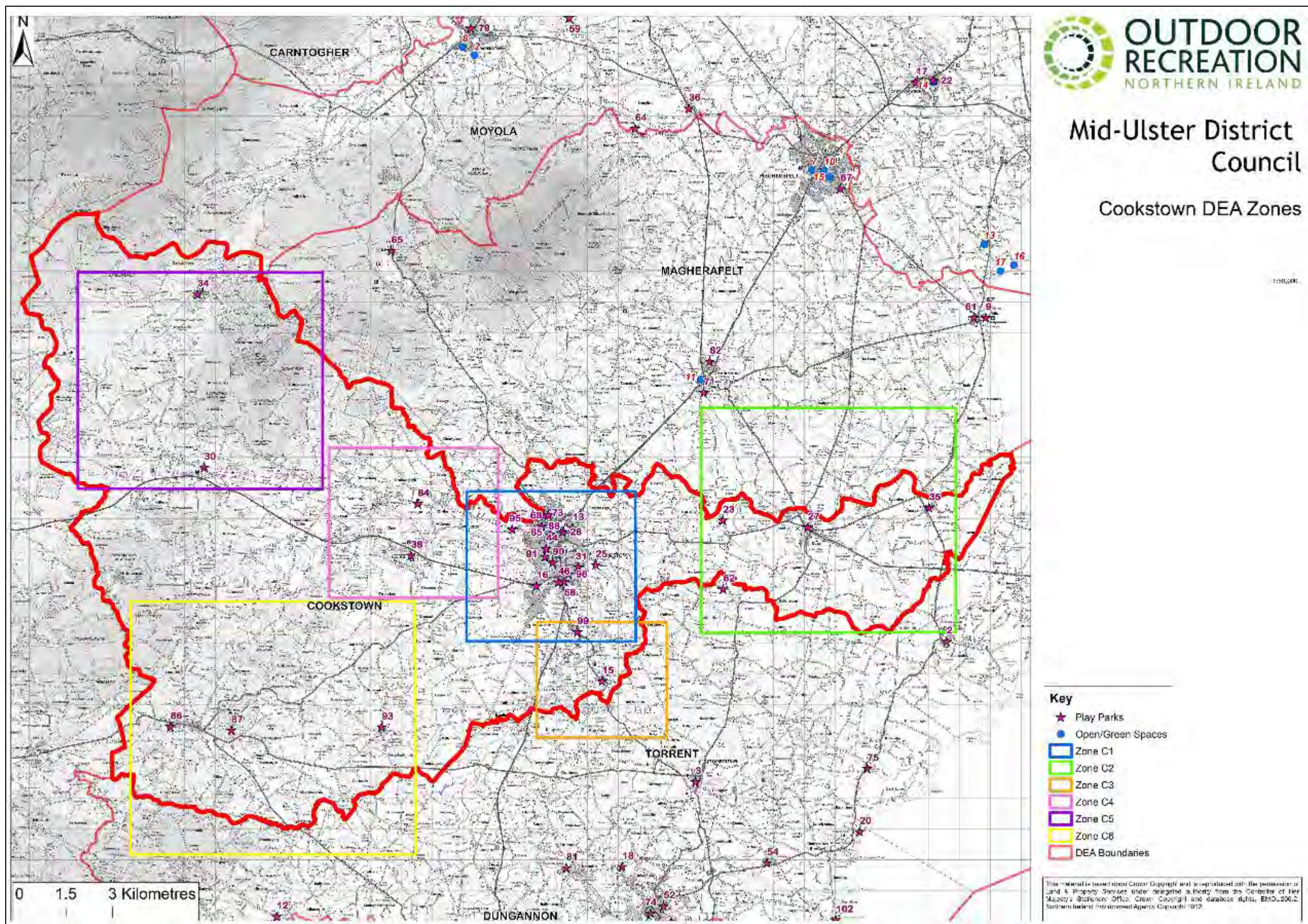


FIGURE 16 COOKSTOWN DEA OVERVIEW



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 2
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').	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+
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 2
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. With regards parkland, the playing fields at Fairhill and redevelopment of existing tennis courts has the potential to offer much needed open/green space provision within 'Cookstown Central'. Such a development may suggest a revised assessment of facilities within the catchment area. (Figures 1 & 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Cookstown').	£250,000 (subject to funding)	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. The Killymoon site may be subject to a community housing development proposal, which could necessitate a subsequent review. (Figures 1 & 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Cookstown').	TBC	Year 5+
C1	68	Milburn Close	9.3	LEAP	It is suggested that the play provision at Millburn Close (68) should be retained. Given the potential to develop Monrush as a NEAP and the suggested closure of Princess Avenue, it is essential to retain a site on either side of the main road. These sites will be known as 'Cookstown North' (Figures 1 & 2, 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+

					Report Cookstown'). Proposals to develop a Fairhill as a District Play Hub may necessitate a further review.		
C1	73	Monrush	7.1	LEAP	The existing site at Monrush has potential to be developed into a NEAP. Future development could include land north of this site (over 6 acres) offering significant open/greenspace for Cookstown North. Monrush and Millburn sites will have the collective capacity to provide for the wider area once served by Princess Avenue (88) which will be subject to review based on its recommended life span. Monrush has the capacity to provide play primarily for older children (Figures 1 & 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Cookstown').	£50,000 (Phase 1) £30,000 (Phase2)	Year 1 Year 1
C1	85	Orritor St.	7.2	LEAP	Orritor St. will continue to exist as a LEAP. There is potential to extend the current provision to cater for wider ages groups utilising the available space. (Figures 1 & 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Cookstown').	£25,000	Year 3
C1	88	Princess Avenue	8.1	LEAP	In conjunction with the suggested reclassification of Monrush (73) as a NEAP, Princess Avenue should be reviewed based on its recommended life span. Monrush and Millburn will be collectively known as 'Cookstown North'. While Monrush will cater primarily for older children, it is intended that Millburn 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 Princess Avenue (81) (Figures 1 & 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Cookstown').	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+
C1	90	Rathbeg	8.9	LEAP	Rathbeg will remain as a LEAP in support of proposed developments at Fairhill (44) NEAP catchment area. (Figures 1 & 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Cookstown').	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+
C1	91	Ratheen	6.4	LEAP	Ratheen will remain as a LEAP in support of proposed developments for Fairhill. Suggested enhancements are recommended. (Figures 1 & 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Cookstown').	£25,000	Year 1
C1	95	Sperrinview	6	LEAP	It is felt that the site at Sperrinview should be retained and considered for a change of use subject to further community engagement and consultation (Figures 1 & 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Cookstown').	Maintenance Budget	Year 1
C1	96	Stewart Avenue	7	LEAP	Stewart Avenue (96) will be retained with suggested enhancement, in support of proposed developments for Coolnafranky (NEAP) (Figures 1 & 2 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Cookstown').	£20,000	Year 4
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'.	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+
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 maintained to ensure it provides high quality play provision (Figure 3 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Cookstown').	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+

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 9.2 (See Figure 5 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Cookstown').	£35,000	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 2019, 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, which focuses on enhancing the Council's current forestry offering. Consideration for better pedestrian and cycling access from village to Pomeroy Forest. (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').	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+

**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	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 to enhance the outdoor	£25,000 (subject to funding)	5 Years+

Woodland Play Provision					recreation provision at this site (Figure 14 Mid Ulster Potential Woodland Play Provision).		
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).	£50,000 (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
							<b>£340,000</b>

TABLE 21 COOKSTOWN INDICATIVE COSTS

*\*Total excludes RDP expenditure, contingency @ 10% and those estimated costs occurring after 5 years. Mid Ulster District Council reserve the option to amend or vary specific delivery objectives associated to the Parks and Play Strategy, subject to Council approval.*



## 9.6. 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 consideration toward development at potential sites around Glenburn, 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 17 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. While Polepatrick offers the green space for passive leisure in Magherafelt, 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.



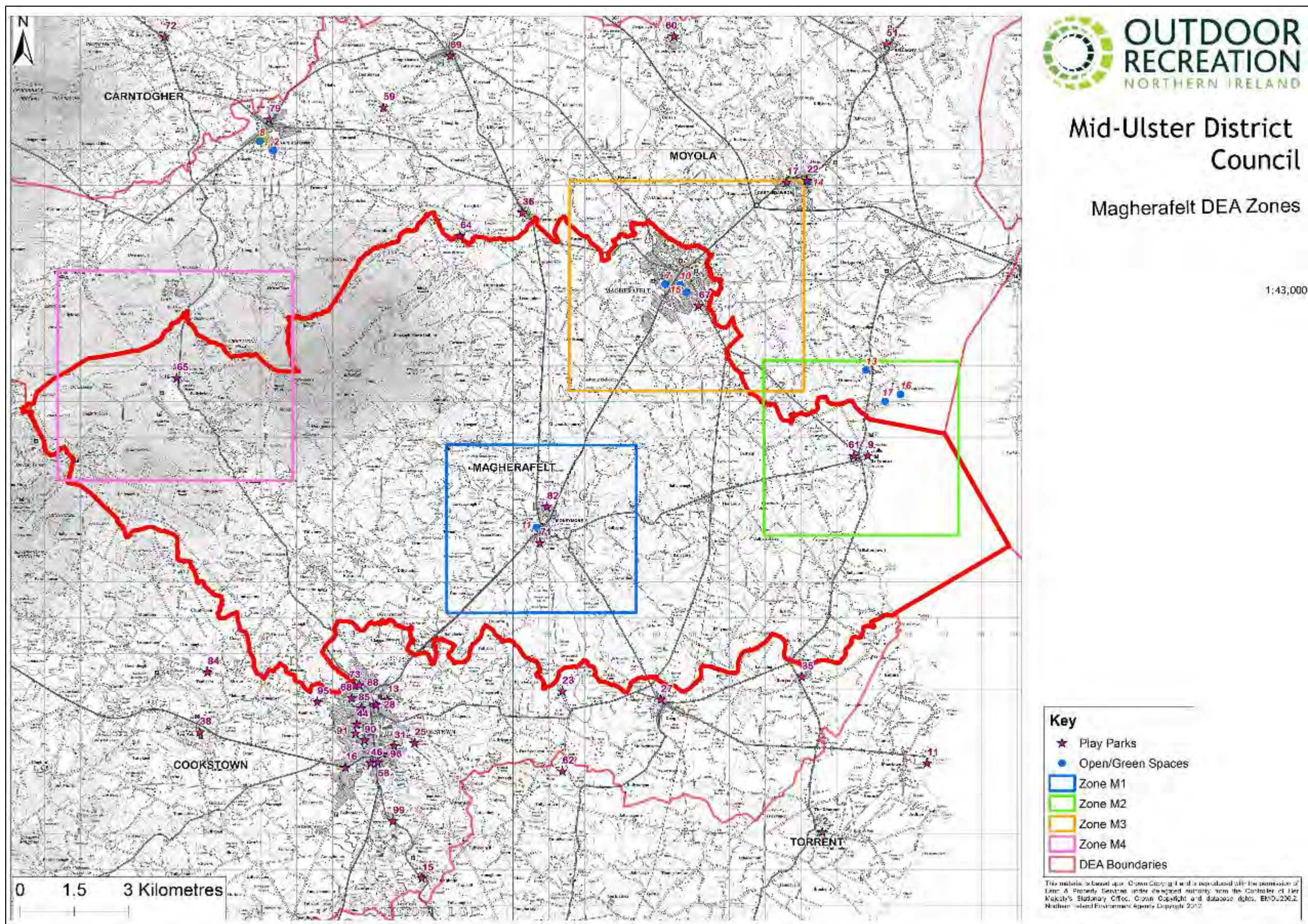


FIGURE 17 MAGHERAFELT DEA OVERVIEW



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 recreation 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	Lindsayville Ballyronan will be retained in support of the proposed development at Ballyronan Marina. (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 an open green space with potential for play and community development potential. It is suggested initial development of a LEAP should be located at Glenburn.	£45,000	Year 1
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 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
							<b>£65,000</b>

**TABLE 26 MAGHERAFELT INDICATIVE COSTS**

*\*Total excludes RDP expenditure, contingency @ 10% and those estimated costs occurring after 5 years. Mid Ulster District Council reserve the option to amend or vary specific delivery objectives associated to the Parks and Play Strategy, subject to Council approval.*



### 9.7. 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 for alternative community providing council an opportunity to redevelop this site.

Another key development area in Carntogher is Upperlands. Highlighted in the Outdoor Recreation Strategic Plan as a key recreation site, the community of Upperlands is to benefit from approximately £246,000, along with Innishrush £12k and Tamlaght O'Crilly £12k 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 and adjacent lands 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.



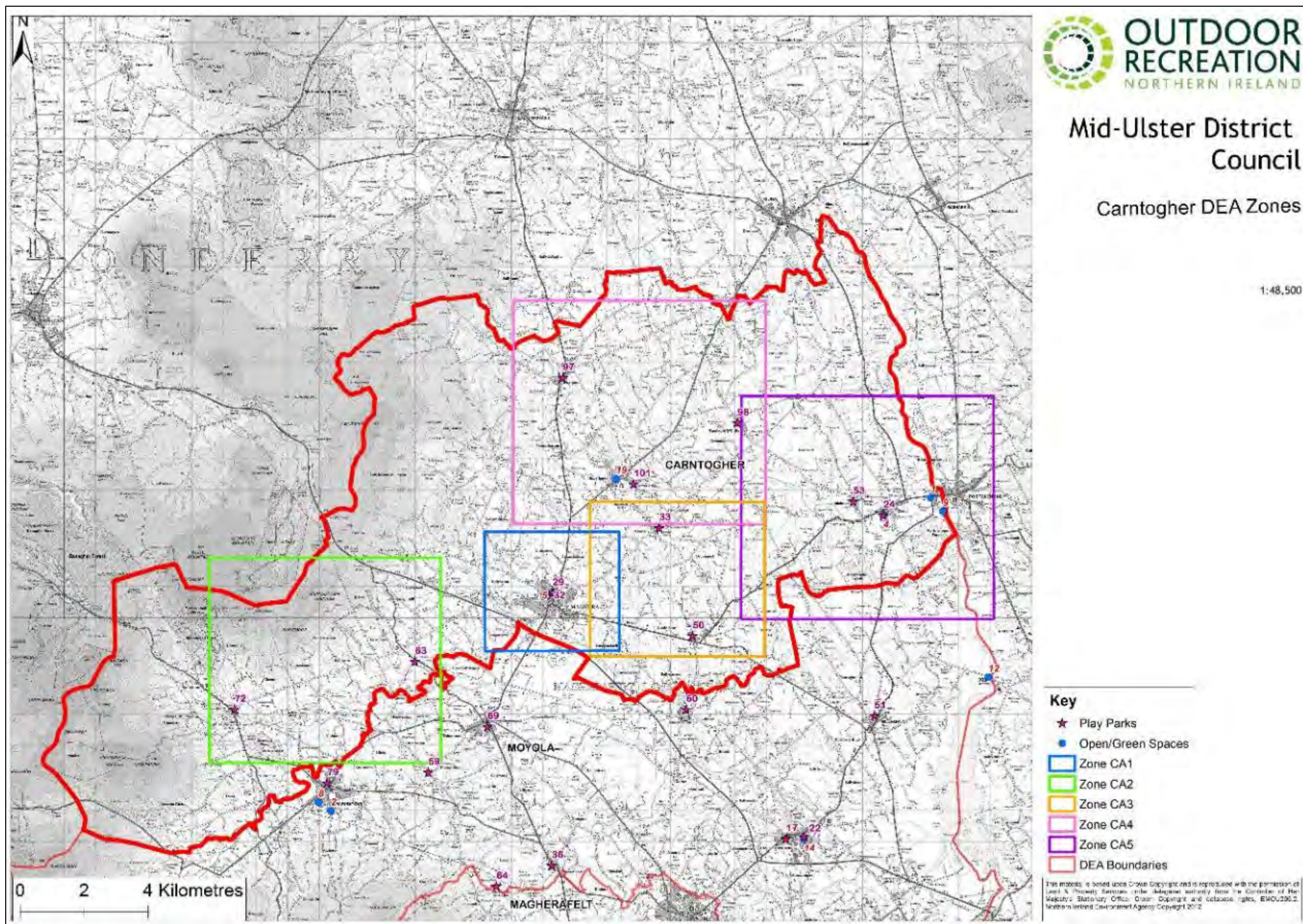


FIGURE 18 CARNTOGHER DEA OVERVIEW



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. The current play provision will be likely to be relocated with in a new configuration planned for the current site. 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 for alternative community use as the new play 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 and further consideration should be given to the expanding needs of the village, given the notable expansion of housing developments. (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 (subject to funding)	Year 2  5 Years+
CA4	98	Tamlaght	10	LEAP	In line with the Rural Development Programme - Village Renewal, it is planned that Tamlaght O'Crilly will benefit from £12,000 for play equipment refurbishment. (Figure 6 & 7 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Carntogher').	RDP*	Year 2
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. Consideration for suggested community garden development on adjacent open green space to include parking. (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	Council have returned this site to the former owner. New development established at Enterprise Centre CA 101. (Figure 6 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Carntogher').	N/A	N/A
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. Public access and Fishing Stand improvements undertaken from MUDC Capital Programme 2016 – 2020 and external 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 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
							<b>£25,000*</b>

**TABLE 30 CARNTOGHER INDICATIVE COSTS**

\*Total excludes RDP expenditure, contingency @ 10% and those estimated costs occurring after 5 years. Mid Ulster District Council reserve the option to amend or vary specific delivery objectives associated to the Parks and Play Strategy, subject to Council approval.



## 9.8. 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 along with funding for Konckloughrim £18.5k and Ballymaguigan (O'Neill Park) £37k under the RDP Village Renewal Programme. 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 Recommendation 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.



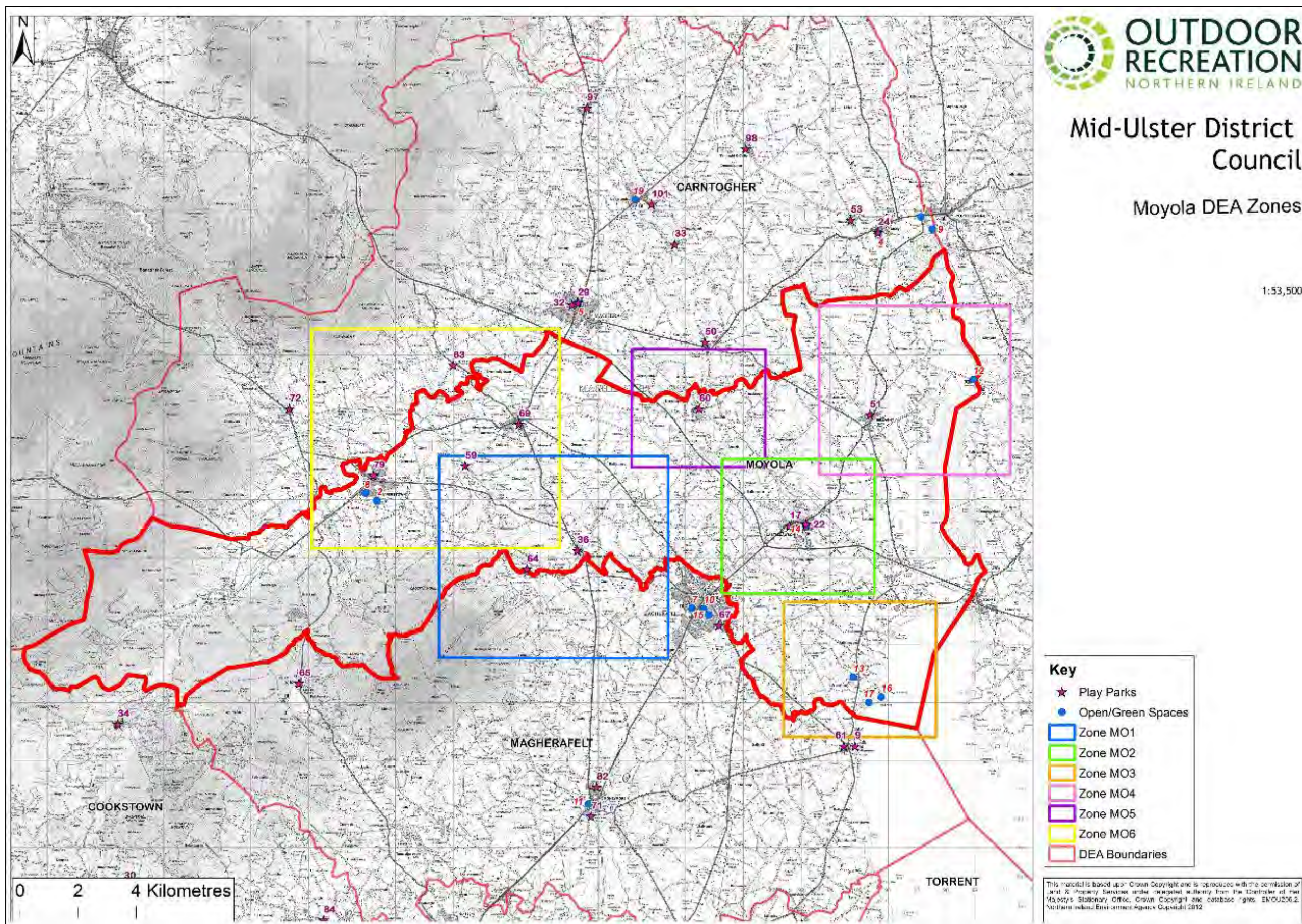


FIGURE 19 MOYOLA DEA OVERVIEW



Map Quadrant	Public Park/ Play Park ID	Name of Facility	Quality Score	LEAP/NEAP Status	Overview	Indicative Cost	Timings
MO1	36	Desertmartin	8.9	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').	Maintenance Budget	5 Years+
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. Consideration towards a suggested relocation to neighbouring GAA Club grounds could be further investigated through community consultation. (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	Peace IV funding £100,000 for mini MUGA extension to existing facilities. 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').	Peace IV Maintenance Budget	Year 1/2 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'). In line with the Rural Development Programme - Village Renewal, it is planned that Knockloughrim will benefit from £18,500 contribution to required refurbishment works.	£25,000 RDP*	Year 1 Year 2
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 funding)	Year 1 5 Years+
MO6	79	Moykeeran	7.2	NEAP	Peace IV capital funding £100,000 Moykeeran (Planter Park) offers potential for parkland development with works including landscaping and improvements to existing paths. Future development could include pump cycle track with possible exercise equipment and 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').	Peace IV* £100,000 (subject to funding)	Year 1/2 5 Years+

**TABLE 31 MOYOLA PUBLIC PARK/PLAY PARK RECOMMENDATION**

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 Council Playing fields at Cahore Road are leased to local sports clubs (soccer/GAA)	n/a	TBC
MO6	8	Glenelly Villas	n/a	n/a	Glenelly Villas is a disused play site of approximately 3 acres. Open green space will be retained for future recreation/community development.	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 West Slipway	n/a	n/a	This is an active public slipway and green space. There is development potential at this site for LEAP play and visitor facilities complimenting the Blueway Trail link to Portglenone.	£75,000	5 Years+
MO3	13	O'Neill Park	n/a	LEAP	In line with the Rural Development Programme - Village Renewal, it is planned that O'Neill will benefit from £37,000 in order to create a new play facility at the Ballymaguigan site. Development may also include for user car parking facilities. (Figures 3 & 4 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Moyola').	RDP*	Year 2
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').	£50,000 (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, 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, 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
							<b>£50,000*</b>

**TABLE 34 MOYOLA INDICATIVE COSTS**

*\*Total excludes RDP and Peace IV expenditure, contingency @ 10% and those estimated costs occurring after 5 years. Mid Ulster District Council reserve the option to amend or vary specific delivery objectives associated to the Parks and Play Strategy, subject to Council approval.*



### 9.9. 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.



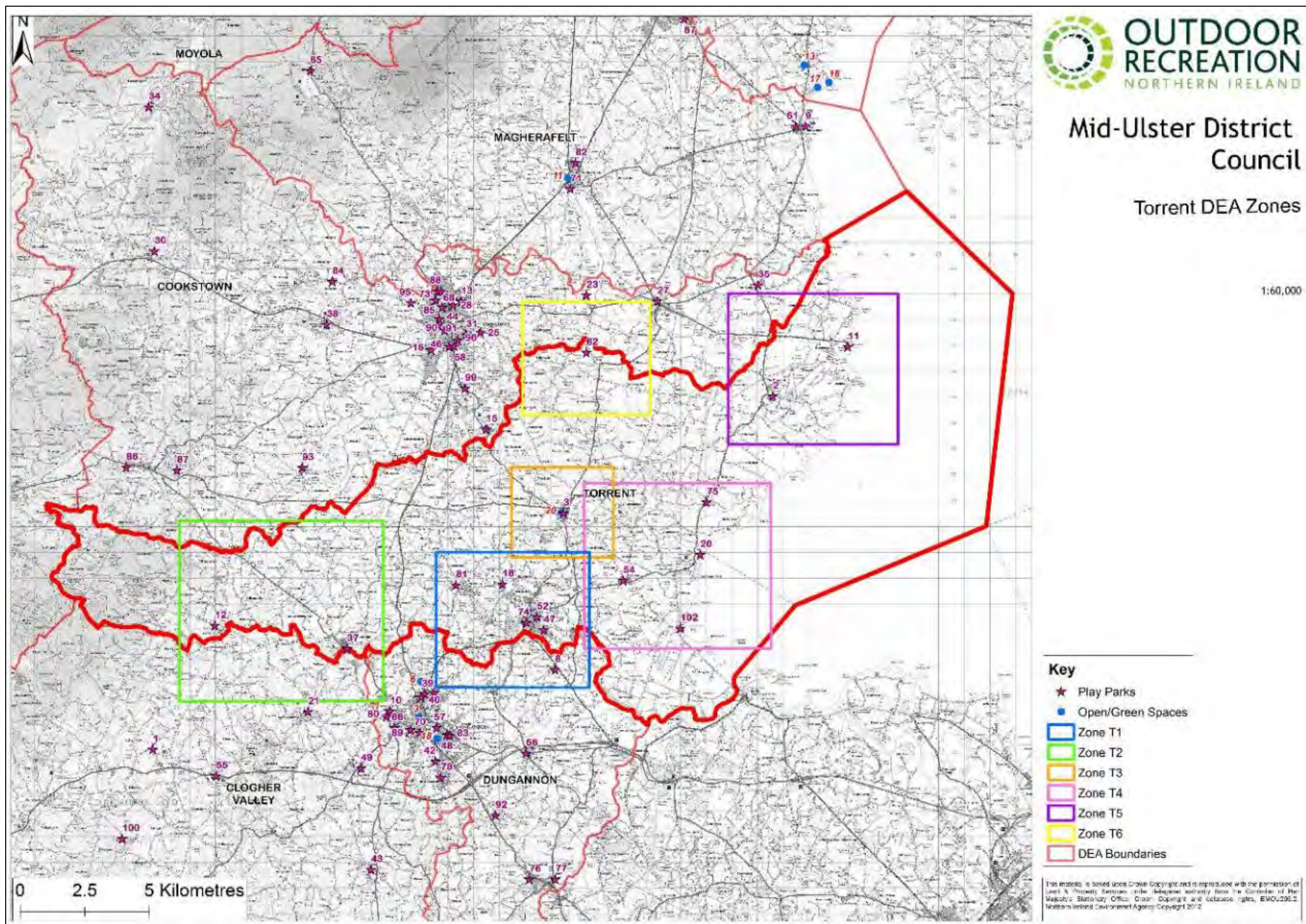


FIGURE 20 TORRENT DEA OVERVIEW



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'). Exiting equipment to be assessed and consideration toward relocation on an alternative site in Coalisland.	£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').	£45,000	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	Ardstewart will remain as a LEAP in support of proposed RDP play development 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. Additional equipment for older age groups to be investigated. The site will continue to 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	Retain as LEAP. Relocation of fixed play provision at Ardboe to alternative area within current site. 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').	£25,000	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/Clonoe	n/a	TBC	In line with the Rural Development Programme - Village Renewal, it is planned that Annaghmore/Clonoe 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 Altmore Forest Cappagh	N/A	Small Woodland Play element	It is suggested that Cookstown (Drumcairne) and Altmore Forest 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 to enhance the outdoor recreation provision at this site (Table 12 Bespoke Woodland Play Locations).	£25,000 (subject to funding) £25,000 (subject to Funding)	5 Years+ 5 Years+

**TABLE 37 TORRENT SMALL BESPOKE WOODLAND PLAY RECOMMENDATIONS**

Totals							Total
							<b>£220,000*</b>

**Table 38 Torrent Indicative Costs**

*\*Total excludes RDP and Peace IV expenditure, contingency @ 10% and those estimated costs occurring after 5 years. Mid Ulster District Council reserve the option to amend or vary specific delivery objectives associated to the Parks and Play Strategy, subject to Council approval.*



#### 9.10. 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 in the region 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.



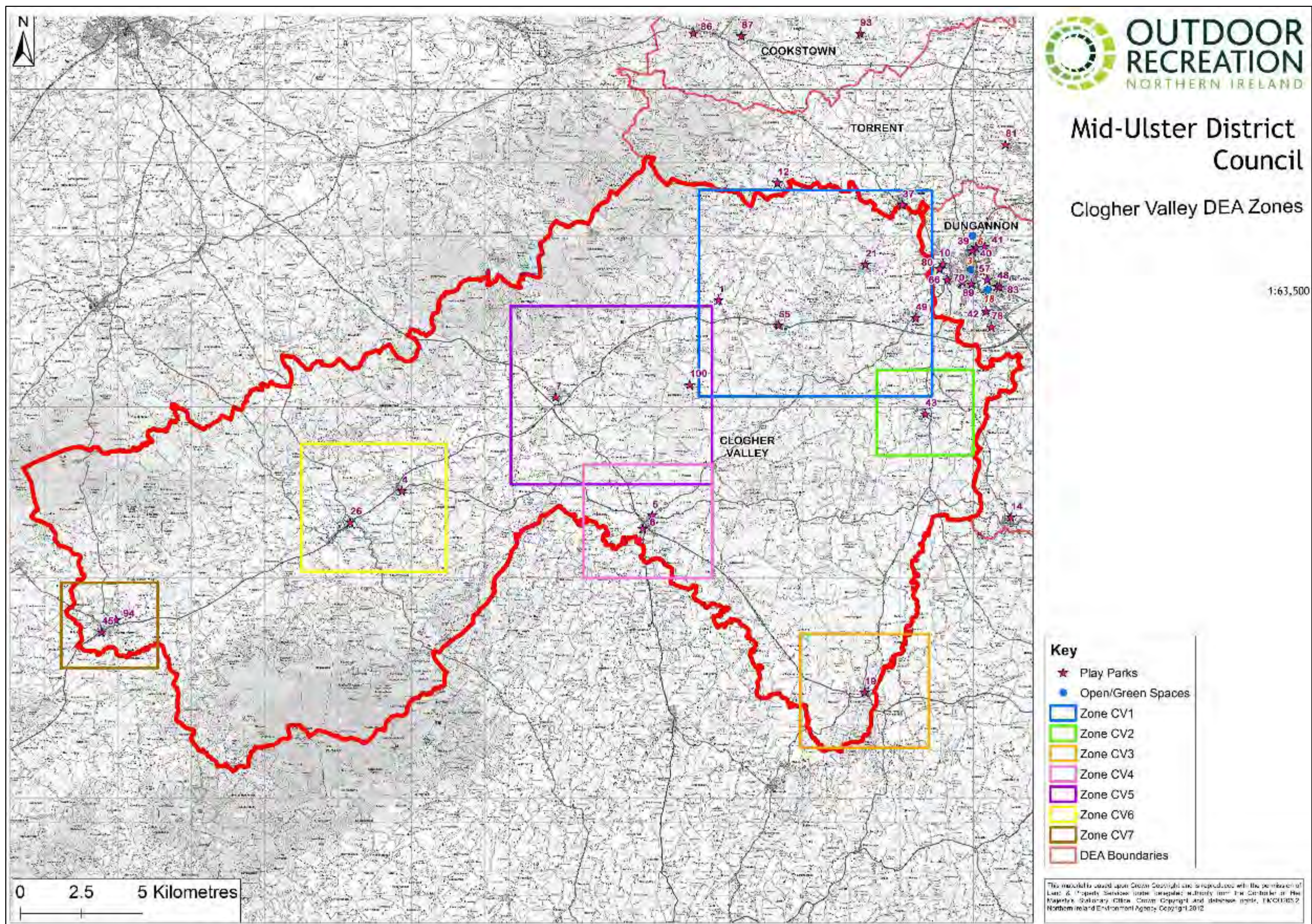


FIGURE 21 CLOGHER VALLEY DEA OVERVIEW



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 1
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 £37,000 in order to enhance existing play facilities to provide an all-weather MUGA. Further enhancement of existing surfaces with provision of inclusive play equipment and fencing. (Figure 3 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Clogher Valley').	RDP* £25,000	Year 1 Year 2
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	Peace IV Funding £100,000 to develop eco-park and allotments project. 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'.	Peace IV* £50,000	Year 1/2 Year 5
CV4	6	Aughnacloy - Coronation Park	7.3	LEAP	Coronation Park should be reviewed based on community requests for relocation to cater for the wider community in Aughnacloy (Figures 5 & 6, 'Public Parks and Play Strategic Plan – Map Report Clogher Valley').	£40,000	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 3

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	Sport (NI) and DAERA Funding £260k Forest Community Development Project. 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 to enhance the outdoor recreation provision at this site (Table 12 Bespoke Woodland Play Locations).	Sport (NI)/DAERA* £25,000 (subject to funding)	Year 1/2 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 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 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
							<b>£125,000*</b>

**TABLE 41 CLOGHER VALLEY INDICATIVE COSTS**

*\*Total excludes RDP, Peace IV and Sport (NI)/DAERA expenditure, contingency @ 10% and those estimated costs occurring after 5 years. Mid Ulster District Council reserve the option to amend or vary specific delivery objectives associated to the Parks and Play Strategy, subject to Council approval.*



## 10. Case Studies

### 10.1. 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



## 10.2. 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



### 10.3. 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**

#### **10.4. 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**

## 11. 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.

### 11.1. 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>

### 11.2. Heritage Lottery Fund

#### 11.2.1. 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>



#### *11.2.2. 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>

### **11.3. 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.

#### *11.3.1. 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>

#### *11.3.2. 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> call available.

#### *11.3.3. 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

T:028 8676 4714

E: [eamon.gallogly@midulstercouncil.org](mailto:eamon.gallogly@midulstercouncil.org)



## 12. 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

(Appendix 3).

## 13. Recommendations

### 13.1. 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 and projected as a 5year + programme. (Development programmes and time scales may vary subject to available funding streams).
- **Public Park Development** – 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. Council have a £1m development proposal for Railway Park, deliverable within the strategy period subject to funding. Development of Public Parks would be subject to sourcing funding and projected as a 5year + programme. (Development programmes and time scales may vary subject to available funding streams).



- 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, Traad Point and Drumcairne Forest. The Significant Woodland Play sites identified include: Derrynoyd Forest, Parkanaur Forest, Pomeroy Forest, Drum Manor Forest and Drumlamph Forest. Development of Woodland Play would be subject to sourcing funding and projected as a 5year + programme. (Development programmes and time scales may vary subject to available funding streams).
- 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, Sports Facility Strategy and the Local Development Plan 2030 – Draft Plan Strategy
- 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 at Glenburn and work with other statutory bodies to identify potential sites e.g. Education Authority and Northern Ireland Housing Executive.

- **Planning** – In line with Council’s Local Development Plan 2030 – Draft Plan Strategy, Council seek to protect existing areas of open space and encourage the provision of new open space. This will be achieved by identifying important parcels of open space to be protected, zoning of new open space and by formulating policy to require open space to be provided by the developer in new housing developments. In addition, Council recognise the benefits of dual use of open spaces and are working with the Education Authority to share sports pitches. Council are also working with NIHE to facilitate children’s play provision on land under their control. 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 should take account of the Regional Development Strategy, SPSS 7 and 8 and the Local Development Plan 2030 Draft Plan Strategy.
- **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.

### 13.2. **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	DEA	Park Site	Action	Year	Indicative Cost
<b>Activity Centre Development (2)</b>					
	Magherafelt	Ballyronan	Activity Centre	5 Years+	£250,000 (subject to funding)
	Dungannon	Dungannon Park	Activity Centre	5 Years+	£250,000 (subject to funding)
<b>District Play Development (5)</b>					
	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)
<b>Relocation (3)</b>					
	Torrent	Ardboe	Relocation	Year 5	£25,000
	Clogher Valley	Aughnacloy - Coronation Park	Relocation	5 Years+	TBC
	Moyola	Longfield	Relocation	5 Years+	TBC
<b>Recommended Life Span/ (3)</b>					
	Cookstown	Clare	Recommended Life Span	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Cookstown	Coagh Street	Recommended Life Span	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Carntogher	Crawfordsburn	Recommended Life Span	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
Development programmes and time scales may vary subject to available funding streams.					
<b>Change of Use/Remove (4)</b>					
	Clogher Valley	Killymaddy	Remove	Year 1	Maintenance Budget
	Carntogher	Moneyneena	Remove	Year 1	Maintenance Budget
	Cookstown	Sperrin View	Remove	Year 1	Maintenance Budget
	Torrent	Innishmore	Change of use MUGA to LEAP	Year 2	£50,000
<b>Maintenance/ Enhancements (54)</b>					
	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	Ballysaggart	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Year 1	£20,000
	Dungannon	Killymerron	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Year 1	£20,000

	Dungannon	Redford	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Year 1	£25,000
	Cookstown	Ratheen	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
	Clogher Valley	Eglis	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Year 2	£25,000
	Dungannon	Northland village	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Year 2	£25,000
	Cookstown	Orritor St.	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Year 3	£25,000
	Torrent	Washingbay	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Year 3	£25,000
	Cookstown	Stewarts Avenue	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Year 3	£20,000
	Clogher Valley	U.S. Grants	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Year 3	£25,000
	Cookstown	Conway Close	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Year 4	£25,000
	Cookstown	Gortalowry	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Year 4	£25,000
	Dungannon	Gortnasaor	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Year 4	£20,000
	Dungannon	Milltown	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Year 4	£25,000
	Torrent	Ardboe	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Year 5	£25,000
	Carntogher	Clady	Maintenance/ Enhancement	Year 5	£25,000
	Clogher Valley	Ackinduff	Maintenance	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Dungannon	Ballynakelly	Maintenance	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Torrent	Beechline, Galbally	Maintenance	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Dungannon	Benburb	Maintenance	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Cookstown	Blackhill	Maintenance/ Enhancement	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Moyola	Castledawson	Maintenance	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Cookstown	Coagh Park, Coagh	Maintenance	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Carntogher	Culnady	Maintenance	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget



	Cookstown	Davagh Forest	Maintenance	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Moyola	Desertmartin	Maintenance	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Cookstown	Derrychrin, Ballinderry	Maintenance	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Dungannon	Dunavon	Maintenance	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Carntogher	Glenone, Ballynacombs	Maintenance	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Carntogher	Gulladuff	Maintenance	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Moyola	Hunters Park	Maintenance	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Torrent	Killeen	Maintenance	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Moyola	Kilross	Maintenance	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Magherafelt	Lindsayville	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
	Cookstown	Milburn Close	Maintenance	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Magherafelt	Moneymore RC	Maintenance	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Torrent	Mountcairn Coalisland	Maintenance	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Dungannon	Moy, Oakfield	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
	Cookstown	Rathbeg	Maintenance	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Cookstown	Rockdale	Maintenance	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget
	Cookstown	Tullywiggan	Maintenance	5 Years+	Maintenance Budget

<b>Upgrades (13)</b>					
	Cookstown	Monrush Phase 1	Upgrade	Year 1	£50,000
	Cookstown	Monrush Phase 2	Upgrade	Year 1	£30,000
	Dungannon	Moygashel Jacksonville	Upgrade MUGA to include LEAP	Year 1	£50,000
	Magherafelt	Glenburn	Upgrade	Year 1	£45,000
	Cookstown	Drum Manor Forest	Upgrade to provide inclusive play options	Year 1	£35,000
	Cookstown	Beechway	Upgrade	Year 2	£50,000
	Cookstown	Coolnafranky	Upgrade	Year 2	£50,000
	Dungannon	Railway	Upgrade Subject to development plan funding	Year 2	£150, 000
	Torrent	Henderson Park	Upgrade/MUGA	Year 2	£40,000
	Clogher Valley	Clogher	Upgrade	Year 3	£50,000
	Torrent	Battery harbour	Upgrade	Year 3	£50,000
	Dungannon	Moy Curran's Brae	Upgrade	Year 4	£50,000
	Clogher Valley	Aughnacloy	Upgrade	Year 5	£50,000
	Dungannon	Drumcoo Green	Upgrade	5 Years+	£50,000
	Cookstown	Pomeroy Forest	Upgrade	5 Years+	£25,000



Park Development	DEA	Park Site	Action	Year	Indicative Cost
<b>RDP Funded (23)</b>					
	Clogher Valley	Caledon	RDP Funded	Year 1	£38,103
	Clogher Valley	Fivemiletown Fairgreen	RDP Funded	Year 1	£160,000
	Clogher Valley	Castlecaullfield	RDP Funded	Year 1	£17,000
	Clogher Valley	Ballygawley	RDP Funded	Year 1	£51,000
	Clogher Valley	Eglis	RDP Funded	Year 1	£37,000
	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 funding	Year 1  5 Years+	£38,103  New Public Park
	Cookstown	Berkeley Square, T'hogue	RDP Funded	Year 2	£38,103
	Carntogher	Swatragh	RDP  Proposal subject to 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
	Carntogher	Tamlaght O'Crilly	RDP Funded	Year 2	£12,000
	Carntogher	Innishrush	RDP Funded	Year 2	£12,000
	Moyola	knockloughrim	RDP Funded	Year 2	£18,500
	Moyola	O'Neill Park, Ballymaguigan	RDP Funded	Year 2	£37,000
<b>Peace IV Funded (3)</b>					
	Moyola	Moykeeran	Peace IV Funded	Year 1/2	£100,000
	Moyola	Castledawson	Peace IV Funded	Year 1/2	£100,000
	Clogher Valley	Aughnacloy	Peace IV Funded	Year 1/2	£100,000

Woodland Park Development					
<b>Small Woodland Parks (7)</b>	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
	Torrent	Drumcairne Forest	Small Woodland Park (subject to funding)	5 Years+	£25,000
<b>Significant Woodland Parks (5)</b>					
	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

Development programmes and time scales may vary subject to available funding streams.



Park Development	DEA	Park Site	Action	Year	Indicative Cost
<b>New Pocket Park Sites (13)</b>					
	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+	£250,000
	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
	Moyola	Newferry	Park Development (subject to funding)	5 Years+	£75,000

Development programmes and time scales may vary subject to available funding streams.

## 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
Torrent	3	Ardstewart, Stewartstown	LEAP	9
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
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	8.9
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	8.8
Cookstown	91	Ratheen	LEAP	6.4

<b>Dungannon</b>	92	Redford	LEAP	5
<b>Cookstown</b>	93	Rockdale, Rock	LEAP	8
<b>Clogher Valley</b>	94	Roundlake, Fivemiletown	LEAP	5.5
<b>Cookstown</b>	95	Sperrinview	LEAP	6
<b>Cookstown</b>	96	Stewart Avenue	LEAP	7
<b>Carntogher</b>	97	Swatragh	LEAP	8.2
<b>Carntogher</b>	98	Tamlaght	LEAP	10
<b>Cookstown</b>	99	Tullywiggan	LEAP	8.3
<b>Clogher Valley</b>	100	U.S. Grants	LEAP	7.5
<b>Carntogher</b>	101	Upperlands	LEAP	10
<b>Torrent</b>	102	Washingbay	LEAP	7.4

TABLE 42 PLAY PROVISION CLASSIFICATION



## APPENDIX 2

### Details of the seven public consultation events:

- 23 <sup>rd</sup> January, Cookstown Leisure Centre	Cookstown DEA
- 31 <sup>st</sup> January, Maghera Leisure Centre	Carntogher DEA
- 31 <sup>st</sup> January, Seamus Heaney Homeplace, Bellaghy	Moyola DEA
- 2 <sup>nd</sup> February, Dungannon Park	Dungannon DEA
- 2 <sup>nd</sup> February, Cornmill Centre, Coalisland	Torrent DEA
- 6 <sup>th</sup> February, Ballygawley BADA Community Hall,	Clogher Valley DEA
- 8 <sup>th</sup> February, Meadowbank Sports Arena	Magherafelt DEA

### Additional Members Workshops

- **31<sup>st</sup> July Dungannon Park**  
Dungannon Torrent and Cloghervalley DEA's
- **2<sup>nd</sup> August Meadowbank Leisure Centre**  
Cookstown, Carntogher, Moyola and Magherafelt DEA's

## 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
			<b>£79,044</b>

### 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
			<b>£9,568</b>
<b>Total Gross Cost</b>			<b>£88,612</b>

### 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.

### 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 two similar posts would be created for Ballymacombs and Parkview/Riverside



## 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

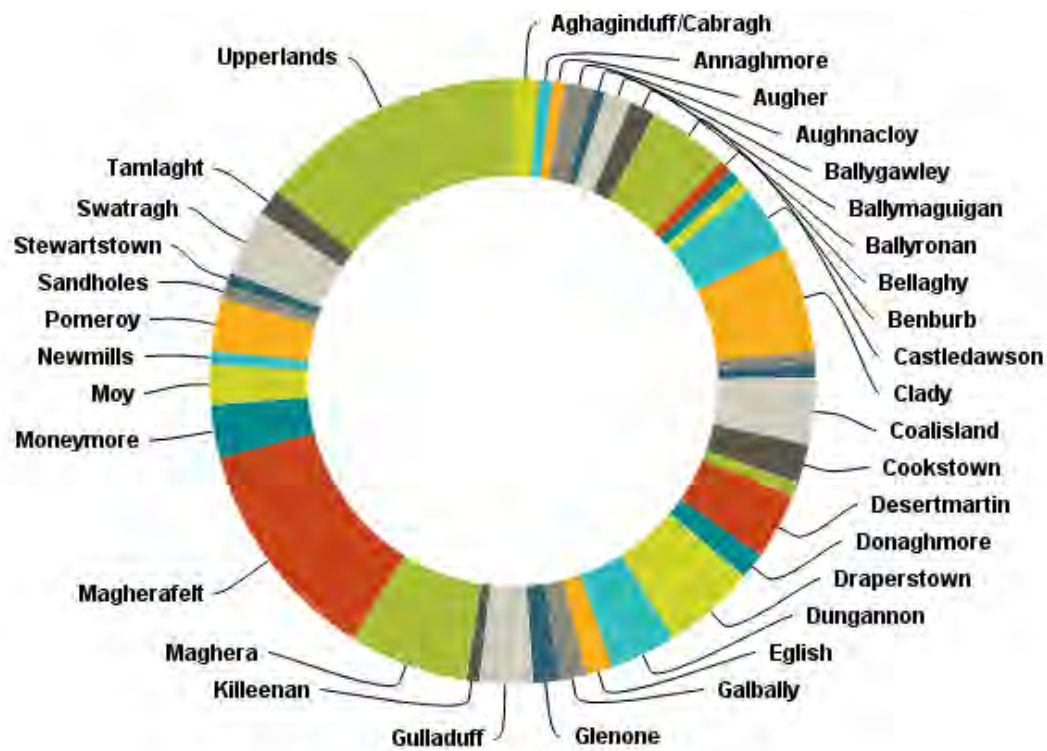
Hidden

Other (please specify)



## Q1 In which village/town of Mid Ulster do you live?

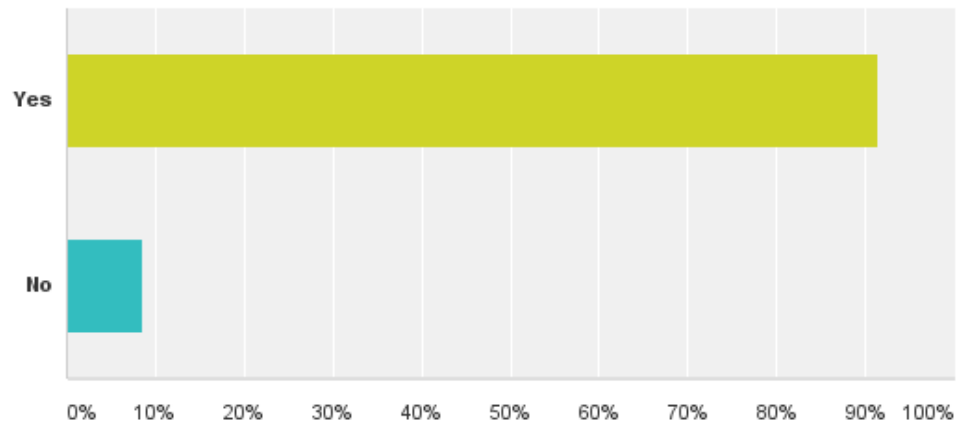
Answered: 141 / Skipped: 0



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

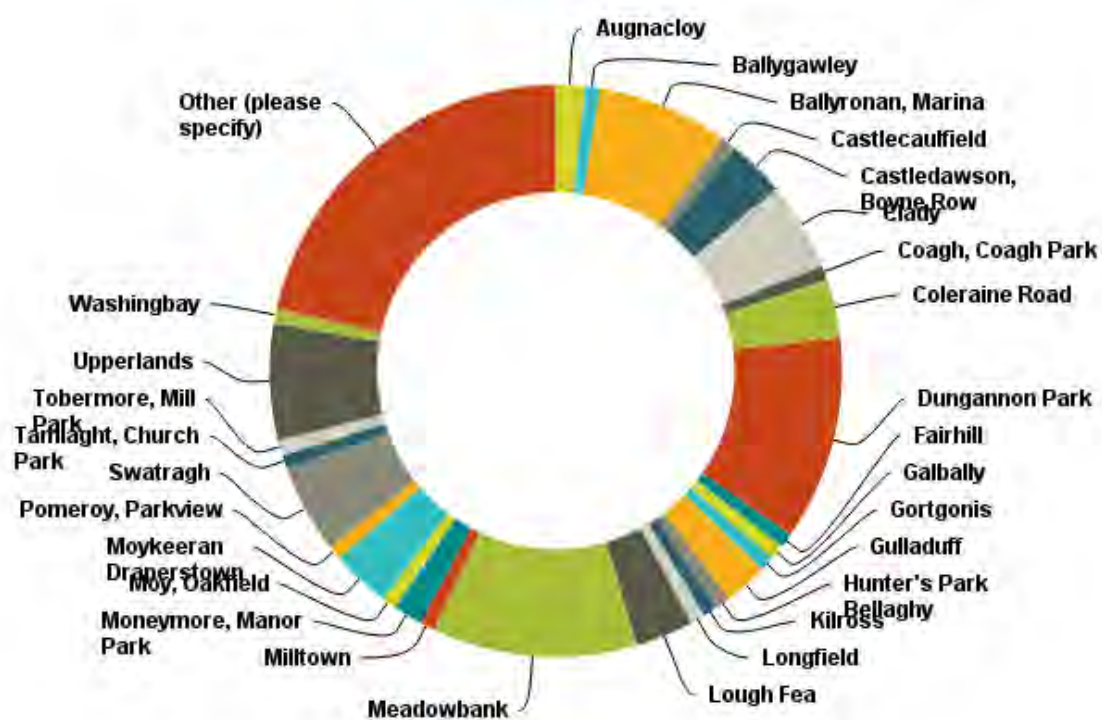


Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	91.49%	129
No	8.51%	12
Total		141



**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



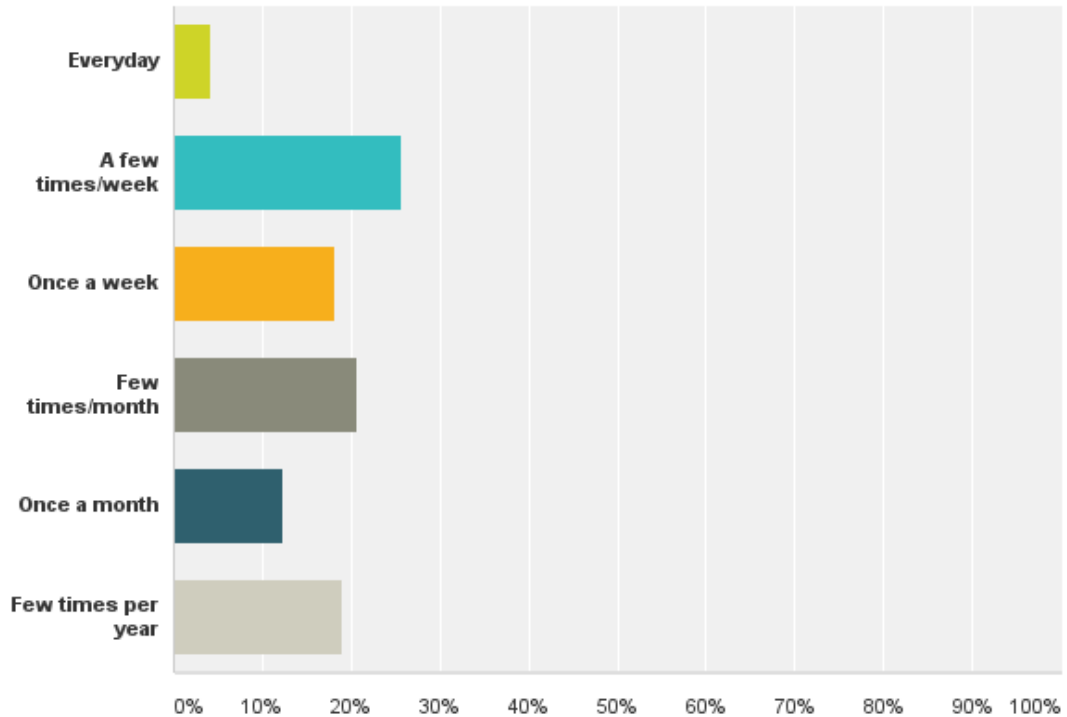
Answer Choices	Responses	
➤ Augnacloy	1.65%	2
➤ Ballygawley	0.83%	1
➤ Ballyronan, Marina	7.44%	9
➤ Castlecaulfield	0.83%	1
➤ Castledawson, Boyne Row	3.31%	4
➤ Clady	4.96%	6
➤ Coagh, Coagh Park	0.83%	1
➤ Coleraine Road	3.31%	4
➤ Dungannon Park	11.57%	14
➤ Fairhill	0.83%	1
➤ Galbally	0.83%	1
➤ Gortgonis	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)	<b>Responses</b> 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

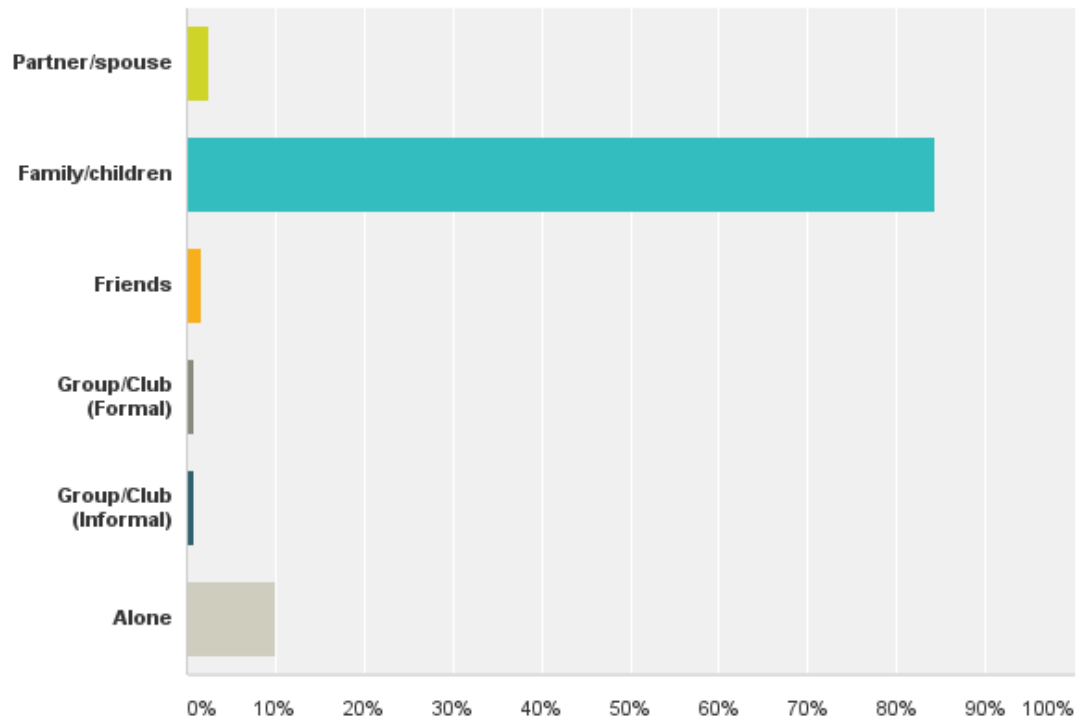


Answer Choices	Responses	
Everyday	4.13%	5
A few times/week	25.62%	31
Once a week	18.18%	22
Few times/month	20.66%	25
Once a month	12.40%	15
Few times per year	19.01%	23
Total Respondents: 121		



## Q5 Who do you normally visit this park/play park with?

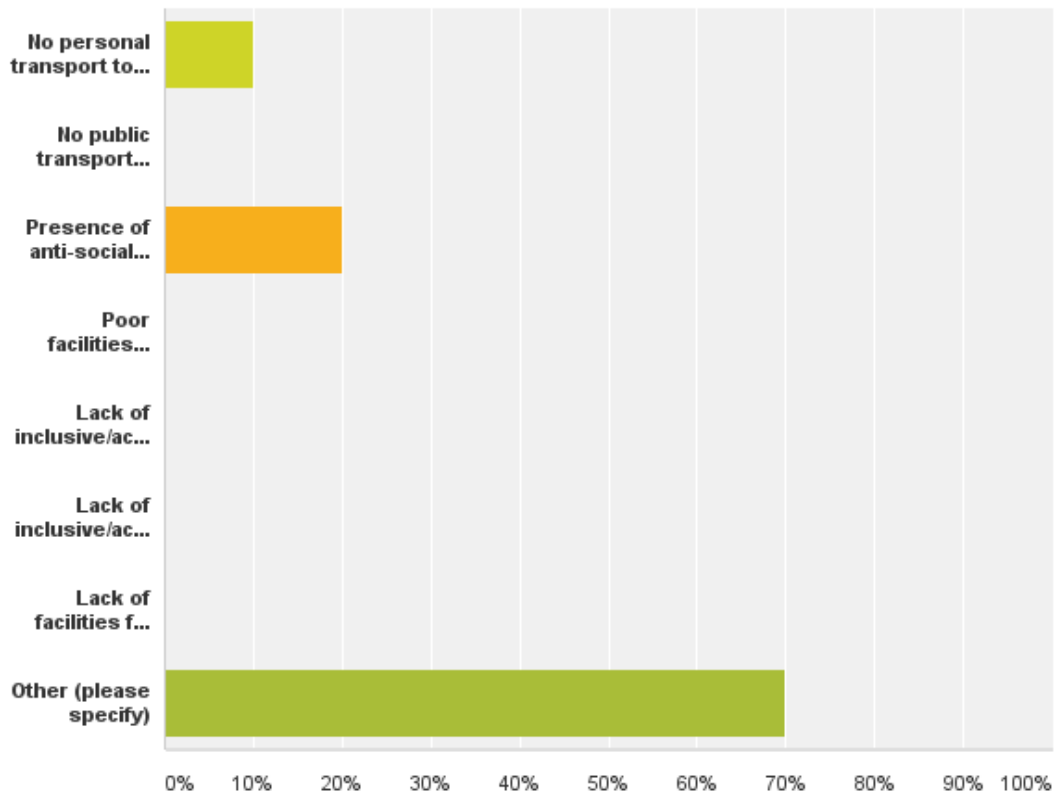
Answered: 121 Skipped: 20



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



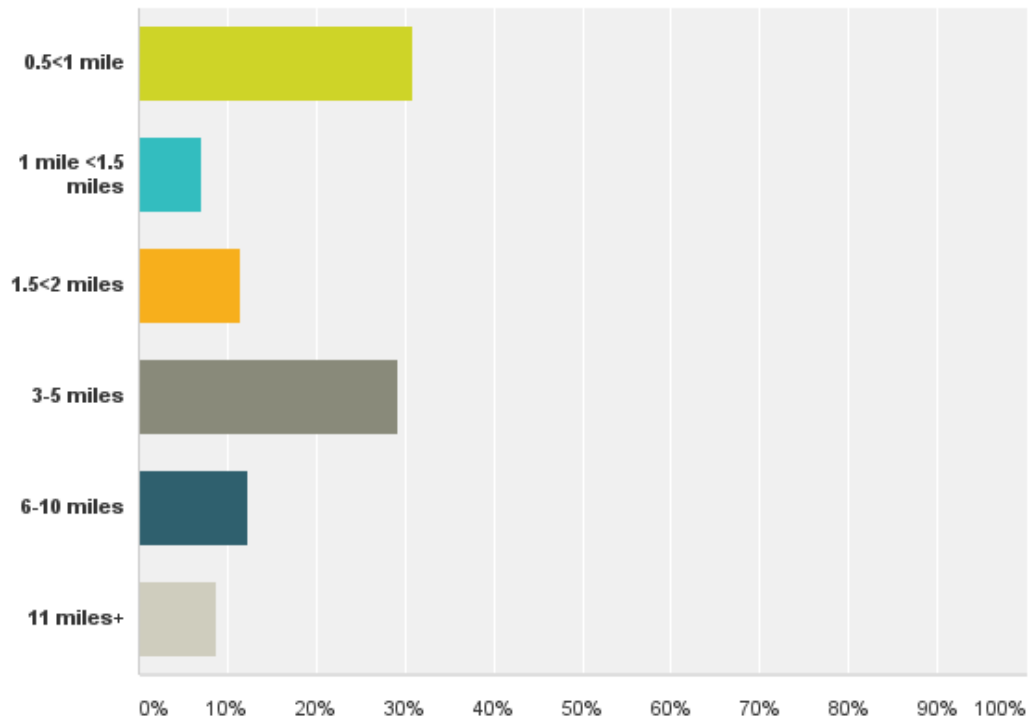
Answer Choices	Responses
▼ No personal transport to travel to park	10.00% 1
▼ No public transport available to park	0.00% 0
▼ Presence of anti-social behaviour within the park	20.00% 2
▼ Poor facilities (toilets, parking, bins, café)	0.00% 0
▼ Lack of inclusive/accessible play (limited or non-existent 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) <b>Responses</b>	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

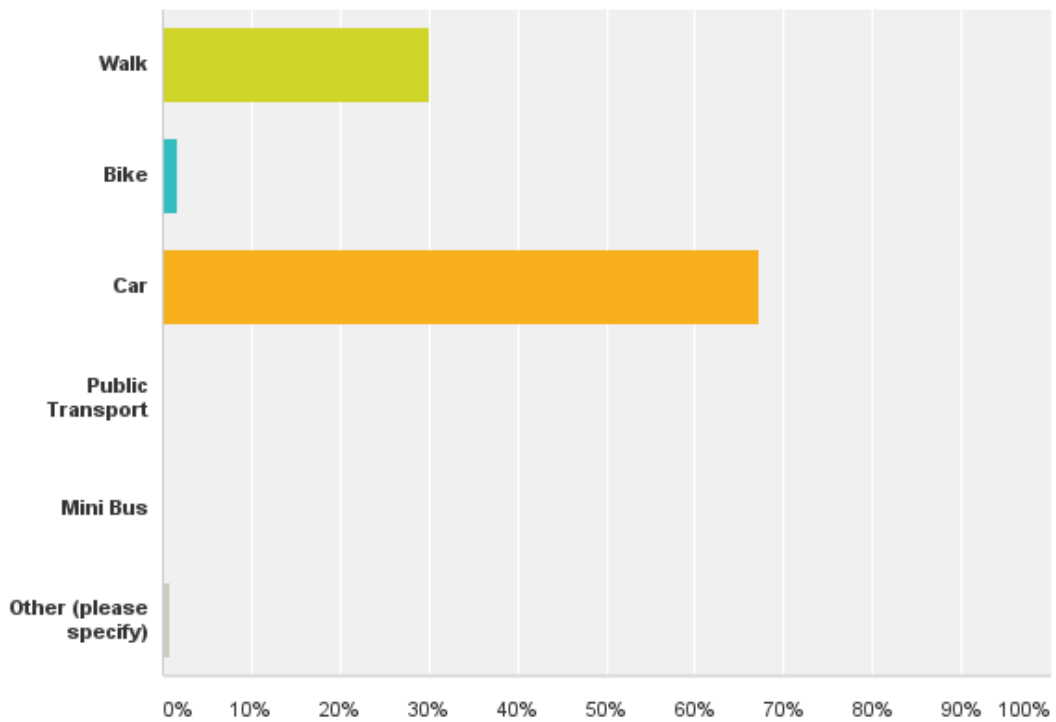


Answer Choices	Responses	
0.5<1 mile	30.97%	35
1 mile <1.5 miles	7.08%	8
1.5<2 miles	11.50%	13
3-5 miles	29.20%	33
6-10 miles	12.39%	14
11 miles+	8.85%	10
Total		113



## Q8 How do you travel to this park/play park

Answered: 113 Skipped: 28



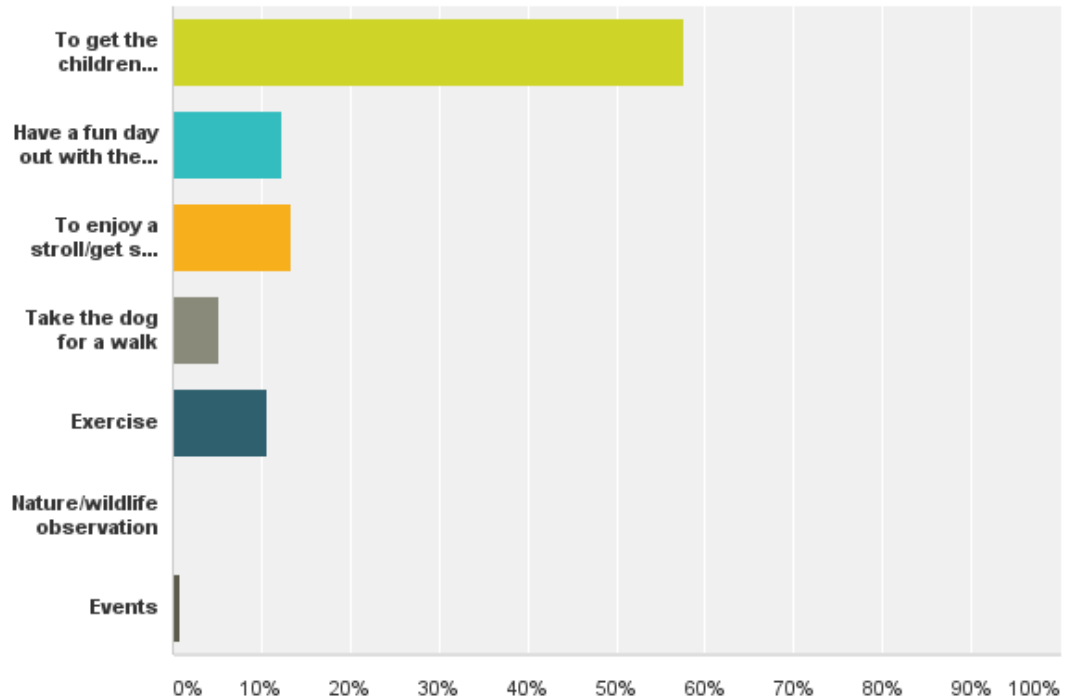
Answer Choices	Responses	
Walk	30.09%	34
Bike	1.77%	2
Car	67.26%	76
Public Transport	0.00%	0
Mini Bus	0.00%	0
Other (please specify)	0.88%	1
Total		113

### 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.

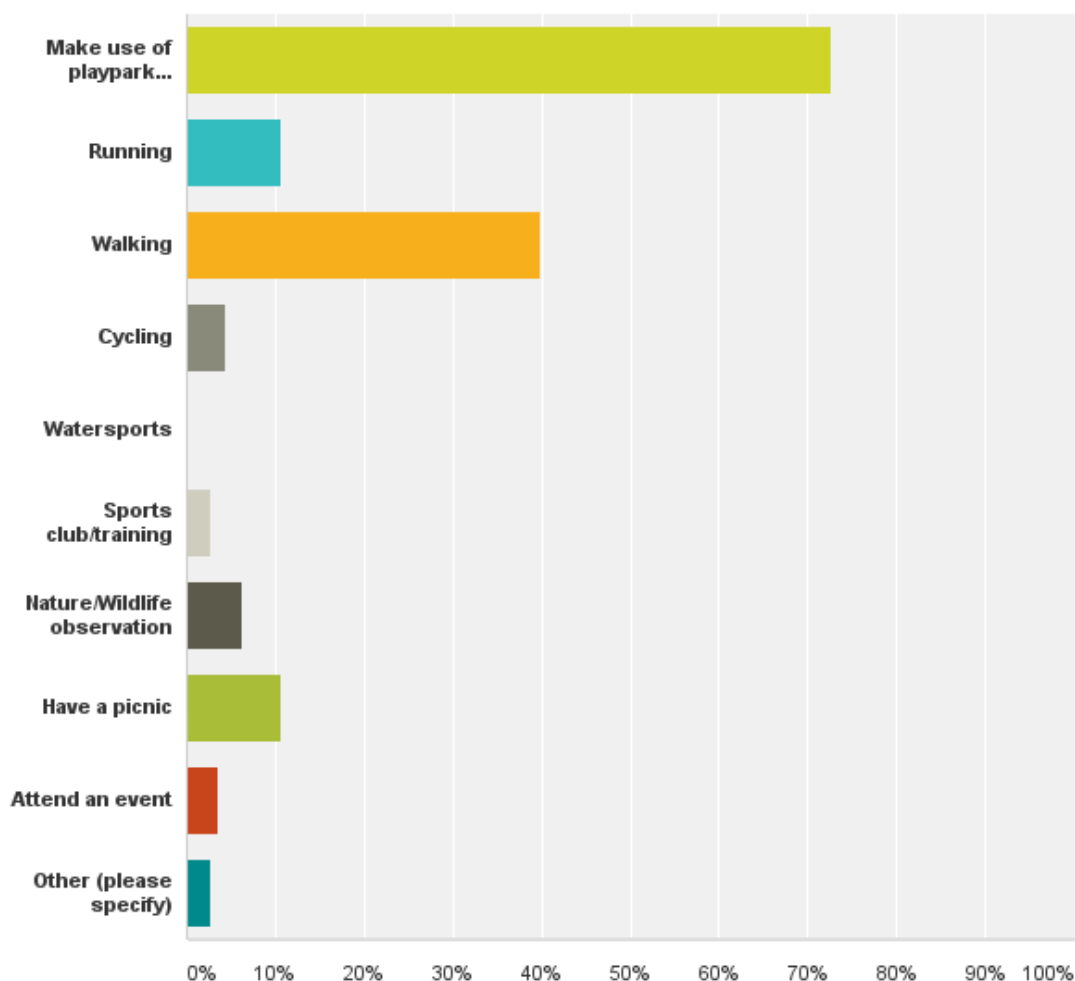
The closest play park for the children.

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		

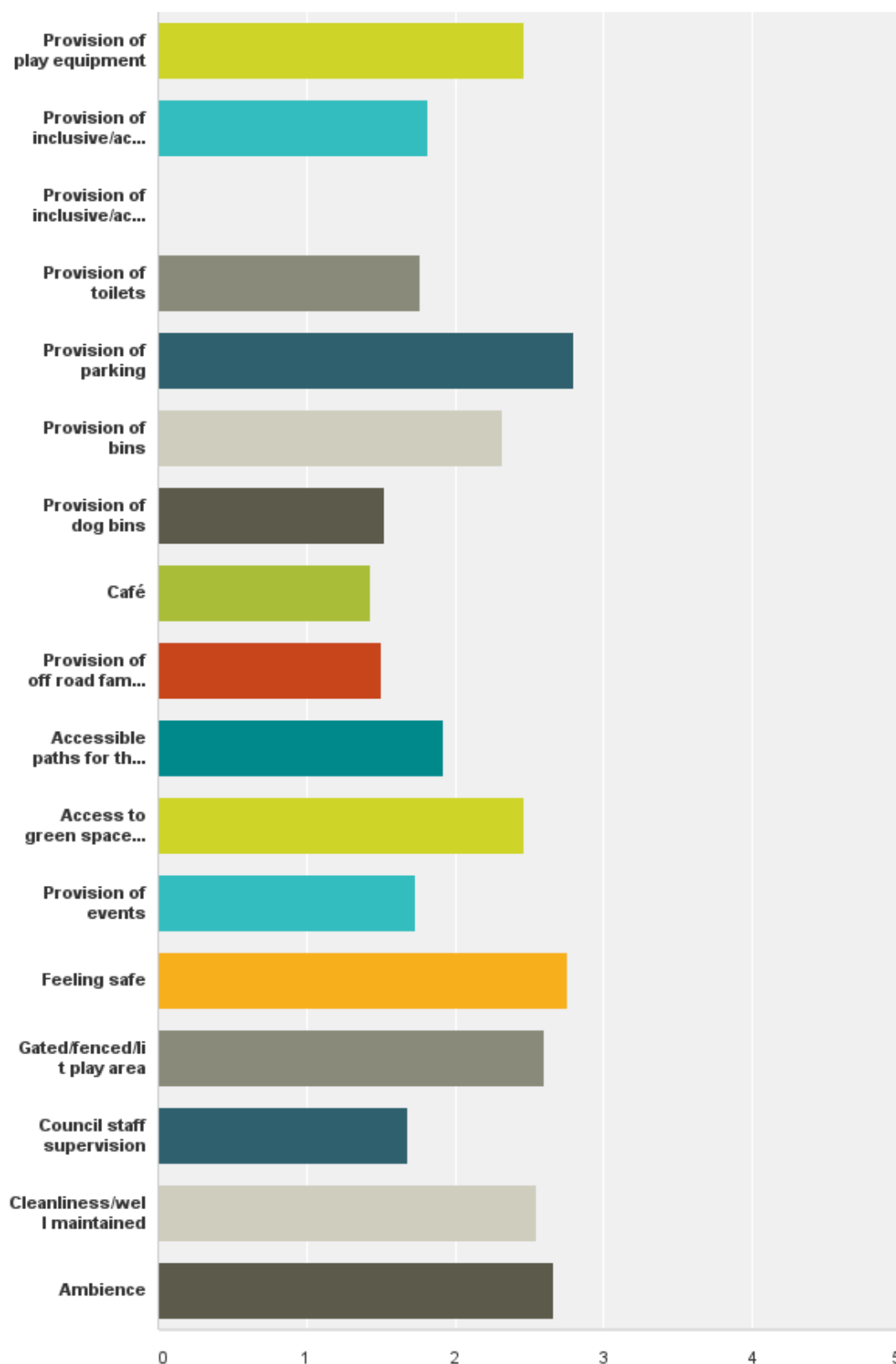


## **OTHER ACTIVITIES**

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

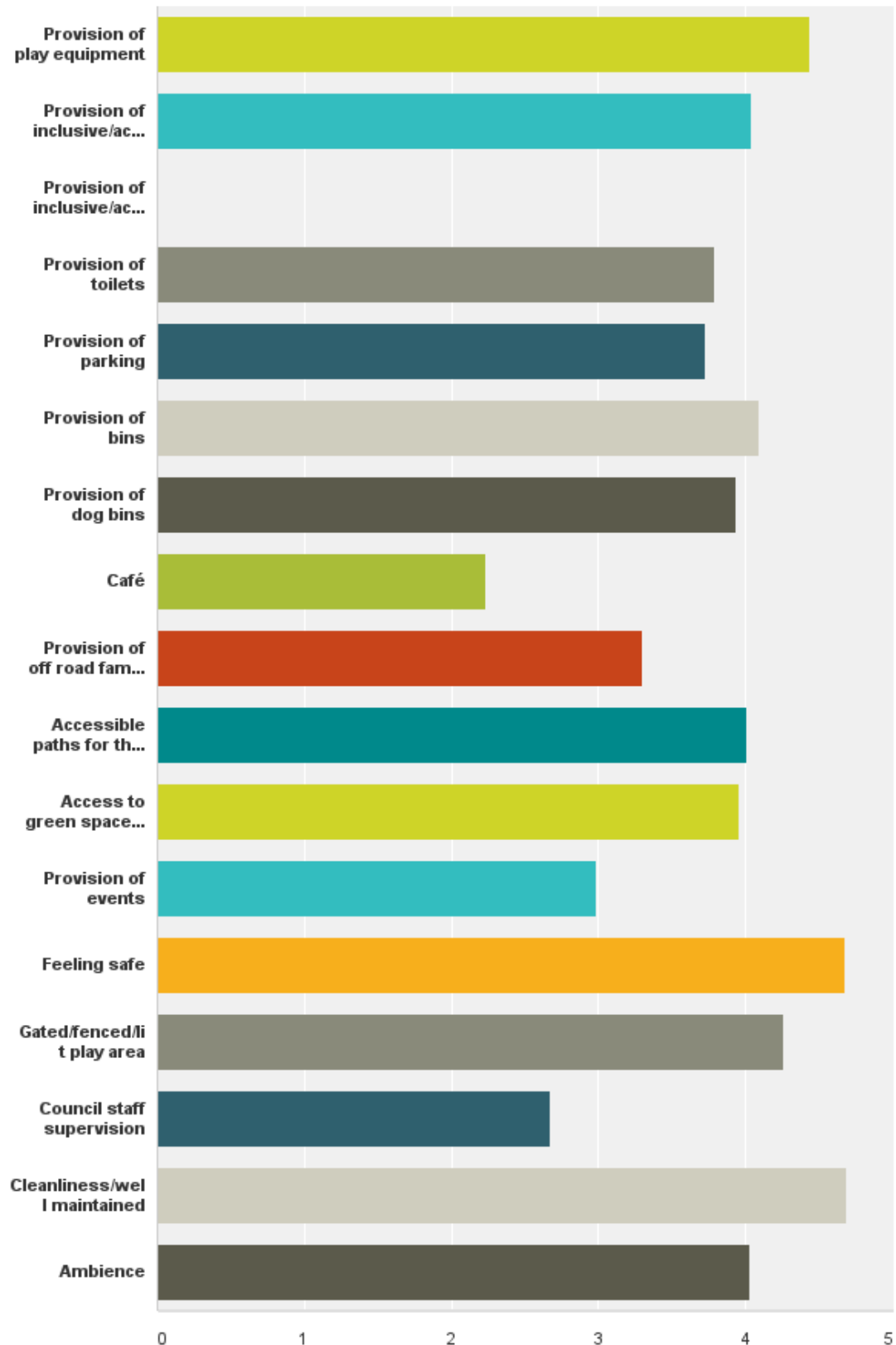


	Poor	Satisfactory	Good	Very Good	Excellent	N/A	Total	Weighted Average
Provision of play equipment	25.25% 25	27.27% 27	21.21% 21	16.16% 16	5.05% 5	5.05% 5	99	2.46
Provision of inclusive/accessible play equipment (play facilities and changing for people with a disability - Physical, hearing, sight, learning, 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?**

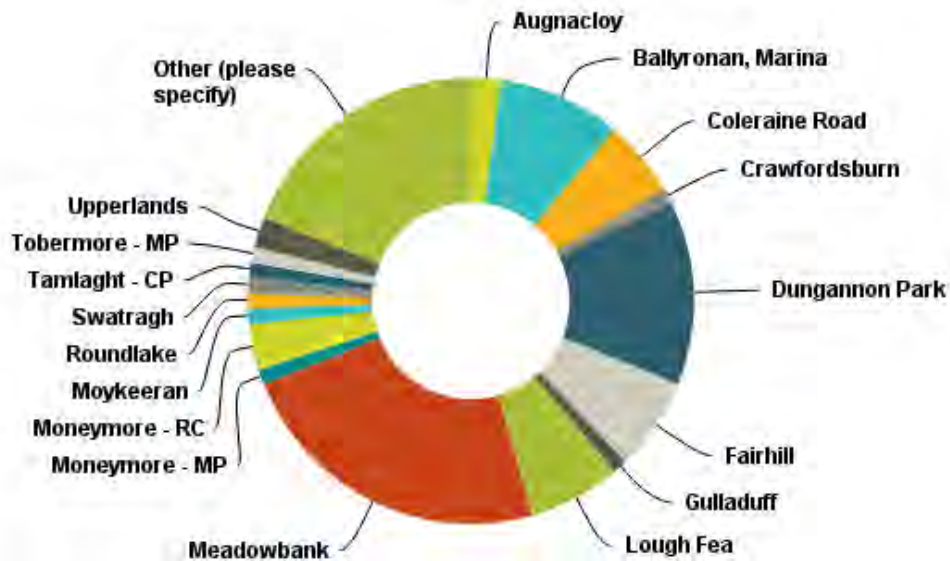
Answered: 99 Skipped: 42



	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

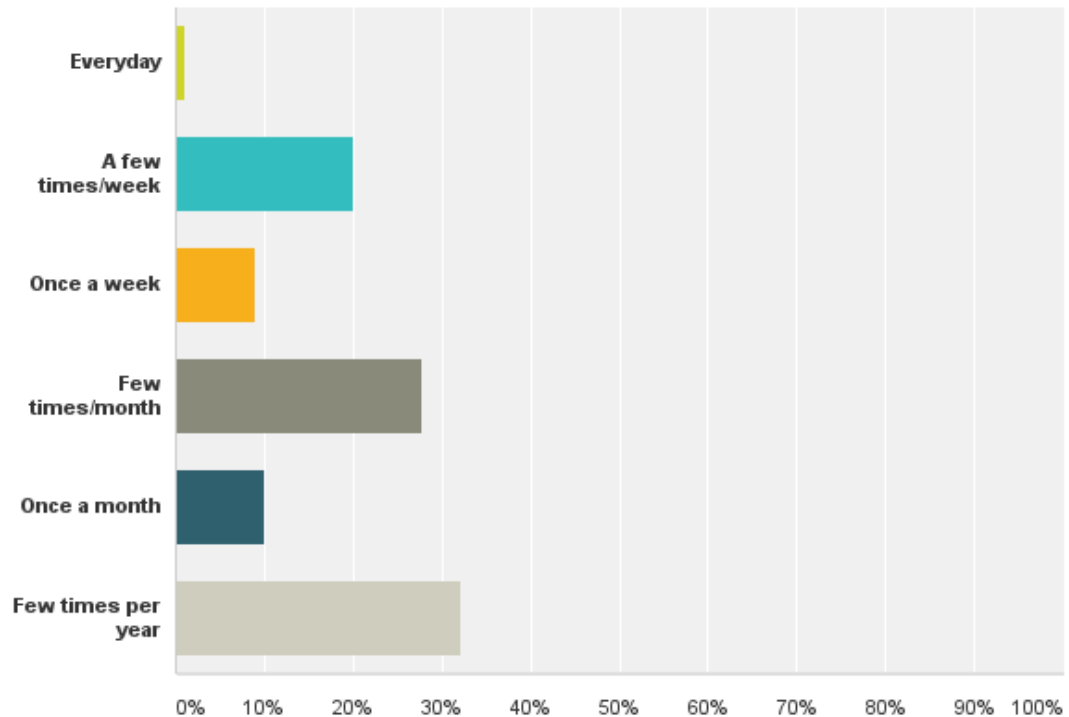




Answer Choices		Responses	
➤	Augnacloy	2.22%	2
➤	Ballyronan, Marina	8.89%	8
➤	Coleraine Road	5.56%	5
➤	Crawfordsburn	1.11%	1
➤	Dungannon Park	13.33%	12
➤	Fairhill	6.67%	6
➤	Gulladuff	1.11%	1
➤	Lough Fea	6.67%	6
➤	Meadowbank	23.33%	21
➤	Moneymore, Manor Park	1.11%	1
➤	Moneymore, Recreation Centre	3.33%	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)	<b>Responses</b> 18.89%	17
Total			90

# **Q14 Thinking about your favourite park/playpark, how often would you use this park/play park?**

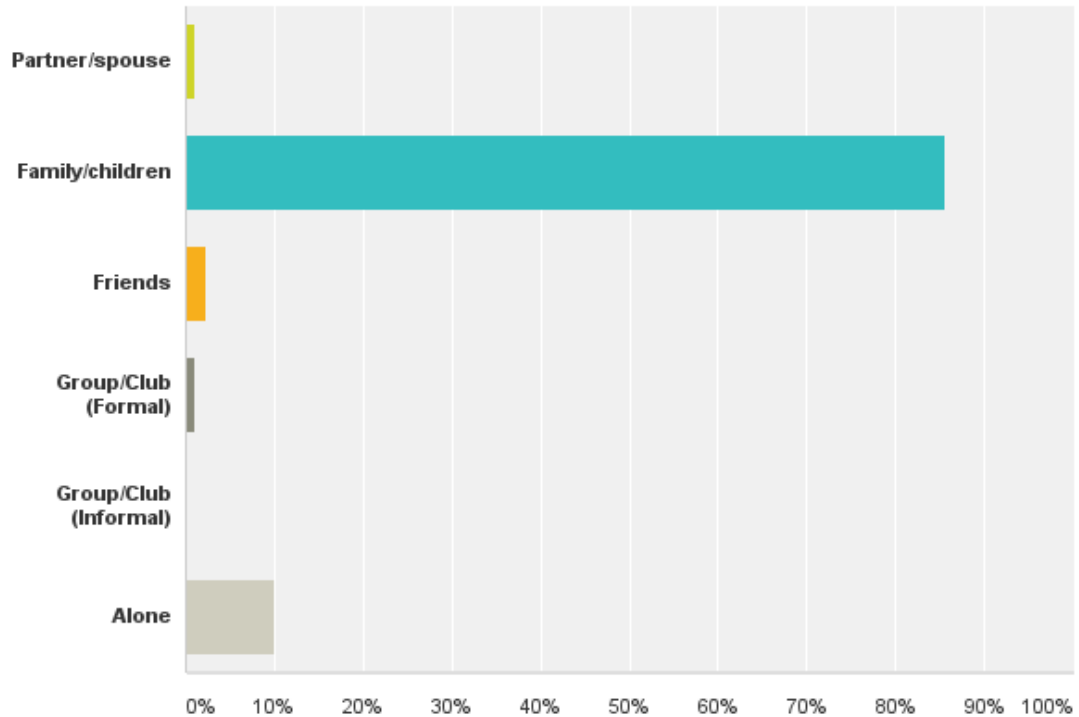
Answered: 90 Skipped: 51



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

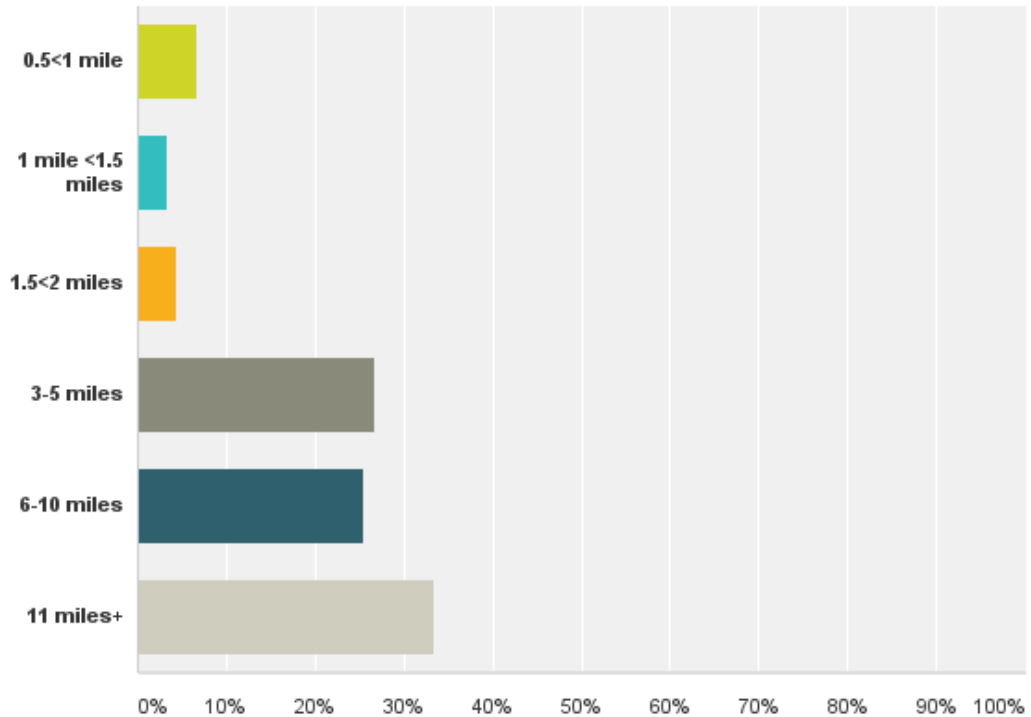


Answer Choices	Responses	
Partner/spouse	1.11%	1
Family/children	85.56%	77
Friends	2.22%	2
Group/Club (Formal)	1.11%	1
Group/Club (Informal)	0.00%	0
Alone	10.00%	9
Total		90



## Q16 How far approximately is this park/play park from your home? (miles)

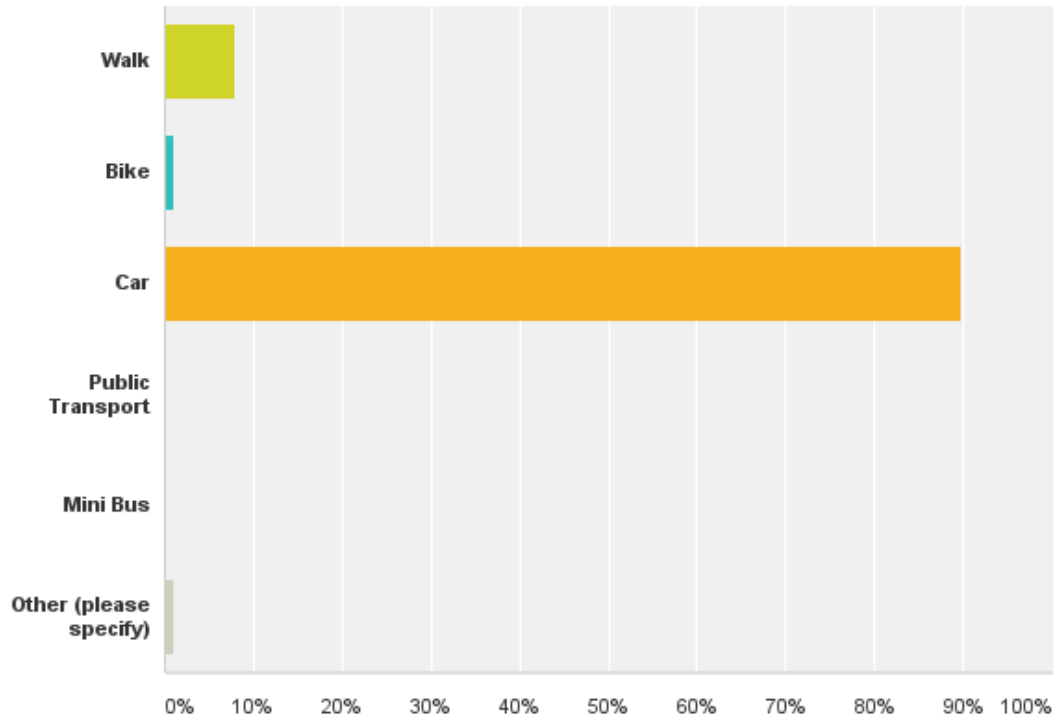
Answered: 90 Skipped: 51



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



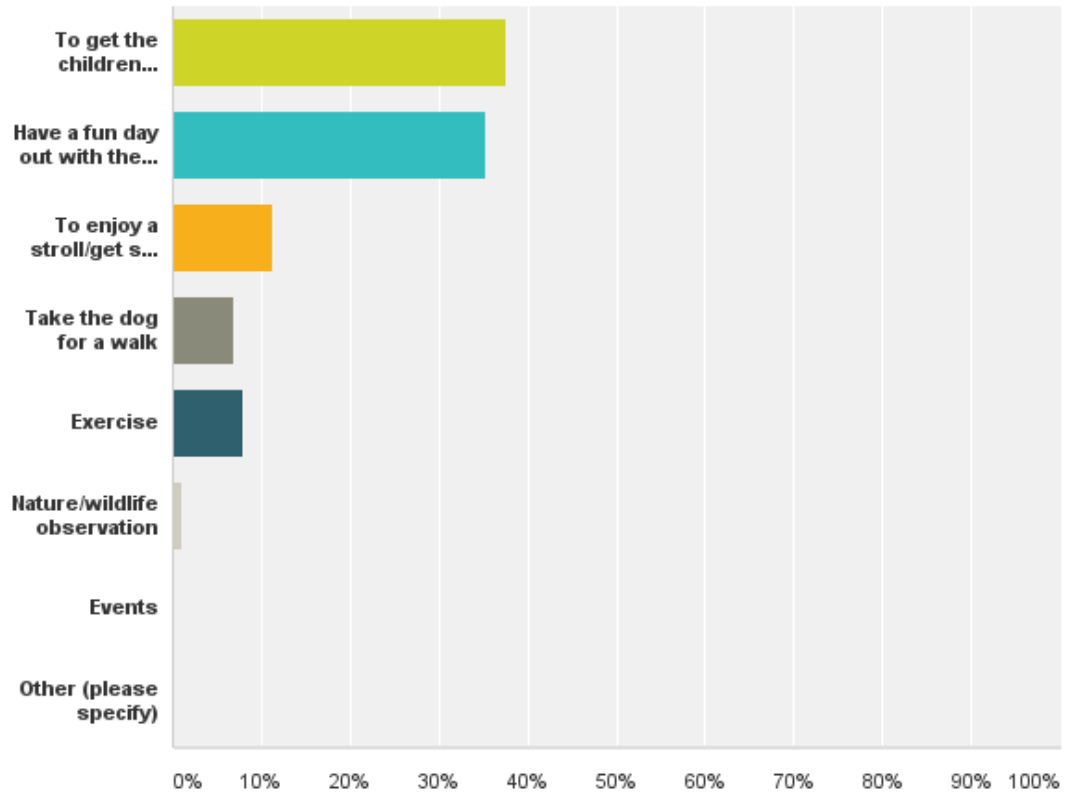
Answer Choices	Responses	
Walk	7.95%	7
Bike	1.14%	1
Car	89.77%	79
Public Transport	0.00%	0
Mini Bus	0.00%	0
Other (please specify)	1.14%	1
Total		88

### 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

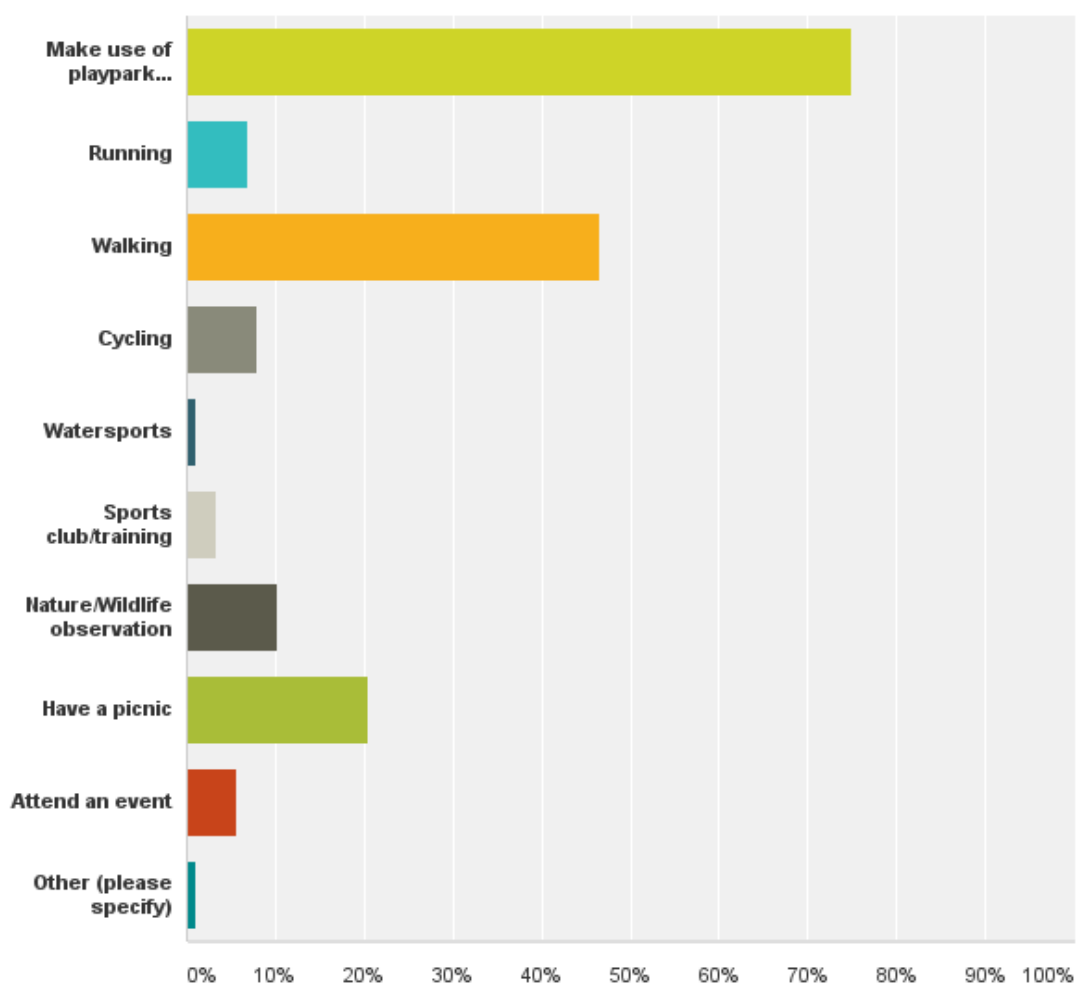


Answer Choices	Responses	
▼ To get the children outdoors for half an hour	37.50%	33
▼ Have a fun day out with the family	35.23%	31
▼ To enjoy a stroll/get some fresh air	11.36%	10
▼ Take the dog for a walk	6.82%	6
▼ Exercise	7.95%	7
▼ Nature/wildlife observation	1.14%	1
▼ Events	0.00%	0
▼ Other (please specify)	0.00%	0
Responses		
Total	88	



## Q19 What do you do at this park/play park?

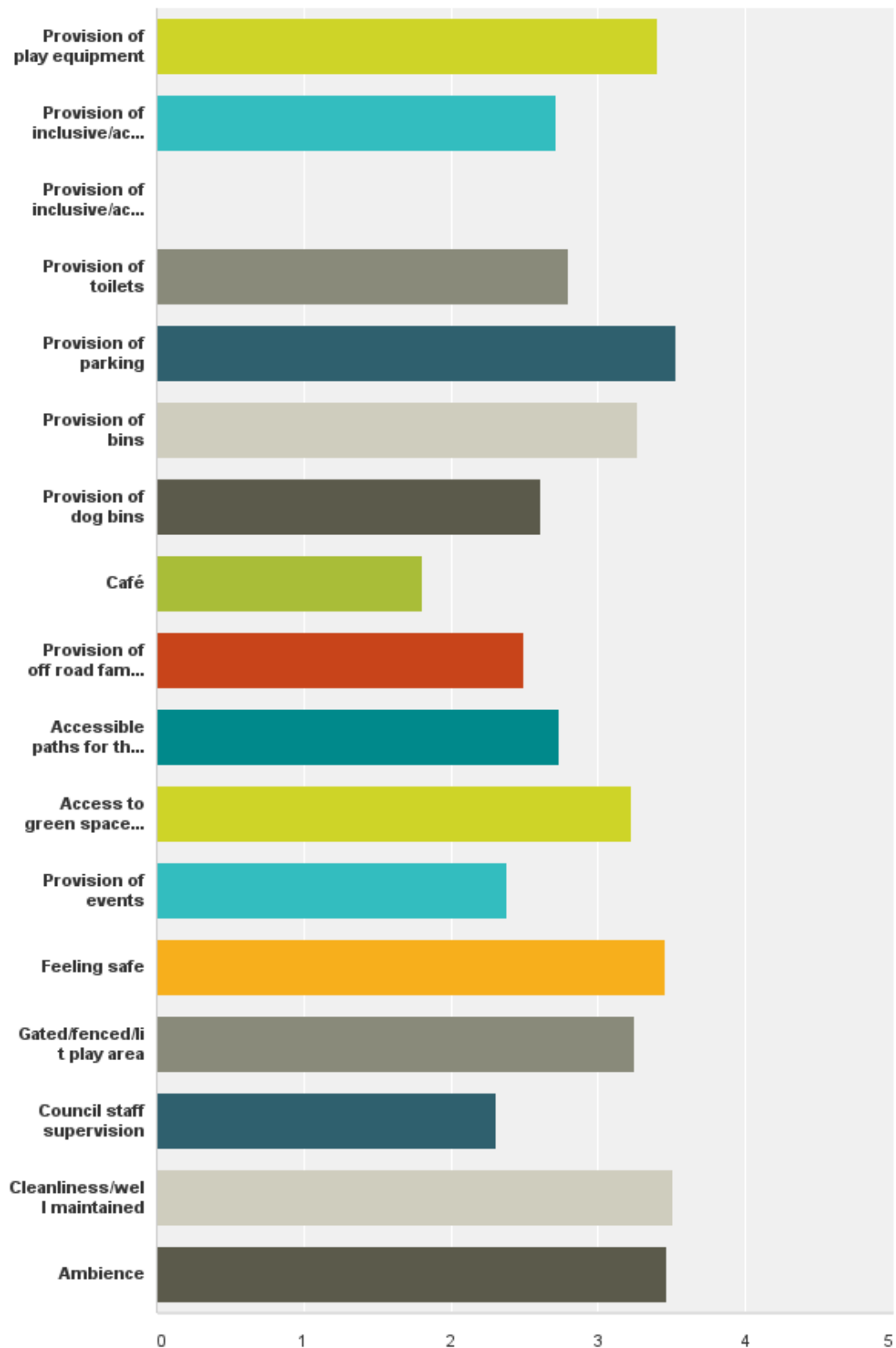
Answered: 88 Skipped: 53



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

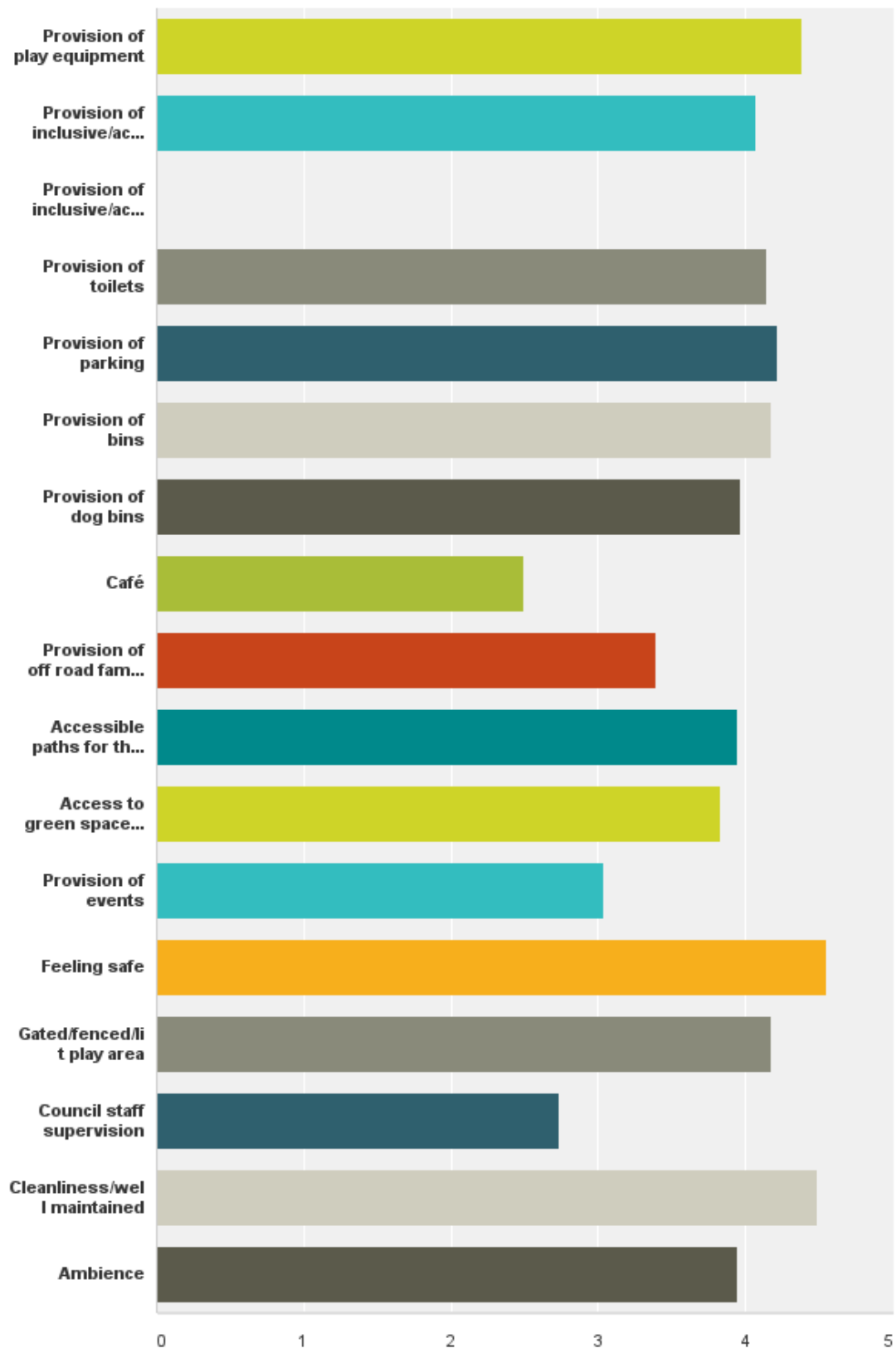


	Poor	Satisfactory	Good	Very Good	Excellent	N/A	Total	Weighted Average
Provision of play equipment	8.97% 7	15.38% 12	23.08% 18	25.64% 20	23.08% 18	3.85% 3	78	3.40
Provision of inclusive/accessible play equipment (play facilities and changing for people with a disability - Physical, hearing, sight, learning, 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	2.80
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?**

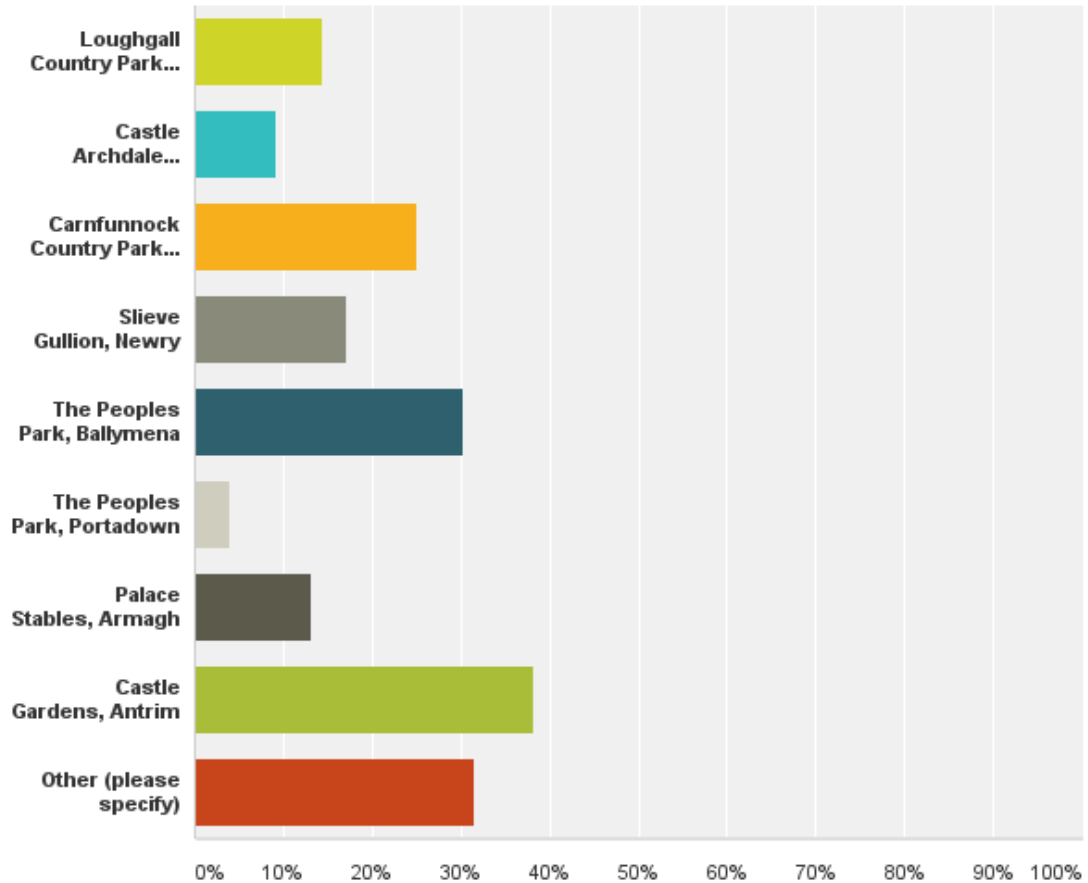
Answered: 78 Skipped: 63



	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	3.8
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		

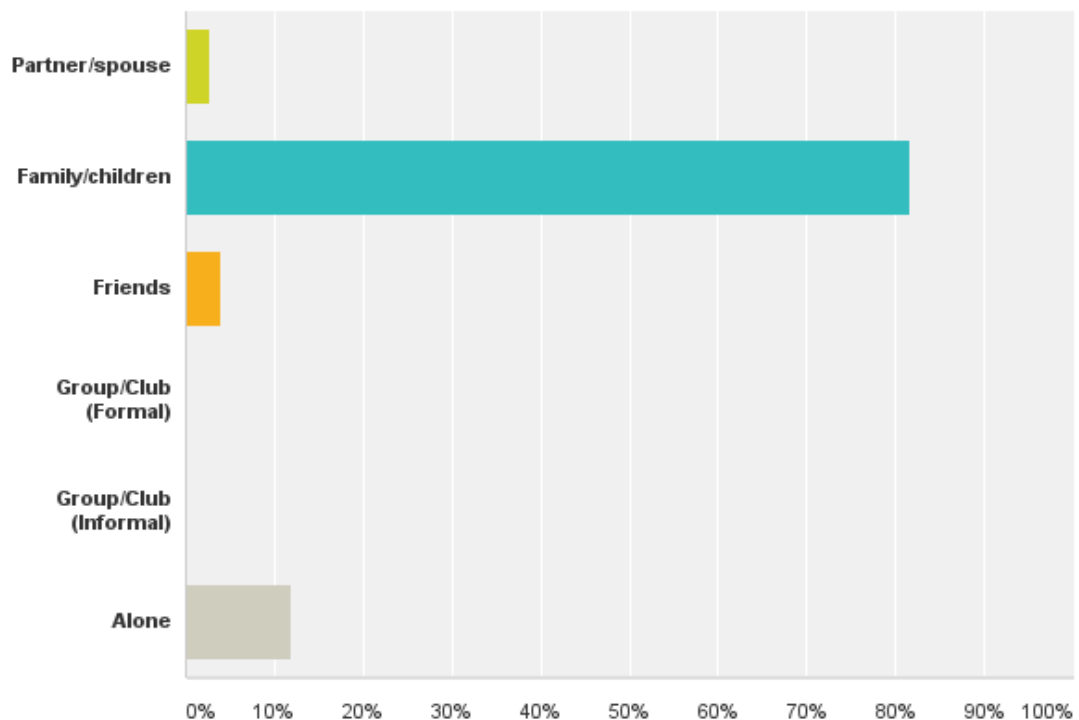


## OTHER PARKS

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?

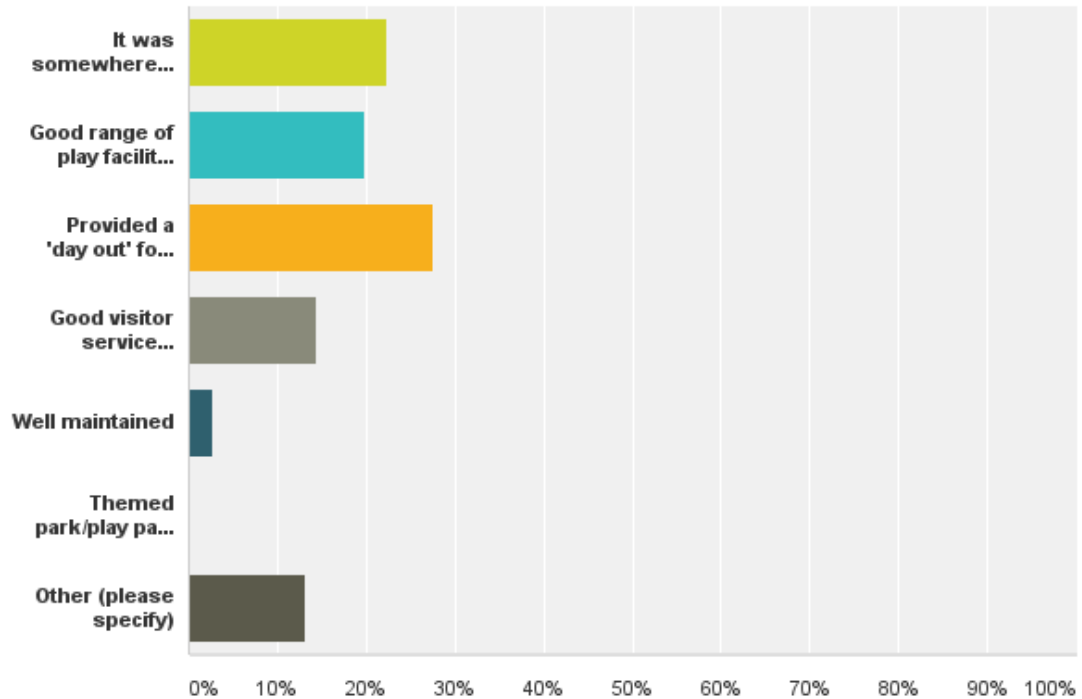
Answered: 76 Skipped: 65



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



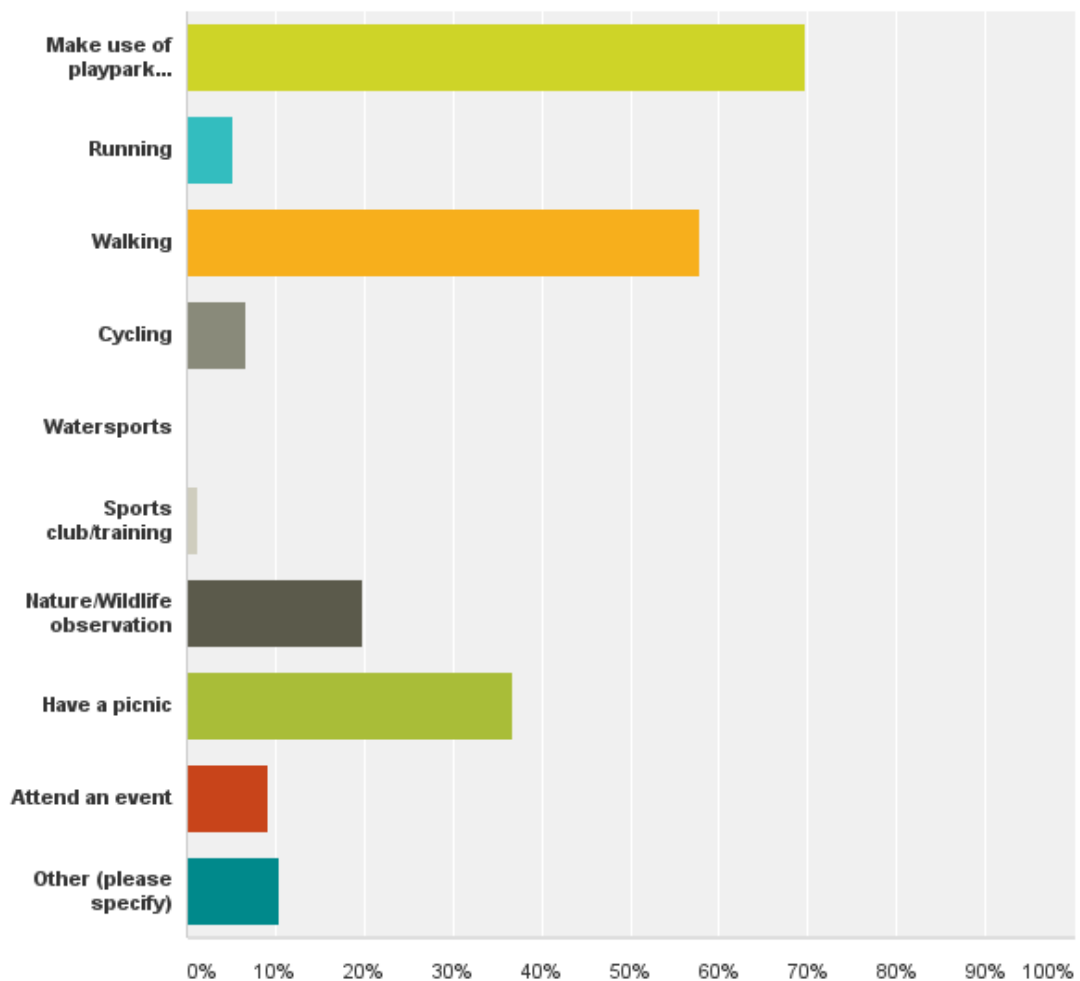
Answer Choices	Responses
It was somewhere different to go	22.37% 17
Good range of play facilities for all ages	19.74% 15
Provided a 'day out' for all the family	27.63% 21
Good visitor service facilities e.g. Visitor Centre, café, toilets etc.	14.47% 11
Well maintained	2.63% 2
Themed park/play park visitor attraction	0.00% 0
Other (please specify) <span>Responses</span>	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		

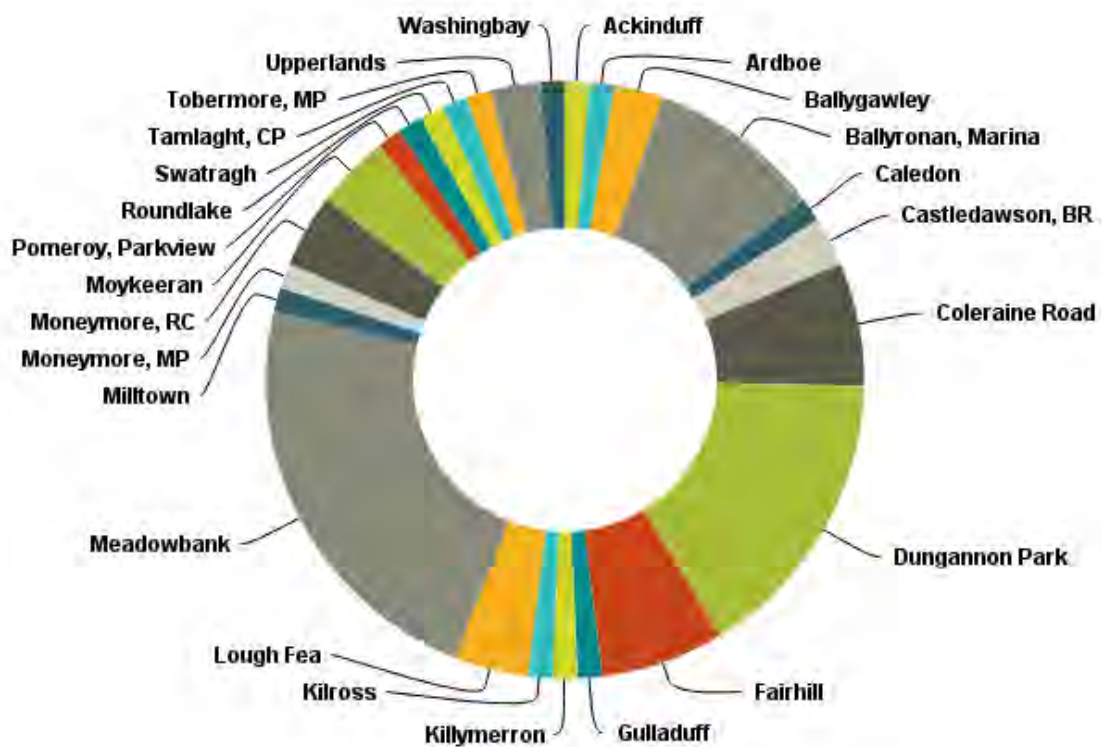


## OTHER RESPONSES

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



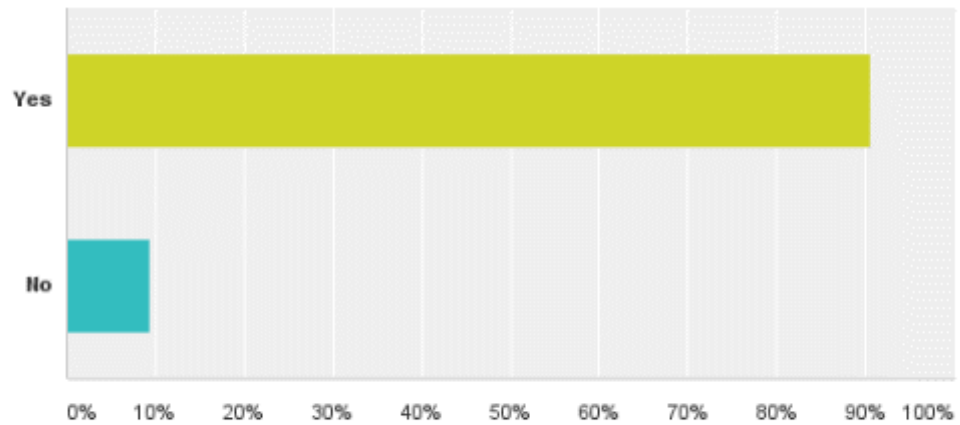
Answer Choices	Responses	
Ackinduff	1.33%	1
Ardboe	1.33%	1
Ballygawley	2.67%	2
Ballyronan, Marina	9.33%	7
Caledon	1.33%	1
Castledawson, Boyne Row	2.67%	2
Coleraine Road	6.67%	5
Dungannon Park	16.00%	12
Fairhill	6.67%	5
Gulladuff	1.33%	1
Killymerron	1.33%	1
Kilross	1.33%	1
Lough Fea	4.00%	3
Meadowbank	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

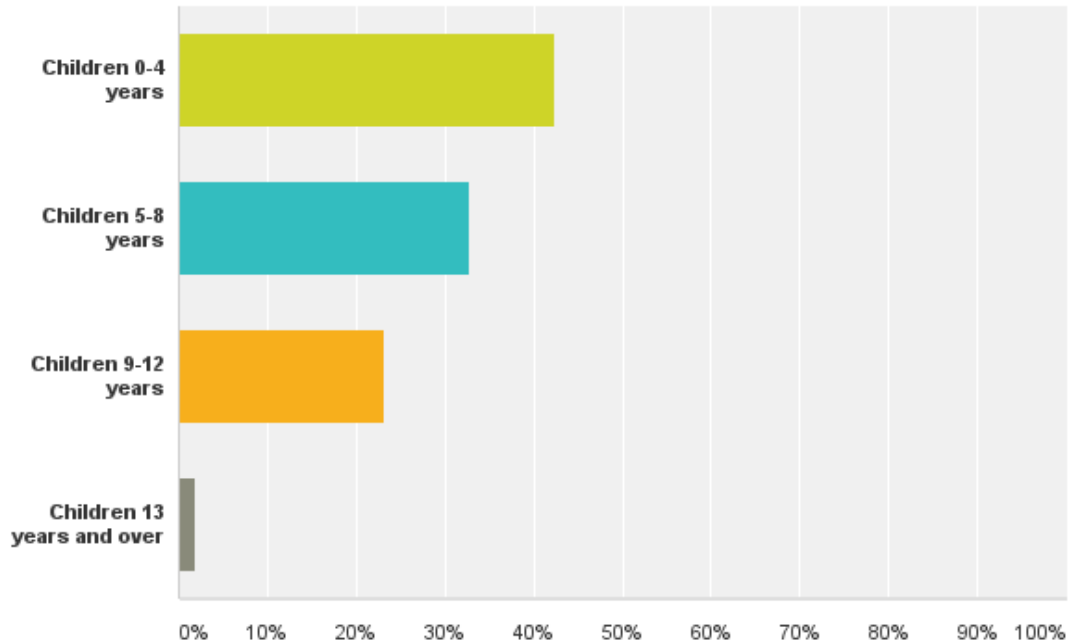


Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	90.67%	68
No	9.33%	7
Total		75



## Q28 What age were the children who use this play park?

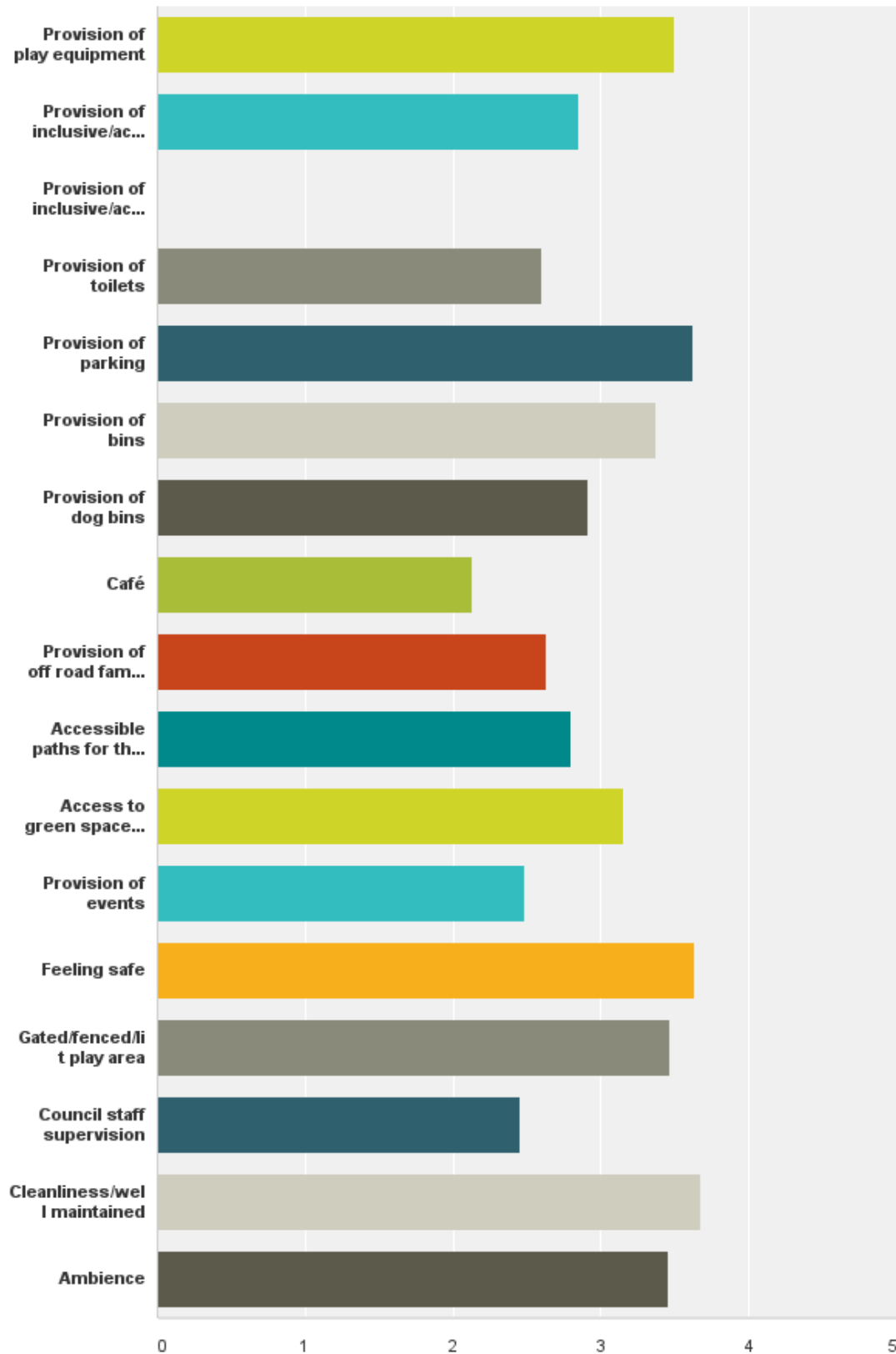
Answered: 52 Skipped: 89



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

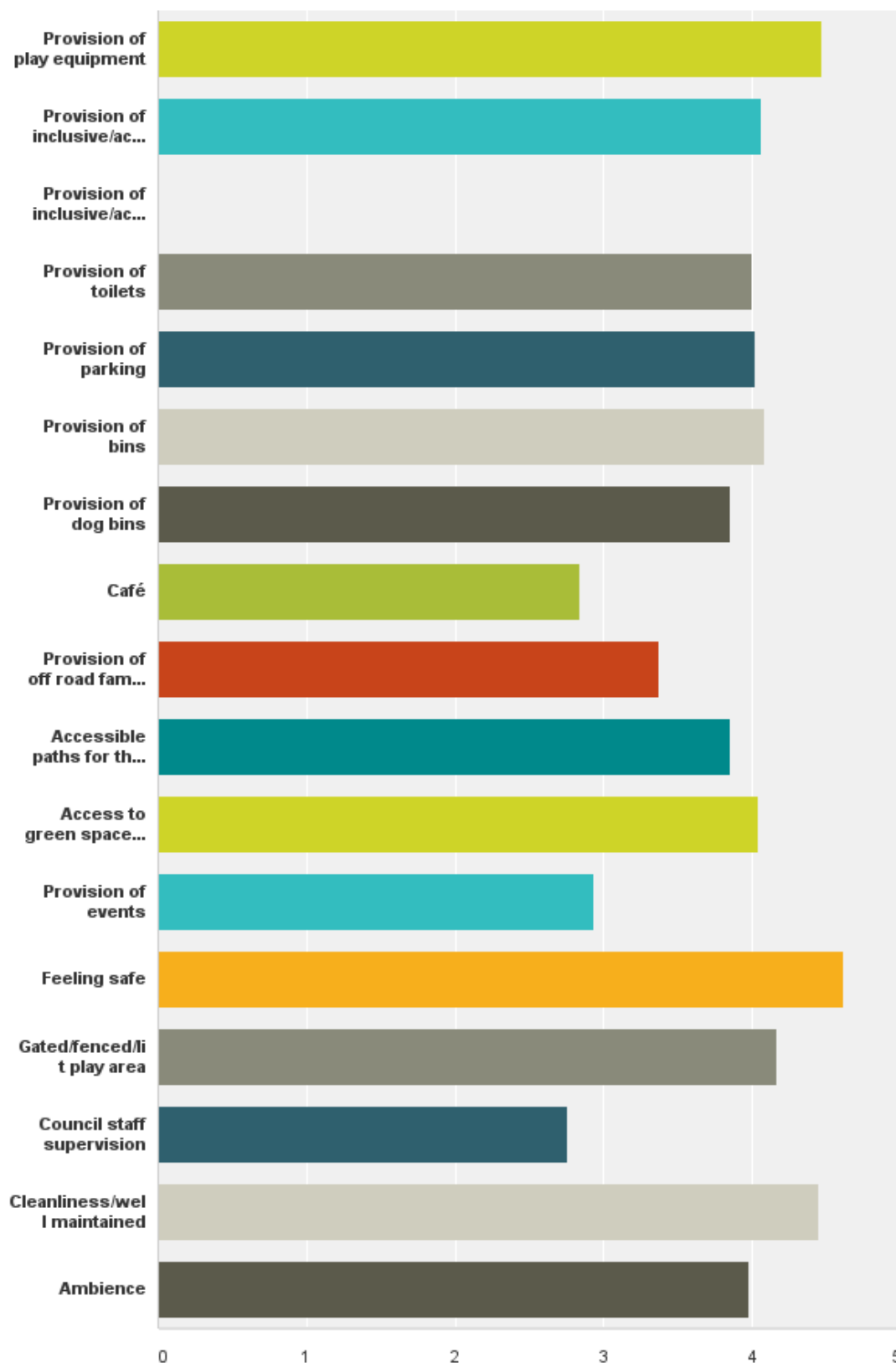


	Poor	Satisfactory	Good	Very Good	Excellent	N/A	Total	Weighted Average
Provision of play equipment	9.62% 5	13.46% 7	19.23% 10	32.69% 17	25.00% 13	0.00% 0	52	3.50
Provision of inclusive/accessable play equipment (play facilities and changing for people with a disability - Physical, hearing, sight, learning, 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/accessable 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>

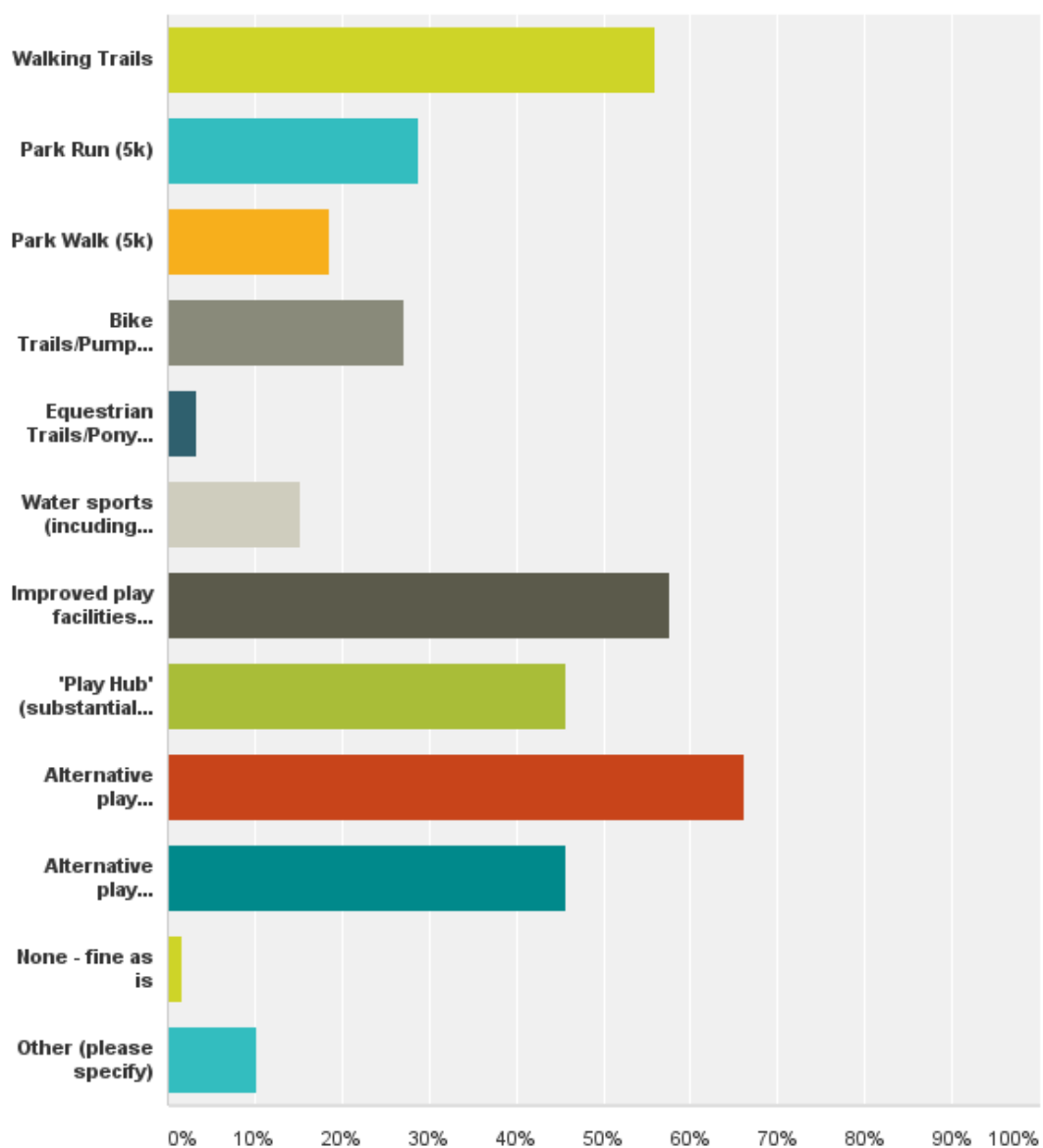


26	<i>Made bigger. More use of the green space beside it</i>
27	<i>Space for family fun</i>
28	<i>Moneymore main park needs to protected more between anti-social behaviour and children trying to cross what is an extremely dangerous fast road and the park being locked it's not an accessible place to let 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) <b>Responses</b>	10.17% 6
Total Respondents: 59	

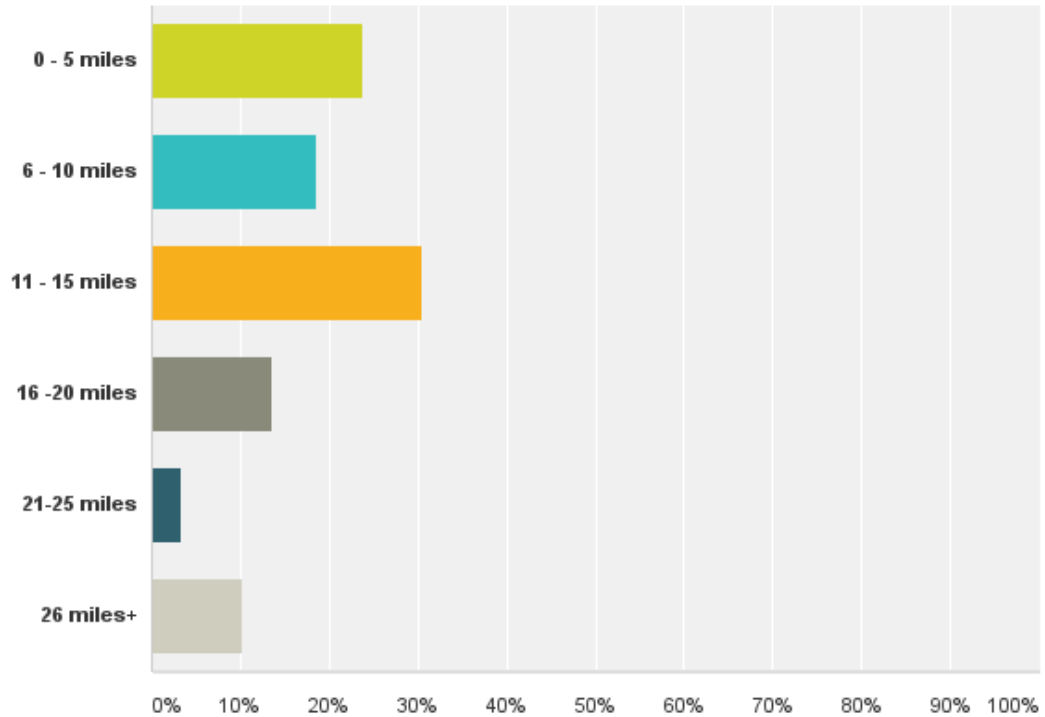
## OTHER RESPONSES

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, Money more 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>

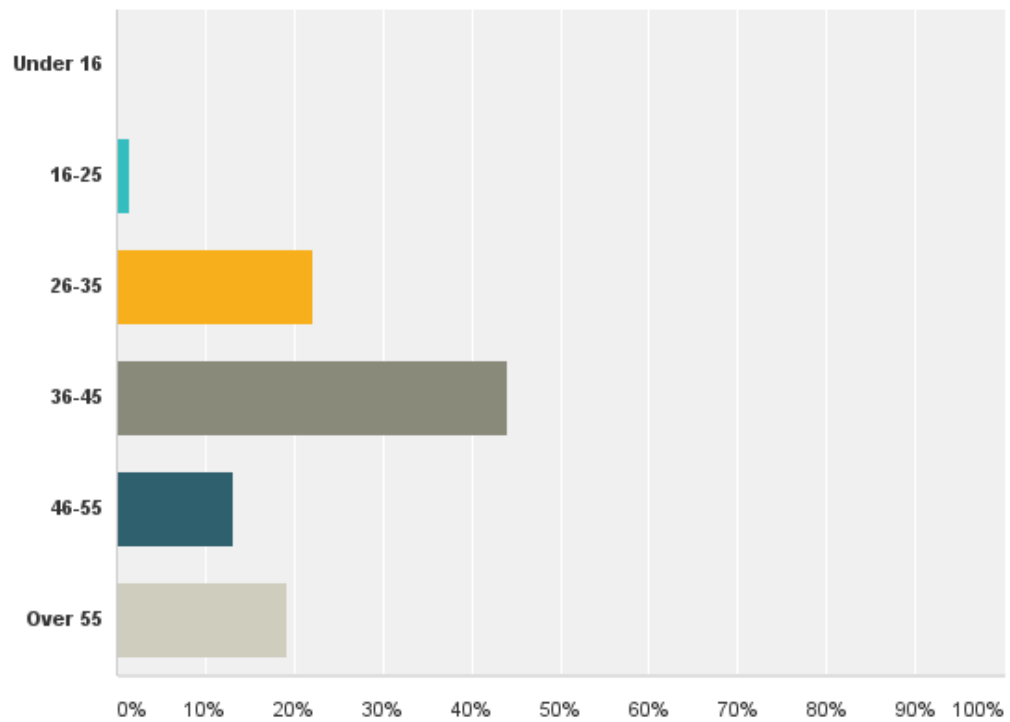
54	<i>Please, please return play equipment of some shape or form to Glenone Park, located at the junction of Clady Road and Ballymacombs Rd. Even swings would be great as a start. This small settlement had seen a significant rise in population with the development of The Orchards, housing development, 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 &amp; 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

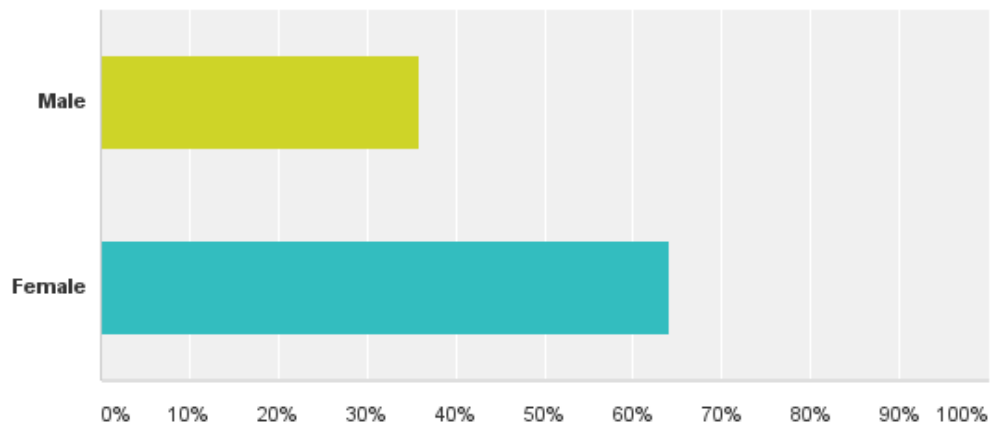
Answered: 68 Skipped: 73



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

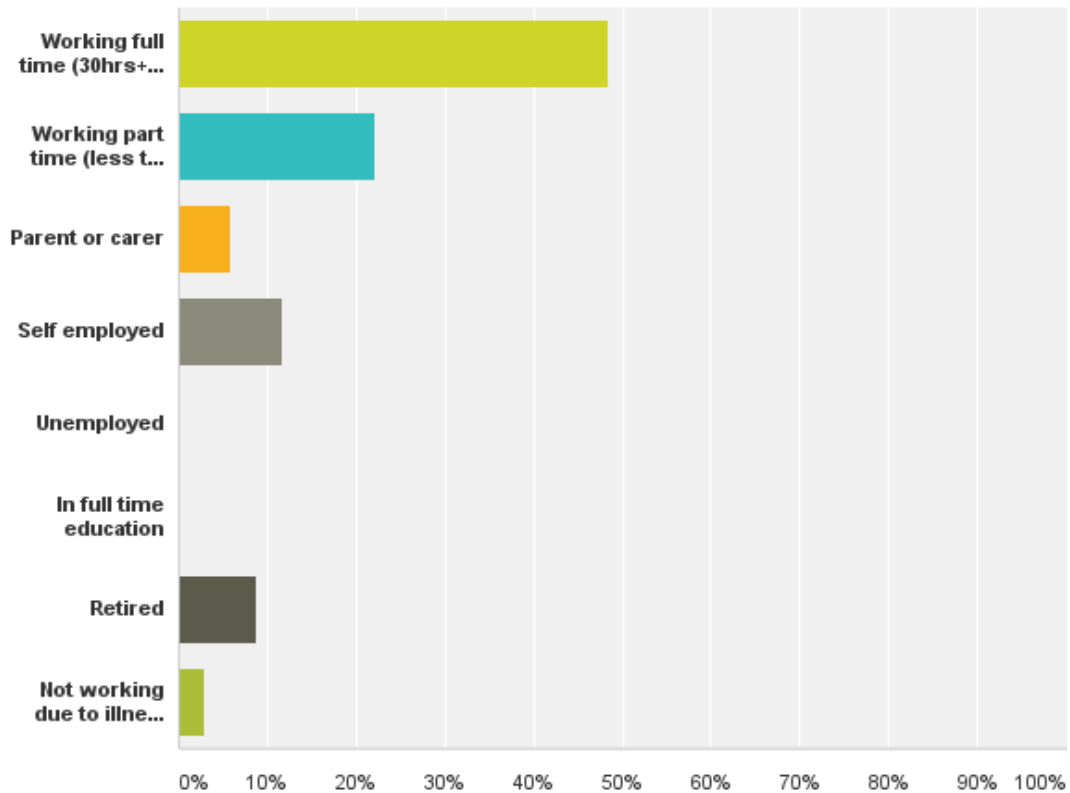
Answered: 67 Skipped: 74



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

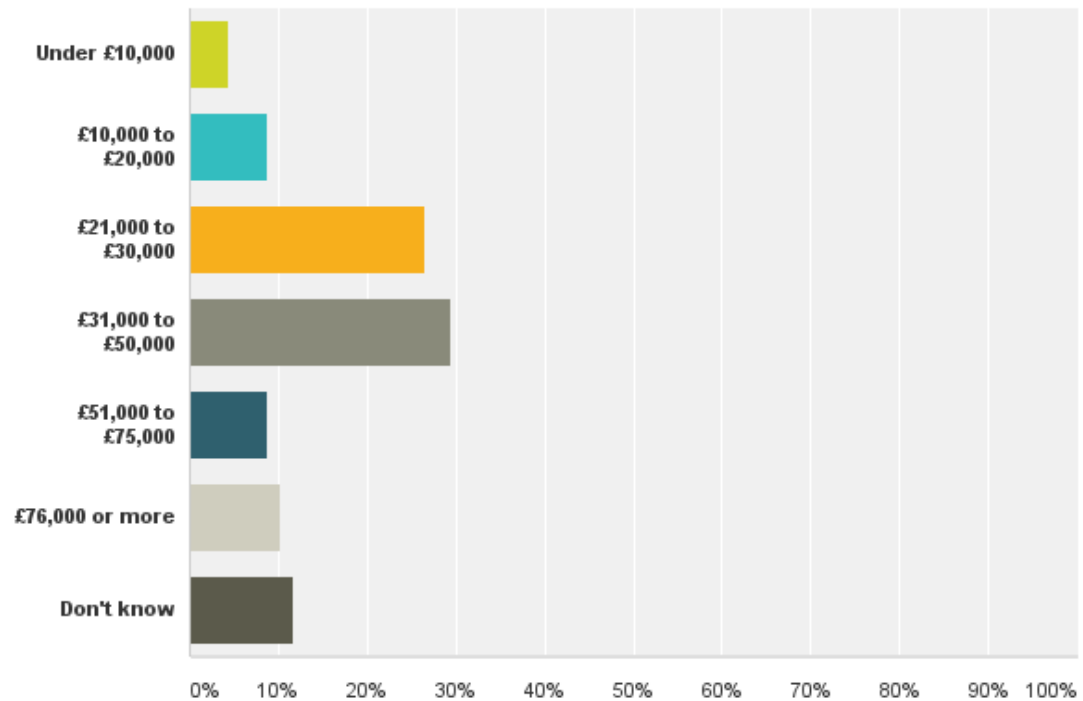


Answer Choices	Responses	
Working full time (30hrs+ per week)	48.53%	33
Working part time (less than 30hrs per week)	22.06%	15
Parent or carer	5.88%	4
Self employed	11.76%	8
Unemployed	0.00%	0
In full time education	0.00%	0
Retired	8.82%	6
Not working due to illness or disability	2.94%	2
Total		68



### 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

Export ▼

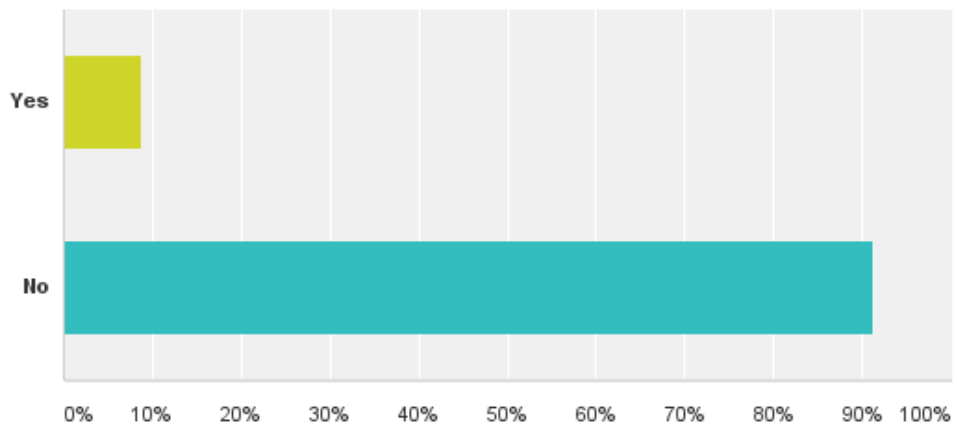
**Please state the number of the children in your household in the age brackets below (if relevant)**

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

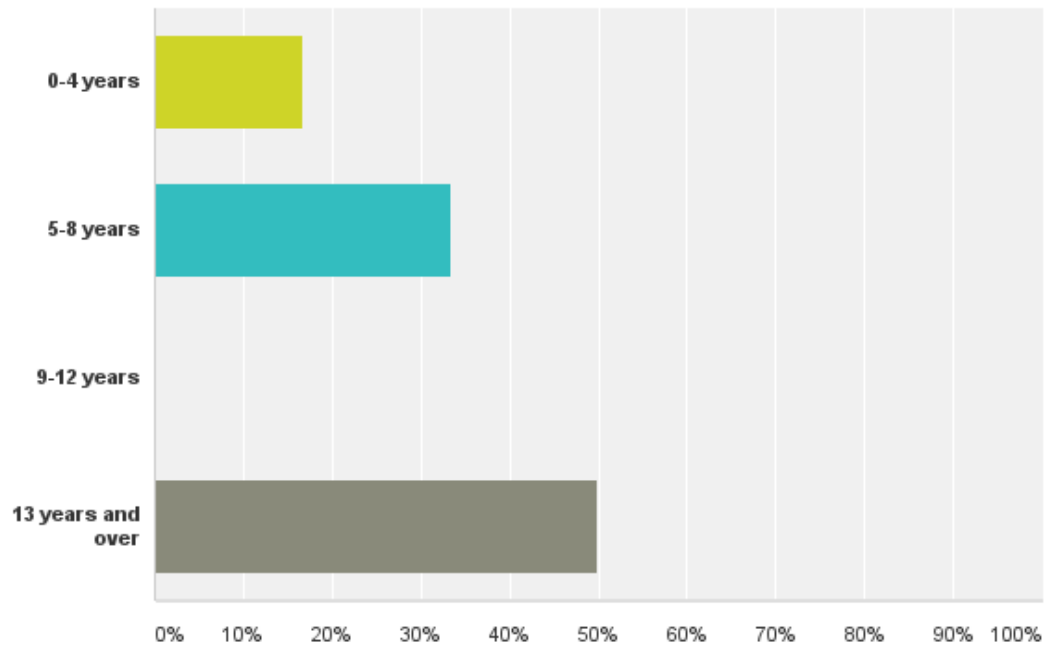
**Q40 Do one of your children have a disability?**

Answered: 68 Skipped: 73



### Q41 What age is the child who has a disability?

Answered: 6 Skipped: 135

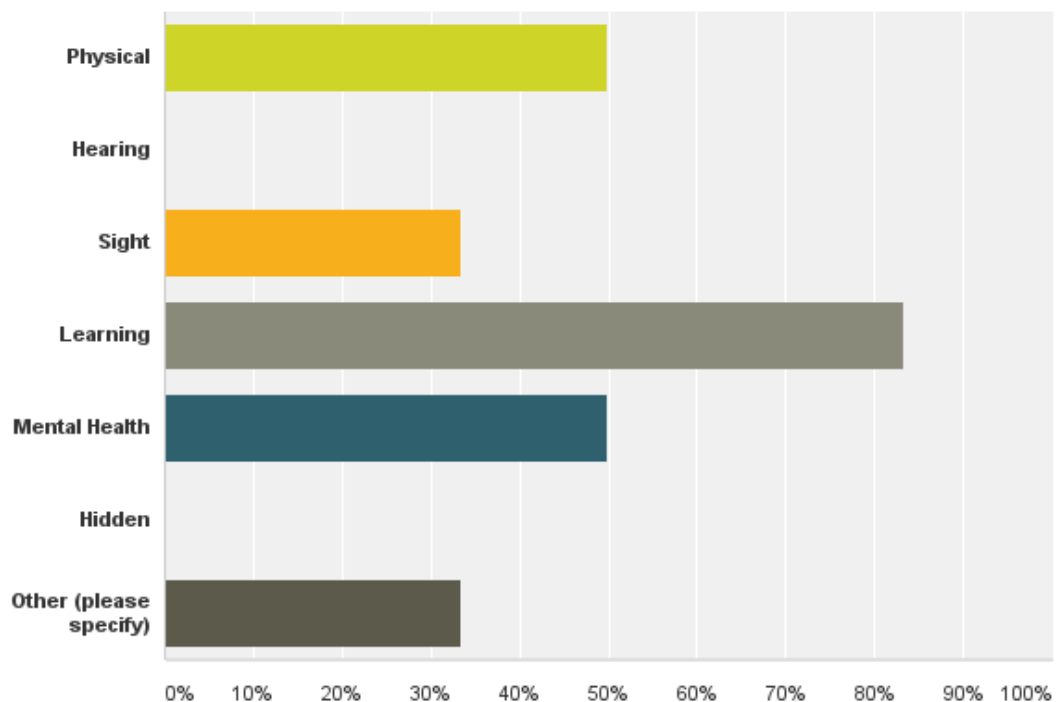


Answer Choices	Responses	
0-4 years	16.67%	1
5-8 years	33.33%	2
9-12 years	0.00%	0
13 years and over	50.00%	3
Total		6



## 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.

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.

Village Plan	Current status	Future potential
<b>Annaghmore (Clonoe)</b> <b>Dungannon</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Insufficient community provision and existing facilities are oversubscribed</li> <li>• New signage required - The area has a rich heritage and has potential to attract visitors</li> <li>• Insufficient range of activities to help Older People stay healthy and active. Need to increase access to transport for older people</li> <li>• Insufficient recreational facilities for women and families</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of off-road cycle tracks, walkways, sensory garden, allotments, additional sporting area</li> <li>• Signage would improve information for visitors and define Clonoe as a definite destination</li> <li>• Develop a range of events and activities in Clonoe Community Centre to encourage an active lifestyle. Make better use of community transport scheme</li> <li>• Range of events and activities in Clonoe Community Centre: <b>Play park at football pitch grounds</b></li> </ul>
<b>Ardboe</b> <b>Cookstown</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Green in Lakeview is being used for bonfire</li> <li>• <b>Existing play park needs updates</b></li> <li>• Eco projects and ecotourism potential not developed</li> <li>• <b>No centre community greenspace</b></li> <li>• Lack of provision for the elderly</li> <li>• Loss of tourism potential from key sites</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Develop green as potential play for older children</b></li> <li>• <b>Update existing play park to include disability and older children</b></li> <li>• Develop eco-tourism with the help of RSPB and site on the shores of the Lough at Brookend through nature walks</li> <li>• <b>Develop a community greenspace as centre point of the village</b></li> <li>• Establish older person's group that will run activities including a walking group</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ardboe Cross no toilets, car parking, security</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• Develop toilets and car parking at Abbey.</li> </ul>
<b>Augher</b> <b>Clogher Valley</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Footpaths in poor condition around the village</li> <li>• Upgrade sections of walkway along the river</li> <li>• Basic facilities at Knockmany need improved</li> <li>• New social housing developments are being planned for the village</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Footpaths need to be maintained on a regular basis and replaced where there are problems</li> <li>• Conduct survey on the walkway along River Blackwater and identify areas where work is needed</li> <li>• Investment needed at Knockmany to bring facility up to standard for local people and visitors.</li> <li>• Ensure social housing schemes complement area</li> </ul>
<b>Aughnacloy</b> <b>Clougher Valley</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current play park needs upgrading</li> <li>• Orange Hall requires additional provision to meet need of young people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upgrading of play park to provide new play equipment and safety surface</li> <li>• Provision of a playpark outside the Orange Hall to service the rural community of the Bawn.</li> </ul>
<b>Ballinascreen</b> <b>(Ballinascreen, Moneyneany, Straw and Sixtowns)</b> <b>Moyola</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Park for Moneyneena had been earlier identified</li> <li>• No safe place to go off road walking or running in Straw and the 'Big bridges'</li> <li>• No play park in Straw</li> <li>• Development of Derrynoyd Forest and Rural College</li> <li>• Tourism potential is not utilised</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigate further</li> <li>• Provision of safe off-road walking and cycling track – Old railway line considered a possibility.</li> <li>• Develop a play park in the area</li> <li>• Look at options to revive the facility and its surroundings</li> <li>• Natural assets in the local areas need to be developed and promoted</li> </ul>
<b>Ballinderry</b> <b>Cookstown</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of suitable and appropriate play areas</li> <li>• Loss of tourism potential from key sites of Ballinderry River and Cott Lane (fishing, walking, etc)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need to upgrade play park facilities</li> <li>• Creation of a Tourism Strategy for the Loughshore area</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Angling facilities inadequate</li> <li>• Canoeing facilities inadequate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of Cot Lane and Gortmoss Walkway and better signage at Cott Lane</li> <li>• Information boards at key sites</li> <li>• Develop a walkway along the Ballinderry River</li> <li>• Angling infrastructure needs improved</li> <li>• Develop a canoe trail along the Ballinderry River</li> </ul>
<b>Ballygawley</b> <b>Dungannon</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lighting around walkway at playing field is a major concern particularly in dark evenings</li> <li>• Walkway is prone to flooding at times</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Erect floodlights around walkway</li> <li>• Install proper drainage along pathway</li> </ul>
<b>Ballymaguigan</b> <b>Moyola</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good Tourism potential</li> <li>• Lack of footpaths and cycle lanes</li> <li>• No children's play park</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of soccer pitch to include walkway and running track</li> <li>• Health and wellbeing activities – sports activities and walks cross country</li> <li>• New Cross Community play park at TRAAD point.</li> </ul>
<b>Ballyronan</b> <b>Magherafelt</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pathway from Ballyronan to Ballinderry required</li> <li>• Tourism potential of Lough and Marina need to be maximised</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plan to develop between legacy Councils to be resurrected</li> <li>• Tourism Strategy/Marketing Plan needed for the area</li> </ul>
<b>Bellaghy</b> <b>Moyola</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inadequate access from Bawn to Church of Ireland</li> <li>• Inadequate signage</li> <li>• No heritage trail linking Seamus Heaney landmarks noted in his poetry</li> <li>• More health and well-being projects required</li> <li>• Wetlands underused</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development and link Bawn by path to Church of Ireland</li> <li>• New signage of heritage sites e. Lough Beg, Toners Bog</li> <li>• Develop Seamus Heaney Trail</li> <li>• Develop cross country walks and walking group</li> <li>• Development of famous wetlands</li> </ul>

<b>Benburb</b> <b>Dungannon</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upgrade to playground required</li> <li>• Family walking and cycling trails needed</li> <li>• Need to develop community facilities</li> <li>• Require a safer environment for the children and elderly</li> <li>• Improved infrastructure at Benburb Playing Fields</li> <li>• To improve spaces for people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Redevelop Benburb playing fields using funding secured from Big Lottery 'Space &amp; Place'</li> <li>• Develop walking and cycling routes in Benburb Valley Park along Ulster Canal Greenway</li> <li>• Develop a community fishing hub at River Black Water</li> <li>• Develop a park ranger service to manage the eco system in Benburb Valley and River Blackwater</li> <li>• Car park development at recreational area</li> <li>• To develop a Good Relations Programme for Benburb Playing Fields</li> </ul>
<b>Brocagh</b> <b>Torrent</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Boats cannot access the quay because of sandbars</li> <li>• Need to develop permissive paths and Greenway</li> <li>• Exploit Heritage Sites</li> <li>• Little opportunity for older people to stay healthy and active as well as no recreational facilities for women and families</li> <li>• Develop play park and 3G games area</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contract to dredge channel into the quay and maintain on an annual basis</li> <li>• Develop off-road cycle tracks to allow young people and families to walk and cycle safely between shops, school and Brocagh Community Centre</li> <li>• Develop tours, walks and events for visitors to the area</li> <li>• Develop range of events and activities in Brocagh Community Centre to encourage active lifestyle</li> <li>• Develop play park, site to be confirmed</li> </ul>
<b>Broughderg</b> <b>Cookstown</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maximization of use of Davagh Forest and increased visitor services and experience</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provision of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Bird watching facilities</li> <li>- Development of Forest Garden / Nature Trail (link schools)</li> <li>- More walking trails, geared towards families, challenging and non-challenging</li> <li>- Angling Facilities, stock river, salmon spawn/sea trout</li> <li>- Incorporate disability access where possible</li> <li>- Showers / changing area</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need for evening classes/activities for community</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- camping facility / glamping pods</li> <li>- Brick built BBQ facilities (Island in middle of carpark suggested for picnic are / tables)</li> <li>- Activities / Equipment for older children outside of play park, e.g. Zip lines</li> <li>- Seating in/near play park</li> <li>- Cycle rental / repair (consistent times)</li> <li>- GPS App of Forest developed (dependent on broadband)</li> <li>• Sessions on natural local environment, heritage, astronomy (link to tourism opportunities)</li> </ul>
<b>Bush</b> <b>Dungannon</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Significant development in village for necessary footpaths. Potential for a settlement mini Greenway with pedestrian/cycle path around the village</li> <li>• Lack of recreational amenities – play park, MUGA facilities need upgraded</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Footpath link to Dungannon/Tamnamore/Clairefields required</li> <li>• Play park required (pending site availability)</li> </ul>
<b>Caledon</b> <b>Clogher Valley</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• State of footpaths in the village need improvements</li> <li>• 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</li> <li>• Upgrade need to play park facilities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paving flags on Main Street need repaired – footpath require on Carricklane with lighting and signage</li> <li>• 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</li> <li>• Play park in state of neglect and needs to be re-vamped to meet growing need for the village</li> </ul>
<b>Churchtown/Lissan</b> <b>Magherafelt</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No play provision in the area for the wider community. Play area in Lissan House closed due to vandalism and insurance</li> <li>• Lissan House and grounds is a key asset – yet little evidence of buy in from the local community</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Play area required</li> <li>• Establish a Working Group with reps from Lissan House Trust and Community. Local needs analysis to be undertaken.</li> <li>• Learning journey to other successful community/heritage projects</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Limited disability access for anglers and ramblers at Lough Fea</li> <li>• Valuable local assets are under developed, under-promoted and under-utilised due to access and wider knowledge</li> <li>• Inadequate infrastructure support</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase accessibility at Lough Fea</li> <li>• Project development and feasibility associated with Lissan House, Lough Fea and Slieve Gallion</li> <li>• Accommodation provision within the area to be further investigated (including B&amp;B, bunk barns, bothys glamping etc)</li> </ul>
<b>Clady</b> <b>Carntogher</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of footpath from Fisherman's Walk to Portglenone. Lacking facilities also.</li> <li>• Opportunity for walkway/Greenway circuit from Clady -Innishrush-Glenone-Clady. Highway to Health route</li> <li>• Council playing fields at Ballymacombs well used but lack of facilities including play park</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of river walkways and Bann (walk from Bann Bridge to Molloy's Ford)</li> <li>• Walkway to be investigated</li> <li>• Potential for 3G pitch at playing fields, play park, access to water and toilets</li> </ul>
<b>Clogher</b> <b>Clogher Valley</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Footpaths in poor condition around the village</li> <li>• Basic facilities at Fardross Forest need improved</li> <li>• The caravan park brings a lot of visitors to the Clogher Valley area and needs to be promoted</li> <li>• New social housing developments are planned for the village</li> <li>• Play park in Clogher requires upgrading</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Footpaths need to be maintained and replaced where there are problems</li> <li>• Investment needed at Fardross to bring facility up to standard for local people and visitors</li> <li>• Encourage maintenance of the caravan park and encourage greater usage through MUDC tourism information</li> <li>• Ensure social housing schemes are in-keeping with local developments and that the local community can access</li> <li>• Identify sources of funding for upgrade or refurbishment of play facilities</li> </ul>
<b>Coagh</b> <b>Cookstown</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maximisation of the area's natural resources in developing a rural tourism product to support the local village economy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop walks including Hanover House to the old mill, linking up with Ballinderry along the River and creating a</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inadequate angling facilities</li> <li>Safety concerns in play park – low fencing, swing gate given proximity to river, when river floods it leaves waste deposits</li> <li>Need for safe route for walking trails to encourage health and well being</li> </ul>	<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"> <li>Improve existing infrastructure</li> <li>Identification of potential routes and liaison with local landowners</li> <li>Develop names and signage for walks</li> <li>Liaise with Rivers Agency re provision of angling facilities in Ballinderry River</li> <li>Liaise with local angling club to confirm requirements regarding use of anglers' huts</li> <li>Play park fencing and upgrade of facilities to include disability friendly equipment</li> <li>Development of an all-weather walking track around the perimeter of the Sports Centre grounds</li> </ul>
<b>Culnady, Innisrush and Tamlaght Carntogher</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stone bridge linking Innisrush to Clade needs maintained and enhanced as part of a walking trail</li> <li>River walk along Clady River consistently floods</li> <li>Lack of opportunities for activities within the three villages and limited provision of space for development of activities</li> <li>Existing play facilities in the 3 villages need upgrading.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop points of interest board for users of the walk</li> <li>Walk needs better protected to allow users full access</li> <li>Develop green space for recreational walking and cycling. Potential for creation of allotments. Dedicated space for Mother and Toddler provision</li> <li>Upgrading of the play facilities</li> </ul>
<b>Desertmartin Moyola</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Iniscarn Forest has minimal development but has high potential for tourism.</li> <li>There are few health and well-being projects outside mainstream sports</li> <li>Elderly isolated</li> <li>Loss of tourism potential from Slieve Gallion and surrounding Sperrins</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development of Iniscarn Forest.</li> <li>Establish community allotments, walkway circuit (CP)</li> <li>Establish walking group</li> <li>Develop a walking trail from Lough Fea to Slieve Gallion</li> </ul>

<b>Drummullan</b> <b>Cookstown</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maximise potential of the area's natural resources in developing a rural tourism product to support the local village economy</li> <li>• Increasing interest in walking and cycling in the area - need for safe routes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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</li> <li>• Tourism signage and interpretation developed</li> <li>• Develop floodlit walkway around football pitch</li> <li>• Development of footpath to link up two rural roads providing a safe walk (CP)</li> <li>• Support plans for Greenway Development and connect Drummullan</li> </ul>
<b>Edendork</b> <b>Dungannon</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cullion Lake under developed in terms of local wetland/heritage/ecosystem resource</li> <li>• No footpath provision off the Coalisland Road</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potential development as local amenity/educational resource with access pathways and signage</li> <li>• Lobby DfI for provision of adequate foot paving off the main Coalisland Road</li> </ul>
<b>Eglis</b> <b>Clogher Valley</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Existing play park is well used</li> <li>• Very few areas for open recreation in the village</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upgrade existing play park and minor planting</li> <li>• Identify potential Greenways and walking routes in the area</li> </ul>
<b>Fivemiletown</b> <b>Clogher Valley</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Round Lake is a major asset</li> <li>• The play park is well used but needs to be improved/updated</li> <li>• Heritage Tourism product in the area is good but could be developed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure Round Lake is maintained on a regular basis</li> <li>• Additional equipment would be welcomed</li> <li>• Look towards enhancing tourism product in the area to include Brantry Lough/ Brantry Woods/Cowans House</li> </ul>
<b>Galbally and Cappagh</b> <b>Torrent</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The reservoir is an asset that should be enhanced and developed</li> <li>• The area has many natural resources which should be enhanced as potential tourism products</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carry out feasibility study on potential development at Cappagh Reservoir in relation to environmental and tourism potential</li> <li>• Carry out scoping exercise of local natural resources with tourism potential</li> </ul>



<b>Granville</b> <b>Clogher Valley</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The council football pitch in the area is a valuable asset but is not kept up to a reasonable standard</li> <li>• The current play park needs repair and updating</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure pitch is maintained throughout the year</li> <li>• Update of play park</li> </ul>
<b>Gulladuff / Termoneeny</b> <b>Carntogher</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need for safer routes for walking and cycling</li> <li>• Not enough green space and play park provision around housing estates</li> <li>• Lack of developed walkways - Scullions Cross/chapel walk and others</li> <li>• Cycling/running/walking clubs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- St Brigid's Cross making</li> <li>- Gymnastics-additional activities to GAA</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improvements to roadways, footpaths and roadside verges.</li> <li>• The creation of a cycle lane network, specifically from the Termoneeny centre to Gulladuff village.</li> <li>• Look at the potential for developing off road cycling.</li> <li>• Not enough green space and play park provision around housing estates</li> <li>• Developing walkways - Scullions Cross/chapel walk, Dreenan Road and others</li> <li>• Continue to develop social and sporting activities within Lavey/TCA</li> </ul>
<b>Killeeshill and Ackinduff</b> <b>Clogher Valley</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Little or poor play provision for children in the area</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update existing play park and investigate potential new play park at the community centre</li> </ul>
<b>Killyman</b> <b>Dungannon</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Footpaths in the village are wholly inadequate - Significant development in the village without necessary footpaths</li> <li>• Potential for a settlement mini Greenway with pedestrian/cycle path around the village</li> <li>• Street lighting needs to be improved – some areas are poorly lit and places with no lighting</li> <li>• Lack of Recreational amenities – Play park, MUGA facilities need upgraded</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lobby DfI for provision of adequate foot paving – need a footpath link to Dungannon / Tamnamore, Clairefields, safe routes to schools initiative.</li> <li>• Need a dropped kerb at Cavanagh Rd</li> <li>• Tamnamore Rd</li> <li>• Enhance the provision children's play park – potential to open-up the 3G facility at the local school for wider community use.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Utilise existing village assets such as the MUGA at local school</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Liaise with school to explore potential for usage of MUGA outside of core time and school facilities for community use.</li> </ul>
<b>Moortown</b> <b>Torrent</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>HLF Landscape Partnership produced a three part report including cross country walking and heritage trails with key points within the village</li> <li>Lack of suitable and appropriate play areas</li> <li>No secure outdoor recreational space for young people</li> <li>Loss of tourism potential from key sites of Airfield, The Battery Harbour and the Old Cross</li> <li>Lack of water based recreation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information sharing with key agencies and Council Tourism Strategy. Join up all initiatives to ensure a strategic approach to planning</li> <li>Need to upgrade play park facilities – provision for teenagers</li> <li>Create secure outdoor recreation space at the Youth centre</li> <li>Exploit the area's water and land base outdoor recreation, charter boating, fishing, walking, cycling wildlife, birdwatching trails – links to Kinturk centre</li> <li>Progress ORNI report on water based recreation at the Battery Harbour</li> </ul>
<b>Moygashel</b> <b>Dungannon</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Entrance to Dungannon Park at Moygashel end isn't aesthetically pleasing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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</li> </ul>
<b>Newmills</b> <b>Torrent</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limited play space for families and children</li> <li>Provide opportunity for local people to walk and cycle safely on an off-road path. Develop permissive paths and Greenway to aqueduct</li> <li></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development of off-road cycle tracks</li> </ul>
<b>Orritor</b> <b>Cookstown</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Instilling a greater sense of pride in the local area as well as helping contribute to the health and well-being of local residents</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Play area/MUGA developed</li> </ul>
<b>Pomeroy</b> <b>Cookstown</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maximising the use of Pomeroy Forest</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extension and development of pathways, signage and information boards, picnic tables</li> <li>Install toilet facilities with open access for playpark use</li> <li>Additional bins installed</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Car parking needed beside play park</li> <li>• Develop access path and lighting linking the forest entrance at front and rear back to the village</li> <li>• Suitable area for various outdoor activities</li> <li>• Develop campsite facilities /glamping</li> <li>• Safe access route between Queen Elizabeth II Primary school and the Forest (CP)</li> <li>• Re develop old forestry school building and out building as a multi-use shared assets of the community</li> <li>• 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</li> </ul>
<b>Sandholes</b> <b>Cookstown</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No play provision in the area despite increasing number of under 16 year olds</li> <li>• Local recreation assets under developed, promoted and under utilised</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop play facility at Church Hall for wider community use</li> <li>• Develop river walkways along the Tullylagan River</li> <li>• Develop access to Tullylagan House and gardens</li> </ul>
<b>Stewartstown</b> <b>Torrent</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Almost ¼ of population have a limiting long term illness, health problem or disability</li> <li>• Few opportunities for walking and cycling</li> <li>• Henderson Park play facility not catering for children 10+ years</li> <li>• Local recreation assets under developed, promoted and under utilised</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop play facilities at GAA pitch</li> <li>• Develop walking routes at Drumcairne Forest</li> <li>• Map walking and cycling routes around the Village</li> <li>• NCN route at Drumcairne</li> <li>• Walking routes at Drumcairne</li> <li>• Consider new play facility for 10+ years at Henderson Park</li> <li>• Link both areas together and create a shared space 'village green'</li> <li>• Develop access trail to Crieve Lough and erect interpretation panels, signage etc</li> <li>• Explore feasibility of improving Stuart Hall</li> <li>• Develop walking, cycling and play infrastructure at Drumcairne Forest</li> </ul>



<b>Swatragh</b> <b>Carntogher</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Play park equipment in need of an upgrade. Play equipment for children with physical disabilities is required.</li> <li>• Playing fields at park in poor condition</li> <li>• Railings at play park entrance need repaired</li> <li>• River Walkway cycle route/nature walk along the river. Extend cycle lane throughout the village to connect with Maghera</li> <li>• Activities for older people required</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Play park upgrade and additional piece of equipment for those with disabilities.</li> <li>• Upgrade playing fields to an 'All Weather Surface'</li> <li>• Railings to be repaired in line with Health and Safety standards</li> <li>• Informal walkway could be developed between Swatragh and Upperlands – a substantial amount of works required including installation of stiles and crossings</li> <li>• Undertake consultation to establish level of interest in walking group.</li> </ul>
<b>The Loup</b> <b>Cookstown</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of footpath linkage between key sites in village</li> <li>• Need for safe walking routes</li> <li>• Need for safe route for walking trails to encourage health and well-being</li> <li>• Young population but no play/games area</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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</li> <li>• Develop all weather path around football pitch as this is already lit</li> <li>• Development of an all-weather walking track around the perimeter of the Football pitch as lighting already in place</li> <li>• Investigate funding opportunities for development – Football area suggested as possible site to include tennis/outdoor games.</li> <li>•</li> </ul>
<b>The Rock &amp; Slatequarry</b> <b>Cookstown</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is demand for access and improvement to The Church Moss as a safe walking route</li> <li>• Upgrading of play park</li> <li>• Road Safety Issues</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintenance and extension of walkway at Church Moss (problem with Japanese Knotweed) needs removed</li> <li>• Play park at Rockdale Close requires upgrade of play equipment for younger and older children</li> <li>• Tullyodonnell Bridge and footpath (extremely dangerous for school children using this route between school, chapel and</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of youth provision, leisure facilities</li> <li>• Lack of organized activity for those over 50 – issues around rural and social isolation</li> </ul>	<p>football pitch) - extend existing path and lighting, footbridge on the outside of bridge.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lights and kerbing on Rockdale Road</li> <li>• Engage young people in community activity, sports etc - assess need for youth club and link key agencies.</li> <li>• Feasibility study to assess local need. Proactively link with other areas and initiatives – Pomeroy, Agewell project, outreach provision.</li> </ul>
<b>Tamnamore</b> <b>Ballinakelly</b> <b>Dungannon</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of play facilities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New play park at Education Centre</li> </ul>
<b>Tobermore</b> <b>Moyola</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Requirement for youth facilities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need to investigate provision of recreational facilities with MUDC and play park upgrade.</li> </ul>
<b>Tullyhogue</b> <b>Cookstown</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opportunity to enhance village environment</li> <li>• Current play provision is small</li> <li>• Valuable local assets are under promoted and under-utilised such as Tullyhogue Fort</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop footpaths to Tullyhogue Fort</li> <li>• Opportunity to upgrade the play area for the community including security fencing, parking, signage and change of entrance</li> <li>• Project development and feasibility associated with access to Tullyhogue Fort and associated walkways and trails</li> </ul>
<b>Upperlands</b> <b>Carntogher</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Amphitheatre area opposite the enterprise centre has become run down and derelict</li> <li>• 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</li> <li>• Lack of recreational space in the village</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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</li> <li>• Upgrading of play park with suitable facilities – refurbished recently but some equipment too high (monkey bars)</li> <li>• Look at potential to develop all weather pitch at Alexander Park with green surface</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People of the village need to be presented with a range of options to participate in healthy and physical activity</li> <li>• The village's strong heritage and valuable built fabric must be retained and respected</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify accessible routes for walk/cycle paths. Develop waymarked walking routes, allotments, walking clubs – possible linkages with Dams project</li> <li>• Develop a scheme for the development of the Beetling Dams as a natural asset providing green accessible space, water based activities, walking and fishing</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>
<b>Washing Bay</b> <b>Torrent</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need to develop small scale capital infrastructure to retain and attract visitors</li> <li>• Lack of accessible and useable Walkways is an issue especially for families potentially linking with other areas - Coalisland etc</li> <li>• The Wetlands are a local resource that should be enhanced and developed</li> <li>• The bogland area at Washingbay need preserved to ensure longevity</li> <li>• The nature walk is an asset that needs to be kept clear and clean for visitors</li> <li>• The beach area at Washingbay is in need of developing and linking in with pathway</li> <li>• </li> <li>• Footpaths to and from community buildings are either non-existent or of poor quality</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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</li> <li>• 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</li> <li>• Investigate better ways to enhance the wetland features including better access to the Lough</li> <li>• Initiate a scheme to preserve the existing bogland</li> <li>• Clear shrubbery and tidy nature walk area and develop an appropriate management plan for same</li> <li>• Develop sandy beach and open up to link in with existing pathway</li> <li>• Identify priority areas that need addressed to include Washingbay Road to football field Prioritizing footways for high risk areas.</li> </ul>