

Report on	Leisure Participation
Date of Meeting	16 th September 2021
Reporting Officer	Kieran Gordon, Head of Leisure
Contact Officer	Leigh Gilmore, Participation Manager

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To advise Members on the Council's Participation team activity year to date, to provide information on the intended active lifestyle plan for October 2021 – 31 st March 2022 and to seek approval for a new pilot programme of activities to be delivered within the leisure service.
2.0	Background
2.1	As previously reported to Members in January 2021, the 5 year lottery funded Sport NI Everybody Active 2020 programme along with its three dedicated coaching staff were due to conclude its operations on 31 st March 2021. As a result of this, along with the challenges presented with the covid pandemic, the Council's Participation team have been actively reviewing their active lifestyle plan delivery model in order to meet objectives agreed within the Council's Community Plan 2017-2027.
2.2	While the funded programme has ceased, the aim is still to ensure that targeted increases in active participation are achieved across the Mid Ulster District among traditionally underrepresented groups.
2.3	Therefore, this report seeks to provide an update on the activity delivered year to date along with the intended active lifestyle plan for the remainder of this financial year which also includes a new pilot programme of activities to be delivered within the leisure service.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	The Participation unit of the Leisure and Outdoor Recreation Department wishes to increase opportunities for Mid Ulster District Council residents to participate in a range of scheduled structured and non-structured recreational activities and to meet objectives as set out with the Council's Community Plan 2017-2027 along with contributing towards the Council's Anti-Poverty Action Plan.

3.2	<p>The Participation team's active lifestyle plan broadly focuses on the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Macmillan Move More (funded programme until July 2022) • Physical Activity Referral Scheme (rolling annual programme subject to recurring funding from the Public Health Agency) • Get Out Get Active (GOGA) • Holiday activity schemes • Support/guidance to the community for Council's various sports and participation led grants
3.3	<p>As stated earlier in the report, with the cessation of the lottery funded Sport NI Everybody Active 2020 programme, the Participation Team have sought to innovate its delivery model within existing revenue budgets and therefore intend to bring forward a pilot programme of activities from October 2021 – 31st March 2022 subject to review and evaluation. This will be delivered by specialised coaches via appointed activity providers within leisure facility environments across the District and focus on targeting specific groupings along with aiming to enhance the profile and services of current Mid Ulster District Leisure facilities.</p>
3.4	<p>This new pilot is intended to bring opportunities for approx. 1351 new activity sessions during this 6 month pilot programme period and the intention is to support existing programmes with the addition of activities within the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walk and Run Coordination • Cycle Coordination • Inclusive Coordination • Pre & Post Natal Coordination • Active Aging Coordination
3.5	<p>In order to contribute towards the Council's Anti-Poverty Plan and to encourage more residents to get active, it is anticipated that these additional activities within the pilot programme would be available at £1 per session in order to maximise uptake and participation within specific target groupings and traditionally underrepresented groups that would have been the focus of the previous lottery funded Sport NI Everybody Active 2020 programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women and girls (specifically aged 14-25) • People with a disability; and • Those living in areas of greatest social need (specifically people living within the top 25% of wards designated by NI Multiple Deprivation Measure Index 2010)
3.6	<p>With the covid pandemic, leisure facilities have been closed for large part of 2020 and 2021. Details of activity achieved since leisure was able to re-open following covid easements in May 2021 along with planned activities from October 2021 to 31st March 2022 are included within Appendix A.</p>

4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	<p>Financial: Planned activity can be derived via existing revenue budgets for 2021/2022. New pilot programme to be delivered in partnership with Good Relations and a budget allocation of £5,000.</p>
	<p>Human: Officer time to co-ordinate, implement and monitor the planned activity. Can be delivered within existing resources with support from specialised coaches via appointed activity providers (costs of which can be derived via existing revenue budgets for 2021/2022 and within Council procurement guidelines).</p>
	<p>Risk Management: Considered in line with Council Policies and Procedures.</p>
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	<p>Equality & Good Relations Implications: Considered in line with Council Policies and Procedures. Available on request.</p>
	<p>Rural Needs Implications: Considered in line with Council Policies and Procedures. Available on request.</p>
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	To note the Council's Participation team activity year to date, to note the intended active lifestyle plan for October 2021 – 31st March 2022 and to seek approval for a new pilot programme of activities to be delivered within the leisure service.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix A – Active Lifestyle Plan October 2021 – 31 st March 2022.