

<b>Report on</b>	Mid Ulster Anti-Poverty Plan – Pilot Children and Youth Wellbeing Scheme
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Claire Linney / Kieran Gordon
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Celene O'Neill/Oliver Morgan

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	As part of the Mid Ulster Anti-Poverty Plan, summer hunger and youth mental health are issues identified for action. To seek to address these issues it is proposed to deliver a pilot initiative for children and young people to both engage them in fun activities to support their mental wellbeing and alongside this, address some level of summer hunger.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	<p>As part of Community Planning, in partnership with Council's Leisure and Good Relations Sections and in conjunction with the Education Authority Youth Service a pilot project has been developed. The project will seek to deliver under the Mid Ulster Anti-Poverty Plan, Theme 3: Health and Wellbeing, Actions 1. To review reduced rates for leisure activities, with support to engage people in poverty; 2. To provide free leisure during set times in the summer for children/young people on FSM/low income.</p> <p>Council has been allocated a further allocation of £85,599.30 under the DFC Emergency Funding support. It is proposed that an allocation of this funding would be used to support the two schemes. The remainder of the allocation will be confirmed in a report to Committee in June.</p>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	<p>The Pilot will involve two elements –</p> <p><u>Pilot 1 Children's Wellbeing</u> A Summer Play Scheme that will target younger children aged 7 – 11. The play programme will be facilitated by a play provider (to be procured).</p> <p>It is proposed to concentrate the delivery of the play schemes within our main towns in areas that can attract people from the surrounding estates, and in Fivemiletown due to its rural deprivation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dungannon (Moygashel, Railway Park, Drumcoo) 2–3 sessions per area per week for 2 weeks per area (different children each week)</li> </ul>

- Cookstown (Fairhill, Monrush and Ratheen) 2–3 sessions per area per week for 2 weeks per area (different children each week)
- Magherafelt (Meadowvale, 2–3 other locations to be confirmed possibly two schools) 2–3 sessions per area per week for 2 weeks per area (different children each week)
- Coalisland, Gortgonis 2–3 sessions
- Maghera 3G track and leisure centre 2–3 sessions
- Fivemiletown, Youth Annex 2–3 sessions.

Numbers at each session are estimated at between 30-50 children and pre-booking may be required to comply with Covid19 restrictions. The sessions would be a ½ day in delivery, 10am – 12pm with lunch and 2.00pm – 4.00pm with lunch from 1pm.

It is proposed the funding for the pilot project will be through the Department for Communities Emergency Funding.

Fun outdoor play activities will be delivered on green space (Council owned where possible or partner with a relevant statutory agency) and delivered by an external play delivery organisation and supported by Good Relations, Leisure Casual Staff and EA Youth Workers. To tackle summer food hunger, a packed lunch will be provided free of charge for all children.

The project will be delivered over the period August – September.

#### Pilot 2 – Youth Wellbeing

A leisure scheme for older youth aged 12 – 18 years. The provision of a discounted leisure scheme targeting all young people, and free voucher scheme. The free voucher scheme will be available to young people on Free School Meals and will include up to 10 vouchers for use at allocated times over a two month period (to be allocated in partnership with the post primary schools). The total number of young people on free school meals in post primary is 3,145. The number in the College is to be confirmed.

All of the above will be for Council leisure facilities at off peak times on specific days. The discounted scheme at off peak times will be £1.00 per session. We will seek to provide free water and fruit bowls at sessions.

The list of £1 activities includes the following (times/frequency/locations to be confirmed)

- teen gym, swims, courts, soft play, golf driving range (per basket of balls), golf par 3, track and tennis.

The project will be delivered over the period August – September.

Depending on Covid19 restrictions/easements, the Leisure Section is intending to deliver a schedule of summer camps at their centre locations, details to be confirmed.

	<p>The soccer cages are available for use in the smaller villages and towns throughout the District for groups to access to encourage youth wellbeing.</p> <p>This project will complement the Council's Play Near Me delivery which may be rolled out this summer depending on Covid19 restrictions at our main Parks.</p> <p>Groups are also applying to the Council grants programmes to support summer youth activity programmes.</p>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<p><b><u>Financial &amp; Human Resources Implications</u></b></p> <p>Financial: Total budget £43,500</p> <p>Budget £25,000 for Play Delivery Organisation to be procured</p> <p>Budget £10,000: refreshments Pilot 1 - £7875 for refreshments for children and young people (based on average £2.50 per child), Pilot 2 - £2125</p> <p>Budget £8,500 to support the Leisure Services to support the voucher scheme.</p> <p>Human: Community Planning, Good Relations, Leisure Services Casual Staff</p>
<b>4.2</b>	<p><b><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u></b></p> <p>None</p>
<b>4.3</b>	<p><b><u>Risk Management Implications</u></b></p> <p>Council Risk assessment and the delivery organisation risk assessment will apply. All relevant Covid19 guidelines and protocols will be met depending on the restrictions/easements in place at that time</p>
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
<b>5.1</b>	<p>To agree to the proposal to deliver the pilot children's wellbeing play scheme.</p> <p>To agree to the proposal to deliver the pilot youth wellbeing scheme.</p>
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
	None