

# Ballymoney Borough Council



**BALLYMONEY**  
BOROUGH COUNCIL

## **Community Support Plan 2007 - 2009**

# Contents



<b>Purpose of Community Support Plan</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Background to Council</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Overview of Community Support Services</b>	<b>7</b>
<i>Details of Services provided</i>	<b>9</b>
<i>Resource Analysis</i>	<b>10</b>
<i>Community Centre Provision</i>	<b>13</b>
<i>Grant Provision</i>	<b>16</b>
<i>Advice Services/Resource centres</i>	<b>20</b>
<b>Social Need Assessment of Services and Facilities</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>How Council Contribute to Community Services</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Review of other Community Provision</b>	<b>48</b>
<i>Assessment of need</i>	<b>52</b>
<i>Identification of priorities for CSP</i>	<b>53</b>
<i>Prioritisation of needs</i>	<b>54</b>
<i>Aims and Objectives 2007 – 2009</i>	<b>55</b>
<i>Managing the Community Support Plan</i>	<b>56</b>
<i>Resources for Implementation</i>	<b>57</b>
<b>Action Plan</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>Glossary</b>	<b>70</b>

# Purpose of Community Support Plan

## The Purpose and Origin of Community Support Plans

Local Community Support Plans are designed to help identify the community support needs of local communities throughout each Council District. In identifying local need it is important to recognise that a wide range of existing organisations are already active within the sector. The purpose of this Community Support Plan is to bring together those organisations and agencies that can contribute to meeting the needs of local communities. Although Ballymoney Borough Council is leading this initiative, Council alone cannot fulfill the actions contained within the action plan. It is therefore, incumbent upon all local support agencies actively involved within the community development field, to fully play their part in addressing the range of issues highlighted by this Community Support Plan.

### Origin

Community Support Plans have their origins in the review of the Borough councils' community services programme *Beyond the Centre* undertaken by the Department for Social Development in January 2000. Community support is taken to 'describe the processes and activities through which District Councils stimulate and enable groups of people to express their needs, support them in their collective action and assist them with projects and schemes as part of the overall objective of providing civic leadership' (section 6.4).

A Community Support Plan is an effective and comprehensive management plan for the relevant actions to be undertaken by a council with its own resources and those available under the Community Support Programme (funded by the Department for Social Development). A Community Support Plan should therefore describe how a council intends to utilise resources.

Plans will result in agreed statements of local need arrived at through consultation and partnership. Communities will benefit through better assessment of their need, better targeting of resources, improved use of community facilities and increased support for local community groups. The plan will provide the Department for Social Development, Borough council and local communities with a written statement of the strategy, action plan and monitoring arrangements for the utilisation of these resources.

The Department for Social Development in *Beyond the Centre* (section 6.16) highlighted the following characteristics of good practice in relation to the production of Community Support Plans:

- **Comprehensive:** Plans should look at the community as a totality, recognise that problems are inter-linked and understand that there is a need for integration and co-ordination.

- **Examine needs and resources:** Plans should address not only needs but also the resources available for community use, including financial resources, the skills and commitment to local people, the network of organisations that exist and other potential sources of support.
- **Focus on community:** Defined in relation to a particular geographical area and for the purposes of the programme, it will also be appropriate to include communities of interest.
- **Demonstrate active community involvement:** In keeping with 'best value' principles, community involvement is necessary to ensure that the plans address community need and help develop community commitment and self-confidence.
- **Lead to action to improve the quality of community life:** Plans should list necessary actions and meaningful targets and incorporate a shared commitment to implement them.

## Background to Council

### General Overview

Ballymoney Borough covers an area of 161 sq miles and is predominantly rural in character. It is bounded to the west by the river Bann and to the east by the uplands of the Antrim plateau. The market town of Ballymoney is its main centre, with a number of small villages in the rural hinterland. The area is in a central location in the North East of Northern Ireland and is in the Antrim Coast and the Glens area of outstanding natural beauty. The valley of the lower Bann forms part of the Borough's western boundary. These are areas of great natural beauty and wildlife interest and gives numerous opportunities for outdoor recreation, including water sports, and coarse and game angling. The area has much rich farmland as well as hill areas within its boundary.

Ballymoney Borough Council area is home to a population of 29,225 (2006 Census Figures) representing 1.7% of the total population of Northern Ireland (1,724,408). The area overall is not densely populated, with only 70 people being recorded per square kilometre opposed to 128 people per kilometre for Northern Ireland overall.

As an historic market town Ballymoney has seen an expansion in the period since the formation of Ballymoney Borough Council in 1973. However one third of the Borough population continues to live in the town of Ballymoney with the remainder of the population living in rural areas or in the boroughs many villages.

Ballymoney Borough Council's Mission is: -

***"... to improve the quality of life for the citizens of Ballymoney Borough."***

There are three departments within the Council led by the Chief Executive. These are: -

- Office of the Chief Executive
- Central and Leisure Services Directorate
- Borough Services Directorate

The Central and Leisure Services Directorate has responsibility for the overseeing of the Community Support Plan and works in partnership with the Office of the Chief Executive and Borough Services Directorate to deliver Council's corporate objectives. In particular Council's Community Support Plan is instrumental in helping realise the following Corporate Objectives:

**“To encourage active citizenship and community participation”**

**“To ensure that acceptable, accessible and affordable local services are provided in a way that meets people’s needs.”**

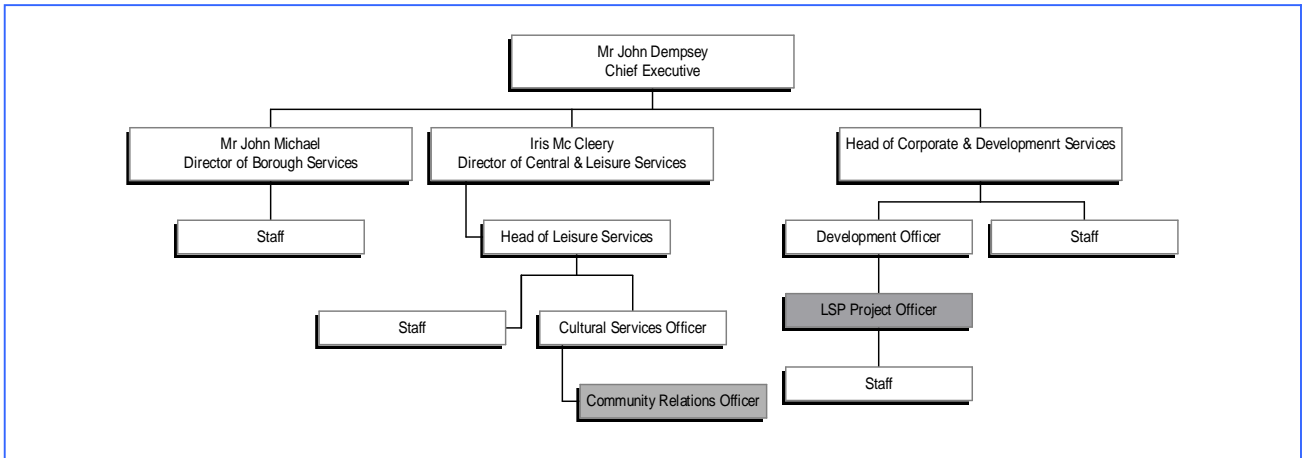
### **Organisation**

Primary responsibility for the Community Support Plan falls under the remit of the Central and Leisure Services Directorate. The Director of Central and Leisure Services is charged with overseeing the main activities within community support but no full time Community Support Officer position currently exists. Responsibility for the co-ordination of the Community Support Plan lies with the Good Relations Officer. A significant degree of overlap exists between the functions and activities of the Good Relations Programme and Community Support Programme within Council.

Within Ballymoney Borough Council, Community Support spans across all three Directorates. Responsibilities include: -

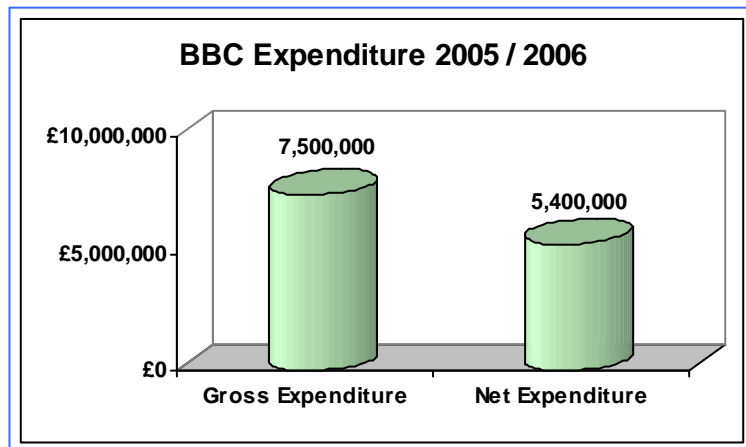
- General Community Development work.
- Advice and grant support to the voluntary and community sectors
- Management and Delivery of Councils Good Relations Programme
- Development and funding for Community Festivals and aspects of Council's Major Events Programme
- Development and grant support for Advice Services
- Management of Council-provided community facilities.
- The development of both grant-aided and Council-provided Community Centres
- Training provision

The staffing structure illustrated below highlights the three Directorates and the various departments, which make an impact on Community Support.

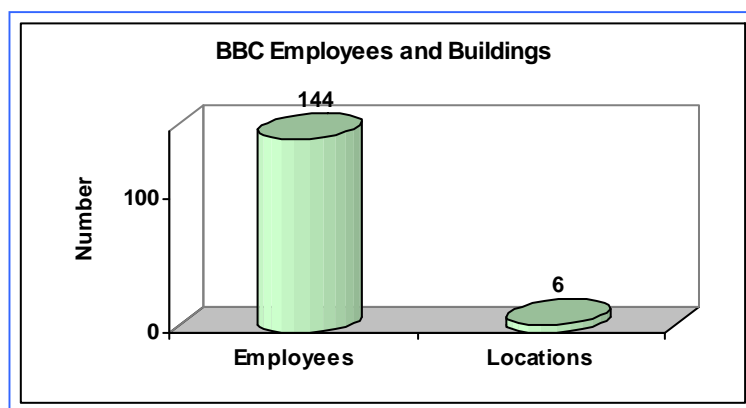


### Overall Council Budget

Ballymoney Borough Council's gross expenditure in 2005/2006 was £ 7.5m



The estimated overall Council budget for 2006/2007 is £7.2m



In the period 2006/2007 Council employed 144 people and operated out of 6 locations.

# Overview of Community Support Services



## Description of Ballymoney Borough Council's Current Community Services Programme

Community development within Ballymoney Borough Council is an essential underpinning strategy that affects the long-term stability and economic success of the Borough. Community development and support has traditionally been facilitated through financial support in the form of grant aid from Council to the sector. A core element of Council business over several years has been the provision of support for Borough-wide advice provision through grant giving and the limited provision of facilities for community development initiatives and activities.

Ballymoney Borough Council believes that arts, heritage, sports, play and health are important ways of engaging the community and developing the capacity of individuals, thus ultimately improving the quality of life for those living within the Borough.

Community Services incorporates the following elements:

- Advice Centre Funding
- Events and Festivals Grants
- Good Relations
- Community Development
- Grant Assistance to the Voluntary and Community Sector.
- Community Sport
- Community Arts Service
- Museums Programme
- Economic Development
- Local Strategy Partnership
- Community Safety
- District Policing Partnership
- Amenities
- Training Programmes

The Community Services budget is split across four key areas as outlined in the following diagram.



## **Staffing**

The Department is headed by the Director of Central and Leisure Services. The Good Relations Officer co-ordinates the Community Support Programme on a part-time basis and also provides ongoing advice and development support to Council's community centres. Council's Community Support Programme also supports a Worker at Rasharkin Community Centre.

## **Buildings**

Through its Directorates, Council manage the following community facilities: -

- The Social Centre
- Rasharkin Community Centre
- Killyrammer Community Centre
- Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre
- Ballybogey Community Centre

In addition Council has supported the following voluntary run community resources through small grant provision under the Good Relations Programme:

- Compass Advocacy
- Ballymoney Resource Centre
- WAVE Trauma Centre

The range of activities at each centre varies, but all offer opportunities for cross community engagement and support. The Council run centres are usually available for casual and long-term bookings opening hours are varied,

Monday to Saturday. The centres facilitate a wide range of activities including: -

- Community based activities
- Senior Citizens Club
- Pre-School Playgroup
- Youth Activities
- Community Arts and Drama
- Sporting facilities

### **Grant Aid**

The Central and Leisure Services Department allocates grants across three main categories namely: -

- Grants to Voluntary/Community Groups
- Events and Festivals
- Advice Centre Funding

The Central and Leisure Services Department has detailed guidelines for the grant application process. These guidelines include the application process, selection process and appeals process. There is one main advice agency funded by Council namely, Coleraine and District Citizens Advice Bureau.

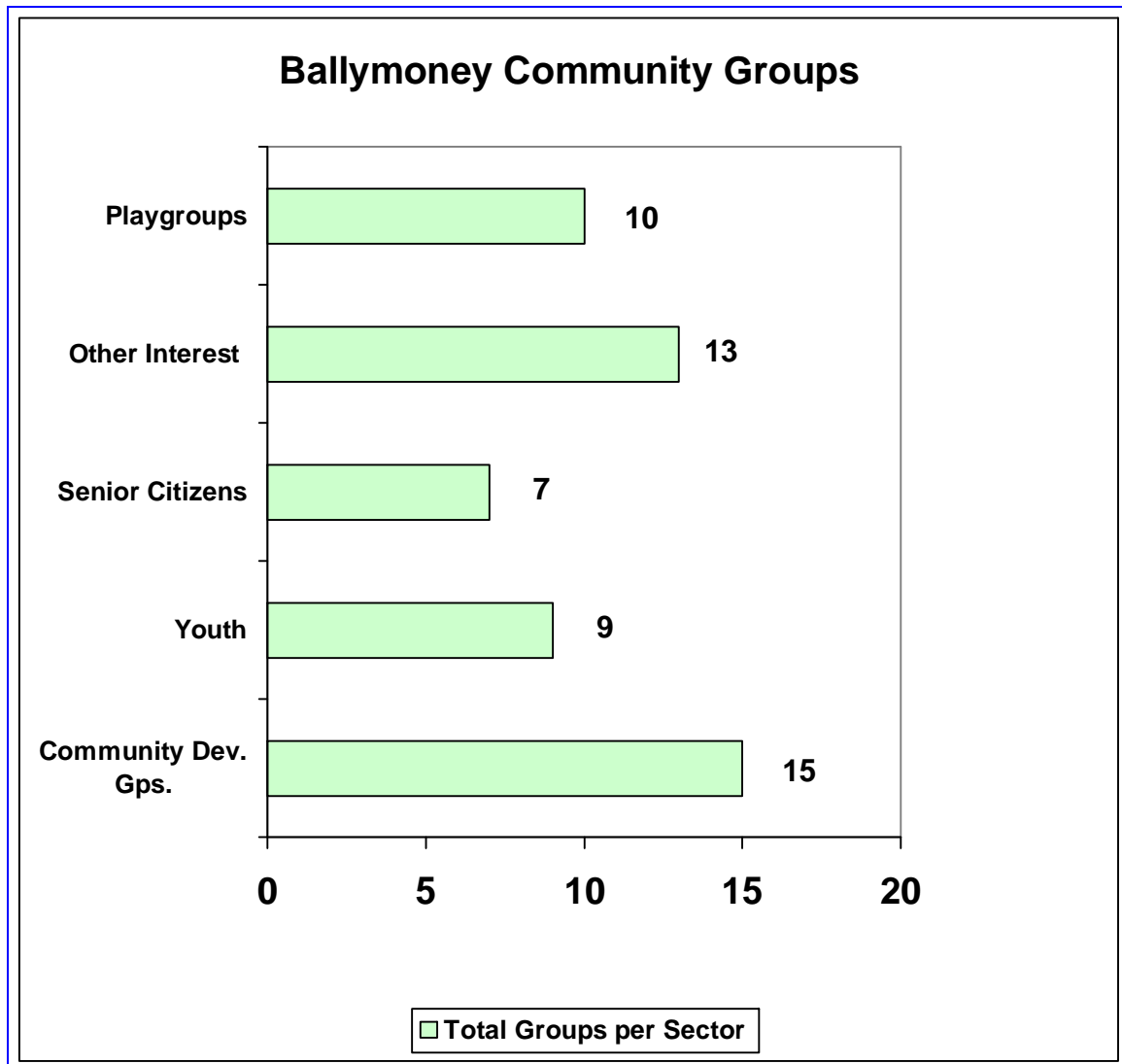
### **Detail of Services Provided**

#### **Community and Voluntary Sector in Ballymoney Borough**

Ballymoney Borough Council area has approximately 54 community/voluntary sector groups registered on the Council database<sup>1</sup>. These groups cover a range of themes as outlined in the following graph: -

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<sup>1</sup>



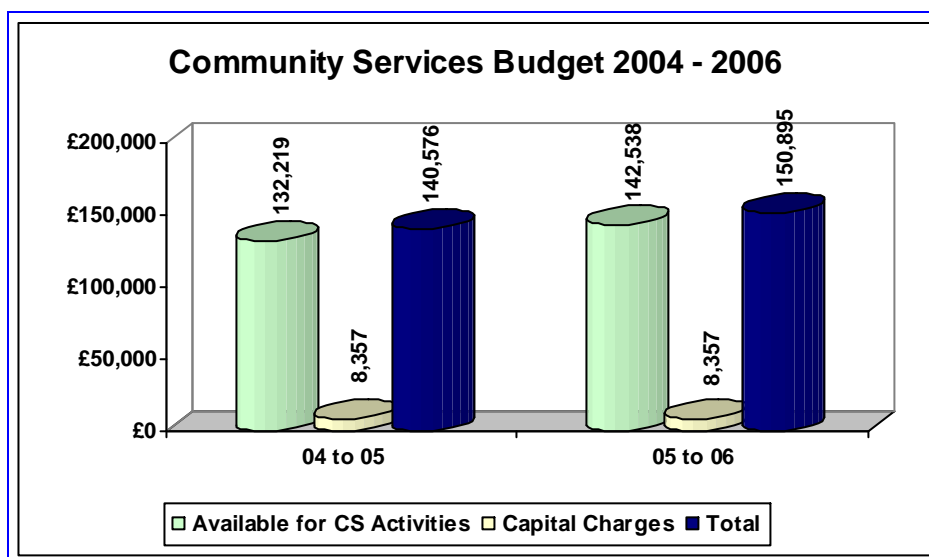
The type of group most commonly found in Ballymoney Borough Council area are Community Development groups (28%) followed by Other Interest groups (24%), Play groups (19%), Youth groups (17%) and older peoples groups (13%).

## Resource Analysis

Community Services has had an average gross expenditure of approximately £145,736 each year for the period 2004/2005 to 2005/2006 inclusive of capital charges<sup>2</sup>.

<sup>2</sup> The introduction of capital accounting has encompassed the move to full accruals accounting for fixed assets in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice. In the past the emphasis was more on accounting for the way in which an asset had been financed rather than recognising its continuing value to the organisation. As a result once an asset had been paid for there tended to be no recognition of that asset's continuing value to the organisation. By moving to full accruals accounting basis, the financial statements provide more useful and meaningful management information about stewardship and performance. Inclusion of capital costs helps Local Authorities recognise the full costs of assets and so ensures decision-makers are properly informed about the real cost of specific functions or activities. In other words, the capital costs recognise the costs of an asset over its

In reality, however, Community Services had an average budget of £137,379 to undertake direct community development activities i.e. management, provision of community centres, community development support, grant giving to community groups and advice agencies. This is because approximately £8,357 (on average each year) is charged to Community Services as Capital Financing Costs. Capital Financing Costs are basically the repayment of loans against Council owned buildings within Community Services. This split is outlined in the following graph.

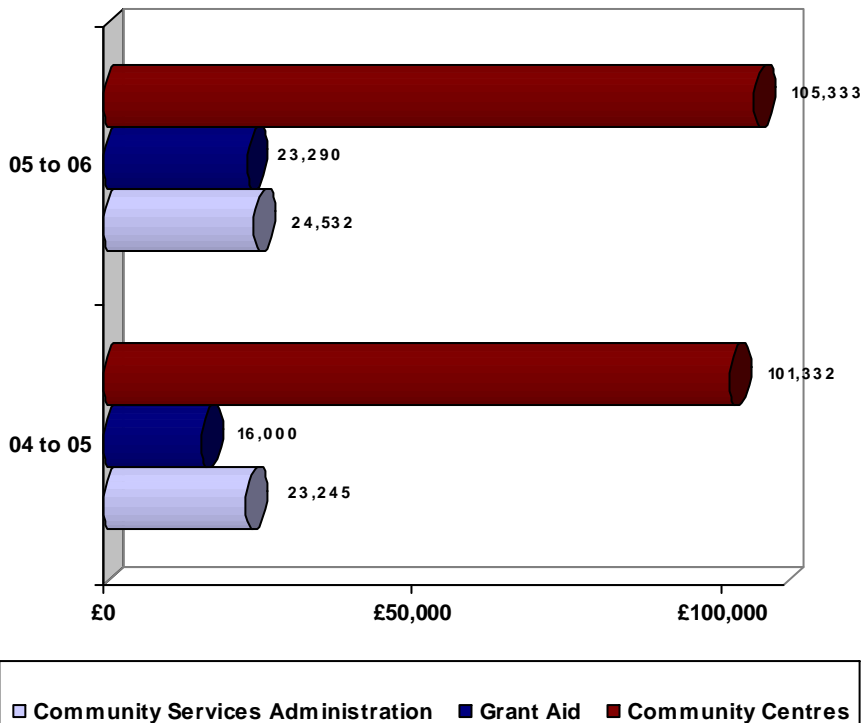


The Community Services budget is split across three key areas as outlined in the graph on the following page.

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useful life. This is done with the aim of improving decision-making and allowing managers to focus on achieving outcomes and objectives.

## Community Services Budget 2004 - 2006

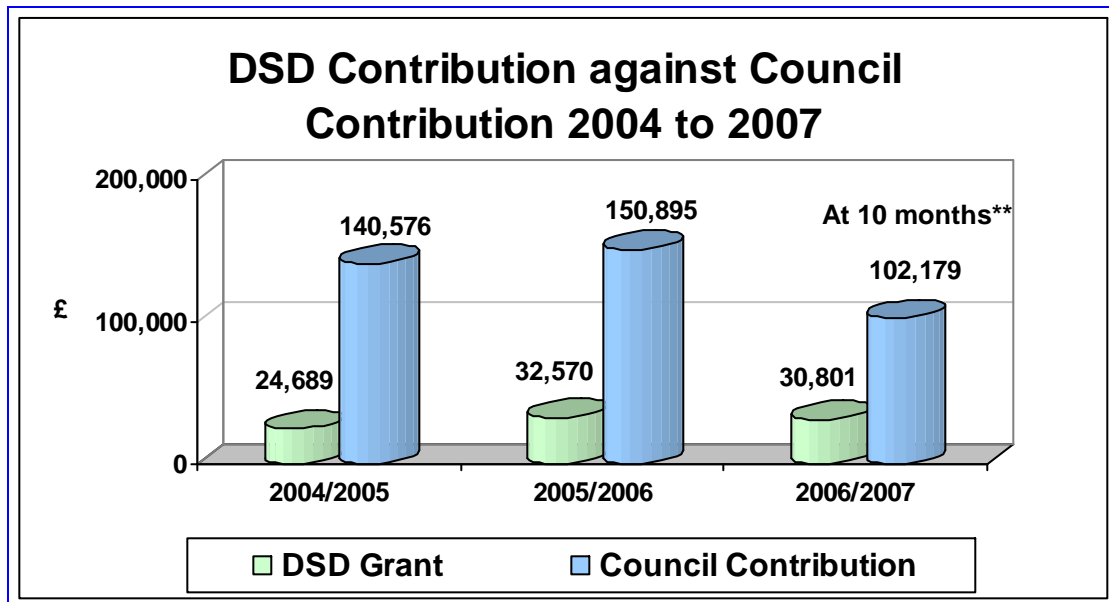


Grants are also offered within the Community Services Section for, assistance to Voluntary Groups, Advice Centre funding and Good Relations. An analysis of grant provision is provided later in the document.

As the previous graph highlights, the highest percentage of Community Services' gross expenditure is allocated to the provision of community centres, accounting for £103,333 on average over the two year period (71% of the average budget).

The second highest level of spend is for provision of Community Services Administration, generally, accounting for an average of £23,889 per year or 16% of the overall budget. The Community Services Grant increased by (30%) over the same time period to £23,290 in 2005/2006.

Community Services received £24,689 from DSD for the period 2004/2005, and £32,570 for the period 2005/2006 as outlined in the following graph. It is also anticipated that the £30,801 allocation for 2006/2007 will be fully utilised.

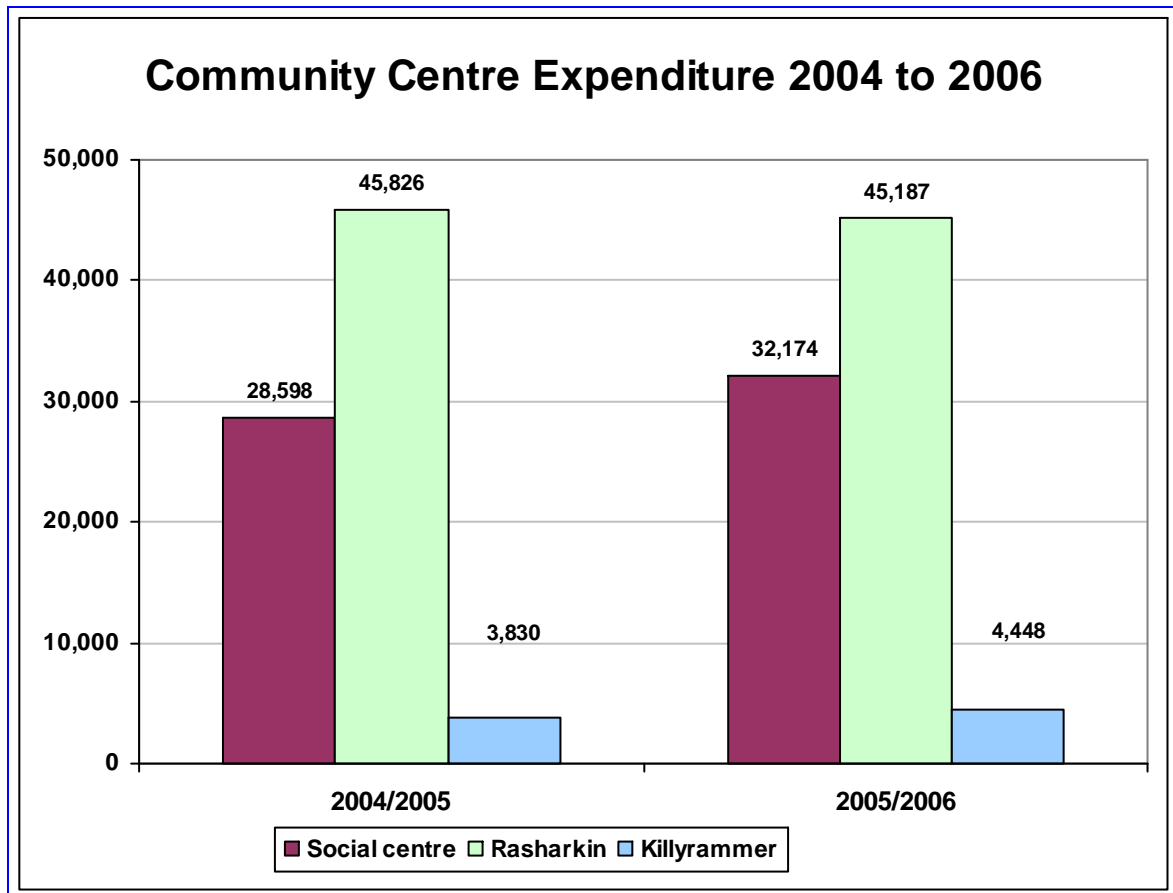


\*\* 2006/2007 figures are representative for 10 months expenditure

## Community Centre Provision

The average gross expenditure on community centres by Community Services is £80,032, or 55% of the overall departmental budget. This budget supports 3 centres as outlined previously. However in reality only £71,679 is available for direct community centre provision i.e. employee and running costs, as the remaining £8,353 is allocated to capital charges (on average). Community centre expenditure<sup>3</sup> has increased slightly by 4% since 2004/2005 from £101,332 to £105,333 in 2005/2006. The following graph outlines the breakdown of expenditure for the 3 community centres supported by Council over the two-year period 2004/ 2006. Namely, The Social Centre, Rasharkin Community Centre, Ballybogey Community Centre and Killyrammar Community Centre.

<sup>3</sup> Council also allocates a proportion of Community Services funding to Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre, on average £8,715 per annum. However this contribution is not applied to any particular expense type, allowable expenditure is calculated using agreed formula with DSD based on total cost of running centre and grant arbitrarily applied to this figure. A more detailed analysis is not possible.



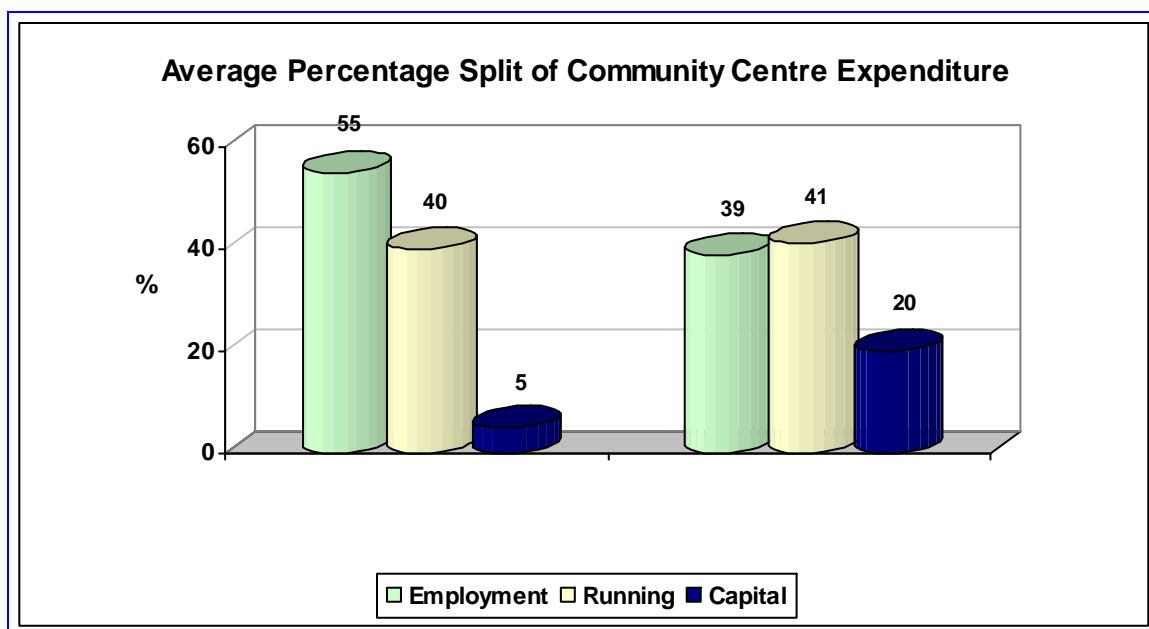
As the graph above highlights, the highest level of expenditure per centre is for Rasharkin Community Centre, which has an average yearly expenditure of £45,507 or 57% of total expenditure on community centres. The Social Centre has on average £30,386 or 38%, of the total average community centre expenditure.

The following table breaks down community centre expenditure into employee costs, running costs and Capital Financing Costs. All Councils are required to budget towards these elements. As Ballymoney Borough Council has 3 Council owned Community Centres all have been included in the following analysis.

Ballymoney Borough Council: Community Centre Provision								
	Employees		Running		Capital		Totals	
	04-05	05-06	04-05	05-06	04-05	05-06	04-05	05-06
The Social Centre	18,631	14,964	8,599	15,842	1,368	1,368	28,598	32,174
Rasharkin Community Centre	17,688	18,073	19,218	18,194	8,920	8,920	45,826	45,187
Killyrammer Community Centre	32.34	62.09	1,273	1,861	2,525	2,525	3,830	4,448
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>36,351</b>	<b>33,099</b>	<b>29,090</b>	<b>35,897</b>	<b>3,901.92</b>	<b>12,813</b>	<b>78,254</b>	<b>81,809</b>

On average over the two years, £16,798 or 55% of the Social Centre budget is allocated to employee costs, £12,221 or 40% of the budget is allocated to running costs and 5% or £1,368 is allocated to Capital Financing Costs. Similarly, on average over two years, £17,811 or 39% of the Rasharkin Community Centre budget is allocated to employee costs, £18,706 or 41% of the budget is allocated to running costs and 20% or £8,920 is allocated to Capital Financing Costs.

Average expenditure is also outlined in the following graph.



As the graph highlights 55% of the total community centre expenditure goes towards Staffing costs for Rasharkin Community Centre with 40% going to Running costs and the remaining, 5% to Capital costs. The Social Centre Staffing costs account for 39% of average community centre expenditure with running costs accounting for 41% of average cost.

It should be noted that Council allocated on average per year £10,587 or 37% of the incoming DSD Community Support Grant to offset costs for the above centres.

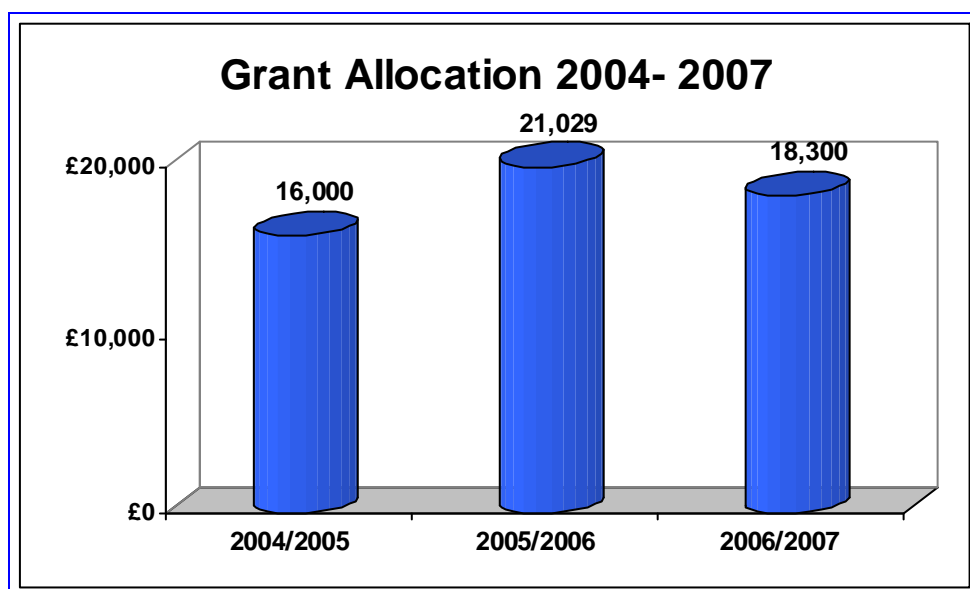
## Resource Centre Provision

The following table shows a summary of community centre and resource centre provision for 2005/2006: -

Type of Service	Number	Capital Charges	Actual Available for CS Activities	Total Budget £ (05-06)	Yearly Usage	No. Groups Using Facility <sup>4</sup>	DSD Funding %
Direct Run Community Centres	3 <sup>5</sup>	£12,813	£68,993	£81,809			31%
Partly Run Community Centres	1	-	-	-			-
Voluntary Run Community Centres	2 <sup>6</sup>	-	£9,000	£9,000			-

## Grant Provision

On average £18,443 per annum of the 2004 – 2007 available Community Services budget went to grants. The following graph outlines grant allocation for this period. Figures on actual grant allocation for the current financial year 2006 to 2007 indicate spend up to and including December 2006.



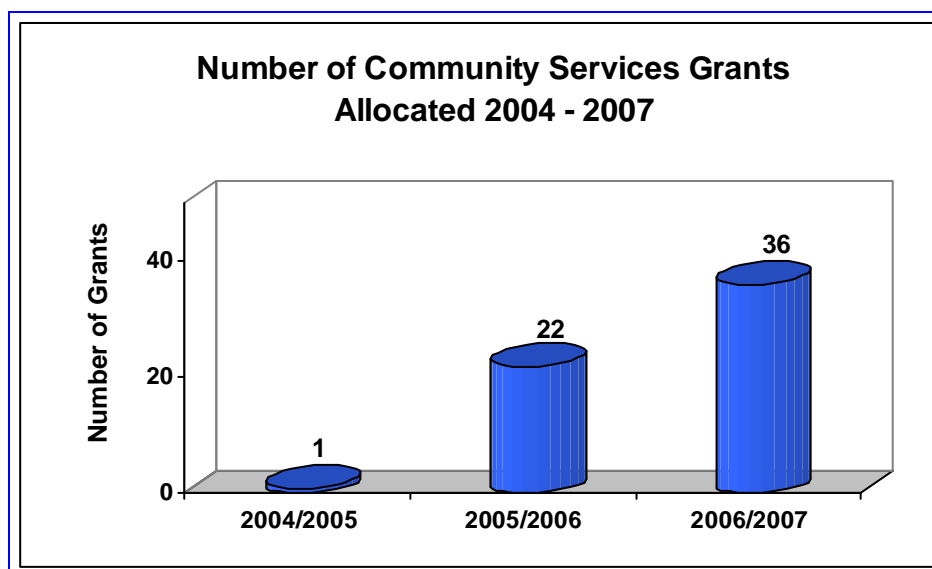
<sup>4</sup> This figure is based on groups who regularly use the Community Centres. A system for monitoring Community Centre usage will be identified in the emerging 2007-2009 Action plan.

<sup>5</sup> The Social Centre, Rasharkin Community Centre and Killyrammer Community Centre

<sup>6</sup> Compass Advocacy and WAVE Trauma Centre

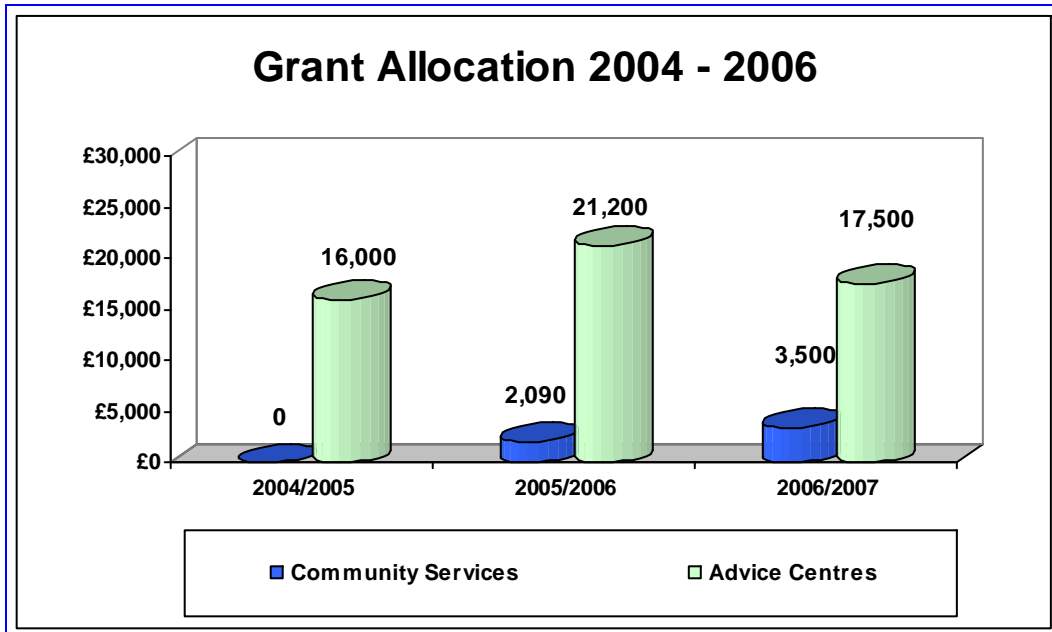
The above graph shows that Ballymoney Borough Council has allocated grants totalling £55,329 within Community Services over the three-year period. During the period 2004/2006 the amount of grants allocated increased by £5,029 or 24%. Grants allocated during 2006/2007 show spend to December 2006.

On average a total of £18,515 was available in grants per year between 2004/2005 and 2005/2006. In 2006/2007 Ballymoney Borough Council has allocated an estimated £18,300 to Community Services grants.



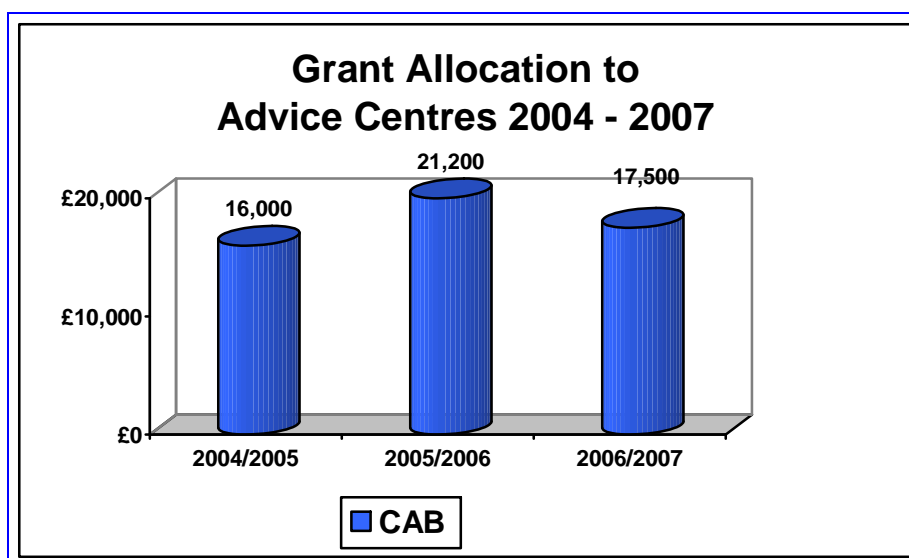
The period 2004/2007 saw a total of 59 Community Services grants being allocated to groups in the Borough, a figure that increased by 14 to 36 in the 2006/2007 period. In total, 59 grants were issued between 2004 and 2007 totalling £55,329 (includes advice service grants). This high number of community service grants is partly misleading as 56 grant applications were for small-scale good relations activities such as social events and Christmas celebrations. The majority of small grants were in the region of £100.

The following graph outlines grant aid allocated under each main category.



Through Community Services Council provides grant aid to advice services, this grant is by far the highest level of funding awarded to a voluntary sector organisation. On average over the three year period 2004 to 2007 Council awarded £18,233 per year to Coleraine and District Citizens Advice Bureau to provide advice services throughout the Borough. This figure represents on average 14% of the available community services budget to Ballymoney Borough Council. The second/highest value of grants allocated by Ballymoney Borough was under the Community Services category with an average of £1,863 worth of grants being allocated each year between 2004 and 2007, 56 grants in total having been issued to date. The average grant was £100. Over the same three-year period, 9% of the total grant available was allocated to Community Services, and 91% to Advice services.

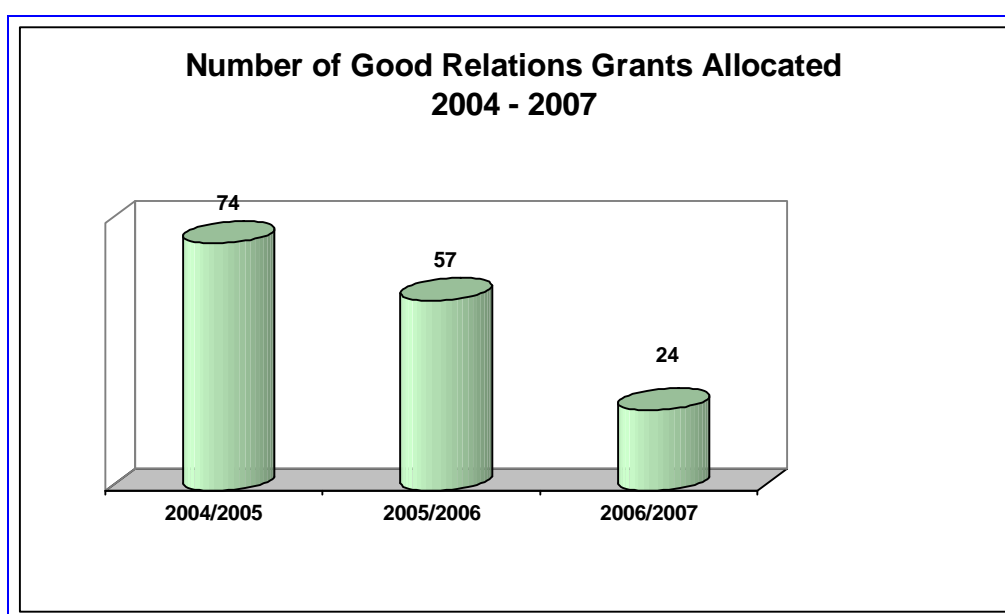
The following graph outlines the grant allocation for the period 2004 to 2007 to the Coleraine and District Citizens Advice Bureau, the main advice centre funded by Council within the Borough.



On average over the three year period 2004/2007, 14% of the total Community Services budget was allocated to CAB to provide advice services.

As the graph above indicates, the amount of funding allocated to CAB has increased by 9% from £16,000 in 2004 to £17,500 in 2007. DSD made an additional allocation to advice centre funding in 2005/2006 of £4,200 with no guarantee that future increases could be sustained.

Council also provides additional grant aid to community groups to promote Good Relations throughout the Borough. A brief analysis of the Good Relations Grant Scheme for 2004-2007 is provided below.<sup>7</sup>



The period 2004/2007 saw a total of 155 grants being allocated to groups in the Borough to promote good relations activities, a figure which decreased by 17 to 57 in the 2005/2006 period. This figure is continuing to show a steady reduction with only 24 Good Relations grants being awarded so far in 2006-2007. In total, 155 grants were issued between 2004 and 2007 totalling £48,656.

### **Summary Grant Analysis**

The following provides a summary of grants allocated under each category for the period 2004/2007: -

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<sup>7</sup> Good Relations Grants are funded by the Community Relations Unit (OFMDFM) and are distinctly separate to Community Support Grants, (DSD). They are managed within Councils Central and Leisure Services Directorate and are included within the Community Support Plan as Good Relations has the potential to underpin and support the work of building and promoting community cohesion. Criteria for Good relations grants are however very specific and should not be used to supplement limited Community Services resources.

Scheme Name	Budget £ (04/07)	No Applications	No Awards	Range of Award £	Average Award £
Community Services	5,590	-	56	90 – 100	99.82
Advice Centre Funding	54,700	-	3	16,000 – 21,200	18,233
Good Relations	48,656	-	155	100 – 6,000	314

## Advice Services / Resource Centres

Ballymoney Borough Council currently funds one advice centre, Coleraine and District Citizens Advice Bureau.

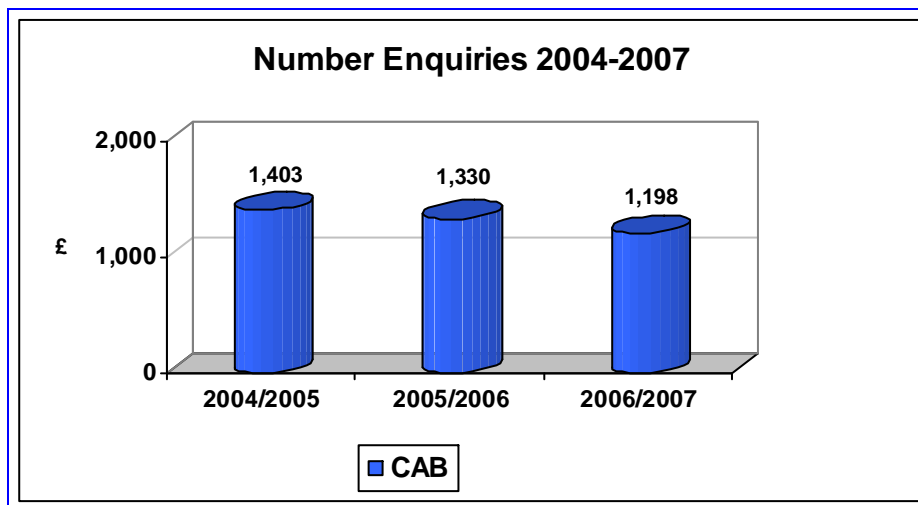
Coleraine and District Citizens Advice Bureau provide a service on two days per week in Ballymoney Town Hall. Outreach provision is not currently available however; a Home Visiting service to the housebound is available upon request.

Ballymoney CAB provides a further service through telephone advice, making the service more accessible to vulnerable groups where there is no access to public transport. Coleraine and District CAB have received a total of £54,700 of funding from Community Services over period 2004-2007.

As highlighted earlier, the level of funding to the Ballymoney CAB increased by 9% to £17,500 over the period 2004 -2007. The budget for 2005/2006 also shows an increase that reflects an additional allocation by DSD to advice services for that financial year.

Consultations indicate that a Service Level Agreement between Council and Coleraine and District CAB could strengthen and help to streamline advice provision within the Borough and improve public accountability on CAB's services that are provided on behalf of Ballymoney Borough Council.

Over the three-year period 2004 – 2007 a total of 3,931 enquires were received.

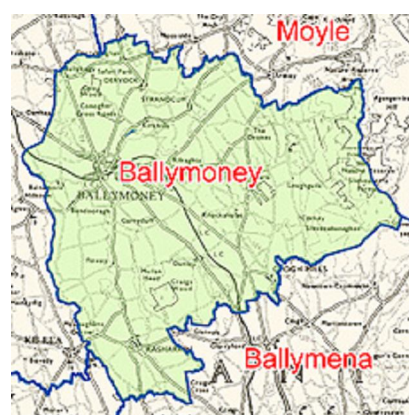


As the graph above highlights the number of enquiries made by Coleraine and District CAB has decreased since 2004/2005. Between 2004 and 2007 there has been a 15% reduction in the number of enquiries and consultation feedback would suggest that this is partly due to the location of the service in Ballymoney Town Hall and reluctance by clients to travel from the rural villages. In addition the advice worker was also on sick leave in 2006/2007 for one month.

Advice Centre	Budget £ 06/07	No Queries
Ballymoney and Borough Citizens Advice Bureau	17,500	1,198

## Social Need Assessment of Services and Facilities

Part of the role of the Community Support Plan is to map the community support budget against New Targeting Social Need (New TSN) areas and Promoting Social Inclusion (PSI) targets. This mapping exercise will identify how well Community Services is allocating its resources against the most disadvantaged areas and groups.



### Socio Economic Data<sup>8</sup>

<sup>8</sup> This data is sourced directly from the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) and refers to data gathered from the 2001 and 2006 mid year Census.

## ***Demography***

According to the 2006 mid-year population estimate figures, the resident population of Ballymoney Borough was 29,225: Of this 22% were under 16 years old and 19% aged 60 and over whilst 49.6% of the population of Ballymoney Borough was male. Data collated on Census Day 2001 (the most recent full regional census) indicated that 31.9% were from a Catholic community background and 66.2% were from a 'Protestant and Other Christian (including Christian related)' community background.

In Ballymoney Borough, in the period Mid 2005 – mid 2006 there were 379 births and 232 deaths registered. In accordance with 2001 data over 30% of births were to unmarried mothers.

## ***Health and Care***

On Census Day 2001, in Ballymoney Borough 19.6% of people had a limiting long-term illness, health problem or disability and 9.4% of the population noted that they provided unpaid care to family, friends, neighbours or others.

In 2002, residents of Ballymoney Borough had 6,742 hospital episodes. In 2004, approximately 10.7% of the population aged fewer than 65 were in receipt of Disability Living Allowance. In 2005, 70.8% of children aged 3-5 were registered with a dentist.

## ***Housing and Transport***

As at the time of Writing (November 2007) there were 11,743 households in Ballymoney Borough. Of these households, 72.6% were 'Owner Occupied'. In this area, 81.3% of households had access to a car or van.

In 2004, 12,877 cars were licensed to addresses in Ballymoney Borough.

## ***Education, Employment and Economic Activity***

On Census Day 2001, in Ballymoney Borough 10.1% of the population aged 16-74 had attained degree level or higher qualifications.

Of those who left school in 2005-2006, 59.2% gained 5 or more GCSEs at grade C and above and 68.2% went on into further and higher education. Finally in 2006 15.4% of the post primary school population were entitled to free school meals.

The area has an economically active workforce of approximately 77% of the working age population (c.f. 72% for NI), or around 15,500 and latest (November 2007) figures would indicate that unemployment in the borough is well under the NI average at 1.6%

### Summary Comparisons with Northern Ireland as a whole

Percentage Comparisons	Ballymoney	N.I.
Under 16 (2006 figures)	22	22.1
Over 60 (2006 figures)	19	18.7
Male	49.6	48.7
Catholic	31.9	43.8
Protestant and Other	66.2	53.1
Births to unmarried mothers	31.5	34.5
Limiting long-term illness	19.6	20.4
Providing unpaid care	9.4	11
Under 65 in receipt of Disability Living Allowance	10.7	10.7
3-5 yr olds registered with a dentist	70.8	62.4
Households owner-occupied	72.6	69.6
Access to a car or van	81.3	73.7
Degree or higher	10.1	15.8
Unemployed (Nov 2006 figures)	1.6	2.1
School leavers with 5+ GCSEs A*-C	59.2%	64.5%
School children entitled to free school meals	15.4	18.9

### Deprivation - NIMDM 2005

The Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure 2005 (NIMDM 2005) was published in May 2005. The report identifies small area concentrations of multiple deprivation across Northern Ireland. The results for Ballymoney Borough Council are shown below.

Ballymoney has an Extent of 1%; this means that 1% of the Ballymoney population live in the most deprived Super Output Areas in Northern Ireland.

The Income Scale shows that there are 5145 people in Ballymoney experiencing Income Deprivation, while the Employment Scale shows that a total of 2235 people in Ballymoney Borough experience employment deprivation.

On the Average Super Output Area Rank measure Ballymoney has a rank of 12 out of 26 District Councils. On the Income Scale measure Ballymoney Borough Council has a rank of 23 out of 26 District Councils.

Within Ballymoney the most deprived SOA is Newhill (ranked 254 in NI) and the least deprived SOA is Glebe (ranked 749 in NI).

LGD Scores and Ranks (NIMDM 2005)	LGD Score	LGD Rank
Local Concentration	622.78	25
Extent	1%	25
Income Scale	5145	23

Employment Scale	2235	25
Average of SOA ranks	453.19	12
Average of SOA scores	18.48	13

[Ranks range from 1 (most deprived LGD) to 26 (least deprived LGD)]

Datasets used:

Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure 2005 (NISRA).

### **Summary Deprivation Ranking of all Super Output Areas<sup>9</sup>**

<u>Super Output Area</u>	<u>Rank of Multiple Deprivation Measure Domain</u>	<u>Rank of Income Domain</u>	<u>Rank of Employment Domain</u>	<u>Rank of Health /Disability Domain</u>	<u>Rank of Education Skills and Training Domain</u>	<u>Proximity to Services Domain</u>	<u>Crime and Disorder Domain</u>	<u>Living Environment Domain</u>
Ballyhoe and Corkey	298	396	579	567	225	3	864	188
Benvardin	311	277	332	490	307	146	600	241
Carnany	355	305	279	454	303	398	680	392
Clogh Mills	472	537	622	599	323	61	790	296
Dervock	519	561	492	501	385	243	723	383
Dunloy	450	519	585	609	320	43	858	364
Fairhill	498	475	494	706	188	386	792	428
Glebe	749	626	571	789	663	582	660	612
Killoquin Lower	416	443	438	577	327	108	869	308
Killoquin Upper	393	392	550	742	211	89	806	189
Knockaholet	395	549	514	545	360	53	816	60
Newhill	254	208	255	548	117	536	720	135
Route	351	310	223	390	482	551	381	339
Seacon	535	505	493	566	424	236	785	505
Stranocum	390	428	567	615	262	47	810	278
The Vow	571	535	605	620	422	155	862	573

*Please Note: Areas highlighted in grey identify Super Output Areas falling into the 40% most deprived wards in Northern Ireland across each domain.*

In terms of multiple deprivation, the Borough has 5 super output areas, which rank in the top 40%, of deprived wards (Newhill, 254; Ballyhoe and Corkey, 298; Benvardin, 311; Route, 351; and Carnany, 355).

<sup>9</sup> Multiple Deprivation in Northern Ireland, 2005 NISRA

In terms of income deprivation, the Borough has 4 wards, which rank in the top 40%, of deprived wards (Newhill, 208; Benvardin, 277; Carnany, 305; and Route, 310).

Unemployment within the Borough is relatively low when compared to other Local Government areas with four wards ranking within the top 40% most deprived wards, (Route, 223; Newhill, 255; Carnany, 279; and Benwarden, 332).

Health is not a major issue within the Borough at ward level, with no wards being recorded in the top 40%. Ballymoney's most disadvantaged ward in relation to Health is Route, which ranks 390 and is within the top 50% most disadvantaged wards within Northern Ireland.

Education skills and training ranks moderately in terms of deprivation in the Borough, with ten (63%) of Council's sixteen wards being recorded in the top 40% most deprived wards in Northern Ireland. (These wards are – Newhill, 117; Fairhill, 188; Killoquin Upper, 211; Ballyhoe and Corkey, 225; Stranocum, 262; Carnany, 303; Benwarden, 307; Dunloy, 320; Cloughmills, 323; and Killoquin Lower, 327). Of the above wards Newhill falls within the top 20% most disadvantaged areas in terms of Education skills and training in Northern Ireland.

Proximity to key services is a major issue in terms of deprivation within the Borough, with ten wards falling within the top 40% most deprived wards in Northern Ireland. Six of these wards fall within the top 10% most deprived wards and two of these wards fall within the top 20% most disadvantaged wards in Northern Ireland. The top 10% deprived wards are: Ballyhoe and Corkey, 3; Dunloy, 43; Stranocum, 47; Knockahollet, 53; Cloughmills, 61; and Killoquin Upper, 89.

Deprivation in terms of the crime and disorder is extremely low in Ballymoney Borough with no wards falling within the top 40% most disadvantaged, One ward, namely Route, ranks 381 which is within the top 50% most disadvantaged wards. All other wards rank very low in terms of crime and disorder deprivation.

Deprivation is recorded at ward level as moderate to high in terms of the living environment domain, with nine wards falling within the top 40% most deprived wards and two of these wards rank within the top 20% most disadvantaged, namely Knockahollet 60 and Newhill 135.

## **Mapping of Centres in relation to Disadvantage**

The following table outlines the location of Council and voluntary run community centres in relation to deprivation statistics and the value of support. While this table shows allocation of expenditure by Centre it does not account for the significant levels of support afforded to the whole Borough through Council's funding for CAB and other support agencies. Overall, approximately 30% on average of the total Community Services funding over 2004 to 2007 was allocated to community centres in wards which fall within the top 10 most disadvantaged wards in Ballymoney.

<b><u>Location of Community Centre (Ward)</u></b>	<b><u>Number of Groups Using Centres</u></b>	<b><u>Rank Multiple Deprivation (Ballymoney)</u></b>	<b><u>Rank of Multiple Deprivation (NI)</u></b>	<b><u>No Cent</u></b>	<b><u>Value of Support 04/05 (£)</u></b>	<b><u>Value of Support 05/06 (£)</u></b>	<b><u>Estimated Support 06/07 (£)</u></b>
Ballyhoe and Corkey		2	298				
Benvardin		3	311				
Carnany		5	355				
Clogh Mills		11	472				
Dervock		13	519				
Dunloy		10	450				
Fairhill		12	498				
Glebe		16	749	1 <sup>10</sup>	43,230	52,007	36,979
Killoquin Lower		9	416				
Killoquin Upper		7	393	1 <sup>11</sup>	36,907	36,268	23,738
Knockaholet		8	395	1 <sup>12</sup>	1,306	1,923	149
Newhill		1	254				
Route		4	351	3 <sup>13</sup>	-	9,000	7,500
Seacon		14	535				
Stranocum		6	390				
The Vow		15	571				

*Please Note: Areas highlighted in grey identify Super Output Areas within the top 10 most deprived wards in Ballymoney Borough Council across each domain.*

Mapping community centre provision against the beneficiary area covered, to assess what proportion of support is allocated to TSN, is not yet possible. However, Ballymoney Borough Council is in the process of establishing a data capture system to enable this information to be provided. It is hoped that this system will be operational soon.

## **Mapping of Advice / Resource Centres in relation to Deprivation**

As the following table outlines, although Ballymoney CAB is located within the Glebe electoral ward actual beneficiaries of the service are drawn from the

<sup>10</sup> Ballymoney Town hall, CAB Advice Services, and The Social centre.

<sup>11</sup> Rasharkin Community Centre

<sup>12</sup> Killyrammer Community Centre

<sup>13</sup> WAVE Trauma Centre and Compass Advocacy Group

whole Borough. In total, advice services are allocated on average 14% of the total Community Services budget.

## **How Council contributes to Community Support**



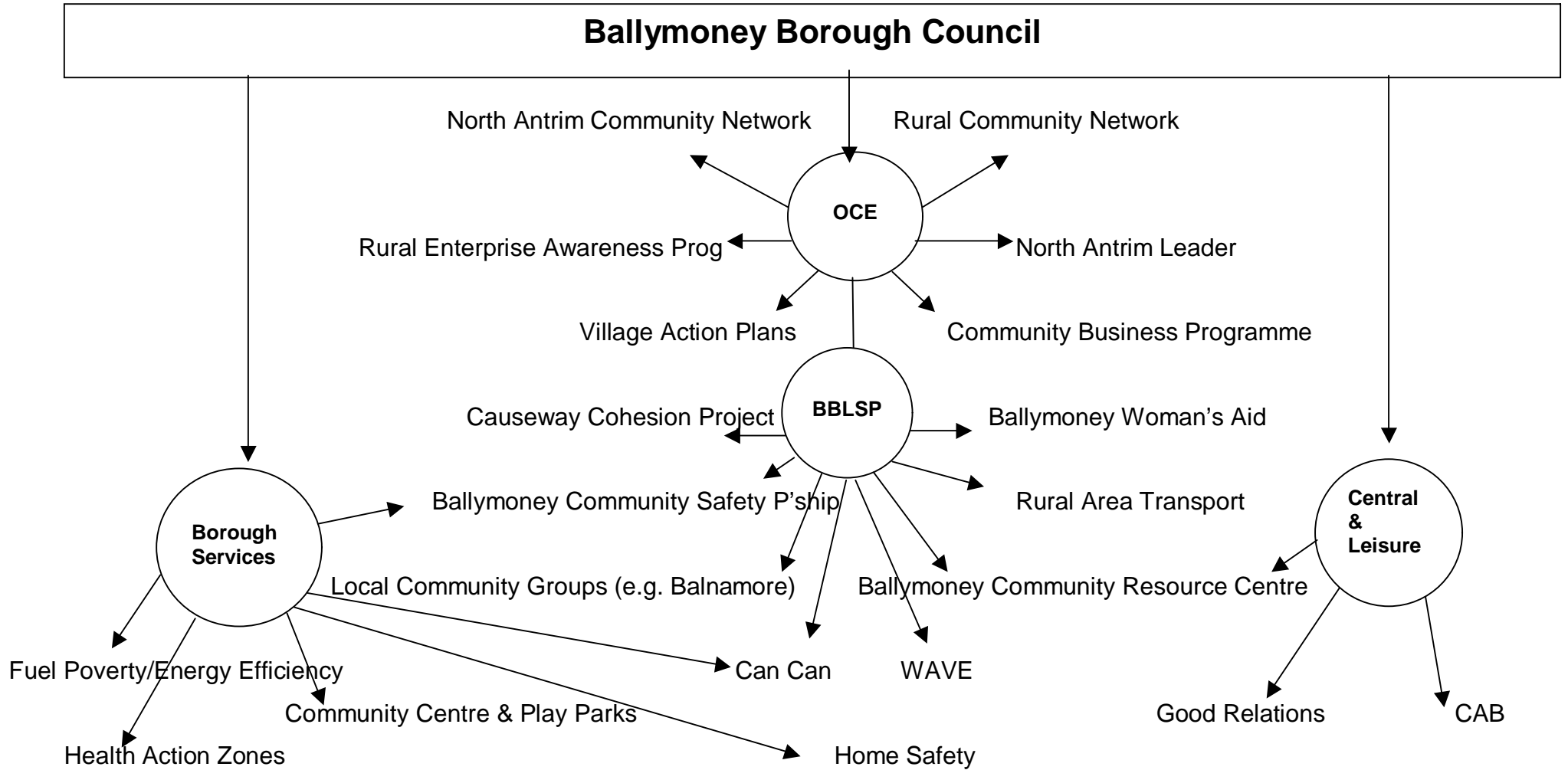
Although co-ordination of the Community Support Plan is delivered through the Central and Leisure Services Directorate, all three Directorates have responsibility for 'Community Services' under the following two themes:

- Community Development
- Community Support

### **Office of the Chief Executive:**

The following activity diagram gives examples of Community Development Support provided by the Office of the Chief Executive and provides an indication of the synergistic nature of the support provided to community groups across all three council directorates.

## Borough Community Development Activity Tree



The Office of the Chief Executive is guided by Ballymoney Borough Local Integrated Strategy, which was produced by the unit to ensure a strategic approach to community development in the borough in which the myriad of community groups in the borough could claim ownership and as a result be prepared to buy into.

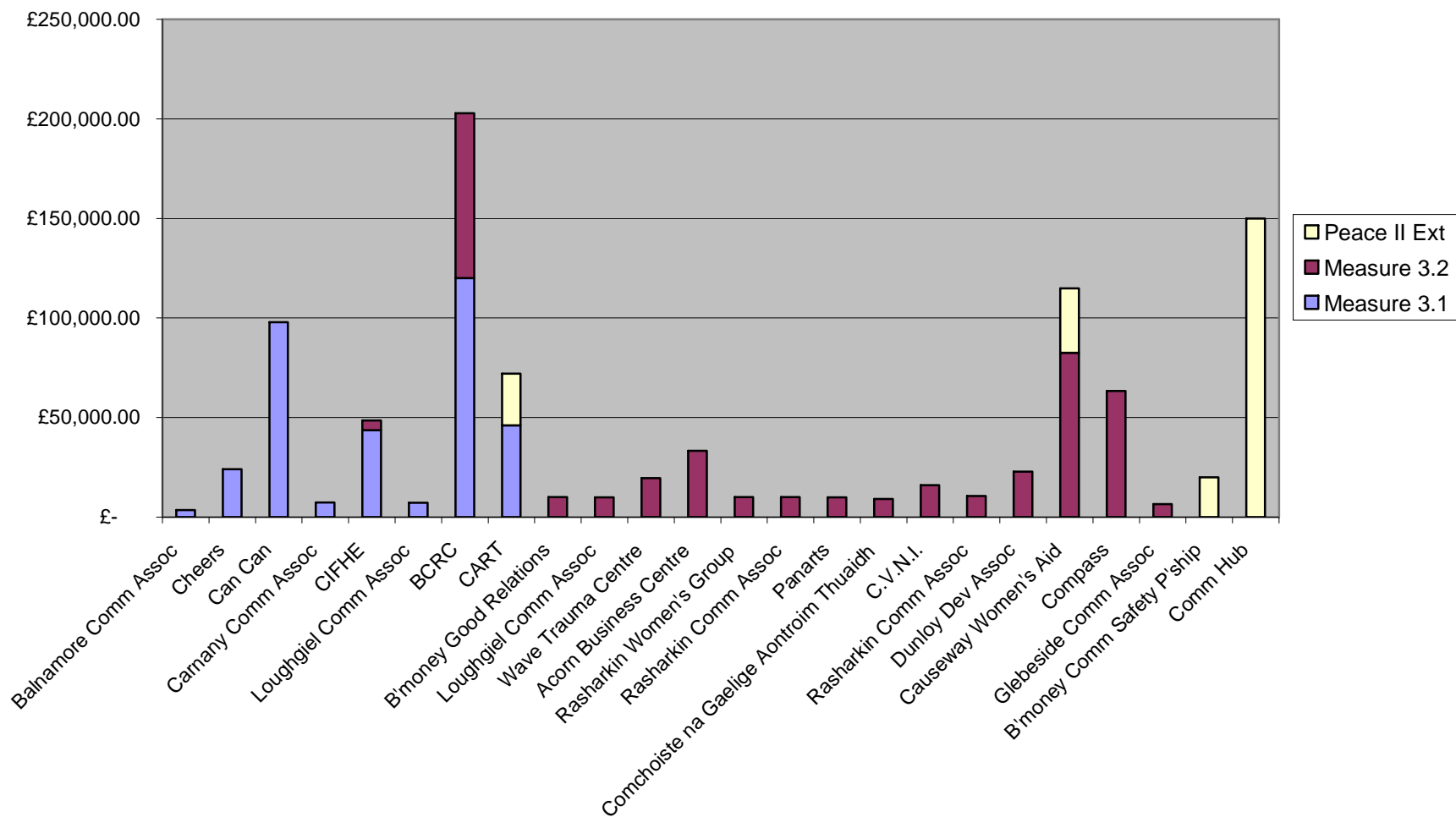
The most significant and ongoing community development support is achieved by the DSU via the Local Strategy Partnership funding of strategic priorities and projects and delivered within the borough to meet an identified need. Support is also facilitated through the provision of ongoing annual financial contributions to the Rural Community Network and North Antrim Community Network who deliver programmes and projects to member organisations operating in the borough.

Ballymoney Local Strategy Partnership (previously Ballymoney District Partnership), which operates under the direction of the OCE, has, since 2001, been successful in securing funding under Peace I, II and II Extension of over £1,000,000.00 for community support and development projects in the borough. Examples of recent Community Support projects assisted by the OCE through Ballymoney Borough Local Strategy Partnership include:

- Marginalised Women:
- Ballymoney Safe Families Project
- Community Infrastructure:
- Coleraine Area Rural Transport (CART) – Ballymoney Transport Project
- State of the Sector Scoping Study
- Blu Zebra: Ballymoney Creating Community Confidence Programme – One year to June 2008.
- Positive Relations/Social Inclusion:
- Causeway Cluster Project (Coleraine, Moyle & Ballymoney LSPs) – Community Cohesion Project
- Marginalised/Excluded Youth:
- Ballymoney Community Safety Partnership – Peer Leadership Programme – One year to March 2008

The following graph details the range and extent of the Community Support funding delivered by the BBLSP since 2001.

### Community Development Support Awarded 2001 to date



Support is also provided by OCE to local community groups to:

- Develop isolated rural communities and forge partnership links with all community groups, while incorporating the community groups into the borough's activities.
- Build the capacity of the isolated rural community and empower the community associations at both local and borough wide level
- Identify projects / actions which will inject economic regeneration into rural areas

Examples of projects assisted directly by the OCE include:

- Capacity development of community groups and project identification
- Skills analysis gap identification
- Engaging commercial companies in assisting in the development of small companies
- Development of Cardinal Daly's birthplace
- Establishment of Rural Development Partnership
- Provision of IT facilities in community group premises
- Rural education classes
- Local community association project support including Council providing support for project group and funding (OCE) for business units and (Leisure) for environmental improvement works
- Cross-community projects identification
- Provision of computer training facilities for community learning
- Feasibility study for crèche provision
- Feasibility study for tourist/heritage centre
- Feasibility study for community centre
- Feasibility Study for development of Community Hub
- Production of business plan and contribution to development of a community house in Carnary (deprived ward in town centre)
- Community mentoring scheme to develop community businesses
- Development of tele-services centre
- Delivery of community empowerment programme
- Gardening and maintenance project – promoting economic development and alleviating unemployment in a TSN Ward in borough (Ballyhoe/Corkey)

Through its Economic Development function the OCE also provides local community groups with:

- Information on sources of finance for start up or expansion of a small business
- Advice to social economy agencies and businesses
- Access to a range of business development programmes for the owners and managers of local firms.
- Borough Policing Partnership
- Support for special events upon request, and as agreed by Council emergency responses to public incidents, etc.
- Professional/technical advice on procurement routes, costs and programmes on capital schemes

## **Central and Leisure Services Directorate:**

The Council's Central and Leisure Services Directorate has responsibility for a number of programmes which impact significantly on Community Support and Development within the Borough. Programmes such as Good Relations, Sports Development and Cultural Services contribute greatly to building community infrastructure and supporting communities to develop and prosper.

Outlined below are the programmes/projects which the Central and Leisure Services Directorate has responsibility for which relate directly to this Strategy and the fundamental contribution which they make to Community Services within the Borough:

### **Leisure Facilities**

The Directorate is responsible for the management of JDLC, its premier leisure facility. The Centre offers an extensive range of activities and schemes throughout the year. With various clubs and other voluntary organisations meeting regularly within the centre. During 2006-07 over 500,000 people used the facilities.

### **Community Sport Programme**

Funding from Sport NI and the Big Lottery Fund in March 2005 secured the appointment of a fulltime "Community Sport Project Officer" employed by Ballymoney Borough Council in the Sports Development Unit.

Initially for a period of three years through the 'Community Sport Programme' this position was extended for a further two-year term until March 2010 with funding secured through the 'Sport in our Community' fund.

Since March 2005 an annual programme of activities has been delivered following consultation with the key community associations and key stakeholders of the Borough. This consultation takes place on an annual basis with each community association involved in the programme.

Further to this a Community Sport Liaison Committee (CSLC) has been established to ensure the continuity of the programme. This committee meets on a quarterly basis.

A partnership approach with the Community Association ensures that many of the traditional barriers to participation are broken down and participants are afforded the opportunity to take part in sport and physical activity in their own community setting at a low cost.

The Community Sport Programme uses sport and physical activity as a medium through which to develop:

- Participation rates amongst marginalised groups
- Coach and Volunteer Training and Education Opportunities
- Health and Well Being

- Personal Development Programmes
- Diversionary Learning Programmes
- Community Infrastructures
- Employment
- Community Relations
- Community Cohesion
- Sustainable structures for sport & physical activity participation

In the first 2 years of the programme April 2005 – April 2007 a total number of 992 participants participated in the programme ranging from children aged 7 to those of retirement age.

The following programmes were established and delivered within individual community settings in the Borough:

### **Balnamore**

- Multi Sport Come & Try it Session
- Multi Sports Session
- Netball
- Mini Soccer
- Hockey
- Armchair Aerobics for the elderly

### **Carnary**

- Multi Sport Come & Try it Session
- Mini Soccer for younger Boys
- Boys Soccer Coaching
- Boccia / New Age Kurling for adults
- Multi Skills for children aged 7-9
- Table Tennis Coaching for young adults
- Diversionary learning regarding Anti-Bullying for children involved in Project

### **Dunloy**

- Aerobics for young mothers

### **Glebeside**

- Multi Sport Come & Try it Session
- Boys Soccer Coaching
- Girls Soccer Coaching
- Armchair Aerobics
- Basketball Coaching
- Aerobics for young mothers
- Boccia / New Age Kurling for the elderly
- Adult Walking Group was established
- Men's Soccer Sessions
- Mini Soccer sessions
- Diversionary learning regarding Nutrition & Anti-Bullying for children involved in programme

### **Loughquile**

- Basketball for young adults
- Spin Cycling for young mothers
- Ladies Netball
- Tri-Golf for young boys and girls
- Multi-Skills for children aged 7-9
- Boys Soccer
- Adult Golf lessons
- Spin Cycling for young mothers
- Diversionary learning regarding Anti-Bullying for children involved in the programme

### **Rasharkin**

- Old Time Dancing
- Kick Start Girls Soccer
- Girls Soccer
- Table Tennis with diversionary learning regarding Drugs/Alcohol
- New Age Kurling
- Junior Soccer
- Mini Soccer

### **Stranocum**

- Salsa Dancing
- Mini Soccer
- Table Tennis

The following programmes were established and delivered as Community Wide initiatives at various locations in the Borough

Volunteer Coach Education courses in:

- IFA Mini Soccer Leaders Award
- First Aid for Sport Qualification
- Walk Leaders
- 2 Child Protection Awareness Course
- IFA Soccer Referees Course
- Tri-Golf Activators Course

### **Girls Soccer**

All areas were given the opportunity to be involved in a Girls Soccer League and Girls Soccer Tournament, which was very successfully delivered in the summer and autumn of 2006.

The Community Sport Programme is now in its 3<sup>rd</sup> year. The following programmes were established and delivered within individual community settings in the Borough:

### **Ballybogey**

- Circuits
- Junior Soccer

### **Balnamore**

- Multi Sports
- Soccer Workouts
- Mini Soccer

### **Carnany**

- Junior Sports Circuits
- Mini Soccer
- Kwik Cricket
- Table Tennis
- Junior Soccer
- New Age Kurling for Adults

### **Glebeside**

- Junior Sports Circuits
- Multi Sports
- Aerobics/Boxercise for young mothers
- Mini Soccer
- Fundamentals for children aged 7-9
- Girls Soccer
- New Age Kurling for the elderly
- Armchair Aerobics for the elderly

### **Loughquile**

- Sports Circuits
- Kwik Cricket
- Multi Skills for children aged 7-9
- Mini Soccer
- Junior Soccer
- Adult Circuits
- Spin Cycling for young mothers

### **Rasharkin**

- Adult Circuits
- Mini Soccer
- Basketball

### **Stranocum**

- Walking Group for all age groups
- Table Tennis
- New Age Kurling
- Mini Soccer

The following programmes were established and delivered as Community Wide initiatives at various locations in the Borough:

### **Midnight Soccer League**

Funded by the Community Safety Partnership this cross community Soccer league was aimed at bridging the divide between the youth from different religious backgrounds in the Borough acting as a diversion to those vulnerable to anti social behaviour. A total of 5 Community Associations were involved in the project aimed at those aged 15-17. The PSNI delivered an Anti-Social Workshop during this programme.

### **Friendship League Soccer**

Involving 12 teams and up to 200 Primary School age children the friendship league develops participation rates amongst young boys and girls in a cross community setting.

Volunteer Coach Education courses in:

- DSNI Including People with Disabilities

### **Good Relations Programme**

Ballymoney Borough Council first became a participant in the District Council's Community Relations Programme in the early 1990s. Since then Ballymoney Borough Council has delivered a programme that has sought to enhance relations within and between communities within Ballymoney. A Good Relations Officer has been employed throughout this time whose role has been to work closely with other statutory agencies and with the local community and voluntary sector to achieve community relation's goals.

The Council has endeavoured to provide a programme aimed at allowing communities to examine Community Relations issues and at bringing the community together through the provision of opportunities to examine the wide cultural diversity, which exists in the Borough. The programme has led to:

- The establishment and support of community groups across the Borough;
- The organisation of a programme of events aimed at improving the understanding of cultural diversity;
- Capacity building training to enable groups to contribute to community relation's work;
- The introduction of a small grants scheme with the aim of encouraging groups to undertake cross-community/single identity projects with a Community Relations theme;
- Supporting a range of Partnerships and Forums, which contribute to Community Relations objectives, within and across a range of sectors;
- Close liaison with other related strategic initiatives including Community Safety and Community Support.

Ballymoney Borough Council believes that the Good Relations Strategy is beneficial to the Council in that:

- It is central to the Council's strategic objectives;
- It demonstrates Council's commitment to enhance civic leadership;
- It re-emphasises the importance Council places upon Good Relations;

- It enhances Council's commitment to fulfilment of Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998;
- It provides a context in which positive approaches can be applied to sensitive Good Relation issues;

The Good Relations Strategy enables Council to continue to take account of the needs and demands of all communities whilst addressing divisions and diversity and seeking to attract additional funding from other agencies to enhance the image of the Borough and encourage potential investment.

The programme seeks to develop and enhance its work locally whilst enabling it to contribute positively to the Government's Northern Ireland wide Triennial Action Plan for Good Relations. This will ensure that Council's Good Relations programme continues to address the key challenges that continue to exist and emerge within and between communities, which differ politically, religiously or racially. The Good Relations Mission Statement fulfils this through addressing the following key priorities (as set out in the Triennial Action Plan):

- Tackling the Visible Manifestations of Sectarianism and Racism
- Reclaiming Shared Space
- Reducing Tensions at Interface areas
- Shared Education
- Shared Communities
- Supporting Good Relations through Culture and Diversity
- Developing Shared Workplaces
- Good Relations, Community Development and Tackling Disadvantage
- Ensuring that Voice is Given to Victims
- Shared Services
- People from minority ethnic communities and the majority community share equality of life chances in all aspects of their lives

In addressing each of these priorities Council has been careful to ensure that the actions also contribute to the objectives of the Racial Equality Strategy for Northern Ireland (2005), which are:

- Elimination of Racial Inequality
- Equal Protection
- Equality of Service Provision
- Participation
- Dialogue
- Capacity Building

## **Tourism & Event Management**

The Central & Leisure Services Directorate, with technical support from Borough Services, is responsible for organising annually, two major cross community events – Ballymoney Mayor's Show and the Christmas Lights Switch On Entertainment Programme. Both these events are important in generating a sense of civic pride and community spirit.

The Mayor's Show offers local community, voluntary and business organisations the opportunity to participate in the event by entering a float in the parade. Local cultural groups have also in previous years, taken part in the entertainment programme.

Local schools and cultural groups also have an opportunity to participate in the Christmas Lights Switch On

In these times, as Northern Ireland begins to move towards a more peaceful society, tourism growth is a future reality. Due to a growing interest in activity holidays and a greater desire to learn about people and culture environmental improvement and community development are two such issues which will increase tourism opportunities. A co-ordinated approach between community groups, participants of the hospitality and tourism industry are vital to meet new demands and deal with new challenges. The importance of tourism to the local economy should not be underestimated and the positive image portrayed of the Borough makes the local residents proud of their area.

## **Museum Services**

### **Causeway Museum Service (CMS) Advisory Forum**

Members of the public, as volunteers, take part in the CMS Advisory Forum. This Forum provides advice to the CMS Committee on collections management, programming and helps to facilitate communication with key stakeholders.

CMS Advisory Forum members from the Borough of Ballymoney:

- ❑ Alderman James Simpson, Ballymoney Borough Council.
- ❑ William O'Neill MBE, businessman and private collector
- ❑ S. Alex Blair, author & historian.

### **Causeway Museums Service Community Outreach Project**

The CMS Community Outreach Project commenced in 2005 and has proved an exciting opportunity to build awareness, appreciation and positive engagement in local heritage. The project was co-ordinated by the CMS Outreach Officer, in collaboration with the Ballymoney Borough Council Museum Manager and Museum Assistant. The project is supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund.

The project's overall aims have been to deliver museum skills within the community, building community capacity to communicate and present their own heritage. It has focused on five key projects spread throughout the Causeway area. A regional network has provided opportunities for sharing knowledge and skills and encouraged groups to participate in the future development of the Causeway Museums Service outreach programmes.

### **Community Outreach Project in Ballymoney**

The objectives of this project has been to:

- Take museum skills out in to communities;
- Increase awareness and access to local stories;
- Produce the local history exhibition, "I mind when..."

Various community groups have been involved:

- Balnamore Community Association - developed a community archive on Balnamore Mill.
- Dervock and District Community Association - created an extensive community archive and organised an exhibition and historical tour as part of their annual civic week.
- Stranocum and Castle Community Associations - researched the history of their areas and have both recently started community archives.
- Dunloy, Carnany and Cloughmills Community Associations - involved in the Big Draw event engaging young people with local heritage.

Groups have collected material as part of the Causeway Community Archive using Community Multi-Media Archive software (COMMA), see <http://www.commanet.org/>

As a result of the work by the community groups, the exhibition "I mind when..." was developed and attracted 566 visitors while on display at Ballymoney Museum 5 October - 3 November 2007. The exhibition included historical case studies, photographs and oral history collected by the communities in the Balnamore, Castle Street, Dervock and Stranocum.

In addition, the community groups also organised popular tours and talks focussing on their locality, which coincided with the exhibition.

Groups will continue to develop their links with Ballymoney Museum in the years ahead and become actively involved in the public consultation on the forthcoming museum fit-out (see below).

**HLF Young Roots Project in Ballymoney** - 'Stories of Places and Spaces Project'.

This project, in association with Creative Youth Partnerships, aims to engage young people with their local heritage to produce art works, which will be displayed in their local community. For example:

- Carnany Youth Group - Following a talk by the Museum Manager the group identified important historical stories in their area. Over a period of weeks the group worked alongside a community artist to produce a metal sculpture of their local history.
- Ballymoney High School - Pupils met with CMS and Ballymoney Museum staff and later worked with a community artist to produce a sculpture that is on display at the school.

**Community Consultation on the development of Ballymoney Museum**

The purpose of this exercise is to:

- Inform the community stakeholders of the development of the new interpretative design for Ballymoney Museum and the programming that will ensure increased access and enjoyment of the collection;
- Establish a baseline of awareness of local heritage and what museum services the community wish the new Ballymoney Museum to provide.

The project has identified stakeholder interests with which to conduct consultation workshops. Advice on the format of the workshops was received from Public Achievement Belfast, who have staff working on, and evaluating, a similar scheme in Belfast.

Participation has been actively sought with groups perceived as non-traditional visitors to Ballymoney Museum. Results of this consultation have informed the interpretative design process and contributed to the forward plans for the Ballymoney Museum and Causeway Museum Service.

### **Exhibitions, talks and events**

Ballymoney Museum runs a programme of temporary exhibitions, which regularly involves input from local stakeholders including collectors, public institutions or community groups from the Ballymoney Borough Council and Causeway Museum Service area. These have included such diverse groups as:

- The Ballymoney Agricultural Show Committee
- The Ballymoney Drama Festival
- The Coleraine & District Motor Club and North West 200
- Ballymoney Photographic Club
- Irish Woodturners Guild
- Students from the University of Ulster, Coleraine
- Somme Association

An annual history talk series attracts large audiences (40-60 people) to hear local author & historian Alex Blair talk on various themes associated with the history of the area. The museum also provides outreach to community groups to promote the museum and local history. This outreach has been utilised by, for example:

- PROBUS
- Rotary
- Help the Aged
- Causeway Cardiac Support Group
- Garvagh History Group
- Coleraine Family History Society
- Scouts, Brownies

The museum has contributed to major community initiatives by other organisations, such as BBCNI (e.g. Your Place & Mine, the BBC Bus), the PSNI (e.g. Street Intervention Programme) and Tesco (talks and school presentations on the archaeology discovered at the construction site of their Ballymoney shop).

An on-going programme of local reminiscence evenings is proving very successful and has resulted in the establishment of an oral history archive.

### **Education**

Ballymoney Museum regularly engages with schools in the Borough by providing important curriculum resources for use in the classroom and facilitating tours of the museum. Since the Town Hall re-opened after re-development, the museum has organised bi-annual education activity weeks which attract up to 160-180 pupils from local primary schools.

In recent years, popular school outreach workshops have also been provided on themes such as World War II and George Shiels.

## **A Community Arts Service**

### **Grant Scheme**

Ballymoney Borough Arts Committee administers on behalf of the Council, a small grants scheme to support local organisations and individuals in the development and promotion of the arts within the Ballymoney Borough.

Grants are available for groups as follows:

- Deficit funding guarantees for events or projects up to £200 and no more than 50% of the deficit.
- Grants up to £200 are available to groups who want to organise a new event or to introduce a new, developmental element to an existing event.
- Grants up to £200 are available for groups who through a high level of competition have been selected to compete or participate in an arts activity at provincial, national or international level.

Grants of up to £50 are available to individuals who through a high level of competition have been selected to participate in an arts activity at provincial, national or international level.

Groups can also apply to the Community Support and Good Relations Grant Schemes for support for community arts projects, which clearly meet the objectives of each programme.

### **Community Courses**

Ballymoney Borough Arts Committee offer in conjunction with the Northern Regional College, a programme of recreational courses including creative writing, calligraphy, patchwork and painting. The college's Community Education Department works collaboratively with over 70 community and statutory organisations to deliver diverse programmes of accredited and non-accredited courses, which are built around local needs and interests.

### **Art of Regeneration**

Ballymoney Borough Council in partnership with Coleraine Borough Council is currently delivering 6 community arts projects through the Art of Regeneration Scheme.

Funded by the Arts Council of Northern Ireland through the National Lottery, the primary purpose of this scheme was to challenge local authorities to work collaboratively and to be creative in tackling social issues, connecting the arts to areas not usually associated with them.

Ballymoney and Coleraine have been awarded funding for a project to enhance parks and play areas within each council area with pieces of public art that make use of recycled materials and which have a potential function within the context of the play area e.g. seating, musical play equipment, waste disposal bins.

Community consultation and community support are essential components of the project and the artists appointed are currently working with the local community groups and youth groups in each area in the development and fabrication of the artwork. Interpretative panels will be sited with each artwork and a final exhibition will celebrate the work.

## **Borough Services Directorate:**

The Borough Services Directorate makes a significant contribution both in terms of Community Development and Community Support. The Directorates remit encompasses – Amenities (including estate management), Building Control, Environmental Health & Community Safety and Environmental Services. A range of services and interventions are provided which impact daily on the lives of those living, working or visiting the Borough. Community Development and Support are seen as an integral part of services delivered. The contribution made to Community Development and Community Support is dealt with under the following heads –

1. Community Capacity
2. Community Infrastructure
3. Community Wellbeing

### **1. Community Capacity**

The Directorate adds value to service provision by seeking opportunities to build capacity within the Community. This is achieved in a number of ways.

Structured, nationally recognised training courses in food hygiene and health and safety are offered. The CIEH Foundation Certificate in Food Hygiene, update courses, level 2 awards in Food Safety in Catering and level 3 awards in Implementing Food Safety Management Procedures are offered, as is a level 2 qualification in Health and Safety in the Workplace. Staff within the Directorate are also qualified to deliver the CIEH Certificate in Environmental Awareness.

Informal talks are given to a number of interest groups to raise awareness on matters which fall within the Directorates remit, such as, waste management and recycling, sustainable development, etc

The Directorate provides information on various initiatives through press releases, leaflets, and the Council's website and where necessary targets specific groups. A current initiative on home safety, has included an element of training of community volunteers to carry out home safety checks prior to the distribution of safety equipment. An information day in conjunction with Ballymoney Home Accident Prevention Committee and other relevant partners on topics such as slips and falls, personal safety and wellbeing targeting the elderly has been held and future initiatives are planned.

A number of awareness raising sessions regarding home energy efficiency measures including accessing grants have been and will be held at various locations in the Borough as part of the campaign to tackle fuel poverty.

Additionally, given the Directorate's licensing and enforcement functions it will readily engage with requestees on a one-to-one basis to advise on a case-by-case basis.

## **2. Community Infrastructure**

- Council has provided at both the Town Hall and Social Centre in Ballymoney bookable venue facilities for community use.
- It has also to date provided Community Centres at Ballybogey, Killyrammer and Rasharkin. Substantial community facilities are in the planning phase as regards both Cloughmills and Dervock.
- Drumaheglis Marina & Caravan Park is the Boroughs primary tourist development and offers not only public access to the River Bann but also a number of other facilities much valued by both Borough visitors and residents.
- Council manages extensive public open space at both of its Riverside Parks in Ballymoney and Dervock and a smaller facility at Carnany.
- Play Areas have been provided at Ballybogey, Ballyknock, Ballymoney [Carnany [2], Glebeside, Megaw Park, Riverside Park, Seymour Drive and Westgate], Balnamore, Ballyknock, Ballynagarvey, Bendooragh, Benvista, Clontyfinnan, Cloughmills, Dervock, Drumaheglis, Dunaghy, Dunloy, Fernbank, Finvoy, Lislagan, Loughgiel [Millennium Centre & Scally Park], Killyrammer, Macfin, Magherahoney, Rasharkin, Rockend, Seacon and Stranocum.
- There are sports pitches and associated changing facilities at the following locations – Balnamore, Dunaghy, Dunloy, Dervock, Megaw Park, Rasharkin and Riada Playing Fields.
- Riada Stadium, recently completed by Council, is a prestigious multi-purpose and sports arena.
- Public toilets are available at Castle Street, Riverside Park and Townhead Street, Ballymoney, Cloughmills and Rasharkin.
- Extensive waste management and recycling facilities are located at both Knock Road and Crosstagherty Road, Ballymoney.
- Mixed Waste and Mixed Dry Recyclates are collected on an alternate weekly basis from the 12,200 homes in the Borough. Bulky household waste is also collected from individual homes on request. In addition Council provides an assisted persons scheme.

- A trade waste service is also provided to the Borough's commercial and industrial sector.
- Community Recycling Centres are situated at Ballybogey, Balnamore, Cloughmills, Dervock, Dunloy, Killyrammer, Loughgiel, Rasharkin, Stranocum and at Glebeside Spar, Milltown Spar, Tesco and Trolans SuperValue.
- Council is also supportive of Can Can Recycling a community recycling initiative to assist people with learning disabilities.
- Street cleansing services are provided to ensure that the Borough is kept litter free.
- In addition to the public cemeteries at Ballymoney and Rasharkin, Council maintains a number of other graveyards.
- Bus shelters have been provided at 40 locations throughout the Borough.
- Council, in partnership with other agencies, is delivering improvements to the National Cycling Network within the Borough and is promoting a Connect2 project to bridge the railway at the station and so directly connect the town's commercial core with Ballymoney South.
- Various initiatives have and are being pursued to improve the bio-diversity of the Council's estate and also to promote access to the countryside and a healthier lifestyle, including an annual walks programme.
- A support service is provided to community groups and other organisations offering event set-up advice and also technical and practical help with events, including the preparation of facilities and the set up and take down of equipment. Equipment is also made available from the Directorate's resources pool.
- A Festive Lighting Scheme for Ballymoney town, together with Christmas trees and lighting provision to 12 Borough communities, is co-ordinated annually.
- Building Control services ensure that the build environment within the Borough complies with the regulatory standard. The postal numbering and street naming services ensure that property is readily identifiable.
- The Directorate is also the Council's lead on local emergency planning co-ordination and response issues.

### **3. Community Wellbeing**

In addition to the traditional enforcement aspect of the Directorate's work, considerable resources are dedicated towards implementing the Northern Health Trust's Investing for Health Programme. Funding has been secured for the employment of a Fuel Poverty Strategy Co-ordinator (the only such post in Northern Ireland) together with an Energy Efficiency Worker and a Home Safety

Officer. Although these posts are shared with a number of other Councils, they are based within Ballymoney. The appointments have allowed a more focused approach to tackling both these areas of intervention locally.

#### Ballymoney Warmer Homes Group

The Warmer Homes Group has championed the cause of effectively tackling fuel poverty within the Borough. One of the initiatives undertaken has been the setting up and promotion of a fuel stamp scheme under the logo of 'stamp out the cold'. The scheme has been a tremendous success with over £30,000 worth of stamps being sold within the first 12 months. Due to the increasing diversity of the Borough's population information on the fuel stamp scheme has been translated into seven languages. A number of other authorities have introduced similar schemes following the best practice set by the Directorate.

Energy efficiency awareness training is also delivered to both the statutory and community/voluntary sector on a regular basis annually.

#### Ballymoney Home Accident Prevention Committee

Hazard House is a unique home accident prevention initiative established by a partnership led by the Directorate. The former Housing Executive home comprises a number of domestic safety scenarios. The various scenarios presented are used by trained staff to raise home accident prevention awareness. Through the Home Safety Officer and with funding from the Northern Investing for Health Partnership, a home safety equipment scheme is to be delivered across the Borough aimed at those families with children less than five years. A training programme has already been completed which included recruited volunteers from within the community to carry out home safety assessments prior to the distribution of equipment.

#### Community Safety

Funding from the Northern Ireland Office has allowed the appointment of a Community Safety Co-ordinator for a period of 3 years. The Co-ordinator has overseen the production of a local Community Safety Strategy based on local need. From this, a number of specific projects were identified to be delivered by local groups /agencies. Over the past three years the following projects have been delivered or are currently ongoing.

- Ballymoney CSP: Safer Bonfire Initiative 2006-2008  
Promotion of a safer bonfire competition aimed at developing best practice with the Ballymoney Borough.
- Ballymoney CSP: Carbon Sink Initiative 2007-2008  
Stemming from the above project, the carbon sink initiative is aimed at offsetting the carbon emissions from bonfires during July and October through the planting of trees with the help of primary school children within the locations of bonfire site.
- Ballymoney Road Safety Committee: Safer Driver Initiative 2006-2008  
Recruitment and provision of advanced training test for 30 people to improve their skills and create safer drivers in conjunction with the Road safety Group.

- ❑ Cheers Youth Club / PSNI: Street Intervention Programme 2006-2008  
To provide a diversionary programme of educational and teambuilding activities to improve the life style choices, particularly of unattached young people, within Ballymoney Town.
- ❑ Glebeside Community Association: CLEAR 2006-2008  
The undertaking of a community audit addressing physical and environmental issues within the Glebeside area, with the aim of developing an action plan to address the findings.
- ❑ Glebeside Community Association: Youth DVD Project 2006-2008  
Encouraging youth engagement within the community through the provision of DVD production skills training whilst composing a DVD on their life within Glebeside.
- ❑ Loughgiel Community Association: Rural Focus Project 2006-2007  
A diversionary programme of sporting activities aimed at bridging the divide between youth people from different religious backgrounds within the Borough, to improve lifestyle choices and instil mutual respect and understanding.
- ❑ NEELB Youth Service: Off The Streets 2006-2008  
To provide a diversionary programme of activities to improve the life style choices of young people within the Ballymoney Borough.
- ❑ NEELB Youth Service: YIG DAP 2006-2007  
To carry out a programme, which helps young people make informed choices about drugs and alcohol.
- ❑ NIO / NHSSB: Message in a Bottle 2006-2008  
Promotion of information about vulnerable people for use by the emergency services through the provision of a standard 'bottle' to be kept in their homes.
- ❑ NSPCC: Stop it Now! 2006-2008  
An awareness raising campaign with workshops and information sessions focused on preventing child abuse.
- ❑ PSNI: Ethnic Minority Awareness 2006-2008  
A schools awareness project aimed at developing an increased understanding of issues affecting ethnic minorities within the Borough.
- ❑ PSNI: Peer Leadership 2006-2008  
This project aims to give young people the knowledge and confidence and skills to assist them in making decisions about influences which impact on their lives. It will build up a bank of qualified peer educators to deliver programmes in local youth organisations and the wider community.
- ❑ Midnight Soccer League 2007-2008  
A cross-community soccer league aimed at bridging the divide between youth people from different religious backgrounds within the Borough, acting as a diversion to those vulnerable to anti social behaviour.

- Get BART Active 2007-2008  
A diversionary programme aimed at bridging the divide between youth people from different religious backgrounds within Balnamore & Rasharkin, to improve lifestyle choices, encourage social development and instil mutual respect and understanding. Officers from the directorate worked with both Community associations to complete the application forms and construct a varied programme to address community safety issues.

The Community Safety Partnership has also promoted a number of regional projects within the Borough as follows:

- Message in a Bottle 2006-2008  
The scheme is being taken forward in partnership with The Community Safety Unit NIO, local Community safety Partnerships, the PSNI, Northern Ireland Policing Board and Northern Ireland Ambulance Service. The Scheme provides emergency services with vital details of any conditions, medications or allergies and someone to contact should they be called to a home in an emergency. The person's details are stored in a plastic bottle kept in the fridge and provide reassurance to older people.
- The Lock Out Crime Scheme (LOCs)  
This scheme aims to improve home security for older people in approximately 23,000 homes across Northern Ireland. It provides and installs free of charge additional home security in the form of door and window locks, door chains or restrictors, door viewers and front and rear door external lights. All these devices meet British Safety Standards and are installed to appropriate professional standards.

#### Vehicle Crime Awareness

Tackling theft from vehicles is a key component of the Government's strategy to drive down car crime. Based on information and evidence from the police, the Community Safety Unit launched in November 2004 a public information campaign to highlight the threat of theft from vehicles. The key message being promoted by this awareness campaign is "if they see it, they'll steal it". This campaign is run for several weeks each year.

#### Air Quality Management

Borough Air Quality is monitored and reported on annually by the Directorate on Councils behalf.

#### Eat Safe Award

The Food Standards Agency's Eat Safe Award is promoted delivered by officers of the Directorate during planned inspections of food premises.

#### Schools Liaison

The Directorate has participated with the NEELB Schools Liaison Officer with the launch of the Boards Schools Directory that identifies resources and skills within the area of the Directorates responsibility and how these may be utilised within various parts of the schools curriculum.

## Review of Other Community Provision

The following table gives a summary of the resourcing provided by other agencies. This information is important to the Council in terms of a joined-up approach to service delivery. The information will allow the Council to identify gaps in service provision and opportunities to build partnerships with others involved in the provision of community development support.

Organisation	Description of Community Support Services
Causeway Volunteer Centre, 70a Union St, Coleraine BT521QB	<p>The Causeway Volunteer Centre aims to raise the profile of volunteering by highlighting the benefits of volunteering to individuals, organisations and the wider community. The Centre actively recruits more people to do voluntary work, and also supports community and voluntary organisations by advising on how to recruit, manage, develop and support volunteers and general volunteering good practice. Also, the Centre runs a small grants programme (funded by Department of Social Development) aimed at helping organisations with volunteers costs.</p> <p>Causeway Volunteer Centre works with organisations and individuals in Ballymoney Town and in the surrounding villages and rural area.</p>
Ballymoney Community Safety Partnership	<p>Ballymoney Community Safety Partnership believes that strong local government and active voluntary and community groups make a vital contribution to community safety. We recognise that local citizens play a crucial role in keeping the community safe and that there is a need to encourage capacity building to develop strong and active voluntary and community groups. We strive to encourage local citizens to be active in helping to identify community safety priorities for their neighbourhoods and to work with key agencies to make sure they are tackled through our local action plan projects. We work in close collaboration with local partners in the setting of priorities, the development of new policies and initiatives, and the deployment of resources to bring holistic approaches to local problems and deliver what is important to local people. We acknowledge the need to create a relationship between the Community Safety Partnership, local government, agencies and the communities they serve which encourage accountability, trust and co-operation in delivering a collaborative approach to addressing community safety.</p>
Coleraine Area Rural Transport	<p>The organisation provides a low cost, accessible community transport service to the community groups and individuals living in the Boroughs of Coleraine and Ballymoney.</p>

Organisation	Description of Community Support Services
Arts Council of Northern Ireland	<p>The Arts Council of Northern Ireland is the prime distributor of public support for the arts. Its main functions are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To develop and improve the knowledge, appreciation and practice of the arts</li> <li>▪ To increase public access to, and participation in, the arts</li> <li>▪ To encourage and assist the provision of arts facilities and events and co-ordination and efficient use of resources for the arts</li> </ul>
Community Foundation for Northern Ireland	<p>The Community Foundation for Northern Ireland's mission is to improve the quality of life through enabling communities to tackle social need and divisions by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Funding and supporting community-based action</li> <li>▪ Raising funds from a wide range of donors who wish to support and be associated with this work</li> <li>▪ Policy/Publications drawing on collective experience, research and evaluation, to influence policy development.</li> </ul>
Community Relations Council	<p>The Community Relations Council provides grant aid and advice to voluntary and community groups in support of projects, which have a good relations purpose or value.</p>
Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister's Community Relations Unit	<p>OFMDFM provide funding guidance and support to Borough Councils within Northern Ireland to provide a Borough Council Good Relations Programme.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To increase cross-community contact and co-operation</li> <li>▪ To encourage mutual respect, understanding and appreciation of cultural diversity.</li> </ul> <p>Since 1989, the Borough Council's Good Relations Programme (DCCRP) has been developed to support local Good Relations initiatives. Financial support at 75% of eligible expenditure is available to Borough councils, including contribution towards the salaries of Good Relations Officers.</p> <p>The department has recently launched the "Shared Future" document, which outlines the proposed direction for Good Relations for the foreseeable future.</p>
Department of Agriculture & Rural Development (DARD)	<p>DARD's main objective is "to promote economic growth and the development of the countryside in Northern Ireland. It will assist the competitive development of the agri-food, fishing and forestry sectors of the NI economy, being responsive to the needs of consumers for safe and wholesome food, the welfare of animals and the conservation of the environment."</p>
Department for Social Development (DSD)	<p>DSD has its office at the Gasworks Business Park, Belfast and supports district councils through the Voluntary and Community Unit (VCU) in the development of their Community Support Plans through its Community Support Programme.</p>
Northern Ireland Council for	<p>44 people are employed, working across three main areas developing the policy agenda, developing the voluntary and</p>

Organisation	Description of Community Support Services
Voluntary Action (NICVA)	<p>community sector and developing NICVA - the organisation.</p> <p>NICVA's office in Belfast provides a resource centre for community groups, including conference facilities and interpretative space.</p>
Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI)	<p>Ballymoney DCU Commander</p> <p>"Ballymoney Borough Command Unit is committed to working in consultation and partnership with various other agencies and groups within the Ballymoney area. Our overall objective as a Borough Command Unit is to focus police activity on tackling crime and associated issues, which affect people in our community. By ensuring effective partnership arrangements with the support of the community, this has enhanced our ability to provide a professional and progressive Police service for all of the people in the Borough. We meet on a regular basis with our partners, sharing information, ideas and good practice.</p> <p>Together with our partners we can make Ballymoney Borough a safe environment to work, live, visit and socialise</p>
<p>Northern Health &amp; Social Services Board</p> <p>Mr Edmond McClean Director of Strategic Planning &amp; Commissioning County Hall Ballymena</p> <p>Tel: 028 2531 1187</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Health Action Zone funded through NHSSB (includes Glebeside in Ballymoney) Three key themes of work includes improving access to services &amp; facilities, promoting positive mental health &amp; wellbeing and improving opportunities for education &amp; empowerment.</li> <li>▪ Through the Northern Drugs &amp; Alcohol Co-Ordination Team's Local Action Plan, treatment services for adults &amp; young people, targeted education and prevention services, training services, community family support and accommodation services are provided on a NHSSB-wide basis (includes Ballymoney area) – 'Mini Directory of Substance Misuse Services within the NHSSB area' is available to download from NHSSB website at <a href="http://www.nhssb.n-i.nhs.uk/partnerships/ndact.php">www.nhssb.n-i.nhs.uk/partnerships/ndact.php</a></li> <li>▪ Through Northern Tobacco Control Group (NTCG), supports delivery of smoking cessation initiatives and specialist cessation training in order to help adults, young people and pregnant smokers stop smoking. NTCG funded smoke-free seminars - scheduled for delivery via Northern Group Systems in Ballymoney area. NTCG produces an annual action plan with associated funding application process – available to download from <a href="http://www.nhssbtcg.co.uk">www.nhssbtcg.co.uk</a></li> <li>▪ A Home Safety officer has been jointly appointed between the Northern Board and Ballymoney, Coleraine and Moyle Councils to build local networks between the statutory,</li> </ul>

Organisation	Description of Community Support Services
	<p>voluntary and community sectors to take forward joint actions that will help support vulnerable people who are at risk of experiencing an accident in their home.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A Fuel Poverty Co-ordinator has been appointed to support the local Ballymoney Fuel poverty Steering group take forward actions to help ensure that vulnerable people are accessing support that will ensure their homes are heated adequately.</li> <li>▪ An Advice4Health worker has been appointed to work with health and social care professionals across the Causeway Trust area to ensure vulnerable clients are accessing their full benefit entitlement. Specific clinics are held on the Route hospital site and the Armour Day Centre in Ballymoney on a weekly basis.</li> <li>▪ Northern Health and Social Services Board leads the Inter-agency Northern Area Children and Young People's Committee. This Committee is responsible for setting out a strategic direction for all services for children in need and vulnerable children. The work is carried out by a number of sub-groups each addressing the needs of a particular group of children such as those at risk of abuse, those with poor school attendance, those who are at risk of offending behaviour etc. This work has also led to the introduction of a number of innovative new projects as well as aligning existing services to the needs identified. Further details can be found on the website <a href="http://www.northernchildrensservices.org">www.northernchildrensservices.org</a></li> </ul>
N.I. Tenants Action Project	<p>'Helping Communities help themselves' NITAP is an independent body, which aims to achieve meaningful community participation in the social, housing sector by developing groups and promoting effective involvement.</p> <p>Areas of work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❑ Community Development work &amp; Training</li> <li>❑ Housing Community Network</li> <li>❑ Good Practice Sharing</li> <li>❑ Administration &amp; Policy Issues</li> <li>❑ Funding, Information &amp; advice</li> </ul> <p>NITAP's objectives are to assist groups in the development of projects relating to economic, environmental, social and housing issues.</p> <p>We: Promote Community Development Provides support to community groups Liaises with statutory / voluntary agencies Facilitates liaison between NIHE and community groups</p>

Organisation	Description of Community Support Services
NEELB youth service	<p>The NEELB youth service supports youth organisations in their delivery of youth work by providing training, support and development. Youth organisations that are eligible to register with the NEELB youth service also benefits form the financial schemes that the board can offer. Groups will receive an annual grant and can also apply for other financial assistance form the following schemes; Annual camp, youth exchange and the youth service Good Relations support scheme.</p> <p>Youth leaders can avail of a variety of levels of training in Good Relations work.</p> <p>The NEELB youth service develops resources that are used to assist leaders in their work in the promotion of personal and social development of the young person. The NEELB youth seeks out effective partnerships to meet local needs.</p> <p>The NEELB youth service values the contribution of the many youth organisations in the Ballymoney area that are striving to deliver quality programmes to the many young people who attend.</p>

## Assessment of Needs

To ensure Council has identified the real issues affecting local people, a series of consultation processes were undertaken. The following consultative methods were undertaken to identify key issues and to develop recommendations on how to address these issues: -



# Identification of Priorities for the Community Support Plan

The Community Support Plan has identified a number of clear Strategic Challenges under three main headings as required by the Department of Social Development: -

1. Capacity Building
2. Networking
3. Resourcing the Sector

Some of the key strategic challenges for Ballymoney Borough Council are:

## Capacity Building

- Provision of Information Related to the Review of Public Administration (RPA)
- Building the capacity of groups and areas with weak infrastructure
- Supporting the Provision of Training In Key Areas
- Addressing community apathy
- Supporting the development of existing networking structures in the area
- Keeping Councillors advised and up to date on developments
- Overcoming Polite Avoidance on difficult issues
- Developing the capacity of Council staff and members to support the sector

## Networking

- Increase / support opportunities for groups to network
- Stimulating and Supporting Networking Between Community and Statutory Bodies
- Stimulating and Supporting Networking between Statutory Bodies
- Provision of Special Support for New Community Groups
- Awards – Recognition -- Civic events –

## Resourcing the Sector

- Increasing the level of volunteers in the Borough
- Creating a more sustainable community and voluntary sector
- Monitoring and Assisting With Funding Processes
- Maximising the impact of the community support work of all agencies in the Borough
- Providing Specific Support for Work With Marginalised Groups
- Identifying how to best address the advice needs of the local community
- Evaluate to Enable Better Targeting of Resources

## Prioritisation of Needs

### ***Community Support Plan Vision***

The vision for Ballymoney Borough Council's Community Support Plan is:

*“To support the underpinning of a vibrant community that will enhance civic pride and impact positively on economic development and environmental sustainability”*

### ***The Strategic Priorities***

The following are the Strategic Priorities of the Ballymoney Borough Community Support Plan as a result of the needs identified through local consultations and the guidelines for Community Support Plans as laid down by the Department of Social Development:

- **Priority One: Building the Capacity of the Community and Voluntary Sector**
- **Priority Two: Networking and Forming Partnerships**
- **Priority Three: Resourcing the Community and Voluntary Sector.**

## Aims and Objectives 2007-2009

The aims and objectives of Ballymoney Borough Council's Community Support Plan for 2007 – 2009 address the following priorities:

- **Capacity Building**
- **Networking and Forming Partnerships**
- **Resourcing the Community and Voluntary Sector**

Strategic Priority	Aims & Objectives	
<b>Capacity Building</b>  Aim – <b>Build the Skills and Knowledge of the Community / Voluntary Sector</b>	Objective 1	To carry out an assessment of the needs of community sector in the Borough to identify what capacity building is needed.
	Objective 2	To improve communication between Council and the community/voluntary sector and facilitate a "Signposting Service"
	Objective 3	To develop Council's capacity to support the sector and to promote volunteering.
	Objective 4	To promote the inclusion of marginalised client groups.
<b>Networking and Forming Partnerships</b>  Aim – <b>To promote an ethos and understanding of networking in the Borough for mutual understanding and benefit.</b>	Objective 1	To support the development of existing networking structures, and increase networking opportunities for local groups
	Objective 2	To build networks within and across communities and to address the disengagement of local communities.
	Objective 3	To facilitate the building of networks between community and to maximise the community support work of all agencies working in the Borough.
<b>Resourcing the Community / Voluntary Sector</b>  Aim – <b>To make effective use of available funding, people, buildings and other resources to obtain best value for the sector</b>	Objective 1	To review community services grant allocation for 2007-2008 and the efficacy of same
	Objective 2	To keep under review community services grant aid in accordance with the Community Support Plans strategic themes.
	Objective 3	To continue to support the implementation of the Community Safety Programme in the Borough in association with the Community Safety Partnership.
	Objective 4	To support the implementation of Good Relations policies and activities within the Council and throughout the Borough

## ***Proposed Performance Indicators***

The Department for Social Development in February 2004 issued a Discussion Paper on Performance Indicators linked to the new Community Support Programme. These are still in review however the following performance indicators have been used to date and it is proposed that these will be used as output measures for the 2007-2009 Community Support Plan. They are as follows:

- Amount (and proportion of total grants) of community support grants to organisations in the most deprived wards or other locally identified areas of need.
- Yearly profile and usage of community and resource centres per 1,000 population.
- Number of volunteers and volunteer hours in organisations funded through community support grant aid.
- Private, community and other public sector resources levered by community support funding.
- List of community organisations represented on council-led forums and support networks with which council engage.
- Number of advice enquiries addressed through funded advice and information agencies and the amount of additional benefit entitlement successfully claimed.
- Per capita spending on actual provision of community support (including and excluding community centres).

The importance of capturing data that helps provide Ballymoney Borough Council with the necessary information to address the above performance indicators cannot be overstated. In addition the above performance indicators should be reflected in any Service Level Agreements that Council established in terms of the delivery of services. Grant aid policies and monitoring should also attempt to capture the necessary information. As stated earlier, Ballymoney Borough Council is in the process of establishing a data capture system to enable this information to be provided. It is hoped that this system will be operational soon.

A series of qualitative measurement techniques will also have to be developed as part of the plan. Additional support and advice will be given from DSD in relation to how this will be moved forward.

## **Managing the Community Support Plan**

### **Managing the Plan**

In order for the strategy to be successful, it will require committed leadership from within Ballymoney Borough Council. The Central and Leisure Services Directorate through the Good Relations Officer will co-ordinate the Community Support Plan with continued engagement with both the Office of the Chief Executive and the Borough Services Directorate. The Central and Leisure Services Directorate will work through the Leisure Services Committee

Ballymoney Borough Council through a co-ordinated approach will keep the Community Support Plan under continual review. The Community Support Plan will be reviewed via public consultation so that local people will be given the opportunity to have an input into the process through a public consultation event.

Management of the Community Support Plan will not be left just to Ballymoney Borough Council and its Officers; the community will also be actively involved in the review process. The Community Support Plan will be reviewed via public consultation so that local people will be given the opportunity to have an input into the process through a public consultation event.

## Reviewing the Plan

The Ballymoney Community Support Plan 2007-2009 will take time to become established and recognised. Ballymoney Borough Council will quantify and qualify the results in its monitoring and evaluation process. This will also take time and effort but it is a crucial part of the Community Support Plan, and one in which the local community should also be involved. In addition the monitoring and ongoing evaluation of the Community Support Plan is a requirement of DSD and as such must be established quickly in order that the regular draw down of funding is not unduly delayed.

## Resources for Implementation

The Community Support Plan will require revenue and capital expenditure, if the programme of work associated with the plan is to be completed in full. Some will be one off costs and others will incur yearly expenditure.

The annual gross expenditure of Community Services in 2005/2006 was £150,895, before any general grant is applied. The table below shows the expenditure costs for the period of the plan and additional estimated resources.

### Planned Net Revenue Expenditure 2007-2008 (to be completed based on updated budget figures)

Year	Capital Charges (£) <sup>14</sup>	Actual Available for Community Services Activities (£)	Gross Expenditure (£) <sup>15</sup>	Additional Estimated Resources required as outlined in the action plan (£)
2005/06	12,813	138,082	150,895	-
2006/07	12,813	89,366	102,179	-
2007/08				NK
2008/09				NK

<sup>14</sup> This is based on a 3% inflationary rate however subject to change when Borough rate is set

<sup>15</sup> This is based on a 5% inflationary rate

Community Services is dependent upon securing the additional estimated resources outlined above to implement the Community Support Plan fully. If additional resources are not secured, the ability of Community Services to deliver its elements of the related tasks and actions will be adversely affected.

## Action Plan

Strategic Priority 1: Capacity Building					
To carry out an assessment of the needs of community sector in the Borough to identify what capacity building is needed.					
Issue	What	Delivery	Partners	Outcomes / Impacts	Timescale
A better understanding of the learning needs of the community and voluntary sector	<p>Assess the knowledge skills and abilities of local community groups and their members</p> <p>Provide a range of training opportunities that address identified area of weakness.</p>	BBC/Ballymoney LSP State of the Sector Report	BCRC NITAP NACN BCRC BBC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Better knowledge of skills deficit</li> <li>▪ Gatekeepers become gateways</li> <li>▪ Better targeting of development support</li> </ul>	Commence
Building the capacity of local groups	Design and implement a local Capacity Building Programme as part 2 of the State of the Sector Report 2007.	Ballymoney LSP/BBC Be-spoke consultancy mentoring programme with groups in Borough.	BBC/LSP/	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Capacity Building completed</li> <li>▪ 10 groups participating</li> <li>▪ Improved cohesion and integration of communities</li> </ul>	Commence Nov 07

## Strategic Priority 1: Capacity Building

To improve communication between Council and the community/voluntary sector and facilitate a "Signposting Service"

Issue	What	Delivery	Partners	Outcomes / Impacts	Timescale
Lack of information flow to the local community	Provide information on a regular basis to the community through letters, meetings etc on important statutory consultations and issues, in which they should be involved	BBC/All Services	BCRC NIHE NACN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>More improved consultation and information.</li> </ul>	Ongoing

## Strategic Priority 1: Capacity Building

To develop Council's capacity to support the sector and to promote volunteering.

Issue	What	Delivery	Partners	Outcomes / Impacts	Timescale
Elected member capacity building to avoid conflicting messages about Council business	Facilitate a skills development programme for elected members on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Impact of Chamber activity on the local community</li> <li>▪ Civic leadership.</li> <li>▪ Handling the media</li> </ul>	OCE/GRO External Facilitators	External Trainers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Better awareness of how members can impact both positively and negatively on local community activity.</li> <li>▪ Improved civic leadership</li> </ul>	Ongoing
Develop Elected Member Capacity to address difficult Issues	Build the capacity of elected members to jointly support initiatives that address difficult issues such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Flag Flying and Territory Marking</li> <li>▪ Drug and Alcohol Abuse</li> <li>▪ Anti-social behaviour</li> </ul>	Good Relations Equality Section  CSP/OCE	External Facilitators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Capacity building delivered</li> <li>▪ Difficult issues addressed as a Council</li> <li>▪ Elected members giving leadership</li> </ul>	Ongoing

## Strategic Priority 1: Capacity Building

To develop Council's capacity to support the sector and to promote volunteering.

Issue	What	Delivery	Partners	Outcomes / Impacts	Timescale
To recognise and reward community activity	Civic recognition of volunteer involvement in community life through an annual event.	BBC	Causeway Volunteer Centre/ BCRC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased pride in local volunteering</li> <li>Increased community pride</li> </ul>	March 2008
	'Peer Leadership' Programme	CSP/DPP/ LSP	PSNI		
	Establish a "Group of the Year" Award to recognise local achievement. Three levels of award: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Best new group</li> <li>Most improved group</li> <li>Most innovative group</li> </ul>	BBC			
	Showcase Good Practice through Council's recognition of quality community work.	BBC	Local Networks Organisations Inter-agency Groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhanced community spirit and pride in the work with communities.</li> <li>Increased recognition by civic leaders leading to community pride</li> </ul>	March 2008
	Establish a "Community Open Day" where civic leaders tour around local community projects to recognise achievements and hear concerns etc.	BBC			
	Promote active citizenship through Ballymoney Civic Building Tours. Meet the Councillors and hear how Council functions. (P7 Target group and Local Community Groups)	OCE/GRO	Local Primary Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Better understanding of the civic role. Understanding how local government works.</li> </ul>	June 2008 and June 2009

To promote volunteering within the Borough	Engage the services of Causeway Volunteer Centre to; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote volunteering within the Borough</li> <li>Audit current volunteer activity</li> <li>Provide formal support structures</li> </ul>	BBC	BCRC CVC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased numbers volunteering</li> <li>Better support for volunteers</li> <li>Better understanding of volunteer issues</li> </ul>	Ongoing
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### Strategic Priority 1: Capacity Building

To promote the inclusion of marginalised client groups.

Issue	What	Delivery	Partners	Outcomes / Impacts	Timescale
Publicity of available training opportunities	Make appropriate arrangements to adequately promote training opportunities throughout the Borough: including where necessary translation into minority languages	BBC	NIHE, NITAP, NACN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>More information widely available on training opportunities</li> </ul>	Ongoing
Support to Ethnic Minority Communities	Consult with ethnic minority communities to identify issues of concern	BBC	BBC, NICEM ETHNIC MINORITY PROJECT BCRC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interest Groups supported</li> </ul>	Commencing Jan 08
	Develop Action Plan of Support for ethnic minority communities	BBC	CAUSEWAY CLUSTER/ LSP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Action Plan developed</li> </ul>	
	Review current 'Welcome Brochure' in range of languages outlining key services etc for new residents	BBC	BBC, NICEM, ETHNIC MINORITY PROJECT BCRC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Welcome Brochure developed</li> </ul>	

Support for Youth	Using Cheers Youth Club and WAVE Trauma centre establish meaningful cross community projects that make sense to young people.	BBC/PS NI/ CSP/NE ELB	BCRC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Young people engaged in meaningful cross community activity</li> </ul>	April 07-March 08
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## Strategic Priority 2: Networking

To support the development of existing networking structures, and increase networking opportunities for local groups.

Issue	What	Delivery	Partners	Outcomes / Impacts	Timescale
Networking Support	Maintain and build upon current networking structures within the Borough	BBC-All Services	BCRC/NA CN/NITAP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased accountability</li> </ul>	Ongoing
Promote networking among key local networks	Promote networking between the main local networks and key influencers within these bodies to promote collaboration.	BBC	BCRC NACN NITAP CVB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collaboration on issues of common concern.</li> <li>Better communication between organisations</li> </ul>	Ongoing
Sharing of Good Practice	Facilitate structures, communication and one annual event as conduits for the sharing and encouraging the adoption of good practice	BBC	BCRC NACN NITAP NIHE NHSSB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Better Informed Communities</li> <li>Good Practice Shared</li> <li>Gatekeepers become gateways</li> <li>Sector professionalism and efficacy improves</li> </ul>	Annually

## Strategic Priority 2: Networking

To build networks within and across communities and to address the disengagement of local communities.

Issue	What	Delivery	Partners	Outcomes / Impacts	Timescale
Networking across Communities	Promote networking by Good Relations and Community Services Officer through existing regional Support structures	Regional Clusters	BBC, MDC, CBC, LDC, MDC, DCC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quarterly Meetings established</li> <li>Sharing good practice</li> <li>Better networking across the region</li> </ul>	Ongoing
	Establish networking opportunities between relevant community networks within the proposed new Council boundary.	GRO's / CSO's from Region	BBC		Ongoing
Closer Interaction with other Forums	Explore possibility for closer interaction with NIHE's Housing Community network and the Ballymoney Community Network.	NIHE	BCRC NITAP NIHE BCN NACN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Issues of common concern shared</li> <li>More strategic approach to community support</li> </ul>	Ongoing

## Strategic Priority 2: Networking

To facilitate the building of networks between community and to maximise the community support work of all agencies working in the Borough.

Issue	What	Delivery	Partners	Outcomes / Impacts	Timescale
Promotion of inter-agency networking	Promote the value of, provide opportunities for and facilitate partnership working with others through the establishment of a relevant inter-agency forum and at least one joint project per annum	BBC/BCRC/ NITAP	All Local agencies & networks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Better integration</li> <li>▪ Better communication within the Sector</li> <li>▪ More leverage of resources</li> <li>▪ Better understanding of the value of community development</li> <li>▪ Partnership established with other agencies</li> <li>▪ Improved understanding on issues and how to address them</li> <li>▪ Increased community participation in local strategic issues</li> <li>▪ Joined up strategic thinking</li> <li>▪ Increased awareness of opportunities available</li> <li>▪ Agencies engaging with communities</li> <li>▪ Increased accountability to the local community</li> </ul>	2008

### Strategic Priority 3: Resourcing the Sector

To review efficiency of community services grant allocation for 2007-2008.

Issue	What	Delivery	Partners	Outcomes / Impacts	Timescale
Review Current Grants System	To review the effectiveness of Council's new grant aid scheme. To include application process, eligibility criteria, demographics, identified need and distribution of grants across the Borough for 2007-2008	BBC	Groups receiving funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Clearer understanding of dispersal in terms of areas of disadvantage</li> <li>▪ Better targeting of grant aid based on local need disadvantage.</li> <li>▪ Increased community activity and new starts</li> <li>▪ Provide start up grants to support the development of new groups</li> <li>▪ Offer small grants to already established groups for developing new ideas, projects</li> <li>▪ Enhanced transparency of awards made</li> </ul>	2007-2008

### Strategic Priority 3: Resourcing the Sector

To review efficiency of community services grant allocation for 2007-2008.

Issue	What	Delivery	Partners	Outcomes / Impacts	Timescale
Advice Centre Funding	To more efficiently manage Council's support to the advice sector in Ballymoney	BBC	CAB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ More accountability for public funds</li> <li>▪ Improved service reflecting rural community needs</li> <li>▪ Improved monitoring of service</li> </ul>	April 08

### Strategic Priority 3: Resourcing the Sector

To keep under review community services grant aid in accordance with the Community Support Plans strategic themes.

Issue	What	Delivery	Partners	Outcomes / Impacts	Timescale
Monitoring of Grant aid	Maintain and build upon the current monitoring and evaluation system to capture information regarding allocation of funds by ward and group to better inform future community support	BBC	Groups in receipt of funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased accountability</li> <li>Better targeting of resources based on need.</li> </ul>	Ongoing

### Strategic Priority 3: Resourcing the Sector

To continue to support the implementation of the Community Safety Programme in the Borough in association with the Community Safety Partnership.

Issue	What	Delivery	Partners	Outcomes / Impacts	Timescale
Addressing crime and the fear of crime	<p>Continue to contribute to the development and implementation of a Community Safety Strategy for the Borough as determined by the Community Safety Partnership.</p> <p>Support discussions with a range of organisations on the promotion of community safety initiatives in Ballymoney Borough.</p>	CSP	BBC BCRC NIHE PSNI NHSSB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduction in crime and the fear of crime</li> <li>Awareness of Community Safety issues developed</li> </ul>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>

### Strategic Priority 3: Resourcing the Sector

To promote the implementation of Good Relations policies and activities within the Council and throughout the Borough.

Issue	What	Delivery	Partners	Outcomes / Impacts	Timescale
Support Good Relations Programme Implementation	To implement Ballymoney Borough Council's Good Relations Action Plan	BBC Good Relations Officer	External Partners and Facilitators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Implementation of Good Relations Work Plan</li> </ul>	2007-2009
	Delivery of Good Relations Strategy in line with "A Shared Future and Section 75 (ii) of the Northern Ireland Act 1998.	BBC Good Relations Officer	External Facilitators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Improved Good Relations both internally and externally developed</li> </ul>	2007-2009
Promotion of Good Relations within the sector	Implementation of the actions contained within Council's Good Relations Action Plan	BBC Good Relations Officer	External Partners and Facilitators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Number of groups involved in Good Relations work</li> <li>▪ Access to services by BME citizen</li> <li>▪ Improved relations between main communities</li> <li>▪ Local projects supported</li> </ul>	Ongoing



## Glossary of Abbreviations



<b>BBC</b>	<b>Ballymoney Borough Council</b>
<b>BCRC</b>	<b>Ballymoney Community Resource Centre</b>
<b>CAB</b>	<b>Citizens Advice Bureau</b>
<b>CBC</b>	<b>Coleraine Borough Council</b>
<b>CSO'</b>	<b>Community Services Officers</b>
<b>CSP</b>	<b>Community Support Plan</b>
<b>CSP</b>	<b>Community Safety Partnership</b>
<b>CVC</b>	<b>Causeway Volunteer Centre</b>
<b>DPP</b>	<b>District Policing Partnership</b>
<b>DSD</b>	<b>Department of Social Development</b>
<b>GRO's</b>	<b>Good Relations Officers</b>
<b>LDC</b>	<b>Limavady District Council</b>
<b>LSP</b>	<b>Local Strategy Partnership</b>
<b>MDC</b>	<b>Moyle District Council</b>
<b>NACN</b>	<b>North Antrim Community Network</b>
<b>NEELB</b>	<b>Northern Eastern Education and Library Board</b>
<b>NHSSB</b>	<b>Northern Health and Social Services Board</b>
<b>NICEM</b>	<b>Northern Ireland Council Ethnic Minorities</b>
<b>NIHE</b>	<b>Northern Ireland Housing Executive</b>
<b>NITAP</b>	<b>Northern Ireland Tenants Action Project</b>
<b>OCE</b>	<b>Office of the Chief Executive</b>
<b>PSNI</b>	<b>Police Service Northern Ireland</b>