

Mourne  
Coastal  
Route

PORTAVOGIE

Strongford  
Lough

# PORTAVOGIE

Integrated Village Plan 2018-2023



## CONTENTS

<b>1</b>	Introduction to Portavogie Village Plan	Page 5
<b>2</b>	The Village of Portavogie	Page 6
<b>3</b>	Portavogie Village Plan – Consultation Process	Page 12
<b>4</b>	Analysis and Findings	Page 15
<b>5</b>	Vision and Overarching Outcomes	Page 17
<b>6</b>	Detail of Village Projects	Page 19
<b>7</b>	Delivery of Portavogie Village Plan	Page 28
<b>8</b>	Appendices	Page 33
	Appendix A – Community Survey Results	
	Appendix B – Tracking and Monitoring Template	



# 1 Introduction to Portavogie Village Plan

## 1.1 BACKGROUND TO VILLAGE PLANNING

As part of the Rural Development Programme 2014–2020, Ards and North Down Borough Council provided support to help villages within the Council area revise and update their village plans. These plans identify the specific needs of each village and set out a range of agreed actions to be delivered over the next five years that will help improve the village for everyone.

The village plan is a working document that has been developed through a process of engagement with the local community. The plan sets out the key issues, concerns and priorities people wish to see addressed in order to improve the quality of life within the local area.

The village plan sets out a clear vision for Portavogie, detailing the actions needed to build on the unique strengths and distinctive qualities the area has while also seeking to address the issues which need improving.

## 1.2 A (REVISED) VILLAGE PLAN FOR PORTAVOGIE

A village plan for Portavogie was first produced through consultation with the local community in March 2014. Progressing actions contained within the plan has remained a strong focus for Portavogie Regeneration Forum and they have delivered a range of actions to benefit the local area and ensured progress on several key issues.

Therefore, it is important to recognise that this new village plan (2018–2023) represents a continuing development of the initial plan and the ongoing efforts of the local community to help achieve the agreed actions. As four years have passed since the initial plan was produced it is important to now review, revise and update the village plan to ensure the actions remain relevant and consider any emerging issues or concerns.

## 1.2.1 KEY ACHIEVEMENTS FROM THE 2014 PORTAVOGIE VILLAGE PLAN

Key achievements from the 2014 plan include the provision of a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) with floodlighting, which was completed in September 2015.

The Portavogie Seafood Festival has proven to be a huge success in profiling the local area, and attracts a large number of families, visitors and artisan stallholders who wish to participate. Over 5,500 people attended the 2017 festival, which exceeded the expected attendance by 1,000.

First Responders (Peninsula) also secured an additional defibrillator for the local area and trained people within the community in its use. Throughout the village there have also been a range of environmental improvements in terms of flower beds, tree planting, additional street furniture and signage; a partnership between Portavogie Regeneration forum and the Council.

Of the 49 actions identified in the 2014 Portavogie Village Plan, 12 actions have been completed. Work on a further 20 actions is continuing whilst for the remaining 17 actions 14 have not been progressed and three are no longer relevant.

## 1.3 METHODOLOGY – OVERVIEW

The village plan for Portavogie sets out a vision for how the local area can continue to improve and sustainably develop. Through in-depth community engagement a range of key actions and improvements has been identified to improve the overall physical, economic and social aspects of Portavogie and help address local needs.

Agreeing priorities and developing a plan also provides opportunities for funding by providing a point of reference for future investment throughout the area, through the public sector, private sector or community and voluntary sector.

Whilst the plan includes a range of actions, which assign priorities and timescales to the improvement projects, this document should not be treated as a final blueprint for development. Instead it should be viewed as a series of priorities and actions that will deliver significant benefits for the area. Each action will be required to be developed to a greater level of detail, including further needs assessment, consultation with stakeholders, consideration of any deliverability issues as well as outcomes and indicators of success.

## 2 The Village of Portavogie

### 2.1 VILLAGE LOCATION

Portavogie is a village and fishing port situated on the eastern shore of the Ards Peninsula. It is located on the A2 Bangor to Portaferry Road, 16 miles from Newtownards and seven miles north of Portaferry, and is the most eastern settlement on the island of Ireland.

From the east shore of Portavogie there are views to the Isle of Man and Mull of Galloway, Scotland. From the South Shore there are views of Green Isle and Bird Isle as well as Kilwarlin lighthouse.

Portavogie has a dispersed settlement pattern and has experienced significant residential growth in recent years. The main concentration of housing is located in an area bounded by Warnocks Road, Springfield Road, Harbour Road, New Harbour Road and Main Road.



### 2.2 HISTORY OF PORTAVOGIE

The village history of Portavogie (in Gaelic, Port an Bhogaigh which translates as 'harbour of the bogs') can be traced back to 1555 when a settlement was established north of the present village at Stablehole. Scottish settlers arrived in the area in the late 16th and early 17th centuries as they favoured Portavogie for its sheltered shore where they could beach their boats.

The village has become an important maritime centre because of its location and rich supply of superb seafood in local waters. Portavogie harbour has been the economic and social hub for the village since its construction in the 1800s when it was known as St Andrews. The village continues to be dominated by the harbour as Portavogie is one of Northern Ireland's leading fishing ports. Fishing and fish processing remain a major source of employment in Portavogie.

The harbour was deepened and improved in 1955, then again in 1985, when Princess Anne reopened it. The harbour doubled in size and an ice-making plant and fish market were built. The harbour has recently had a further £2 million renovation, and the new pontoons provide berths for further fishing boats, as well as some visiting vessels.

Currently over 40 boats of various sizes operate from Portavogie harbour. Many of these vessels are small, inshore potting boats, targeting crab and lobster around the coast whilst larger vessels venture further out to sea fishing for prawn. Portavogie prawns feature on many restaurant menus, locally and globally.

### 2.3 COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES

The village is served by a primary school, a supermarket/filling station and a small number of other local shops including a butcher and ship chandler. There are churches from a number of denominations in the village.

The current community centre facility at New Harbour Road was opened in 1999 and provides a community hall, medical centre, chemist and post office. Within the site there is extensive car parking and a playpark and football facilities. A MUGA pitch was installed in 2015 and provides an excellent facility for young people in the local area. Portavogie Rangers and Portavogie Youth Football Club train and play out of New Harbour Road football pitches.

The village is part of the Mourne Coastal Driving Route. In 2014 the coastal promenade was significantly upgraded via funding support from the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2007-2013.

Portavogie Regeneration Forum was established in 2012 with an aim to improve the facilities, services and quality of life for people living in the local area.











### 2.4 COMMUNITY PROFILE

Portavogie is a rural area captured within the Portavogie1 Super Output Area<sup>1</sup>. Information relating to the community profile for Portavogie has been sourced from the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency<sup>2</sup> through the Northern Ireland Neighbourhood Information Service (NINIS). The NINIS<sup>3</sup> website provides access to statistical and locational information about small areas across Northern Ireland. It contains datasets on a range of socio-economic themes at small-area statistical geographies. These area profiles can be used to provide a statistical snapshot of a local area such as Portavogie, such as the one given below.

<sup>1</sup> Northern Ireland is divided into 890 Super Output Areas which are relatively small scale areas containing on average just over 2000 people. SOAs are the core reporting geography of the NI Multiple Deprivation Measure (2017).

<sup>2</sup> Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency [www.nisra.gov.uk]

<sup>3</sup> NINIS [https://www.ninis2.nisra.gov.uk/public/Home.aspx]

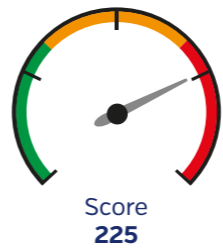
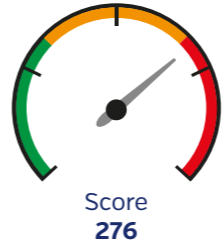
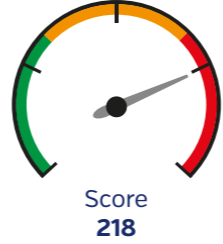
 POPULATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On Census Day (27 March 2011) the population of Portavogie Settlement was 2,131, living in 835 households, giving an average household size of 2.5.</li> <li>The 2001 Census reported Portavogie as having 1,594 residents, meaning the population increased by 537, which is 33.7 %, over 10 years</li> </ul>
 AGE PROFILE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>23% of the population are aged 0-15</li> <li>16% of the population are aged 16-29</li> <li>22% of the population are aged 30-44</li> <li>24% of the population are aged 45-64</li> <li>15% of the population are aged 65+</li> <li>The average age is 38 years old</li> </ul>
 GENDER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>50.2% of Portavogie residents are male</li> <li>49.8% of Portavogie residents are female</li> </ul>
 RELIGION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Of the residents living in Portavogie 3.7% belong to or were brought up in the Catholic religion</li> <li>87.7% belong to or were brought up in a 'Protestant and Other Christian' religion</li> </ul>
 HEALTH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>24.1% of people had a long-term health problem or disability that limited their day-to-day activities</li> <li>76.7% of people stated their general health was either good or very good; and</li> <li>14.2% of people stated that they provided unpaid care to family, friends, neighbours or others</li> </ul>
 EDUCATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12.7% of people had a degree or higher qualification</li> <li>49% of people had no or low-level qualifications</li> </ul>
 LABOUR MARKET	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>62.1% of people were economically active and 37.9% were economically inactive</li> <li>55.2% of people were in paid employment</li> <li>4.5% of people were unemployed</li> </ul>
 HOUSEHOLDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>76.7% of homes were owner occupied (32.9% owned outright) and 20.3% were rented</li> <li>10.8% of homes were comprised of a single person aged 65+ years</li> <li>7.6% were lone parent households</li> <li>12.6% of households did not have access to a car or van</li> </ul>
 SCHOOL NUMBERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In 2016/17 261 children were enrolled at Portavogie Primary School</li> <li>14.9% of children are in receipt of free school meals</li> </ul>
 ECONOMIC ACTIVITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Portavogie has a total of nine retail and business units of which seven are currently occupied</li> <li>The current vacancy rate is 22.2%</li> </ul>

<sup>4</sup> Economically inactive persons are defined by the fact that they do not have a job and are either not actively looking for a job or are not immediately available to work (or both). Unemployment is when a person who is actively searching for employment is unable to find work.

## 2.5 LOCAL DEPRIVATION

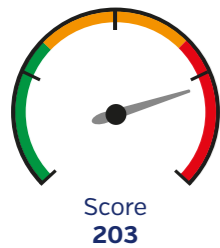
An indication into the level of deprivation local areas experience can be identified through the *Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure 2017*<sup>5</sup>. This report identifies small area concentrations of multiple deprivation across Northern Ireland. All 890 super output areas in Northern Ireland are ranked with a score of 1 being the most deprived and a score of 890 the least deprived.

Portavogie Village lies within the Portavogie1 Super Output Area, therefore the information from this area has been used to reflect the community profile of Portavogie, as shown below.

INCOME DEPRIVATION	
 Score <b>225</b>	<p>Portavogie1 Super Output Area ranks 225 out of 890 super output areas in Northern Ireland in relation to income deprivation.</p> <p>This means it is in the top third of areas across Northern Ireland which suffer most in relation to income deprivation (15.3% of the population are living in households whose equivalised income is below 60% of the Northern Ireland median)</p>
HEALTH DEPRIVATION	
 Score <b>276</b>	<p>Portavogie1 Super Output Area ranks 276 out of 890 super output areas in Northern Ireland in relation to health deprivation.</p> <p>Portavogie is just inside the top third of areas in Northern Ireland which suffer most in terms of health deprivation.</p>
EMPLOYMENT DEPRIVATION	
 Score <b>218</b>	<p>Portavogie1 Super Output Area ranks 218 out of 890 super output areas in Northern Ireland in relation to employment deprivation.</p> <p>This means Portavogie is in the top third of areas suffering from employment deprivation (26.5% of the working age population in the village are employment deprived).</p>

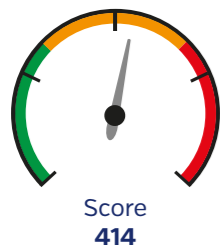
<sup>5</sup> <https://www.nisra.gov.uk/statistics/deprivation/northern-ireland-multiple-deprivation-measure-2017-nimdm2017>

**ACCESS/PROXIMITY TO SERVICES**



Portavogie1 Super Output Area ranks 203 out of 890 super output areas in Northern Ireland in relation to poor or deprived access to key services.  
This means Portavogie village is in the top third of areas which have most difficulty accessing services.

**CRIME AND DISORDER**



Portavogie1 Super Output Area ranks 414 out of 890 super output areas in Northern Ireland in relation to crime and disorder deprivation.  
Portavogie is around mid-point in terms of areas which suffer from crime and disorder.

**To Summarise...**

Portavogie experiences a relatively high degree of deprivation across a range of measures including income, employment, health and access to services.

Portavogie has an even gender split and the average age for people living in the area is 38 years old (close to the Northern Ireland average of 37 years). The last number of years has seen a steady increase in the number of houses available in the local area. As a result, the population change for Portavogie is +33.7% which is well above the Northern Ireland average of +7.5%.

Fewer people in the local area, when compared to the Northern Ireland average, have a degree and rate their health as good. More people are economically inactive, and a greater proportion of homes are owner occupied.

At a Northern Ireland level over 1 in 5 households (22.7%) do not have access to a car. In Portavogie around 1 in 8 households (12.8%) do not have access to a car, which reflects the need for a vehicle to access services in the local area.

**2.6 PORTAVOGIE VILLAGE PLAN – WIDER STRATEGIC FIT**

The Portavogie Village Plan is focused on the specific issues and actions needed within the local area. However, it does not exist in isolation – the plan links closely to the focus and outcomes of the ‘Big Plan’<sup>6</sup>, and issues relevant to other statutory stakeholders including health, education, policing and public transport.

The village planning process ensures the involvement of local communities in agreeing actions to address local needs, which is essential to securing sustainable improvements and positive outcomes for each area.

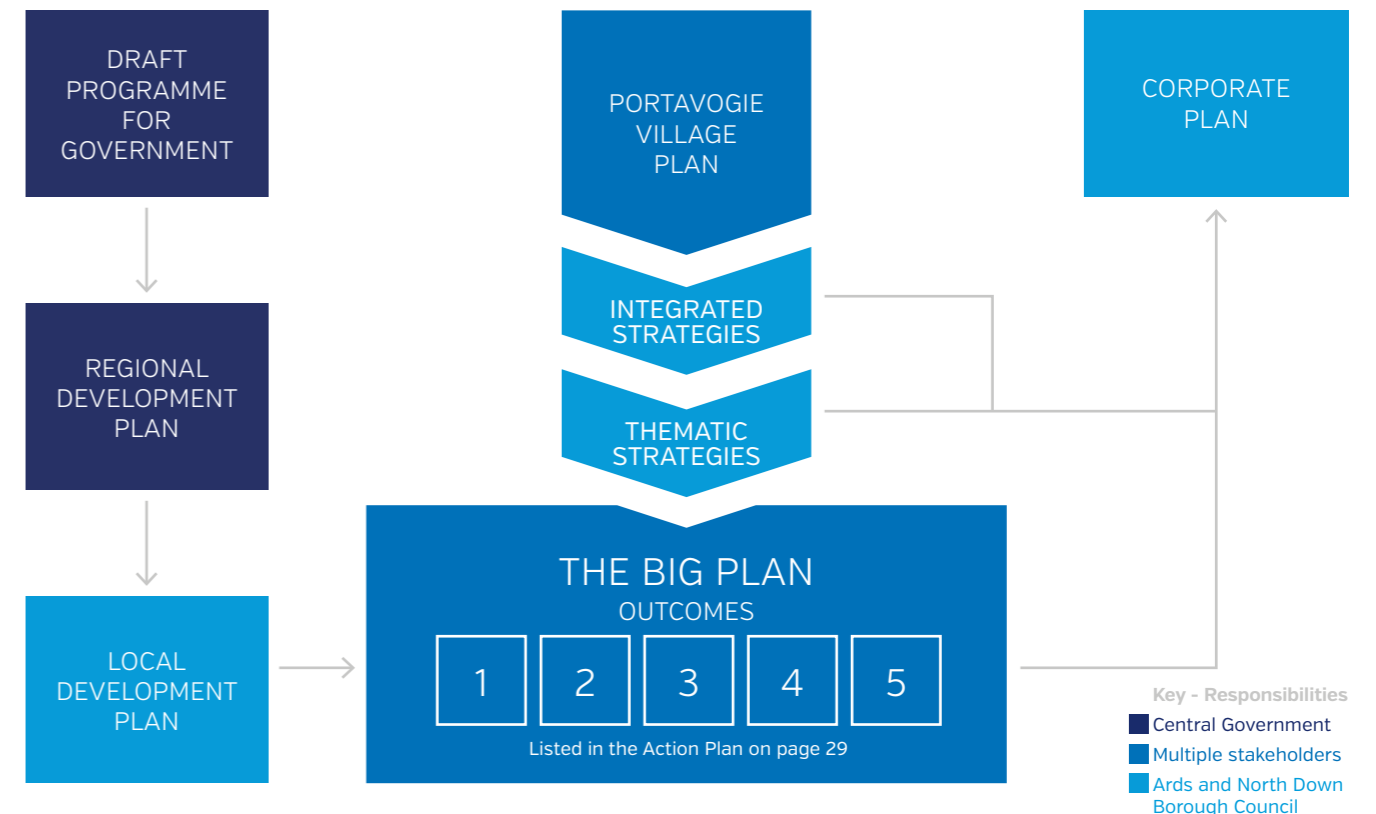


Figure 2: Strategic context for Portavogie Village Plan

Engaging with local communities and supporting the development of village plans is a key activity for local councils. The actions contained within each village plan link closely to the broad remit of council in terms of supporting regeneration, facilitating economic development, promoting tourism, protecting the environment and encouraging participation in health and wellbeing activities.

The action plan for Portavogie is structured around five key outcomes which match to the outcomes contained in the Big Plan for Ards and North Down. The village plans also feed into the Council’s Corporate Plan and its three categories of People, Place and Prosperity.

The forthcoming Local Development Plan (LDP) shall provide a 15-year framework to support economic, environmental and social needs of the Borough while

providing for the delivery of sustainable development. It shall guide development decisions within the Borough up to 2030.

There is also a range of thematic council strategies which provide a specific context for many of the actions contained within each village plan. These relate to key issues or sectors, for example, food, car parking or recreation. As these are updated and revised, it will be important to ensure a strong link between each strategy and village plan.

Village plans also link to and help deliver wider government policy at a local level, including the draft Programme for Government, Regional Development Strategy, and sector specific policies for tourism, investment and regeneration.

<sup>6</sup> The Big Plan for Ards and North Down April 2017–2032.

### 3 Portavogie Village Plan – Consultation Process

The key aim of village planning is to ensure the local community has a clear role and input into agreeing the issues to be addressed and actions to be taken forward as part of the plan.

At the beginning of this process engagement took place with Portavogie Regeneration Forum to ensure a partnership approach in the preparation and delivery of this village plan.

#### 3.1 PORTAVOGIE VILLAGE PLAN – REVIEW AND UPDATE

The revised village plan for Portavogie has been developed through several stages which provided opportunities to consult with the local community. Engagement with a range of stakeholders including Ards and North Down Borough Council, the Harbour

Authority, statutory partners, schools, community and voluntary groups was undertaken to help develop the final action plan.

The village plan has been shaped by a thorough assessment process including site analysis, village profiling, public consultation and the gathering of information through the distribution of questionnaires.

The plan seeks to build upon partnership working and capacity building within the community by consolidating existing and creating new working partnerships. Through the plan, responsibilities are also placed on identified groups, organisations and stakeholders to lead on specific actions.

The key stages in developing the Portavogie Village Plan are detailed in Table 1 (right).



Table 1 – Community Consultation and Engagement Process

STAGE	ACTION/ACTIVITY UNDERTAKEN
<b>1. Initial Community Engagement</b>	Initial meeting with Portavogie Regeneration Forum to secure engagement in the village planning process. The meeting provided an opportunity to review the current plan and achievements as well as emerging issues and priorities.
<b>2. Village Plan Review, Profiling and Analysis</b>	An in-depth review of the current village plan was undertaken including an assessment of delivery against agreed actions.  In addition, a review of all available statistical information was undertaken alongside a review of documentation and desktop research to establish a detailed profile of the area.
<b>3. Community Consultation (Stage 1)</b>	The local community were invited to attend a consultation event on Tuesday 21st November 2017 in Portavogie Primary School. The meeting was facilitated by Insight Solutions and the Rural Development Council with assistance from Portavogie Regeneration Forum. Approximately 20 members of the local community attended the meeting.  In addition, the team held an engagement session with school children attending Portavogie Primary and their parents. This was useful to examine the key issues facing young people in the local area and ensure their views were reflected in the plan.  Due to the key role of the harbour within the village a meeting was held with the Northern Ireland Fishery Harbour Authority. A number of site visits were undertaken to develop a clearer understanding of the issues raised through the consultation.  These engagement sessions helped bring the local community together to share their views on the village and generated considerable feedback regarding the village strengths, weaknesses and future opportunities.
<b>4. Community Survey</b>	A community survey was developed enable a wider proportion of the population in Portavogie could take part in the village planning consultation process. The survey was designed to allow residents to comment on the key issues, concerns and priorities they felt existed in relation to the local village area.  The survey was circulated online and hard copies were provided at key locations throughout the village (e.g. shop, school). In total 58 responses were returned.  Details of the findings from the community survey are contained in Appendix A.
<b>5. Community Consultation (Stage 2)</b>	Based on the initial profiling, consultation and community survey a draft village plan was developed. The draft plan aimed to 'shape up' and reflect the issues raised by the local community. A meeting to agree the draft plan was held with Portavogie Regeneration Forum and local community to ensure it reflected local needs and was deliverable.
<b>6. Final Village Plan</b>	In the context of the feedback provided in relation to the draft plan, a final village plan was produced for 2018 – 2023.

# Want to have your say on Portavogie's Village Plan?

## Public meeting to review and update the current Village Action Plan

Tuesday 21st November 2017 at 7pm

There will also be a drop in session from 2pm until 3.30pm

Portavogie Primary School

- Have your say on issues affecting the local community
- Identify priority actions to help improve your local area
- Help develop a plan to secure funding and support

For more information and to complete the online survey visit [www.ardsandnorthdown.gov.uk/village-plans](http://www.ardsandnorthdown.gov.uk/village-plans)



## 4 Analysis and Findings

A total of 58 surveys were returned (33 received online and 25 hard copy) which provide a strong source of information on actions to be included in the final village plan. A summary of the survey findings can be found in Appendix A.

Some 75% of survey respondents feel that Portavogie provides a good quality of life. The majority of people have lived in the area for over five years and feel that there is a strong community spirit. Many reflect on the quiet, rural, peaceful surroundings and enjoy living beside the sea with the benefit of beach walks.

"Living by the sea in a rural area where you have access to beach, parks etc."

"The great community spirit. Some very kind and considerate people."

### Community Facilities and Services

- Need for social hub; lack of coffee shop/restaurant, maritime museum
- Lack of banking facilities
- Poor transport links
- Boat house/storage for rowing club
- No reason for visitors to stop in village
- Need for improved footpaths and coastal walkways
- Improve facilities available at community hall (e.g. kitchen/toilets)

### Community Safety

- Problems with anti-social behaviour
- Activities for young people
- Establish Neighbourhood Watch Scheme

### Village Appearance/Regeneration

- Need for local businesses to invest in the area
- Village looks 'tired'...need for improved planting, flowers and greenery
- Need for maintenance and regeneration
- Village has been neglected and is losing its culture and heritage
- Clean-up of moss-covered paths and roads, grass and hedge cutting
- Need for a village focal point
- Dog fouling

### Harbour

- Introduce regular beach cleans
- Need for support for fishing industry and harbour to provide employment opportunities
- Develop derelict properties around the harbour
- Need for 'low rent' commercial units
- Improve facilities to support sea activities

Portavogie is considered to be a good area for families with a great local school, value for money property and a safe environment to raise children. The working harbour was highlighted as a focal point for the village and is central to supporting the local economy, employment and tourism.

However, despite these positive points, over half of people living in Portavogie believe facilities and services in the area are poor. Only 20% of residents believe there is sufficient information about the services and facilities available in the local area. There is a desire to see better facilities for residents and visitors such as a café, banking facilities, and sport and leisure facilities that could be enjoyed by all. There is agreement that facilities at the community hall could be improved to support a greater range of events to be delivered for the benefit of the local community. This would include improvement of kitchen facilities and toilet/changing facilities that could be accessed from the outside of the building for people using the MUGA and playpark. The key concerns and issues raised have been identified below.

"Coffee shop for locals and visitors passing through. Maritime museum. Boat house/club house for local rowing club."

"Lack of facilities! There is nowhere for children to go and everything is a drive away."

"Facilities for young people to try and combat anti-social behaviour, underage drinking etc."

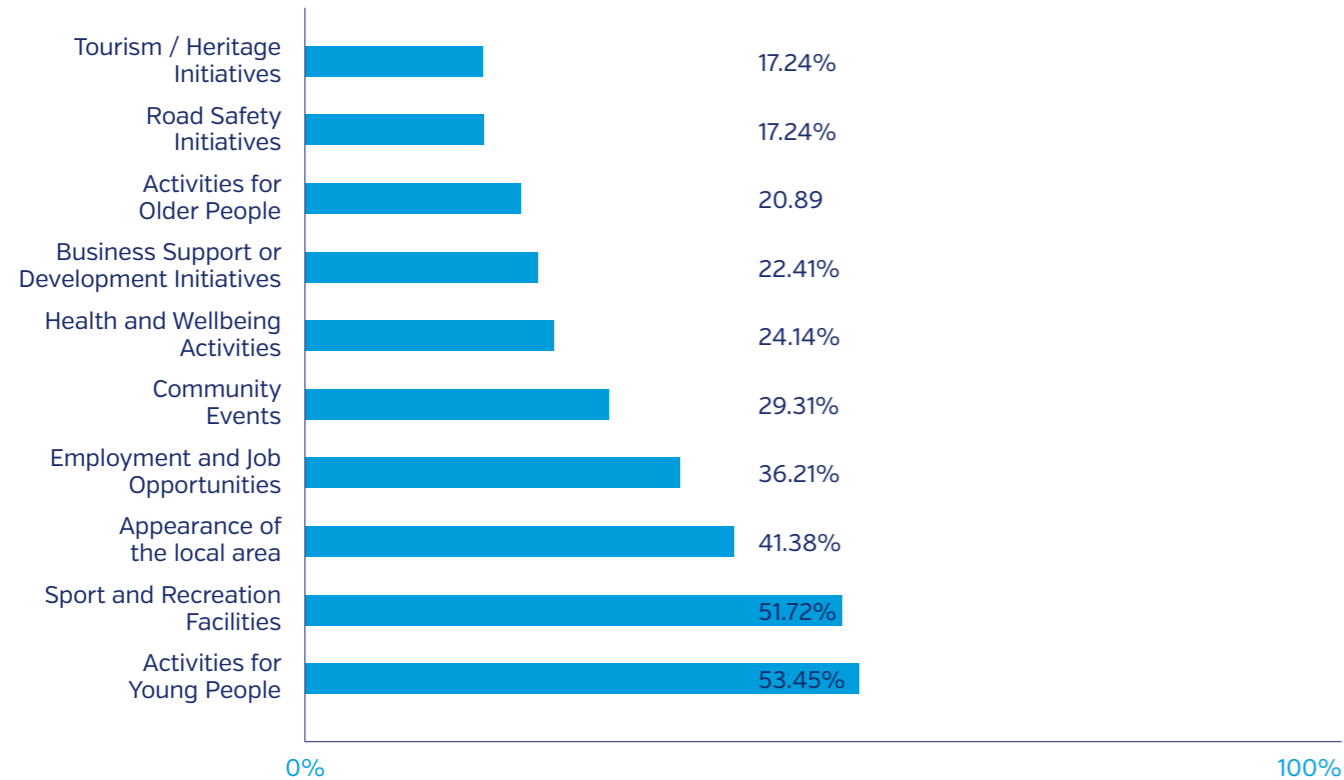
"The village needs a focal point, 'Heart of the village'. We need to expand and enhance facilities around harbour."

"Dog fouling & littering are a huge problem in the village."

"Low rent commercial units on harbour to encourage small businesses to set up. Inject life into the harbour encouraging employment."

## 4.1 IDENTIFYING PRIORITIES AND ACTIONS

Figure 3: Programmes, activities and service priorities



Those consulted were asked about the key issues impacting on the local area, as well as the types of activities, programmes or services they would like to see in Portavogie (Figure 3). This is to ensure the village plan includes actions that go beyond those relating to the physical environment or infrastructure improvements within Portavogie. The key priority was to increase the number and range of activities available for young people in the area. In addition, encouraging greater participation in sports was viewed as important but is dependent on facilities available in the village and local groups to support involvement.

Consultees reported Portavogie has many good qualities but more could be done to improve the area and attract visitors, especially in terms of the village appearance. There is also concern regarding the ongoing decline of the fishing industry and employment at the harbour. Therefore, employment, skills development and supporting job opportunities are key issues for the village action plan.

In addition, those consulted would like wish to see a greater number of community events, programmes and activities for everyone in the local area.

When survey respondents were asked to prioritise the key issues affecting the local area (see Figure 4) community facilities were ranked in first place, which reflects the need for improvements at the community hall, followed by facilities for young people in second, and additional shops or business units in third.



Figure 4: Priority actions for Portavogie

## 5 Vision and Overarching Outcomes

### 5.1 PORTAVOGIE VISION STATEMENT

A sustainable, progressive community which is the premier village on the Peninsula

### 5.2 OVERARCHING OUTCOMES

#### 1. Portavogie Achieving its Full Potential

- Activities and programmes for young people
- Activities to support inclusion of older people
- Lobby for key services in local area
- Improved community facilities
- 'Masterplan' for development of harbour

#### 2. A Healthy and Active Portavogie

- Improved facilities to support sea-based activities
- Improvement works at East Shore
- Improved access onto South Shore
- Changing facilities at beach
- Multi-sensory walk along beach
- 3G Pitch; BMX/skate park; outdoor gym
- Joined-up coastal path (Cloughey to Portavogie)

#### 3. A Connected, Safe and Secure Portavogie

- Quality, surface and maintenance of footpaths
- Provision of low level kerbs
- Resurfacing of minor, access and connecting roads in village
- Public transport services and bus shelters
- Road safety and traffic calming
- Neighbourhood watch and community safety

#### 4. Supporting the Local Economy and Employment in Portavogie

- Support for local employment, skills development
- Attract investment and support business through low rent commercial units
- Develop social hub, café and maritime museum
- Encourage tourism and support for fish festival

#### 5. Supporting the Local Environment, History and Heritage in Portavogie

- Environmental improvement schemes
- Tackle litter and dog fouling
- Tourist information and signage
- Address impact of derelict properties within village
- Strategy to attract tourists and maximise potential of beach, sea access, natural beauty, heritage
- Marketing and promotion of fish festival



### 5.3 PORTAVOGIE – AT A GLANCE

The Portavogie infographic summarises the key findings and issues emerging from the community consultation. In addition to highlighting the positive aspects about living in Portavogie the graphic also summarises the key concerns of residents. It also details the actions people wish to see delivered over the next five years in terms of infrastructure, facilities and local services.

<p><b>At a Glance</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 76% Rated Quality of Life as Good</li> <li>• 55% Rated Quality of Facilities as Bad</li> <li>• 52% Rated Quality of Services as Bad</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Key Issues</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Litter and Dog Fouling</li> <li>2. Facilities for Young People</li> <li>3. Anti-Social Behaviour</li> <li>4. Village Appearance</li> <li>5. Community Facilities</li> </ul>	<p><b>Best Part of Living in Portavogie</b></p> <p>Community spirit; coastal location; fantastic school; harbour; quiet; feels safe; people are friendly; environment; walks; rural setting; close knit; nature; affordable housing; low crime rate; peaceful, MUGA and park, beach, football club</p>	
	<p><b>Top 5 Physical Improvements:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Community Facilities</li> <li>2. Facilities for Young People</li> <li>3. Additional Shops/Business Units</li> <li>4. Sports and Leisure Facilities</li> <li>5. Village Appearance</li> </ol>	
	<p><b>Top 5 Service Delivery Improvements:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Activities for Young People</li> <li>2. Sport and Leisure Programmes</li> <li>3. Appearance of Local Area</li> <li>4. Employment and Job Opportunities</li> <li>5. Community Events</li> </ol>	
<p><b>Priority Action:</b> Reconfiguration of community hall [to improve available facilities]</p>		



## 6 Detail of Village Projects

### OUTCOME 1: PORTAVOGIE ACHIEVING ITS FULL POTENTIAL

#### 1.1 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND SERVICES

##### 1.1.1 Development of community activities and programmes for young people

Those consulted in Portavogie reported that they would like to see more activities and programmes for young people in the village, outside of direct school provision. Engagement with the local community reflected that there is a lack of things for young people to do in the area which can often lead to boredom and anti-social behaviour.

Activities could be aimed at supporting all young people in the area, with a desire to see specific engagement with young people aged 12–18. In addition to encouraging increased participation in sport, there could be programmes to develop life skills, employability and personal development. A needs assessment in the area would help determine the range of activities and programmes to be delivered.

##### 1.1.2 Engagement/Inclusion of older people

Around 15% of the population in Portavogie are aged 65 or over. There is a desire to see a greater range of programmes and activities offered locally. Older people want opportunities to improve skills, which don't always necessarily have to be academic. They highlighted a demand for further education, hobby and lifestyle courses to help reduce increasing levels of social isolation. There is also interest in further information and support to encourage volunteering by people living in the local area.

The actual range of programmes to be delivered will be determined through further engagement with older people. In addition, sharing of information about what is happening in the local area [community noticeboard at Mace shop, leaflets, social media] is required to support people to participate in community-based activities.

##### 1.1.3 Lobby for key services

Portavogie is remotely located along the Ards Peninsula and is 16 miles from the main town of Newtownards. Therefore, the provision of services is a key concern for the community and will be a continuing focus for Portavogie over the next five years of the village plan.

In particular the local community wants more health and wellbeing services with a focus on mental health, health promotion and supporting healthy lifestyles. In addition, support for local groups, education and employment support as well as access to banking facilities [bank on wheels] are services needed in the village.

With the roll out of Universal Credit there is a specific demand for regular outreach services by advice organisations (e.g. Advice NI/Citizens Advice) in relation to financial capability, debt advice and welfare reform.

##### 1.1.4 Reconfiguration of Community Hall

Priority Project

The current layout and design of the community hall restricts its potential use and benefit for the local community. Residents feel that as a result the community centre is not fully utilised. It is proposed to undertake a programme of works which could improve the internal design and accessibility of facilities.

This project could include the provision of full kitchen facilities in the hall. The existing committee room in the hall would also be improved to create a more useable space, for example, to hold smaller meetings. During the engagement process those consulted commented that improved facilities may encourage more local groups to be established and support better use of the community space, for example drama, theatre or film nights.

The addition of toilets and changing facilities to the rear of the hall, that could be accessed by people using the external sports and recreation facilities, would see this facility become a hub for the local community, maximising its use and ensuring its long-term sustainability.



## 1.2 HARBOUR AREA

### 1.2.1 Development (and implementation) of masterplan for harbour area

Portavogie is dominated by its harbour, and the consultation reported this as one of the unique aspects of the village that residents enjoy. Despite the village being one of Northern Ireland's leading fishing ports the harbour area is run down with a significant number of derelict properties. The consultees recognise the unique opportunity the harbour area presents in terms of tourism, employment and increased community use.

There is a desire to develop an agreed masterplan for the harbour. This will ensure a joined-up, strategic approach for the regeneration of the harbour area to enhance its economic, tourist and community potential. Engagement with the Harbour Authority, as part of the village planning process, demonstrates a willingness and shared objective to work with the local community to identify options which could enhance the harbour area for everyone's enjoyment.

Although Portavogie is a working harbour there is potential to make it a focus for the village and a key attraction for both residents and tourists. Providing views of a working harbour together with a fish shop, café and improved access to the coastal walk between Portavogie and Cloughey are important aspects the community feels should be considered within plans to help regenerate the harbour area.

## OUTCOME 2: A HEALTHY AND ACTIVE PORTAVOGIE

### 2.1 HARBOUR AND BEACH AREA

#### 2.1.1 Improve facilities to support sea activities

Portavogie is a key location to undertake sea-based recreational activities. There is a demand for improved access to the sea to support increased participation in sport and recreational activities such as canoeing, boat tours, kayaking, and for the provision of beach safe/sea survival training programmes.

Portavogie has an active rowing and sailing club with membership drawn from across the community. The club undertakes activities throughout the year but highlights a lack of storage facilities for its boat and equipment. A suitable location for boat storage next to the harbour or alternative site close by needs to be identified. Further discussion with the landowner is required to progress this action.

#### 2.1.2 Improvement works along East Shore front

This proposal centres around the improvement of the walking path along East Shore front which is accessible from Springfield Road. Improvements include installing feature lighting across the sea front to enhance the experience. New lighting would help to provide a safe environment for residents and visitors and improve the overall experience along East Shore. This could support year round access (walking) along the beach front especially during the longer, darker evenings.

#### 2.1.3 Improved access onto South Shore

The beaches in Portavogie are beautiful and provide a peaceful and safe place to walk. However, there is agreement that improvements are needed at South Shore.

Improving access to South Shore was highlighted to enable people to enjoy walks along the beach. Currently appropriate access is only available from the opposite end of South Shore (Cloughey end). A suitable walkway to South Shore could provide a walking path, parking and safer routes along the beach. In addition, the location of South Shore provides views out to Green Isle and Bird Isle. Appropriate signage, with location to be agreed, providing information on the local nature, heritage and views from South Shore could also be considered.

#### 2.1.4 Changing facilities at beach

There is a desire to improve provision of changing facilities at East Shore. In particular, families highlighted that improved changing facilities are important when visiting the beach with young children and suggested that these are situated next to the toilets (at Anchor Car Park) which is adjacent to the playpark. In line with the Changing Places<sup>7</sup> campaign the community wishes to see changing facilities that provide the right equipment, right space and a safe and clean environment for people living with a disability.

#### 2.1.5 Multi-sensory walk along beach

During the public engagement a number of parents commented on the importance of the outside environment for children who experience a range of physical and/or mental health conditions. Ensuring full access to the beach is felt to be essential; generally parents are content with current levels of access but wish to see this maintained.

This initiative proposes that a range of equipment could be installed along the beach to provide visual and audio stimulus for people living with sensory disabilities. This would provide a range of experiences through sight, hearing, smell and touch for a multi-sensory experience and enjoyment of the local environment. Consultation with a range of organisations aimed at supporting children and adults living with a disability and their parents/carers will help determine the most effective approach to delivering this project.

## 2.2 SPORTS AND RECREATION

### 2.2.1 3G Pitch

There are limited activities available for young people in the village especially in relation to the provision of sporting facilities. Feedback from the consultation process indicated in particular a lack of suitable playing pitches and storage facilities for football and training equipment.

The plan therefore proposes building a 3G pitch, which could also provide suitable storage facilities, located at the playing fields/football ground accessed from New Harbour Road. This could complement the existing facilities including the playpark and MUGA located nearby at the community centre.

In addition, Portavogie Youth Football Club is a key asset for the local community with approximately 200 children involved across a range of ages. Those consulted commented on the need not only to improve facilities to support the football club in terms of pitches and storage but also to work with the club to deliver programmes focused on mental health, self-esteem and healthy lifestyle choices (nutrition, alcohol and drug awareness).

### 2.2.2 Provision of skate/BMX park

It was clear through the community engagement that there is strong support for the work of the local football club in providing organised coaching and sporting opportunities for young people. Not all children are interested in football or sport, and may feel excluded due to the lack of other facilities in the area.

As part of the approach to increase the range of activities available for young people in Portavogie it is intended to provide a skate/BMX park. This will be situated on the grounds of the community hall and will link with the other facilities available for young people in the immediate area which include the playpark and MUGA.

### 2.2.3 Outdoor 'trim trail'

The local community and visitors to Portavogie access walks along the shorefront for recreational activities and exercise. It is suggested that a trim trail is installed along East Shore beachfront to provide people with an opportunity to undertake health promoting activities.

A trim trail will provide a series of exercise stations placed along the shorefront walk such as balance beams, sit-up bars, chin-up bars, parallel bars and ladder walks which can be used to develop balance, strength and coordination.

## 2.3 PATHS AND COASTAL/BEACH WALKS

### 2.3.1 Coastal path (Portavogie to Cloughey)

Portavogie and Cloughey are neighbouring villages, both of which are recognised for their natural beauty and providing opportunities to walk along the beaches and shoreline. Feedback from the local community highlighted the benefit of developing a coastal path from Portavogie to Cloughey. This proposal could see the establishment of a continuous walking route, accessible from South Shore in Portavogie through to Cloughey. This project is linked to action 2.1.3 which aims to improve access to South Shore, and thereby provide access to this coastal path. Ensuring the suitable protection of the natural landscape and habitat will form a key part of the planning process for this proposed project.

## OUTCOME 3: A CONNECTED, SECURE AND SAFE PORTAVOGIE

### 3.1 ROADS AND ACCESS

#### 3.1.1 Develop and improve key footpaths

A key issue is the poor quality and condition of footpaths throughout the village. Following consultation with the local community a programme of footpath improvement works to identify and prioritise problematic footpaths in the local area is to be agreed with the local community in consultation with the Department for Infrastructure. In addition, residents suggest that a footpath is needed along the entire length of Warnocks Road to improve pedestrian safety.

Those consulted also wish to see the clean-up of moss-covered paths and roads, as well as regular grass and hedge cutting.

#### 3.1.2 Address lack of low kerbs

There is a lack of dropped kerbs in the village to support access for people living with a disability and for parents with pushchairs. In particular the community indicated problematic footpaths to be next to the beach, Harbour Road, at the community centre and the Primary School on New Harbour Road and on Main Road. Initially, it is recommended that an assessment of the footpaths is undertaken, which may lead to a programme of works being delivered to improve the provision of dropped kerbs.

<sup>6</sup> www.changing-places.org

### 3.1.3 Resurfacing of minor, access and connecting roads

Consultation has shown that many roads within the village are in a poor state of repair, with numerous potholes and uneven surfaces. Many residents walk along local roads on a regular basis and in particular highlighted the poor condition of Warnocks Road, Springfield Road, New Road and Harbour Road. It is suggested that a full roads conditioning assessment is undertaken in the village and a prioritised programme of remedial works developed for future delivery.

### 3.1.4 Directional signage

There is a need to review the current signage provision in the village. There are a number of fingerposts which are unfit for purpose as they cannot be read by people driving through the village. This leads to visitors bypassing Portavogie as they are unaware of the facilities available, such as toilets, a playpark and the local shop. Adequate provision of signage and tourist information should be available so that visitors are aware of key facilities and areas of interest within the village. This could include signage to the harbour, community hall, beach and playpark.

## 3.2 PUBLIC TRANSPORT

### 3.2.1 Lobby for increased public transport provision

A lack of public transport to surrounding areas including Portaferry and Kircubbin was highlighted as a barrier to accessing local services, and visiting friends and family. In addition, services to larger towns such as Newtownards and Bangor were felt to be inadequate, as service times are not targeted at school children and commuters at key times of the day. It is suggested that engagement takes place with public transport providers including Translink and Down Community Transport to secure improvements to services where these are deemed to be required.

### 3.2.2 Provision of appropriate bus stops/shelters

The village plan supports the installation and renovation of new and existing bus shelters in Portavogie.

During consultation it was reported that the existing bus stops at 'School Corner', Harbour Road and Adairs Corner could be the focus for initial action. The location of new bus shelters is to be determined through further consultation and involvement of the local community.

New and replacement shelters should be appropriately designed to reflect the rural character of the village, incorporate seating and hardstanding waiting areas.

## 3.3 ROAD SAFETY AND TRAFFIC CALMING

### 3.3.1 Implement traffic calming measures

Excessive speeding through the village is a key concern especially in and around Portavogie Primary School. This is in relation to a combination of on-street parking and speeding vehicles. The provision of double yellow lines is currently being sought next to the school to address the hazard from parked cars.

New Road is problematic and should be prioritised as it has a high volume of traffic travelling at high speed. Many local people feel the volume and speed of traffic on this road has increased since traffic calming measures were installed along Harbour Road.

The village plan proposes that a range of traffic calming measures could be considered in order to mitigate traffic speeds. Measures could include the incorporation of speed warning signage, speed humps, and if required, the narrowing of the carriageway/road through the use of build-outs or chicanes. Consultation with DfI could be considered as a first step.

### 3.3.2 Pedestrian crossings

The provision of suitable pedestrian crossings at key sites throughout the village could help address concerns in relation to road safety, especially in relation to young people accessing services and facilities in the village. Comments provided through the community survey suggested that crossings could be located next to the school, beaches and community hall/playing pitches.

### 3.3.3 Ensure safe shared use of road between drivers and horse riders

The beach in Portavogie is well used for horse riding and other recreational activities. As part of any future work to develop walks, coastal paths or trails in the village it is recommended that an assessment of bridleways and Public Right of Way is undertaken to determine if improvements are required.

## 3.4 COMMUNITY SAFETY

### 3.4.1 Establish neighbourhood watch scheme

Rural crime and the fear of it are a concern for some residents in the local area. In order to address this, consultees wish to establish a local neighbourhood watch scheme or similar with the support of the PSNI and the Policing and Community Safety Partnership.

### 3.4.2 Address anti-social behaviour and low level crime

During consultation it was reported that there has been an increase in anti-social behaviour and low-level crime in the local area. Therefore, it is intended to develop a range of activities working alongside the PSNI and Policing and Community Safety Partnership and other key statutory agencies to help reduce anti-social behaviour and low-level crime.

## OUTCOME 4: SUPPORTING THE LOCAL ECONOMY AND EMPLOYMENT IN PORTAVOGIE

### 4.1 SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESS AND ECONOMY

#### 4.1.1 Supporting skills development

Over the last number of years Portavogie has struggled in terms of its local economy. In particular, there is concern regarding the ongoing decline of the fishing industry and employment at the harbour. Therefore, supporting job opportunities is a key issue for the local area. This will require a strategic approach, involving all key stakeholders (statutory, private and community), to focus on supporting skills, employment and attracting investment to the local area.

This could include the support for the provision of key educational programmes and courses within the village helping to build essential skills. People may not have accessed educational, skills or training opportunities in a number of years. There should be an initial focus and support from community-based and educational organisations to increase confidence and encourage participation in training and educational programmes.

#### 4.1.2 Establish a Maritime Museum

Portavogie has a rich maritime history. Local people involved in the fishing industry over many generations have built up a collection of materials, artefacts, information and living history (experiences). Many are keen to showcase these through the development of a Maritime Museum, which could help tell the story of Portavogie's fishing history and heritage. Including facilities or a social space for retired fishermen to meet was suggested as an important aspect within this action.

This could involve developing a suitable space in Portavogie which could house the Maritime Museum. An oral history programme could include gathering experiences and stories from local people which would form part of the overall project. This has the potential to create job opportunities and to develop skills in the local area. Initially a feasibility study could be undertaken to establish the viability of a museum and to scope out potential options for the delivery of this project.

#### 4.1.3 Development of a social hub

Comments received through the community consultation indicate a lack of facilities for people to catch up socially with friends and family. During the day, visitors to Portavogie also struggle to find anywhere to stop off to enjoy a cup of coffee or bite to eat. The Quays does provide an option for people in terms of food or coffee.

The development of a social hub would provide benefit to both the local community and visitors to the area. It would allow for people to meet, relax and catch up. The social hub could include a coffee shop, information about the local area, history and heritage (linked to 4.1.2).

#### 4.1.4 Low rent commercial units at harbour

The provision of commercial units at the harbour could help attract businesses. In addition to businesses linked directly to fishing activities it is important to encourage diversification. This could be through the provision of 'hot desk' facilities or ensuring high quality fibre optic broadband to attract IT based (or dependant) businesses to the village. Providing the opportunity for businesses to establish a presence in the village is the key focus; any proposal should be linked closely with the development of the Harbour Masterplan (1.2.1).

#### 4.1.5 Pilot scheme: local fish/craft market

Community consultation revealed a regular monthly market, located at the harbour, could provide a boost to the village, attract visitors and support the local economy.

A pilot scheme could be organised to determine if this could be sustainable in the long term.

Temporary stalls could be erected, which would allow local food suppliers, producers and craft businesses to promote and sell their goods to the public.

## OUTCOME 5: SUPPORTING THE LOCAL ENVIRONMENT, HISTORY AND HERITAGE IN PORTAVOGIE

### 5.1 VILLAGE APPEARANCE

#### 5.1.1 Environmental improvements

Portavogie is in need of a number of environmental improvements in different areas of the village. Consultation also suggests that there is a need to establish a village heart.

Key problematic areas are the harbour, the community centre, and East Shore and South Shore fronts. The implementation of a programme of works to include streetscaping, landscaping, public art, lighting, planting, street furniture and signage would positively impact on the appearance of the village, and has the potential to attract further investment to the area.

Initially various concept designs could be developed with a view to capital works being implemented in the future.

#### 5.1.2 Dog fouling and littering

A key concern expressed by consultees is the prevalence of dog fouling across the village. This could be addressed via the installation of additional bins along key walking routes and beaches within the village, supported by adequate enforcement and education. During consultation it was reported a desire to see an increase in the provision of bins throughout the village, including replacement of old and broken bins, to help address the problem of littering.



#### 5.1.3 Address vacant/derelict properties at harbour

During consultation it was discussed the urgent need for the redevelopment of derelict properties around the harbour. The Portavogie Derelict Properties Assessment & Feasibility Study undertaken in 2015 reported on the extent and condition of 27 vacant properties within the village (includes commercial and residential properties). The report made 11 recommendations in relation to enhancing derelict properties and options for bringing some back into use, for example through a community café, or development of social enterprises. Recommendations within the report focusing on this could be progressed which directly relate to issues identified within this plan.

- Trial flexible temporary screening of derelict sites, e.g. moveable planters.
- Trial a pop-up community café facility at the Coastguard Cottages car park to test the market and evidence the need for a permanent facility.
- Engage with the NI Executive who supported Social Enterprise Hub in Downpatrick. It provides mentoring, action planning and training in South East area to help community groups develop a social enterprise model.
- Engage with Ulster Community Investment Trust NI. It provides social finance to community organisations, charities and social enterprises in Northern Ireland.
- Trial heritage facilities within pop-up community café facility. Small scale exhibition within café space.
- Provide Wi-Fi within pop-up community café facility.
- Explore potential for complementary projects that can be delivered at low cost alongside trial community café. A monthly pop-up market or small community garden were identified during the study and align with the village plan.



### 5.2 TOURISM AND PROMOTING LOCAL ASSETS

#### 5.2.1 History and heritage trail

The village and surrounding area have a long and fascinating history, dating back many centuries. There is a strong link to Ulster Scots and there is an abundance of information to share in relation to its maritime history, location and local wildlife. The design and installation of a series of linked information panels about the history and heritage of Portavogie could have potential tourism benefits for the village.

Additional works could include the development of an interpretation signage suite to provide information at key sites along with literature and audio software to accompany walking routes as part of a history and heritage trail.

#### 5.2.2 Develop a Food Destination Hub

Portavogie is also designated in the Council's Food Destination Development Plan. Portavogie could provide an authentic visitor experience based around seafood. This could include tasting in local restaurants, cafés or street food outlets, learning through cookery demonstrations, heritage talks and exhibitions, and buying from fish markets or local shops.

#### 5.2.3 Develop a village brand identity

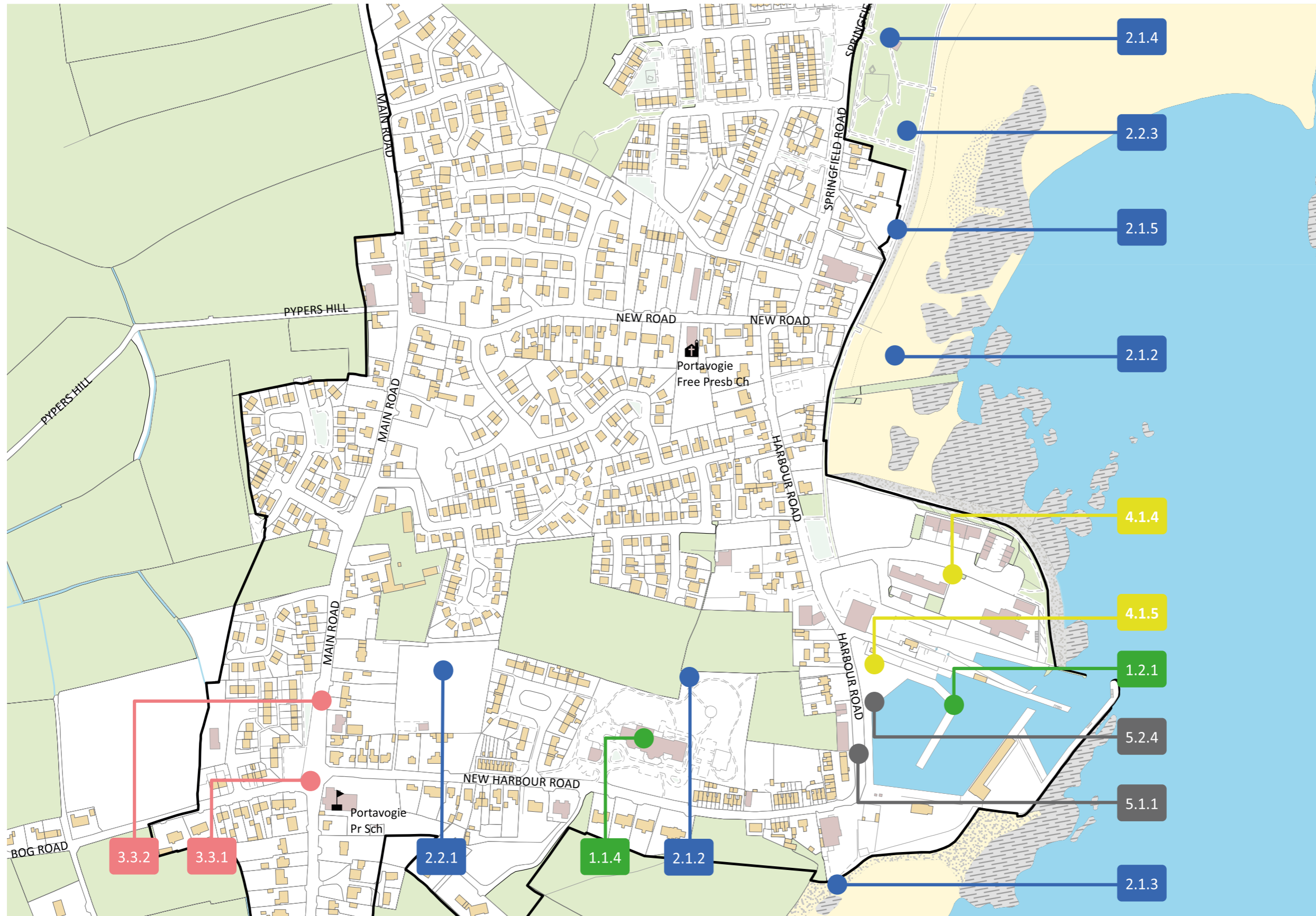
Those consulted considered felt that the village could benefit from a stronger identity or agreed theme. They believe this would support ongoing actions to promote the area, attract visitors and increase the profile of the village. This plan therefore also proposes that the local community work with key statutory agencies to develop an agreed theme/identity for the village, linked to its heritage, history and culture, which can be incorporated across information, promotional activities and events.

#### 5.2.4 Portavogie Seafood Festival

Portavogie's annual Seafood Festival has been a huge success for the local area with the numbers attending the event exceeding expectations.

Reviewing the programme of activities available at the event annually and 'shaking it up' will ensure a continued interest in the event. With increasing numbers visiting the village for the festival, it is important that full consideration is given to any related issues such as parking, access, public transport and public safety.

6.1 MAP OF PORTAVOGIE VILLAGE PLAN ACTIONS



- OUTCOME 1 – PORTAVOGIE - ACHIEVING ITS FULL POTENTIAL**
  - 1.1.4 Reconfiguration of Community Hall
  - 1.2.1 Development (and implementation) of masterplan for harbour area
- OUTCOME 2 – A HEALTHY AND ACTIVE PORTAVOGIE**
  - 2.1.2 Improvement works along East Shore front
  - 2.1.3 Improved access onto South Shore
  - 2.1.4 Changing facilities at beach
  - 2.1.5 Multi-sensory walk along beach
  - 2.2.1 3G Pitch
  - 2.2.3 Outdoor ‘trim trail’
- OUTCOME 3 – A CONNECTED, SAFE AND SECURE PORTAVOGIE**
  - 3.3.1 Implement traffic calming measures
  - 3.3.2 Pedestrian crossings
- OUTCOME 4 – SUPPORTING THE LOCAL ECONOMY AND EMPLOYMENT IN PORTAVOGIE**
  - 4.1.4 Low rent commercial units at harbour
  - 4.1.5 Pilot scheme: local fish/craft market
- OUTCOME 5 – SUPPORTING THE LOCAL ENVIRONMENT, HISTORY AND HERITAGE IN PORTAVOGIE**
  - 5.1.1 Environmental improvements
  - 5.2.4 Portavogie Seafood Festival

Ordnance Survey of Northern Ireland, Ordnance Survey of Northern Ireland - © Crown Copyright and Database Right

\*Wider Village Projects – Location to be agreed

## 7 Delivery of Portavogie Village Plan

### 7.1 INTRODUCTION

The key aim of the Portavogie Village Action Plan is to prioritise projects which have been identified through the community consultation process.

The successful achievement of these actions will require input from a wide range of organisations across the public, private and community sectors. A review of available funding streams will also be important on an ongoing basis to ensure that the actions in the plan are implemented and that Portavogie can achieve its long-term vision for the future.

### 7.2 DELIVERY STRUCTURES

It is important that there are appropriate local structures in place to maintain a focus on delivering the plan and tracking its progress. This will ensure actions to be progressed by the local community are delivered, but also provide a mechanism to ensure actions led by statutory partners or other stakeholders are kept 'live' and progress reported upon on a regular basis.

It is proposed that a local steering group will be established with the support of Ards and North Down Borough Council. The key focus for this group will be on the delivery of the village action plan. The steering group will monitor and report on progress, whilst also considering any issues which may impact (or delay) the successful completion of actions within the plan, ensuring accountability across all stakeholders.

To support delivery of the action plan a monitoring framework has been included in Appendix B. This will allow the local steering group to agree priorities, identify key actions, oversee delivery, track progress and report on achievements over the lifetime of the village plan.

### 7.3 SUPPORTING DELIVERY OF THE ACTION PLAN

There is a wide range of funding sources available from the public, charitable and corporate sectors which can help the local community maximise opportunities to deliver their village plan. Notable funding bodies and organisations include the Big Lottery Fund, Community Foundation for Northern Ireland, Children in Need, Comic Relief and Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust.

However, the eligibility criteria, application process, focus and money available will be specific to each funder and individual programmes. Each village will be supported, where appropriate, by the Regeneration, Development and Planning Directorate and any other relevant Council departments, including on how to track and identify suitable sources of funding available in Northern Ireland.

Portavogie is eligible to apply for funding through the SEAFLAG Programme. SEAFLAG has been established to provide support for the sustainable development of fishing villages with approximately £2.3 million of funding available to local fishing-dependent communities. In addition to Portavogie, other fishing areas included within SEAFLAG include Ardglass, Annalong and Kilkeel.

### 7.4 ACTION PLAN

The action plan links through to the outcomes of the Big Plan. This ensures that the plan is set within the context of the wider strategic fit.

Included within the action plan is the priority of each project (high, medium and low), based on the demand expressed by the local community, and likely impact it will have on the area. Each project has been allocated a short, medium or long-term timeframe, which relates to the following timescales:

- Short-term projects are those actions the community would like to see progressed within 18 months;
- Medium-term refers to those projects which are to be taken forward within 18 months to three years;
- Long-term actions would be delivered over the next three to five years.

As previously highlighted, this action plan reflects the ongoing work from the previous plan produced in March 2014. Some actions remain a priority so have been carried over into this plan, other actions have been amended to reflect the progress achieved (or changing need) whilst other actions are new. Therefore, the action plan outlines the following indicators:

- Existing Action: an action which has been included (in full) from the original March 2014 plan;
- Amended Action: an action which had been included in the original March 2014 plan which has been amended or changed for the revised plan (due to changing needs or the action has partially been delivered);
- New Action: an action which was not included in the March 2014 plan.

The action plan is structured around the five key outcomes of the Big Plan for Ards and North Down. As part of the Big Plan an initial set of indicators has been identified to measure progress towards each outcome – these are the 'Agreed Indicators'. In addition, there is a series of indicators currently being progressed for which data is not yet available or robust enough – these are the 'Indicators to be developed'. In the Portavogie Village Action Plan the 'Success Indicator' column links each action to an indicator (either agreed or to be developed) from the Big Plan. The keys used for each outcome and indicator are included in Table 2.

In addition, the action plan also identifies the stakeholders, including the lead partner, whose involvement in the relevant action or project would be necessary. It is important to note that the action plan should be used as a 'live' document to ensure progress is monitored regularly and updated accordingly (see Appendix B). It is only natural that priorities may change over time or new projects and opportunities will arise in future, and these should be assessed against the overarching aims identified in the action plan where appropriate.

## 7.5 PORTAVOGIE VILLAGE ACTION PLAN [2018–2023]

OUTCOME 1: PORTAVOGIE - ACHIEVING ITS FULL POTENTIAL							
Action	Plan Reference	Description	Timescale [S, M, L]*	Action Status	Lead Partner(s)	Stakeholders	Success Indicators
1.1 Community Engagement and Services	1.1.1	Development of community activities and programmes for young people	S	Amended	PRF	ANDBC (Comm Dev), CDRCN	1.8, 2.4, 2.6
	1.1.2	Engagement/inclusion of older people	M	New	PRF	ANDBC, CDRCN, service providers	1.4, 1.8, 2.4, 3.5
	1.1.3	Lobby for key services	M	New	PRF	ANDBC, CDRCN, service providers	1.4, 2.3, 2.4
	1.1.4	Reconfiguration of Community Hall [Priority Project]	S-M	New	ANDBC	PRF	1.8, 2.4
1.2 Harbour Area	1.2.1	Development (and implementation) of masterplan for harbour area	S/L	New	PRF	ANDBC, CDRCN, Harbour Authority	1.8, 4.2, 4.3, 4.5

OUTCOME 2: A HEALTHY AND ACTIVE PORTAVOGIE							
Action	Plan Reference	Description	Timescale [S, M, L]*	Action Status	Lead Partner(s)	Stakeholders	Success Indicators
2.1 Harbour and Beach Areas	2.1.1	Improve facilities to support sea activities	M	New	Harbour Authority	PRF, NIEA, ANDBC	2.4, 4.5, 5.7
	2.1.2	Improvement works along East Shore Front	S/M	New	ANDBC	PRF, DfI	2.4, 4.5, 5.5, 5.6, 5.7, 5.8
	2.1.3	Improved access onto South Shore	M	New	PRF	ANDBC	
	2.1.4	Changing facilities at beach	M	New	PRF	ANDBC	
	2.1.5	Multi-sensory walk along beach	M/L	New	PRF	ANDBC, RNIB, AHL etc	
2.2 Sports and Recreation	2.2.1	3G Pitch	S	New	ANDBC	PRF, PRFC, PYFC	1.8, 2.4, 3.4
	2.2.2	Provision of skate/BMX park	M	Existing	ANDBC	PRF	
	2.2.3	Outdoor 'trim trail'	M	New	ANDBC	PRF, DfI	
2.3 Paths and Coastal/ Beach Walks	2.3.1	Coastal path (Portavogie to Cloughey)	M	Amended	ANDBC	PRF, Outdoor NI	2.4, 4.5, 5.5, 5.6, 5.7, 5.8

OUTCOME 3: A CONNECTED, SECURE AND SAFE PORTAVOGIE							
Action	Plan Reference	Description	Timescale [S, M, L]*	Action Status	Lead Partner(s)	Stakeholders	Success Indicators
3.1 Roads and Access	3.1.1	Develop and improve key footpaths	S	Existing	Dfi	ANDBC, PRF	3.2, 5.7
	3.1.2	Address lack of low kerbs	S	Amended	Dfi	ANDBC, PRF	
	3.1.3	Resurfacing of minor, access and connecting roads	M	New	Dfi	ANDBC, PRF	
	3.1.4	Directional signage	M	New	Dfi	PCHS, PRF	
3.2 Public Transport	3.2.1	Lobby for increased public transport provision	M	Existing	Translink	ANDBC, PRF, RCTP	5.11
	3.2.2	Provision of appropriate bus stops/shelters	M	Existing	Translink	ANDBC, PRF	3.2, 5.11
3.3 Road Safety and Traffic Calming	3.3.1	Implement traffic calming measures	M	Amended	Dfi	ANDBC, PRF	3.2
	3.3.2	Pedestrian crossings	S	New	Dfi	ANDBC, PRF	
	3.3.3	Ensure safe shared use of road between drivers and horse riders	M	New	Dfi	ANDBC, PRF, local horse riders	3.2
3.4 Community Safety	3.4.1	Establish neighbourhood watch scheme	M	Amended	PSNI	ANDBC, PRF, PCSP	3.3, 3.4, 3.5
	3.4.2	Address anti-social behaviour and low-level crime	M	New	PSNI	ANDBC, PRF, statutory agencies	

OUTCOME 4: SUPPORTING THE LOCAL ECONOMY AND EMPLOYMENT IN PORTAVOGIE							
Action	Plan Reference	Description	Timescale [S, M, L]*	Action Status	Lead Partner(s)	Stakeholders	Success Indicators
4.1 Supporting Local Business and Economy	4.1.1	Support skills development	S	New	ANDBC	CDRCN, PRF	1.5, 4.1, 4.3, 4.6, 4.7, 4.8
	4.1.2	Establish a Maritime Museum	M	New	PCHS	PRF, ANDBC	4.2, 4.4, 4.5
	4.1.3	Development of a social hub	M	New	PRF	ANDBC	1.8, 4.2, 4.5
	4.1.4	Low rent commercial units at harbour	M	New	Harbour Authority	ANDBC, PRF	4.2, 4.6, 4.8
	4.1.5	Pilot scheme: local fish/craft market	M	New	PRF	ANDBC, Harbour Authority	

OUTCOME 5: SUPPORTING THE LOCAL ENVIRONMENT, HISTORY AND HERITAGE IN PORTAVOGIE							
Action	Plan Reference	Description	Timescale [S, M, L]*	Action Status	Lead Partner(s)	Stakeholders	Success Indicators
5.1 Village Appearance	5.1.1	Environmental Improvements	M	New	Dfi	NIHE, ANDBC, PRF	5.4, 5.5, 5.7, 5.8
	5.1.2	Dog fouling and littering	S	Existing	ANDBC	PRF, Dfi	
	5.1.3	Address vacant/derelict properties at harbour	M/L	New	ANDBC	PRF, Dfi, NIHE, HA	
5.2 Tourism and Promoting 'Local Assets'	5.2.1	History and heritage trail	S	New	ANDBC	PCHS, PRF, Dfi, TNI	4.2, 4.4, 4.5, 5.5, 5.7, 5.8
	5.2.2	Develop a food destination hub	S/M	New	PRF	CDRCN, ANDBC, TNI	
	5.2.3	Develop a village brand identity	S/M	New	PRF	CDRCN, ANDBC, TNI	
	5.2.4	Portavogie Seafood Festival	S/M	Amended	PRF	CDRCN, ANDBC, TNI	

**Abbreviations:**

- ANDBC** – Ards and North Down Borough Council
- CA** – Citizens Advice
- CDRCN** – County Down Rural Community Network
- DfC** – Department for Communities
- Dfi** – Department for Infrastructure
- EA** – Education Authority
- HSCT** – Health and Social Care Trust
- NIEA** – Northern Ireland Environment Agency
- NIHE** – Northern Ireland Housing Executive
- ORNI** – Outdoor Recreations Northern Ireland
- PCHS** – Portavogie Culture and Heritage Society
- PCSP** – Policing and Community Safety Partnership
- PRFC** – Portavogie Rangers Football Club
- PYFC** – Portavogie Youth Football Club
- RCTP** – Rural Community Transport Partnerships
- PHA** – Public Health Agency
- PRF** – Portavogie Regeneration Forum
- PSNI** – Police Service of Northern Ireland
- TNI** – Tourism NI

**\*Timescales:**

- S** – Short (0–18 months),
- M** – Medium (18 months – 3 years),
- L** – Long (3–5 years)

**\*\*Actions Status:**

- Existing** – An action which was included in the March 2014 plan
- Amended** – An action which has been updated or changed since the March plan
- New** – A new action (not included in March 2014 plan)

**Success Indicators**

This is an indication of how individual actions may contribute to the overall Big Plan. NB: these indicators may change and evolve over time.

Table 2: Big Plan Outcomes and Indicators

The 'Big Plan' Outcomes	Agreed (Success) Indicators	(Success) Indicators to be Developed
<p><b>OUTCOME 1</b></p> <p>All people in Ards and North Down fulfil their lifelong potential</p>	<p>1.1 Gap between % of non-free school meal entitlement school leavers and % FSME school leavers achieving level 2 or above (In English and Maths)</p> <p>1.2 Percentage of babies born at low birth weight</p> <p>1.3 Number of further education regulated enrolments by age</p>	<p>1.4 Number of older people living independently or in care i.e. having the correct support to allow them to live as they wish</p> <p>1.5 Breakdown of types of skills and different demographics who are engaged in further education</p> <p>1.6 % of children at appropriate stage of development in the immediate preschool year</p> <p>1.7 % of schools found to be good or better</p> <p>1.8 Number of people formally and informally volunteering</p>
<p><b>OUTCOME 2</b></p> <p>All people in Ards and North Down enjoy good health and wellbeing</p>	<p>2.1 Number of anti-depressant drug items dispensed per head of registered population</p> <p>2.2 Number of admissions to hospital per 100,000 for drugs or alcohol-related causes</p> <p>2.3 Number of preventable deaths per 100,000 population</p>	<p>2.4 % of the population participating in exercise (sports and physical activity) one, three or five times per week</p> <p>2.5 Monitoring of extent of long-term health conditions such as diabetes</p> <p>2.6 GHQ12 scores as a measure of mental health</p>
<p><b>OUTCOME 3</b></p> <p>All people in Ards and North Down live in communities where they are respected, safe and feel secure</p>	<p>3.1 Number of hospital admissions due to accidents</p> <p>3.2 Number of road traffic casualties per 10,000</p> <p>3.3 Number of recorded crime offences</p> <p>3.4 Number of recorded anti-social behaviour crime offences</p>	<p>3.5 % of the population who feel safe in their community</p> <p>3.6 Opportunities for children to be involved in shared education</p>
<p><b>OUTCOME 4</b></p> <p>All people in Ards and North Down benefit from a prosperous economy</p>	<p>4.1 Working age population - skill levels</p> <p>4.2 GVA - Value of Estimate (£m) - Ards and North Down</p> <p>4.3 Proportion of working age population who are economically inactive (%)</p> <p>4.4 Total spend (£m) during overnight trips</p>	<p>4.5 Breakdown of visitors to local tourism facilities, public parks, nature and historic sites</p> <p>4.6 Breakdown of wages by sector e.g. tourism, arts and crafts, agri-food, technology etc.</p> <p>4.7 A skills barometer - matching skills of people to businesses and a better jobs index</p> <p>4.8 Breakdown of people who are economically inactive and proportions of those who don't want to work</p>
<p><b>OUTCOME 5</b></p> <p>All people in Ards and North Down feel pride from having access to a well-managed sustainable environment</p>	<p>5.1 Number of applicants on Social Housing Stress list</p> <p>5.2 Area of pollinator friendly plants by Ards and North Down Borough Council (m2)</p>	<p>5.3 Availability of good broadband and mobile phone coverage</p> <p>5.4 Number of people in urban areas who live within 1km of quality green space</p> <p>5.5 Number of designated sites in favourable condition and number of buildings at risk</p> <p>5.6 Number of biodiversity audits (habitat and species surveys) undertaken on publicly owned land</p> <p>5.7 Length of greenways, walking routes, canoe trails and cycle paths</p> <p>5.8 Extent of coastal changes and the economic social and environmental impacts</p> <p>5.9 Reporting of invasive species on publicly owned/managed land</p> <p>5.10 % of energy from renewable sources (generated or used within Ards and North Down)</p> <p>5.11 Investment in and use of transport infrastructure (private and public)</p>

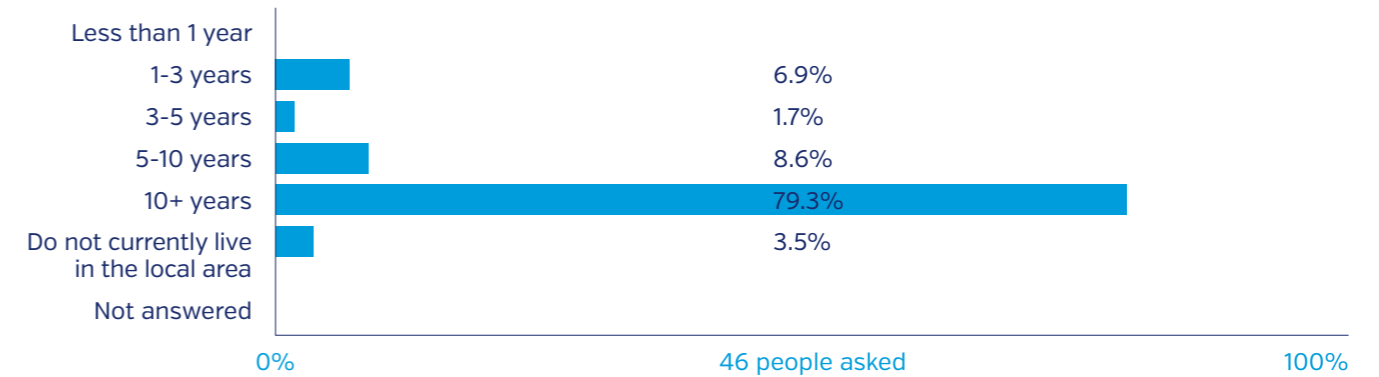
NB: these indicators may change and evolve over time.

## 8 Appendices

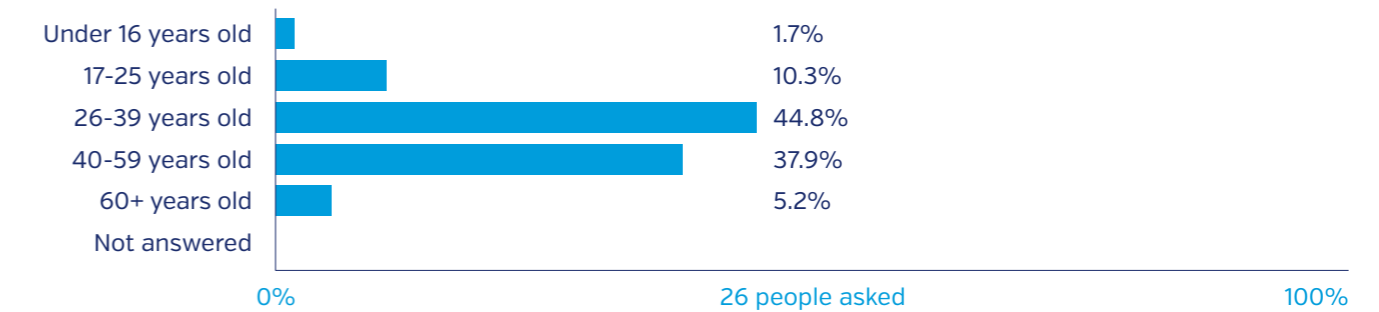
### Appendix A. Portavogie Community Survey Results

The summary results from all questions included in the community survey for Portavogie have been provided in this appendix.

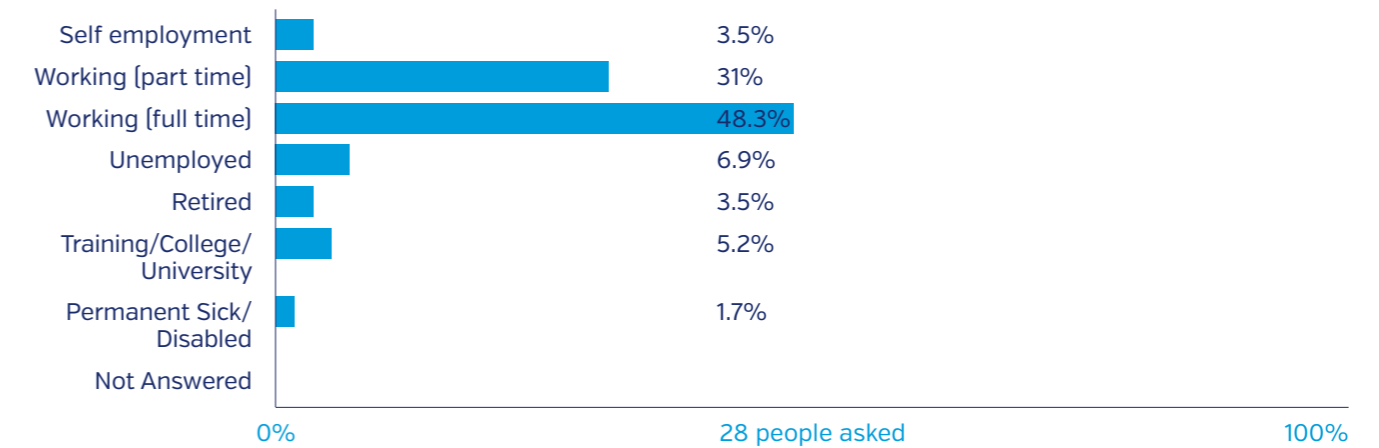
#### Question 1: How long have you lived in Portavogie?



#### Question 2: What is your age?



#### Question 3: What is your employment status?



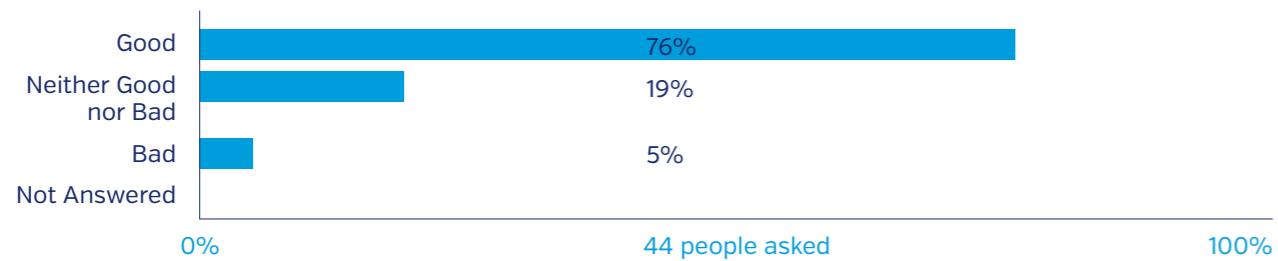
**Question 4 & 5:** How many people, including yourself, are there in your household in each of the following age groups?

Age Group		Number in Household										Not Answered
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10+	
0-4	Male	9	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	44
	Female	9	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	46
5-17	Male	18	10	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	28
	Female	16	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	37
18-35	Male	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	43
	Female	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	35
36-50	Male	28	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30
	Female	28	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29
51-65	Male	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	49
	Female	4	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	54
65+	Male	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	56
	Female	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	56

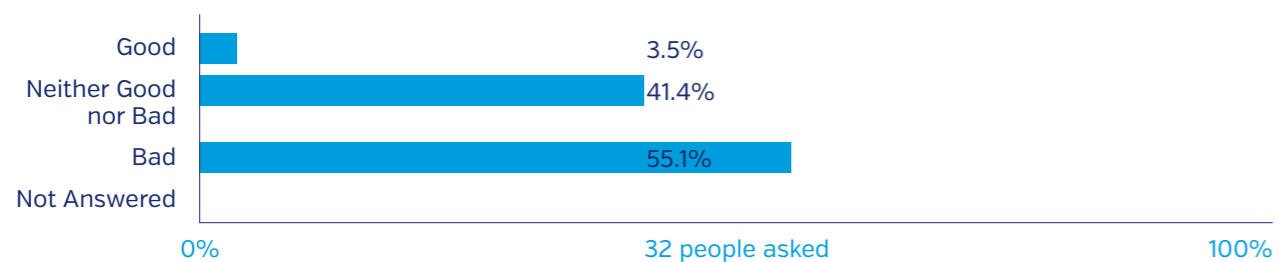
Note: The number of people in each household has been presented according to age and gender. For example, in 'Age Group 0-4' there are 12 households with one male child, and 17 households with one female child. Seven households have two male children aged 0-4 and one household has four male children aged 0-4.

**Question 6:** Overall, taking all into consideration how would you...

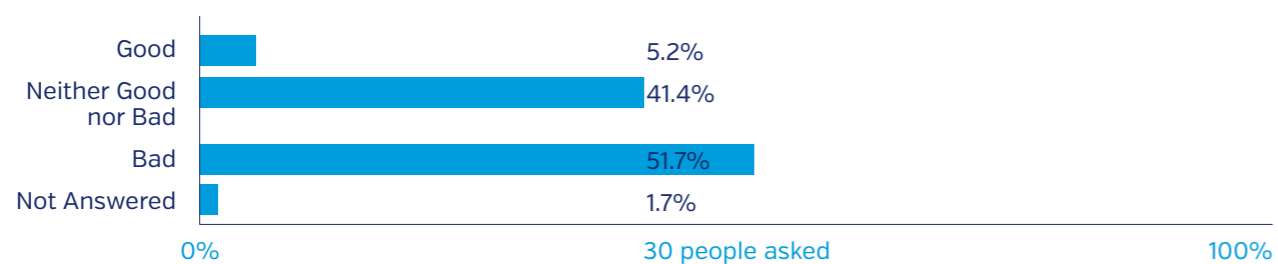
6.1 Rate the quality of life in Portavogie



6.2 Rate the facilities available in Portavogie



6.3 Rate the services in Portavogie



**Question 7:** What do you feel is the best thing about living in Portavogie?

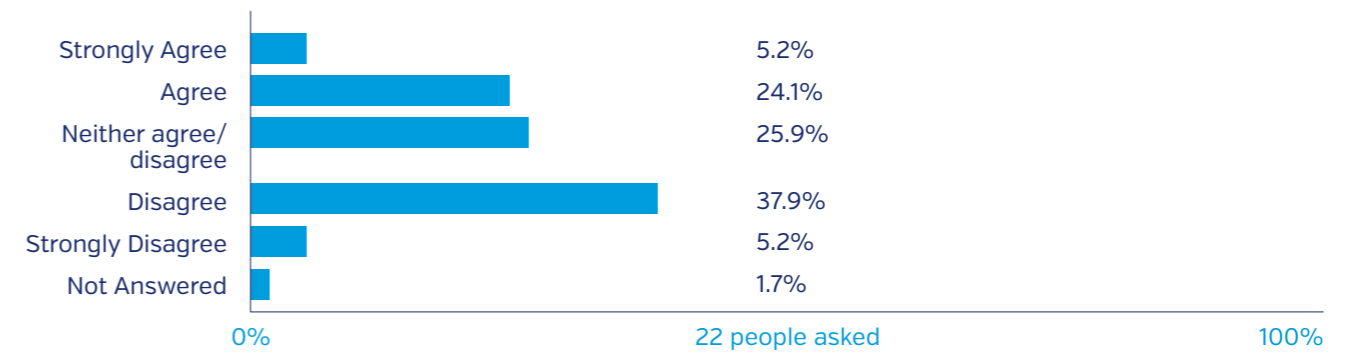
- Lovely community with a fantastic school. Three beautiful beaches which we use.
- Good community, living beside the seaside with brilliant scenery right at your doorstep
- Living close to a beach that most outsiders don't know exists! Great local primary school.
- The community are always pulling together to help each other. People are friendly. There's a real sense of being 'home'
- Love living in a small village where people know each other and feel it is a safe environment to raise my kids in
- Very good local primary school
- Quiet place, feels safe
- Near the sea and countryside
- What you get for your money when buying houses.
- The community feel of the village.
- The community spirit and the Christian standards.
- The sense of community. People know each other and help each other. It feels very safe and a nice village to raise a family.
- Being coastal.
- The working harbour.
- Being able to walk around the village.
- The sense of community - being rural is lovely in the summer by the beach.
- Fantastic school.
- Working harbour.
- Activities at club for football.
- The sense of community.
- Beaches.
- The harbour.
- Being coastal.
- School - great primary school.
- Youth football club.
- Access to beaches and countryside.
- Rural life.
- Living by the sea.
- Belonging - everyone knows you.
- Being part of the community.
- Living near the beach.
- Safe upbringing for our children.
- Close community. Great togetherness.
- The excellent primary school.
- It's near the beach and has lovely walks.
- The people are also very friendly.
- Living close to the beach. Peace and quiet.
- Good school.
- Living by the sea.
- Excellent primary school.
- Affordable housing.
- The primary school, the beach, and the football club.
- Being near the shore.
- Living in a close knit community and feeling we live in a safe secure environment.
- The beach, harbour and Portavogie Primary School.
- The great community spirit. Some very kind and considerate people.
- Generation of family all live in village.
- MUGA and park.
- Community spirit.
- The beautiful beach!
- Community living and living beside the sea.
- Christian ethos of the community
- Fantastic primary school
- Vogie fun n fit
- Living beside the sea
- I enjoy walking around the village with my youngest child past the harbour and around the "square"
- The local primary school and the local youth football team
- Living by the sea
- Community spirit
- The football club so much good comes from it and their outreach into the community through couch 2 5k and vogie fun n fit is amazing.
- There are so many good people trying to make life better for everyone
- Peaceful and quiet to live in.
- Being close to the sea, the development of the promenade has been great but further enhancement would be welcomed.
- The beautiful beach.
- Community togetherness
- Beautiful scenery, cheap
- House prices.
- Family friendly.
- Beside the sea.
- The community is very friendly. The beach being on your doorstep
- It's a friendly place and people really pull together in times of need.
- Housing prices. Cheap and you get more for your money.
- Beautiful village where people look out for each other.
- Locals
- The community atmosphere and quiet way of life
- The fresh air and views
- Living by the sea in a rural area where u hav access to beach parks etc.
- Fishing village where my family's business is
- Love the village vibe and the friendly people
- A rural area
- Bring my kids up in a small community
- The local community always comes together and helps each other out.
- The people
- A fantastic primary school education.
- The community spirit.

**Question 8:** What is the key issue that needs to be addressed in Portavogie?  
If you have ideas on how this issue should be addressed please let us know.

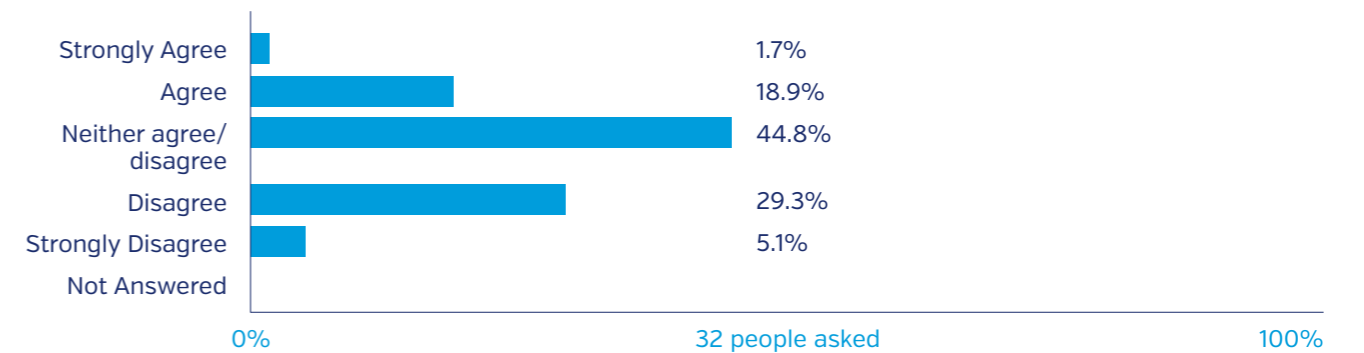
- We could do with more services. Better transport links.
- Better facilities such as cafes restaurants
- Road clearings after farmers use & gritted in the winter I.e. bog road & Portavogie road
- Somewhere for the children to go at night times to give them something to do
- Resurfacing of roads around village & landscapes to be looked after better to be more inviting such as greyabbey!
- Dog fouling & littering are a huge problem in the village.
- Something for young people to do. When I was there age we had the pool hall it was a big warehouse with pool tables games machine juke box tables and chairs and a small sweet shop. It was somewhere for us all to hang out and meet. I know the drop in is there now feel it is not all inclusive
- Facilities/ services
- Lack of facilities! There is nowhere for children to go and everything is a drive away.
- Anti-social behaviour.
- No banking facilities.
- No fish shop.
- Lack of businesses in local area and services. No town centre feel – everyone tells me they drive through Portavogie – nowhere to stop.
- Footpath at Warnocks Road.
- Coastal path to Cloughey.
- Dog fouling on footpaths.
- Dereliction.
- Anti-social behaviour.
- Facilities.
- General tidiness in village.
- Dog waste addressed.
- Dereliction.
- Facility for football club – 250+ kids.
- Transport links for schools in Bangor.
- Dereliction of buildings.
- Tourism and facilities.
- The village needs a focal point, 'Heart of the village.'
- We need to expand and enhance facilities around harbour. Facilities for young people to try and combat anti-social behaviour, under age drinking etc.
- The lack of employment, major investment in the community needed.
- Facilities for children outside of school.
- More facilities for the young children to go to.
- The village has no square, no centre. The harbour was always our focal point but health and safety has stopped this tourist attraction.
- 4G pitch for football club.
- Very little facilities for children/ young people.
- More leisure facilities.
- Providing sufficient lighting and space for children to make use of.
- Dog fouling on public and private property.
- Dog fouling
- Needs a village centre with more Shops/cafe/takeaways etc
- A nicer looking village hanging baskets and cleaner streets
- Derelict houses need tidied up
- A gym
- Sports facilities
- Anti-social behaviour
- Lack of facilities
- I think there needs to be more for kids, the local football team is now bigger than ever for kids of most ages but this can only be done by funding and raising money. Like other kids groups that also need funding and to raise money
- Lack of services
- 17 miles to the nearest bank
- Transport is very expensive
- Vandalism – children get bored easily and they do not have many activities for young people.
- Unemployment.
- More employment prospects for local people
- Lack of work opportunities
- Sports and leisure facilities.
- Anti-social behaviour.
- More shops needed. Cafe and a fish shop. Maybe more activities in the community centre for the youth and elderly.
- Regular cleaning of the beach to make it more enjoyable to use.
- Dog fouling is a big problem in the village.
- A coffee shop would be an asset to both locals and visitors
- Would like to see a takeaway or restaurant opened up in the community area again.
- Coffee shop for locals and visitors passing through.
- Maritime museum. Boat house/ club house for local rowing club.
- Currently 200 kids involved with Portavogie youth - severe lack of training facilities which will be addressed with delivery of 3G however there is waste land within village that could be utilised to provide indoor facilities also that could incorporate well being events etc
- Very few facilities, nothing for young ones to do, very few places to eat even takeaway food, no shops or anything to attract tourists, poor road conditions. Parking in housing developments proving to be difficult for the residents that live there, people not parking in their own driveway and parking on streets instead.
- Unsociable behaviour
- Something for the kids to do ie skate park.
- Coffee shop, tourism
- Disability access to beach
- Vandalism – derelict buildings, benches, lighting etc
- Anti-social behaviour.
- Jobs
- Dog fouling.
- Vandalism
- The village is looking a little run down.
- Also better bus service for night time for people who work in Bangor and don't drive
- State of roads and pathways especially weeds and moss makes the village look bad. Grass cutting and hedges need to be done more often

**Question 9:** Please respond to the following statements regarding the facilities and services available in Portavogie...

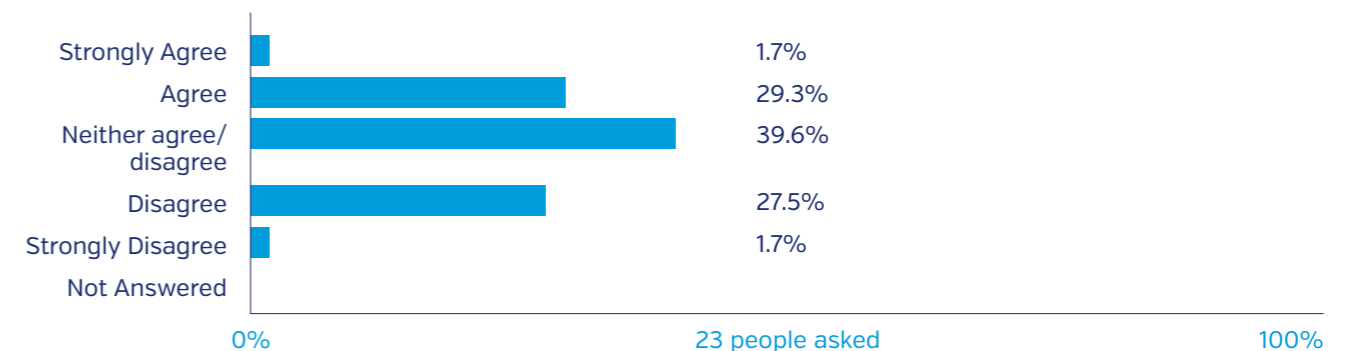
9.1 I am not aware of the range of services and facilities available in Portavogie



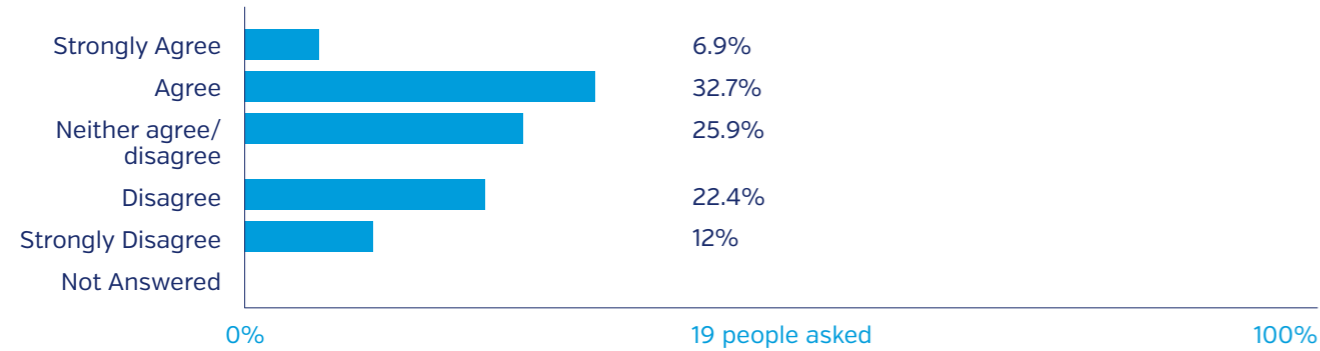
9.2 I feel that there is sufficient information about the services and facilities available in Portavogie



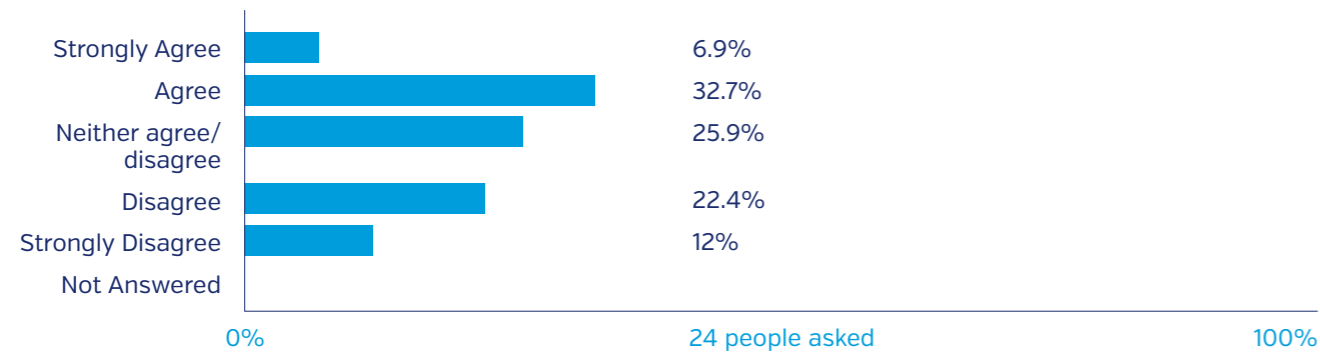
9.3 I find accessing services in Portavogie difficult and rarely use them



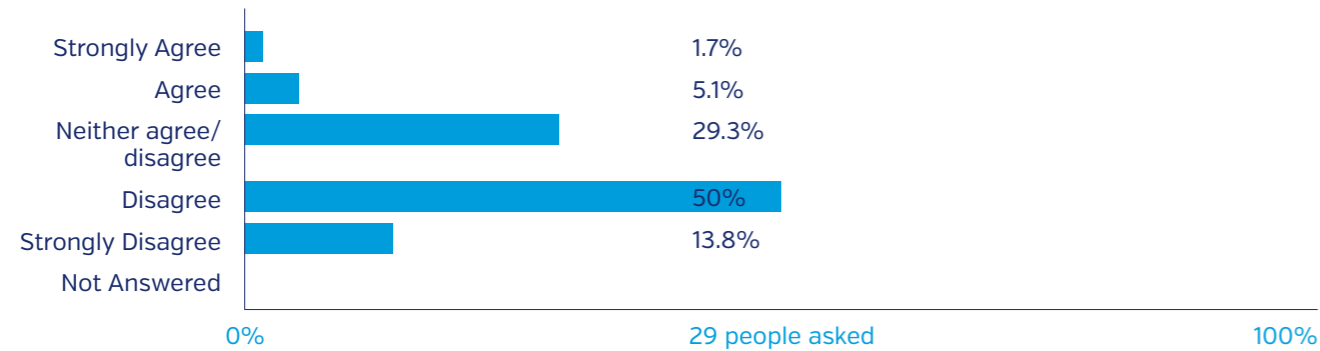
9.4 I access and use community facilities or services on a weekly basis



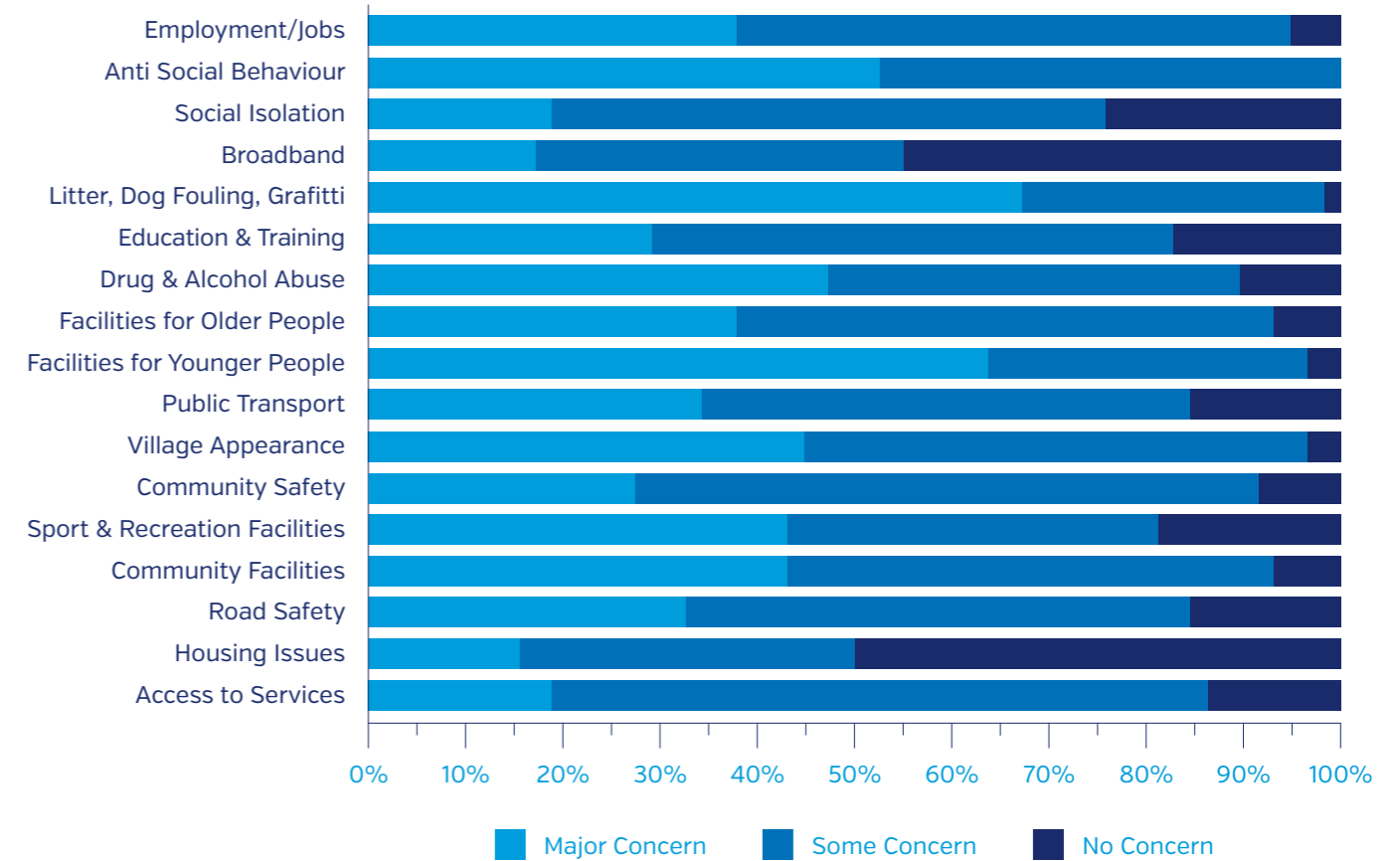
9.5 Services and facilities in Portavogie are reflective of local needs



9.6 I feel community facilities are of a high standard and meet local needs



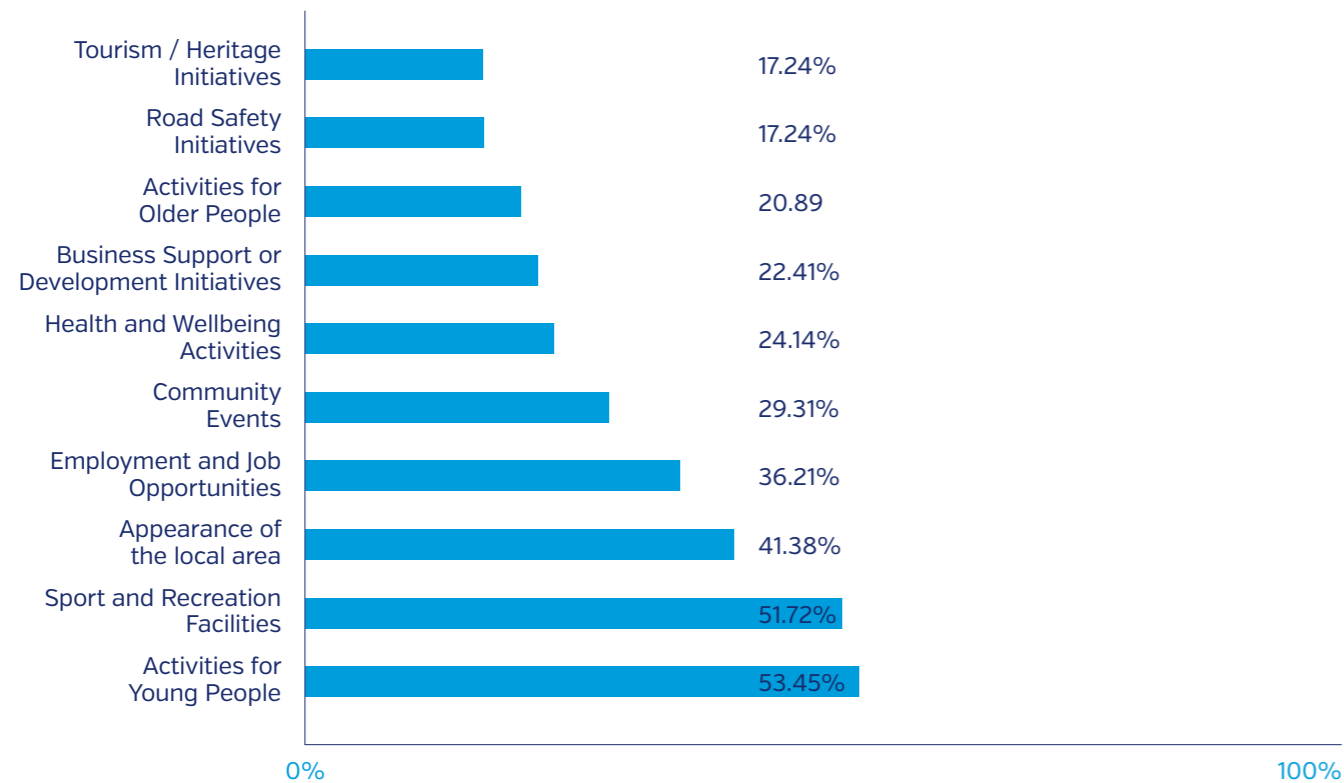
Question 10: A number of issues that may affect the local area are listed below - please respond to each of the issues listed as to whether you feel it is of 'No Concern', 'Some Concern' or 'Major Concern'



Question 11: Please consider the following list and RANK IN ORDER OF PRIORITY with 1 being the MOST important issue you feel should be addressed through to 7, which is the LEAST important issues to address for Portavogie.



**Question 12:** In terms of community services, programmes or activities please mark the ones that you feel should be prioritised for Portavogie. Please select a maximum of 3.



**Question 13:** Are there any other needs, issues or actions you would like to highlight or feel should be prioritised for Portavogie?

- The roads are the biggest issue and most dangerous with being forgotten about in the winter;
- Dog fouling in the village is disgraceful, where is the dog warden? More patrols are needed;
- The Bog Road one of the major routes is an ice rink in winter. Gritting should be a priority;
- The community centre is not being utilised fully - particularly now the restaurant/ guest house side is vacant. Surely there is potential to make better use of the facility - would be lovely to see some local groups set up and able to have a space to use - perhaps drama, theatre, film nights etc;
- I personally think having a good size indoor play and cafe that would also do light snacks/ breakfasts for the likes of the fishermen but also a place parents can come with the kids and will bring people into Portavogie, will bring good business and help families and the community come together;
- A secure area for dogs to be allowed off their leads (i.e. Londonderry Park).
- The high kerbs not suitable for disabled people.
- Employment opportunities. We need more local businesses to employ and provide opportunities.
- Better footpath on Warnocks Road.
- Dereliction addressed.
- Marina at harbour and tourist facility at harbour - market viewing, fish shop, coffee shop etc.
- Walkway to Cloughey.
- A new centre for them to host mental health awareness talks, talks on nutritional - possible storage facilities and better amenities for all the children. Coffee shop/bakery at heart of village.
- Regeneration of derelict buildings.
- Coastal path between Portavogie and Cloughey.
- Dog fouling and litter a big issue - council initiatives in schools?
- Completion of pitch.
- Tourism facilities, i.e. fish shop/ coffee shop/maritime museum (as in Kilkeel).
- Coastal path to Cloughey.
- Social focal point for coffee shop/ business units at harbour.
- Regeneration of the harbour - shops/marina/more pontoons for smaller boats.
- A coffee shop/hairdresser/artist/ bakery/deli/sandwich shop. I know Portavogie is a working harbour but there is so much more potential to expand a small marina and slipway for small boats.
- We need a local cafe place along harbour would be ideal.
- Harbour needs tidied and made accessible. Possibly needs to diversify to include marina. Need coffee shop and hub which can be used by village to deliver education etc.
- Transport links need improved, i.e. bus links to Bangor (3 per day, 08:00, lunchtime, 17:30).
- Dereliction needs addressed. Derelict properties at harbour and Harbour Road regenerated and rented out. Notice board in harbour/mace area.
- Park for older kids (bike/ skateboard).
- 3G pitch.
- Make use of waste ground and derelict buildings.
- A bus for youth groups such as scouts/school outings
- Coastal path.
- Dog fouling needs addressed. As a resident of Lawson gardens I would like to highlight the issue of the 'bonfire'. All residents who live beside the bonfire would like to see it moved to an area for ALL to enjoy. For years we've put up with anti-social behaviour from the beginning of May each year and our complaints have been totally ignored. The council 'spokesperson' for the bonfire didn't want to know and didn't care what was happening in the surrounding area of the bonfire, property stolen, damaged, urinated on, young people engaging in disgusting behaviour etc. This is every night until the season ends. We want the council to get a new site and let us residents have the same peace everyone else gets every year.
- Disability access to beach
- The fishing industry has been too badly neglected over the years that its ended up on the edge of collapse and the heritage and culture of Portavogie is dying
- The road from Portavogie to Ballyhalbert needs work done as it's been dug up on the left side going out of Portavogie so much.
- More employment needed in the area
- As a small group we are building 2 boats. We are trying to expand our club for the local people to join in and compete in cross community regattas. When we finish the build of the skiffs we have nowhere to house them, so that's why we would appreciate help with a building to store them in and for prize giving after regatta.
- Make use of wasteland and derelict buildings

**Question 14:** Please make any additional comments that you feel would help to develop a village plan for Portavogie.

- *Feel we are lacking a coffee shop or something that would be a great social hub for the village. Even an honesty cafe would. Great for young people to have somewhere to go*
- *Definite refurb of harbour area - create a centre to hold shops and offices - view of harbour.*
- *Dog fouling needs addressed by canal.*
- *Derelict buildings utilised to prevent anti-social behaviour.*
- *Facilities at football club enhanced - so many children there now and poor facilities. Coaches work hard and are volunteers.*
- *Coffee shop/fish shop for tourism at harbour.*
- *Dereliction addressed.*
- *Viewing platforms at fish market for tourists.*
- *Maritime museum.*
- *4G pitch finished as promised.*
- *Activities for younger children.*
- *Footpath on Warnocks Road.*
- *Expand on the fantastic harbour and beaches that we have, but not enough facilities for tourists, e.g. coffee shop/fish shop/social hub.*
- *Address dereliction.*
- *Centre/storage for football teams, 250+ kids - not enough facilities at pitch for girls.*
- *Regeneration of harbour area. A coastal walkway linking Portavogie and Cloughey.*
- *Expanding Portavogie Harbour for tourists - fishing trips/marina for yachts/encouraging welders/joiners/electricians to set up small businesses to service the needs of the fishermen - low rent units located on the harbours.*
- *Neighbourhood watch programmes.*
- *Citizens advice bureau - monthly at times suitable for all - to include day times and night times.*
- *Leisure facilities for children and adults at the weekends.*
- *I feel more needs to be done to tackle dog fouling in the village, be it more fines being handed out or more council patrols? Bins are not the issue, people don't use them.*
- *Also parking in the vicinity of the school is shocking! More double yellow lines are needed and the consideration of a one-way system wouldn't be a bad idea.*
- *Increase in dog fouling fines and a drive by council to fine for littering. Educate the children about littering and dog fouling and you won't have a problem tomorrow.*
- *Think about all Portavogie's attractions and enhance these.*
- *Think about Portavogie's problems and eradicate these.*
- *Harbour made more available to tourists.*
- *Outdoor gym equipment for community and clubs.*
- *Tourism. Promoting the fishing village could bring more people into the area. Maybe taking anglers on fishing trips for the day. Visitors are always looking for something to do;*
- *I would love to see a cafe open in Portavogie. There is nowhere to meet friends for a cup of coffee or light lunch.*
- *Be more supportive to people moving to area instead of making them feel as if we don't belong because we haven't had generations of family from here*
- *There must be a business opportunity for a café , home bakery , fish shop in this area*
- *If derelict houses cannot be utilised covers for these houses should be used.*
- *Coastal path to Cloughey.*
- *Footpath needed the length of Warnock's Road as a fatality will soon arise.*
- *Traffic calming needed on new road as sees a lot of traffic travelling at high speed, since traffic calming measures on Harbour Road. 2 or 3 would be sufficient near bend at tides entrance and down road to Harbour Road entrance.*

## APPENDIX B. TRACKING AND MONITORING TEMPLATE

OUTCOME 1: PORTAVOGIE - ACHIEVING ITS FULL POTENTIAL				
Outcome	Action	Output/Indicator(s)	Update on Actions/Outputs (date)	Status
Community Engagement <b>(EXAMPLE)</b>	Provision of services aimed at supporting engagement and inclusion of older people and specifically older men	Complete needs assessment with older people / men. At least one new programme for older people At least one new programme for older men	Completed needs assessment with 112 older people (including 47 men) providing views [Nov 18]  'Good Morning Service' established and running for two months. Work underway to establish 'mens shed' [Dec 18]	Ongoing [on track]
1.1 Community Engagement and Services	1.1.1 Development of community activities and programmes for young people			
	1.1.2 Engagement/inclusion of older people			
	1.1.3 Lobby for key services			
	1.1.4 Reconfiguration of Community Hall [Priority Project]			
1.2 Harbour and Beach Area	1.2.1 Development (and implementation) of masterplan for harbour area			

OUTCOME 2: A HEALTHY AND ACTIVE PORTAVOGIE				
Outcome	Action	Output/Indicator(s)	Update on Actions/Outputs (date)	Status
2.1 Harbour and Beach Areas	2.1.1 Improve facilities to support sea activities			
	2.1.2 Improvement works along East Shore Front			
	2.1.3 Improved access onto South Shore			
	2.1.4 Changing facilities at beach			
	2.1.5 Multi-sensory walk along beach			
2.2 Sports and Recreation	2.2.1 3G Pitch			
	2.2.2 Provision of skate/BMX park			
	2.2.3 Outdoor 'trim trail'			
2.3 Paths and Coastal / Beach Walks	2.3.1 Coastal path [Portavogie to Cloughey]			





Ards and North Down Borough Council  
Town Hall, The Castle, Bangor, BT20 4BT

**T: 0300 013 3333**

**E: [enquiries@ardsandnorthdown.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ardsandnorthdown.gov.uk)**

The Council extends its thanks to all who have contributed to this plan and looks forward to continued collaboration through the course of its delivery. If you would like any more information about this plan or how to get involved please get in touch.



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