

Bangor Cycle Park



A space for
fun, fitness,
and community
connection.



Background

During the consultation phase of PEACEPLUS, “Parks for Cycling” was one of the most requested themes, along with urban sports, community-hubs, sports-grounds and tourist attractions. In addition, “Disengaged Youth” was the most frequently mentioned problem facing our society. Bangor Cycle Park (BCP) addresses ALL of these themes and offers numerous activities to engage with young people on a sustainable basis.

DfI’s ‘Bicycle Strategy for Northern Ireland’ envisages “A community where people have the freedom and confidence to travel by bicycle for everyday journeys”. The creation of this new cycle park will make significant steps toward our Borough achieving this vision.

DfI’s Continuous Household Survey (CHS) 2021/22 showed:

33% of respondents own or have access to a bicycle.

54% are not satisfied with local cycling facilities.

17% were “interested but concerned” about cycling on the road.

The population of ANDBC is 164,000 so these figures imply:

54,000 residents have bikes in ANDBC.

Over 88,000 local residents are unhappy with the local cycling infrastructure.

28,000 people in ANDBC are “interested but concerned” about cycling on our roads.

ANDBC recognised these alarming statistics and in February 2023 declared ANDBC a “Cycling Friendly Borough”.

The Cycle Park will be an innovative, publicly accessible facility, owned and maintained by Council, at little or no additional cost to the ratepayer. It is envisaged that the Café/Workshop will become a community hub, drawing people together as customers, coaches, trainees or volunteers in a shared interest.

Listening to our Residents

This project has been shaped by local voices. Here’s how people got involved:

- 14 x co-design meetings across the Borough
- 9 x Section 75 and PEACEPLUS Target Group co-design meetings
- Multiple 1:1 co-design meetings/ workshops with key stakeholders
 - 409 participants
- 1 online e-survey
 - 439 responses
- Collectively, this resulted in the engagement of 848 people involved in co-design activities for the development of the Local PEACEPLUS Action Plan
 - 848 people

Your feedback helped guide the design and purpose of the Bangor Cycle Park.

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Project Funding

PEACEPLUS is a cross-border EU funding programme (2021–2027) aimed at strengthening peace and prosperity across Northern Ireland and the border counties of Ireland. Under Theme 1: Building Peaceful and Thriving Communities, Ards and North Down Borough Council has been allocated €5.68 million to deliver a co-designed local action plan. This plan focuses on community regeneration, building inclusive and peaceful communities, and celebrating cultural diversity. Through the PEACEPLUS Partnership, made up of elected members, public sector reps, and community voices, the programme will support projects that promote shared spaces, tackle division, and bring people together to create a more connected, inclusive, and resilient community.



Policy and Strategy Alignment

Bangor Cycle Park fits into several of Ards and North Down Borough Council's long-term plans:

The Big Plan for Ards and North Down 2017-2032

The Cycle Park will contribute to Council's Community Plan:

Outcome 1

All people in Ards and North Down fulfil their lifelong potential. BCP helps ensure that ANDBC is a great place for children and young people to grow up by providing them new and exciting forms of exercise and competition. It will make this a place where people can grow old with access to services, affordable bikes, exercise, new friendships and new skills.

Outcome 2

All people in Ards and North Down being able to enjoy good health and wellbeing. The Cycle Park will create new, free to use facilities for the community.

Outcome 5

All people in Ards and North Down feel pride from having access to a well-managed, sustainable environment. BCP has sustainability at its heart.

The Cycle Park also aligns with Council's Roadmap to Sustainability by establishing infrastructure and a skills-base for cycling, enabling a modal shift away from less sustainable modes of transport.



Bangor Cycle Park

Corporate Plan 2024-2028

Priority:

- **Reducing carbon emissions as we transition to net zero**
Net zero means reducing emissions that are generated from using oil, petrol, gas and electricity while also trying to remove carbon from our atmosphere through activities like planting more trees
- **Improving wellbeing through social inclusion and reducing inequality**

Outcomes:

- An engaged Borough with citizens and businesses who have opportunities to influence the delivery of services, plans and investment.
- An environmentally sustainable and resilient Council and Borough meeting our net zero carbon targets.
- A vibrant, attractive, sustainable Borough for citizens, visitors, businesses and investors.
- Safe, welcoming and inclusive communities that are flourishing.
- Opportunities for people to be active and healthy



Ards and North Down Play Strategy 2021-2032

Play is a vital part of growing up. It helps children and young people stay physically and mentally healthy, build social and thinking skills, become more resilient, and feel connected to their community. To make sure play stays a part of children's lives, we need to think beyond just the usual playgrounds. A mix of different types of play spaces and opportunities should be included across the Borough. And whatever we provide, it's important that it offers real value—spaces that encourage all kinds of play, for all kinds of children. Inclusive play is especially important, and it should be a key part of every play space we create.

The parts of the Sportsplex site used for the cycle park are currently underutilised and therefore can exist alongside the existing facilities without displacement.



Bringing People Together Public Engagement

Ards and North Down Borough Council welcome comments on the proposed project, comments can be submitted via email to peace@ardsandnorthdown.gov.uk

The closing date for responses is Friday 27 June 2025.

Comments can be made in writing to:
peace@ardsandnorthdown.gov.uk