

<b>Title of Report:</b>	<b>Correspondence Report</b>
<b>Committee Report Submitted To:</b>	Leisure & Development Committee
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	20 February 2024
<b>For Decision or For Information</b>	For Decision
<b>For discussion In Committee</b>	No

<b>Linkage to Council Strategy (2021-25)</b>	
Strategic Theme	Healthy & Engaged Communities, Local Economy
Outcome	Citizens and communities are supported to develop improved approaches to health and wellbeing. The performance of the economy of the Borough.
Lead Officer	Head of Sport & Wellbeing, Head of Prosperity and Place

<b>Budgetary Considerations</b>	
Cost of Proposal	n/a
Included in Current Year Estimates	<b>YES/NO</b>
Capital/Revenue	n/a
Code	n/a
Staffing Costs	n/a

<b>Legal Considerations</b>	
Input of Legal Services Required	N/A
Legal Opinion Obtained	N/A

<b>Screening Requirements</b>	Required for new or revised Policies, Plans, Strategies or Service Delivery Proposals.		
Section 75 Screening	Screening Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
	EQIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
Rural Needs Assessment (RNA)	Screening Completed	Yes/No	Date:
	RNA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)	Screening Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
	DPIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:

## **1.0 Purpose of Report**

**The purpose of this report is to present Correspondence for Members consideration.**

**2.0** The following items are listed:

### **2.1 Correspondence from the Mary Peters Trust requesting a financial contribution from Council (Dated 24 January 2024)**

The Mary Peters Trust is a charity which provides encouragement and financial support to young athletes across Northern Ireland. Awards have recently been made to 11 young people within the Causeway Coast and Glens Borough. A financial contribution has been requested from Council for the financial year 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025 to help them to maintain the level of support offered.

### **2.2 Correspondence from Causeway Chambers (Dated February 2024)**

Causeway Chamber have provided an update on current work and their key priorities for 2023-2026 for information.

## **3.0 Recommendation**

It is recommended that Members note the contents of the correspondence and consider the request made by the Mary Peter's Trust for a financial contribution from Council.

**From:** Gillian Hetherington  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 24, 2024 3:47 PM  
**To:** David Jackson  
**Subject:** Mary Peters Trust Fundraising Request

Dear Mr Jackson

Over the years you have assisted the Mary Peters Trust (we are a charity administered voluntarily by Directors) by providing encouragement and financial support. We invest our capital and the interest is distributed in the form of sporting awards to upcoming athletes we add to this amount with extensive fundraising.

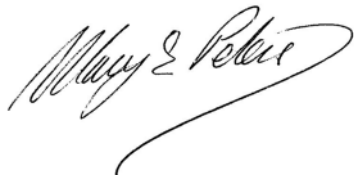
As a charity after 48 years, we are still committed to support our young athletes and as such we have recently made awards including the following young people in your Council area:

Rachel Bradley	Rowing	£1000
Molly Curry	Rowing	£1000
Ellie-Kate Hutchinson	Rowing	£1000
Clark Logan	Rugby	£500
Finn O'Neill	Athletics	£750
Erin Ilsley	Judo	£750
Zoe Maynard	Netball	£500
Zak Taggart	Weightlifting	£750
Flynn Greene	Rowing	£500
Fergus Bryce	Rowing	£1000
Katie Poots	Golf	£3000

We are seeking your support to help maintain our capital base to ensure the level and value of awards continues to grow. We need your support more than ever this year as we face a drop in our investments and support from donations.

We ask you to forward this letter to the relevant Council Committee and respectfully request they join in our work of helping young people achieve excellence in sport, by making a contribution for the financial year 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025.

Best wishes and many thanks for your continued support.



Lady Mary Peters LG CH DBE  
President

Gillian Hetherington  
Executive Manager  
Mary Peters Trust

Dear Member

Thank you for your continued support as a member of Causeway Chamber. I am writing to share an update on our recent work on our Key Priorities for 2023-2026.

As President of Causeway Chamber, I have been privileged to meet and visit some of Causeway Coast and Glens successful and innovate businesses, from large multi nationals to small independent and start ups across the Borough.

The common theme for their success has been, not only the vision and determination of the owners and directors, but the sense of pride and innovation that they promote within their teams.

A good business needs more than a good idea, it needs skills, imagination, hard work and dedication.

By nurturing the skills and potential of staff, we enable growth and with that growth comes responsibility, the responsibility to promote our area, encourage more investment to hone that success.

That needs infrastructure roads, trains, air connectivity and ultimately an efficient transport network. We also need a communication network fit for purpose, an electricity grid that can be held up as exemplary in harnessing renewable energy, a water system that is able to support the growth of our business and homes and of course a local government willing to show courage in leading and governing.

Our Key Priorities document sets out these pillars for success, **Infrastructure, Skills and Growth**. Created from the asks of our chamber council and members who face these challenges every day and who have provided some suggestions for solutions.

On **Infrastructure**, an increase in affordable housing and growth spaces for expanding businesses, more 4 & 5\* accommodation with conference facilities to meet the growth in our world class tourism sector.

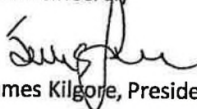
**Skills**, make use of the alternative pathways to employment that have been established through Labour Market Partnership, and apprenticeships through local colleges. Collaboration with primary/secondary schools and further education to promote enterprise.

Encourage and support **Growth** with vocational training as well as exploiting our great secondary and third level education facilities. A fastest rail link to Coleraine and the North West connecting our three airports.

If you have friends or colleagues in business that you feel could benefit from membership, please connect us and as you know we will do the rest.

Once again thank you for your continued support and we look forward to seeing you at an event soon.

Yours sincerely



James Kilgore, President, Causeway Chamber of Commerce



Corporate Sponsors:



Riada Resourcing



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Causeway  
Chamber

# KEY PRIORITIES 2023 - 2026

Elephant Rock, Ballintoy  
Causeway Coast and Glens



# OUR PRIORITIES

This document is the out workings of the Causeway Chamber. The Causeway Chamber represents its member businesses that are owned and operated within the Causeway Coast and Glens Borough. Chamber Council reviewed the previous and first Key Priorities document. They have recognised the progress that has been made against our previous objectives and are now focussed on the present challenges.

This document is our ask as a business community, it lays out in a clear and focused manner the conditions that we collectively believe are required to enable the people, the businesses and the area to grow and thrive.

We recognise and welcome the key themes of the 10X strategy of Innovation, Inclusivity and Sustainability, these themes thread through the strategies of every business and are vital to future success. Framing our priorities as **Infrastructure, Skills and Growth** enables us to offer a clear narrative of what this place can be and outlines the direct feedback and thoughts of our business community.

A Giant Spirit has always been part of our DNA, tourism and hospitality is an important part of the fabric of the business community along with Engineering, Manufacturing, world class research and renewables.

We look forward to collectively delivering on our ambition.



The Arcadia, Portrush



Dunluce Castle



Downhill Beach and Mussenden Temple

# INFRASTRUCTURE

Promoting a quality, inclusive infrastructure ecosystem to drive sustainable economic, environmental, social and development goals.

## TRANSPORT



Improved road /rail networks with better connections to the 3 airports in NI

## COMMUNICATIONS

Fully implemented communication network



## HEALTH & WELLBEING

Hospital and connected services are needed in the area to serve the growing community

## WATER



Investment in water network to support business growth and new housing

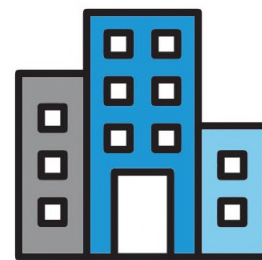
## GROWTH SPACES & ACCOMMODATION



Increase in housing and affordable housing



4\*/5\* accommodation with conference facilities to meet the growth in world class tourism and events



Growth spaces for expanding businesses and startups



Creation of renewable energy within the region, sustaining homes and businesses through access to green, cheaper local energy.



## ENERGY

A flexible, modern grid



# SKILLS

Supporting the skills pipeline to meet current and emerging market demand, unlock economic and creative growth and enable future leaders to learn relevant market skills that will support future growth and enhance their own life choices and outcomes for society.

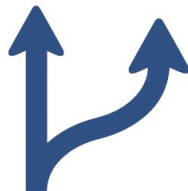
## CHALLENGES



Skills shortages are consistently raised as one of the biggest issues facing our members



There are job vacancies in our towns and villages which employers cannot fill because of the shortage of skills or people in the local economy.



Alternative pathways to employment have been established through Labour Market Partnership, Apprenticeships through local colleges and programmes developed by Departments for Economy and Communities.

## EDUCATION

**NORTHERN**  
Regional College

A £40 million development funded by the Department of Economy featuring a 12560 square metres with state-of-the-art educational space and skills facility for the Causeway area.



Both NWRC and the Open University are working in partnership to meet the needs of the business community in the Causeway Coast through bespoke training, upskilling and innovation.



Ulster University's Coleraine campus is headquarters for a wide range of disciplines including Life and Health Sciences, Arts and Humanities, Education, and Hospitality and Tourism.

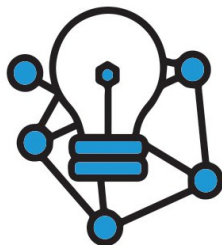
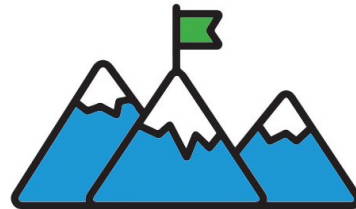


Significant capital investment has created state-of-the-art facilities including sports, teaching and arts blocks, world class laboratories, catering for undergraduate and postgraduate programmes with first class employability outcomes and economic relevance.

By combining **people, place and partnership**, Ulster University offers wider opportunities for participation in higher education and thereby drives the regional economy, creating opportunities and delivering sustainable futures for all.

## ACTIONS

Raise the ambitions of our people and our area. The significant investment and growth already delivered by our educational partners places the Causeway region at the heart of Northern Ireland's knowledge and skills ecosystem ready to support economic growth, entrepreneurial spirit and innovation and regional enhancement of cultural life.



Deliver more learning experience choices and outcomes for all sections of society



Collaboration with primary/secondary schools and further education to promote enterprise modules



Help our young people to build up their knowledge of business, confidence and personality, preparing them for work or encouraging them to set up their own business.

# GROWTH

Catalyse the full potential of the skills, industry, environment and infrastructure to create an entrepreneurial environment, ready for investment, social development and innovation.



A high speed rail link from Belfast to Coleraine to Derry/Londonderry.

A2 and A26 fully dualled, it's the least we expect. Sustainable, affordable travel for all.



A sustainable environment for inward investment, social development and local innovation.



Generating and sharing cheaper green energy across a modern, flexible grid.

TO ACHIEVE THE GROWTH PLANNED THESE KEY ELEMENTS ARE NEEDED



The economy - 95% employed, increased youth employment - let's raise ambitions.



Vocational training - it's about a skill base and a job for all. Tourism, Agri-food are the key to success.



University spin-off companies to boost investment



Utilise NI's largest, purpose built commercial data centre - Atlantic Link



An effective local and regional government, working for local people and businesses.



# CREATE

a vibrant, sustainable economy built on innovation and entrepreneurial spirit

# CONNECT

all those who live, work, visit and invest in the Causeway Coast & Glens Borough

# CONTRIBUTE

to the health and well-being of all our citizens

# CELEBRATE

all that it is great about where we live and communicate this to the world



The Giant's Causeway



Causeway Chamber is the largest independent business network in the Causeway Coast & Glens. The Chamber has been helping businesses to grow their network, knowledge, influence and reach for 103 years.



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