

BOROUGHLINK

ARMAGH CITY, BANBRIDGE & CRAIGAVON BOROUGH COUNCIL

RESIDENTS' MAGAZINE

SUMMER 2016



**WONDERFUL
YEAR
FOR THE
BOROUGH**

PAGE 12

**RESTORE
DON'T
DUMP,
DONATE!**

PAGE 4

**FOOD
HEARTLAND
PROUD
OF OUR
PRODUCE**

PAGE 10

**COMPETITIONS
WIN A MEAL
FOR TWO
OR A FOOD
HAMPER**

PAGE 11

**EVENTS
WHAT'S ON
IN THE
BOROUGH**

PAGE 24



**Armagh City
Banbridge
& Craigavon**
Borough Council

IN THIS ISSUE:

- 4 Don't dump, donate!
- 5 Lurgan loves food, hates waste!
- 6 Planning for better care
- 7 Help better the borough!
- 8 Defend the defenceless
- 9 Drive safely
- 10 Proud of our produce
- 12 Wonderful year for the borough
- 15 Top destinations for great family days out
- 16 Get in the running
- 17 Streets ahead in regeneration
- 18 Big boost for built heritage
- 19 Top tips for summer safety
- 20 Day at the museum
- 21 Supporting our seniors
- 22 Contact your councillors
- 24 What's on in the borough
- 27 Directory of council facilities



Editorial

In this jam-packed first edition of Borough Link, we bring you all the latest news about what's happening in the borough and show how we, as a relatively new and significantly larger organisation, are performing for you and the wider community.

We're now just over one year old and what an amazing first year it has been. Turn to our main feature on pages 12 to 14 to read all about the borough's most notable achievements and awards in 2015/16.

With 2016 designated as NI Year of Food and Drink, we continue to showcase the borough's best produce by serving up many of its big name food brands at our signature events (pages 10 and 11).

Check out the great places to visit on page 15 and fun activities for children and young people to enjoy this summer on pages 16 and 28. Plus, you'll find a comprehensive guide to the many events taking place between now and the end of November on pages 24 to 26.

In our green section on pages 4 and 5, we encourage you to donate your old and unwanted items of household furniture and electrical goods to your local recycling centre and help Lurgan achieve Love Food Hate Waste town status.

With exercise essential to your health, learn about our new running groups on page 16. Read about our new planning powers on page 6 and find out how you can help improve your local area on page 7.

Get an update on how your local Policing and Community Safety Partnership (PCSP) is helping keep young drivers, park users and Neighbourhood Watch communities safe on page 9. Plus, turn to page 19 for a wealth of advice on staying safe this summer.

Find out what we are doing to promote economic and social activity in our town centres and villages on pages 17 and 18, and help our senior citizens to lead a fuller life on page 21.

Finally, don't miss your chance to win a meal for two or a Food Heartland hamper on page 11. Take advantage of the 2 for 1 offer available at Navan Centre & Fort throughout July and August (page 20).

Enjoy summer 2016!



Lord Mayor's Q&A

In his first interview since being elected Lord Mayor for the borough on 6 June 2016, Sinn Féin Councillor Garath Keating shares his thoughts on the year ahead.

Tell us about yourself.

I was born in Armagh and lived there until I went to study law at Queen's University. After graduating, I moved to Manchester to work as a solicitor in a large law firm before returning home to take up a position with Sinn Féin three years ago. I have served as a councillor since 1 April 2014.

How does it feel to be elected Lord Mayor?

It's a great honour to be afforded such an exciting opportunity to serve all the people of this borough. This role offers great potential for bringing communities together and inspiring them to achieve their goals.

How will you put your own personal stamp on the role?

I'm very down to earth and hope that people find me to be approachable and accessible when I am carrying out engagements.

What do you see as your biggest challenge in the role?

Given the geographical size of the new council area, it's going to be quite challenging to get to meet all the people, groups, organisations and businesses in the borough. However, I will do my best to get involved with as many of them as I possibly can.

What are your main priorities for the borough?

- Attracting investment and supporting job growth.
- Increasing the level of civic pride in the borough and championing its many wonderful assets.
- Promoting the borough to the outside world and enhancing local producers' access to foreign markets.
- Recognising individuals and groups who work extremely hard and selflessly every day to improve the lives of those around them.

One call covers all

Got a query and don't know which council office, department or facility to contact?

Simply call our central telephone number below. It's important that you explain which part of the borough you reside in and provide as much information as possible so that we can put you through to the right person straightaway. Calls are charged at local rate.

☎ 0300 0300 900

Keeping you posted



We've got a wealth of information that we want to share with you!

So follow us on Facebook and Twitter if you would like to find out about local events, latest news, important announcements and much more. You can use these sites to connect with us and share your views, ideas and photos.

f armaghbanbridgecraigavon

🐦 @abcb_council



Log on to listen

Ever wondered how local democracy works in practice? Well wonder no more!

Log on to armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk and listen to audio recordings of full council meetings. All 41 elected members attend the full council meeting, which is held on the fourth Monday of each month, to ratify decisions made by seven standing committees.

Armagh Office
The Palace Demesne
Armagh
BT60 4EL
T: 3752 9600

Banbridge Office
Civic Building
Downshire Road
Banbridge
BT32 3JY
T: 4066 0600

Craigavon Office
Craigavon Civic & Conference Centre
Lakeview Road
Craigavon BT64 1AL
T: 3831 2400

FIND US ONLINE:
armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk
[armaghbanbridgecraigavon](https://www.facebook.com/armaghbanbridgecraigavon)
[@abcb_council](https://twitter.com/abcb_council)

Borough Link is produced by Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council and delivered to local households. No article or photograph in this magazine can be reproduced without the consent of the editor. © Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council.

or send an email to communications@armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk

This magazine can be provided in alternative formats upon request.

Borough Link is printed on 100% recycled paper.

If you have any comments or queries about this magazine, contact the editor on 4066 0619

RECYCLED
Paper made from recycled material
FSC
www.fsc.org
FSC® C021264

Bin-ovation is borough wide



Bin-ovation, a free mobile app that can help you recycle more, is now available to everyone in all parts of the borough.

We developed this app to make it easier for you to find out everything you need to know about recycling.

Bin-ovation is very easy to use and features:



- An A to Z with over 200 household items, explaining which bin or kerbside box they go into and which recycling centre or point accepts them.
- Reminders advising you when to leave your bin(s) or kerbside box(es) out and changes to your collection day.
- Directions and maps from your current location to the borough's nine recycling centres and 34 recycling points.
- A contact form enabling you to report a missed bin collection, request a bulky waste collection or order a new bin part.
- Helpful tips on reducing, reusing and recycling waste including junk mail, electrical equipment, composting and much more.
- News, updates and general information on recycling and waste management issues.

i Search for the Bin-ovation app on the Apple App Store or Google Play.

restore

Don't dump, donate!

All too often we dump items of household furniture and electrical goods without considering if they could be of use to someone else.

However, you can actually extend the life of your unwanted goods by bringing them to a Restore collection point at your local recycling centre. Restore is a facility based at Banbridge Community Recycling Centre where donated goods are restored to a high standard before being sold to the public as second-hand furniture at a very reasonable price.

You can donate a wide range of household furniture and electrical goods to Restore including but not limited to:

- Armchairs
- Bed frames
- Bedside tables
- Bicycles
- Bookcases
- Chairs
- Chest of drawers
- Coffee tables
- Cookers
- Dining tables
- Dishwashers
- Dressers
- Headboards
- Lamps
- Mirrors
- Sofas
- Tumble dryers
- TV stands
- Wardrobes
- Washing machines

Restore collection points are available at the following recycling centres:

- Armagh - Station Road
- Banbridge - Scarva Road
- Dromore - Mossvale Road
- Keady Business Centre - Annvale Road
- Lurgan Newline - Tandragee Road
- Markethill - Fairgreen Road
- Portadown Fairgreen - Duke Street
- Rathfriland - Iveagh Park Road
- Tandragee - Madden Road

By donating items to Restore, you will help:

- Save landfill space and reduce the borough's waste handling and disposal costs.
- Create new training opportunities for young people and the long-term unemployed.

All profits from the sale of refurbished, second-hand furniture and electrical goods will be used to help make Restore a commercially self-sustaining enterprise.

Restore is open Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm.

i To check stock availability or find out more about donating goods, telephone 4066 0656.



Lurgan loves food, hates waste!

The Love Food Hate Waste Towns and Borough initiative is the perfect recipe to help reduce the £39.8m in food waste that we, as a borough, throw away each year.

As a starter we're focusing our efforts on helping Lurgan to become the first town not only in the borough, but also in the UK to achieve this prestigious status by serving up a platter of Love Food Hate Waste messages to residents, community groups, schools, colleges and businesses.

Linking in with the NI Year of Food and Drink, we've organised a mouth-watering menu of activities in the Lurgan area that are sure to appeal to all tastes.

These include cookery demos with local produce; food tasting sessions; food waste composting demos; training workshops; school engagement sessions on recycling and composting food waste; a recipe competition; a photography competition; and grow your own allotment advice.

Lurgan market is also making sure that its customers get a taste of what the Love Food Hate Waste initiative is all about by

hosting its own programme of monthly events. Check local press or the council's Facebook page to find out about these events.

We're big supporters of any initiative that gets people thinking about the waste they produce and, more importantly, how they dispose of it. Food waste is a major contributor to global climate change. If food waste ends up in landfill, it rots and emits the potent greenhouse gas methane.

If we all stop wasting food, the benefit to the planet would be the equivalent of taking one in four cars off the road. We'll keep you updated on our progress as we work towards achieving town status for Lurgan.

If successful, this pilot project will be used as a blueprint to deliver the initiative borough wide. Furthermore, it will act as a best practice model for other council areas.

i Call 3831 2467 to get involved or go to ni.lovefoodhatewaste.com for helpful hints on reducing food waste.



The average family in Northern Ireland throws away £60 a month in food waste - that's almost a meal a day!

Public and bank holiday arrangements

Bin collections



Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon
There will be no bin collections on Tuesday 12 July. Bins will be collected on Saturday 9 July.

Armagh and Banbridge
There will be no bin collections on Wednesday 13 July. Bins will be collected on Saturday 16 July.

Craigavon
Bins will be collected as normal on Wednesday 13 July.

Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon
Bins will be collected as normal on Monday 29 August.

Kerbside boxes

Armagh
There will be no kerbside box collections on Tuesday 12 July. Boxes will be collected on Saturday 9 July. Boxes will be collected as normal on Wednesday 13 July and Monday 29 August.



Recycling centres

All recycling centres will be closed on Tuesday 12 and Wednesday 13 July. All recycling centres will be open as normal on Monday 29 August.





Artist's impression of the new Paediatric Unit at Craigavon Area Hospital

Planning for better care

Our new planning powers put us in a better position to make decisions that stimulate investment, growth and opportunity across the borough.

In the first year of the new council, Planning Service approved some 1,200 planning applications, with 95% consisting of small to medium scale projects such as housing developments and commercial schemes. However, it's large-scale projects that are likely to deliver the more significant economic and regeneration benefits for the borough.

Below are examples of council-approved projects that will create hundreds of jobs not just in the construction industry, but also in the operation of these new facilities. More importantly, they will result in much enhanced health and social care provision for two important sections of our community - children and older people.

Providence House, Lurgan £10m

In December 2015 we gave the green light for a derelict former convent building and surrounding lands to be converted into a multi-purpose, specialist 70-bed care home with an assisted living village, a nurse training centre and 11 family homes.

Paediatric Unit, Craigavon Area Hospital £6.9m

In January 2016 we approved plans for a new paediatric unit at Craigavon Area Hospital comprising a 19-bed inpatient ward, a five-bed ambulatory care ward and an outpatient department.

Glenview Nursing Home, Bleary £3.2m

In February 2016 we approved plans for a new 70-bed nursing home that will upgrade and modernise the existing nursing home facility at this site.

Ask the experts

If you are considering a home improvement building project, our advice is to contact your local Building Control office before you start.



Involving Building Control at an early stage could help you avoid problems in the long term, as the work will be inspected at different stages to make sure it meets the requirements of Building Regulations.

By getting approval for your project, you won't encounter problems if you want to sell or re-mortgage your home. Moreover, you will not incur extra costs if remedial works are required.

Building Control has dealt with over 4,000 applications and carried out over 16,000 inspections since 1 April 2015.



Here's a list of the most common types of domestic projects that require approval from Building Control:

- Constructing or extending a building;
- Converting a roof space or garage;
- Converting two rooms into one;
- Installing a stove or central heating;
- Adding a sunroom or conservatory;
- Replacing a conservatory roof or boiler; and
- Installing thermal insulation in cavity walls or roof spaces.

With many more types of projects requiring approval, it's always best to check if Building Control needs to be involved.

There is often confusion about the different roles and responsibilities of Planning Service and Building Control.

Planning Service is responsible for making sure that new developments do not have a negative impact on neighbouring properties and the surrounding environment.

Building Control is responsible for making sure that newly erected or altered buildings are safely built and fit for people to live, visit and work in. They also go further to make sure buildings are energy efficient and meet disability requirements.

Visit armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk to download a leaflet that explains both services in greater detail.



Help better the borough!

Citizens have an important role to play in working with the council and its community planning partners to enhance the borough for everyone's benefit.

After all, you know your local area better than anyone. You experience it every day. So why not share your ideas?

John's idea

Markethill resident John Hooks tells us what he did to help better the borough and make a difference in his local community.

"Gosford Forest Park is right on my doorstep and it's my favourite place to go with my two young sons. I always thought how much better a public amenity it would be if it had a play park. So I spoke to local councillors to ask if the council could help."

Council develops the idea

The matter was raised at a council meeting and consent was given for the council to work in partnership with the Forest Service in order to bring this project to fruition.

The new play park, which officially opened in September 2015, has been a great success in attracting many more visitors, in particular families with young children, to Gosford Forest Park.

John's reaction

"I am so pleased that I approached the council because now I can spend many more enjoyable hours of quality time with my sons in what can only be described as a much enhanced community asset. I would encourage others if they have an idea to do the same."

How to share your ideas

We want to give citizens the opportunity to shape their areas to better meet their needs. We are trialling a new digital app, which makes it easier for you to do this.



Log on to www.shapeabc.community and join the conversation about how your area could be improved. Your ideas will feed into a community plan that will steer the future development of the borough.

Rates round-up

Despite facing additional cost pressures this year, the council's district rate increase (0.92%) was lower than the previous year (1.78%).

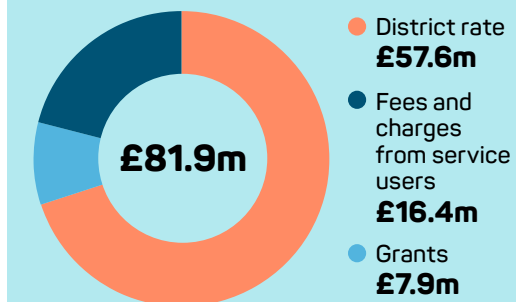
In monetary terms, this increase is equivalent to an additional £3.97 per year for the average household.

Your rate bill is made of two parts - the district rate set by your council and the regional rate set by central government.

The district rate pays for services such as waste management, events, leisure centres and environmental health, whereas the regional rate pays for other public services including roads, health and education.

The regional rate was set at 1.7%, resulting in a combined increase of 1.31% and equal to an overall annual increase of £11.40 for the average household.

Council expenditure for 2016/17



This year, we will continue to examine how we can keep rate increases to a minimum whilst continuing to improve service delivery for our 200,000 citizens and invest in the borough.

In relation to this, we will start work to deliver a new major capital investment programme that will significantly enhance the environment, grow the economy, strengthen the infrastructure and enrich the quality of life for local people.



Defend the defenceless

It's shameful that the mistreatment of defenceless animals is still commonplace in our society.

Between 1 April 2015 and 31 March 2016, our Animal Welfare team investigated 538 animal welfare complaints, carried out 972 visits, seized animals in 19 cases and prosecuted seven offenders for failing to meet the welfare needs or causing unnecessary suffering to animals.

We have enforcement powers to act where we believe any pet or non-farmed animal is not being cared for properly. In some instances, we offer advice and assistance to improve animal welfare but in more serious cases, we issue improvement notices, seize animals and take legal action.

Penalties for animal welfare offences include bans on keeping animals for a specified period, unlimited fines or imprisonment of up to five years in extreme cases of cruelty. We will also publicly name anyone who we successfully prosecute for committing an animal welfare offence.

If you're concerned that a pet or non-farmed animal is being mistreated, you can report it to our Animal Welfare team on 3751 5800. We will investigate reports of neglect, cruelty, abandonment and complaints about the conditions in which a pet is kept.



The police are responsible for the welfare of wild animals and criminal activity such as dog fighting and badger baiting. Contact the police on 101 (or 999 in emergencies) if you're concerned about the welfare of wild animals.

The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) is responsible for the welfare of farmed animals or animals kept in riding establishments, boarding kennels or pet shops. DAERA can be contacted on 0300 200 7840.

Get the message

A new text messaging service that sends out emergency alerts, notifications and crime updates to Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators is being trialled in the borough.



This new pilot service aims to encourage the sharing of information between the police and the community in order to help reduce crime. If successful, it will be extended to other key individuals and groups in the community.

If you run a local Neighbourhood Watch scheme and wish to receive this service, register your mobile number with your local Policing and Community Safety Partnership (PCSP) on 0300 0300 900.

Hush your hound

Over half of the 728 noise complaints we received between 1 April 2015 and 31 March 2016 related to dog barking.

Dogs can bark excessively for a number of reasons, including loneliness, boredom, seeking attention and defending their territory. However, there are a number of things you can do to prevent your dog from disturbing your neighbours with constant barking and whining.

If you have to leave your dog on its own for more than a few hours, make sure they are fed and exercised beforehand and always leave out water. If you keep your dog outside, do not place their kennel near a neighbour's boundary. In some circumstances, the use of anti-barking collars can be effective.

If it is proved that a noise nuisance exists, the dog's owner will be issued with a Noise Abatement Notice. Failure to comply with this notice may result in prosecution with a fine of up to £5,000.

i To report noise disturbances, contact your local Environmental Health office.



PICK UP OR PAY UP

BECAUSE WE WON'T PUT UP WITH DOG FOULING IN THE BOROUGH!

OUR WARDENS ARE INCREASING PATROLS IN DOG FOULING HOT SPOTS THIS SUMMER.

Park Watch

In March this year, the PCSP launched the borough's first Park Watch scheme in Portadown People's Park.

Park Watch operates in the same way as Neighbourhood Watch schemes. It requires communities to work in partnership with the police to reduce vandalism and anti-social behaviour, as well as to improve safety and security for all park users.

We're asking you to act as guardians of this shared space by reporting all incidents of anti-social activity to the police on 101 (or 999 in emergencies).

You can also report other issues such as dog fouling and littering to our Park Wardens who patrol the park every day.



DRIVE SAFELY

Learning to drive is seen as an important rite of passage for many young people.

However, statistics show that those aged 17 to 25 are most likely to be killed or seriously injured as a driver or vehicle passenger. They are also most likely to be the cause of fatal and serious road traffic collisions.

Your local Policing and Community Safety Partnership (PCSP) is committed to educating young people on the dangers of driving and the importance of responsible behaviour behind the wheel. One way we are achieving this is through the Young Passengers and Drivers (YPAD) project.

Introduced in 2011, this project has now developed into a major initiative delivered by a multi-agency partnership using interactive workshops. These sessions also feature a unique film written and performed by local young people as part of the cross-border Driving Change project.

Having been shortlisted for the NI Local Government Awards in 2012 and the Young Driver First Car Awards in 2015, the local PCSP team marked Road Safety Week in November 2015 by winning the top award for the YPAD project in the Secondary Schools category at the inaugural NI Road Safety Awards.

Over the past year, YPAD has been delivered to 1,350 students from five post primary schools and five youth organisations across the borough. Through projects such as YPAD, the PCSP will continue to drive home the message to young people that staying safe on the road is the responsible route to reducing road deaths and serious injury.

Food Heartland Proud of our Produce



With 2016 designated as NI Year of Food and Drink, the message that we are sending out loudly and proudly to the borough and beyond is feast your eyes on our food. We've established the Food Heartland Forum and a new Food Heartland brand to champion our thriving agri-food sector, our passionate producers and quality creators.

Working in partnership with Food NI, Tourism NI and local event organisers, the Food Heartland Forum is using NI Year of Food and Drink as a platform to showcase the region's abundance of household names as well as speciality artisan food and drink producers.

Since January, we've been linking in with monthly food themes and giving you a true taste of the Food Heartland at the most popular events taking place in the borough. Here's a selection of things to savour between now and the end of the year.

NI Year of Food and Drink - A great time to sample the best of the borough!

<p>7 Hills Blues Fest Armagh City Centre 11-14 August</p>	<p>Love NI Meat Relish the up-tempo melodies of jazz, served with a platter of local produce, as the sounds of the magnificent 7 Hills Blues Fest echo across the city's streets and eateries.</p>
<p>Country Comes to Town Portadown Town Centre 17 September</p>	<p>Bread and Baking Join highly-acclaimed TV chef and best-selling author, Rachel Allen, as she takes you on a journey of sweet, delectable indulgence using speciality breads and cakes unique to the local landscape.</p>
<p>Armagh Food and Cider Festival Armagh City Centre 5-9 October</p>	<p>Harvest This five-day festival hosts a range of events and activities including pop-up restaurants and cookery schools featuring local chefs; food tours and orchard walking tours; tasting menus; interactive fun and more.</p>
<p>Autumn Arts Craft Fair Banbridge 22 October</p>	<p>This speciality fair in Solitude Park will whet the appetite of art, craft and food enthusiasts, with its abundance of handmade ceramics, willow making, sumptuous gourmet treats and exquisitely decorated cupcakes.</p>
<p>Richhill Apple Harvest Fayre Richhill 29 October</p>	<p>Join us at the community fayre that has the Bramley apple truly at its core. Come along to the Village Square and eat apples, peel apples and sample apple juice at its finest. The fayre also includes our Food Heartland Village; NI Fruit Growers Association; and interactive cookery demos.</p>
<p>Georgian Day Armagh City Centre 26 November</p>	<p>Legacy and Learn To celebrate the charming uniqueness of the ancient City of Armagh, we invite you to explore our heritage on Georgian Day. Browse an array of market stalls and indulge in gourmet delights from vanilla-flavoured, buttery fudge to warm cordials infused in juicy berries, plus much more!</p>

As well as promoting local produce at our signature events, we're promoting the agri-food sector in a number of other ways including:

- The Food Heartland Awards held in May championed the outstanding food and drink produced in the borough and the great people driving the sector forward.
- Special visitors to the borough are being presented with Food Heartland hampers.
- Funding a Food Heartland Export Support Programme.
- Developing an Armagh Bramley Apple Supply Chain project to champion this world renowned product.
- Holding Food Heartland Forum workshops throughout the year.

i To get involved with the Food Heartland Forum or to find out more, go to foodheartland.com

Our food, so good



Producing great tasting and award-winning quality produce is deeply rooted in our region as some of our well-known local brands demonstrate: Tayto, Moy Park, Irwin's Bakery, Cottage Catering, Gilfresh, Linwoods, Fane Valley, Avondale Foods, White's, Wilson's and P McCann & Sons.

The region is also home to two of Northern Ireland's world renowned products, Lough Neagh eels and Armagh Bramley apples, which have received Protected Geographical Indication (PGI) status.

Last year, local food producers proved their products were more than palatable when eight local companies scooped 12 Irish Food Awards and 11 local companies won 18 Great Taste Awards.

Win a Food Heartland hamper worth £50 packed with all your favourite household brands!



Submit your entry in the same way as the competition opposite. If you enter both competitions, separate entries are required. The same closing date (31 July 2016) and terms and conditions apply.

WIN a meal for two!

To celebrate the NI Year of Food and Drink, we're giving away an appetising prize to six lucky readers. To be in with a chance of winning a meal for two up to the value of £50, simply answer the following questions:

- Q1. Name the free mobile app that is helping local householders recycle more waste.**
- Q2. How much was invested in the redevelopment of Portadown People's Park?**
- Q3. Name the first full-time curator of Armagh County Museum.**

Answers can be found throughout the magazine.

Sponsor: Fox Building and Civil Engineering Limited – the company responsible for overseeing the redevelopment of Portadown People's Park.

Closing date for entries:
31 July 2016

Email entries:
competition@armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk

Postal entries:
Competition, Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council, Civic Building, Downshire Road, Banbridge BT32 3JY

Terms and conditions:
Only one entry per household within the borough. Council employees cannot enter. Winners may be required to participate in prize presentation publicity. No cash or alternative prize offered. Winners can choose from a list of local restaurants.



Food Heartland serves up produce fit for Royalty

Members of the Food Heartland Forum were among those who served up a delectable selection of award-winning speciality artisan food and drink to the Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall during a historic visit to the Yellow Door deli in Portadown on 24 May 2016. Chef and proprietor Simon Dougan, both a member and an ambassador for the Food Heartland Forum, hosted the Royal couple on the second of a three-day visit to Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.

Wonderful year

for the borough

2015/16

2015/16 has been an outstanding first year for the new borough and its people in terms of capital investments, achievements and awards.

In this special feature, we review our progress to date and show that our new borough is already shaping up to be one of the best places to live, work, visit and invest in.



✓ New facilities

Tommy Makem Arts & Community Centre, Keady £2.5m
Irish President Michael D. Higgins opened the brand new arts and community centre in Keady in September 2015. Dedicated to the late legendary Irish folk musician who achieved global fame with The Clancy Brothers, this modern, multi-purpose facility is available for use by the whole community and comprises a large hall with additional flexible rooms and spaces, a studio, an outdoor play area and an exhibition centre.



People's Park, Portadown £5.47m
Reopened in October 2015 after undergoing major redevelopment, the People's Park boasts a wealth of new features including a play park, Tranquil Garden, a pond, two grass soccer pitches, two bridges, a grass multi-sports pitch, a seven-a-side 3G synthetic pitch, an amphitheatre, a five-a-side multi-use games area and a 62-space car park. To date, over 150,000 visitors have gathered at events held in the park to enjoy this stunning shared space.

*This project has been supported by the EU's PEACE III Programme managed by the Special EU Programmes Body.



Old Town Quay, Portadown £413,000

Now a much enhanced prime central riverfront location following the completion of environmental improvement works in October 2015, the Old Town Quay has a new floating pontoon, loading and unloading boat area, boat trailer storage area, timber jetty, new paths, lighting, hand railings, street furniture, landscaping and a 20-space car park. This project will open up a range of recreational and tourism opportunities and enhance the unique relationship between the River Bann and surrounding townscape.

*This project has been supported the EU's INTERREG IVA Cross-Border Programme managed by the Special EU Programmes Body.

Play areas £859,000
In addition to the People's Park, we've provided six other brand new play areas at Castleview (Gilford), Millar Park (Laurencetown), Milford, Mountnorris and Clady (Armagh), Gosford Forest Park (Markethill) and upgraded the play area in Solitude Park (Banbridge) so that children of all ages can enjoy the benefits of outdoor play.

Craigavon Community Greenway Project £1.3m
This project revitalised the seven-mile cycle corridor linking Lurgan and Portadown - a vital spine in Craigavon's commuting network of walk and cycle paths. It involved installing three toucan crossings, refurbishing eight underpasses, widening and resurfacing paths and enhancing these with lights and signs, adding cycle lanes and carrying out landscaping work. Officially opened in March 2016, it is an ideal commuter route offering increased opportunities for recreational activity in a secure environment.



✓ Achievements

Recycling rate
With just over half of the borough's waste (51.9%) being recycled or composted (subject to verification), we rank second in Northern Ireland for recycling. We also have the lowest percentage of waste being sent to landfill (20.9%).

Events
Thousands have flocked to the borough to enjoy our unique and diverse range of signature events, which include Banbridge BuskFest, Bee Curious, Georgian Day, Good Life Festival, Portadown's Got Talent, St. Patrick's Festival and 7 Hills Blues Fest. We've also introduced new events such as Armagh Food and Cider Festival and Spring Made Stylish.



Remarks made by senior officials who attended the opening events of new and upgraded facilities.



Michael D. Higgins
President of Ireland

The council has invested in creating a hub for the arts in this beautiful Tommy Makem Arts and Community Centre. This centre is a fitting testament to one of Armagh's greatest sons.



Arlene Foster MLA
Former Minister of Finance and Personnel

The new People's Park offers a tremendous opportunity for the local community in Portadown and from the wider area to come together to enjoy sports, events and play.



Michelle McIlveen MLA
Former Minister for Regional Development

Congratulations all those who worked together to bring the Craigavon Community Greenway Project to fruition. This is an excellent example of central and local government working in partnership to help improve the lives of the local community.





✓ Awards

Purple Flag
In July 2015 Armagh became one of only five places in Northern Ireland to achieve the prestigious Purple Flag, which recognises the city as being a vibrant, well-managed and welcoming place to visit during the evening.

Green Flags
Eight parks and green spaces in the borough received the prestigious Green Flag in August 2015. Bann Boulevard, Edenvilla Park, Lurgan Public Park, Tannaghmore Gardens, Dromore Town Park and Scarva Park retained the award while both Solitude Park and Loughbrickland Park received it for the first time.

Best Kept Town and Village Awards
Armagh was named Best Kept Medium Town, Scarva won Overall Winner and Dickson Park, Seapatrick took the title of Best Kept Small Housing Area in October 2015.

Northern Ireland Environmental Benchmarking Survey
In November 2015 we picked up a Silver Award for embedding high environmental standards within our business practices.

Ulster in Bloom
The borough bloomed with success in March 2016. Charlestown and Scarva came first and second in the Small Village category respectively, and Banbridge came third in the town category. Oxford Island Nature Reserve and Edenvilla Secret Garden picked up a Special Award.

Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors Awards
The much enhanced and newly redeveloped Portadown People's Park came first in two categories, Community Benefit and Regeneration, at these awards held in May 2016.

Allianz Garden Show Ireland
Also in May 2016 we scooped a Silver Award for Best of NI Local Produce Garden for designing and building a show-stopping plot, which incorporated the themes of recycling, sustainability, stunning landscapes and local food production.



TOP DESTINATIONS for great family days out

If you're short on ideas for things to do this summer, check out these top destinations in the borough where you can go with your family to experience fun activities and soak up stunning scenery in relaxed settings.

Scarva
Visit the Victorian bandstand every Sunday between 3pm and 4pm for magical music, stroll along the Newry Canal Towpath or hire a bike. Enjoy delicious treats at Scarva Visitor Centre or venture to Scarva Park for playful fun.

Lurgan Park
Pencil in a visit to Northern Ireland's largest urban park. Enjoy the picturesque parkland with its network of paths that provide excellent walking and running ground. There's lots to do - a play park, fishing, rowing boats and sports.

Corbet Lough
Not just a popular spot for anglers, it's a great stop-off point for a family picnic. Witness a whole host of natural wildlife including swans amidst beautiful scenery. Enjoy the public art or have fun in the play park.

Loughgall Country Park
There's plenty to do at this rural haven for relaxation and recreation. Enjoy the 18-hole golf course, follow the scenic walks, watch the anglers, work out at the outdoor gym, have a kick-a-bout or have fun in the play area.

Tannaghmore Gardens & Animal Farm, Lurgan
Come and see lots of lovely rare breeds in the farm, have a play in the park, enjoy a picnic, get lost in the maze and check out the stunning gardens and sculptures.

People's Park, Portadown
Join the legions of visitors who are flocking to the spectacular, award-winning 27-acre town centre park, which has become a mecca for sport and recreation thanks to its first-class facilities - an amphitheatre, grass and artificial sports pitches, bridges, pond, pavilion, play park and Tranquil Garden.

Gosford Forest Park, Markethill
Enjoy the brand new children's play park and walking trails. Discover some of the rarest breeds of farm animals, a herd of red deer and a large collection of traditional poultry - all set within an impressive 240 hectares of woodland.

Solitude Park, Banbridge
Enjoy picturesque walks along the River Bann, read a book at the outdoor amphitheatre, listen to music on your mobile at the urban dance zone, view the ornamental gardens and public artwork or work out at the outdoor gym.

Oxford Island, Lurgan
Spend a day in the stunning surroundings of this wonderful wildlife reserve that boasts both Lough Neagh Discovery Centre and Kinnego Marina. Explore the trails and paths, boat trips, fishing, play parks and enjoy a spot of lunch.

The Palace Demesne Public Park, Armagh
One of the glories of Armagh for over 200 years, enjoy walking the various trails and beautiful gardens that overlook the city. Relax in the Garden of the Senses and indulge in the delights of the Moody Boar restaurant and coffee shop.

Brontë Interpretive Centre, Drumballyrone
Learn about the early life of Patrick Brontë - father of the famed literary sisters. Take the 10-mile Brontë Homeland Drive that starts at Drumballyrone Church and Schoolhouse near Rathfriland.

Clare Glen, Tandragee
Experience the great outdoors at Clare Glen, a rural retreat set around the scenic River Cushier. It's a relaxing place to escape, offering a 4-star caravan park, marked walks, nature trails and a magical wildlife haven.



Urban regeneration

We have produced a masterplan for both Dromore and Banbridge. Both plans set out a vision for developing the towns, identifying their full regeneration potential over the next 15 years.

Regeneration and Development Strategy

We launched our new Regeneration and Development Strategy on the first day of the new council (1 April 2015). This strategy outlines our ambitious plan to become the leading local authority in Northern Ireland on economic regeneration and sets out how we plan to do this by building upon our strengths in certain sectors such as advanced manufacturing, agri-food production, life sciences, wholesale and retail.

Business support

To improve the skills and support the growth of different business sectors, we've delivered a wide range of programmes such as Business Engagement, Connect Programme, Creative Edge, Digital Teen, Skills for Business and supported retail campaigns such as Independents' Day and Small Business Saturday.

Financial Assistance Programme

This programme has made a significant contribution to supporting the work of community groups. To date, there has been three calls for funding assistance applications, resulting in over £1.1m being allocated to 536 local community groups to support a range of projects in the areas of community development, sports development, good relations, rural development, arts, culture and events.

The new borough has achieved great success in its first year and we're determined to build upon this by continuing to deliver an ambitious programme of major capital investment.

Get in the running

We're calling on people of all ages to pick up the pace in leading a more active lifestyle this summer by joining one of our Couch to 5K running groups.

Since its launch last April, this new exercise programme has helped over 3,500 participants from all over the borough make huge strides towards improving their health and well-being.

You don't have to be a fitness fanatic to take part because it's designed to help everyone, especially beginners, to start slowly and build up their stamina.

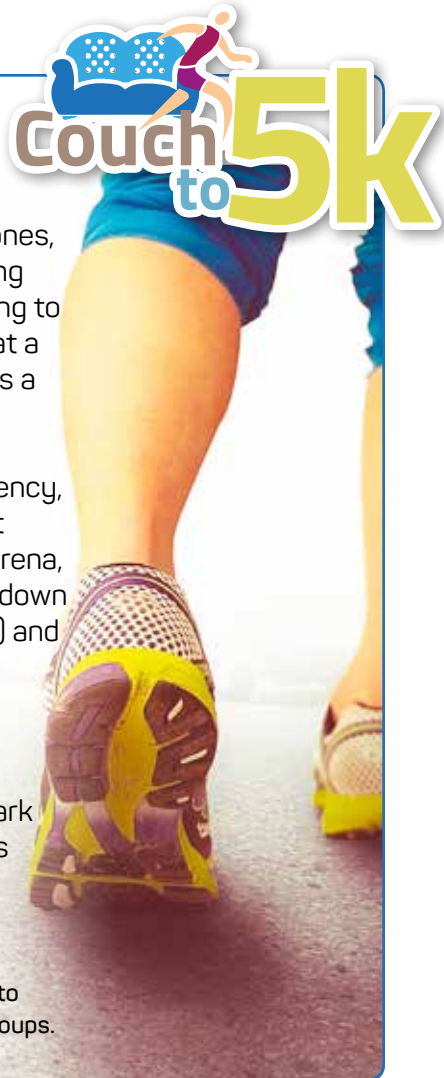
Running is a popular aerobic exercise that many individuals take up but quickly give up. By joining one of our groups, you're more likely to achieve your goal of being able to run 5 kilometres (3.1 miles) at the end of eight weeks and enjoy all the health benefits that running offers.

These include building strong bones, strengthening muscles, improving cardiovascular fitness and helping to lose weight as it burns calories at a faster rate than walking. Plus, it's a great way to relieve stress.

Funded by the Public Health Agency, sessions cost £1 and are held at Lurgan Park/Silverwood Sand Arena, Solitude Park (Banbridge), Portadown People's Park, The Mall (Armagh) and Tandragee Recreation Centre.

We also offer similar Buggy to 5K sessions for mums in Lurgan Park and Portadown People's Park along with Couch to 3K sessions for children aged 4 to 14 in Portadown People's Park.

Visit craigavonactivity.org in order to register for one of these running groups.



Maintaining an attractive and high quality physical environment is important to ensure the future vitality of our towns and villages. With that in mind, we're managing a number of environmental improvement schemes in Lurgan, Richhill, Keady and Portadown that will bring long-term social and economic benefits to the borough. Together these schemes represent an overall investment of £6.1m with substantial funding provided by the Department for Communities (DfC) for the schemes in Lurgan and Portadown.

LURGAN £0.9m

Work began in February on the third phase of public realm improvements in Lurgan town centre. Focused on Church Walk, Castle Lane, Union Street, Carnegie Street and Watson's Lane, this phase involves resurfacing footpaths, installing street furniture and lighting, landscaping, tree planting and adding additional parking spaces. Semi-mature trees will also be planted in Castle Lane as part of a separate scheme. Work is due to complete by the end of the summer.

KEADY £1m

This scheme will result in improved pedestrian access and parking with reduced congestion. It will consist of resurfacing footpaths, street furniture and lighting, tree planting and formalising existing on-street parking arrangements to Armagh Road, Kinelowen Street, Bridge Street, Davis Street and Market Street. The road junction at Bridge Street and Market Street on to Kinelowen Street will also be reconfigured to improve sightlines. Work is expected to complete by March 2017.

RICHHILL £1.4m

Due to commence this summer, this scheme will provide improved pedestrian areas and extend public space in the village centre. Works consist of resurfacing footpaths and roads, installing street furniture and lighting, tree planting and formalising existing on-street parking arrangements to Richhill's main thoroughfare - Corcreevy Road, Irish Street, New Line and the War Memorial. Work is expected to complete by March 2017.

PORTADOWN £2.8m

As part of the Portadown Linkages project, a number of key streets and main access routes to the town centre will benefit from environmental improvement works. They include sections of Castle Street, Bridge Street, Carrickblacker Road, Meadow Lane, West Street, Obins Street, Park Road, Woodhouse Street and Craigwell Avenue. Work will commence later this year with completion due in late 2017.



The Market Place Theatre, Armagh
SUMMER BLOCKBUSTER MUSICAL

Ammie

Tuesday 16 - Saturday 20 August
Performances Each Evening
7pm & Saturday Matinee 2pm
Box Office: 028 3752 1821
marketplacearmagh.com

Save cash when you make a splash in our swimming pools

£1 SWIM

Under 18s
Monday to Sunday* until 5pm
1 July to 31 August

Banbridge Leisure Centre
Cascades Leisure Complex, Portadown
Craigavon Leisure Centre
Orchard Leisure Centre, Armagh
Waves Leisure Complex, Lurgan

Children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult.
*Subject to normal opening times. Terms and conditions apply.

Big boost for built heritage



In January this year, Armagh got a welcome boost in the form of a major injection of funding (£1.98m) for restoring and enhancing the city's built heritage.

This exciting five-year project will result in the repair and reuse of up to 30 buildings within the city's conservation area, bring 3,000m² of historic floor space back into sustainable use, create five new businesses and 20 jobs as well as secure four existing businesses and ten jobs.

This heritage-led approach to regeneration enables communities to celebrate the unique character

of their towns and cities, restore their historic streetscapes and attract more shoppers, businesses and jobs to their areas.

This project will play an important role in regenerating Armagh's commercial core, restoring its economic heart and opening up opportunities for both local people and visitors to enjoy the city's unique heritage.

This funding has been provided by the Heritage Lottery Fund through its Townscape Heritage programme.



Pavement permits

Café culture is set to blossom in the borough when new legislation - Licensing of Pavement Cafés Act (NI) - comes into effect on 1 October 2016.

Café, restaurant and pub owners may apply to us for permission to place temporary tables and chairs on the pavement outside their premises.

We will help proprietors wishing to obtain a licence make sure their pavement cafés are well designed and managed.

We'll check that pavement cafés do not cause an obstruction to

pedestrians, do not compromise safety standards and do not detract from the surrounding environment.

The provision of pavement cafés in the borough will make a positive contribution to the street scene, support the growth of food businesses, offer new dining experiences for customers and create a more vibrant evening economy.

i Contact your local Environmental Health office for further details.



Update on car parks

On 1 April 2015 we took control of 51 off-street car parks across the borough - the largest transfer of car parks to any of the new councils.

In total, we are responsible for 18 paying car parks (2,004 spaces) and 33 free car parks (1,874 spaces).

We are carrying out a study into the different needs and usage patterns of car parks before making any decisions about how we manage these in the long term.

Meanwhile, traffic attendants employed by Transport NI will continue to operate in our paying and free car parks to ensure that motorists comply with rules such as parking within bays and respecting the use of disabled bays.

If you wish to challenge a parking ticket (Penalty Charge Notice), you should write to the Parking Enforcement Processing Unit, P.O. Box 134, Coleraine BT52 9AF.

We offer a reduced parking charge - £1 for 5 hours - in many of our car parks. So don't forget to save on parking when you shop in the borough!

Top tips for summer safety

Summer is a great time to get outdoors and enjoy the activities and hobbies that you miss during the winter months. But beware the hazards that could hamper your holidays and leave you feeling under the weather!

BBQs

- Never use flammable liquids such as petrol and paraffin to start your barbecue.
- Always place your barbecue on a firm, level base sheltered from gusts of wind.
- Don't use a barbecue in a confined space such as a garage or tent due to risks from carbon monoxide.
- Keep children well away from the barbecue once it is lit and in use.
- Never wear loose clothing while tending to a barbecue.
- Never leave a lit barbecue unattended even for a short period of time.
- Allow embers to cool completely before pouring water over them.



Garden

- Keep all garden tools in good repair with regular servicing and tidy away after use.
- Use protective clothing such as goggles and gloves when gardening.
- Keep paths, patios and steps clear of objects to prevent trips and falls.
- Never leave children unsupervised around water. Securely fence off ponds and other water features to reduce the risk of drowning.
- Tip the water out of paddling pools after use and turn them upside down.
- Keep all chemicals in their original containers and out of reach of children.
- Never allow more than one person to use a trampoline at the same time.



Sun

- Use a sunscreen (at least SPF15 and 4 stars) generously and reapply regularly.
- Stay in the shade and limit your sun exposure between midday and 4pm.
- Sun rays are harmful - cover up, wear a hat and sunglasses with full UV protection.
- Drink plenty of water and stay hydrated - essential to all ages.
- Use a fake tan as a safer alternative to sun bathing or sunbeds.
- Don't leave your dog in the car in hot weather as they can overheat within minutes.



Food

- Wash your hands thoroughly before touching food.
- Keep food out of the fridge for the shortest time possible.
- Keep raw and cooked foods separated at all times and use different utensils for both.
- Make sure that frozen food is properly thawed before you cook it.
- Cook poultry and meats thoroughly until they are piping hot in the centre.
- Keep serving bowls covered to protect them from dust, insects and pets.





Day at the museum

Next time you plan a trip to Armagh make sure you put the County Museum on your list of places to visit and check out the assortment of enticing exhibitions and fascinating artefacts on display.

Situated on Armagh's beautiful Georgian tree-lined Mall, the building first opened in 1937 as Ireland's first County Museum and now attracts over 10,000 visitors each year.

The museum's beautiful façade welcomes you into an abundant and diverse historical legacy of prehistoric artefacts, natural history, household items from a bygone age, transport memorabilia as well as housing a colourful collection of Victorian costumes and uniforms.

There are changing exhibitions throughout the year (see page 26) as well as permanent displays. The museum also boasts a great

art collection including works by A.E. Russell, J.B. Vallely and John Luke. View the stunning selection of jewellery, costume accessories and pottery on display.



The Ulster History Circle granted Armagh City its first blue plaque in 2015 to honour Thomas George Farquhar (TGF) Paterson, the museum's first full-time curator.

Children can pick up the 'Kids Trail' and set off on an adventure searching for artefacts whilst learning fun facts at the same time. For the student and researcher, the museum's reference library is a rich resource of books, maps and photographs.

So why not take a step back in time and experience the historical treasures of this famous city and county throughout the centuries.

The museum is open Monday to Friday 10am to 5pm and Saturday 10am to 5pm (closed 1pm to 2pm). Admission is free.

i Call 3752 3070 for more information or visit armaghcountymuseum.co.uk



Supporting our seniors

Loneliness affects many older people living in the borough and this can be detrimental to their physical health and emotional well-being.

To help address this, we've teamed up with the Southern Health and Social Care Trust to promote more opportunities for increased social interaction between older people living in Craigavon, Dromore and Keady as part of the Good Neighbourhoods for Ageing Well initiative.

A local action plan, supporting an array of projects, was developed in consultation with older people's groups based within these targeted areas. Through funding provided by the Public Health Agency, we've enabled hundreds of older people to establish a new network of friends and lead a fuller, more enjoyable life.

Projects supported to date include a Christmas lunch hosted by the Lord Mayor; a weekly luncheon club offering activities such as singing and dancing; a health and well-being fair; dementia awareness training to local businesses to help them become more age-friendly; and operating a shuttle bus service for hospital appointments or the weekly grocery trip.

In addition, we launched two new initiatives in the Craigavon area in January to extend the reach of our work and help make the borough more age-friendly. The Older People's Ambassador initiative invites volunteers to set up stands at events and provide signposting information to services for older people within the community. Make a Pledge of Kindness encourages everyone to do something positive, no matter how small, for an older person.

i For further information, call 3831 2419.



Save for a warm winter



Just because it's summer doesn't mean you can't save for a warm winter by buying our Keep Cosy oil stamps priced at £5 each.

Available to residents in the wider Armagh and Banbridge areas, our Keep Cosy scheme can help you save for home heating oil by spreading the cost of your fuel.

And we're keen that our older residents, who often struggle to heat their homes during winter, avail of this scheme. Joining is easy. Simply pick up a savings card in a shop participating in the scheme and start collecting stamps.

Full or part completed savings cards can be used to pay for your oil. When you're ready to order oil, contact your preferred participating oil supplier whose details can be found on the savings card and let them know the amount of oil you require and the value of stamps you've saved.

This scheme has been a big success to date, helping residents save over £170,000 worth of oil stamps.

DisabledGo

If you have a disability, it's helpful to know if a venue you plan to visit can meet your access requirements.

With that in mind, we are extending our support for the DisabledGo scheme so that people with disabilities can go online and get an accurate appraisal about the accessibility of a wide range of venues throughout the borough.

These include council buildings, leisure centres, shops, hotels, restaurants, community centres, places of worship and much more. Some 500 venues across Armagh have already been assessed and the findings published online at disabledgo.com.

Over the coming months, venues in other parts of the borough will also be assessed and information on their accessibility uploaded as it becomes available. Although designed for disabled people, this online resource may also be useful for older people and parents with young children.

i To search for accessible venues in your area, go to disabledgo.com



Families are 'digging' the new interactive archaeology play experience at Navan Centre & Fort



Navan Centre & Fort
81 Killylea Road, Armagh BT60 4LD
t: +44 (0)28 3752 9644 or w: www.navan.com
Open Monday to Sunday 10am to 6.30pm

To avail of this offer, present this voucher when you visit Navan Centre & Fort, Emain Macha, one of Ireland's most important archaeological sites.

[Not valid for event or with other discounts]

ARMAGH DISTRICT ELECTORAL AREA

Blackwatertown, Cathedral, Demesne, Keady, Navan, The Mall



Mealla Campbell
SDLP
07729 220 040



Freda Donnelly
DUP
07760 175 412



Garath Keating
SF
07809 288 049



Darren McNally
SF
07851 630 292



Sam Nicholson
UUP
07713 074 776



Thomas O'Hanlon
SDLP
07743 930 427

Alderman

Lord Mayor

BANBRIDGE DISTRICT ELECTORAL AREA

Banbridge East, Banbridge North, Banbridge South, Banbridge West, Gilford, Loughbrickland, Rathfriland



Glenn Barr
UUP
07713 391 927



Ian Burns
UUP
07733 303 712



Brendan Curran
SF
028 3834 9675



Seamus Doyle
SDLP
07889 501 121



Paul Greenfield
DUP
07841 595 633



Elizabeth Ingram
UUP
07712 881 290



Junior McCrum
DUP
028 4066 2426

Alderman

Deputy Lord Mayor

Alderman

Alderman

CRAIGAVON DISTRICT ELECTORAL AREA

Bleary, Brownlow, Craigavon Centre, Derrytrasna, Kernan



Fergal Lennon
SF
028 3834 9675



Declan McAlinden
SDLP
07760 231 410



Robert Smith
DUP
07714 278 030



Margaret Tinsley
DUP
07990 501 568



Kenneth Twyble
UUP
028 3833 2913

Alderman

Alderman

CUSHER DISTRICT ELECTORAL AREA

Hamiltonsbawn, Markethill, Richhill, Seagahan, Tandragee



Paul Berry
IND
07889 731 911



Sharon Haughey
SDLP
07980 213 712



Gordon Kennedy
UUP
07833 527 821



Jim Speers
UUP
07713 062 239



Gareth Wilson
UUP
07788 156 519

Alderman

Alderman

LAGAN RIVER DISTRICT ELECTORAL AREA

Donaghcloney, Dromore, Gransha, Quilly, Waringstown



Mark Baxter
DUP
07833 196 996



Carol Black
UUP
07919 493 883



Hazel Gamble
DUP
07979 158 731



Paul Rankin
DUP
028 9269 8866



Marc Woods
UUP
07815 122 694

Alderman

LURGAN DISTRICT ELECTORAL AREA

Aghagallon, Knocknashane, Lough Road, Magheralin, Mourneview, Parklake, Shankill



Maire Cairns
SF
028 3834 9675



Keith Haughian
SF
028 3834 9675



Liam Mackle
SF
028 3834 9675



Colin McCusker
UUP
07740 123 898



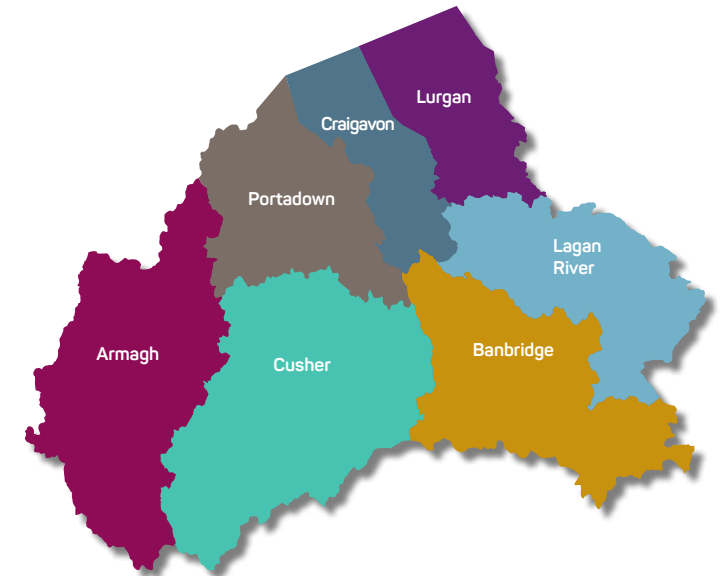
Terence McWilliams
DUP
07973 889 983



Philip Moutray
DUP
07512 727 701



Joe Nelson
SDLP
07768 302 110



PORTADOWN DISTRICT ELECTORAL AREA

Ballybay, Corcrain, Killycomain, Loughgall, Mahon, The Birches



Jonathan Buckley
DUP
07724 034 836



Darryn Causby
DUP
07850 592 494



Julie Flaherty
UUP
07710 562 611



Arnold Hatch
UUP
07711 713 737



David Jones
UKIP
07751 149 737

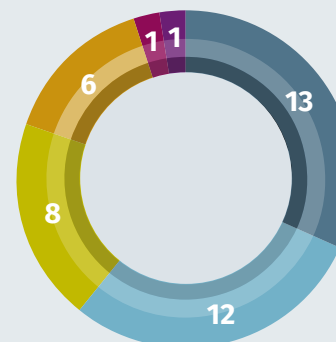


Gemma McKenna
SF
07708 568 094

Alderman

WHO'S IN POWER?

Number of seats by political party



- Democratic Unionist Party
- Ulster Unionist Party
- Sinn Féin
- Social Democratic and Labour Party
- United Kingdom Independence Party
- Independent

These 41 councillors are responsible for shaping local services and making important decisions that make a real difference to you and your community. They should be your first point of contact if you want to comment on a service or see some action on an issue that affects you.

YOUR GUIDE TO WHAT'S ON IN THE BOROUGH

JULY



Stars and Stripes: Independence Day Extravaganza

2 July, 12pm-5pm
People's Park, Portadown
Have a yankee doodle dandy day at this American-themed family event.
☎ 3831 2597
🌐 portadownpeoplespark.co.uk

Lurgan Park Rally

2 July, 10am-4pm
Lurgan Park
Get into gear for this major action-packed family event.
☎ 9084 4111
🌐 lurganparkrally.com

Battle of the Boyne Re-enactment

13 July, 11am-4pm
Scarva Demesne
The sham fight is a major event in the cultural and tourism calendar.
☎ 4062 0232

82nd Down The Line Home International Tournament & British Open Championships

15-16 July, 9am-5pm
Corbet, Banbridge
Experience the excitement of world-class standard, clay pigeon shooting.
☎ 07710 100021 🌐 ucpsa.com

Love Parks Week - Park Explorers

18-22 July, 10am-1pm
People's Park, Portadown
Celebrate everything your park has to offer during Love Parks Week!
☎ 3831 2597
🌐 portadownpeoplespark.co.uk



John Hewitt International Summer School

25-30 July, Various times
The Market Place Theatre & Arts Centre, Armagh
A five-day festival featuring readings, talks, discussions and debates.
☎ 3752 1821
🌐 marketplacearmagh.com



Sherlock Holmes Outdoor Theatre

28 July, 7.30pm-10pm
Solitude Park, Banbridge
Enjoy an unforgettable evening of mystery and suspense.
☎ 4066 0605
🌐 armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk

AUGUST

National Play Day

3 August, 12pm-4pm
People's Park, Portadown
Celebrate play day with a fiesta of fun family activities.
☎ 3831 2597
🌐 portadownpeoplespark.co.uk

Wickerman Celebration

6 August, 6pm-10pm
Navan Centre & Fort, Armagh
See the spectacular burning of a 40-foot Wickerman.
☎ 3752 9644 🌐 navan.com



7 Hills Blues Fest

11-14 August, Various times
Armagh City Centre
Enjoy an amazing line-up of world-class blues musical entertainment and fun family events.
☎ 3752 1800 🌐 armagh.co.uk

Charles Wood Festival of Music and Summer School

21-28 August, Various times
Armagh Cathedrals and The Market Place Theatre & Arts Centre, Armagh
Young singers can improve their musical abilities while enjoying a rich cultural experience.
☎ 3752 1800
🌐 charleswoodsummerschool.org

Music in the Park

26 August, 7.30pm-9.30pm
Solitude Park, Banbridge
An evening of popular musical entertainment for all the family.
☎ 4066 0605
🌐 armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk



Bird Fair

27 August, 10am-4pm
Tannaghmore Gardens & Animal Farm, Lurgan
Birds, sheep dog displays, archery, climbing wall, blacksmithing and arts and crafts.
☎ 3834 3244

SEPTEMBER



Culture Night

16 September, 6pm-10.30pm
Armagh City Centre and wider area
Theatre, drama, dance, visual arts, talks and tours, exhibitions, music, workshops, storytelling, folk displays and crafts.
☎ 3752 1821
🌐 marketplacearmagh.com

Outdoor Cinema

16 September, 8pm-10pm
Solitude Park, Banbridge
Enjoy a family blockbuster on the big screen in Banbridge.
☎ 4066 0605
🌐 armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk



Country Comes to Town

17 September, 10am-4pm
Portadown Town Centre
Embrace rural life with animals, tractors, vintage vehicles, music, stalls and lots more.
☎ 07927 963 092

OCTOBER



Armagh 10 Mile Road Race and 4 Mile Fun Challenge

9 October 2016, 12pm-3pm
Navan Centre & Fort, Armagh
Armagh's annual road race is a popular sporting event.
☎ 3752 9636 🌐 navan.com

Autumn Arts Craft Fair

22 October, 10.30am-4.30pm
Solitude Park, Banbridge
The annual craft fair will showcase the best in local and national crafts and food.
☎ 4066 0605
🌐 armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk

Spooktacular

25 October, 5.30pm-9.30pm
People's Park, Portadown
A monster evening of fun with creepy characters, music, face painting, balloon modelling and much more.
☎ 3831 2597
🌐 portadownpeoplespark.co.uk



Richhill Apple Harvest Fayre

29 October, 9am-6pm
Richhill, Armagh
An authentic celebration of Armagh's distinctive food and drink particularly the Bramley apple.
☎ 3752 1800
🌐 armagh.co.uk

Armagh Food and Cider Festival

5-9 October, Various times
Armagh City Centre
Celebrate a tasty feast of Armagh cuisine with the best of local cider.
☎ 3752 1800 🌐 armagh.co.uk

Finding Nemo Outdoor Cinema

7 October, 7pm-9pm
Solitude Park, Banbridge
Join Nemo, Dory, Marlin and all their fishy friends for some underwater family film fun.
☎ 4066 0605
🌐 armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk



Halloween Family Fun

26 October, 12pm-4pm
Armagh County Museum
Young children can discover the myths surrounding Halloween and enjoy crafts, trails and competitions.
☎ 3752 3070 🌐 armagh.co.uk

OCTOBER



Halloween Fireworks Extravaganza

27 October, 5pm-9pm
Rushmere/Craigavon Lakes

Enjoy the Halloween activities in Rushmere Shopping Centre followed by a spectacular fireworks display at Craigavon Lakes.

☎ 3834 2669

Halloween Outdoor Cinema

28 October, 6pm-8pm
People's Park, Portadown

Head to the park this Halloween to enjoy a frightfully good family flick.

☎ 3831 2597
🌐 portadownpeoplespark.co.uk

Halloween at Navan

28-31 October, Various times
Navan Centre & Fort, Armagh

Spooky activities to suit all ages and bravery levels. Book online.

☎ 3752 9644 🌐 navan.com

NOVEMBER

William Kennedy Piping Festival

17-20 November, Various times
Armagh City Centre

Presentations of piping traditions, concerts, sessions, workshops, lectures and family events.

☎ 3752 1800
🌐 armaghpipers.com

Pre-Georgian Day Banquet

25 November, 7pm-11.30pm
The Palace, Armagh

Join us for a Georgian banquet experience featuring local food and drink.

☎ 3752 1800 🌐 armagh.co.uk



Georgian Day

26 November, 10am-9pm
Armagh City Centre

Experience Armagh as it is transformed back to its unique Georgian roots.

☎ 3752 1800 🌐 armagh.co.uk

EXHIBITIONS

F.E. McWilliam Gallery & Studio, Banbridge



David Crone, Ash

David Crone Retrospective

10 June - 28 August 2016

Major retrospective of works by the influential Belfast-born painter.

Susan MacWilliam:
Modern Experiments

10 September - 19 November 2016

Exhibition by Belfast artist exploring themes of reality and illusion.

Monday to Saturday 10am to 5pm
and Sundays 1pm to 5pm

☎ 4062 3322 🌐 femcwilliam.com

Armagh County Museum

Armagh Art Club Summer Exhibition

25 June - 2 September 2016

View and buy paintings from the county and further afield.

Cabinet of Curiosities

11 July - 22 October 2016

View the more unusual items found in the museum including hundreds of items amassed during the 1800s.

FREE ADMISSION TO ALL EXHIBITIONS

The Market Place Theatre & Arts Centre, Armagh New summer season brochure is now available

Find out what's on in June, July and August and beyond at the award-winning theatre and arts centre. Summer highlights include The Abbey Theatre's 'Observe The Sons Of Ulster' on 23 July, The John Hewitt International Summer School from 25 to 30 July, Family Super Saturdays on 30 July and 27 August and the blockbuster summer musical 'Annie' from 16 to 20 August.

☎ 3752 1821
🌐 marketplacearmagh.com



Mad or Bad?

23 September - 11 February 2017

Explores mental health, crime and gender in Ireland during the last half of the nineteenth century.

Monday to Friday 10am to 5pm
and Saturday 10am to 5pm
(closed 1pm to 2pm)

☎ 3752 3070
🌐 armaghcountymuseum.co.uk

Millennium Court Arts Centre, Portadown

Annual Photography and Imaging Exhibition

3 June - 23 July 2016

Works by students studying at Southern Regional College's Lurgan Campus.

Portadown Visual Art Society's
Annual Summer Exhibition

3 June - 23 July 2016

Highlights the talents of local artists using a variety of media and subject matter.

Once Removed

6 August - 6 September 2016

New oil paintings by award-winning Banbridge-born artist, Ian Cumberland.

Another Day in Futile Battle Against the Second Law

30 September - 23 November 2016

Sculpture, film and installation by artist Aisling O'Beirn with a lecture by Professor Mark Bailey.

Monday to Saturday 10am to 5pm

☎ 3839 4415
🌐 millenniumcourt.org

DIRECTORY OF COUNCIL FACILITIES



Central telephone number

0300 0300 900

Main council offices

Armagh The Palace Demesne, Armagh BT60 4EL 3752 9600
Banbridge Civic Building, Downshire Road, Banbridge BT32 3JY 4066 0600
Craigavon Craigavon Civic & Conference Centre, Lakeview Road Craigavon BT64 1AL 3831 2400

Arts and cultural facilities

Armagh County Museum 3752 3070
Armagh Visitor Information Centre 3752 1800
Banbridge Visitor Information Centre 4062 0232
Brontë Interpretive Centre, Rathfriland 4062 3322
F.E. McWilliam Gallery & Studio, Banbridge 4062 3322
Millennium Court Arts Centre, Portadown 3839 4415
Navan Centre & Fort, Armagh 3752 9644
Scarva Visitor Centre 3883 2163
The Market Place Theatre & Arts Centre, Armagh 3752 1820
Tommy Makem Arts & Community Centre, Keady 3752 1810

Leisure and recreation centres

Ardmore Recreation Centre 3751 8384
Banbridge Leisure Centre 4062 8800
Cascades Leisure Complex, Portadown 3833 2802
Cathedral Road Recreation Centre, Armagh 3751 8338
Craigavon Golf Ski Centre 3832 6606
Craigavon Leisure Centre 3834 1333
Craigavon Watersports Centre 3834 2669
Dromore Community Centre 9269 9070
Gifford Community Centre 3883 1708
Keady Recreation Centre 3753 8388
Kinnego Bushcraft Centre, Craigavon 3834 2040
Kinnego Marina, Craigavon 3832 7573
Lough Neagh Discovery Centre, Craigavon 3832 2205
Loughgall Country Park 3889 2900
Lurgan Park 3832 3795
Orchard Leisure Centre, Armagh 3751 5920
Oxford Island National Nature Reserve, Craigavon 3832 2205
People's Park, Portadown 3831 2597
Rathfriland Community Centre 4063 8188
Richhill Recreation Centre 3887 0718
Tandragee Recreation Centre 3884 1110
Tannaghmore Gardens & Animal Farm 3834 3244
Waves Leisure Complex, Lurgan 3832 2906

Recycling centres

Banbridge Community Recycling Centre 4066 0604
Dromore Community Recycling Centre 4066 0604
Fairgreen Recycling Centre, Portadown 3835 0629
Keady Recycling Centre 3753 9131
Markethill Recycling Centre 3755 2762
New Line Recycling Centre, Lurgan 3834 5249
Rathfriland Community Recycling Centre 4066 0604
Restore, Banbridge 4066 0656
Station Road Recycling Centre, Armagh 3751 0245
Tandragee Recycling Centre 3884 9932

Town halls

Banbridge Old Town Hall 4062 0232
Dromore Town Hall 9269 9070
Lurgan Town Hall 3832 2422
Portadown Town Hall 3833 5264

- A** Animal Welfare
Arts & Culture
- B** Bin Collections
Birth Registration
Building Control
Bulky Waste
- C** Car Parks (Off-street)
Cemeteries
Civil Partnerships
Community Development
Community Planning
Community Services
Consumer Safety
Countryside Access
- D** Dangerous Structures
Death Registration
Dog Warden Service
- E** Economic Development
Environmental Health
Environmental Services
Events
- F** Fly Tipping
Food Safety
- G** Genealogy
Good Relations
Graffiti Removal
Grounds Maintenance
- H** Health & Recreation
Home Safety
- L** Licensing
- M** Museums
- N** Noise Control
- P** Parks
Planning Service
Policing & Community Safety
Partnership
Pollution Control
Postal Numbering
Public Health & Housing
Public Toilets
- R** Recycling
Refuse Collection
Regeneration
- S** Sports Development
Street Cleaning
Street Naming
- T** Tobacco Control
Tourism
Town Centres
- W** Waste Management
Weddings
Workplace Health & Safety

✉ info@armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk 🌐 armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk

FUN FOR THE YOUNG

School is out. The sun is out. So make sure your little ones get out and enjoy the sizzling spoilt for choice, mega mix of fun-filled activities that we're offering children of all ages and interests across the borough throughout **July and August**.

Craigavon Watersports Centre and Craigavon Golf Ski Centre

Activity Days

Archery / banana boating
canoeing / climbing / team games
Aged 10 to 16 / £25 per child
Tuesday 9.30am to 4pm

Archery / climbing / snow skiing
snow tubing / team games / tri-golf
Aged 7 to 12 / £25 per child
Thursday 9.30am to 4pm

Multi-Activity Weeks

Archery / banana boating / canoeing
climbing / snow skiing / snow tubing
team games / water skiing
Aged 10 to 14 / £90 per child
Monday to Friday 9.30am to 4pm

Junior Ski Camp

Learn ski techniques / fun on the piste
Aged 8 to 15 / £120 per child
Monday 15 to Friday 19 August 9.30am to 4pm

Junior Golf (summer membership)

9-hole par 3 course / pitch and putt
Under 16s / £35 per child
Monday to Friday 8.30am to 4pm

Leisure centres,
community centres,
public parks and
sports grounds

American football	Hurling
Arts and crafts	Judo
Badminton	Multisports
Bowls	Netball
Camogie	Rowing
Climbing	Soccer
Cricket	Summer schemes
Dance	Swimming
Day trips	Tennis
Family fun days	Trampoline
Gaelic football	Volleyball
Gymnastics	Watersports

...and much more!

For more thrills and adventure, visit...

Lough Neagh Discovery Centre

Wildlife photography, exhibition,
teddy trails and archaeology.

Kinnego Marina

Come on board the Master McGra and
enjoy a thrilling 30-minute boat trip.

Kinnego Bushcraft Centre

Enjoy your very own Bear Grylls experience
and discover everything the wilderness has to offer.



For our full programme
of activities, visit:
craigavonactivity.org

Advance booking is required
for most activities.

Contact the relevant facility
for further details on dates,
times, availability and costs.