



Community Planning Partnership Community & Economy Recovery



Impact of covid-19 on the borough

- These slides are a summary of the information that has been accessed as of 7th July.
- More statistics will regularly be released and we can request service statistics and other research and engagement feedback from partners in the coming weeks. This is a work in progress.

Impact of covid-19 on the borough

1. Negative impacts

- the virus; reduced access to services; domestic abuse; food insecurity; economic impact; impact on places & future population health impact.

2. Issues amplified by covid-19

- poverty; health inequalities; mental health; social isolation & loneliness; domestic abuse & global decline in town centre retail.

3. Positive impacts

- increase in physical activity and time spent outdoors; improvements in air quality; drop in recorded crime; community spirit & recognition of volunteers; innovation & opportunities for recovery.

4. Community planning partnership surveys

- response; impact on partner organisations; actions required; strengths & assets; challenges & opportunities.

1. Negative impacts

The virus

- covid-19 infection rates
- covid-19 hospital admissions
- covid-19 deaths and mortality rates

Reduced access to services

- reduced access to health and social services
- reduced access to education and childcare

Domestic abuse

- increase in domestic abuse calls to police

Food insecurity

Economic impact

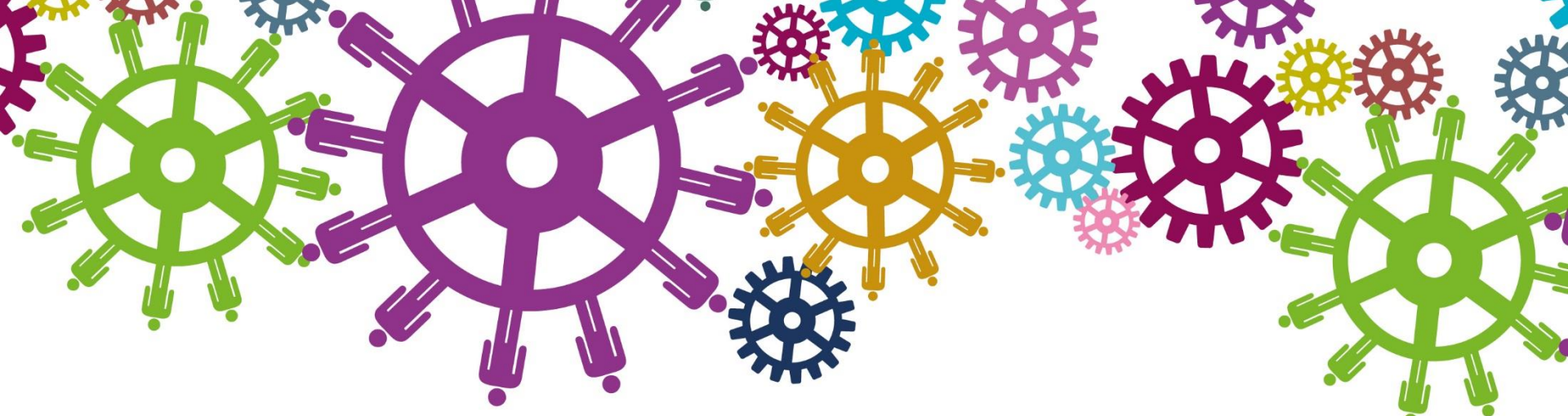
- impact on businesses
- increase in unemployment & loss of income

Impact on places

- closure of social, cultural, commercial and sporting physical spaces

Population impact

- mental health
- other population health impacts



1. Negative impact of Covid-19 The virus

Covid-19 infection rates (ABC)

ABC council area (to 7th July)

- 2nd highest number of positive cases
- 3rd highest rate per 100,000 population and above NI rate

	Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	Northern Ireland
Individuals Tested	13,448	116,146
Individuals Tested Positive	744	5,761
Positive Tests per 100,000 pop.	348	306

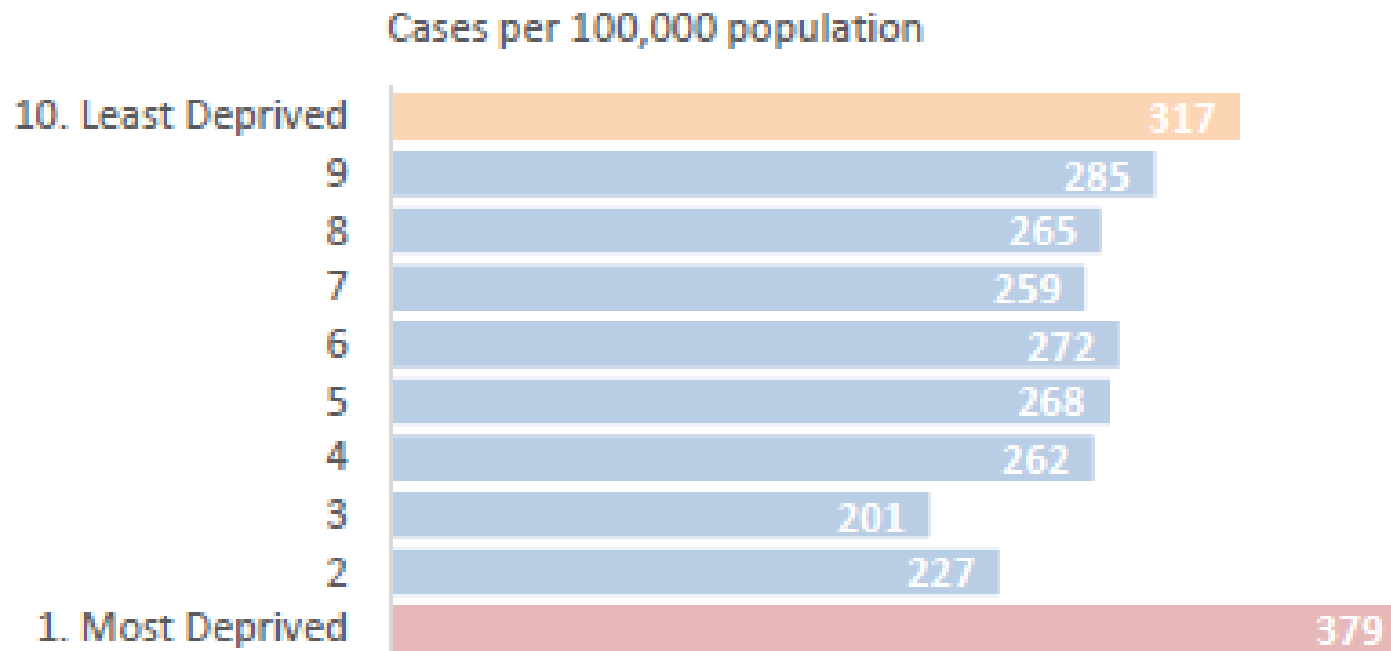
Source: [Department of Health Covid-19 Daily Dashboard](#)

Covid-19 infection rates (NI)

Groups and areas more affected by covid-19 in NI

- Deprivation

Fig 2. Standardised Infection Rate, by Deprivation Decile



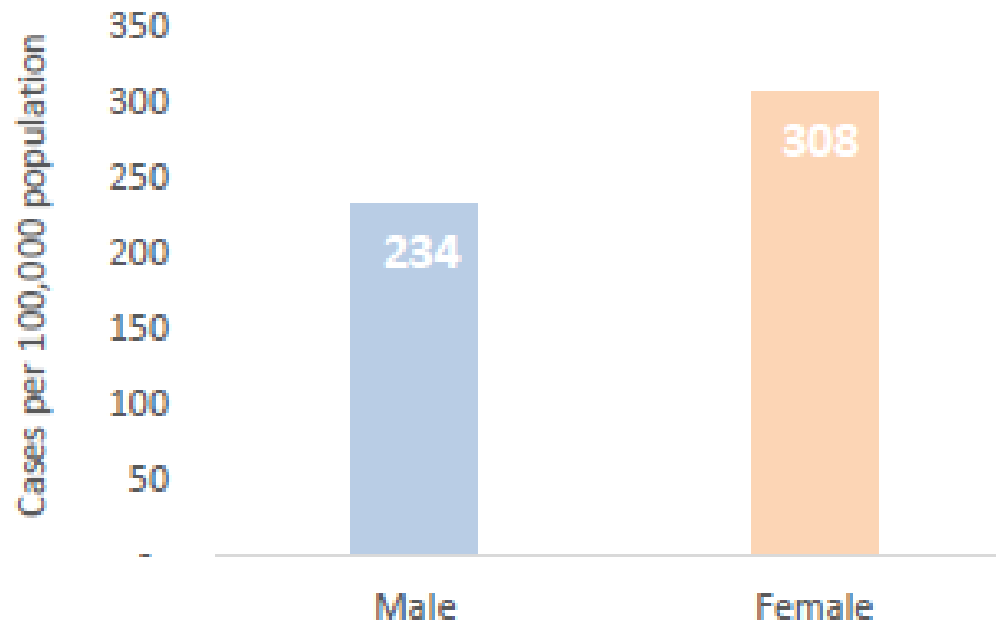
Covid-19 infection rates (NI)

Groups and areas more affected by covid-19 in NI

- **Sex**

Higher in **females** – a third higher than in males

Fig 1. Standardised Infection Rate, by Sex



Covid-19 infection rates (NI)

Groups and areas more affected by covid-19 in NI

- **Age**
Highest in **over 65s in deprived areas**

Fig 4. Standardised Infection Rate (Aged 65 and under), by Deprivation Decile

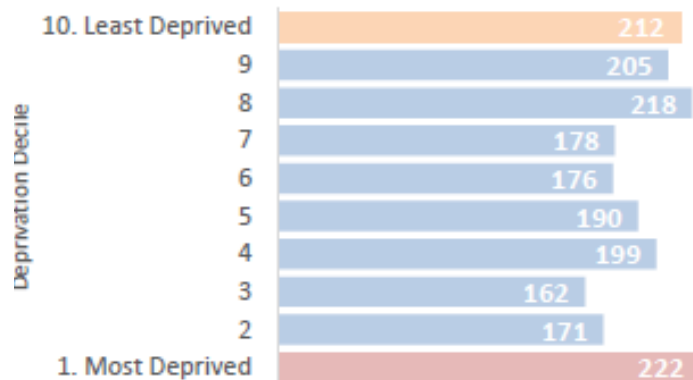
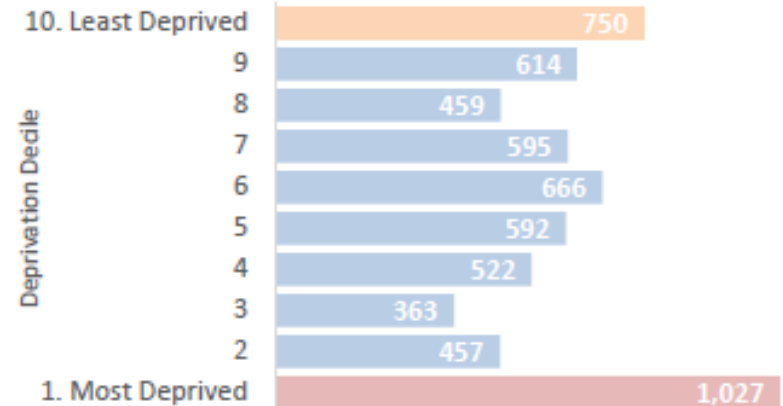


Fig 3. Standardised Infection Rate (Over 65s), by Deprivation Decile



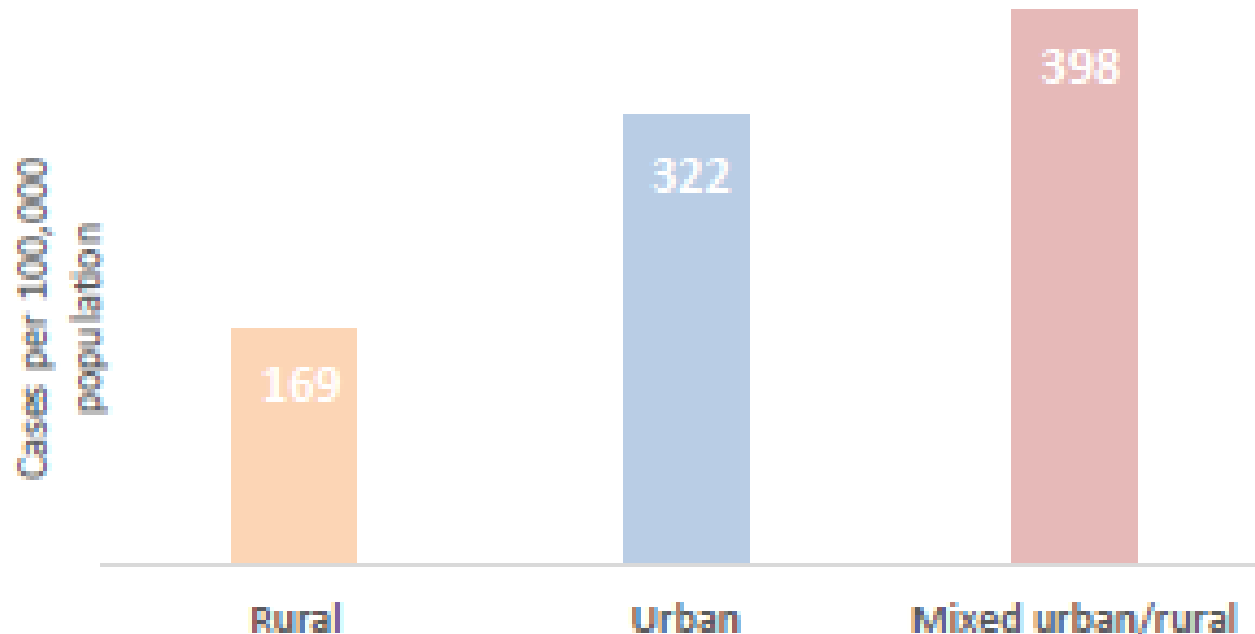
Covid-19 infection rates (NI)

Groups and areas more affected by covid-19 in NI

- **Urban/Rural**

Highest in mixed urban/rural areas

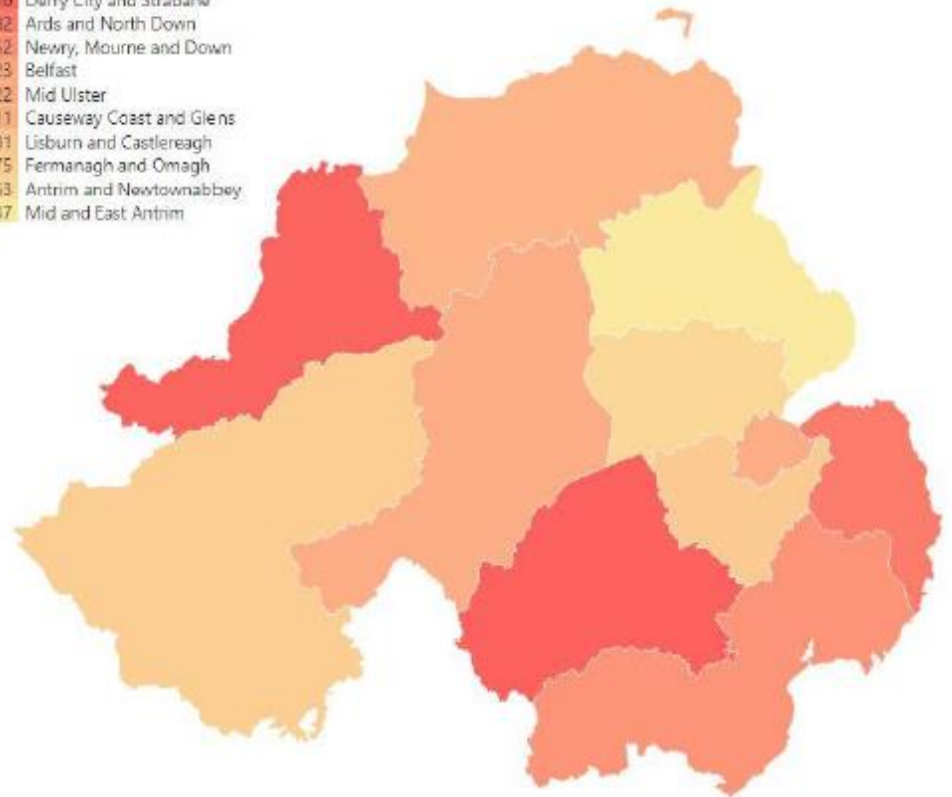
Fig 5. Standardised Infection Rate, by Urban/Rural



Covid-19 hospital admissions (ABC)

ABC had the highest rate of hospitalisation
– 515 per 100,000 population

Value	Local Government District
515	Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon
510	Derry City and Strabane
482	Ards and North Down
452	Newry, Mourne and Down
423	Belfast
422	Mid Ulster
411	Causeway Coast and Glens
381	Lisburn and Castlereagh
375	Fermanagh and Omagh
363	Antrim and Newtownabbey
337	Mid and East Antrim



Covid-19 hospital admissions (NI)

Groups and areas more affected by covid-19

Hospital Admissions

Of those testing positive, more than a quarter (27%) were admitted to hospital for treatment.

- **males** (39%) being twice as likely to be admitted as females (19%)
- those in the **10% most deprived** areas 37% more likely to be admitted than those in the 10% least deprived areas.
- **over 75s** nine times more likely to be admitted than under 75s

Covid-19 deaths

Department of Health figures to 7th July

59 deaths in ABC

554 deaths in NI

NISRA figures to 26th June

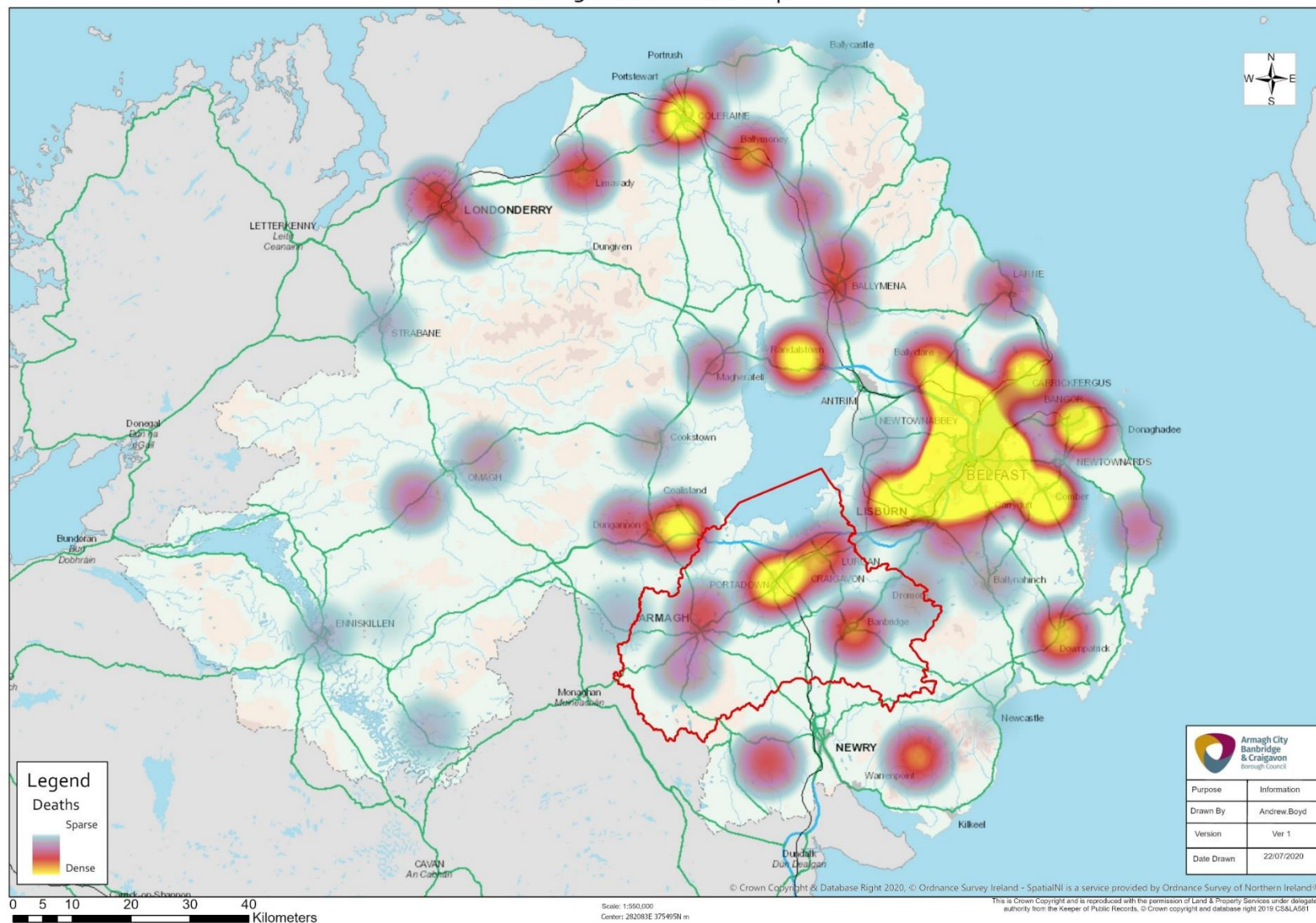
85 deaths in ABC

824 deaths registered in NI

1,001 excess deaths in NI

Covid-19 deaths NI - NISRA

Covid 19 Deaths Heat map



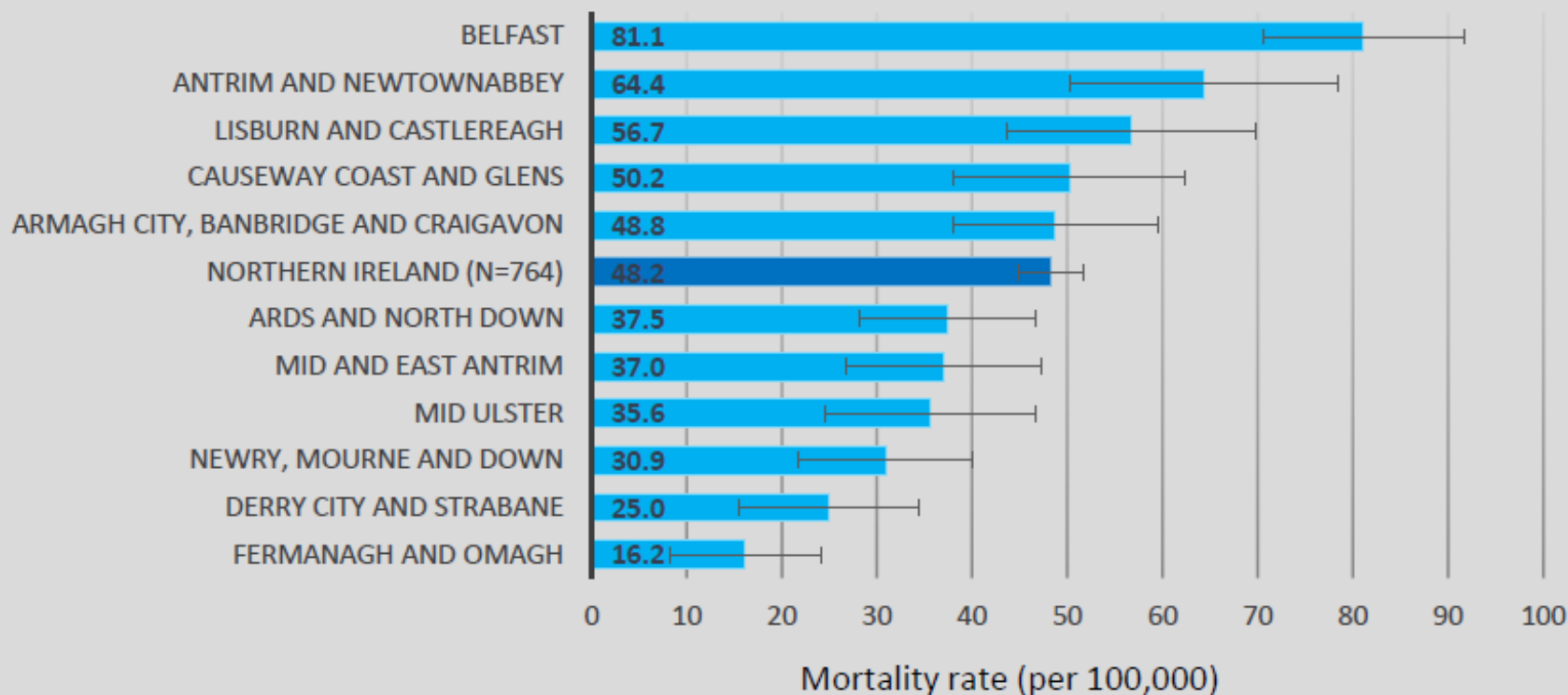
Covid-19 deaths

Covid-19 deaths 1st March to 31st May 2020, NISRA

ABC Council area fifth highest mortality rate 48.8 (per 100,000 persons)

NI mortality rate 48.2 (per 100,000 persons)

**Figure 5A: Age-standardized COVID-19 related Mortality Rates (per 100,000)
by Local Government District (LGD)**
Occurrences up to 31 May 2020



Covid-19 deaths

Covid-19 deaths 1st March to 31st May 2020, NISRA

Groups and areas more affected by covid-19 mortality rates (NI)

- Males 60.4 Females 40.4
- Urban areas 59.0 Urban/Rural 37.7 Rural 30.4
- Highest mortality rates in 20% most deprived areas 60.5

Covid-19 deaths

Covid-19 deaths 1st March to 31st May 2020, NISRA

Groups and areas more affected by covid-19 death rates (NI)

- Mortality rates increased with **age**. Notable increase in males over 80
- **Occupation** – 86 deaths in persons of working age. 35 (40.7%) were people who worked in skilled trades, process, plant & machine operatives and elementary occupations.
- **BAME** - currently no data in NI on death rates among people from BAME backgrounds.



1. Negative impact of Covid-19

Reduced access to services

Reduced access to health services (ABC)

Primary Care

- GP visits -19.4%
- Dental visits -96%
- Eye tests -72%
- Prescriptions +15.2%
- Screening - most programmes paused from 2nd week in March

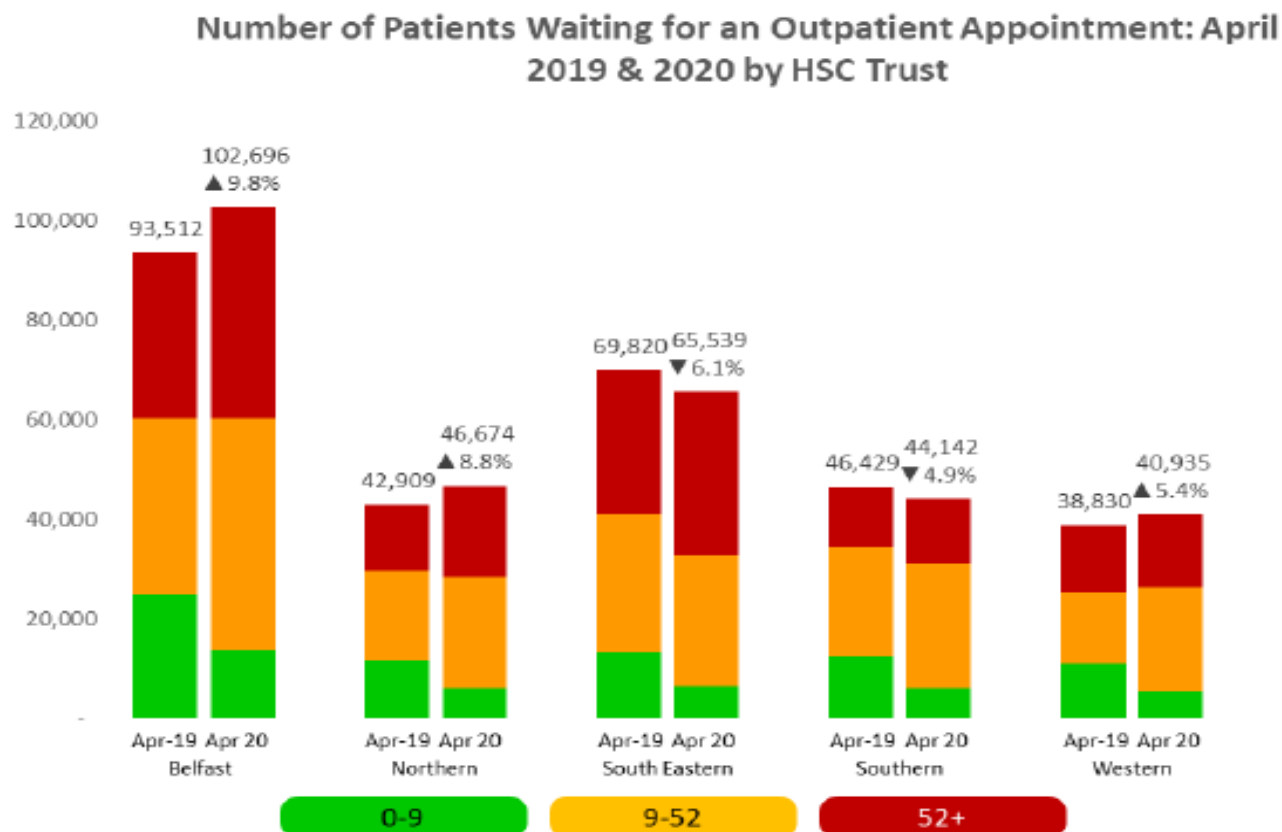
Reduced access to health services (NI)

Social Care

- Impact on care homes – covid cases among residents & staff
- Impact of closure of Trust day centres and respite services on families with children with disabilities/complex health problems/autism
- Vulnerable children more at risk in the home (online grooming & exploitation and increase in domestic abuse)
- Initial reduction in Gateway referrals, now increased and exceeding numbers last year
- BBC has reported that almost 4,000 people suspended their domiciliary care packages during pandemic and these may need to be reassessed before there are reinstated (24,000 packages NI)

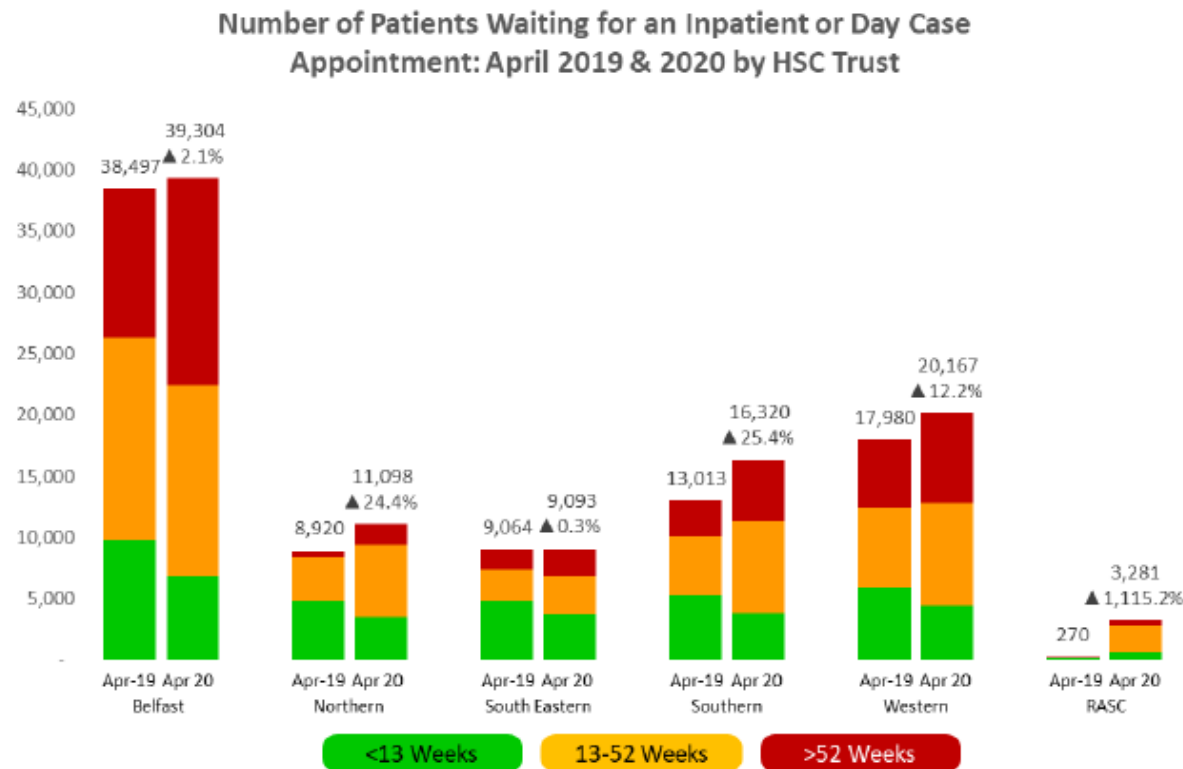
Reduced access to health services (Trusts)

Secondary Care – Outpatient Appointments



Reduced access to health services (Trusts)

Secondary Care – Inpatient Appointments





Reduced access to health services (NI)

Secondary Care

- Emergency care -47% (between 9/3 & 12/4)

Reduced access to education and childcare (NI)

- Schools closed on 23rd March
- Around 30% of schools remain open for vulnerable children and children of key workers
- From 8-12 June on average 1980 children attended school – 0.6% attendance rate (increase from around 1,500 at the start of lockdown)
- 536 vulnerable children attended
- 1580 children and key workers attended
- 19/20 - 22% of primary and 23% post-primary pupils in ABC eligible for free school meals

Reduced access to education and childcare (NI)

Home-Schooling in Northern Ireland during the COVID-19 Crisis, Stranmillis University College, May 2020

- Those with university-level education are the most likely to become directly involved in their children's home-schooling through teaching them directly (26.7%) or actively supporting their children's learning (52.6%).
- Parents/carers without a degree are more likely to report lower levels of confidence in managing home-education, and to report simply 'monitoring' their child's learning.
- Essential workers least able to devote time to home schooling.
- Broad range of experiences relating to home-schooling – from accounts of children enjoying additional family time to children who are missing their friends, struggling with schoolwork and anxious about falling behind.



Reduced access to education and childcare (NI)

- Childcare



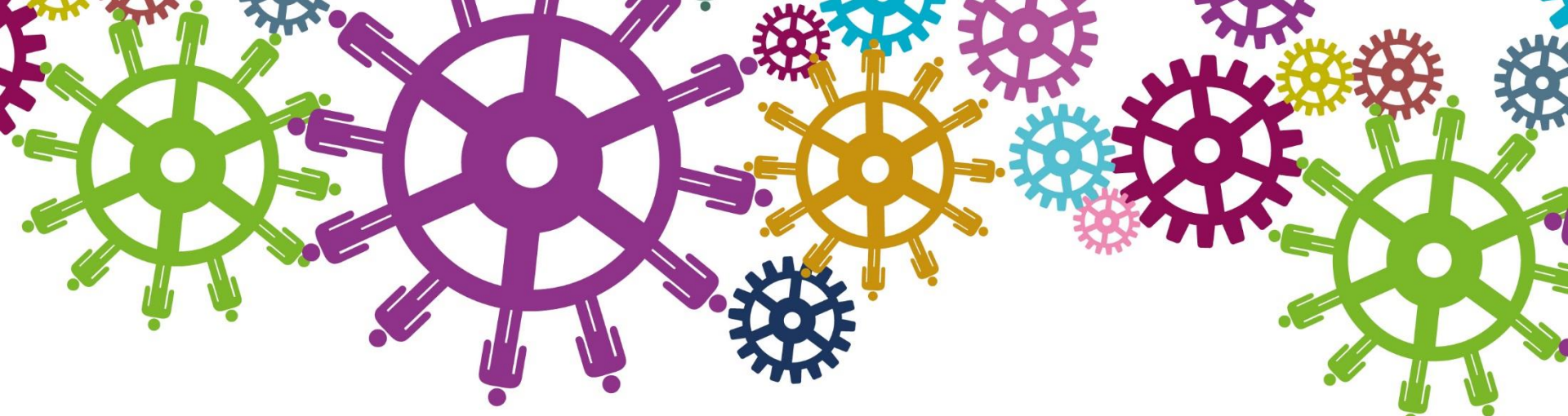
Reduced access to education and childcare (NI)

- Further Education



Reduced access to education and childcare (NI)

- Universities



1. Negative impact of Covid-19

Domestic abuse

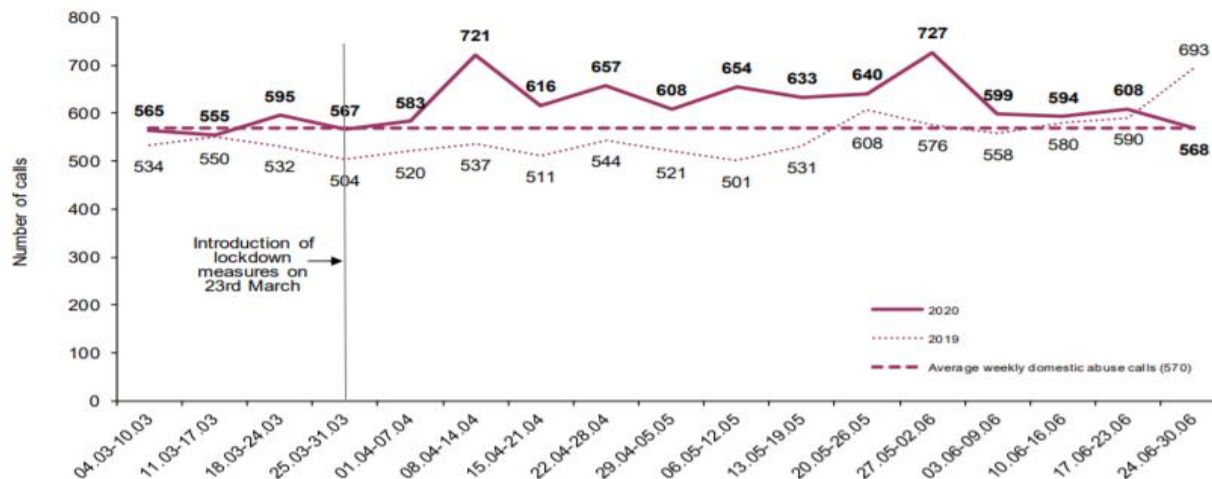
Domestic Abuse

In Northern Ireland the weekly average number of domestic abuse calls received by police is 570 (based on the 12 months March 2019 to February 2020).

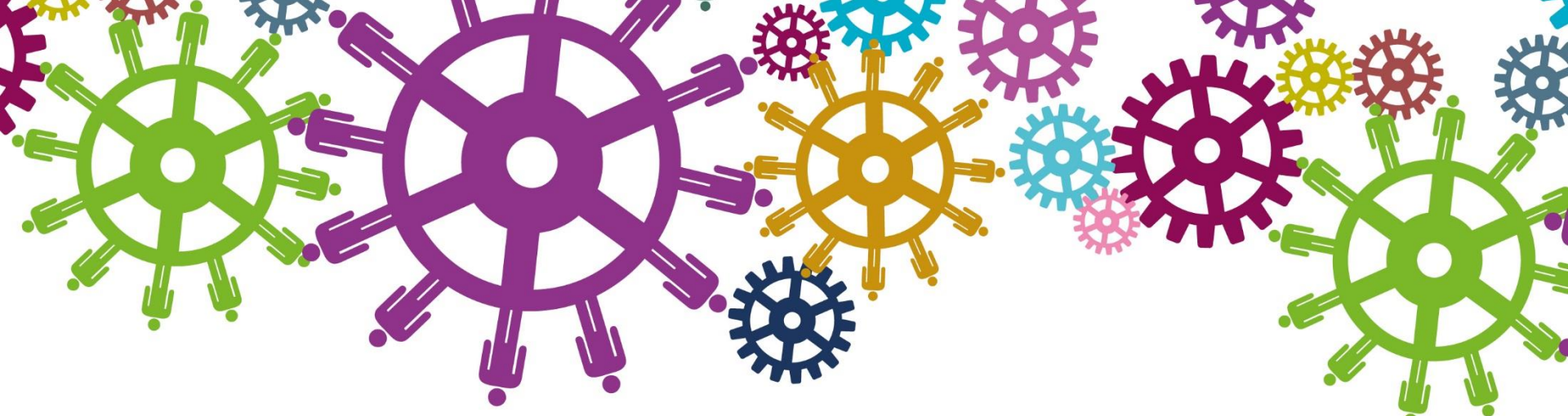
The weekly number of domestic abuse calls received has been higher than the weekly average since week beginning 1st April 2020.

The highest number of domestic abuse calls since lockdown were received between 27th May and 2nd June (727).

Domestic abuse calls received by police, weekly trends from Wednesday 4th March 2020 compared with the same time period in 2019



Source: [PSNI Domestic Abuse Statistics](#)



1. Negative impact of Covid-19

Food insecurity

Food insecurity

Food insecurity during covid-19 due to inability to source food and low/loss of income

- Shielding letters for those with certain health conditions
- Information in public domain about increased risk for over 70s and those with certain health conditions
- Unable to organise food delivery due to unavailability of supermarket deliveries, lack of internet or not having a bank card
- Reduced access to social and family support
- Impact of mental health on ability to source food
- Domestic abuse
- Five week wait for benefit payments
- Low income/sudden loss of income

Food Standards Agency COVID-19 Consumer Tracker Waves 1 and 2

- Adults aged 16 to 75 in England, Wales and Northern Ireland surveyed between 10th – 13th April and 8th – 12th May
- Concern around food affordability dropped from 28% in April to 23% in May
- Of the 23% concerned about food affordability, 44% had cut down or skipped a meal in the last month
- Food insecurity more of an issue for younger age groups, those in households with a child and those with a physical or mental health condition
- 8% of respondents in April and 7% in May used emergency food providers to access food

Food insecurity

- Council has issued **10,548** food parcels through the Department for Communities food box scheme (from 6/4 – 14/6)
- Peak of **1,363** food boxes per week
- **1,164** referrals from community support/helpline
- **£145,537** awarded to **156** community and voluntary sector organisations through the Covid-19 Community Support Grant

Food insecurity – Council food parcels

Food Parcel Deliveries



Food insecurity

Community & Voluntary Sector Panel Food Initiatives Survey June 2020

- **47 organisations** responded
- approx. 4,400 homes received food boxes per week
- over 11,500 people benefited per week (5.3% of population)
- There is some overlap in these numbers as groups worked together and so their food boxes will have been counted twice. These figures are not statistically accurate, but are provided to give an indication of the scale of food support that may have been provided over the lockdown period.
- Respondents also noted duplication in delivery of support, i.e. some households were receiving regular food boxes from more than one source.



1. Negative impact of Covid-19

Economic impact

Economic Impact

- Huge global economic shock
- OECD predict UK GDP could drop by 11.5%
- Centre for Progressive Policy (CPP) assesses ABC area as vulnerable to long-term decrease in GVA (55% of NI council areas classed as vulnerable)
- CPP believe short-term shock driven by sector concentration e.g. those that shut down and/or are hardest hit
- Longer-term vulnerability due to pre-existing underlying factors that support resilience e.g. skills, low unemployment & fast recovery from previous shocks

<https://www.progressive-policy.net/publications/back-from-the-brink>

Ulster University Economic Policy Centre NI Research

- Economic impacts will not be felt equally across NI
- It is estimated there will be a 25.9% decline in GVA in Q2 2020, the third lowest of the NI councils.
- It is estimated that in the borough GVA will decline by 10.6% in 2020, below the NI estimate of 12.7%.
- Estimates for GVA decline in 2020 are higher in all councils than the decline experienced during the 2008-09 recession

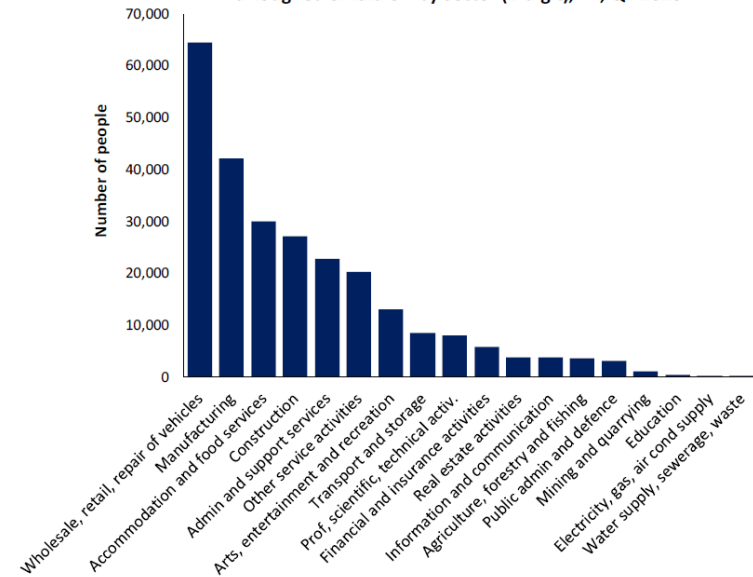


Ulster University Economic Policy Centre NI Research

- It is estimated that 32% of men have been furloughed or laid off compared to 27% of women. 70% are full time workers.
- The occupations with the highest percentages of workers furloughed or laid off are also amongst the lowest paid in the labour market.

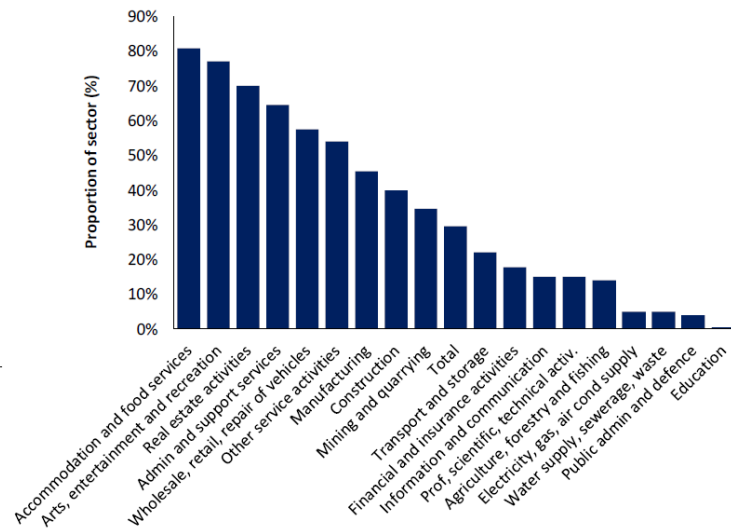
Ulster University Economic Policy Centre NI Research

Furloughed or laid off by sector (1-digit), NI, Q2 2020



Source: UUEPC, Labour Force Survey

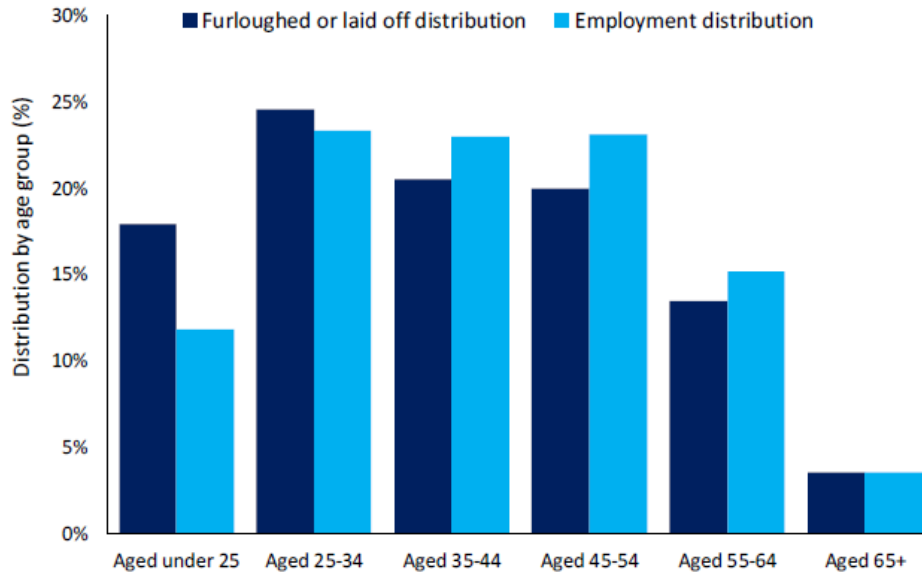
Proportion (%) of sector (1-digit) furloughed laid off, NI, Q2 2020



Source: UUEPC, Labour Force Survey

The wholesale and retail sector has had the largest number of workers impacted by the lockdown but the sector most impacted in proportionate terms is accommodation and food services with 81% unable to work.

Ulster University Economic Policy Centre NI Research



Source: UUEPC, Labour Force Survey, Census 2011

Those most vulnerable to permanent job losses are those furloughed. Labour market interventions in the recovery period should be equally concerned with those unemployed before the pandemic.

Young workers are likely to have been hit hardest. 18% of those under 25 are estimated to have been furloughed or laid off, significantly higher than this age groups share to total employment (12%).



Support for employees and self employed

Up to the 30th June 2020

27,400 employees in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon had been furloughed through the Job Retention Scheme 11.4% of all those furloughed in Northern Ireland

11,300 self-employed were potentially eligible for the Self-Employment Income Support Scheme **with 9,000 claims totalling £26.3 million (79% uptake).**

Increase in unemployment & loss of income

Claimant Count

The claimant count series counts the number of people claiming Jobseekers Allowance plus those who claim Universal Credit and are required to seek and be available for work.

- End of **April 2020** the claimant count rate (percentage of the working age population claiming) in the borough was **3.9% (5,160 people)**. This was an increase of **97.6% (2,550 people)** on March 2020 figures, compared to a NI increase of **26,500 (89%)** over the month from March 2020 to April 2020.
- End of **May 2020** the claimant count rate (percentage of the working age population claiming) in the borough was **4.7% (6,315 people)**. This was an increase of **1,140 people (22.0%)** on April 2020 figures. The claimant count in Northern Ireland overall increased by **7,795 (13.8%)** over the month from April 2020 to May 2020.
- End of **June 2020** the claimant count rate in the borough was **4.6% (6,610 people)** a decrease of **2% or 125 people**. The claimant count in Northern Ireland decreased by **2.2%** over the same month.

Source: [Claimant Count, NISRA](#)

Increase in unemployment & loss of income

Young people and the claimant count

In the borough there were **1,310 claimants** aged 16-24 in May 2020. This was an **increase of 159.4%** between March 2020 and May 2020.

	Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon
Mar-20	505
Apr-20	1,010
May-20	1,310

Increase in unemployment & loss of income

Universal Credit

- At 31st May 2020 there were **14,780** people on the Universal Credit live caseload in ABC
- This is an increase of **102%** from the numbers claiming Universal Credit in February 2020
- Not all UC claimants are required to look for work, some are already working part-time hours.
- Anecdotally, some of those whose hours were cut were advised to claim Universal Credit. This meant that they lost their tax credits and were worse off than before.

Impact on businesses (ABC)

Number of VAT and/or PAYE registered businesses 2020

DEA	Number of Businesses	%
Armagh	1,805	20.7%
Banbridge	1,510	17.3%
Craigavon	705	8.1%
Cusher	1,445	16.6%
Lagan River	1,055	12.1%
Lurgan	925	10.6%
Portadown	1,285	14.7%
Total	8,725	100.0%

Impact on businesses (ABC)

Employee Size Band	Number of Businesses	%
Micro (0-9)	7,925	90.8%
Small (10-49)	635	7.3%
Medium (50-249)	125	1.4%
Large (250+)	30	0.3%
Total	8,725	100.0%

Impact on businesses (ABC)

2020. Source: Inter-Departmental Business Register (IDBR), NISRA.

Businesses by top 5 sectors by numbers of businesses in each sector:

- Agriculture 27%
- Construction 14%
- Retail 8%
- Production 7.5%
- Professional, scientific & technical 6.3%



Impact on businesses (ABC)

Covid-19 Business Impact Survey – BPA & Council

- Survey open 27th April to 10th May 2020
- 288 responses to the survey from across the borough (99 responses from town centre businesses), 3.3% of local businesses

Trading Status

- **36%** of businesses responding were **continuing to operate** in some way
- **70% of town centre businesses** who responded were **not** trading due to covid restrictions

Impact on businesses (ABC)

Covid-19 Business Impact Survey – BPA & Council

What are the three biggest challenges your business faces as a result of COVID-19?

- Access to finance/cash-flow
- Retaining customer/consumer confidence
- Health and safety of customers and staff
- Survival of/access to supply chain
- Loss of stock/orders/customers
- Existing customers lost to on-line shopping
- Compliance with social distancing and any other requirements

Impact on businesses (ABC)

Covid-19 Business Impact Survey – BPA & Council

Stormont Business grant eligibility?

Option	Total	Percent
Yes	158	54.86%
No	91	31.60%
I don't know	39	13.54%
Not Answered	0	0%

Impact on businesses (ABC)

Covid-19 Business Impact Survey – BPA & Council

Have you applied for Business Interruption Loan Scheme?

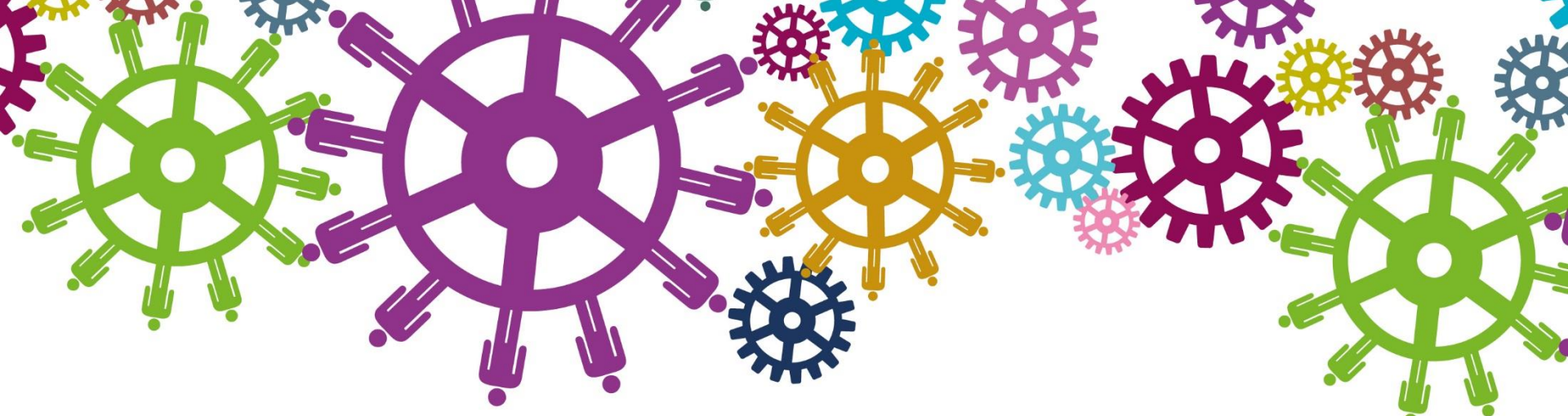
Option	Total	Percent
Yes	33	11.46%
No	249	86.46%
Not Answered	6	2.08%

Impact on businesses (ABC)

Covid-19 Business Impact Survey – BPA & Council

Familiarity with business support initiatives

Option	Total	Percent
Yes, I am already familiar with the support available and am accessing it	131	45.49%
Yes, I am already familiar with the support available but am having difficulty accessing it	39	13.54%
Yes, I am familiar with some of the support currently available but would like more information	72	25.00%
No, I am not familiar with the support currently available and would like information	31	10.76%
Not Answered	15	5.21%



1. Negative impact of Covid-19

Impact on places

Closure of cultural, sporting, social and commercial spaces

Google Community Mobility Maps - ABC

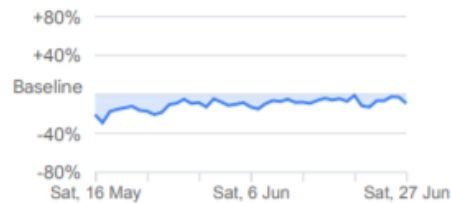
Retail and recreation

-38% compared to baseline



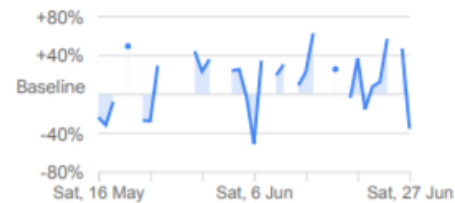
Supermarket and pharmacy

-9% compared to baseline

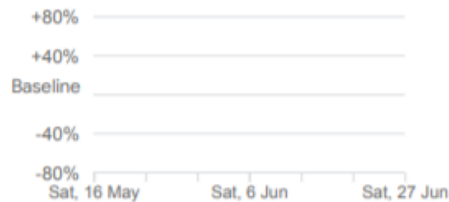


Parks*

-35% compared to baseline



Public transport*



Workplaces

-17% compared to baseline



Residential

+9% compared to baseline



Sport NI Covid -19 Survey

Understanding the current sporting landscape in Northern Ireland

95% indicate that the pandemic has had a damaging effect on their organisation.

65 organisations were successful with applications to the Coronavirus Job Retention scheme.

The biggest challenges for organisations (as prioritised by respondents) is finance and income, managing social distancing and the easing of lockdown restrictions, athletes/players and competitive uncertainty.

Advice, support and guidance is needed in managing social distancing, the easing of lockdown restrictions and finance.

Organisations responding to the survey had accessed 233* Covid-19 related funding opportunities.

* Respondents could tick more than one option for this question

62% have looked at methods of reducing expenditure with 60% seeking to retain membership.

47% reported a negative impact on club membership or service use.

21% no change.

5% had a positive impact.

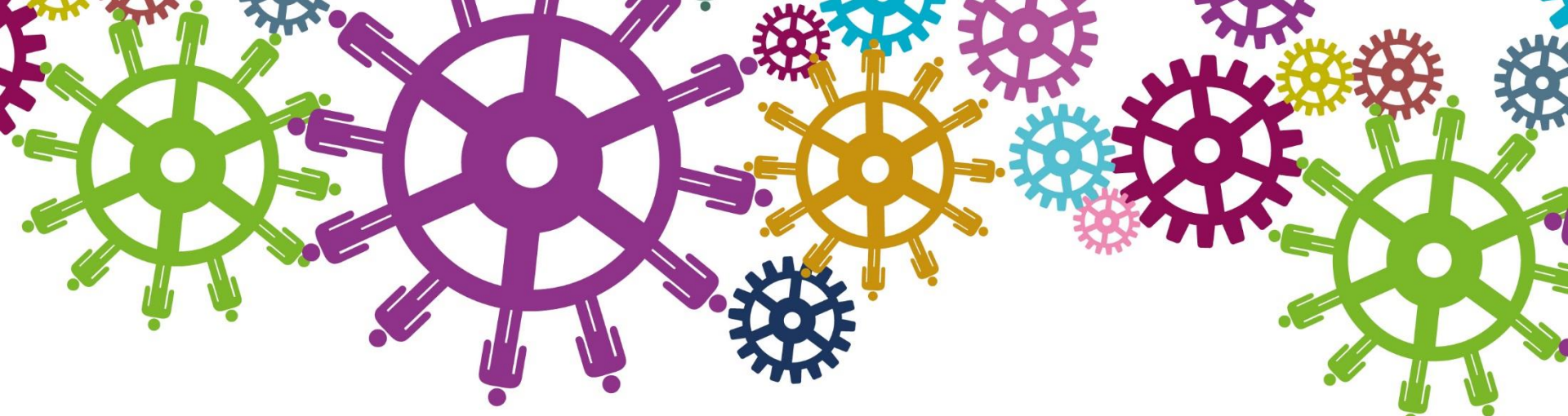
Easing lockdown and implementing social distancing are the highest short terms priorities for knowledge and learning.

A number of respondents identified a requirement for 'non-capital' and 'capital' works to enable their facilities to re-open safely.

Positive effects of Covid-19 included clubs and organisations being able to connect more with the community and engage in the emergency response e.g. food parcel deliveries, learning how to use new technology and some increases in golf club memberships.

Age NI – What older people told us in ABC

- Outside spaces more crowded – fear of going out, lack of social distancing
- Fear of using public transport, especially to get to health apps
- Feel lonely and isolated, disconnected from family, friends and community. Miss normal groups and social interactions
- Many older people not online, need information available in other ways
- Issues around getting food deliveries and shops not accepting cash
- Older people are not all the same, there are healthy and active people while there are others who need a lot more support



1. Negative impact of Covid-19

Population health impact

Mental health (NI)

Department of Health covid-19 impact assessment (June 2020)

- Predicts biggest negative impacts on disease outcomes of crisis will be on mental wellbeing and development & management of long-term mental health conditions
- Causes – social distancing & isolation; bereavement; unemployment; financial hardship; inability to access health services; increased stress & work pressures
- NI – early indications back this up. Most mental health services saw initial decrease, but now pressures are increasing. Mental health bed occupancy at 95% and clinicians are seeing new presentations previously unknown to mental health services.
- WHO expects pressure on already vulnerable groups – women and older people

Mental health (ABC)

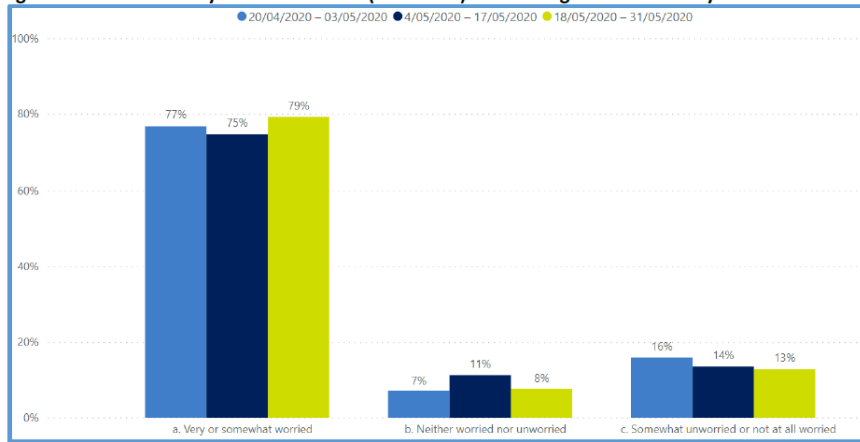
Community & Voluntary Sector Panel Food Initiatives Survey June 2020

- 75% of respondents predicted that unemployment and business closing would be one of the main issues communities will be dealing with over the next 6 months
- 66% of respondents predicted mental health would also be a main issue
- Social isolation & loneliness identified as a major cause
- Groups mentioned were older people; those shielding; those living alone; children; young people; bereaved; front line workers; people losing their jobs
- Majority of respondents stated that they provided some form of social support in addition to food, e.g. socially distanced bingo, online quizzes, befriending schemes, children's competitions, online cooking.

NISRA COVID-19 Opinion Survey

Key Findings Phase 1

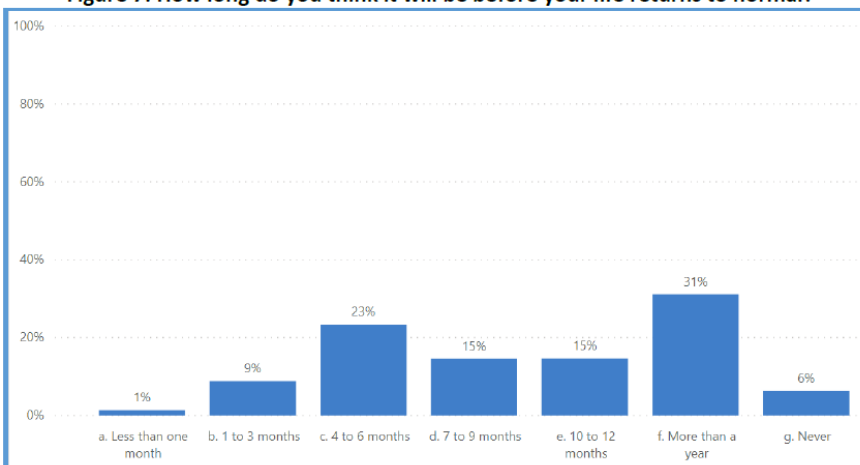
Figure 5: Levels of worry the Coronavirus (COVID-19) was having on their lives by date of interview¹



¹ The number of interviews carried out after 31 May 2020 are too low to report on separately in the results of Phase 1

Levels of worry the coronavirus was having on peoples daily lives remained reasonably consistent throughout the period 20th April to 31st May, at over three quarters of respondents.

Figure 7: How long do you think it will be before your life returns to normal?

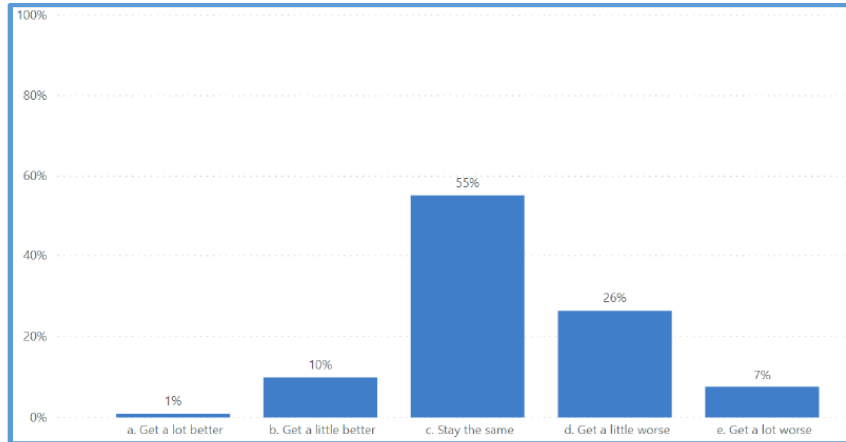


Almost a third of those surveyed think it will take more than a year for life to return to normal, while a further 6% said that life would never return to normal.

NISRA COVID-19 Opinion Survey

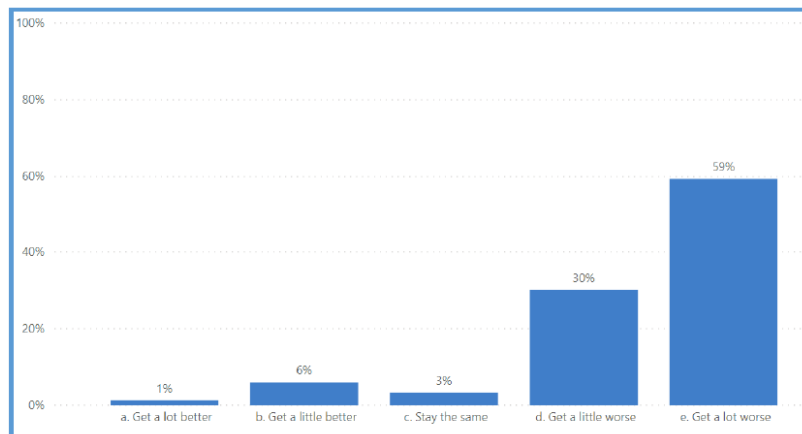
Key Findings Phase 1

Figure 10: How do you expect the financial position of your household to change over the next 12 months?



Just over a third of respondents (34%) expect the financial position of their household to get worse in the next 12 months while 55% expect it to stay the same.

Figure 11: How do you expect the general economic situation in this country to develop over the next 12 months?



Nine out of ten people expect the general economic situation to get worse in the next 12 months, with 59% expecting it to get a lot worse.

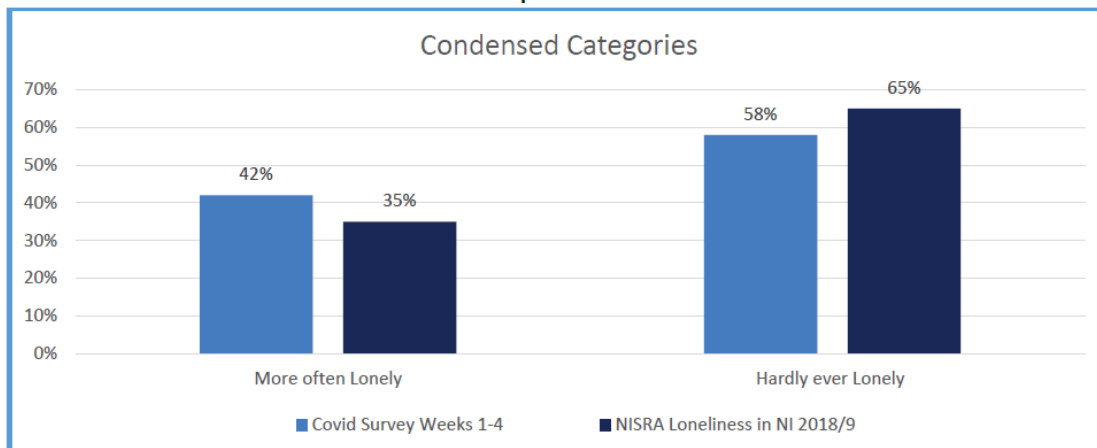
NISRA COVID-19 Opinion Survey

Key Findings Phase 1

Significant differences were shown in Personal Wellbeing Indicators between results from this survey and the latest published figures for 2018/19.

- Life satisfaction significantly lower (down from 7.89 to 7.47)
- Happiness significantly lower (down from 7.69 to 7.47)
- Anxiety significantly higher (up from 2.83 to 3.55)
- There was no difference in the rating of people feeling what they do in life is worthwhile.

Figure 19: Frequency of loneliness in people during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) (Phase 1) reporting period.

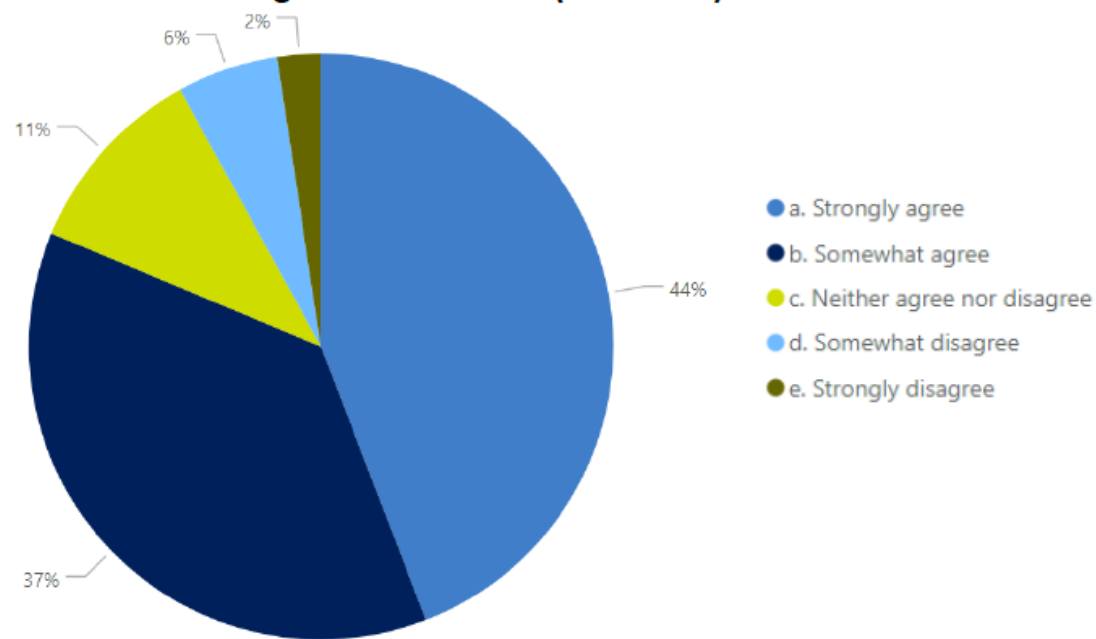


Around four in ten people (42%) reported feeling more often lonely, significantly higher than the latest published figures for 2018/19.

NISRA COVID-19 Opinion Survey

Key Findings Phase 1

Figure 21: Proportion of people who agreed or disagreed that if they needed help, other local community members would support them during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.



There was a general good feeling amongst people that there would be a high degree of community support if they needed it because of the coronavirus outbreak. 81% agreed that if they needed help, other local community members would help them during the outbreak. 89% of those interviews also said that people were doing more to help others during the outbreak, while 10% said it was about the same.

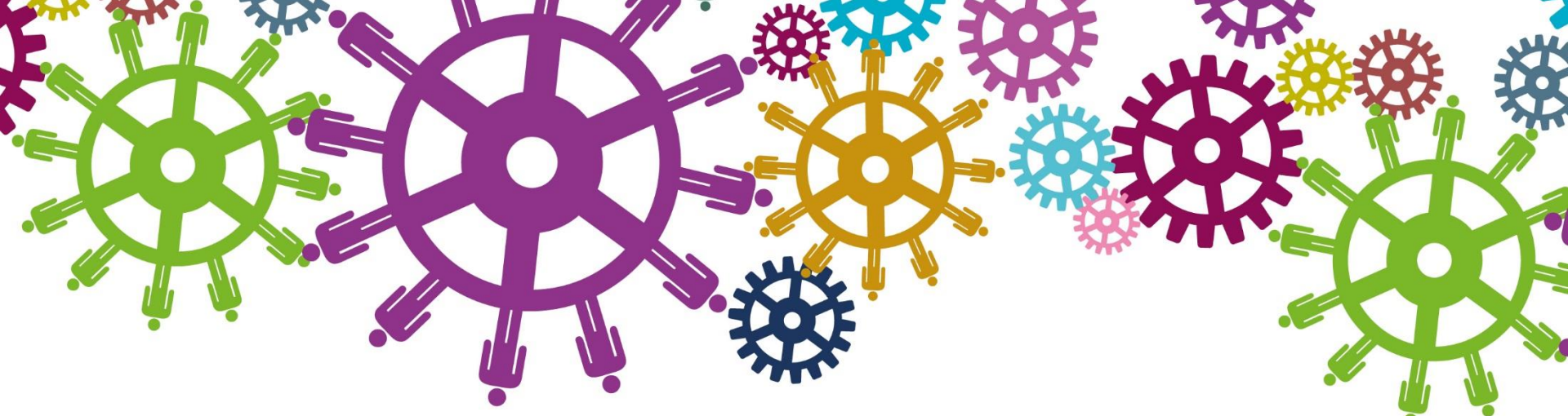


Other population health impacts (NI)

Department of Health covid-19 impact assessment

Wider impacts likely to include:

- Increase in health inequalities
- Increase in levels of deprivation
- increase in prevalence of chronic health conditions
- stalling or flattening in growth of life expectancy



2. Issues amplified by Covid-19 crisis



2. Issues amplified by covid-19

- poverty & food insecurity
- health inequalities
- mental health
- social isolation & loneliness
- domestic abuse
- global decline in town centre retail

Baseline - ABC community plan statement of progress

2017-2019

Percentage of people who feel they have an influence when it comes to any of the local decisions made in their neighbourhood	↑
Percentage of people reporting that fear of crime has a minimal impact on their quality of life	↑
Number of accidental dwelling fires	↑
Number of preventable deaths per 100,000 population (age standardised preventable mortality rate)	↑
Number of overnight trips made by visitors from outside Northern Ireland	↑
Percentage of the workforce in employment qualified to level 1 and above, level 2 and above, level 3 and above, and level 4 and above	↑
Employment rate (age 16-64)	↑
Number of VAT and/or PAYE registered businesses	↑
Business birth rates	↑
Survival rates of newly born businesses	↑
Number of buildings at risk saved	↑

Positive Change
 

No Change
 

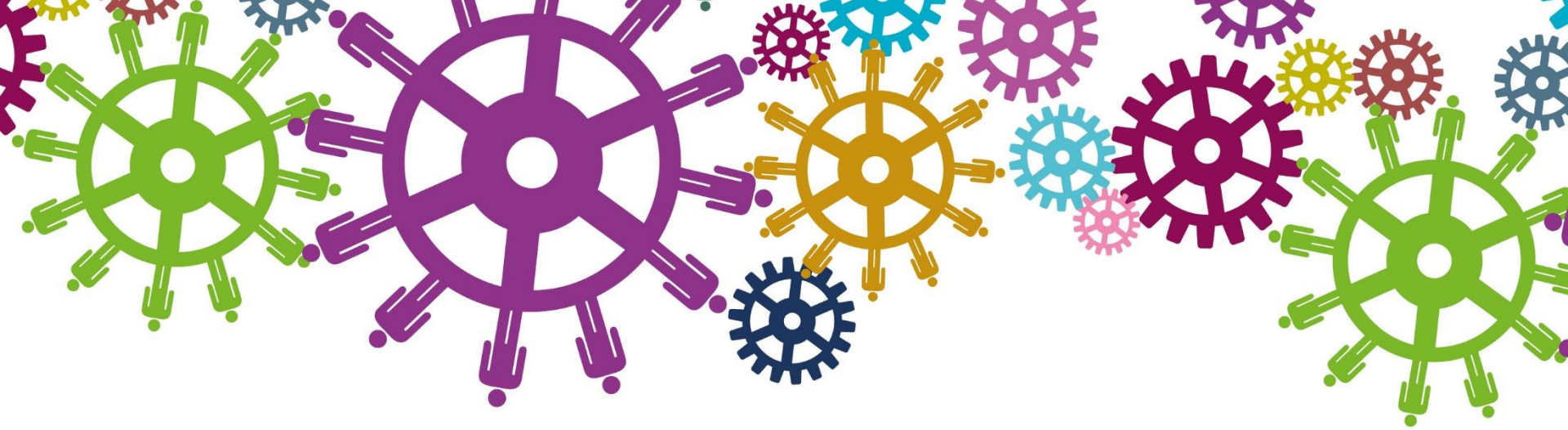
Negative Change
 

Percentage of people who feel a sense of belonging to their neighbourhood	↔
Percentage of people who participate in sport or physical activity on at least one day a week	↔
Percentage of people (aged 16+) engaging with arts/cultural activities in the past year	↔
Number of high quality parks/green spaces (those holding Green Flag Award Status)	↔
City and town centre vacancy rates	↔
Percentage of people who see town centres as safe and welcoming places for people of all walks of life	↓
Gap in life expectancy between most deprived areas and the borough overall	↓
Level of social housing need	↓

Poverty

Community & Voluntary Sector Panel Meeting, 9th July 2020

- Local voluntary organisation told the meeting that clients of their service told them that during the covid crisis was the first time they were able to put enough food on the table for their families because of the emergency food parcels they received.



3. Positive impact

3. Positive impact

- increase in physical activity & time spent outdoors in green spaces
- improvements in air quality
- drop in police recorded crime
- community spirit & recognition of volunteering
- innovation

Increase in spending time outdoors & physical activity

Outdoor NI conducted a survey between 4-11 May to find out how people were engaging with outdoors over lockdown (excluding private gardens)

- 63% of respondents spent time outdoors during lockdown
- 47% were spending more time outdoors than the same time last year
- 84% felt physically healthier & fitter
- 90% felt refreshed & revitalised
- 89% felt calm & relaxed
- 79% felt close to nature

Improvements in air quality

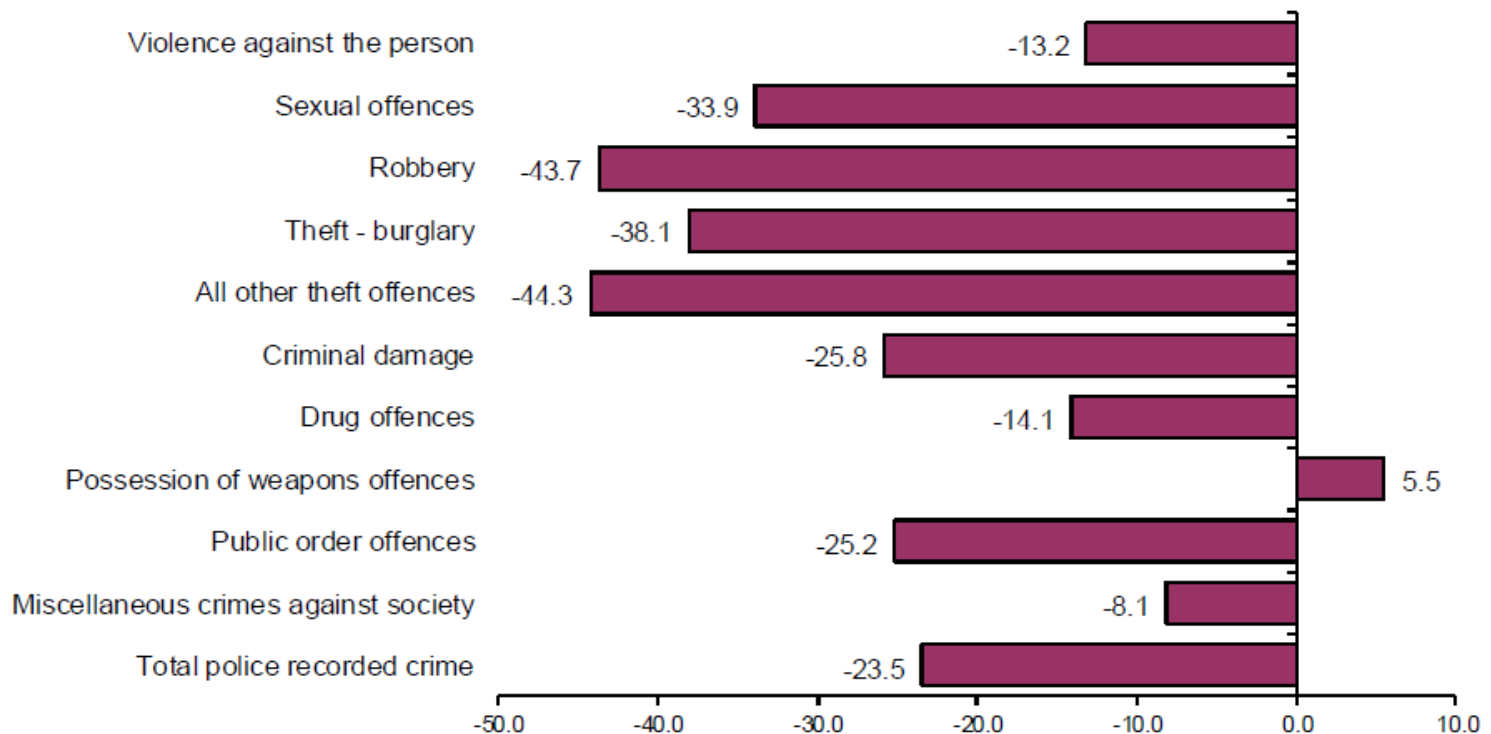
Comparing the first two weeks of lockdown (23rd March 2020 – 5th April 2020) with 25th March 2019 – April 7th 2019 shows a 50% reduction in nitrogen dioxide levels in Northern Ireland. The monitoring station in the borough showed a 27% decrease in average nitrogen dioxide levels.

Local Authority	Monitoring station	Average NO2 2019	Average NO2 2020	Percentage Change	Environment Type
Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon	Armagh Roadside	31.3	22.8	-27.0	Traffic Urban
Belfast	Belfast Centre	26.0	15.6	-40.2	Background Urban
Derry and Strabane	Derry Rosemount	11.1	5.4	-51.9	Background Urban
Belfast	Belfast Stockman's Lane	45.6	21.1	-53.6	Traffic Urban
Mid and East Antrim	Ballymena Antrim Road	22.1	9.1	-59.0	Traffic Urban
Mid and East Antrim	Ballymena Ballykeel	14.9	4.5	-69.9	Background Urban
Northern Ireland Overall		25.2	13.1	-50.3	

Drop in police recorded crime

Police recorded crime has fallen by 23% compared with the same period last year

Figure 1 Percentage change in the main police recorded crime types, 23rd Mar'20 to 7th Jun'20 compared with 23rd Mar'19 to 7th Jun'19



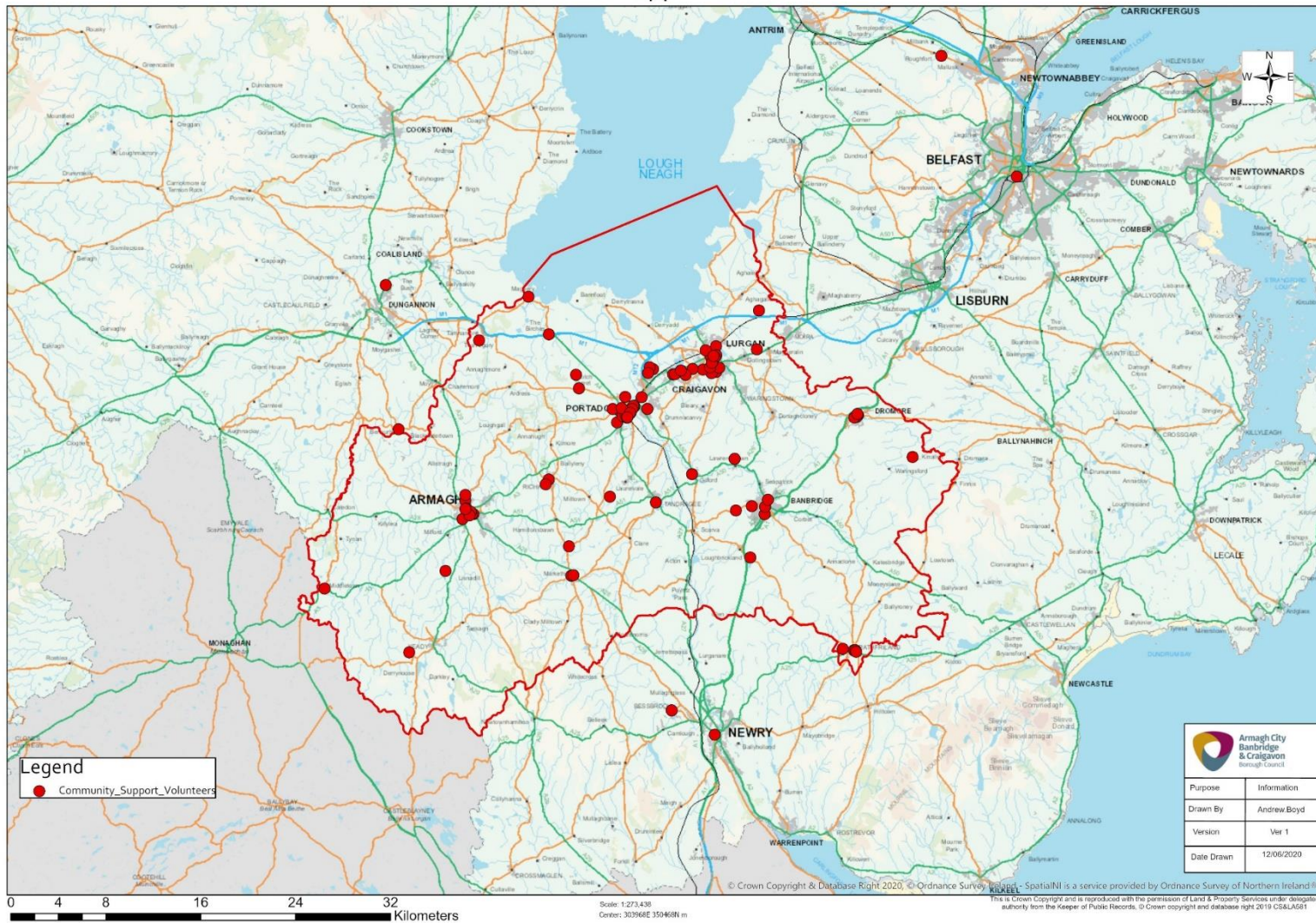


Community spirit & recognition of volunteering

- 105 local groups offering support to their communities have listed on council's community hub
- 155 organisations have received £145,537.50 to provide support to those most affected through council's Covid-19 Community Support Grant
- Groups have also received funds from CFNI, NI Housing Executive, Halifax, Tesco and through fundraising.

Community spirit & recognition of volunteering

Volunteer Support Locations





Community spirit & recognition of volunteering

Community & Voluntary Sector Panel Food Initiatives Survey June 2020

Respondents provided wide range of social, financial, cultural support in addition to food

- E.g. befriending; counselling; online activities (quizzes, training, bake offs, yoga); activity packs for children, adults and older people; fuel & utility vouchers; parenting support; period products; nappies; milk; pet walking; bingo; signposting; shopping; helplines; support in managing volunteers
- Collaborative and speedy localised responses. Most groups worked with others, but identified need and desire for more collaboration and coordination across the CV sector and statutory agencies
- There may be some people who have needed support, but have not been picked up by community, voluntary or statutory organisations.

Innovation



- Many respondents to the Covid-19 Business Impact Survey had changed their business to adapt to the lockdown and were planning more changes.
- Statutory agencies, communities and businesses have all reacted swiftly and adapted to the new circumstances.
- Local businesses and communities have worked towards meeting needs for PPE, making and sourcing PPE for front line workers.
- Businesses and communities have worked together to quickly set up new services and programmes e.g. 'meals on wheels' operations.

Opportunities for recovery

Covid-19 Business Impact Survey – BPA & Council

In addition to the support currently available, what else would you suggest could be done to help businesses deal with the economic impact of the Coronavirus pandemic?

Mentoring support to sell on-line and promote business through social media	Government operated hardship funds rather than bank loans
Shop local campaign	Extended Job Retention Scheme
Loyalty discount scheme	Deferral of VAT payments
Clean and tidy streets/promotion of civic pride	Provision of PPE/hand sanitiser/shields/distance markers etc
Avoiding adding to the risk of a second wave	One way pedestrian flow on streets
Reinforcement of a “Safe to Shop” message	Extended rates relief
Promotion of our businesses/borough as open, safe and welcoming	Limit numbers in shopping centres
Highlight/promote local town centre ambassadors	



4. Community Planning Partnership Covid-19 impact surveys



CPP Survey:

If relevant, how has your organisation responded to Covid-19?

Top 3 responses

Community Planning Partnership (excluding CVS Panel)

1. Provided support/information (includes calls & online)
2. Working with other groups/partners/organisations
3. Use of online/IT for services/communication

CVS Panel Partners

1. Delivered food/vouchers/medicine/care packs
2. Provided support/information (includes calls & online)
3. Use of online/IT for services/communication



CPP Survey:

In your opinion what has enabled the response to COVID-19?

Top 3 responses

Community Planning Partnership (excluding CVS Panel)

1. Working together
2. Community response/spirit
3. Local people/workers

CVS Partners

1. Working together
2. Community response/spirit
3. Volunteers

CPP Survey:

In your opinion what has hindered the response to Covid-19?

Top 3 responses

Community Planning Partnership (excluding CVS Panel)

1. Resources/access to supplies & technology
2. Lack of leadership/guidance/processes
3. Lack of information/communication
4. Uncertainty/slow to react

CVS Partners

1. Lack of coordination/cohesion
2. Duplication of effort
3. Lack of leadership/guidance/processes



CPP Survey:

How has the crisis impacted on your organisation's 'normal' activities /services?

Top 3 responses

1. Adjustment to work /services provided
2. No meetings/training/classes/events etc
3. Closed/not fully operational



CPP Survey:

What support, if any, does your organisation need?

Top 3 responses

1. Financial/funding
2. Guidance/support on re-opening and resuming services/new ways of working
3. Communication/sharing information/working together

CVSP Food Initiatives Survey

What do you believe are main issues that our communities will face in the next 6 months?

- Businesses closing / unemployment – 74.5%
- Anxiety / depression / mental health – 66%
- Financial issues / poverty - 61.7%



CPP Survey:

What actions should the community planning partnership prioritise over the next 6-12 months?

Top 3 responses

1. More coordination/information sharing/planning for second wave
2. Mental health and wellbeing initiatives
3. Recover plan/exit strategy/community emergency plan
4. Financial issues / funding



CPP Survey:

What actions are needed in the longer-term?

Top 3 responses

1. Improved coordination / communication
2. Planning / emergency planning
3. Better partnership working
4. Programmes / support for residents



CPP Survey:

What strengths and assets can we build on?

Top 3 responses

1. Community spirit / groups/ volunteers
2. Existing partnerships/working together
3. Use of online / IT
4. Learning from experience



CPP Survey:

What are the main challenges?

Top 3 responses

1. Economy / financial impact / funding
2. Lockdown / social distancing / second wave
3. Planning / working together



CPP Survey:

What are the main opportunities?

Top 3 responses

1. Community spirit / volunteers
2. Working together
3. Use of online / IT / remote working
4. Improvement to environment / sustainability

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