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Update from the 'Leisure Transformation Project Team

10th June 2022



**Couch
to 5k**



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STAFF ENGAGEMENT

The 'Leisure Transformation Project Team' continue to move forward with the Review/Transformation of the Health and Recreation Department.

STAFF ENGAGEMENT SESSION FOR HEALTH AND RECREATION STAFF

In the last two week a number of staff engagement sessions have taken place across the Borough, Lough Neagh Discovery Centre, Dromore Community Centre, Orchard Leisure Centre Banbridge Leisure Centre and Gosford Forest Park.

These engagement sessions were organised to discuss the Review/Transformation of the Health and Recreation Department.

Thank you to those staff members who were able to attend and for the feedback provided to the team.

For all those staff members unable to attend one of these session a mop up on line session is being organised, the date and details on how to attend this session will be distributed.

A copy of the power point presentation is available please look on the leisure matters page and go to the staff engagement May 2022 presentation.

We will continue to engage with you as often as we can and in the next edition FAQ will be included from the engagement sessions.

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UNIFORMS - CONSULTATION

At the staff engagement sessions a number of staff were asking about uniforms.

So at the moment the tender has been written for uniforms, it will be looked at by management and agreed who the successful supplier will be.

On a number of occasions during the sessions the question was asked if our lifeguard/leisure attendants could go back to wearing the internationally recognised yellow and red uniforms.

We would now like to consult with staff members on the issue and would ask for your feedback on this issue.

Please email joanne.grattan@armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk to let her know your thoughts on this issue and if we should go back to wearing the yellow and red lifeguarding uniforms.



As you are all aware Council has launched E-Learning which allows staff to carry out training on line, which was highlighted in the last edition.

For any staff member who does not know how to use E Learning the link below will provide access the e-learning modules and the step by step guide on how to use it below, but if anybody has any queries please contact fiona.hamill@armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk

<http://lgtg.learningpool.com/>

<http://abc-svr-intra.abc.local/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/E-Learn-Guide1.pdf>

There are a number of mandatory training session on E- Learning that Health and Recreation must complete; please speak to you line manager regarding this training. It is vital that all staff members undertake this mandatory training.

Details can be found on the table below:

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MANDATORY E-LEARNING MODULES



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Module	Refresher Period	Mandatory for the following staff:
Health & Safety		
Display Screen Equipment	3 years	All Display Screen Equipment Users
Office Safety Awareness	3 years	All office based staff
Fire Safety Awareness	1 year	All Staff
Manual Handling Awareness	3 years	All Staff (Manual workers will receive job specific training)
Asbestos Awareness	1 year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waste Management Illegal dumping operatives and supervisors Recycling centre attendants and supervisors Building Maintenance and Electrician employees Environmental Wardens Environmental Health Officers - Public Health and housing officers Building Control and Planning Officers Line Managers of above job roles
Equality & Diversity		
Equality & Diversity in the workplace	2 years	All Staff Please note all new starts must attend the session delivered by our Policy & Diversity Officer. The e-learning should then be used for refresher purposes.
Basic Autism Awareness	2 years	Mandatory for all staff in the following Departments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Development Health and Recreation Tourism Arts and Culture Facilities Management Please note it is best practice for all other staff to complete in line with the Council's Customer Focus approach.
Compliance		
Fraud Prevention	3 years	All Staff
Safeguarding		
Safeguarding Awareness	3 years	All Staff

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WHAT TOOK PLACE ACROSS HEALTH AND RECREATION



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QUEST AWARD FOR SLLC

Congratulations to the team at SLLC on achieving Quest registration.

Quest is an independently accredited, industry recognised tool which encourages continuous improvement, designed primarily for the management of leisure facilities and leisure developments. Quest defines industry standards and good practice and offers a way of benchmarking facilities.

This is a fantastic achievement for the team at SLLC, well done in achieving this during these unprecedented times.

We know how hard the team have worked to achieve this award.



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ANNUAL CRAIGAVON LAKE RUN WEDNESDAY 1ST JUNE 2022

One of the 300 ABC Virtual 10K participants, Danielle McConville

Personal bests and individual goals were well and truly smashed last month, as over 300 people of all ages and abilities took part in the first ever Virtual ABC 10K race across the borough's city, towns and villages.

Organised by Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough (ABC) Council and supported by Armagh Athletics Club and Banbridge Athletics Club, the virtual event was arranged in place of the Bann 10K, Craigavon Lakes 10K and the Armagh 10-mile road race due to the Coronavirus pandemic.



Uniting everyone from walkers and joggers to fun runners and seasoned athletes, the inclusive event saw over 300 participants successfully complete the 10K distance between Saturday 19 June and Sunday 27 June at a time and place, which was convenient to them.

Just like the wide variety of race competitors, the event was filled with many different stories of resolve and motivation – as for some it was the culmination of 10 weeks of training on ABC Council's Virtual 5K to 10K Programme and for others it was the perfect opportunity to push themselves towards achieving a new personal best time.

For added incentive, a number of spot prizes were up for grabs including vouchers from Get Active ABC, Rushmere Shopping Centre and Café IncredABLE at South Lake Leisure Centre.

The 2021 Virtual ABC 10K prize-winners and their back stories are:



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DIY finish line – Ewa Henderson: A recent participant of ABC Council's Virtual 5K to 10K Programme, Ewa Henderson completed her first 10K along the Newry Canal Towpath, using chalk for the start and finish lines. In celebration of this personal milestone, Ewa's husband was at hand to cheer her across the finish line.



Best of the borough – Audrey Buckley, Susan Hanna and Lisa Sherman: Keeping the running up since graduating from council's Couch to 5K Programme in October; friends Audrey Buckley, Susan Hanna and Lisa Sherman completed their 10K at Edenvilla Park.



Family Involvement – Jonathan and Hannah Ross: Father and daughter duo Jonathan and Hannah Ross, both started running during lockdown when Hannah began a school running challenge. Now avid runners, the pair completed their first 10K run with flying colours.



Inspiration Award – Stephen Turner: Another graduate of council's Virtual 5K to 10K Programme, Stephen Turner completed his first 10K on Father's Day – with cheers of delight from his eight-year-old daughter Ruby at the finish line. From being unable to run back in

December to then completing a 10K within six months, Stephen is truly a wonderful role model for his daughter.



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Congratulating everyone that took part in the event, Lord Mayor of Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon, Alderman Glenn Barr said:

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“Very well done to the hundreds of children, adults and families that took part in our first virtual 10K race – and many congratulations to our worthy prize-winners.

“Albeit very different to previous years, we hope the convenience and flexibility of this virtual event has helped reach and appeal to people who may not have previously considered it. Now with this achievement firmly under everyone’s belt I would encourage everyone to continue running and keep up the good work.”

A big shout out and thanks you to all the staff members involved in putting on this brilliant event.

We know how hard you have worked organising the large scale event.



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WHATS ON ACROSS THE DEPARTMENT



SHAKE UP SUMMER 2022

[#getready](#) to 'Shake Up Summer 2022' with our energy bursting and boredom busting programme of summer schemes, sports camps and family days out throughout July and August



Lord Mayor Alderman Glenn Barr joined us to launch the programme and we all had a 'hoot' of a time. 🐔 Taking place at locations across the borough, the programme provides a vast range of pursuits 🏀🏹🏈🏊🏄 to keep our young residents active and healthy over the summer months, with loads of fun guaranteed [#ontheirdoorstep](#) Bookings are now open 🌻🌻🏹 To view the summer brochure, book an activity, and for information on all activities and events 👉 getactiveabc.com/summer

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Armed Forces Day

Banbridge | Saturday 18 June (10.30am-5.15pm)

Free family fun | Sound the bugle 🎺🥁🏹🏊

Don't miss the mega military and musical spectacular as Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough leads NI in hosting this year's Armed Forces Day.

Come out in force, enjoy an epic day of celebrations and try out a whole host of sports including archery 🏹, paintballing, mini assault course, climbing towers 🧗 and bungee trampoline. Watch a rugby 7's competition 🏉 as teams battle it out and scrum their way to victory. Check out our first-class entertainment programme below.

Visit: armedforcesdayni.co.uk

[#AFDNI2022](https://twitter.com/AFDNI2022) [#SaluteOurForces](https://twitter.com/SaluteOurForces)



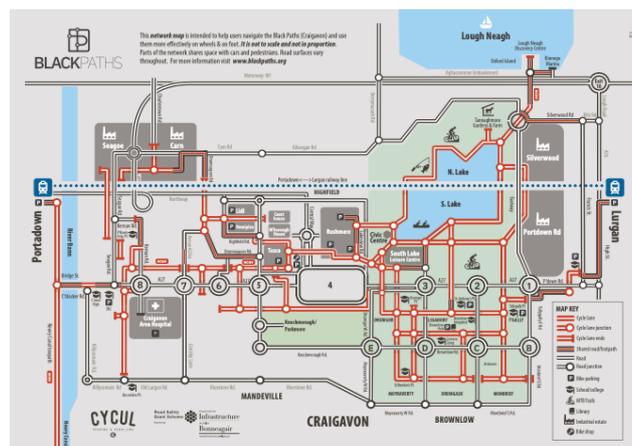
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BIKE TO WORK DAY COMPETITION 🚲

[#bikeweek2022](https://twitter.com/bikeweek2022) starts today so why not leave the car at home and take the 'Black Path' to work this week?

The [#blackpaths](https://blackpaths.org) link to all the large employers and industrial estates in the Portadown–Craigavon–Lurgan area. With maps, which have been designed by Cycul in partnership with Council, showcasing all [#blackpaths](https://blackpaths.org) routes, you can use the Strava app on your phone or upload the GPX file to a navigation device for the work commute 🚲



Cycul are running the 'Bike To Work Day' competition and all you have to do is tweet a photo of your individual or group cycle journey to work this week, add the hashtag [#BlackPaths2Work](https://twitter.com/BlackPaths2Work), and the best will receive a team-building pass [up to 10 people] for one of the following:

★**SLLC: Banana Boat or Canoeing**

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★ **Golf and Ski Centre: Footgolf**

★ **Gosford Forest Park: Group Day Pass**

Funded by the DfI's Road Safety (Safe Travel) Grant Scheme), the new Black Paths maps can be viewed at www.blackpaths.org.



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There is still time to [#getinvloved](#) in one of the several free [#blackpaths](#) events taking place this week, supported by our partners [Cycul](#) and [Live Here Love Here](#). Book your place via the link at getactiveabc.com/events/black-paths-cycle-fest

Bikes can be hired all week from [South Lake Leisure Centre & Watersports](#) 🇮🇪 bit.ly/3zoNH8C
[#getactiveabc](#) [#getoutdoorsabc](#) [#getmovingabc](#)

To celebrate [#menshealthweek2022](#) [South Lake Leisure Centre & Watersports](#) is running the following **FREE** taster sessions:

Stand Up Paddleboards, Mega Paddleboards or Sit-on-Top Kayaks

📅 Tues 14 June | 🕒 10.30am – 12pm | 1.30pm – 3.00pm

Pilates on the Lake [Pilates on SUPs]

📅 Fri 17 June | 🕒 10am – 11am

Outdoor Bootcamp [Outdoor fitness class, a lead cycle ending with mindfulness]

📅 Fri 17 June | 🕒 2pm – 3pm

Places will be allocated on a first-come basis and please contact Adele to book your place:

☎ 0330 056 4411



adele.haughey@armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk

To check out South Lake's week-long programme of free activities 🇮🇪 getactiveabc.com/menshealthweek

[#getactiveabc](#) [#getmovingabc](#) [#getoutdoorsabc](#)



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DANCE THROUGH THE DECADES

Dust off those dancing shoes and sign up for the '**Dance through the Decades**' fundraising event in aid of **Macmillan Cancer Support**.

Date: Saturday 11th June

Time: 1.30-3.30pm

Venue: South Lake Leisure Centre

Cost: £10.00 (all proceeds going to Macmillan)



No dance experience is required and the event will suit all abilities. Anyone over the age of 8 can sign up! T-shirts will be provided for all participants.

For further information contact Nuala McVeigh at nuala.mcveigh@armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk

IT'S ALMOST TIME FOR THE UK PIPE BAND CHAMPIONSHIP IN LURGAN PARK!

It's almost time for bands from across the UK and Ireland to descend upon Lurgan Park this Saturday (11th June 2022) for the prestigious UK Pipe Band Championships! Organised by the Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association, the competition will feature hundreds of players, including the best local pipers from varying competition grades ranging from juvenile right up to Grade One, along with drum majors and highland dancers – who will all be hoping to be crowned UK champions.



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Visitors will have the rare opportunity to see world-class bands competing for the coveted championship title and enjoy music from a range of talented players, including Irish and Northern Irish bands and Scottish bands.



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There will also be plenty of entertainment on the day with a wide range of delicious food on offer from various vendors along with children's entertainment – making it a great day out for all the family!

Here are a few points of important information:

- Entrance to the event is £8 if you book online at visitarmagh.com/ukpipeband2022 children under 16 are free, but must be accompanied by an adult.
- Limited parking is available in the park via the Avenue Road entrance but will be allocated on a first come first served basis.
- A Park & Ride facility will be available from Lurgan Town Arena (Lurgan Town Football Club) to the Robert Street entrance of the park and will be operational throughout the day from 9am – 6pm on Saturday 11th June.
- Shop mobility scooters will also be available at the event.
- There will be a charge in to Lurgan Park on Saturday 11th June and admission will be via ticket only (which can be purchased at the gate).
- Lurgan Park will return to normal opening hours on Sunday 12th June.

CORPORATE NEWS



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NORTHERN IRELAND'S FIRST PLACE PLAN REACHES FOR THE STARS IN ARMAGH

Last week the Community Planning Strategic Partnership (CPSP) for Armagh City Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council launched the first Place Plan of its kind in Northern Ireland for Armagh, at the Armagh City Hotel. The plan entitled 'Celebrating our Stars and Stories', was supported by the Department for Communities and the Housing Executive, and developed through extensive consultation, and the bringing together of key Community Planning partners to create a shared vision for the communities they serve.



The Place Plan has been designed to help bridge the gap between spatial and community planning for the city. Instead of taking the traditional approach of focusing on physical sites and changes first, the outcomes and ideas from the community have been central to the plans development, creating suggestions for spaces and places where change could happen.

There was a host of guest speakers at the event including; keynote speaker Cormac Russell, author and Managing Director of Nurture Development, Jak Spencer, Managing Director of Urban Scale International (USI), Dr Hannah Dalglish, University of Oxford, and Dr Gavan Rafferty, Ulster University. All speakers provided key insights into the importance of strategic place shaping for the future and partnership working, to ensure a new dynamic can be created to respond to the changing needs of residents, business and communities for future generations to prosper.



To find out more about the plan visit www.bit.ly/3yINJrF

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COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY SECTOR ACTION PLAN LAUNCHED

The Community and Voluntary Sector Panel for Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon launched its Action Plan last week, in the Mayes Hall at Craigavon Civic Centre. The Action Plan marks a significant step forward for the Panel, which was established in 2018 as part of the ABC Community Planning Partnership. The Panel now has over 60 members from Community, Voluntary and Social Enterprise organisations from across the borough working together to create a shared vision for community and voluntary support across the borough.



The Community and Voluntary Sector Panel was established to ensure the Community & Voluntary Sector has a voice on the Community Planning Partnership, to promote collaborative working and facilitate wider engagement with local residents.

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The Community Plan, called Connected, is the overarching, long-term plan for the Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon borough. The Community Plan sets out nine long-term outcomes or aspirations, and the panel has developed a set of key actions through its Action Plan detailing how the sector intends to work together to delivery this long-term vision.



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Organisations and individuals from across the borough are being encouraged to get involved in the delivery of the plan, to build on the positive momentum created through working together. If anyone is interested in finding out more about the Community & Voluntary Sector Panel, you can telephone the Community Planning Team p 0300 0300 900, email e communityplanning@armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk, or go on-line at www.armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk/communityplanning



HEALTH AND WELLBEING SESSIONS

Cancer Awareness for Male Colleagues

Tuesday 14 June | 10am-11am | Microsoft Teams

In recognition of Men's Health Week (13-19 June) this session, provided by Action Cancer, is aimed at increasing knowledge of common cancers that affect men in NI, i.e. testicular and prostate, but also looks at skin, bowel and lung cancer.

In addition to information on the cancers, information on screening services, signs and symptoms, the importance of self-checking and how to self-examine is also provided, along with lifestyle advice that can help reduce cancer risk (e.g. alcohol limits, nutrition, physical activity and smoking). Information on support services is also provided during the session and attendees will receive a resource pack.

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Healthy Eating Awareness:

Available dates:

**Tuesday 14 June | 10am-11am | The Chamber,
Banbridge**

**Thursday 16 June | 10am-11am | The Chamber,
Armagh**

Thursday 16 June | 10am-11am | Craigavon Civic Centre

In recognition of Healthy Eating Week (13-17 June) this session will use the Eatwell Guide to show the different types of foods and drinks we should consume and in what proportion, in order to achieve a healthy balanced diet.

The Eatwell Guide is suitable for most people regardless of weight, dietary restriction/preference or ethnic origin, however it doesn't apply to young children under 2, frail older people and people with special dietary needs.

If you would like to attend one or more of these sessions, please get permission from your Line Manager and book your place via booking bug at ;www.abcb.council.bookingbug.com/home/46970-Training-Courses

LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Equality and Disability

**Tuesday 07 June | 10am-11.30am |
Microsoft Teams**



Aimed at employees who have not attended this session previously. (Reminder: E-Learn ABC now has a refresher module for all employees who previously attended a session with the Policy and Diversity Officer).

Interviewee Skills

**Thursday 09 June | 9.30am-4.30pm |
Microsoft Teams**

Covers tips and techniques to plan, prepare and practice effectively for job interviews including interactive discussions and practical exercises.

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To access more learning and development modules, visit our E-Learn ABC platform: www.lgtg.learningpool.com/login/index.php.
New to the system? Then check out our user guide : www.abc-svr-intra.abc.local/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/E-Learn-Guide1.pdf.



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Buskfest Winners ‘Strings and Sings’ Share their Delight

The winners of the Spirit of Buskfest Award ‘Strings and Sings’ wanted to extend their sincere congratulations to everyone on the Buskfest team for another fabulous Buskfest Festival.

Our very own Sandra Parker a member of the group said:

“The event was superbly well organised from start to finish, as always. From a busker perspective, the atmosphere in the town was amazing. The camaraderie and support everyone shared with each other was really lovely, with people of all ages and from so many countries sharing their nerves, tips, local knowledge and encouragement for each other”.



During the festival Banbridge was full of music, colour, locals, shoppers and visitors alike throughout the day. Everyone enjoying the relaxed and positive vibe around the town. The standard and variety of buskers was superb. From harmonica playing, to vocalists, young rockers, jugglers and ukulele bands the capacity crowds were thrilled with the talent on display.

Sandra added: ***“From Strings perspective, we sang Irish songs to the delight of American visitors, had kids and parents bouncing around to Jungle book tunes, and we had a very youthful older lady wiggling her hips up and down the street to Buddy Holly. We are thrilled to bits to have won the ‘Spirit of Buskfest’ award. It has so much meaning for us and all the people in the community that have shared our journey. We intend to put the award money towards a CD recording of our songs that we can share with care homes and our fans.”***

May the Buskfest spirit live on – we can’t wait to next year!

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Walk ABC Challenge Reaches the Finish Line

Clocking up an impressive 150 miles over the course of 10 weeks, we'd like to say a massive well done to everyone who recently completed our demanding Walk ABC Challenge all in aid of charity.

Around 100 people – including many of you – helped add almost £500 to the pot for the Lord Mayor's chosen charities - Angel Wishes and



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