

LEISURE MATTERS

4th November 2022





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

A number of staff engagement sessions took place across the Borough.

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.



Staff are aware that Council has launched E-Learning which allows staff to carry out training on line.

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 <u>fiona.hamill@armaghbanbridge</u>craigavon.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:

MANDATORY E-LEARNING MODULES

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	 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: 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

HEALTH AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT



INDOOR LEISURE

Staff Survey

As you are aware at a meeting of full Council in February 2019, it was unanimously agreed to transform leisure services in-house.

Part of this transformation process includes consultation with our staff who will be affected by this change.

To help staff through this transformation we have:

- Held staff engagement sessions.
- Two previous staff surveys.
- We have created a website to hold all information regarding transformation: <u>https://www.armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk/leisureupdates/</u>
- Created an internal magazine 'Leisure Matters' to inform staff of the transformation process and provide departmental information.

This engagement is to help the Indoor Team transform from within and will continue this process.

We are now consulting with our indoor leisure staff to help us gauge:

- How you feel working in indoor leisure.
- How positive you feel in employment with Council.
- How you feel about the changes that have and are being made in indoor leisure.
- How valued you feel as a team member in indoor leisure.
- How well informed you are about indoor leisure services across the Borough.

We continue to consult with your to ensure that we capture your views to help you through the transformation journey.

This survey will be open from Friday 4th November to Monday 21st November 2022; we would ask that all indoor staff take the time to complete this survey.

The link to the survey is; <u>https://armaghbanbridgecraigavon.citizenspace.com/health-and-recreation/323c4109</u>

This survey can be accessed via a PC, laptop, IPad or your mobile phone.

This survey is done on an anonymous basis – we do not ask for names or other identifying information.



UNIFORMS - CONSULTATION

At the staff engagement sessions held during the summer 22' a number of staff lifeguard/leisure attendants asked if they could go back to wearing the internationally recognised yellow and red uniforms.

From the responses received (which were very low) the majority of staff asked to retain the Corporate ABC uniform.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Few points from the Health and Safety side for Indoor Leisure

- The Indoor Leisure Health and Safety Working Group are presently undertaking a review of all Risk Assessments with the aim to standardise and align for all facilities.
- Throughout October an Operational review is being conducted on Pool Plant Rooms to ensure procedures and practices are robust enough to ensure employee and public safety.

Lifeguards at SLLC were called into action following a bather who got into difficultly during swimming lessons. After spotting the bather in distress one of the Lifeguards jumped into the water to safely rescue the bather while remaining team members ensured the safety of others. Once recovered from the water the Lifeguard Team provided aftercare until the ambulance service arrived on scene who then took the casualty to hospital as a precautionary measure, but was later allowed to go home following the all clear

INCLUSIVE SPORTS FACILITY ACCREDITATION AWARDED TO SOUTH LAKE LEISURE CENTRE

Disability Sport NI has officially recognised Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council for championing the needs of people with disabilities and fully embracing the inclusivity agenda in the design, construction and management of its flagship £36m South Lake Leisure Centre.

Opened in November 2020, the new state-of-the-art leisure centre in Craigavon has become one of the only sports facilities in NI to achieve the highest level of accreditation possible in the Inclusive Sports Facility (ISF) scheme. First introduced in 2010, this scheme recognises excellence in the design of sports facilities which are inclusive of people with disabilities.

A council delegation recently gathered at South Lake Leisure Centre to mark this outstanding achievement and acknowledge the sterling work of McAdam Design and Farrans Construction who

collaborated closely with Disability Sport NI's Access Consultant to meet the rigorous design requirements needed to attain the prestigious accreditation.

They were also joined by senior representatives of Disability Sport NI, Southern Health and Social Care Trust, Sport NI and Armagh Banbridge and Craigavon Sports Forum who were



able to watch local disability sports clubs give demonstrations of inclusive activities such as wheelchair basketball, boccia, cycling, circuits and Tai Chi.

Delighted to be presented with a certificate of ISF accreditation for this landmark facility from Disability Sport NI Chairperson Paddy Marshall, Lord Mayor Councillor Paul Greenfield said:

"South Lake Leisure Centre represents a major investment in the health and wellbeing of all people in this borough.

In delivering our largest capital project, there was a collective will by all stakeholders to ensure it meets the highest accessibility standards and is inclusive and welcoming to all.

This accreditation is a ringing endorsement that we have raised the bar in creating a centre of excellence where people with disabilities can increase their participation in sport and physical activity.

Thanks to the highly skilled teams whose hard work and dedication helped create this jewel in the crown of inclusive leisure facilities. With its excellent facilities and unrivalled activity programme, it is already having a positive impact on addressing health inequalities in this borough.

Going forward, we are committed to working closely with statutory partners and local groups to provide quality opportunities for people with disabilities, who are often under-represented in sport, to lead active and healthy lives.

It is guaranteed to be a game changer in realising our vision of make this borough the most physically active in Northern Ireland by 2030, as outlined in our Get Moving ABC Framework."

Acknowledging the scope of work involved in ensuring inclusivity was a design driver of this large-scale project from start to finish, Disability Sport NI Chief Executive Officer, Kevin O'Neill, added:

"Disability Sport NI is delighted to award South Lake Leisure Centre the Excellence Level of our Inclusive Sports Facility Accreditation scheme. We would like to congratulate Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council, McAdam Design, Farrans Construction and our Access Consultant for working together to create one of the most inclusive sports facilities not only here in Northern Ireland but throughout the UK and Ireland.

Statistics show that people with disabilities in Northern Ireland are still almost half as likely to regularly participate in sport and recreation as non-disabled people. Therefore, we would like to thank the council and everyone involved in the project for pro-actively tackling the under

representation of disabled people in sport and recreation and designing a sports facility that meets the optimum levels of good practice for access and sporting needs of disabled people."

Disability Sport NI also presented a special award to McAdam Design in recognition of their work supporting South Lake Leisure Centre to achieve ISF Accreditation.



Since the centre opened, council staff have worked closely with Disability Sport NI to build on the success of two well-established programmes, Inclusive Sport and Leisure and Get Out, Get Active, and to expand the range of inclusive indoor and outdoor activities delivered as part of these programmes: Craigavon Boccia Club; Wheelie Active Club; Inclusive Gym; South Lake Disability Sports Clubs; Nordic Walking and Inclusive Cycling.

In addition, the Southern Health and Social Care Trust are taking advantage of the excellent facilities at the centre to deliver popular activities for people with disabilities such as Fit 4 U and Fit 4 U 2. The children attending the All Stars Disability Summer Scheme also enjoyed swimming and water sports activities.

Earlier this year, the council launched the Carer Pass scheme in partnership with the Southern Health and Social Care Trust, enabling primary carers of an adult with a learning disability within the borough to avail of reduced rate membership at any council leisure facility.

By awarding the contract to operate an onsite café to social enterprise Café IncredABLE, the council continues to increase opportunities for people with learning disabilities and autism to gain valuable skills in catering whilst also providing them with meaningful social, recreational, and educational opportunities.

Children attending special schools and Learning Support Units can also take part in competitions hosted at the centre in activities such as New Age Kurling, boccia and sports hall athletics.

The centre is also home to a growing number of disability sports groups including the Craigavon Lakers Wheelchair Basketball Club, Ripples Special Olympics Swimming Club and ABC Autism Group.

It is now the intention to pursue the ISF accreditation for both Banbridge Leisure Centre and Orchard Leisure Centre.

SPORTS DEVELOPMENT



<u>GET OUT GET ACTIVE (GOGA), IS NAMED THE BEST HEALTH AND WELLBEING INITIATIVE AT</u> THIS YEARS ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC SERVICE EXCELLENCE (APSE) AWARDS



We are absolutely thrilled that our inclusive physical activity programme '**Get Out**, **Get Active** (**GOGA**) **In Action**', delivered in conjunction with our partners <u>Disability Sport NI</u> was named overall winner for Best Health and Wellbeing Initiative at this year's Association of Public Service Exc<u>ellence</u> (APSE) Awards. Big #shoutout to our Sports Development Officers Ryan McQuillan, Clare Weir and Roisin O'Hagan! To read more on this story https://bit.ly/3ERmnCN

Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council and Disability Sport NI's inclusive physical activity programme 'Get Out, Get Active (GOGA) In Action' was the overall winner for Best Health and Wellbeing Initiative at this year's Association of Public Service Excellence (APSE) Awards.

Held last month, the APSE Awards are specific to frontline services provided by UK local authorities and aim to promote and celebrate outstanding achievement and innovation within this sector.

Vice Chair of ABC Council's Leisure and Community Services Committee, Councillor Declan McAlinden said:

"To be recognised by these prestigious national awards is a source of real pride for Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council, particularly given the outstanding quality and caliber of our fellow finalists." Armagh City Banbridge & Craigavon Borough Council

"Picking up the top honour for Best Health and

Wellbeing Initiative is a true endorsement for the dedicated work the team behind this fantastic programme undertake to ensure all local residents have the opportunity to not only improve their fitness and wellbeing but also to make friends, engage in their community, gain confidence, achieve goals and feel positive!"

Involving a range of partners and local volunteers, the GOGA Programme targets the hardest to reach, least active disabled and non-disabled people in the borough to encourage participation in inclusive fun activities together, such as Tai Chi for Health, Buggy Fit, Nordic Walking, GOGA Fit.

Speaking about the Awards, Paul O'Brien, APSE Chief Executive said:

"This year we received an overwhelming number of submissions for the Awards, with each one demonstrating a clear commitment to the goals of continuous improvement and the delivery of excellence in public services. It is a real honour to recognise the fantastic work local councils do at the frontline. Today is their day."

Further information

To learn more about the GOGA Programme or to get involved, contact Ryan McQuillan at rmcquillan@liveactiveni.co.uk, or phone 077 99137 291



JUNIOR SPORTS AWARDS 2022

The Armagh Banbridge and Craigavon Junior Sports Awards 2022 sponsored by Manfreight Limited were held on Friday 14th October in the Armagh City Hotel. The evening celebrated and showcased the wealth of sporting talent in the Borough.

The Awards were attended by 250 individuals and brought together 62 shortlisted athletes, teams, coaches and volunteers, recognising and rewarding their achievements and celebrating commitment and excellence in participation and performance over a disruptive two years in the sporting calendar.

Special guests at the event were three of the Borough's Birmingham Commonwealth Games Athletes, cyclist Matthew Teggart and boxers Jake Tucker and Clepson Dos Santos.

Awards winners on the night were;

Volunteer Awards sponsored by Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council

Kate Crilly (St Brenda's Camogie Club, Ballymacnab), Hannah Brownlee (Portadown Ladies Hockey Club) and Ben Robinson (Banbridge and Rathfriland Karate Club)



Junior School Team of the Year sponsored by Armagh Sports and Trophies

Ulster and All Ireland Champions Royal School Armagh U14 Girls Hockey Team

Junior Club Team of the Year sponsored by Manfreight Limited

Northern Ireland Champions Portadown Ladies Hockey Club's U15 Team

Junior Male of the Year sponsored by Moss Construction

Ulster, All Ireland and Irish Junior Cadet Champion Lochlainn Beagan from Sean Doran's Boxing Club, Keady

Junior Female of the Year sponsored by Donaghy's Shoefair Sports

Irish All Round Gymnastic Champion and member of the Irish Olympic start squad Estella Volkoff from Salto Gymnastic Club

Youth School Team of the Year sponsored by Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council

Double Ulster Champions and All Ireland Finalists Banbridge Academy 1st XI Boys Hockey Team

Youth Club Team of the Year sponsored by McKeever Sports

Antrim Division 1 League and 'A' grade Champions, St Mary's Gaelic Athletic Club's Minor Gaelic Football Team

School Coach of the Year sponsored by Sport Northern Ireland

William Moore – successful coach to Ulster and All Ireland winners Royal School Armagh U14 Girls Hockey Team

Armagh City

Banbridge

& Craigavon

Borough Council

Club Coach of the Year sponsored by Sport Northern Ireland

Head coach of Portadown Ladies Hockey Club's U13 and U15 Northern Ireland Champions as well Ulster U18 Inter Provincial Champions Suzanne Evans.

Chairman's Award sponsored by Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon Sports Forum

Ulster and Ireland U18 Rugby Player Michael Burnett from City of Armagh Rugby Club who played for Ireland U18 in the Six Nations Tournament. Michael is also part of the Armagh Minors Squad.

Youth Male of the Year sponsored by Total Hockey

Ulster and Irish Hockey player Charlie Rowe who made his debut for the Irish Senior Men's Team and captained Banbridge Academy 1st XI Boys Hockey Team to be double Ulster Champions and All Ireland Finalists, as well as the Ulster U18 Team who were Inter Provincial Champions.

Youth Female of the Year sponsored by Manfreight Limited

Great Britain archer Kathryn Morton from Ballyvally Archers, Banbridge who won Individual Silver and Team Silver and Bronze at the European Field Archery Championships as well as Individual Bronze at the European Indoor Championships. Kathryn has a World Senior Ranking of 12th and 1st in U21

POSITIVE AGEING MONTH

Positive Ageing Month is an October festival of events and activities for older people, celebrating the contribution made to communities.



As part of Get Moving ABC Sport Development delivered a number of programmes including

BAT AND CHAT

The social Table Tennis sessions were held in Banbridge Leisure Centre and South Lake Leisure Centre for both beginners wanting to learn and those more experienced who wanted to further develop their skills. Session were ran in partnership with Banbridge Table Tennis Club and Craigavon Table Tennis Club with 16 participants at each.



COUCH TO 3K

The Couch to 3K, 6 week running programme is currently ongoing in Lurgan Park. Sessions are running twice weekly with 21 participants taking part.

LET'S FISH

The social angling session, which was ideal for beginners took place in Craigavon with 7 participants taking part.



BLACK PATHS TOURS

Two sessions were organised to explore the black path network around Craigavon. The Seagoe, Carn and Kernan tour was full with 30 participants. The Oxford Island Tour had 24 registered but had to be postponed with a new date still to be confirmed.

A number of the Indoor Leisure facilities also delivered sessions as part of Positive Ageing Month

RYAN MCQUILLAN RECOGNISED BY CEDAR

We are delighted that Ryan has been recognised for his phenomenal work in targeting the hardest to reach, least active disabled and not disabled people in the Borough and encouraging participation in the inclusive fun activities together such a Tai chi for health, Nordic walking an GOGA fit.



Well done Ryan

OUTDOOR LEISURE



AWARD FOR GOSFORD

We are delighted to announced that Gosford Forest Park, which attracts over half a million visitors a year and is one of NI's most popular destinations for outdoor recreation, has scooped two awards – 'Forest Park of the Year' and 'Children's Activity of the Year' – at the Holiday at Home Staycation Awards NI 2022.

It is without doubt that this fantastic facility won these two awards due to the hard work and dedication shown by all the staff who have worked to improve the services the Forest Park has to offer the public.

These inaugural awards are all about honouring and recognising those who make holidaying at home great. The crème de la crème of NI's hospitality and tourism industry joined host Pamela Ballantine at the Crowne Plaza, Belfast on Saturday 22 October to celebrate the best-in-class of food, accommodation, leisure and entertainment providers – all of whom were nominated and voted by the public.



Over 30 categories were up for grabs encompassing an array of businesses: pubs; restaurants; B&Bs; hotels, coffee shops; static and touring caravan sites; glamping sites; and food takeaway to name but a few.

Accepting both awards on behalf of Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council, Deputy Lord Mayor Councillor Tim McClelland said:

"I'm delighted to pick up two awards here tonight. Gosford Forest Park is now rightfully recognised by the public as the jewel in the crown of forest parks in NI offering the best adventure and inclusive play facilities for children.

Thanks to everyone who voted and to the council staff who do a superb job managing and maintaining it all year round.



Since the council took over the recreation management of this stunning 240-acre diverse woodland and open parkland in 2019, we have led on implementing a £5m multi-phase development plan.

Now, three years on, a swathe of improvements have transformed Gosford Forest Park into a five-star adventure-packed visitor destination where people of all ages and abilities can enjoy an unrivalled range of outdoor pursuits."

It now boasts 16km of walking, horse riding, mountain bike and pump track trails, a first-of-its-kind giantsized outdoor adventure children's play area made up of five iconic super structures linked by a 3km woodland trail, accessible glamping eco-pods, ample parking spaces, a deer park, children's play park and a caravan and camping park.

The hugely successful All Out Trekking project, delivered in partnership with Disability Sport NI, has provided opportunities for people with disabilities or restricted mobility to access the forest's walking and mountain biking trails using four-wheeled, battery powered buggies.

The council plans to further enhance the visitor experience at Gosford Forest Park and support the long-term sustainability and growth of rural tourism in the borough.



FIREWORKS DISPLAY

This month saw the amazing fireworks spectacular display taking place at Craigavon Lakes on the 27th October 2022.

This brought 1000's of people from across the Borough to the Lakes to view this wonderful display and enjoy the magical carnival parade from 'Rushfear'.

A big thank you and well done to all the staff who organised and worked at this event It was simply Spooktacular......





CODE OF CONDUCT LAUCHED FOR THE NEWRY/PORTADOWN CANAL TOWPATH

This summer Council produced and published a 'Code of Conduct' for users of the Newry/Portadown Canal Towpath.

The Canal Towpath is a fantastic asset for the people of our borough and is a place to slow down, unwind, to enjoy nature and get outdoors.

There are a large number of people using Canal Towpath for various activities which include cycling, walking, dog walking, boating and fishing to name a few. From mid-June to September this year there have been 16, 548 walkers and 9,539 cyclists using the towpath.

Given the large number of users there are times when there can be a conflict of interest between those using the towpath.

Shared use of this facilities relies on everyone being considerate towards each other and we hope by working together, we can achieve a safe and friendly environment for all users to enjoy.

Over the summer Councils graphic designer created an animation and a landing page for the Newry Portadown Canal & social media content to promote the code with the tag line 'Let's Share a Great Space' - to see the code of conduct or our QR code please go to https://getactiveabc.com/towpath/.

We would encourage all members of staff to follow the Code of Conduct if using the site and if asked to advise customers to visit the link and obey the Code of Conduct when using this site



WHAT IS TAKING PLACE IN THE HEALTH AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Sink your teeth into our fangtastic Getactiveabc Halloween 2022 extravaganza Offrom Thursday 27 October-Fri 4 November

EFireworks at the Lakes - Set to music, 'Creatures of the Night' themed firework display at Craigavon Lakes

Fa-boo-lous Rushmere Fest & Halloween Carnival Parade
 Wonderfully Wicked Halloween Multi-Sports Camps
 Spine-tingling Craigavon Golf & Ski Snowtube & Ski

Halloween Special

Spooky Street Play Sessions

Beastly Bowling Games Room at Dromore Community Centre

VIP Halloween Competition [Very Important Pumpkins] For information on all Halloween activities, events, and for details on safety procedures in relation to the firework

display 👉 getactiveabc.com/halloween

Fear not! <u>#wegotthis</u> with our partners <u>Rushmere Shopping</u> <u>Centre</u>

#getactiveabc #getoutdoorsabc



BIRDIES SPECIAL OLYMPICS GOLF CLUB

Level 4 Individual Stroke Play 9 Hole: Division 1 Denise Fegan - Bronze, Division 4 David Wharburton - Gold Division 5 Jamie Doran - 4th Level 5 Individual Stroke Play 18 Hole Division 2 Leigh McKivergen - Bronze #getactiveabc #getoutdoorsabc





Armagh City Banbridge & Craigavon Borough Council

LEARN HOW TO SAVE A BABY'S LIFE -

EXTRA DATES ADDED 🕹 🚑

Do you know basic first aid skills that could help save your child's life? Our trained volunteers are now offering the <u>Royal Life</u> <u>Saving Society UK - RLSS UK</u> 'Save A Baby's Life' course to help give parents and carers the confidence to put emergency lifesaving skills into action.

Due to high demand extra sessions have been added and spaces are available across the Borough. For more information and to book your place on this **FREE** course <u>getactiveabc.com/events/save-a-babys-life</u>



Enjoy spooktacular fun at our Halloween multi-sport camps

Suitable for ages 5-11 kids can enjoy a wide range of activities, sports and games, whilst making new friends in a fun and safe environment.

Spaces are filling up fast but there is still good availability in:

Orchard Leisure Centre | Mon 31 Oct | 10am-12pm

Orchard Leisure Centre | Tue 1 Nov | 10am-12pm

Tandragee Recreation Centre | Thu 3 Nov | 2pm-4pm

For a full list of $\frac{\text{#getactiveabc}}{\text{place}}$ Halloween camps and to book a place

getactiveabc.com/events/halloween-kids-multi-sports-camps



Best Health and Wellbeing Initiative at this year's Association of Public Service Excellence (APSE) Awards & Green Flag Awards 🎉 🄍



We are absolutely thrilled that our inclusive physical activity programme '**Get Out**, **Get Active** (**GOGA**) **In Action**', delivered in conjunction with our partners <u>Disability Sport NI</u> was named overall winner for Best Health and Wellbeing Initiative at this year's Association of Public Service Exc<u>ellence (APSE)</u> Awards. Big #shoutout to our Sports Development Officers Ryan McQuillan, Clare Weir and Roisin O'Hagan! To read more on this story **bruck**/https://bit.ly/3ERmnCN

BEASTLY BOWLING & GHOULISH GAMES ROOM AT DROMORE COMMUNITY CENTRE 😒 👘 🥯 🔅

Catch up with friends and family and <u>#GetCompetitive</u> in the games room at Dromore Community Centre. Choose a package that suits you and enjoy a night of bowling, air hockey, pool or football

Friday Family Fun Nights | 1 hr games room

Casual Use | 1 hr games room & 1 bowling lane

Party Packages | 1 hour games room | 2 hour games room | 1 hour games room & 1 hour party room with kitchen

For full details and pricing <u>http://getactiveabc.com/.../beastly-</u> <u>bowling-ghoulish...</u>

#getactiveabc

