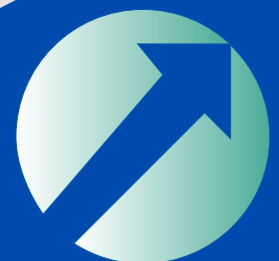




ACTIVITY REPORT 2023 2024

Newry and Mourne Co-operative Limited
incorporating Newry and Mourne Enterprise
Agency and Newry and Mourne
Developments Limited

Newry and Mourne Co-operative is a Charity
(Charity number: XT25288).
Newry and Mourne Enterprise Agency is a member
of Enterprise Northern Ireland, the Federation of
Local Enterprise Agencies.



STAFF / AGENDA



2023-24 NEWRY AND MOURNE ENTERPRISE ACTIVITY REPORT

2023-24

www.nmea.net

presented at the fiftieth Annual General Meeting of NEWRY & MOURNE CO-OPERATIVE LIMITED incorporating NEWRY & MOURNE ENTERPRISE AGENCY and NEWRY & MOURNE DEVELOPMENTS LIMITED

Held on Monday the 16th of December 2024 at 1:00 pm.

AGENDA

1. Chairman's Business, Chairman, Peter McEvoy.
2. Apologies.
3. Minutes of last Annual General Meeting.
4. Chairman's Report.
5. Enterprise Agency Report.
6. Financial Director's Report.
7. Auditor's Report.
8. Elections to Board of Directors.
9. Election of Corporate Representatives to Annual General Meeting of Newry and Mourne Developments PLC.
10. To re-appoint Fitzpatrick & Kearney Accountants as Auditors to the company.
11. Guest speakers.

By Order of the Board, Michael Hughes, Hon. Secretary.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chairman: Peter McEvoy
Vice-Chairman: Kevin Starrs
Secretary: Michael Hughes
Directors: Gordon Coulter MBE, Ronan Dennedy, Brendan Jackson, Davy Hyland, Claire McCullough, John MacMahon, Kevin Magill KC and Frank O'Connor.

BANKERS

Ulster Bank, Hill Street, Newry.

AUDITORS

Fitzpatrick & Kearney,
10c Marcus Square, Newry.

SOLICITORS

Donnelly, Neary & Donnelly,
Downshire Road, Newry.

NEWRY & MOURNE CO-OPERATIVE STAFF 2022-23

Dr Conor Patterson	Chief Executive
Liam Quinn	Financial Controller and Principal Business Advisor
Jennifer Malone	Business Development Executive (Property)
Colin Hanna	Information, Research and Computer Technology Co-ordinator
Stephen McClelland	Social Economy Advisor
Pauline Coghlan	Work4Uplus Programme Manager
Ciara McKenna	Work4Uplus Programme Administrator
Maeve McParland	Education to Employment Programme Manager
Rory Carroll	Digital Content Producer
Maria Coyle	Finance Officer
Michelle Frost	Receptionist
Carol Magee	Administrator
Kieran Mathers	Associate

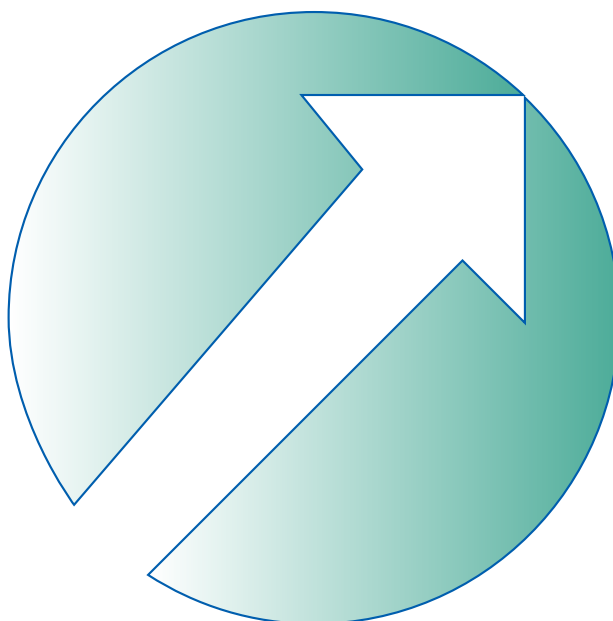
Newry and Mourne Co-operative is a Charity (Charity number: XT25288).

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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



2023-24 NEWRY AND MOURNE ENTERPRISE ACTIVITY REPORT

The impact of the funding uncertainty which I reported on last year, has had a significant impact on the finances of the organisation this year. While we secured new sources of grant aid for our mission in the form of a new suite of programmes, there were significant time lags before the funding came through to allow us again to provide support for our entrepreneurs, young people at risk and the wider community.

The restoration of devolved partnership government here in the north in February 2024 was undoubtedly a positive development during the year, though the lack of political direction for so much of the previous ten years, a period which included the disruption wrought by the global pandemic, has surely been damaging not least in delaying the restructuring of how public services, in particular health, are delivered. Inertia has become embedded here. We need change! I look across the border and on every metric this jurisdiction is underperforming relative to the south. The differentials are most stark with respect to the financing of public services and improvements to the public realm. While the lack of political direction here was not good (better to have our community's representatives working together than not!) equally it has to be said that the ship of state that they now sail in together hasn't enough resources to fuel it, especially through the stormy waters of international economic uncertainty being whipped up by the forces of exponential technological change, war, political disruption and climate change. We have already severely under-funded infrastructure schools and social care, the poorest paid medics and public servants in these islands - all the local political co-operation in the world can't resolve the overarching reality that this region is too small to be economically viable and is grappling still with the legacy of its history. Robbing Peter to pay Paul will solve nothing. Neither the Irish or British governments as co-guarantors of the international agreement which underpins how this place has to be governed can deny their responsibilities to actively engage in and to help fund the modernisation which is urgently required. The devastating flooding which brought so much havoc last autumn across Newry and South Armagh not least on our sites at Flurrybridge and WIN was a direct result of aged inadequate poorly maintained infrastructure. It is not in the two governments' long term interest and certainly not in ours that entrepreneurs are unable to expand their businesses because of failing or non-existent infrastructure, that our workforce is sicker because of the worst performing health service in Western Europe and that so many of our young people are leaving never to return. The commitment of all political parties in the Republic to provide increased funding of €1 billion to the Shared Island Programme is a welcome step in the right direction.

This organisation is in the cross hairs of this crisis just like every other body that has dedicated itself to making the region better. The NMCo-op&EA Board and its team of dedicated expert staff refuse to accept this as inevitable, however. We refuse to be cowed, to be cynical, to give up. And so in this last year we intensified our effort to support our local leaders and health advocates in their work through the Daisy Hill Future Group to

protect and improve the delivery of acute medical services at Daisy Hill Hospital. We supported the District Council in trying to move ahead with its ambitious physical regeneration programme for Newry. Our CEO, Conor Patterson, was appointed by the Economy Minister, Conor Murphy to provide him and the Department for the Economy with independent expert advice specifically on how to rebalance our regional economy. The establishment of a new network of Local Economic Partnerships in 2025 harnessing the insight and energies of local communities across the north with access to a budget of £45m and the requirement on Invest NI to make at least 65% of its investments outside of the four council areas that make up Greater Belfast is a direct result of the intensive work associated with that voluntary role. Our own community of Newry, South Armagh and South Down will benefit from this. This is a recognition of the experience and the expertise which resides in the organisation – as is the decision during the year by the UK National Lottery to fund our Work4UPlus programme for a third time. Why did they make that decision? Because that total £1.35m investment in the work of our team has already transformed the lives of 440 vulnerable young people in our area over the last decade. During the year we also continued to prioritise our critically important work to help entrepreneurs to start up new businesses (eleven on average every month during the year!) It is estimated that the contribution to the local economy of the businesses we have helped in the last 20 years is a staggering £1.35 billion; and we continued to provide practical help to scores of fellow social enterprises across Newry, Mourne and Down. It is so important that we can continue this effort. Certainly, our current economy minister has been an unstinting advocate of its value and we thank him for that. I want of course to thank the incredible activist workers that make up our small professional team, led by Conor Patterson supported by Liam Quinn. Without them we couldn't do what we do. I also want to thank all our partners that have despite their own budgetary challenges continued to financially support our work, Newry, Mourne and Down District Council, the Department for Communities and the Big Lottery Fund. But I would like this year to particularly thank our partner Local Enterprise Offices and County Councils in Meath and Louth for their support, stepping forward to fund cross border initiatives through our subsidiary WIN(EU) company.

In conclusion, I would like to thank my fellow voluntary directors for their continued support and I would like to thank all of those other organisations and groups that helped us during the year: the Newry Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership, Invest Northern Ireland, Newry Chamber of Commerce and Trade, Newry BID, the County Armagh Development Trust, Kilkeel Development Association, the Confederation of Community Groups, Enterprise Northern Ireland, Southern Regional College, Dundalk Institute of Technology, Creative Spark, the institutions of the European Union, our European knowledge exchange partners, our local politicians and the press, local, national and international.

Peter McEvoy
Chairman
16th December 2024

Section 1

PROVISION OF WORKSPACE

2023-24 WIN - Work In Newry

Flurrybridge Enterprise Centre

PROVISION OF WORKSPACE

THE ENTERPRISE AGENCY DIVISION'S Mission Statement is "to contribute to the growth and prosperity and thus the social and political stability of the Newry & Mourne region by undertaking enterprise, business, economic and community development initiatives independently and in partnership with others".

Our two main objectives are:

- 1) To increase the stock of new businesses and increase the competitiveness of existing businesses in the Newry & Mourne area; and
- 2) To assist in the strategic development of the region by advising on the efficient allocation of resources, promoting the region as an investment location, and contributing to central and local government policy-making and service delivery.

The range of initiatives which we are now involved in are outlined in this report under the following headings:

- Provision of workspace
- Set up and growth of businesses and creation of employment
- Cross border/transnational partnerships and trade development
- WIN Consultants (EU)
- Community development
- Influencing policy and promoting the region
- Enterprise Northern Ireland

1. PROVISION OF WORKSPACE

1.1 Affordable workspace - vital economic infrastructure

In 2023/2024 WIN Business Park in Newry city centre, Warrenpoint Enterprise Centre next to Warrenpoint port, Flurrybridge Enterprise Centre on the A1/N1 Newry to Dublin road in South Armagh, Binnian Enterprise Centre at the harbour in Kilkeel and the Regional Development Centre at WIN provided 192,830 sq.ft. of light industrial and office space within which approximately 800 people were employed.

In 2023/2024 despite serious flooding at Flurrybridge and WIN Business Park at the end of October 2023 we did not lose any of our tenants and all the sites which we manage remained fully occupied with continued long waiting lists of business owners seeking space.

At Flurrybridge, the Enterprise Agency manages almost 60,000 square feet of high quality light industrial workspace. The Flurrybridge site is co-owned with the County Armagh Development Trust (CADeT) under the auspices of a joint venture company, Oriel Developments Ltd. Our efforts at Flurrybridge are supported by the Louth Local Enterprise Fund which is represented on the Board of Oriel Developments Ltd.

Binnian Enterprise Centre in Kilkeel is a partnership with Kilkeel Development Association, under the auspices of a joint venture company, Binnian Developments Ltd.

1.2 ThinkLab

The ThinkLab is a hi-tech resource at WIN Business Park like no other in the region which we deploy to support the development of our economy for the benefit of all in our community during what are likely to be difficult years ahead. It hosted many important meetings during the year including all those of the Newry Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership and the Daisy Hill Future Group and many of those of Newry Chamber of Commerce.

1.3 Flooding

A combination of unprecedented weather events and poorly maintained and under-invested infrastructure led to very serious flooding in Newry and South Armagh as well as Downpatrick and Portadown. Flurrybridge was particularly badly hit. We had to react decisively. Together with local politicians, Newry Mourne and Down District Council, Newry Chamber of Commerce and Newry BID, we secured a compensation package of up to £100k each for the businesses affected as well as an investment package to ensure that future flood risk can be mitigated. This was a very challenging period for the NMEA property management team and for our tenants but their hard work and resilience ensured that we overcame the crisis without losing any of our tenants.



WIN Business Park, Newry



Binnian Enterprise Centre, Kilkeel, South Down



Warrenpoint Enterprise Centre, South Down



Lobbying for a flood compensation package and an investment programme to mitigate future flood risk



Flooding on Canal Quay in Newry

Section 2

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND EMPLOYMENT CREATION

Say hello to your new
go-to source of expert business
advice in Northern Ireland.



Go Succeed
NI Business Support

2023-24 NMEA ACTIVITY REPORT

2. BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND EMPLOYMENT CREATION

2.1 The 'Exploring Enterprise' Programme

Under the auspices of the Enterprise NI federation of local enterprise agencies, NMCo-op&EA and Down Business Centre together launched a new central government-funded "Explore Enterprise Support Service" in July 2023. The initiative was funded by the UK Government Shared Prosperity Fund as part of a wider programme to provide self-employment and employment support to economically inactive individuals across Northern Ireland. It was a free service offering a first steps guide to starting a business or gaining employment. Participants did not need to have any qualifications to join the programme.

Explore Enterprise offered mentoring and training at a pace tailored to the needs of the individual providing them with an opportunity to work towards achieving a level 2 qualification.

Through the initiative, from July 2023 to March 2024, we helped four people to transition out of economic inactivity.

2.2 Business Start training and counselling during financial year 2023/2024

Developing the skills of prospective business owner/managers is the key to their future business success.

From October 2023 - March 2024, at a time of great uncertainty with respect to funding, Newry & Mourne Co-operative & Enterprise Agency continued to provide a comprehensive service package to support the creation of new businesses in the Newry & Mourne area (i.e. South Down, Newry City and South Armagh).

From April - September 2023 NMEA and its partner in mid and east Down, Down Business Centre, delivered the final phase of the Go-For-It NI Business Start-Up Programme in the Newry Mourne and Down district. This Programme was jointly funded by all of the District Councils in Northern Ireland (including Newry Mourne and Down) and the Economy Department. In March 2023, however, the EU financing which had made this and other economic development programmes possible for decades ended. We managed to secure a temporary extension of the Go-For-It programme while we embarked on major lobbying effort alongside the region's district councils and our fellow local enterprise agencies and our representative body, Enterprise NI. We succeeded, eventually, in securing a financial package from the UK Government Levelling Up initiative in September 2023 to enable a replacement initiative "Go Succeed" to be put in place up to March 2026.

During 2023/24, Liam Quinn led the delivery of NMEA's services for entrepreneurs. From April 2023 to March 2024 through Go-For-It and the Go Succeed he helped entrepreneurs in South Down, Newry and South Armagh to produce an average of 11 new start business plans per month 140 start-up business plans were completed over the twelve months from April 2023 to March 2024). As a result of this support 112 new businesses were established during the year in the Newry & Mourne area, creating an estimated 179 jobs. An independent evaluation of this form of support in Northern Ireland has concluded that the survival rate of the early stage businesses which take advantage of it is 80%.

Since 1984, 10,402 people in the Newry and Mourne area have received business start-up support from Enterprise Agency staff.

In the 23 years from April 2001 to March 2024, the Enterprise Agency has helped 3,096 new businesses to set up in South Down, Newry City and South Armagh creating an estimated 5,225 jobs generating tens of millions in additional income for our local economy every year. In aggregate over the last two decades more than £1.3 billion in local purchasing power has been generated by these micro-businesses and the jobs they have supported.

2.3 The Newry Mourne & Down Labour Market Partnership Enterprise Pathways Programme

The Newry Mourne and Down Labour Market Partnership was set up in April 2021 by the Department For Communities (DFC) and Newry Mourne and Down District Council to work with employer representatives, educationalists, development agencies and business lobby groups in the Newry Mourne and Down District to help the local economy to adapt to changes in the labour market and to support the development of a more skilled workforce and to create opportunities for those

ENTERPRISE WEEK
NEWRY CHAMBER
NEW ENTREPRENEURS & BUSINESS STARTUPS EVENT

DATE: Thursday 16th November 2023
TIME: 8am - 9:15am
VENUE: Canal Court Hotel & Spa, Newry
COST: FREE

MC: Deborah Loughran
Managing Director
King Communication

Maeve Finnegan
Managing Director
Mitso Marketing

Frankie Bannon
Owner
Studio Twenty Three

Liam Quinn
Newry & Mourne
Enterprise Agency

Principal Business Advisor, Liam Quinn, was a keynote speaker at the "New Entrepreneurs" Conference, Newry, November 2023



Liam Quinn, NMEA Principal Business Advisor, Carol Magee and Council officials at a business "Dragons Den" in Newry



A social enterprise mentoring session, the WIN ThinkLab, August 2023

Section 2

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND EMPLOYMENT CREATION

2023-24 WIN - Work In Newry

who are underemployed or unemployed. During the year NMCo-op&EA and Down Business Centre were together appointed by the Partnership to deliver a specialised "enterprise pathways" assistance package to recently established businesses set up by people who had been unemployed or part-time employed in the District whose new businesses had the potential to develop rapidly and become generators of employment and income for the local community. Under the auspices of this initiative NM Co-op&EA assisted 18 businesses in Newry, South Armagh and South Down in 2023/24. The package included a £500 grant for each business as well as 5 days of specialised mentoring.

Other projects supported with financing from the Labour Market Partnership and DFC included specialist training programmes delivered by Southern Regional College, a careers fair and a promotional programme delivered by Newry Chamber of Commerce.

During 2023/24 Conor Patterson chaired the Newry Mourne and Down Labour Market Partnership.

2.4 Growth and Scaling-Up Programme

In September 2023 NMCo-Op&EA and Down Business Centre together with private sector consultants, Full Circle Ltd, won a tender to deliver the UK Government-funded Growth And Scaling-Up programme in the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council area. Between October 2023 and March 2024 35 businesses based in Newry, South Armagh and South Down were supported through this initiative.

2.5 M1 Axis Business Support Programme

During a gap in funding for our business development activities, Liam Quinn delivered a financial health check service for our partner local enterprise offices in Meath and Louth counties.

2.6 The Social Enterprise Newry Mourne & Down Programme (SENMD)

Funded by Newry, Mourne and Down District Council, the Social Enterprise Newry Mourne Down Programme (SENMD) was co-ordinated and delivered by the Agency's Principal Social Enterprise Advisor, Stephen McClelland, in partnership with Down Business Centre. Social Enterprises make an important contribution to the local economy of the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council area. They create jobs for people who would otherwise be left out; provide vital services for people who might not get them otherwise, they reinvest their surpluses back into community projects and in many cases protect the environment.

There are over 200 organisations in the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council area involved at some level in social enterprise activity. During 2023/2024 the SENMD programme helped social entrepreneurs and community groups across the Newry Mourne and Down District to develop sustainable social enterprises with the motivation, the skills and the resources to ameliorate social problems and improve the lives of citizens in the area. NMCo-op&EA's bespoke support draws on this organisation's understanding as a social enterprise itself of what it takes to be a successful change-maker.

During the year 40 organisations received one-to-one mentoring support in idea development and 80 individuals from 40 organisations received one-to-many mentoring support at workshops in Newry, Mourne and Down. With assistance from the Programme 10 new social enterprises started up creating 14 jobs and 40 volunteering opportunities. SENAM levered almost £1 million of additional funding into participant enterprises. We estimate that 2,000 people in the District benefitted from the services delivered by these social enterprises during 2023/2024 in Newry, Downpatrick, Camlough, Kilkeel, Ballynahinch, Newcastle, Dundrum, Crossgar, Forkhill, Silverbridge, Warrenpoint, and Annacloy.

The social enterprises supported have helped address social issues such as dementia, autism, domestic violence, mental health, homelessness, new migrants, climate change and recycling and promote the potential of local heritage, tourism and outdoor activities, creative arts, media production and Irish language. During the year, several local social enterprises won awards for their work at local, regional and UK-wide levels. These awards generated positive media coverage on radio, television and in local and national newspapers and magazines.

We played a key role in the Newry Mourne and Down District Council Community Planning Strategic Stakeholders Forum helping to distribute almost £1 million of cost-of-living relief across the council district. NMCo-op&EA's Social Enterprise Team carried

NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN

LABOUR MARKET PARTNERSHIP

OUR FUTURE ACTION PLAN

WHO WE ARE?

NMD Labour Market Partnership support local employment and upskilling opportunities for residents and increase the supply of



ACCESS TO WORK INITIATIVES

- Work Start Pre-Employment Support
- Business to Schools Engagement



Social Enterprise Open Mic Night at the Thinklab, WIN Business Park



We worked with the Crossfire Trust, Crossmaglen, to complete the Community Ownership Fund Application



Stephen McClelland receiving a lifetime achievement award at the Social Enterprise NI Awards

out an evaluation of the Social Supermarket in Newry, Mourne and Down leveraging in more investment from the Department for Communities for a second year.

Working as a member Development Trusts NI Board we were also able to help local community-owned organisations to secure premises of their own through the Community Asset Transfer initiative and the UK Government Community Ownership Fund.

In October 2023, NMCo-op&EA's Principal Social Enterprise Advisor, Stephen McClelland, was presented with a lifetime achievement award by his peers from across the region at the N. Ireland Social Enterprise Awards in Belfast.

Section 3

CROSS BORDER AND TRADE DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES AND TRANSNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

2023-24 NMEA ACTIVITY REPORT



Conor Patterson meets NIO Minister, Steve Baker MP, with other Intertrade Ireland Board members to highlight the enormous potential of the all-island economy

3. CROSS BORDER AND TRADE DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES AND TRANSNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

3.1 The Cross Border Local Enterprise Partnership Co-Innovate Programme

NMEA continued during the year to act as the secretariat for the "Cross Border Local Enterprise Partnership" which brought together the N. Ireland Local Enterprise Agencies, Enterprise NI and the southern border county Local Enterprise Offices to work on various cross border initiatives.

3.2 Peace-Plus Programme funding bid in Partnership with Intertrade Ireland, Enterprise NI and the RoI Local Enterprise Offices

During the year NMEA worked with Enterprise NI and the border county Local Enterprise Offices to scope the potential for increased collaboration between enterprise agencies north and south of the border. In July 2022 Kieran Mathers was appointed by the enterprise agency/office partners to coordinate this work on a part-time basis, agreeing to come out of retirement to do so. The border county local enterprise offices continued to fund Kieran's post (hosted by NMEA) during 2023/2024.

3.3 WIN CONSULTANTS (EU)

www.winconsultants.ie



The Purpose of our WIN(EU) division is to enable the Co-op & Enterprise Agency's expert team to tender for EU Programme contracts, participate in EU knowledge exchange programmes and to work with partners in the Republic and across the EU after Brexit. The company is registered in the Irish Republic and headquartered at the Creative Spark Centre for Creativity and Innovation in Dundalk.

Through WIN (EU) our intentions are to:

- 1) Secure an income which the Co-operative can then invest in projects which support economic development and social harmony in Newry & Mourne, and
- 2) Be able to operate more effectively beyond Newry & Mourne, in the Republic of Ireland, the EU and other international settings.

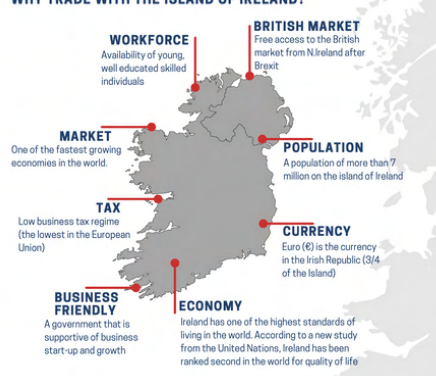
3.4 InnovateAccelerateEurope Programme

InnovateAccelerateEurope is a cross border programme in the so-called "M1/A1 Corridor" which encompasses Newry Mourne & Down/Louth/Meath, a large region which extends from the suburbs of Greater Belfast to the suburbs of Greater Dublin. It was designed by NMEA and WIN (EU) to prepare local companies who hadn't before traded outside the island of Ireland for the complexities and opportunities associated with trading into Europe. Ultimately our hope is that these companies will be able to internationalise successfully, create more jobs, generate higher profits and survive the challenges presented by Brexit and international political and economic uncertainty.

In April 2023 funding was secured from Newry Mourne & Down Council, Louth County Council and Meath County Council allowing us to continue delivering InnovateAccelerateEurope Programme support to local companies in 2023 and 2024.

Between September and December 2023, with the help of a team of mentors, 21 company owner/managers from the craft sector in the region drew up a set of internationalisation objectives based on their learning from four online training sessions which they participated in as part of the programme.

WHY TRADE WITH THE ISLAND OF IRELAND?



The cross border InnovateAccelerateEurope Programme partners

Benefits of Innovate Accelerate Europe:



InnovateAccelerateEurope offered a unique package of support

Each client company either had a professional bespoke promotional video produced for them which a specialist consultant ensured was platformed online to maximum effect, or was supported by a specialist advisor at the Creative Spark FabLab in Dundalk to re-imagine the making and packaging of their products. Slackpress Productions Ltd were appointed to produce 14 promotional videos. These were completed by April 2024. 7 client businesses signed up for a package of support provided by the Creative Spark FabLab. Both options were very valuable takeaways for each client company, something which no other business support programme in Northern Ireland or the Irish Republic offered during 2023/24.

This intensive body of work was all completed between November 2023 and April 2024.

The international business to business collaboration element of the programme got underway in November and December 2023. A panel of EU-based agents helped client companies to target key EU markets (The Vision Works in Germany, MindShare in France, LimeUp in Italy and INDA Iniciativas Spain). This culminated in a Virtual B2B Meet in April 2024 when our 21 client companies were brought together virtually to engage in dialogues about business collaboration opportunities with advisors based in Germany, Italy, Spain and France. The advisors on the French market included the director of the Invest NI French office in Paris and the Commercial Attaché at the Irish embassy in Paris. The primary purpose of these meetings was to allow our business owners to question in-market experts and to gain experience of pitching, listening and sharing ideas internationally.



Section 3

CROSS BORDER AND TRADE DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES AND TRANSNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

2023-24 WIN - Work In Newry

The 21 companies from the region who participated in the Programme during 2023/24 were:

Ash Gallery	Newry, Mourne & Down
Pottery Preacher House	Newry, Mourne & Down
Caroline Gallaher Art	Newry, Mourne & Down
Aimmemarie Maker	Newry, Mourne & Down
Aine McKenna Ceramics	Newry, Mourne & Down
Cushla of Gullion	Newry, Mourne & DownDown
Diana McKeivitt Art	Newry, Mourne & Down
Brid Fanning Art	Meath
Anita Reynolds Art	Meath
Siobhan Daly Design	Meath
Kids Clothing	Meath
Clare O'Connor Crafts	Meath
Hanalee Cards	Meath
Ion Candles	Meath
A Sorted Affair	Meath
Tidings	Louth
Sophie Hunter Millinery	Louth
Loren Natural Skincare	Louth
Celtic Valley Ceramics	Louth
Etaion Ceramics	Louth
Lana Dullaghan Designs	Louth

The Enterprise Agency/Office team carried out reconnaissance missions to Spain, Budapest, Italy, Brussels and Paris to identify new business collaboration prospects and wider market and policy trends ("prospecting"), with an emphasis on:

- Establishing the "state of the market" and identifying future opportunities for key sectors.
- Investigating new models and practises.
- Building relationships and sourcing "warm contacts" across the EU.

3.5 EU Giggin' Policy Programme

In 2023/2024 we continued our work with a group of development agencies and higher/further education institutions from the Netherlands, Spain and Italy and Louth and Meath counties in another EU-funded project focused on bringing young people into the policy debate on the challenges and opportunities associated with the Gig Economy – GIGGIN POLICY.

Our focus was on gathering the latest knowledge about the gig economy from across the EU and sharing it widely, highlighting the implications of shifts in the labour market for young people preparing to enter the world of work. We believe that young people should be able to help shape the changes that will affect their future prospects by sharing their experiences of the gig economy and involving them in the design of new policy instruments. We tested this departure from the status quo in a series of Policy Innovation Co-Design Labs, one of which was in Newry and formed a "Territorial Policy Pact" to engage with key influencers in the policy-making arena.



Promoting local home market producers in markets across the EU



Reconnaissance Mission, Brussels



Carol Magee representing NMEA at a Giggin' Policy project partner meeting in Kaunas, Lithuania



Preparing InnovateAccelerateEurope Programme client businesses for their attendance at the Soilse craft fair exhibition in the RDS, Dublin, January 2024

During the year, Rory Carroll of NMCop&EA and WIN(EU) created and then managed the website for the project, as well as publishing a series of e-zines to share information on the work of the project partners. In May 2023 Carol Magee represented NMEA at a project partner meeting in Kaunas, Lithuania and in November 2023 Colin Hanna attended the final partner meeting in Leeuwarden in the Netherlands. The Project ended in January 2024. Its free learning resources can be accessed at www.gigginpolicy.com.

Our project partners were: Friesland College; Learning Hub Friesland; Friese Poort; The Municipality Of Leeuwarden; Meath County Council; Dundalk Institute Of Technology; Barcelona Chamber Of Commerce; EDUCM (Catalonia); and KSPMC (Lithuania).

Section 3

CROSS BORDER AND TRADE DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES AND TRANSNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

2023-24 NMEA ACTIVITY REPORT



3.6 EU Circular.rur Programme



From April 2022 until April 2024, WIN(EU) and a partnership of universities, local authorities and development agencies from Germany, Spain, Italy, Greece and Croatia as part of an EU Commission programme worked together to produce a training course and other tools to promote recycling, waste reduction and more sustainable use of energy and other scarce resources as a means by which rural economies across the EU could generate new opportunities for business and wealth creation. WIN(EU)'s contribution was to produce six online training modules in five languages.

Conor Patterson represented WIN(EU) at partner meetings in Hamburg in May 2023 and Galicia, Spain, in January 2024. In October 2024, Meath County Council and WIN(EU) hosted the projected partners in Louth, Meath and Dublin, introducing them to circular economy good practice across Leinster.



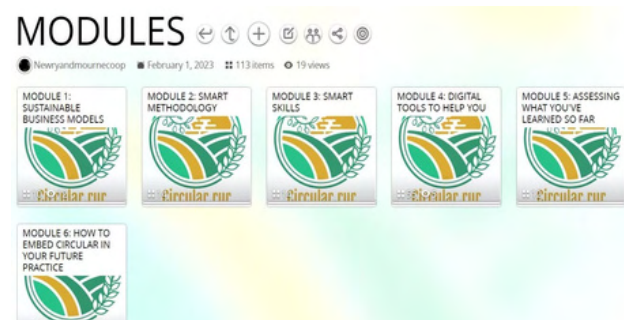
Sharing what we do (sometimes quite well) and building international partnerships is an effective way to promote our region

3.7 EU Change4Good Programme



In June 2022 WIN(EU) in partnership with development agencies from Spain and Italy secured funding from the EU Erasmus Programme for a project to promote the adoption of Corporate Social Responsibility by SME's in the European Union. During 2023/2024 the WIN(EU) team began its programme of work to host six international online seminars and then produce six experience exchange videos for dissemination online.

The first of these online seminars took place in March 2024. In January 2024, Conor Patterson represented WIN(EU) at a project partner meeting in Galicia, Spain.



Online training resources on the Circular Economy produced by the NMEA team

3.8 EU SeaLabHaus Programme



WIN(EU) was one of 12 partners from four EU Atlantic nations (Ireland, Portugal, France and Spain) which submitted a proposal for €3.2m from the EU Interreg Atlantic Area Programme to finance a 3-year project on marine and coastal tourism. The project proposal was approved by the EU Commission in September 2023 and work began in February 2024. The other two island-of-Ireland partners were University College Dublin and the South Eastern Technical University (SETU) based in Wexford and Waterford.

In March 2024 Meath County Council joined the project as an associate partner in anticipation of replacing WIN as a direct partner and then appointing WIN as a sub-contracted delivery agent on the project.



A Circular.rur project meeting at the FabLab, Creative Spark, Dundalk



WEBINAR 1

Corporate Social Responsibility:
A Managing Director's Perspective

Speaker: Julie Gibbons

Managing Director of a company in the financial services sector in Ireland employing 800 people



A Change4Good Webinar, the first of six to be produced by end of 2024 by the WIN (EU) team

Section 4

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

2023-24 WIN - Work In Newry

4. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

4.1 Big Lottery-funded WORK4UPLUS2 Programme

In 2023/2024 NMCo-op&EA was able to continue delivering its transformative individualised support package for young people aged between 14 and 18 in the Newry Mourne & Down, and Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon Council areas who had endured adversities from early childhood. This was made possible by an unprecedented third award of funding from the UK Big Lottery “Reaching Out and Empowering Young People Fund” in November 2023 to enable us to run another three-year programme. Work4U was the only project in Northern Ireland to be financed by the Lottery for a third time. In 2013 the Enterprise Agency secured its first allocation of £500k from the UK Lottery followed by a second grant of £500k in 2018 and a further £325,201 in November 2023. This brings the Lottery’s total financial commitment to the Agency over a 13 year period to £1.35m, a measure of the value it places on the work of the team at WIN.

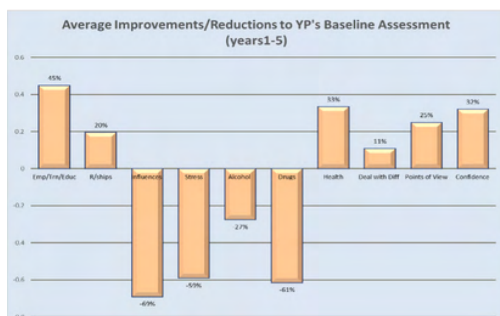
The core aims of the Programme are to help improve the confidence and self-esteem of young people at risk, to develop their life skills and to help them to be “work ready”. The Enterprise Agency has been assisted in this effort by two “primary delivery partners”, the Education Authority and Future Proof (previously REACT). The training was delivered in the young people’s “Haven” at WIN Business Park, Newry and in a bespoke Retail Training Unit also at WIN. The Work4UPlus Programme is expertly managed by Pauline Coghlan with administration support from Ciara McKenna.

In 2023 an independent evaluation of the Work4UPlus2 programme carried out by Brian Stratford & Associates found that almost 90% of the vulnerable young people on the programme were known to the PSNI and all had endured “Adverse Childhood Experiences” (ACE’s) which had impacted on them in a variety of different ways. The behavioural manifestations of these adverse childhood experiences included poor social skills, low confidence and self-esteem, anxiety, self-harm, risk-taking behaviour, anti-social activity, smoking or vaping, experimenting with drugs & alcohol and poor anger management.

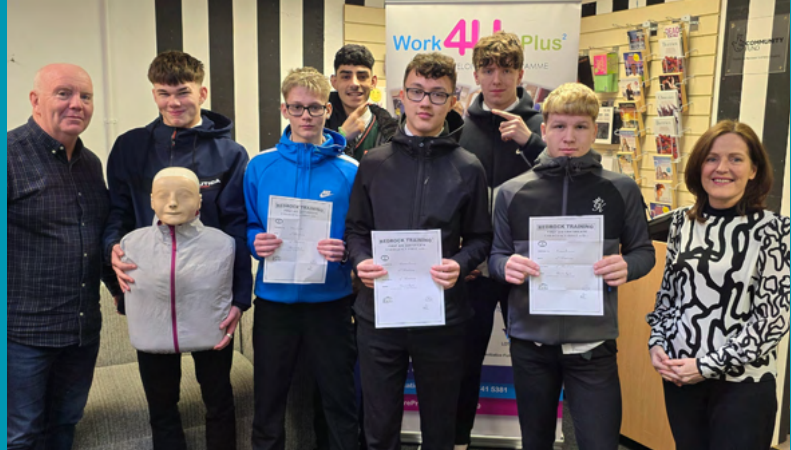
Some of the key findings in the evaluation report were:

- ‘The programme has successfully achieved its engaged target through supporting 167 young people, with 89% of these participants achieving a positive outcome at the end of the support’.
- ‘The model of delivery has been very effective and their extensive bank of engagements can be used, based on the expressed needs of each group and adapted accordingly. The delivery is also based on emerging needs of the job sectors where there is going to be employment for these young people in the immediate future’.
- ‘Delivery has demonstrated that an intervention combining life and employability skills such as this can be successful in moving vulnerable young people towards more positive life and career outcomes’.

“Softer” (but very important) outcomes are considered harder to measure. Using the Rickett Scale technique to uncover how young people on the programme felt and how their attitudes had changed as a result of their participation in the programme the evaluation reported that a high proportion of students felt that their overall confidence had increased, that they were less easily influenced by others, their drug and alcohol consumption had reduced and that they were less stressed. They also said that they were better able to deal with differences and see others’ points of view and that this had resulted in improved relationships, health and well-being and a more positive outlook regarding employment training or education options. This is illustrated below:



A cohort of 30 young people completed the programme in June 2023. They celebrated their successes at a graduation event at Formula Karting in Newry (sadly since destroyed in a catastrophic accidental fire). They were presented with portfolios detailing their achievements, among them certificates in ICT Level 1, Emergency First Aid, Food Hygiene at Catering Level 2, Barista Service, Upholstery, Blue and Bronze Award certificates in Velotech Cycle Maintenance, B-Positive Mental Health Awareness certificates, Silver Service and Retail & EPOS Training. There were also presentations of special awards, for full attendance, most improved and volunteering.



Work4UPlus Emergency First Aid training in the young people’s “haven” at WIN



Work4UPlus Participants - Silver Service & Table Management



Work4UPlus ICT Training

In preparation for the transition from Work4UPlus2 in June 2023 to the new Work4UPlus3 programme in November 2023:

- Our youth forum met on 5 occasions to enable vulnerable young people, many of whom had felt excluded and ignored, to contribute to the development of topics for inclusion in future training and mentoring sessions and to discuss new and emerging risks in their lives and those of their peers.
- In August 2023, we facilitated a meeting between the Lottery Fund Team and the young people on the youth forum, alongside the chair of the Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership and a group of pastoral care representatives from local schools, at which together we made the case for a continuation of the Work4UPlus3 programme. The support we have had from local schools, social services and the PSNI was an important factor in the Lottery’s ultimate decision.

In November 2023, a further 30 vulnerable young people joined programme. Up to April 2024 they had completed 184 one-to-one support meetings and 119 two hour group training sessions.

Training sessions included:

- Goal Setting Team Building
- Drugs & Alcohol Awareness
- Healthy Relationships & Consent
- Sexual Health
- Safe Driving & Theory
- Team Building
- Barista Training
- Study visit Fringe Coffee Co.
- Emergency First Aid
- ICT Level 1
- Silver Service & Table Management
- The Hour of Code
- Retail & EPOS training
- CV’s & Personal Statements
- Food Hygiene Level 1 or 2
- Work placements
- Volunteering
- Peer Mentoring
- Finances (Banking & Store Cards)
- Communication Skills
- One-to-one Mentoring Meetings
- Upholstery
- Mind mapping

Since 2013, 430 young people have participated in the Programme.

Section 4

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

2023-24 NMEA ACTIVITY REPORT



Newry's P7 pupils on a visit to WIN Business Park

4.2 Newry Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership

Throughout the year the Co-operative and Enterprise Agency was represented on the Department For Communities Newry Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership and hosted the Partnership's meetings in the Thinklab at WIN. The members of the Partnership during the year were: The Department For Communities, Newry Mourne and Down District Council, Newry & Mourne Enterprise Agency, the Confederation of Community Groups, Southern Regional College, the Southern Health & Social Care Trust, the Northern Ireland Housing Executive, Drumalane & Quayside Close Community Association, Ballybot Community Association, Barcroft Community Association, Martin's Lane Community Association, Carnagat Community Association, Derrybeg Community Association, Meadow and Armagh Road Community Association, the Greater Linenhall Community Association, the Three Ways Community Association (High Street) and the Education Authority. The Partnership has invested £16.5m in the Newry Neighbourhood Renewal Area since it was established in 2005. During that time it has funded three significant modernisation projects at WIN Business Park, including the fitting out of the WIN Conference Centre and the development of the ThinkLab Innovation Centre.

4.3 Newry Neighbourhood Renewal – EDUCATION TO EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMME (E2E)

With renewed financial support from the Department For Communities' Newry Neighbourhood Renewal Programme in 2023/2024 the Agency was again able to deliver an Education2Employment Programme targeting secondary school pupils aged 11-18 years living in the Newry Neighbourhood Renewal Area as well as Primary 7 pupils attending the 5 primary schools which service the Neighbourhood Renewal Area. The main aims of the Programme (funded to March 2025), were to introduce young people from the Newry Neighbourhood Renewal Area (NRA, i.e. half of the urban area of Newry designated as falling within the most economically disadvantaged 10% of small areas in Northern Ireland) to the workings of the modern economy and the world of work and to provide them with guidance on the career and personal development pathways available to them.

840 pupils participated in at least one of the following activities:

- Class study visits
- Work placements
- Mentoring provided by local 'business champions', and
- Career guidance events

In addition, 440 young people from the Newry Neighbourhood Renewal Area (and 45 parents) benefitted from:

- Computer Coding Training
- Numeracy Catch-Up Camp
- Chill Skill Sessions
- Digital Wellbeing sessions
- Mindfulness Sessions

4.4 Community Planning

During 2023/2024, Newry & Mourne Co-operative and Enterprise Agency continued to participate as a "key stakeholder" in community planning meetings convened by Newry, Mourne and Down District Council to promote the well-being of the District and to make more efficient use of scarce resources.

The Enterprise Agency was represented by Stephen McClelland on the Economic Development, Regeneration and Tourism thematic group and the Community and Voluntary Sector Stakeholder Group and by Colin Hanna on the Newry DEA. During 2023/24 their focus was on how organisations could better collaborate to help those most affected by the cost-of-living crisis.



The E2E "Career Pathway" guidance session at Newry and Mourne Enterprise Agency



An E2E "Coder Dojo" summer camp at Newry and Mourne Enterprise Agency



Filming in the WIN Thinklab for the E2E Career Pathways Event

Section 4

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

2023-24 WIN - Work In Newry



A school study visit to WIN Business Park and other local businesses

4.5 Compass Points inter-cultural dialogue group

Conor Patterson was an active participant during the year in the Compass Points inter-cultural dialogue initiative. It brought together key influencers and representatives from across the island of Ireland (including representatives of both governments) with the aim of building relationships and providing a space for comprehensive engagement on issues outstanding from the conflict and currently causing concern and division.

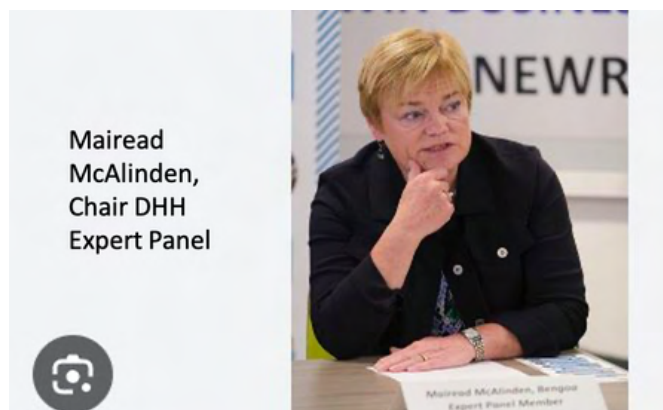
During the year the group met four times. The format of the meetings generally involved a presentation on an agreed topic, followed by a facilitated plenary discussion and time for the participants to mix and have their own conversations. In addition, specialist sub-groups met separately during the year and reported back to the main group.



The Daisy Hill Future Group meet with the leadership of the Southern Trust

4.6 Other Community Support Initiatives

- NMCoop&EA sponsored a prize at St Joseph's High School's annual achievement recognition event.
- NMCoop&EA sponsored a prize for business planning on the Business Studies course at Southern Regional College.
- The Newry City Runners Charity Race was hosted at WIN.
- NMCoop&EA provided support to the team of volunteers raising funds to restore St. Catherine's Dominican Church in Newry.
- Throughout 2023/2024 the NMCoop&EA worked closely with its host community in Mourneview, Murphy Crescent and Canal Street in Newry.
- NMCoop&EA & Oriel Developments Ltd sponsored the Best Social Enterprise Award at the Newry Chamber of Commerce Business Awards.



Daisy Hill Future Group key influencer, Mairead McAlinden, former Trust CEO and Bengoa Panel Member

4.7 Financial Support to Good Causes

During the year the NMCoop&EA made contributions to the following:

- Barcroft Community Association
- Bosco GAC
- St Joseph's Boys High School
- 1st Dromore Scouts
- Our Lady's NetBall Team
- In Memory of Mandy & Vanessa – World Cancer Day



Daisy Hill Future Group members discuss a stabilisation and service enhancement package for the hospital with Department of Health Permanent Secretary, Peter May and his officials, June 2023

Section 5

INFLUENCING POLICY AND PROMOTING THE REGION

2023-24 NMEA ACTIVITY REPORT



Meeting with Joe Kennedy, US Special Envoy for N. Ireland, June 2023

5. INFLUENCING POLICY AND PROMOTING THE REGION

During the year Newry & Mourne Co-operative and Enterprise Agency and its partners lobbied those with power to make policy changes and promote initiatives which address economic and social development issues affecting Newry & Mourne and the wider east border region. In February 2024, NMCo-op&EA CEO, Dr Conor Patterson, was appointed as an independent expert advisor to the NI Economy Minister, Conor Murphy and the Department for the Economy and its Agencies.

5.1 Political Engagement

During 2023/2024 Conor Patterson and Liam Quinn held meetings with political stakeholders in N. Ireland and the Irish Republic (and gave press interviews) to highlight the challenges faced by the Newry border region and its potential to be a major contributor to the economy of the island of Ireland.

The highlights were meetings with:

- President Joe Biden, April 2023
- Joe Kennedy, US Special Envoy for N. Ireland, June 2023
- Tánaiste Michael Martin, July 2023
- Steve Baker, MP, NIO Minister, July 2023
- Giving evidence on the Windsor Framework to the European Parliament Committee on Foreign Affairs, September 2023
- RoI Enterprise Minister, Simon Coveney, September 2023
- Interim CEO and interim Chair of Invest NI, September 2023
- Hilary Benn MP, Shadow Secretary of State, October and November 2023
- Sue Gray, Chief of Staff to British Labour Party leader Keir Starmer, October 2023
- Chris Heaton Harris, NI Secretary of State, November 2023
- Economy Minister, Conor Murphy MLA, February 2024 - ongoing
- Permanent Secretary NI Department for the Economy, February 2024 - ongoing
- John Healy, Chair Invest NI, February 2024 - ongoing
- Kieran Donoghue, CEO Invest NI, February 2024 - ongoing

Interviews with:

- Bloomberg News International
- Author Andy Pollak

5.2 The Daisy Hill Future Group

The Daisy Hill Hospital Future Group was set up in February 2022 by NMCo-op&EA in response to widespread public concern about the future of Daisy Hill Hospital following the announcement by the Southern Health and Social Care Trust that it was suspending emergency general surgery at the hospital. As well as trying to resolve a number of service crises which developed during a very difficult year when widespread public concern brought more than 10,000 people onto the streets of Newry (June 2023) to express their determination to protect services at the hospital, the Future Group under the chairmanship of Conor Patterson, assisted by Future Group Secretary, Karl Hughes, and expert advisors Mairead McAlinden and retired hospital consultant, Dr Donal Duffin and Liz Kimmins MLA (Chair of the NI Assembly Health Committee), promoted an ambitious development prospectus for Daisy Hill.

Against the backdrop of a health service in crisis across the region, the Future Group lobbied at the leadership of the Department of Health and the Southern Trust to secure a package of support measures which included a substantial international recruitment drive which brought an influx of specialist medical staff at all levels to the hospital in spring 2024 to stabilise service provision; the confirming of Daisy Hill as an overnight regional elective surgery hub; and district acute hospital and the activation of an MRI scanner at the hospital. During January 2024 alone 660 MRI scans were carried out at Daisy Hill which represented a saving of 420 return ambulance journeys to Craigavon Area Hospital that month alone.

A Future Group/Southern Trust "Expert Panel" was set up by the Department of Health in August 2023 under the chairmanship of Future Group member Mairead McAlinden, to design a long term strategy to stabilise and improve the provision of acute medical care at Daisy Hill. The implementation of its proposals is on-going.

NMCo-op&EA has committed to prioritise this work for however long it takes. The population of Newry, South Armagh and South Down deserves first-class healthcare. Daisy Hill is one of the best-located acute hospitals on the island of Ireland. Large numbers of people rely on its services. We are determined that it will be a flagship acute general hospital delivering life-saving and enhancing treatments to people from north and south of the border. Moreover, having an acute general hospital in a city is a key factor, alongside the quality of schools and lifestyle, in determining whether or not an area can attract skilled people and investment. So much of our future is therefore tied up in the future of our hospital.



Hilary Benn @hilaryben... · 15h ...

A great pleasure to meet local business and community leaders earlier today who are helping to shape the future of Newry, Mourne and Down. So much experience, ideas and talent in the room as we discussed the importance of infrastructure, skills and much more.



Meeting with Hilary Benn MP, October 2023



Meeting with Tanaiste Micheal Martin and his officials, Dublin, July 2023



Providing independent expert advice to Economy Minister, Conor Murphy

The members of the Daisy Hill Future Group are:

Conor Murphy MLA, Liz Kimmins MLA, Sinead Ennis MLA, Justin McNulty MLA, Daire Hughes MP, Chris Hazzard MP, Cllr David Taylor, Cllr Helena Young, Cllr Killian Feehan, Mairead McAlinden (former Trust CEO and Bengoa Panel Member), Dr Donal Duffin (retired hospital consultant), Michael Savage (Newry Chamber of Commerce & Trade), Jerome Mullan (former Pathfinder Group member), Micky Brady (community activist and former MP), Karl Hughes (Secretary), Conor Patterson (Chair).

Section 5 - 8

INFLUENCING POLICY AND PROMOTING THE REGION

2023-24 WIN - Work In Newry

5.3 Partnership with Down Business Centre

NMEA delivers all its Newry Mourne and Down district-wide initiatives in partnership with Down Business Centre under the terms of a Memorandum of Understanding signed between the organisations in 2010.

5.4 Newry Chamber of Commerce & Trade

The Agency played a significant role in supporting the work of Newry Chamber of Commerce during 2023/2024. Conor Patterson is a director of Newry Chamber of Commerce & Trade.

5.5 The Greater Newry Vision

During 2023/2024 the Enterprise Agency continued to promote the development of Newry City and its hinterland under the auspices of the **Greater Newry Vision Partnership**, alongside representatives of the Newry Chamber of Commerce and Trade, Newry Mourne and Down District Council, Southern Regional College, the Northern Ireland Housing Executive, Warrenpoint Harbour Authority, the Southern Health and Social Care Trust, the Department For Communities, the Department of Agriculture Environment and Rural Affairs and Invest Northern Ireland. Transformative projects championed by the partnership which are expected to progress in 2025 are: a Newry City Park at the Albert Basin, a Civic Hub Administration Centre and a theatre and arts centre both in Newry city centre and a Health Hub on the site of the former Abbey School football pitch in Newry.

5.6 Directorships

Chairman, Peter McEvoy represented the NMCoop&EA on the Enterprise Northern Ireland Council.

Dr Conor Patterson, Chief Executive was appointed in February 2024 by the NI Economy Minister, Conor Murphy, as an independent expert advisor to the Minister and the Department for the Economy. The role is not remunerated. During the year Conor also sat on the Board of Enterprise Northern Ireland and served as a NMCoop&EA representative on the Enterprise Northern Ireland Council and as a board member of Intertrade Ireland. He also during the year served as the secretary of Oriel Developments Ltd (a non-profit-taking partnership company active in South Armagh), the secretary of Binnian Developments Ltd (a non-profit-taking partnership company active in Kilkeel), a member of the Newry Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership, a trustee of the Murphy Trust, a director of Newry Chamber of Commerce and Trade, a board member of the Creative Spark Incubation Centre and its "Fab Lab" division in Dundalk, a member of the Greater Newry Vision Partnership and a co-opted advisor to the board of the Confederation of Community Groups in Newry. During the year, his 12 year term as a member of the Maze Long Kesh Development Corporation ended. John MacMahon served as a Director of Oriel Developments Ltd and a Director of Binnian Developments Ltd. Gordon Coulter (M.B.E.), as well as being a Director of Kilkeel Development Association, served as a Director of Binnian Developments Ltd. Claire McCullough served as a Director of Binnian Developments Ltd. Kevin Starrs served as a Director of Oriel Developments Ltd. Ronan Kennedy, Manager of the Louth County Enterprise Fund, served as a Board member of Oriel Developments Ltd. Jennifer Malone sat on the Prince's Youth Business Trust Southern Region Steering Committee.

6. ENTERPRISE NORTHERN IRELAND (ENI)

The Agency was one of the founders of Enterprise Northern Ireland which represents the interests of Northern Ireland's 29 Local Enterprise Agencies, contributes to policy making and develops and implements Northern Ireland-wide business development programmes. During the year Conor Patterson represented the Newry Mourne and Down District as a Director on the Board of Enterprise Northern Ireland.

As well as representing Enterprise Agencies and the interests of their client base in discussions with government and others, Enterprise Northern Ireland coordinates the delivery of a portfolio of programmes through all of its Local Enterprise Agency members across Northern Ireland. Collectively Enterprise Northern Ireland members have 220 staff, are assisted by 335 voluntary directors, have nearly 3m square feet of community-owned workspace under their management, and have 5,000 active client companies. The network operates from 40 business parks and enterprise centres across Northern Ireland.

Thousands protest in Newry over proposed cuts in services at Daisy Hill Hospital



The new MRI scanner at Daisy Hill Hospital

Newry Southern Relief Road Delivery: The Route Ahead



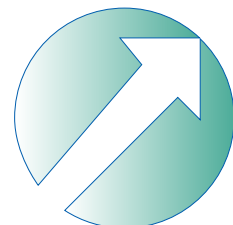
In 2023 The Southern Relief Road, a key strategic objective of the Greater Newry Vision, secured the funding necessary to make this transformative large scale infrastructure project a reality by 2030

7. CONFERENCING AND OFFICE SERVICES

Our conferencing and office services, which include conference room hire and servicing, a postal service, word processing, photocopying and colour printing are available to businesses, community organisations, statutory bodies, voluntary organisations and individuals.

8. QUALITY ACCREDITATION

The Enterprise Agency has been registered as an ISO 9001 (BS5750) quality assured body since June 1989. During the year, the Agency had its internationally recognised accreditation renewed by the UK National Quality Assurance (NQA) organisation following an in-depth audit of its systems.



Section 9 - 10

BOARD OF DIRECTORS & ENTERPRISE AGENCY STAFF 2023-24



2023-24 WIN - Work In Newry

9. NEWRY & MOURNE CO-OPERATIVE - BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2023-24



Chairman
Peter McEvoy



Vice-Chairman
Kevin Starrs



Secretary
Michael Hughes



Director
John MacMahon



Director
**Gordon Coulter
M.B.E.**



Director
Frank O'Connor



Director
Claire McCullough



Director
**Kevin Magill
KC**



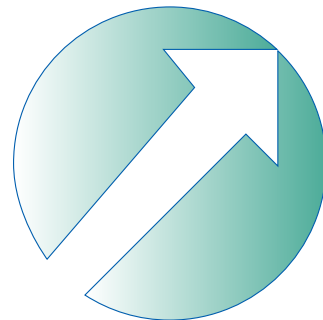
Director
Ronan Dennedy



Director
Davy Hyland



Director
Brendan Jackson



10. NEWRY & MOURNE ENTERPRISE AGENCY - STAFF 2023-24



Dr Conor Patterson
Chief Executive



Liam Quinn
Financial
Controller



Jennifer Malone
Business
Development
Executive
(Property)



Colin Hanna
Information,
Research &
Computer
Technology
Co-ordinator



Stephen McClelland
Social Economy
Advisor



Pauline Coghlan
Work4UPlus
Programme
Manager



Maeve McParland
Education to
Employment
Programme
Manager



Rory Carroll
Digital Content
Producer



Michelle Frost
Receptionist



Ciara McKenna
Work4U
Programme
Administrator



Maria Coyle
Finance Officer



Carol Magee
Administrator



Kieran Mathers
Associate

2023-24 ACTIVITY REPORT



WIN - Work in Newry

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