

COMMUNITY & PLACEMAKING STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE

TUESDAY 3RD MARCH 2026, 2.30PM, COUNTY HALL, DUNDALK.

Present: Cllr. Robbie Nash (Chair), Miriam McGuill, Cllr. Michelle Hall, Lorna Costello, Cllr. Shane McGuinness, Kevin Moran, Aaron Karol Pundol(online).

Officials: David Jones-Director of Services, Joanna Kelly-Director of Services, Colette Moss-Senior Executive Officer, Bryan Coughlan-Senior Executive Officer, Michelle Curran-Administrative Officer, Paula Gribbon-Administrative Officer, Graham Russell-LSP Sports Coordinator.

Apologies: Cllr. Paddy McQuillan, Garreth Weldon, Cllr. Fiona Mhic Conchoille.

Agenda Item	Discussion/Action
1.	<u>Louth Outdoor Recreation Plan</u> A presentation was provided by Colette Moss, Senior Executive Officer - Community Section, on the draft Louth Outdoor Recreation Plan which included reference to Vision & Mission, with the actions outlined under the five pillars as contained within the Plan, namely <u>Leadership</u>, <u>Opportunities</u>, <u>Expertise</u>, <u>Infrastructure & Access</u> and <u>Awareness</u>. Disappointment was expressed by one committee member in relation to the content of the draft plan, noting that it lacked details regarding any specific projects and therefore had a concern that this would impact on our ability to secure any future national funding as a result. It was noted in response that the generality of the plan provided the overall framework of which any specific projects identified in the future could be applied for, aswell as being agile enough to respond to emerging opportunities. It was further noted that the citing of any specific projects within the plan would trigger an environmental screening process which would require additional time to complete and budget. It was agreed that consideration would be given to how the plan could be transition into a detailed action plan post adoption. Other members present welcome the draft plan, noting that it represented a strong foundation to move forward and provided a flexible framework to work from. Matters regarding the need for space allocation for amenities and communities, youth consultation, challenge of the lack of public transport and access to amenities were also highlighted by members present.
2.	<u>Louth Sports Plan</u> A presentation was provided by Graham Russell, LSP Sports Coordinator, on the draft Louth Sports Plan which included reference to Vision, Mission and Values, with the strategic themes of <u>Active People & Communities</u>, <u>Active Spaces & Places</u> and <u>Active Communications & Partnerships</u> outlined . The lack of detail regarding specific projects was again highlighted by one committee member, who also requested that the activities/achievements of the Local Sports Partnership should be included as an appendix to the draft Plan. Points raised by other members present included the need to

	complete more analysis of data so as to inform forward planning of sports facilities, the need for a more geographic spread of facilities within urban areas, as well as the need for trans gender polices to be develop by sporting organisations in respect of changing facilities.
3.	<u>Louth Play Policy</u> An overview of the draft policy was provided by Colette Moss, Senior Executive Officer-Community Section, including reference to the objective of the policy, key focus area, definition of play, existing play facilities, types of play, benefits of play and policy outcomes. One committee member expressed the view that it was a Play Strategy that was required rather than a generic policy. Matters of playground provision within new housing developments,, characteristics of play, concept of play for all, design for all with the colocation of activities as well as a gap in provision for teenagers were all noted during the discussion by the members present.
	<u>Agreed Actions:</u> Amendments to be made to the draft documents as appropriate, following consideration of the discussion that took place. The draft documents will be brought before the Committee for further deliberation at its next meeting.
	This concluded the business of the meeting. Minutes confirmed at SPC meeting held on: <u>23-03-2026.</u> Signed by Chairperson: 