



Subject:	Stadia Community Benefits Initiative 2025-2026 Q1-Q2
Date:	4 th November 2025
Reporting Officer:	Jim Girvan – Operational Director, City and Neighbourhood Services
Contact Officer:	Paddy McGrattan – Leisure Development Manager

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Please indicate the description, as listed in Schedule 6, of the exempt information by virtue of which the council has deemed this report restricted.	
Insert number <input type="checkbox"/>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Information relating to any individual2. Information likely to reveal the identity of an individual3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the council holding that information)4. Information in connection with any labour relations matter5. Information in relation to which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained6. Information showing that the council proposes to (a) to give a notice imposing restrictions on a person; or (b) to make an order or direction7. Information on any action in relation to the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime	
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sometime in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	To advise Committee of progress with the Stadia Community Benefits Initiative (SCBI) for 2025/2026 quarters 1 and 2.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	The Members of the Committee note progress to date.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	In March 2016 the Council, Department for Communities and Irish Football Association signed an Agreement which sets out their respective commitments to the SCBI project. As other major stadia are developed in Belfast it was anticipated that other sports governing bodies shall become parties to the agreement.
3.2	At its April 2018 meeting People and Communities committee agreed that Council would work with the Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA) within the Stadia Community Benefits Initiative and recognised their significant planned investment in Gaelic Games in the city to support their Gaelfast strategy. GAA activities became fully incorporated into the action plan at the start of financial year 2019-2020, with Gaelfast staff imbedded into the governance structure at the Delivery Board and the Policy and Performance Group.
3.3	The agreement is for a period of ten years with financial commitment from Council and IFA in place and will run until 31 March 2026.
3.4	Delivery is managed through monthly meetings of the Delivery Board, which reports quarterly to the Policy and Performance Board. Financial and performance reports will be presented to Council and other partners.
3.5	The Policy & Performance Group is responsible for agreeing the Benefits Realisation Plan and associated annual targets. Work was undertaken to ensure the end benefits/outcomes are aligned to partners' strategies. To measure the progress of this the Council and the IFA developed a range of indicators/intermediate benefits which are monitored through programme delivery: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Number of coaching sessions provided b. Number of coaches engaged in delivering coaching c. Number of sessions improving club governance d. Number of volunteering opportunities e. Participation opportunities for under 16s f. Female participation rates

	<p>g. Number of people completing skills development programme</p> <p>i. Number of sessions for under-represented groups</p> <p>j. Number of sessions for school and youth groups</p> <p>k. Community group usage of stadia</p> <p>l. Number of clubs attaining club-mark</p> <p>m. educational opportunities</p> <p>o. Number of programmes targeting ASB</p> <p>q. Improved collaborative working</p> <p>r. Number of disabled participants</p> <p>s. Number of older people participating</p>
3.6	<p>The policy and performance group held their most recent meeting on 4th September 2025 to review performance for 2025/26 and to be updated in terms of the programme for 2025/26 including the joint work programme.</p>
3.7	<p>The programmes and performance indicators for 2025/2026 have been agreed by the Policy and Performance Group and approved by Committee on 8 April 2025.</p>
3.8	<p>Delivery for Q1 & Q2 2025/2026 has now been completed and details of the IFA and GAA specific activities are included at appendix (i) and appendix (ii).</p> <p>The Joint Delivery programme for 2025-2026 has also been agreed and is attached at appendix (iii) . The plan and performance reports demonstrate strong engagement across coaching, participation, and skills development initiatives.</p> <p>It should be noted that the Stadium Community Benefits Programme will finish on 31 March 2026.</p>
3.9	<p><u>Financial Implications</u></p> <p>In accordance with the Council's obligations under its DfC Funding Agreement for the Olympia Regeneration Project, the Council committed a partnership contribution amount of £1,000,000 over a period of ten years.</p> <p>When the planned programme for 2025/2026 is completed the project budget will be fully expended.</p>
3.10	<p><u>Equality Impact/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>There are no additional impacts related to this report.</p>
4.0	Appendices - Documents Attached

4.1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="327 145 1157 190">1. IFA Performance Report Q1-Q2 2025/2026 (Appendix i)<li data-bbox="327 201 1157 246">2. GAA Performance Report Q1-2 2025/2026 (Appendix ii)<li data-bbox="327 257 1013 302">3. Joint Work Plan for 2025/2026 (Appendix iii)
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