

Ardoyne &  
Greater Ballysillan

**NORTH  
BELFAST**

ISSUE

**01**

NOVEMBER  
2017

**URBAN VILLAGES**

**FOCUS**

**MAGAZINE**

**Outdoor  
Challenge**

**Green  
house  
Project**

**Community  
Awards**

**Find out what's  
happening in your  
local community**



IMPROVING YOUR AREA | STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES | LIVING BETTER TOGETHER

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Supported by the Urban Villages Initiative and run jointly with Upper Ardoyne Community Partnership and Training for Women Network, the accredited course is for women and men aged 16 onwards, and it draws half of its participants from Ardoyne and half from Glenbryn.

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These aim to enhance connections within and across areas, helping to share learning on what works well and build partnerships that can make a difference.

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Cover image: North Belfast youths braving the elements in the Mournes, in a gruelling outdoor challenge set by Ardoyne Youth Enterprise in partnership with YEHA and Hammer Youth Club. Supplied by Ardoyne Youth Enterprise.

# Welcome

Linsey Farrell Programme Director,  
Urban Villages Initiative, The Executive Office



Welcome to this first edition of the Urban Villages FOCUS Magazine. I am excited to share with you some of the great work that people in the Urban Village communities are doing, not only to make a difference in their own lives but also to impact on others who live, work and visit their areas.

The aims of the Urban Villages Initiative are, to strengthen communities by helping to build capacity and increase sustainability, to improve the area by investing in regeneration of places and spaces and to foster positive community identity so that ultimately people can live better together.

You will read about fantastic projects and programmes that are led by community groups and participants to support these aims; you will also find out about the Shared Learning events where groups will showcase their great achievements with others.

We want to give people in Urban Village communities the chance to be part of shaping the place where they live, to increase their skills and to embrace opportunities that will improve their life chances.

To recognise the range of fantastic projects that are already underway in communities, you can nominate your favourite project for an Urban Villages Award and you can read more about this inside.

People are working together in and across Urban Village areas and we are keen to encourage this and build on it for the benefit of everyone across the five Urban Village areas.

I hope you find our new FOCUS Magazine informative and we would really encourage you to get involved in the projects and plans in your area.

We will be issuing it three times a year so if you would like to receive copies and be kept up to date on the work of the Urban Villages Initiative in your area, please use the contact details at the back of this issue to join our mailing list.

Best Regards,





# What is the Urban Villages Initiative?

The Urban Villages Initiative is designed to improve good relations outcomes and develop thriving places where there has been a history of deprivation and community tension.

The Urban Villages Initiative is a headline action within the NI Executive's Together: Building a United Community Strategy.

It is designed to support communities and to work collaboratively across government departments, councils, and other interested parties to achieve the 3 inter-connected aims for each Urban Village area through a series of capital investment and community-led projects.

## THERE ARE 3 INTER-CONNECTED AIMS



## WHAT DOES THE URBAN VILLAGES INITIATIVE DO?

Through the Urban Villages Initiative, the Northern Ireland Executive offers a real opportunity for residents of Urban Village areas to inform and shape the development of the place where they live and work; to have a voice and influence investment, to build social cohesion and improve local amenities, based on what communities see as their local priorities.

The Urban Villages Initiative has conducted extensive community engagement across all five Urban Village areas with local residents, community organisations and other stakeholders. This has informed the development of a Strategic Framework for each area. These remain the foundation of area based plans for these places.



**Foster positive  
community identities**

**Build community  
capacity**

**Improve the  
physical environment**

**URBAN VILLAGE AREAS - Derry~Londonderry** Bogside, Fountain & Bishop Street. **South Belfast** Sandy Row, Donegall Pass & The Markets. **North Belfast** Ardoyne & Greater Ballysillan. **East Belfast** Lower Newtownards Road. **West Belfast** Colin Area.

# Projects across Urban Village Areas

## Uniting Colin and EastSide Programme



### UNITING COMMUNITIES PROGRAMME

Colin Glen Trust and TIDES training are currently working in partnership to deliver the 'Uniting Colin and EastSide Programme' which is funded through the Department for Communities (DfC) and based in Urban Village areas.

This good relations programme aims to engage young people aged 11-16 in sport, physical and creative activities that bring communities together and improve attitudes of young people in relation to other religious, political, ethnic and marginalised communities. The programme also includes a youth leadership element involving 16-24 year olds.

Colm Fanning, Social Development Manager at Colin Glen Trust said "In September we had nearly 170 young people from the Urban Village areas of Colin and EastSide in Belfast engaged in

fun and participative activities in Castlewellan Forest Park as part of the Community Relations and Cultural Awareness Week programme.

This event is part of the Uniting Colin and EastSide programme and we plan to promote good relations messages and promote understanding and respect among our young people"

Fergus Devitt Director of Active Communities Division in DfC said "The central focus of this programme is to recognise the role that young people can and do play in building a united community. The Uniting Colin & EastSide programme aims to use innovative ways to build good relations between communities."

Linsey Farrell, Programme Director, Urban Village Initiative, said

**"It is great to be working collaboratively with the Department for Communities on this project, we are delighted that the Uniting Colin and EastSide programme is being rolled out in Urban Village areas, where the focus is on building the capacity of young people, giving them a voice and supporting them to make positive plans about living better together."**



**PROFILE: Emma Donnelly  
Enterprise Co-ordinator  
The Urban Villages  
Initiative**

Supporting enterprise will enhance the long term sustainability of many planned capital and community-led projects. This includes entrepreneurship, social enterprise, employability initiatives and ways to help people access new career paths. This focus is being supported by an Enterprise Coordinator working with local groups and wider stakeholders.

Emma will work across the 5 Urban Village areas to:

- **Support** and **connect** existing and emerging social enterprises.
- **Facilitate** connected community tourism approaches
- **Engage** with employers to increase access to jobs, matching skills to industry needs.
- **Encourage** social impact outcomes through core and city business engagement.

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**GLOBAL  
ENTREPRENEURSHIP  
WEEK**

**GLOBAL  
ENTREPRENEURSHIP  
WEEK**

Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW) delivers a series of local, national and global events, activities and workshops to inspire people everywhere to explore their potential as innovators, entrepreneurs and drivers of economic growth.

Each year the GEW movement inspires individuals and groups everywhere to make their business ideas a reality. This year GEW 2017 has a local theme for Belfast 'the place to make your first million'.

GEW provides support and guidance to millions of budding entrepreneurs and existing enterprises connecting individuals and businesses into the enterprise eco system to encourage, facilitate and support growth and expansion.

During GEW 2017 (13th - 19th November) The Urban Villages Initiative is collaborating with Belfast City Council, Ulster University Business School, East Belfast Enterprise Agency, BSCR - Growing South Social Economy Project and other partners to deliver inspiring and practical workshops for Urban Village community & voluntary groups, residents and businesses as part of a programme of free, open to all events Belfast City Council is coordinating across the city.

Registration for GEW events is via Belfast City Council **[www.belfastcity.gov.uk/gew](http://www.belfastcity.gov.uk/gew)**

**Attendance at all events is open to Urban Village community groups, residents, businesses and other interested parties from across Belfast and as places are limited we would encourage early booking.**

**Events supported by the Urban Villages Initiative at GEW are outlined below:**

**Event Title:** Facilities Management through Social Enterprise

**Date:** Tuesday, 14th November, 2-4pm

**Description:** This workshop is hosted in South Belfast and delivered by the Growing South Belfast Social Enterprise Project.

**Venue:** BSCR Digital Hub, 127-145 Sandy Row, BT12 5ET

**Event Title:** Belfast: A New Entrepreneurial Era

**Date:** Friday, 17th November, 9.30am-3.30pm

**Description:** Hosted by East Belfast Enterprise, Ulster University Business School, The Urban Villages Initiative and Belfast City Council.

**Venue:** City East Business Centre, 68-72 Newtownards Road, Belfast BT4 1GW



# 100% success: Ardoyne Association employability programme

Ardoyne &  
Greater Ballysillan

**NORTH  
BELFAST**

**“The bottom line is to get everybody into a job,” says Lynn Mercer, coordinator of Ardoyne Association’s Employability Programme.**



Indeed, participants on the first course, run earlier this year, achieved 100% completion and employability.

Supported by the Urban Villages Initiative and run jointly with Upper Ardoyne Community Partnership and Training for Women Network, the accredited course is for women and men aged 16 onwards, and it draws half of its participants from Ardoyne and half from Glenbryn.

We spoke to Ashley Cosby from Glenbryn and Lisa Donnan from Ardoyne who became friends while on the course.

Ashley now works full-time as a care assistant in Bradley Manor. She said: “I worked in retail but the job ended and

I didn’t have the qualifications for the kind of work I wanted. It was great to meet new people and learn about first aid, fire safety and customer care. The manual handling part of the course helped me get my job, and it helps me in my work. I’m very happy in the job and I’d definitely recommend the course.”

Lisa would also recommend it: “for those who need help to get back into the workplace.” After completing the course, she worked in catering and then moved on to a cleaning job which suits her circumstances better. “The COSHH certificate on handling and storing chemicals was very good for the work I do.”

Trainees get to meet potential employers and receive support in writing CVs and applying for work. The first course focused on retail; now a care assistant module has been added in response to local employment needs.

Lynn added: “Some had never worked before. It was good to see them do so well and make friends ‘across the barricades’. They got a real buzz and it brought their self-confidence back up. The certificates presentation with Nichola Mallon was an important recognition of what they had achieved.”



# Restorative Justice Community Health Project

**How Boys Model greenhouse became a restorative justice and community health project.**



A greenhouse that was under used, young people experiencing problems in school, architecture students, a health and nutrition audit of older residents and a restorative justice project full of ideas have started something quite special in Ballysillan.

With support from the Urban Villages initiative, North Belfast Alternatives partnered with Boys' Model Secondary School and Queen's University's Street Society to give young people in difficulty a chance to participate in the regeneration and wellbeing of their community.

Project coordinator Joan Totten explains: *"The school's greenhouse never saw the sun, it was built in the wrong place.*

*We worked with students on a placement through QUB Street Society. They designed grow boxes on wheels that could be brought out into the sun and wheeled back in at night.*

*"Young people suspended from school worked with us for their phased return. They helped build the boxes and grow the vegetables.*

*"We had time to listen and get to the bottom of their problems, get them interested in the growing process, and give them the chance to give something back.*

*"We made up vegetable boxes for older people. We sold them for £1 per box because they didn't want something for nothing. When we'd asked people what stopped them from buying*

*fruit and veg, they said it was too expensive, nothing was grown locally anymore."*

Together with Sunningdale Community Centre, the group is planning a new social economy centre. The grounds would have two polytunnels where pupils and residents can garden together and start a vegetable community market. In a consultation, local women had said that gardening at home can be lonely and that they would welcome communal gardening opportunities.

Joan concludes: *"It will strengthen the ties between the school and the community. We have to share the good practice that's out there locally. It creates strength and unity in our communities."*



# Living Better Together



'A Loyal Irish patriot' is inscribed on the gravestone of Dr Robert Rutledge Kane, a conservative unionist who held high office in both the Orange Order and the Gaelic League. This thought-provoking phrase struck a chord with participants in a City Cemetery tour with local historian Tom Hartley.

It was the first of a series of cross community tours by TASCIT (Twaddell Woodvale Ardoyne Communities In Transition) to explore the growth of Belfast and how that impacted on the social and cultural development of the city and its people.

The 30 participants spoke of how thought provoking and enjoyable the tour had been. A few came away somewhat surprised by their new-found relatives!

The next tour will take in graveyards on the Shankill Road, Clifton Street and Milltown.

To join TASCIT events, contact Isy at [Isy@nbin.info](mailto:Isy@nbin.info) or at **028 9075 1362**

## YEHA project - North Belfast youths help make Culture Night

Twelve young men and women from North Belfast had the inspired idea to run an Old Belfast games activity at City Hall for Culture Night Belfast 2017, through an art project led by YEHA.

Working with local artists, the young people built human hungry hippos, quoites and a tug of war game, and created superhero photo boards for members of the public to get their pictures taken.

The result was a highly enjoyable Culture Night activity run by the young people themselves.

YEHA promotes healthy life choices and wellbeing for young people in North Belfast.

## North Belfast youths take up 40km point-to-point challenge

On the eve of hurricane Ophelia, young people from the North Belfast Urban Village area completed a gruelling 40km point to point challenge camping and trekking in the Mourne Mountains and canoeing down the river Boyne.

North Belfast youth organisations had worked with 22 young people and four youth workers in skills building sessions to prepare for the challenge. The group acquired skills in camp craft, outdoors cooking, canoeing and navigation to enable them to lead the expedition.

The programme aimed to enhance self-confidence and aspirations, strengthen relationships across interfaces and increase collaboration between youth projects. It was developed by Ardoyne Youth Enterprise in response to a youth audit in the Ardoyne/ Marrowbone area, where young people said their physical and mental health was suffering from a lack of recreational and outdoor activities.

# Generations 2017: serving the community in Ballysillan



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URBAN  
VILLAGES  
INITIATIVE  
SUPPORTED BY

The third BlueHouses Generations Social Action week took place in July with a sea of purple t-shirts bouncing onto the streets of Ballysillan.

Young people gave their time and effort to serve their community, expecting nothing in return. Throughout the week, they gathered weeds, litter and rubble, filling over 60 bin bags.

**Generations** is an opportunity to build positive relationships and break down stereotypes that 'all young people are trouble makers'.

**What young people said:**

*"I wanted to make a difference, to see the community cleaner and safer."*

*"It only takes a few young people, a few days to do something for others that will help them to see us in a more positive way!"*

**What residents said:**

*"What an amazing thing to do for our community. Well done and keep up the good work."*



# North Belfast Alternatives



## YOUTH WORK SHARED LEARNING NURTURING TOMORROW'S COMMUNITY ACTIVISTS

Over the last year, youth workers and volunteers from North Belfast Urban Villages areas joined in a shared learning programme organised by North Belfast Alternatives (NBA).

Coordinator Joan Totten explained that the group wanted to give something back to its young volunteers and create a confident pool of youth workers capable of joined up working across different community identities: "We want to help our young people become positive role models." The learners' group was drawn from Ardoyne Youth Club, John Paul 2, Marrowbone Youth Club, Ballysillan Youth for Christ, Benview Community Centre and Sunningdale Community Centre. The George Williams College qualification in youth work practice blended group work, distance learning and practical projects.

Youth support worker Carly Rodgers said: ***"When we started this course there was no part-time youth work training places locally. With the Urban Villages programme, the young people were able to study at professional level and the course fitted into their busy lives."***

***"Relationships developed organically between the different youth workers. You work with young people who are more and more mobile across communities so you need to be able to call on each other to help them wherever they go."***

Since graduating from the course, Chloe and Kelly have started a youth work degree with Ulster University.

Chloe is a volunteer youth worker with NBA, having first got involved in its activities as a participant. She said: ***"I am now able to use the skills and confidence I've gained to work alongside my peers."*** She feels the course was a stepping stone on her journey to become a professional youth worker. Kelly had been out of education for some time. She praised: ***"an amazing course that enabled me back into education and inspired me to continue, to develop my knowledge and skills and develop professionally."***

Gareth works as a youth worker for NBA, where he first started as a volunteer. He said:

***"the certificate has greatly enhanced my professional development, gave me a better insight into youth work practice and inspired me to continue my education."***



**Joe Hinds**  
Local Co-ordinator  
North Belfast

As Local Co-ordinator for North Belfast, I work as an advocate for the Ardoyne and Greater Ballysillan Urban Village area. In my role, I assist organisations and groups in the development of partnership projects, in accessing potential revenue, capital and additional external opportunities and I am guided by the needs and priorities of local communities.



**Patrick Smyth**  
Local Support Officer  
North Belfast

As the Local Support Officer for North Belfast Urban Village, I work with programme delivery partners to support community capacity building and to ensure successful delivery of the community-led projects. I work alongside the Local Coordinator to help maximise the impact of Urban Villages funding at a local level.

## DEVELOPING CAPITAL PROJECTS

- Foster positive community identities
- Build community capacity
- Improve the physical environment

The Urban Villages Team recently invited proposals for capital projects to inform the development of a pipeline of potential projects in the North Belfast Urban Village area. These proposals were assessed for strategic fit with Urban Villages aims and outcomes. Projects which met the minimum standard are now being taken forward with community partners to develop design options and associated business cases.

Ultimately, all successful capital projects will address the core aims of the initiative by fostering positive community identities, building community capacity and improving the physical environment in the Urban Village area.



# North Belfast

## Local Community led projects supported by the Urban Villages Initiative – 2017/18

### **Retail/Care Assistant Employability**

This project is a local, partnership based employability training programme for up to 24 disadvantaged job seekers focusing on intense training and support to have access to job opportunities in the Retail and Care sectors.

**Ardoyne Association**  
**028 9071 5165**

### **Youth & Practitioner Capacity Building**

24 young people aged 15-17 and 6 staff will participate in Mountain Walking, orienteering, cooking, canoeing and camp setup through a group challenge event. 12 workers from across the Urban Village area will complete the Hill/Moorland Award to develop capacity to deliver outdoor pursuits activities.

**Ardoyne Youth Enterprise**  
**028 9074 1479**

### **Communications support and storytelling skills**

Communications support for all Urban Village contract holders selling the success of their programmes, providing

input to Urban Village newsletter. Communicating a place to be proud of and sharing our positive story. Delivering an empowerment event involving up to 150 attendees.

**Ardoyne Youth Enterprise**  
**028 9074 1479**

### **Learning Through leadership**

The programme entails establishing a group of up to 10 young people that will co create the project and build towards an international expedition to Ethiopia in August 2018. They will undertake CRED in youth work practice training (OCN Level 2) and help establish a youth forum for the youth centre.

**Ballysillan Youth for Christ**  
**028 9071 4255**

### **Healthy Active Living for Families**

The project will bring families together in a common effort to tackle behaviour & healthy lifestyle choices, focusing on developmental stages of children aged 5 - 11yrs alongside parents/guardians and

local Primary schools. The project will tackle the symptoms of developmental delay and give children a safe environment to learn and build upon skills to manage anger and frustration, explore feelings, and encourage exercise and healthy eating.

**Benview Community Centre**  
**028 9071 9271**

### **Shared Learning Programme**

The programme, which is nationally accredited, delivers GWC Level 2 qualification In Youth Work Practice and is a continuation of the previous NB Alternatives Urban Village project. It will involve up to 20 young people drawn from youth groups across the Urban Village area. They will complete 9 modules, practice placements and supervision, a residential and team building events between September 2017 and March 2018.

**North Belfast Alternatives**  
**028 9071 7077**

The project will be steered by NBWISP and Grace

The Urban Villages Initiative is continuing to invest in the local community in North Belfast by supporting organisations in the development of a number of projects aimed at improving the lives of local people by strengthening communities and improving the environment to live better together.

### **Communities Together For Change**

The project will be steered by NBWISP and Grace Women's Development group. It encompasses; 6xOCN Accredited Gardening programmes for 6 community/school groups; 7 summer events for 52 young people and their parents/guardians; and 3 events aimed at people of all ages, during which people will be able to participate in gardening, arts & crafts, holistic therapies, fun activities and receive advice and information on a variety of health & well being issues.

**North Belfast Women's Initiative & Support Project**  
**028 9039 1028**

### **Restorative Village Training**

This project focuses on training to ensure that local volunteers are trained and supported to help deliver restorative practices at all levels of community life within the Ballysillan area. It entails recruiting and training 12 residents in Level 4 Diploma in Restorative Practices and Processes, building a network of community restorative volunteers and building

partnerships with local agencies so that issues are resolved in a restorative manner.

**Sunningdale Community Centre**

### **Holistic Intervention Program**

This project offers youth practitioners working with young people an opportunity to build capacity to deliver effective youth services that support mental health and wellbeing of young people. This includes mental health and wellbeing training for youth workers and group work programmes aimed at promoting positive mental health for young people.

**YEHA**  
**028 9075 7809**

### **CareZone Programme**

This project aims to train local residents to consult with the local community on issues affecting their health and wellbeing and to present these findings to local community groups and statutory agencies. The CareZone initiative is a pilot project in response to a Future Search exercise on suicide and is being

coordinated in the Sacred Heart Parish area by the Lighthouse Organisation and YEHA.

**YEHA**  
**028 9075 7809**

### **Schools Initiative**

The potential project intends to quickly grow a network of committed schools who align with core Urban Villages principles and outcomes. The network will proactively seek opportunities to demonstrate a collective commitment to sharing, collaborating and partnership across traditional community sectors and interests.

**Ligoniel Primary School**  
**028 9039 1502**

### **Soccer Project / Football in the Community**

This potential project involves the provision of coaching qualifications, mental health and first aid training for volunteers and the provision of a cross community football tournament at Ballysillan Playing Fields.

**Ballysillan Swifts**  
**07731 528 326**



# Shared Learning Programme

## FIND OUT ABOUT SHARED LEARNING EVENTS ACROSS URBAN VILLAGE AREAS



**Local groups and organisations working across the five Urban Village areas have a wealth of experience in developing innovative approaches to community challenges and opportunities.**

A strength of the Urban Villages Initiative is the platform it provides to build connections within and across areas – helping to share learning on what works well and build partnerships which can make a difference.

*Local groups said they would value networking events and activities which bring insight and experience together from across the Urban Village areas.*



### WHAT'S HAPPENED

## TACKLING VACANCY AND DERELICTION

A shared learning event to address the issues of tackling Vacancy and Dereliction took place in June 2017 to support the work to improve the physical environment in Urban Village areas.

Presentations were delivered by community representatives from East Belfast and Derry-Londonderry and speakers from the Department for Communities, Belfast City Council, Derry City and



Strabane District Council, and the NI Housing Executive.

The speakers highlighted approaches making a difference locally and on a city wide and regional basis. The workshop generated a range of ideas and suggestions to inform coordinated and innovative approaches.

This is helping to shape capital investment and associated programmes to tackle vacancy and dereliction as part of the Urban Villages Initiative.

### WHAT'S COMING UP

## HARNESSING THE FULL BENEFITS OF COMMUNITY ALLOTMENTS

**Colin Allotments, West Belfast, 29 November 2017**

**The Colin Allotments Healthy Living Centre is a social enterprise which has turned a derelict site into one of the region's biggest community allotment projects.**

It includes innovative buildings constructed from repurposed industrial shipping containers. It provides horticultural courses and cookery classes. The centre is also used by schools, Men's Shed groups and public bodies to support innovative approaches to health and well-being and community engagement.



WHAT'S COMING UP

**HEALTH AND WELL-BEING  
Derry~Londonderry,  
26 January 2018**

Health and well-being is increasingly a key focus of a diverse range of local groups and public bodies working with communities across the region. This includes tackling mental health challenges and particularly those facing young people.

Often there is an emphasis on building resilience – including the range of financial advice and other support services available to families. Innovative collaborations and sharing learning can maximise the impact and reach of this work.

WHAT'S COMING UP

**DIGITAL YOUTH  
South Belfast,  
27 February 2018**

Digital skills now underpin many career and entrepreneurial opportunities.

*But how do we make these opportunities more accessible to young people from Urban Village areas and other similar places?*

The Digital Youth event will highlight school based and innovative community led approaches to inspiring and supporting young people.

It will help community groups and educators to build on what works and develop partnerships promoting multiple career paths for young people and ways they can flourish.

WHAT'S COMING UP

**COMMUNITY LED  
APPROACHES TO TOURISM  
East Belfast, 8 March 2018**

*Local groups across Urban Village areas are exploring ways to maximise the potential of tourism initiatives in their communities.*

This includes helping local people to tell their stories and shape authentic perspectives on tourism narratives and activities covering the areas where they live.

A diverse range of public bodies and organisations can support local groups in devising inclusive approaches to remembering the past, content generation and audience development.

This shared learning event will highlight collaborative and strategic opportunities to build local capacity; maximise community benefit and the longer term impact and sustainability of local tourism initiatives.

If you are interested in finding out more about Shared Learning programmes across Urban Village areas, contact us on [info@urbanvillagesni.org](mailto:info@urbanvillagesni.org)



# Urban Villages Community Awards



The Urban Villages Community Awards celebrate the people, organisations and places making a difference in Urban Village areas. It's not just about projects or activities which are supported by the Urban Villages Initiative – it's about celebrating 'what works' and showcasing innovation wherever or however it happens in your area.

What's happening to make a difference where you live and work? Who's making it happen and how? Nominations can be for individuals or people living or working within Urban Village areas; or organisations, places or projects based in each place. There's a number of categories to help highlight the great work being done where you live.



## Youth Achievement Award

Recognising achievement by an individual (under 25 years old) or project involving young people which has made a positive difference in the community.



## Education and Learning Award

Positive impact of school based approaches or organisations and projects

helping learners of any age and all types to achieve their full potential.



## Sport and Physical Activity Award

The role of sport and physical activities in building confidence, bringing people together or improving health and well-being.



## Celebrating Diversity Award

Activities which improve relationships between and within communities; connect people from diverse backgrounds or build understanding of different cultures and beliefs.



## Creativity and Innovation Award

Using arts, creativity and other innovative approaches to help communities to work together to tackle social challenges and community issues.



## Thriving Places Award

Buildings, meeting places or projects involving innovative design or use of public spaces which bring residents and visitors together in shared and safe places and provide focal points for improving community confidence and pride.

**REMEMBER – the person, group or project you nominate can be supported or funded from a variety of sources, or none at all!**

**The Awards aim to celebrate people and approaches which make a positive difference where you live, no matter how or who helps it happen.**

**Nominations must be submitted by 5pm Friday 8th December 2017. You can fill in a simple online form [www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk/community-awards](http://www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk/community-awards) or cut out and post the form on the reverse.**

**There will be a finalist from each Urban Village area in every category - so six finalists will be representing your area!**

**They will be announced in January 2018 and profiled in a local publicity campaign in the lead up to the Awards ceremony at Parliament Buildings, Stormont on Wednesday 21st March 2018.**



# Urban Villages Community Awards Nomination Form



## What category are nominating to? (Tick only one category)

- Youth Achievement Award**  
Recognising achievement by an individual (under 25 years old) or project involving young people which has made a positive difference in the community.
- Education and Learning Award**  
Positive impact of school based approaches or organisations and projects helping learners of any age and all types to achieve their full potential.
- Sport and Physical Activity Award**  
The role of sport and physical activities in building confidence, bringing people together or improving health and well-being.
- Celebrating Diversity Award**  
Activities which improve relationships between and within communities; connect people from diverse backgrounds or build understanding of different cultures and beliefs.
- Creativity and Innovation Award**  
Using arts, creativity and other innovative approaches to help communities to work together to tackle social challenges and community issues.
- Thriving Places Award**  
Buildings, meeting places or projects involving innovative design or use of public spaces which bring residents and visitors together in shared and safe places and provide focal points for improving community confidence and pride.

## Which Urban Village Area? (Tick only one)

- Ardoyne and Greater Ballysillan (North Belfast)
- Sandy Row, Donegall Pass and the Markets (South Belfast)
- EastSide (incorporating the lower part of the Newtownards Road in East Belfast)
- Colin (Poleglass, Twinbrook, Lagmore and Kilwee in West Belfast)
- The Bogside, Fountain and Bishop Street (Derry-Londonderry)

## Who/what are you nominating?

Nominee Name/Organisation: .....

Email: ..... T: .....

Project Title: .....

Provide the name of the individual, people, project, organisation or place. Ensure they are eligible for nomination, based on: Individuals or people living or working within the area; or organisation, place or project based in and/or serving the community in the Urban Village area. Provide appropriate contact details for the nominee, if known.

## Why should this nominee be recognised with a Community Award in this category?

**Please use a separate A4 sheet - max 500 words.** Tell us what they did. Tell us how well they did it. Tell us about the difference it made.

## Are there any other partner organisations involved?

Any collaborating organisations within the UV area or from other places? Links to other programmes or funders? This doesn't have to be the case but if so, please provide some details.

## In case we need to contact you

Tell us your name, organisation (if appropriate) and contact details

Name: ..... Organisation: .....

Email: ..... T: .....

Return form to:  
**The Urban Villages Initiative, Room E4.15, Castle Buildings, Stormont, Belfast, BT4 3SR**

Or complete form online FOR FREE at [www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk/community-awards](http://www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk/community-awards)


# Summary of what's happened to date:



## BUILDING PROJECTS 2016/17

**£1.7m**   
Funded Projects

**11**  
Construction Projects Completed 

**2**  
Projects Under Construction 

**6**  
Designs Completed 

## BUILDING PROJECTS 2017/18

**£2.5m**   
Investment

Up to **10**  
Projects in the pipeline for delivery 

## COMMUNITY PROJECTS 2016/17

**£1.5m**   
Funded Projects

**84**  
Community-led projects

**6**  
Cross cutting projects 

**19**  
A range of design and planning projects supported

## COMMUNITY PROJECTS 2017/18

**£2m** 

**49**  
Condensed programmes - more collaborative and strategic projects

**6**  
Cross cutting projects 

**7**  
design and planning projects supported



**Foster positive community identities**

**Build community capacity**

**Improve the physical environment**

## WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU...

URBAN VILLAGES FOCUS MAGAZINE will tell you what's happening and what the Northern Ireland Executive is supporting across the Urban Village Areas in Belfast and Derry-Londonderry.

The stories you have read have come from community groups and individuals in Urban Village areas. We want this magazine to reflect the great things that are happening where you live and welcome your comments and ideas!

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If you would like to receive future editions of FOCUS Magazine, sign up at [info@urbanvillagesni.org](mailto:info@urbanvillagesni.org) or contact us at The Urban Villages Initiative, Room E4.15, Castle Buildings, Stormont, Belfast, BT4 3SR



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Changing for the better, together



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