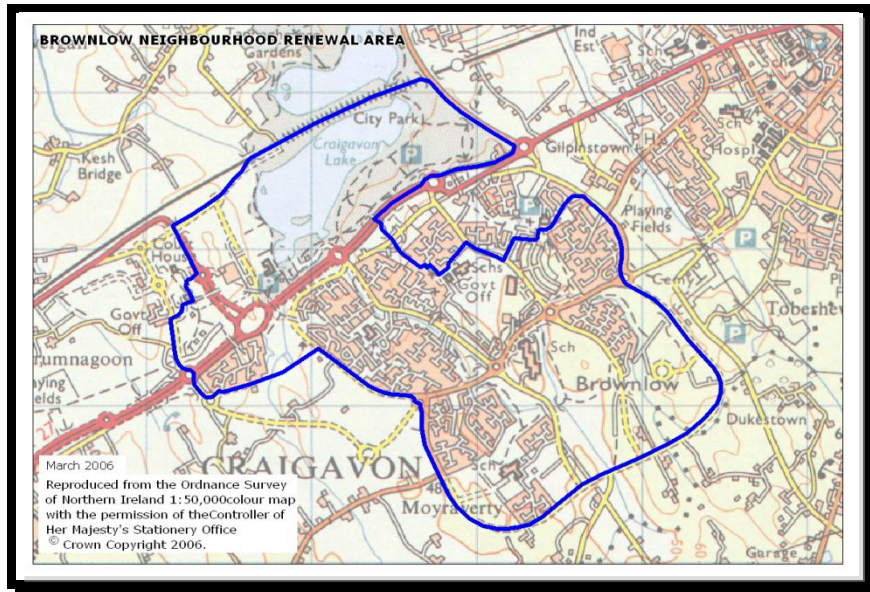


Brownlow Neighbourhood Renewal Area Annual Report 2015



Brownlow Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership

ANNUAL REPORT - 2015

About Neighbourhood Renewal

The Neighbourhood Renewal Programme aims to reduce the social and economic inequalities which characterise the most deprived areas. The Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy 'People and Place' was published in June 2003 to close the gap between the quality of life for people in the most deprived neighbourhoods and the rest of society. It does so by making a long term commitment to communities to work in partnership with them to identify and prioritise needs and co-ordinate interventions designed to address the underlying causes of poverty. The Strategy has four interlinking strategic objectives:

- *Community Renewal* – to develop confident communities able and committed to improving the quality of life in their areas.
- *Economic Renewal* – to develop economic activity in the most deprived neighbourhoods and connect them to the wider urban economy.
- *Social Renewal* – to improve social conditions for the people who live in the most deprived neighbourhoods through better co-ordinated public services and the creation of safer environments.
- *Physical Renewal* – to help create attractive, safe and sustainable environments in the most deprived neighbourhoods.

About Brownlow Partnership

The Brownlow Neighbourhood Renewal Area has a population of just over 8,400, and is based around the wards of Drumgor and Drumgask. It comprises the housing estates mainly built during the 1960s as part of a regional plan to halt the development of the Belfast Urban area. While the economy at this stage was buoyant, an economic downturn led to out migration of residents, thus creating an environment for anti social behaviour in certain areas.

The Brownlow Neighbourhood Partnership was established in 2007 to take forward the Neighbourhood Renewal Programme. It comprises 33 members from the community/voluntary, private and statutory sectors. It is defined as a non-constituted entity acting in an advisory role to the Department for Neighbourhood Renewal issues in the designated Neighbourhood Renewal area. It meets on a monthly basis (moving to bi-monthly from September 2013) and its administration services are provided through a Coordinator based in Craigavon Borough Council.

It has established 3 sub groups to assist it in the identification, development and where appropriate the delivery of projects which aim to address the Programme's 4 strategic objectives of community renewal, social renewal, economic renewal and physical renewal.

The Partnership and Subgroups have all signed up to and abide by the Neighbourhood Renewal Code of Practice and Guiding Principles and subsequent Subgroup Terms of Reference.

The Brownlow Vision and Action Plan

The Partnership's vision for Brownlow is that by 2015 Brownlow will be a place where:

- All of the people living here have the quality of life to which they aspire; this will include:
 - (a) living in affordable good quality housing;*
 - (b) having access to suitable education, training and employment opportunities;*
 - (c) having access to high standards of health care;*
 - (d) enjoying a range of cultural, social, leisure and recreational pursuits;*
 - (e) having access to a variety of appropriate community facilities;*
 - (f) enjoying the full range of civil liberties.*

- There is a peaceful society, at peace with itself and with its neighbours and where crime is minimal.

- Those who are vulnerable or weak are cared for and where the values of shared responsibility, mutual support and self-help are practised.
- There is a safe, clean and welcoming environment with everyone accepting their share of responsibility for that environment.
- There is accessibility for all to local facilities and services.
- Diversity is recognised and valued through accepting that everyone has a unique contribution to make to the life of the community.
- There is strong community spirit and pride.
- Brownlow Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership is also committed to the need to have due regard to the promotion of equality of opportunity.
 - (a) between persons of different religious belief, political opinion, racial group, age, marital status or sexual orientation;*
 - (b) between men and women generally;*
 - (c) between persons with a disability and persons without; and*
 - (d) between persons with dependants and persons without.*
- Also, to have due regard for the desirability of promoting good relations between persons of different religious belief, political opinion, or racial group.

Brownlow Partnership Projects

The Neighbourhood Renewal Investment Fund is currently supporting 17 projects in the **Brownlow** Neighbourhood Renewal Area as follows:-

Community Renewal

1. **Craigavon - CBC - Technical Assistance 4** - provides a secretariat and coordination service which is key to the development of an effective neighbourhood renewal partnership, and development and delivery of the Brownlow Action Plan.

Social Renewal – Education

1. **SELB - Inclusion in Education** - provides mentoring to young people who are disaffected and /or not attending school. It focuses on pupils in transition from primary to secondary school and involvement of parents. The project is run within Brownlow Integrated College and Lismore Comprehensive College.
2. **SELB - Youth Engagement +** - works with young adults about to disengage from education or who have left education already i.e. young adults described as 'NEETs' – Not Engaged in Education, Employment or Training. The programme offers local support through their school, youth centres, health centres and specialised partners through a range of personal development, education, training and life coaching or counselling activities to help them improve their current and future lives.
3. **SELB - Count, Read, Succeed** - is a tailored programme designed to meet the needs of parents and children in the Brownlow Neighbourhood Renewal area and will complement the schools' central role by providing additional support through working with communities and parents and linking their children's work back into the classroom. This programme will focus on parental engagement (especially parents of underachieving pupils) to help raise educational standards through (a) school and community-based out of school hours' learning, (b) in-school and out of school hours parental engagement and (c) 'Twilight' sessions to empower and capacity-build the teaching and classroom assistant workforce.
4. **SELB - Transitions Programme** – has been developed by young people working with the SELB Education Welfare Service. An App will be developed and input on tablets which will be made available for all Primary Schools in the NR area for P7 pupils in transition to post primary. It will also be available for all post primary schools in the area for pupils in transition to different sectors and changing schools for various reasons, including as a result of school closure. The programme will help young

people make the transition, by attempting to allay any fears and concerns they have through the sharing of experiences and learning of others. It will also aim to assist in the improvement of attendance levels, levels of educational attainment and general engagement in school.



Craigavon – Transitions programme delivered by the Southern Education and Library Board Education Welfare Service. Picture includes participants from some of the schools involved in the creation of the Transitions App.

Social Renewal - Health

- 1. Craigavon - Pest Control** - provides a much needed pest management service in the Brownlow Neighbourhood Renewal area. It involves Craigavon Borough Council working in partnership with other statutory agencies and the local community to deal with pest problems.
- 2. Craigavon Sport in the Community (2014-2015)** - has been developed by Craigavon Borough Council and Brownlow residents to provide targeted sporting activities which maximise usage of Multi Use Games Areas. It provides opportunities for residents to participate in sport and physical activity, gain qualifications and leader's awards, build relationships with people from other areas and backgrounds, encourage healthier, more active lifestyles and take part in positive activities as an alternative to anti-social behaviour.
- 3. Craigavon Angling Project** - involves three elements - angling participation and lake and fishery management. Training is provided for local residents and on completion permits and rod licences are provided. Local fishing clubs are assisted with items of equipment. Lake management involves weed cutting and removal and enhancements to existing fishing stands. The Fishery management element includes survey of fish stock and stocking of the Craigavon lakes.
- 4. Craigavon Promoting Sustainable Lifestyles Project** - is divided into two elements - the Bushcraft Participation Programme provides residents with an opportunity to take part in a unique outdoor residential experience. Each course consists of a team building session, a 2 day residential camp and a follow up development session. The second element, the Marine Ranger Training Programme, targets 8 residents aged 18 years and above who are currently long term unemployed. The programme combines periods of training and assessment with valuable work based placement within Craigavon Borough Council. The aim will be to encourage the trainees to respect their local environment, highlight the opportunities on their door step and to create a positive outlook on local life styles.
- 5. Craigavon Cycling Project** – This health and well being sporting and leisure initiative is divided into three elements - Cycling Participation, Cycle Training and Maintenance and the construction of a Pump Track. The primary aim is to introduce over residents to organised cycling events and train residents in cycle leader training, basic cycle maintenance training and first aid training. The construction of the pump track will leave a lasting legacy for biking enthusiasts from the Craigavon and surrounding areas.
- 6. Craigavon Health Improvement Project** - has been designed by Southern Health and Social Care Trust and Brownlow Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership working in partnership with a wide range of bodies to maximise the services and deliver a range of health promotion initiatives.

Craigavon Promoting Sustainable Lifestyles Project



Craigavon Cycling Project



Launched by Will Haire, Secretary, DSD and Mayor Mark Baxter, Craigavon Borough Council

Craigavon Health Improvement Programme



Edwin Poots, DHSSPS Minister presenting certificates to newly qualified health trainers

Economic Renewal

- 1. Craigavon – TOPS** - the Brownlow '**Training and Employment Opportunities Programme**' has been developed in consultation with members of the Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership and the Southern Regional College to provide additional support in education and training for neighbourhood renewal residents. The programme provides mentoring support to those school pupils currently involved in the Schools Partnership Programme, Additional Mentoring to young people who progress from school to apprenticeship and other training programmes to develop and provide accredited training for young people who have dropped out.
- 2. Craigavon - The Grow Project** - provides training in horticulture skills and horticulture management. Participants in the project are skilled up to grow and care for plants in their own gardens and then later act as horticulture advisors to the local community. It is hoped that in the long term local communities will establish social enterprises with allotments and outlets where locally produced fruit and vegetables are available for sale.
- 3. Southern Region - The Enterprise Firm** - aims to ensure that people gain skills which are designed to inspire entrepreneurial spirit. Working in an Enterprise Firm will provide different types of learners with the necessary skills and knowledge to either become an entrepreneur or find employment after they finish their work in an Enterprise Firm. Enterprise Firms do not only foster entrepreneurial attitudes and skills among young people e.g. secondary school pupils and College students but also among adults e.g. employees, unemployed people, women returning to work, adults with disabilities, etc.
- 4. Southern Region – OCEANS 14** - the Offshore Career Employment and New Skills (OCEANS) 14 Project allows local residents to acquire skills for seeking and gaining entry to employment in the offshore industry. The residents will undertake essential skills learning and personal development and depending on their abilities skills which will allow them to gain employment on offshore renewable energies teams e.g. (a) deckhand, (b) roustabout (responsible for cleaning, painting, and helping out with anything and everything at all times) and (c) roughneck (typical entry-level position where you must be a jack-of-all-trades).



Minister for Social Nelson McCausland with (L-R) Brian Doran, CEO, Southern Regional College; John Quinn, Director of Workforce Development and External Relations and David Vint, Southern Regional College Assistant Director at launch of OCEANS 14 Project



Residents achieving qualifications through The Enterprise Project

5. **Southern Region – Care4U** – This project provides accredited training in domiciliary care for 40 people living in NRAs across the Southern Region, and encompasses those interested in pursuing a career in catering in the Health Service



SRC Graduation event at City Hotel April 2015

Physical Renewal

1. **Craigavon – Bluestone Business Park Phase 3** - Brownlow Limited is building eight new work / business / office units to add to its existing stock of 25 units at Bluestone Business Park, Craigavon. The work has involved demolishing 7 semi derelict buildings (converted housing) and constructing new light industrial units. The units will be used for tenants moving from the old buildings as well as creating new businesses and augmenting existing job opportunities and services within the Brownlow sector. This development will mark the completion of this Business Park with all condemned buildings removed and replaced with modern serviceable units.

Bluestone New Phase – from initial work to completion



Brownlow Partnership 14/15 Expenditure (by Strategic Objective)

The following table details current projects funded via the Neighbourhood Renewal Investment fund. It also details the 14/15 individual spend for each project, the total amount of expenditure by strategic objective and the overall 14/15 total expenditure in the Brownlow Neighbourhood Renewal Area.

Programme/Project	CFF Funding Period	CFF Funding Amount (Project allocation)	Spend (as at 31/03/15)
COMMUNITY RENEWAL			
Craigavon - CBC - Technical Assistance 4	01/04/2011 – 31/03/2015	£94,363.64	£20,889.05
Total Community Renewal Expenditure		£94,363.64	£20,889.05
SOCIAL RENEWAL – EDUCATION			
SELB - Inclusion in Education	01/07/2011 – 31/03/2015	£160,994.11	£42,875.00
SELB - Youth Engagement	26/09/2011 – 31/03/2015	£162,699.30	£48,515.12
SELB - Count, Read, Succeed	17/12/2012 – 31/03/2015	£98,416.56	£47,822.92
SELB – Transitions Programme	15/04/2013 – 31/03/2015	£36,573.00	£11,405.63
Total Social Renewal Ed Expenditure		£496,223.91	£159,122.83
SOCIAL RENEWAL – HEALTH			
Craigavon - Pest Control	17/08/2010 – 31/03/2015	£5,669.65	£1,246.53
Craigavon Sport in the Community 14/15	25/07/2011 – 31/03/2014	£31,551.79	£31,551.79
Craigavon Angling Project	01/08/2012 – 31/03/2015	£33,819.19	£7,458.80
Craigavon Promoting Sustainable Lifestyles	27/01/2013 – 31/03/2015	£108,006.70	£48,382.80
Craigavon Health Improvement Project	01/04/2011 – 31/03/2015	£150,109.00	£34,700.12

Craigavon Cycling Project	01/10/2013 – 31/03/2015	£37,101.21	£30,458.02
Total Social Renewal – Health Expenditure		£366,257.54	£153,798.06
Total Social Renewal Expenditure		£862,481.45	£312,920.89
ECONOMIC RENEWAL			
Craigavon – TOPS	01/09/2011 – 31/03/2015	£122,003.00	£34,132.60
Craigavon - The Grow Project	27/02/2012 – 31/03/2015	£63,147.24	£25,730.65
Southern Region - The Enterprise Firm	05/11/2012 – 31/03/2015	£121,668.64	£56,486.10
Southern Region – OCEANS 14	01/01/2014 – 31/12/2014	£13,757.63	£2,417.26
Southern Region – CARE4U	01/04/14 – 31/03/2015	£7,584.62	£7,584.62
Total Economic Renewal Expenditure		£328,161.13	£126,351.23
PHYSICAL RENEWAL			
Brownlow Ltd - Bluestone Business Park Phase 3	11/03/14 – 31/08/15	£748,660.00	£581,020.00
Total Physical Renewal Expenditure		£748,660.00	£581,020.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		£2,033,666.22	£1,041,181.17

ACHIEVEMENTS OF NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL FUNDING IN 14/15 YEAR

Community/Other Output Measures

PROJECT	CR2 – Number of people participating in community bonding projects	CR3 – Number of people volunteering for community development activities
Craigavon - CBC - Technical Assistance 4	33	
Craigavon-SELB-Youth Engagement+		9

Social (Education) Output Measures

PROJECT	SR(Ed)3 (Tackling barriers to learning)– Number of pupils whose attainment is measurably enhanced/improved	SR(Ed)5 (Tackling barriers to learning)– Number of people engaged in parenting skills/development programmes	SR(Ed)7 (Literacy & Numeracy)– Number of pupils whose attainment is measurably enhanced/improved	SR(Ed)8 (Closing the Performance Gap) – Number of pupils directly benefitting from project	SR(Ed)14 (Youth Services) – Number of young people directly benefitting from the project.	SR(Ed)23 (ICT)– Number of pupils whose attainment is measurably enhanced/improved (in ICT related subject)	SR(Ed)28 (Tackling barriers to learning) Number of people undertaking accredited courses and qualifications completed.
Craigavon - SELB – Inclusion in Education	116						
Craigavon - SELB – Youth Engagement+					253		253
Craigavon - SELB – Count Read Succeed Plus		73	109	23			
Craigavon - SELB – Transitions Programme				157			

Craigavon – TOPS (Training Opportunities)							45
Craigavon – CBC – Sport in the Community					1971		

Social (Health) Output Measures

PROJECT	SR(H)1 – Number of people benefiting from Healthy Lifestyle projects	SR (H)3 – Number of people accessing intervention/treatment services
Craigavon Health Improvement Project	1181	
Craigavon Sport in the Community (2014-2015)	229	
Craigavon Promoting Sustainable Lifestyles Project	1,172	
Craigavon Cycling	158	
Craigavon Pest Control		52
Craigavon Angling Project	39	

Economic Output Measures

PROJECT	ER2 – number of residents going into employment	ER4 - Number of people receiving job specific training	ER8 – Number of new business start ups	ER9 – Number of new/existing businesses requiring /receiving advice/support	ER14 – Number of people attaining a formal qualification from participation in Adult education
Southern Region OCEANS 14		4			
Craigavon - The Grow Project		4			4
Craigavon Health Improvement Project					34
Craigavon - TOPS	4	55			45
Craigavon Cycling Project	1	4			
Southern Region - The Enterprise Firm		7			7
Southern Region CARE4U	6	7			

Physical Output Measures

PROJECT	PR3 – Area of land (ha) improved or landscaped for amenity use
Bluestone Business Park Phase 3	1

Brownlow Partnership Conclusion

In the 14/15 financial year, Brownlow Partnership total overall spend was **£1,041,181.17**

This can be further broken down into Strategic Objective spend as follows:-

Community Renewal	£20,889.05
Social Renewal	£312,920.89
Physical Renewal	£581,020.00
Economic Renewal	£126,351.23

Breakdown of main achievements for actual expenditure

Some of the main achievements in the Brownlow Neighbourhood Renewal area in 2014/2015, as a result of Neighbourhood Renewal funded projects:

- 20 residents have gained jobs as a result of participation in the Craigavon TOPS Programme
- 31 residents received a BTEC Level 2 in Business and Enterprise through participation in The Enterprise Firms project
- 47 residents achieved a BTEC Certificate in Horticulture and 11 people gained employment through participation in The Grow Project
- 12 residents gained employment since completing the OCEANS 14 Project

In addition, two capital build programmes were completed and the third phase of Bluestone is nearing completion. Partnership members are content that the projects funded in this year are addressing key priorities identified in Brownlow.



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