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Communities
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Armagh Neighbourhood Renewal Area Annual Report 2016

Armagh Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership

ANNUAL REPORT - 2016

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 Armagh Partnership

The Neighbourhood Armagh Renewal area sits mainly on the western side of the city and comprises three separate catchment areas. The largest area covering the housing estates of Callanbridge, Mullacreevie and Drumarg, stretching into the city centre. The two smaller areas are Drumbreda housing estate and Railway Street. It has a population of 5.

To take forward the Neighbourhood Renewal Programme, Armagh Partnership was set up in 2006 to oversee the development and delivery of the local Neighbourhood Renewal Action Plan. The Partnership currently comprises 16 members which include representatives from local communities, voluntary organisations, elected representatives, private sector and local statutory organisations. It currently meets on a monthly basis and its administration services are provided through a Coordinator and administrator with Armagh Council.

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 has established 3 sub groups to assist it in the identification, development and, where appropriate, delivery of projects.

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 Partnership's Vision for Armagh

By the year 2016 Armagh will be a place where

- All of the people living here have the quality of life to which they aspire; this will include:
 - Living in affordable good quality housing;
 - Having access to suitable education, training and employment opportunities;
 - Having access to high standards of health care;
 - Enjoying a range of cultural, social, leisure and recreational pursuits;
 - Having access to a variety of appropriate community facilities;
 - 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.

It should be noted that Armagh 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.

Armagh Partnership Projects

The Neighbourhood Renewal Investment Fund is currently supporting 9 projects in the Armagh Neighbourhood Renewal Area as follows:-

Community Renewal

1. Armagh Growing Communities Programme 15/16 - has been designed by the Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council in consultation with community associations to provide a direct capacity building and support resource to work within the community. It also includes a range of sports and physical activity interventions which will help improve the health of residents and create a safer environment for residents. The Growing Communities Programme comprises two strands – (1) Neighbourhood Renewal Support and Growth, running costs for the Community Associations within the Neighbourhood Renewal area and Capacity Building and Support Services for these Associations. (2) Growing Communities Project which is delivered under the following themes:

- Communications - development of community website, setting up of schools / community PR strategy group and media training.
- Implementation of Social Economy Strategy - Provision of mentoring and support to those groups who have developed SE opportunities to transform them into SE businesses.
- Mentoring & Support to Community Associations - Delivery of training to community association committees to include defibrillator use and funding seminars etc.
- Volunteer Initiative – working with Volunteer Now and local people to identify and secure new volunteers for the area and to host an event to celebrate the achievement of local volunteers within the community.

- Youth & Children Sports Coaching & Diversionary Activities – structured sports coaching initiatives Positive Futures workshops, Best Practice visits and Residential trip for young people.
- Health & Wellbeing – physical activity sessions for beginners and intermediate level and first aid training.
- Intergenerational Project – to include the installation of raised beds and garden areas within school grounds and mentoring and support for delivery of Older Peoples Action Plan.
- Irish Language – delivery of a summer Irish language camp to help develop the use of Irish Language within the community.

The programme contributes to the NR objective to develop confident communities that are committed to improving the quality of life in their areas. The programme will also complement the Council's Community Support Plan in allowing the NR community associations to concentrate and focus on the delivery of programmes and training opportunities that will lead to better equipped, fit for purpose and self sustaining community associations.

Older People's Group – Westenders

Information event on personal / home safety. Speakers included crime prevention officer and community pharmacist



Mullacreevie International Fun Day



Youth & Children Sports Coaching & Diversionary Activities - residential





St Patrick's Well

2. Armagh - Technical Assistance 15-16 - provides a much needed secretariat and coordination service which is key to the development off an effective neighbourhood renewal partnership and development and delivery of the Armagh Action Plan.

Economic Renewal

1. **Armagh – STEPs ‘Supporting Training and Employment Programme’ 2 15/16** – 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 programmes; STEPs also includes additional enhanced Vocational training and a Driving programme. This will improve and enhance the employability and educational chances by providing practical life skills.

In the first two years of the programme, over 83% of participants achieved a nationally recognised qualification and last year, 136 residents completed courses in a range of areas including: First Aid; Forklift (Novice); Forklift (Telescopic); Food Safety; Joinery (Men’s Shed); Child Protection / Childcare; ASD (Level 2); Soft Furnishing; Jewellery Making and Tablet training. The programme continues until March 2017. Five students have secured employment including:

- one student after passing his test and purchasing a car got full time employment in the Glass factory he commented what difference the STEP’s programme has made to him.
- two students secured employment in schools -a pre-school and a primary school assisting in the class room.
- the fourth student secured employment in a bakery after completing training with the STEPS this year and
- the fifth student gained employment with a building contractor on a building site when he completed his CSR card (Construction Safe Pass) training.



Briege Shaw (SRC Tutor) with students completing their Level 2 in Soft Furnishing



Barry McGuinness, Armagh. Barry completed the counterbalance and novice forklift training



STEPs working with Armagh Men's Shed

2. Southern Region – Oceans (Offshore Career Employment And New Skills) Project 15/16 – this has been developed in consultation with members of the Neighbourhood Renewal Partnerships and the Southern Regional College the project aims to improve community well being, skills and environment through targeting residents interested in working in UK and Irish coastal waters. The project provides accredited training in essential skills and provides a gateway to employability in the offshore industry, on oil rigs and renewable energy platforms. The OCEANS Project includes MIST (Minimum Industry Safety Training), an essential qualification required to gain employment in the offshore industry. The module includes risk assessment, COSHH (Control of Substances Hazardous to Health), manual handling and working at height.

Offshore Training



3. Southern Region – Care4U Project 15/16 – the aim of Care 4 U is to better equip 35 individuals within the 5 Neighbourhood Areas in the Southern Region to seek and secure employment, or improved employment through participation in accredited training in domiciliary care or catering in the Health Service. Applicants will follow a 20 week (60 hour) training programme in:

- Level 2 Introduction to Counselling Skills delivered over 3 hrs per week for 15 weeks
- Level 2 Introduction to Safeguarding & Protecting Children and Young People delivered over 3 hours per week for 5 weeks

Applicants will follow a training programme in their chosen area (a) Domiciliary care where they will obtain a C&G Level 2 Certificate in Induction into Adult Social Care, FAQ Emergency First Aid, L2 Lifting and Handling Awareness and /or (b) Catering Assistant where they can receive an ABC Level 1 Certificate in Introduction to the Hospitality Industry and a CIEH Level 2 Award in Food Safety in Catering.

Care4U First Aid Training



Hospice Visit



4. Southern Region - The Enterprise Firm 15/16 - 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.



Roisin O'Neill, Armagh who has started her own sewing business from home called Miss Stitch



Potential entrepreneurs

Social Renewal

- 1. Armagh - SELB Social Renewal Education Programme 15/16** - this programme is modelled on the previous Social Renewal Education programme 1. It includes additional enhanced out of school hours learning opportunities (after school clubs including activities to support parental engagement and summer activities) and school focused youth engagement for increased access to education, employment, youth services and pre-employment training.

- 2. SELB - Count, Read, Succeed Plus 15/16** - is a tailored programme designed to meet the needs of parents and children in the Armagh 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.

Count Read Succeed



Physical Renewal

1. **Armagh - ACBCBC - Friary Road Civic Pride Scheme Phase 3-** the project represents Phase 3 of the regeneration of the pedestrian underpass and surrounding streetscape at Friary Road, Armagh. Historically, the underpass, known locally as 'The Tunnel', provided a passageway for residents to cross the main arterial route of Friary Road. In recent years, the location has become synonymous with anti-social behaviour due to its emergence as an unsupervised meeting point for young people and young adults aged from 15 – 25 years. The first phase of the project to erect alley gating, fencing and clean up the area was successfully completed in February 2014. Phase two – the installation of alley-gating at the entrance to the underpass was completed in March 2015. This phase involved the abandonment and filling-in of the steps to the underpass. The PSNI have stated that completion of the works will contribute to decline of crime in the area.

Before



After



Armagh Partnership 15/16 year 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 Armagh Neighbourhood Renewal Area.

Programme/Project	CFF Funding Period	CFF Funding Amount (Project allocation)	15/16 Spend (as at 31/03/16)
COMMUNITY RENEWAL			
Armagh - Growing Communities 15/16	1/04/15 to 31/03/16	£107,318.26	£105,581.71
Armagh - Technical Assistance 15/16	1/04/15 to 31/03/16	£39,810.29	£34,832.87
Total Community Renewal Expenditure		£147,128.55	£140,414.58
ECONOMIC RENEWAL			
Armagh - STEPs 'Supporting Training and Employment Programme' 2 15/16	1/04/15 to 31/03/16	£78,701.22	£67,924.67
Southern Region – Care4U 15/16	1/04/15 to 31/03/16	£1,784.00	£1,784.00
Southern Region – OCEANS 15 Programme 15/16	1/04/15 to 31/03/16	£8,591.93	£8,591.93
	1/04/15 to 31/03/16	£7,813.30	£7,813.30
Total Economic Renewal Expenditure		£96,890.45	£86,113.90

Programme/Project	CFF Funding Period	CFF Funding Amount (Project allocation)	15/16 Spend (as at 31/03/16)
SOCIAL RENEWAL- Education			
Armagh - SELB Social Renewal Education Programme 2 15/16	1/04/15 to 31/03/16	£85,900.00	£81,217.84
Armagh - SELB Count Read Succeed Plus 15/16	1/04/15 to 31/03/16	£67,260.00	£65,145.91
Total Social Renewal Ed Expenditure		£153,160.00	£146,363.75
PHYSICAL RENEWAL			
Armagh - ACBCBC - Friary Road Civic Pride Scheme Phase 3	1/04/15 to 31/03/16	£26,332.94	£26,332.94
Total Physical Renewal Expenditure		£26,332.94	£26,332.94
OVERALL GRAND TOTAL		£423,511.94	£399,225.17

ACHIEVEMENTS OF NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL FUNDING IN 15/16 YEAR

Community/Other Output Measures

PROJECT	CR1 – No of people participating in community relations projects	CR3 – Number of people volunteering for community development activities	CR10- No of people using existing community facilities
Armagh - Growing Communities Programme 15/16	750	52	100
Armagh - Technical Assistance Programme 15/16	100		

Economic Output Measures

PROJECT	ER2 – no of residents going into employment	ER3 – Number of people accessing careers advice	ER4 – no of people receiving job specific training	ER6 – Number of people receiving non job specific training e.g. First Aid	ER11 – No of social economy enterprises created / supported	ER14 – Number of people attaining a formal qualification in Adult Education	ER15 – No of FTE jobs safeguarded
Armagh - STEPs 'Supporting Training and Employment Programme' 15/16			87			29	
Southern Region – Care4U 15/16		5				4	
Southern Region – OCEANS 15 Programme 15/16	2	5	5				
Armagh - Growing Communities Programme 15/16				171	6		1
Southern Region – The Enterprise Firm 15/16	2	6	6			4	

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)8 - (Closing the Performance Gap) – Number of pupils directly benefitting from project	SR(Ed)10 – No of pupils directly benefitting from the project	SR(Ed)14 - (Youth Services) – Number of young people directly benefitting from the project.
Armagh - SELB - Social Renewal Education Programme 15/16	225	25			60
Armagh - SELB - Count Read Succeed Plus 15/16	92	76			
Armagh - Growing Communities Programme 15/16				100	
Armagh - STEPs ‘Supporting Training and Employment Programme’ 15/16	74				

Social (Crime) Output Measures

PROJECT	SR(C)4 – number of crime prevention initiatives implemented
Armagh - ACBCBC - Friary Road Civic Pride Scheme Phase 3	1

Social (Health) Output Measures

PROJECT	SR(H)1 – No of people benefiting from Healthy Lifestyle Projects	SR(H)2 – No of people attending Health education / Awareness Initiatives
Armagh - Growing Communities Programme 15/16	117	39

Physical Output Measures

PROJECT	PR10 – area of land improved and made ready for shared space	PR11 – Number of people / volunteers involved in physical development and / or environment improvement projects
Armagh - ACBCBC - Friary Road Civic Pride Scheme Phase 3	1	
Armagh - Growing Communities Programme 15/16		220

Armagh Partnership Conclusion

In the 2015/2016 financial year, Armagh Partnership total overall spend was **£399,225.17**.

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

Community Renewal	£140,414.58
Social Renewal	£146,363.75
Economic Renewal	£ 86,113.90
Physical Renewal	£ 26,332.94

Breakdown of main achievements for total expenditure

The main achievements in the Armagh Neighbourhood Renewal area in 2015/2016, as a result of Neighbourhood Renewal funded projects, are:

- ✓ 98 people received job specific training;
- ✓ 750 people benefitted from using new and improved community facilities;
- ✓ 551 pupils benefitted from Education Programmes;
- ✓ 101 people engaged in parenting skills/development programmes.

Partnership members are content that the projects funded in this year are addressing key priorities identified in Armagh area.



**Regional Development Office
Southern Neighbourhood Renewal Team
Jobs and Benefits Office
18 Castlewellan Road
BANBRIDGE, BT32 4AZ**