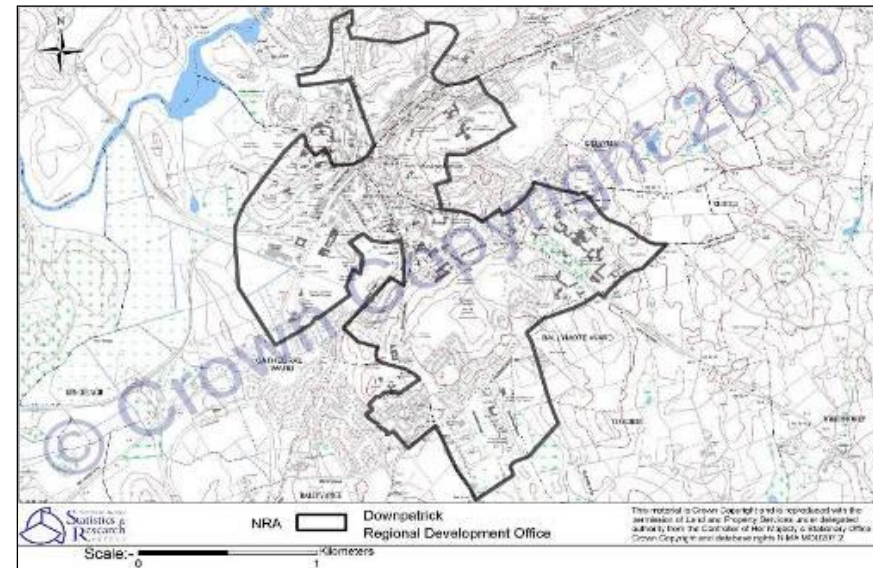


Downpatrick Neighbourhood Renewal Area Annual Report 2015/2016



Downpatrick Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership

ANNUAL REPORT – 2015/2016

Neighbourhood Renewal

The Neighbourhood Renewal policy “People & Place” 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.

Downpatrick Neighbourhood Renewal Area

The Downpatrick Neighbourhood Renewal area comprises the housing areas within Downpatrick (Flying Horse, Model Farm and new Model Farm estates, Kennedy Square, Meadowlands, and Marian Park) and a substantial part of the town centre including the Bridge Street / Mount Crescent area. It has a population of approximately 5,468.

Downpatrick Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership

The Downpatrick Neighbourhood Partnership was established in March 2006 to take forward the local delivery of the Neighbourhood Renewal strategy. It comprises 26 members from the community/voluntary, private and statutory sectors. The Partnership is defined as a non-constituted entity acting in an advisory role to the Department for Social Development on Neighbourhood Renewal issues in the designated Neighbourhood Renewal area. It currently meets on a 6 weekly basis and its administration services are provided by Newry, Mourne and Down District Council. The Department for Social Development provides the associated costs for administering the Partnership under technical assistance arrangements.

The Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership's sub groups are transient and short term, set up to undertake specific tasks 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 Downpatrick Vision and Action Plan

The Downpatrick Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership set its 10 year vision for the area back in 2006. It states that:

Local neighbourhoods in Downpatrick will be safe, attractive places where people want to live, work and play. Communities will be healthier and prosperous, working together to create a positive future for our children and young people.

Neighbourhood Renewal Action Plans

The Downpatrick Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership has a 3 year Action Plan in place. It is reviewed each year in line with the Department for Social Development guidance. The Plan sets out those revenue (service delivery type) projects that are currently being funded by the Department, together with any new revenue projects that are in development. It also sets out the capital development schemes that the Partnership has identified for delivery. This Annual Report document reports on delivery of the Neighbourhood Renewal Action Plan for the 2015/16 financial year.

Downpatrick Neighbourhood Renewal Projects

The Neighbourhood Renewal Investment Fund has supported five Downpatrick Neighbourhood Renewal Action Plan revenue projects during the 2015/2016 financial year as follows:-

1. Newry, Mourne and Down District Council - Neighbourhood Partnership Technical Assistance

This project provides Council with funding to deliver the Neighbourhood Renewal secretariat support function without which the Partnership could not effectively operate. This includes the co-ordination of Partnership meetings, planning events and other initiatives, the production of Neighbourhood Renewal Action plans and contribution to the monitoring and evaluation process. This service is seen as vital to the smooth functioning of Neighbourhood Renewal in Downpatrick.

This picture captures Partnership members prior to a Partnership meeting in April 2016.



Social Renewal

2. Downpatrick Public Health Agency – Health & Community Engagement Programme

This project, which is being managed by the Public Health Agency, has been running since 2013. It involves the employment of a Community Development Health Worker to deliver a range of targeted Health and Wellbeing and community initiatives within the Downpatrick Neighbourhood Renewal area. The service delivery has been outsourced by the Public Health Agency to a community sector organisation - County Down Rural Community Network, under Service Level Agreement arrangements. This project has delivered a range of activities including health programmes, identifying and developing new volunteers for community groups and delivering greater engagement and networking between and within groups. This has helped develop the skills and confidence of the local community to enable them to participate in the health and community related activities.

Community AGM in November 2015 and pictured below are some of the Committee with Cllr Walker and Ann Grant Community Development Officer.



Economic Renewal

3. Driving Your Way to Success 2.

This project provides additional support in education and training for neighbourhood renewal residents. It includes a bespoke programme of vocational skills and personal development training to assist young people to seek and secure employment / better employment, through participation in a training programme leading to the achievement of a nationally recognised qualification and the chance to obtain a driving licence. The project has been in place since 2012 and has continued to meet its targets (set out on pages 14 & 15).

Personal Development Class.



Social Renewal - Education

4. South Eastern Education and Library Boards - Parents – Speech & Language Therapy

The main aim of the project is to raise standards in language and literacy by providing early identification and support for children at risk of underachieving. All children involved in the service have a comprehensive assessment of their speech, language and communication skills carried out by the Speech and Language Therapist (SLT). The SLT then carry out classroom observations focusing on children on the SLT caseload. Time is spent supporting identified children either in a group or one to one basis as directed by the SLT. In addition to the management of the programme, the SLT consults with parents and teachers to explain the process and provide advice on how best to support the child at home and in the classroom. Parents are invited to attend some of the sessions and are set home learning tasks to complete with the child. Parent training sessions are also offered to give parents advice on strategies and activities to carry out at home to support their child's language development.

Social Renewal - Health

5. Downpatrick Family Health & Wellbeing

Downpatrick **'Family Health & Wellbeing'** project is facilitated through a joint approach linking the SEELB, South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust, Downpatrick Sure Start, Bryson Charitable Group, Action for Children, Home Start and County Down Rural Community Network. Started in 2011, the project provides a coordinated network of health and family support services to neighbourhood renewal residents through a new Parent Visitor Programme; a Family Support Home Visiting Service; and a Mobile Crèche provision. The project continued to meet its objectives.

Mobile Crèche



Downpatrick Partnership 2015/2016 expenditure (by Strategic Objective)

The following table details current projects funded via the Neighbourhood Renewal Investment fund. It also details the 2015/2016 individual spend for each project, the total amount of expenditure by strategic objective and the overall 2015/2016 total expenditure in the Downpatrick Neighbourhood Renewal Area.

Programme/Project	CFF Funding Period	CFF/LOV Funding Amount (Project allocation)	2015/2016 Spend
Technical assistance			
Newry Mourne and Down District Council Neighbourhood Renewal Technical Assistance	01/04/2015 – 31/03/2016	£21,740.00	£21,740.00
COMMUNITY RENEWAL			
Public Health Agency - Public Health & Community Engagement Programme	01/04/2015 – 31/03/2016	£60,675.00	£60,674.70
Total Community Renewal Expenditure			£82,414.70
SOCIAL RENEWAL – EDUCATION			
Speech & Language Therapy	01/04/2015 – 31/03/2016	£45,712.00	£45,192.46
Total Social Renewal Education Expenditure			£45,192.46
SOCIAL RENEWAL – HEALTH			
Downpatrick Family Health & Wellbeing	1/04/2015 – 31/03/2016	£63,600.60	£61,983.17

Total Social Renewal Health Expenditure			£61,983.17
PHYSICAL RENEWAL			
Total Physical Renewal Expenditure		£00	£00
ECONOMIC RENEWAL			
South Eastern Regional College - Driving to Success 2	01/04/2015 – 31/03/2016	£63,290.00	£57,931.92
Total Economic Renewal Expenditure			£57,931.92
OVERALL TOTALS			£247,522.25

ACHIEVEMENTS OF NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL FUNDING IN 2015/2016 YEAR

Community/Other Output Measures

PROJECT	CR1 – Number of people participating in community relations projects.	CR3 - Number of people volunteering for community development activities	CR5 – Number of people receiving training in community development skills.	CR7 – Number of community/voluntary groups supported.
DDC NP Technical Assistance	1*	1*		
PHA Health & Community Engagement programme	3913	37	114	6

Social (Education) Output Measures

PROJECT	SR(Ed) 3 – Number of pupils whose attainment is measurably enhance/improved.	SR(Ed) 5 – Number of people engaged in parenting/skills development programmes	SR(Ed) 8 – Number of pupils benefiting from the project	SR(Ed) 10 – Number of pupils directly benefiting from the project	SR(Ed) 11 – Number of pupils whose attainment is measurably improved against baseline position to ensure pupils reach full potential
Driving Your Way to Success 2	32		32		
Downpatrick – SH&SCT – Speech & Language Therapy	57	57	57	57	57

Social (Health) Output Measures

PROJECT	SR(H)1 – Number of people benefiting from healthy lifestyle projects	SR(H) 2 – Number of people attending Education/Awareness initiatives	SR(H) 3 – Number of people accessing intervention/treatment services	SR(H) 4 – Number of health/education awareness initiatives provided/delivered
Downpatrick Family Health & Wellbeing	280	113	56 families	176 creches
PHA Health & Community Engagement programme	131	131	131	

Economic Output Measures

PROJECT	ER 4 – Number of people receiving job specific training.	ER 5 – Number of weeks (per participant) of non job specific training provided.
Driving to Success 2	32	16

Downpatrick Partnership Conclusion

In the 2015/2016 financial year, Downpatrick Partnership total overall spend at June 2016 was **£247,522.25**.

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

- **Community Renewal** **£82,414.70**
- **Social Renewal** **£107,175.63**
- **Economic Renewal** **£57,931.92**
- **Physical Renewal** **£0.00**

Breakdown of actual achievements for total expenditure

Having previously focused on the delivery of the large £4.1M Ballymote Multifunctional and Healthy Living Sports facility which provided an additional 80 jobs for the area, the Partnership's new priority is to concentrate on educational, health and economic projects.

The successor to Parents - Partners in Literacy Learning Project – Speech & Language Therapy is showing its benefits for both pupils and parents. The economic project, Driving Your Way to Success has also been encouraging.

In the 2016/17 financial year £267K already has been approved mainly to continue the educational and economic focus, but also covering such issues as early health interventions in families.



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