



Bangor Neighbourhood Renewal Area

Annual Report 2017/18



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Introduction to Neighbourhood Renewal

The Neighbourhood Renewal Programme (NRP) aims to reduce the social and economic inequalities which characterise the most deprived areas in Northern Ireland. The Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy 'People and Place' was published in June 2003 to close the gap between the quality of life for people in these neighbourhoods and the rest of society. The DFC has made a long-term commitment to work in partnership with communities to identify and prioritise needs and co-ordinate interventions designed to address the underlying causes of poverty. To tackle the complex, multi-dimensional nature of deprivation in an integrated way, the NRP 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.

Bangor Neighbourhood Renewal Area

Bangor Neighbourhood Renewal Area (NRA) covers the whole of the Kilcooley and Fern Grove estate (shown in Figure 1). Kilcooley estate is the third largest estate in Northern Ireland with a population of 2,655 based on NISRA figures (2013). 79% of residents identified themselves as having a Protestant or Christian faith background and approximately 4% of respondents identified themselves as having Catholic faith background.



Situated approximately three miles west of Bangor Town Centre, the estate is bounded by two major roads, the West Circular Road on the East and the Belfast Road on the West.

Over £4 million has been invested in Bangor NRA by the DFC since the programme's inception in 2004. Significant additional match funding and in-kind support has also been levered into Bangor NRA by other supporting partners.

Bangor NRA is one of 36 Neighbourhood Renewal areas in Northern Ireland as measured by the Multiple Deprivation Measure. Levels of 'multiple deprivation' remain much higher in Bangor NRA than within North Down and Ards.

Kilcooley Neighbourhood Partnership

The Kilcooley Neighbourhood Partnership (KNP) was established in 2004/ 2005 to take forward the NRP in Bangor. The Partnership is defined as a non-constituted entity acting in an advisory capacity to the DFC on issues identified in the designated Bangor NRA. The Partnership comprises of members from the community/voluntary, private and statutory sectors as shown in Figure 2.

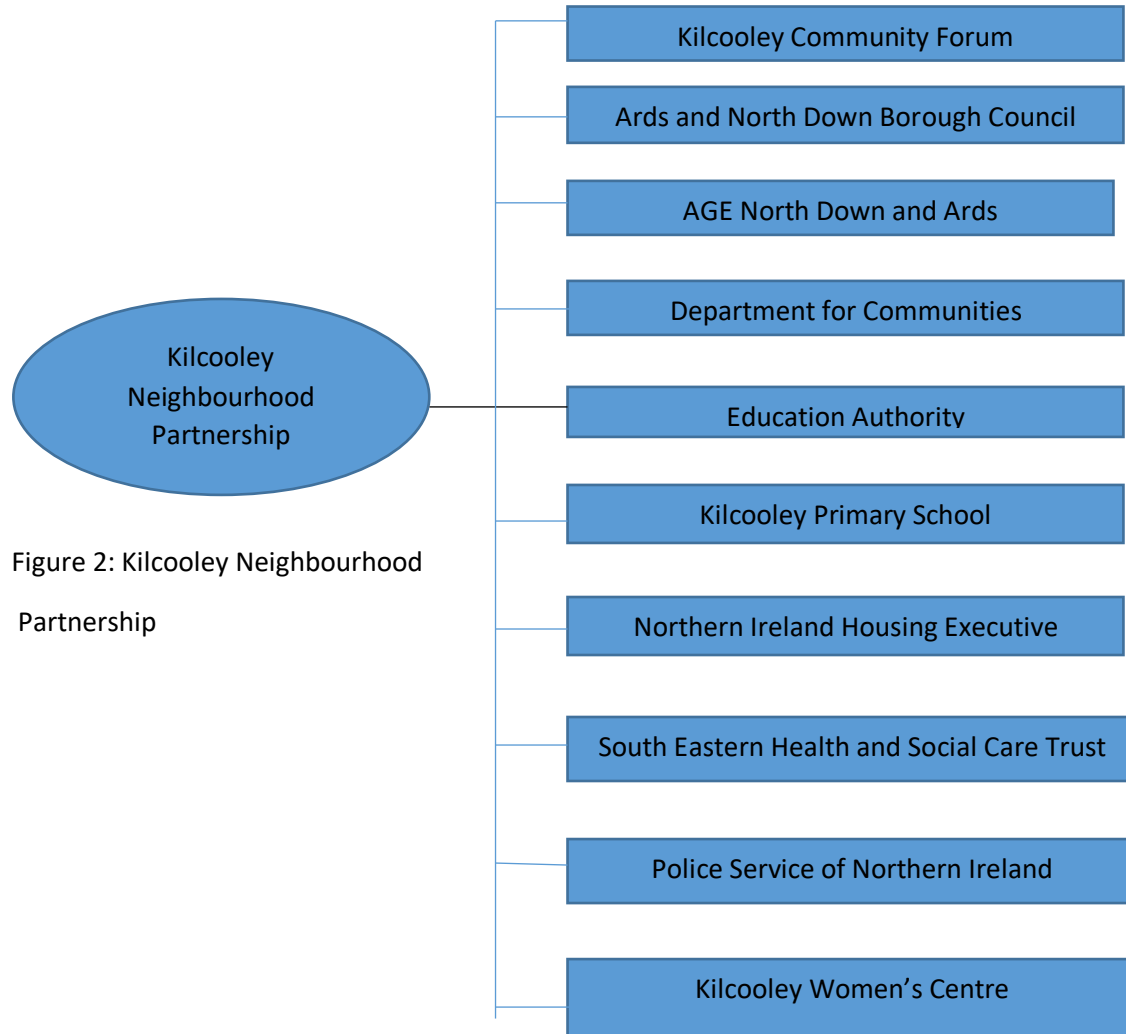


Figure 2: Kilcooley Neighbourhood Partnership

The overall aim of the KNP is to engage in effective working partnerships with key stakeholders from all relevant sectors to proactively deliver priorities detailed in the Kilcooley Vision and Action Plan to improve the well-being and quality of life for residents.

The objectives of KNP are to manage, develop and oversee the regeneration of Bangor NRA to:

- Ensure that people living in the Bangor NRA have access to the best possible services and to create opportunities which make for a better quality of life, better prospects and the creation of a safer environment for themselves and their families.
- Develop economic activity in the Bangor NRA and connect the community to the wider economy of Bangor, Belfast and Northern Ireland.
- Develop confident communities that are able and committed to improving the quality of life in the Bangor NRA.
- Improve the environment and image of the Bangor NRA so that it becomes an attractive place in which to live and invest.

The council employs a part time Neighbourhood Renewal Officer funded by the DFC to provide secretariat support to the Partnership which meets on a six weekly basis. The KNP has signed up to, and abides by, the Neighbourhood Renewal Code of Practice and Guiding Principles and subsequent Sub-Group Terms of Reference.

The Kilcooley Vision and Action Plan

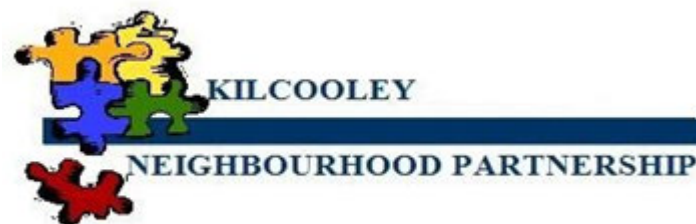
The vision for Bangor NRA, (as defined in the initial Kilcooley Vision and Action Plan 2007-2010) is:

'Kilcooley will become an attractive, safe and prosperous estate where the residents enjoy healthy active lifestyles.'

The environment in which the KNP now operates has changed significantly since the inception of the NRP. Need within the community has changed and priorities have been revised to reflect this. In addition, major changes in the global economy means that KNP now operates in an environment of funding cuts and budget restraint. The KNP has conducted a full review of the action plan to ensure priorities contained therein are based on and commensurate to, identified evidence based need and to determine progress in tackling deprivation since the development of the initial plan.

The aim of the revised Kilcooley Vision and Action Plan for 2018-2019 is to deliver a real and significant improvement in people's quality of life by focusing on key priorities such as,

- educational attainment
- income deprivation
- health inequalities and
- early year intervention.



The development of the 3G sports facility, together with the continued provision and supporting infrastructure of programmes will contribute significantly to delivering against all four neighbourhood renewal strategic objectives (physical, social, economic and community).

The Kilcooley Vision and Action Plan 2018-2019 continues to establish an overarching structure for regeneration and community development activity within Bangor NRA. The Action Plan demonstrates outcomes that contribute to DFC's key priorities and mission statement whilst simultaneously providing a foundation for community planning and the revised regeneration policy framework.

Kilcooley Neighbourhood Partnership Projects

The Neighbourhood Renewal Programme has supported numerous projects during the period 2017-2018 under the key strategic objectives as outlined below:

Community Renewal

Kilcooley Community Forum

Kilcooley Community Forum is an umbrella organisation based in the Kilcooley Estate in Bangor Co. Down. Founded in 1997, the Forum represents the interests of a wide range of groups and organisations including local churches and youth agencies, Alternatives Restorative Justice, Simon Community and Woodland Trust.

The Forum recently re-structured and now comprises a Company Ltd by Guarantee with charitable status and a community-wide consultative group which acts as a link with local people and events.

The new board of directors is supported by an advisory panel whose members include a solicitor, a local property developer, the Chief Executive of a major regional charity and a number of representatives from community development organisations.

The Forum represents the people of Kilcooley on a range of strategic steering groups involving statutory partners and service providers. These include:

- Kilcooley Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership
- Education sub-group (Chair)
- Health Task Force (Chair)
- Early Intervention / Stronger Outcomes for Children
- Inter-agency Strategic Partnership (Chair)

Kilcooley Community Forum has a strong track record of cross community engagement in sport, education and mutual understanding. At present, the Forum is aligned with Community Learning Through Engagement from Drumbeg Estate in Craigavon, Co Armagh.

The Forum provides the day-to-day management for 18 community allotments as well as a horticulture training area and education facility. It also hosts a borough-wide Community Horticulture Hub which provides growing space and expertise to community groups from North Down and Ards.

The Forum has successfully hosted the University of Ulster “Unblocking Potential” Course, which provides access to undergraduate studies in community development.

Kilcooley Neighbourhood Partnership – Technical Assistance

Secretariat support and coordination of services for the Kilcooley Neighbourhood Partnership is provided by a part-time Neighbourhood Renewal Officer (NRO), employed by Ards and North Down Borough Council and funded through DfC Technical Assistance. The NRO ensures the implementation of the Kilcooley Vision and Action Plan 2018-2019 and works in conjunction with Community/Voluntary and Statutory organisations to ensure the needs of the community are met under the four key strategic objectives of the Neighbourhood Renewal Programme. Key milestones achieved for 2017-2018 include:

- The priorities contained within the Kilcooley Vision and Action Plan 2016-2018 have been monitored and updated as appropriate by the NRO. Subsequently, an electronic update of the Kilcooley Vision and Action Plan 2018-2019 to incorporate new and emerging projects has been produced.
- In conjunction with the Partnership, in early 2018, the NRO produced and distributed the Kilcooley Resident Survey to capture the needs of those living within Kilcooley and inform the Kilcooley Neighbourhood Partnership of the concerns highlighted. The responses received were collated and used to inform the projects included in the Kilcooley Vision and Action Plan for 2018-2019.
- A new Chair and Vice of the Partnership were appointed in August 2017. Pete Wray (Bangor Alternatives) is the Chairperson and Lynda Vladenaeu (South East Health and Social Care Trust) is the Vice Chair.



Social Renewal

The Kilcooley Women's Centre



Kilcooley Women's Centre (KWC) develops and delivers a training, education & employability project targeted at women who face challenges in finding work. KWC offers a wide portfolio of activities, including:

- Training and education, operation of community college and examination/accreditation centre, regulated and inspected by Education and Training Inspectorate of Department Education NI and JCQ Qualifications Regulator. There are 1187 adult Learning Places.
- Employability skills, CV Building and Interview Techniques, Work Placements, Job Shadowing. Better off calculations, benefit application support, job club and employer engagement programme. Direct employment of 19 employees and work placements of 10 classroom assistants in Kilcooley Primary School.
- Leadership Programmes, Young Women's Group, Older Women's Group. Mentoring and one to one support. Extensive beauty training programme as a hook for engagement for young women.
- Early Years programmes including play development, sensory programme and additional needs support. KWC now deliver the Kilcooley Summer Scheme on behalf of Ards North Down Borough Council for children aged 5-11. After school's provision in development in partnership with Kilcooley Primary School.

- Childcare Services allow up to 270 children to be registered. This includes Jellietots Baby Room (0-2) 10, Smarties Pre-Nursery (2-4) 20 and the Magic Stars (3-4) 18. They are currently registered by social services for 48 places.
- Health and wellbeing programmes, physical activity, mental health support. Provision of on-site food bank, development of period poverty programme and health poverty support through engagement with multi-national corporations. Development of pilot social supermarket programme pending suitable premises identification, modelled on the Community Shop UK
- Therapeutic Horticulture.
- Peace and reconciliation, cross community and good relations activities, including comprehensive delivery of two Peace 4 Tenders on behalf of Ards North Down Borough Council.
- Arts, Crafts, networking, women's empowerment and social events.
- Personal development programmes to build skills, confidence and self-esteem, increase life chances and work on holistic family outcomes.

A variety of courses are also on offer such as GCSE English, GCSE Maths, Numeracy, Literacy, Essential Skills ICT Level 1 & 2, ITQ, Basic IT and Word Processing skills, languages including French, Spanish. The centre now delivers the Level 3 Classroom Assistant course which creates the indirect benefit of volunteers who also have placements within the Kilcooley Primary School setting, assisting children with literacy and numeracy. This resulted in 7 women gaining employment and a further 10 students are now volunteering within the Kilcooley Primary School. The Centre heavily rely on volunteers to support the Kilcooley Women's Centre events and workshops, including the Annual Health Fair, International Women's day, Christmas Fair, Easter Fair and the European Day of Languages.

KWC also provides onsite affordable and structured childcare facilities. The childcare facility supports the education programme by encouraging and supporting single parents to gain qualifications and return to employment. Kilcooley Women's Centre leads on 2 Erasmus + Key Action 2 Strategic Partnerships on behalf of Ecorys & the British Council and European Commission. They are a partner in a further Key Action 2 project led by Germany. KWC additionally is a partner in a DG Justice Daphne Project, directly implemented by Brussels and managed by the University of Tartu in Estonia. This comprehensive EU engagement includes partnership and good practice working with 14 EU nations, and has brought over 100 European Trainees, Government Officials, Councils/Local Authorities, Universities and Statutory Agencies to examine the good practice for Adult Education supported by DfC via KWC in the Kilcooley area

Education Authority – Transition Programme

This on-going project provides a range of programmes to nurture the transition of pupils from years 6 and 7 in Kilcooley Primary School to year 8 in Bangor Academy & Sixth Form College and Priory Integrated College. The project has five programmes (please see below) that are in addition to the current provision in schools to support year 8 pupils and their parents in their transition year.



- Transition Support
- Reading Partnership
- Parental Engagement
- Numeracy Together
- Pupil and Parent Transition

A total of 44 parents from the Kilcooley NRA have participated in parenting skills in the last year, with 24 parents participating in events and programmes relating to the transition of pupils for the 2016/2017 academic year. In addition, 20 parents have participated in programs in preparation for pupil transition. Alongside this, teachers from Kilcooley Primary School have reported increased engagement of parents in their children's education as a result of the Transitions Programme

South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust – Family Health and Wellbeing Programme

Providing a coordinated network of health and family support services is the key aim of this early intervention project. The project will enhance parenting skills and improve the mental and emotional well-being of children and their families. The project has two key elements:

- A New Parent Visitor Programme - which focuses on new parents, ante-natal and post-natal visits to support parents until the child is two years old.
- Family Home Support Programme -Which offers practical and emotional Support to families and children aged 0-11 years during difficult periods. It focuses on behavioural management and supports families during the transition stages of a child's life.

Bangor Alternatives



Bangor Alternatives is a government accredited community based restorative justice project. It was established to address low level crime and anti-social behaviour in a holistic fashion. It operates a wide variety of user-led programs to tackle sensitive community issues to redirect young people away from crime and offer victims a forum to have their concerns addressed.

Neighbourhood Renewal Funding supports the following elements of this project:

- Intensive Youth Support because of their involvement in anti-social behaviour
- Engagement of youth in prevention projects
- Sessions delivered in Schools
- Young people carrying out volunteer hours in the community
- Crime prevention sessions offered to community
- Crime and anti-social behavior prevention sessions
- Vulnerable residents offered Community Support services, home visits personal/home security products
- Community volunteers engaging with Alternatives to help 'renew' their local communities'
- Working with organisations/agencies to deliver community services

Physical Renewal

EA - Kilcooley Playgroup Transitions Refurbishment Project

Project to refurbish at Kilcooley Nursery Unit to allow for the restructuring of classes to enhance transitions of early year provision.

The refurbished facility allows:

- Smarties playgroup (2-4) to vacate the area beside the Nursery Unit and move to the vacated nurturing unit. This will develop the transitions of children between the various classes in the 0-4 age group.
- The area vacated by Smarties playgroup will then be occupied by the P1 class and this is next door to the Nursery group. This will encourage an Open Door Policy building links with parents and pupils from the foundation stage up to P1.
- Provides an updated protected entrance to ensure safeguarding standards are met

Bangor Neighbourhood Renewal Expenditure 2017/2018

The following table details the funding amount awarded through the DFC's Neighbourhood Renewal Programme and the actual spend achieved by the projects under each of the four strategic priorities for the period 2017/2018.

Programme/Project	Funding Period	Funding Amount	2017/2018 Spend (as at June 2018)
Community Renewal			
Kilcooley Community Forum	01/04/2017-31/03/2018	£45,713.24	£45,668.76
Kilcooley Neighbourhood Partnership-Technical Assistance	01/04/2017-31/03/2018	£18,791.10	£ 16,988.77
Community Renewal Total		£64,504.34	£62,657.53
Social Renewal			
Kilcooley Women's Centre – STEP Project	01/04/2017-31/03/2018	£48,340.32	£46,433.45
Education Authority – Transition Programme	01/04/2017-31/03/2018	£12,450.00	£12,450.00
Bangor Alternatives	01/04/2017-31/03/2018	£36,949.96	£36,949.96
South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust -Family Health and Wellbeing Project	01/04/2017-31/03/2018	£50,501.00	£50,501.00
Social Renewal Total		£148,241.28	£142,286.52
Physical Renewal			
Education Authority	04/09/2017 – 31/03/2018	£40,098.95	£0.00
Physical Renewal Total		£40,098.95	£0.00

ACHIEVEMENTS OF NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL FUNDING IN 2017-2018

Community/Other

Project	CR1 – Number of people participating in community relation projects	CR3 – Number of people volunteering for community development	CR4 - Number of people engaged/involved in unpaid voluntary work	CR5 - Number of people receiving training in community development skills/capacity building	CR7 – Number of Community/voluntary groups supported each year	CR8 - Number of community relations projects supported
Kilcooley Community Forum	47	62	35	30	21	
Kilcooley Neighbourhood Partnership -Technical Assistance	60			22	4	
Kilcooley Women's Centre STEP Project			22			
Bangor Alternatives Community Safety Project						16

Social (Education) Output Measures

Project	SR(Ed)1- Number of Child-care/nursery school places created/safeguarded	SR (ED) 2 Enhanced learning environment	SR(Ed)5 – Number of people engaged in parenting/skills development programmes	SR(Ed)6 - Number of pupils directly benefitting from the project <i>(improving attainment in Literacy and Numeracy)</i>	SR(Ed)7-Health education/awareness provided/delivered in NRA each year	SR(Ed)8 - Number of pupils directly benefitting from the project <i>(Closing the Performance Gap)</i>
Education Authority Transitions Programme			30	17	41	59
South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust -Family Health and Wellbeing Project					9	
Kilcooley Women's Step Project	3553					
Kilcooley Playgroup Transitions Refurb		1				

Social (Health) Output Measures

Project	SR (H)1- Number of people Benefitting from Healthy Lifestyle Projects	SR (H) 2 – Number of people attending Health Education/Awareness initiatives	SR (H)3 – Number of people accessing `	SR (H)4 -Number of Health Education/awareness initiatives provided
South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust - Family Health and Well being		31	33	6
Kilcooley Women's Centre – STEP Project	300			

Social (Crime) Output Measures

Project	SR (C)1 - Number of people receiving advice on crime prevention	SR (C)2 - Number of community safety initiatives implemented	SR (C)3 - Number of people participating / attending community safety initiatives	SR (C)4 - Number of crime prevention initiatives implemented	SR (C)5 - Number of people participating/attending crime prevention initiatives	SR(C)6 - Number of young people benefitting from youth inclusion/diversionary projects	SR(C)7- Number of victims of crime reported	(C)9 - Number of Neighbourhood Wardens Supported
Kilcooley Community Forum					39			1
Bangor Alternatives	200	25	450			300	285	

Economic Output Measures

Project	ER2 - Number of residents going into employment	ER4 - Number of people receiving job specific training	ER6- number of people receiving non job specific training e.g. first aid	ER9 – number of new business start	ER12 – number of new businesses surviving 52 weeks	ER13- number if new/existing childcare places supported to facilitate training and or employment	ER14- Number of people attaining a formal qualification from participation in Adult education	E15- Number of FTE jobs Safe guarded
Kilcooley Community Forum	1	2	39	0	0			
Kilcooley Women's Step project	4	399					10	
Bangor Alternatives							25	

Physical Output Measures

Project	PR 5 Buildings improved to relevant standard
Kilcooley Playgroup Transitions Refurb	1

Conclusion

The Neighbourhood Renewal Programme has delivered significant investment into Bangor NRA and laid a solid foundation necessary for future action.

This investment has contributed to addressing some of the challenges and deprivation impacting the community's ability to prosper. Since the inception of the Neighbourhood Renewal Programme in Kilcooley a series of projects have been developed in response to community need as identified under the key strategic themes of Community, Economic, Social and Physical Renewal.

During 2017-2018 the Kilcooley Neighbourhood Partnership had a total over all allocated spend of **£253,844.57**

This can be further broken down into the following allocated spend under each of the strategic objectives:

Community Renewal	£65,504.34
Social Renewal	£148,241.28
Physical Renewal	£40,098.95
TOTAL RENEWAL	£253,844.57

It is acknowledged that neighbourhood regeneration is a long-term objective and that significant change can only be achieved over an extended period of time. Whilst there has been some narrowing of the gap in the quality of life between Bangor NRA and non-NRA's, given the pervasive and entrenched nature of deprivation and its impact on the community, there is a requirement to continue to deliver regeneration investment in Kilcooley on an on-going basis.

The Kilcooley Neighbourhood Partnership continues to be the driving force overseeing the delivery of the Neighbourhood Renewal Programme for Bangor NRA.



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