



# Omagh Neighbourhood Renewal Area

Annual Report 2017/18



Department for  
**Communities**

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# **Omagh Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership**

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### **About Neighbourhood Renewal**

The Neighbourhood Renewal Programme aims to reduce the social and economic inequalities which characterise the most deprived areas. 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. Neighbourhood Renewal Partnerships were established and are representative of local community interests together with appropriate Government Departments, public sector agencies, private sector interest and local elected representatives.

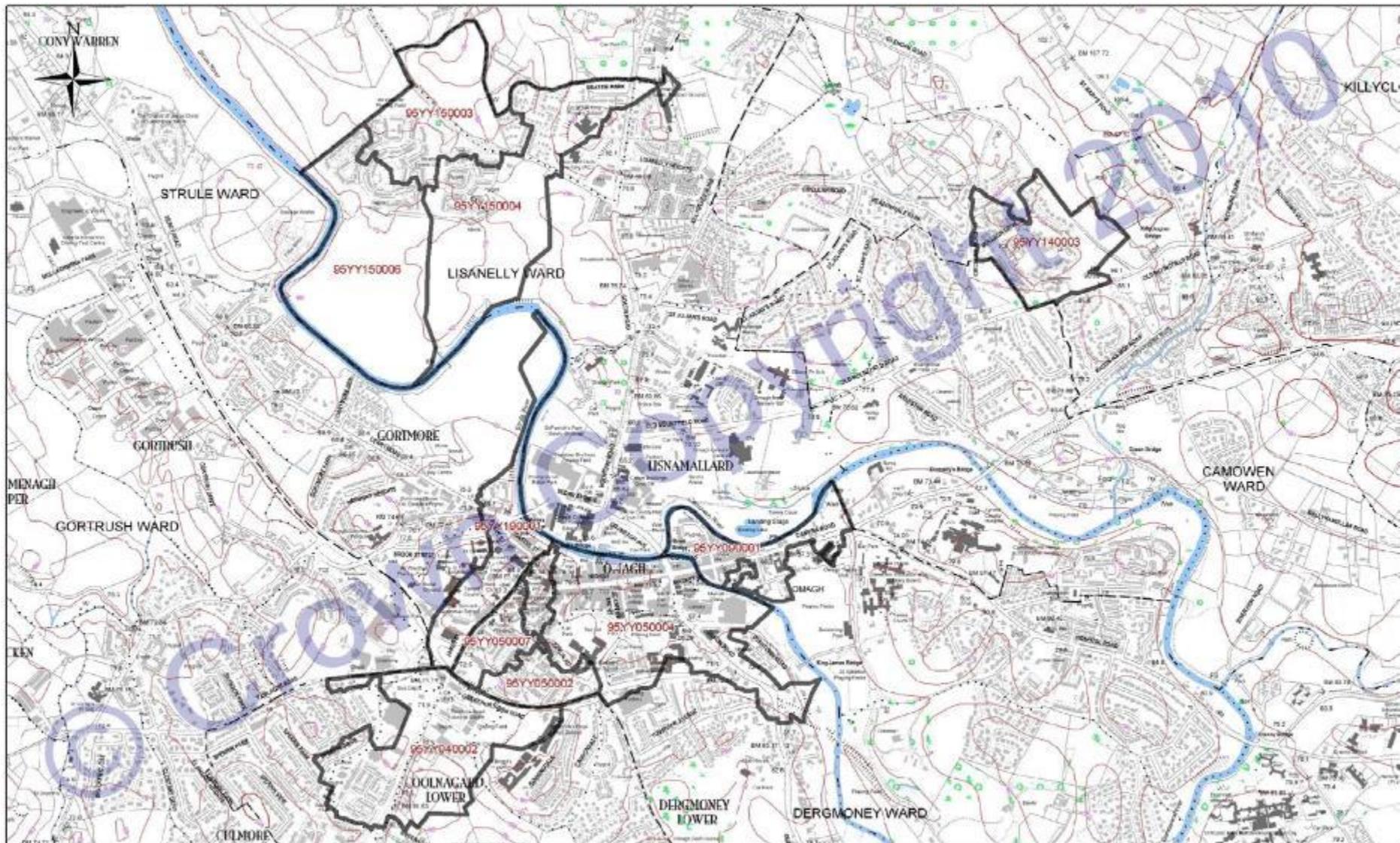
### **About Omagh Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership**

To take forward the Neighbourhood Renewal Programme, Omagh Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership was set up in 2007 to oversee the development and delivery of the local Neighbourhood Renewal Action Plan. The Partnership currently comprises Members which include representatives from local communities, voluntary organisations, elected representatives, private sector and local statutory organisations. It currently meets on a bi-monthly basis and is facilitated by Fermanagh and Omagh District Council through administration services through a Coordinator and Administrator funded by Department for Communities.

Omagh Neighbourhood Renewal Area includes Mullaghmore and Castleview, Strathroy, Campsie, O'Kane Park and Gallows Hill/Johnston Park Housing Estates and areas within the town centre.

The Partnership has established four Sub-Committees to assist them in the identification, development and where appropriate the delivery of projects which aim to address the Programmes four strategic objectives of community renewal, social renewal, economic renewal and physical renewal. The Sub-Committees that currently meet bi-monthly include Health, Education, Community and Economic Development.

**It should be noted that Omagh Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership and Sub-Committees have all signed up to and abide by the Neighbourhood Renewal Code of Practice and Guiding Principles and subsequent Sub-Committee Terms of Reference.**



OA's  for NRA:- Omagh



## Omagh NRP Members 2017-2018

<b>Name</b>	<b>Surname</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Status</b>
Hazel	McGuigan	Campsie Residents' Association	Community Representative
Rozella	Kelly	Culmore & O'Kane Park Community Association	Community Representative
Ernie	Coburn	Gallows Hill Community Association	Community Representative
Pat	McCauley	Gallows Hill Community Association	Community Representative
Alice	Duggan	Johnston Park Community Association	Community Representative
Aidan	Colgan	Mullaghmore & Castlevew Community Association	Community Representative
Peggy	Colgan	Mullaghmore & Castlevew Community Association	Community Representative
Michael	Kelly	Strathroy Community Association	Community Representative
Joanne	Donnelly	Fermanagh & Omagh District Council	Elected Representative
Josephine	Deehan	Fermanagh & Omagh District Council	Elected Representative
Errol	Thompson	Fermanagh & Omagh District Council (Vice Chairperson)	Elected Representative
Sorcha	McAnespy	Fermanagh & Omagh District Council	Elected Representative
Chris	Smyth	Fermanagh & Omagh District Council	Elected Representative
Martin	McColgan	Fermanagh & Omagh District Council	Elected Representative
Alison	McCullagh	Fermanagh & Omagh District Council	Local Government Representative
Brendan	Hegarty	Fermanagh & Omagh District Council	Local Government Representative
Kieran	McCorry	Fermanagh & Omagh District Council	Local Government Representative
Kevin	McShane	Fermanagh & Omagh District Council	Local Government Representative
Carol	Follis	Community Safety Partnership	Statutory Representative
Paul	Carr	Department for Communities	Statutory Representative
Monica	MacIntyre	Department for Communities	Statutory Representative
Seamus	Byrne	Department for Communities	Statutory Representative
Leo	Owens	Department for Infrastructure	Statutory Representative
Coleen	McBrien	Neighbourhood Renewal Coordinator- FODC	Statutory Representative
Oonagh	McAvinney	Northern Ireland Housing Executive	Statutory Representative
Fionnuala	McKinney	Western Health & Social Care Trust	Statutory Representative
Priscilla	Magee	Western Health & Social Care Trust	Statutory Representative
Colm	McDaid	Supporting Communities NI (Chairperson)	Voluntary Representative

## Omagh Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership Projects

The Neighbourhood Renewal Investment Fund supported six projects in the Omagh Neighbourhood Renewal Areas during 2017/18 year as follows:

### **Strategic Objective: Community Renewal**

*“To develop confident communities who are able and committed to improving the quality of life in their area”.*

#### **1. NRA Employment of Coordinator, Technical Assistant and Associated Costs to 31/03/2018**

During 2017/18 the Neighbourhood Renewal Coordinator and the Technical Assistant continued in their role to work across the Omagh Neighbourhood Renewal Area coordinating and implementing the Omagh Neighbourhood Renewal Action Plan which focused on four key themes; social renewal, economic renewal, community renewal and physical renewal. The role also addressed issues relating to anti-social behaviour, personal safety, alcohol abuse and the physical environment. The Coordinator continued to work with the Partnership and Sub-groups to consider the development and implementation to create a more socially inclusive, empowered and sustainable community infrastructure.

Fundamental to the delivery of the Action Plan are the 6 Partnership meetings and 24 Subgroup meetings that took place during the course of the year with delivery agents, stakeholders, elected representatives and community representatives to ensure projects are developed and delivered in accordance with the needs of the area and the objectives of the plans. The Neighbourhood Renewal Coordinator also reports progress on the implementation of the plan to the Omagh Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership and any associated Working Groups.

The Action Plan was discussed and reviewed at each of the Sub-Committee meetings. It was amended and updated on a rolling basis as actions were successfully completed and new and outstanding actions identified. The action points from the Action Plan were an agenda item for discussion at each Partnership Board meeting to ensure that the Action Plan continued to meet Departmental standards and reflect local evidence based priorities. As part of the annual review, the Action Plan was distributed to Members, all comments noted and outstanding items listed for discussion at the relevant Sub-Committee meetings. The Action Plan was reviewed and endorsed by the Partnership at the December 2017 meeting.

During 2017/18 the Co-ordinator role has entailed:

- The comprehensive circulation of information regarding potential funding streams to organisations operating in the Neighbourhood Renewal Area or signposting of services or initiatives beneficial to residents in the designated area.

- Support and assistance given to Neighbourhood Renewal’s community groups including help with applications for funding from other bodies and capacity building.
- Inviting Guest Speakers from statutory bodies, voluntary agencies and non-Government funding organisations were invited to attend Sub-Committee and Partnership meetings to address Members and explain the services which they provide which may be of benefit to Neighbourhood Renewal Residents’.
- The organisation of Best Practice Visits to promote good practice, explore priority interventions and to develop and deliver programmes within the Omagh Neighbourhood Renewal area.
- The publication of two newsletters per annum. 1,500 copies were distributed of each edition to all Neighbourhood Renewal residents and around the Omagh area.
- The organisation of the delivery of training and development workshops to benefit Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership Members, Residents’ and Community Groups.
- Attendance at events and meetings to publicise and promote Neighbourhood Renewal and raise awareness of the needs of the area.

**The following publications were delivered in 2017/18:**

- Summer 2017 Neighbourhood Renewal Newsletter – the newsletter contained an overview of the activities which had taken place in each of the five Neighbourhood Renewal Areas since the previous newsletter, a description of Best Practice Visits and Workshops which Partnership Members and residents had attended, an update on the Neighbourhood Renewal Health Project, information from a variety of Neighbourhood Renewal Partners and Projects, educational advancement and volunteering opportunities and a valuable matrix of Training Programmes and Health Providers available for Neighbourhood Renewal Residents to access. The newsletter also contained a questionnaire on the back cover to gather feedback from residents about their area.

Feedback

*“As a community representative I find the Neighbourhood Renewal Newsletter invaluable to showcase residents the work of Neighbourhood Renewal but also to keep me informed of all the various support programmes and providers out there. The Newsletter allows me to keep informed so that I can give advice to residents in the area.”*

*“The Newsletter is an excellent way to promote the services we offer directly to those that are much in need. I find the Newsletter much more effective than some of the traditional forms of advertising as it reaches a large percentage of our target market.”*



Complimentary remarks were given by the Partnership on the quality and content of the newsletter and excellent feedback was received from organisations that featured in it.

Following the distribution of the newsletter, several organisations contacted the Neighbourhood Renewal Coordinator to request the inclusion of their details in future newsletters.



Some excerpts from the Omagh Neighbourhood Renewal Summer Newsletter 2017 including a sample of a matrix

## The following Best Practice Visits and Workshops were delivered in 2017/18:

In promoting the sharing of best practise during 2017/18, the Neighbourhood Renewal Coordinator worked to deliver workshops and best practice visits which aimed to bring together the two Neighbourhood Renewal Areas Enniskillen and Omagh, thereby promoting good working relations across the Council and NR areas.

- **11 May 2017** – Mobile Matters workshop delivered by We Are Digital NI, held in the West End Community Centre with 10 Enniskillen and Omagh Neighbourhood Renewal Residents who participated (Transport was provided for Omagh residents). The workshop delivered an overview of how particular phones worked, using the App Store, how essential apps like email, social media, WhatsApp, Safari and mobile security. Participants received live demonstrations and tutoring of how their mobile phones operate including setting up social media profiles, using messaging apps and email. Additionally the participants received practical advice and tips for ensuring their mobile and the information used within stay secure.

Feedback from participants below:

“The workshop has definitely been very useful as I now have a much clearer understanding of how certain apps work on my phone, I would love to have a few more sessions to learn more.”

“I have become more familiar with my mobile now which has allowed me to upgrade some of the Apps I use”

“The workshop has been very good and I have gained a lot more confidence in using the internet and sending emails, I have also made new friends and have met people from other community backgrounds.”



- **8 November 2017** – Inspiring Social Enterprise Workshop. 42 people attended this workshop in the West End Community Centre with an audience from the Enniskillen and Omagh Neighbourhood Renewal areas. The Neighbourhood Renewal Coordinator organised transport from Omagh to enable 22 residents to attend the workshop, which also worked as a joint Best Practice Visit to the new West End Community Centre. The workshop included guest speaker, David Hunter, Director of Acceptable Enterprises Ltd along with others who presented their own personal experience on Social Enterprise.

# Inspiring Social Enterprise

With Guest Speaker Mr David Hunter, Director,  
Acceptable Enterprises Ltd

Wednesday 8 November 2017

12 noon - 2.00 pm (Light lunch provided)

West End Community Centre, 88 Rossorry Church Road, Enniskillen Church Road, BT74 7HD

Please contact Coleen McBrien, Neighbourhood Renewal Coordinator via telephone for more information:  
0300 303 1777 ext 20314 or email [coleen.mcbrien@fermanaghmagh.com](mailto:coleen.mcbrien@fermanaghmagh.com) to book your free place.



## Feedback from some of those who attended:

“An extremely engaging and informative presentation.”

“Getting to hear personal experiences of Social Enterprise has really inspired me to think what we could do in our own community.”

“The speakers were great at telling their stories, I think it would be very inspiring for more of the younger generation to hear what can be done.”



Guest speaker David Hunter and Participants at the Inspiring Social Enterprise Workshop in West End Communities Centre, Enniskillen on 8 November 2017

ENTERPRISE WEEK – NOVEMBER 2017

**EVENT: INSPIRING SOCIAL ENTERPRISE**

**VENUE: West End Community Centre, 88 Rossorry Church Road, Enniskillen, BT74 7HD**

**DATE: Wednesday 8 November, 2017**

**TIME: 12 noon**

**AGENDA**

12:10 pm	Introductions
12:15 pm	Welcome, Councillor Stephen McCann, Chairman, Fermanagh and Omagh District Council
12:20 pm	Mr Mannix Magee, Director, Arc Healthy Living Centre
12:35 pm	Mr Kieran Gallagher, Chairman, Omagh Men's Shed
12:45 pm	Ms Finola Crudden, Community Wellbeing Manager, Inspire Mental Health
1:00 pm	Mr David Hunter, Chief Executive Officer, Acceptable Enterprises Ltd
1:20 pm	Question and Answers Session
1:30 pm	Networking Lunch
2:00 pm	Close



ENTERPRISE WEEK – NOVEMBER 2017  
"INSPIRING SOCIAL ENTERPRISE"

**The Event**

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council, Neighbourhood Renewal is delighted to host this event at the newly opened West End Community Centre. The event will allow participants to hear a number of stories with guest speakers sharing their own experiences and advice on setting up successful Social Enterprises.

**The Venue**

The West End Community Centre located within Enniskillen Neighbourhood Renewal area has been designed to address the needs of the local community in terms of improving health, education and employability skills and therefore provides facilities for a vast range of activities including meetings, health and fitness classes, networking events, training events and educational workshops.

**Guest Presenters**

The organisers have brought together guest presenters with a wealth of knowledge in social economy, with an opportunity to participate in question and answers with the invited speakers. Likewise, there will be an opportunity to network during lunch.

**Registration**

The event is a free to attend but requires pre-registration in order to facilitate numbers and catering. The closing date for registration is **12 noon on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2017**.

Please confirm attendance with Coleen McBrien, Neighbourhood Renewal Coordinator via email [coleen.mcbrien@fermanaghomaghs.com](mailto:coleen.mcbrien@fermanaghomaghs.com) or via telephone on 0300 3031777, Ext 20314.

Please note spaces are likely to be limited and allocated on a first come served basis. Please register early to confirm your place.

**Parking**

Please note parking facilities are located at the West End Community Centre.



- 7 March 2018** – Best Practice Visit to Acceptable Enterprises Ltd in Larne, 33 people attended the trip from both Enniskillen and Omagh Neighbourhood Renewal Areas. The trip was to provide an insight into a limited company with charitable status, providing training and support to enable people with disadvantage, particularly those with learning disability, to fulfil their work potential. The group had a tour of the premises which gave participants an insight into the training programmes that they offer, which includes day opportunities, hands on training, transitions and their Social Enterprise activities include packaging and assembly, Lunchbox Café, Online Retail Shop, Facility Hire, allotments and market garden, groundwork's and a water bottling plant, employing those who struggle to gain employment.

Feedback from participants below:

“I thoroughly enjoyed the trip to Larne, it was a great experience and a lovely way to meet new people from other Neighbourhood Renewal Areas.”

“Acceptable Enterprises was excellent, it was very inspiring to see what can be done.”

“The tour around the Acceptable Enterprises grounds was brilliant and really interesting, I especially liked the fact they employ those who struggle to find work due to their personal circumstances.”

“A really great trip and would love to see something like that in Enniskillen, I will definitely be telling everybody about the experience.”



## 2. Campsie Community Hub Project

Campsie Residents' Association continued to host successful events in their premises-known as The Hub (located on 1-3 Campsie Drive), over the 2017/18 year. An action plan for delivery of activities and services was compiled incorporating all age groups. Activities to date have provided opportunities for cross and intercommunity interaction. The Hub is situated in the heart of Omagh town centre and offers a wide range of new programmes including keep fit classes for both adults and children, health check events, a summer scheme, drop in counselling sessions, computer training, stress management workshops, first aid training and much more.

The modern facility was also available to hire at very competitive commercial and community rates. The Hub is a perfect central location for meetings, training, workshops, keep fit classes and conferences. This project provided avenue for the residents association to roll out activities locally and further promote Neighbourhood Renewal.

Feedback from Campsie Residents:

*“Taking part in various workshops in The Hub and as a volunteer gardener, I have grown as a person especially my confidence. In the past I have suffered from mental health issues and The Hub has really supported me throughout the last year whether it be taking part in activities or just popping in for a friendly chat and a cup of tea. I honestly could not see my life without the help and support from The Hub.”*

*“As a resident in Campsie, I was recently persuaded to take part in a Mindfulness course. This was a very new area for me and without persuasion I don't think it would have been a topic I would have been open to. Since completing the course not a day goes by that I don't use some of the techniques that I was taught throughout the course. I am very grateful that Campsie Residents' Association persuaded me to participate.”*



Since the opening of The Hub in Campsie, the confidence of community representatives has grown, which in turn led to Campsie Residents' Association delivering on the Campsie Garden Project where residents have expanded their skills in selling organic produce. In June 2017 the community organisation were successful in gaining funding support from Live Here, Love Now to deliver gardening workshops.



## Campsie Hub Engagement figures 2017/18

During the year a range of activities and programmes have taken place in the Campsie Community Hub including:

- Weekly Tough Issues workshops delivered to 23 young people.
- Weekly craft workshops delivered to 15 participants.
- Weekly sewing workshops delivered to 12 participants.
- Six week Self Esteem workshops delivered to 10 primary school children over the summer period.
- First Aid Course delivered to 6 primary school children over the summer period.
- Warm bags delivered to 25 vulnerable residents
- Christmas and Valentines hampers delivered to 32 vulnerable residents.
- Delivered gardening workshops to 6 residents.
- A six week Mindfulness programme delivered to 18 residents.
- Christmas Memories (6 weeks) delivered to 20 senior citizens.
- Campsie Craft Group delivered window boxes to 8 residents.
- Campsie Calendars designed, published and delivered to 45 residents.
- Campsie Health Check event took place in The Hub on Saturday 24 March. A total of 40+ residents benefited from thyroid, blood sugar, blood pressure and hearing tests.
- Four Community representatives encouraged to attend Level 2 end of Life course.
- Weekly Mother & Toddler Group attended by 10 parents with their children,
- In addition, the Saturday Club (Men cap) continued to meet weekly (30+ attendees from throughout the Omagh area)
- Autism NI continue to meet monthly in the Hub,
- Interagency meetings take place at the Hub each alternative month.
- Weekly Choir practice (13)

Volunteering is at the heart of the success of the Campsie Hub. During 2017/18 a total of 11 volunteers with Campsie Residents Association assist in the Hub. Campsie Residents Association Management Committee members also provide assistance when needed, for example during Estate Inspections. Volunteers continue to work with Campsie Hub and Campsie Residents Association due to good working relationships and for the better of the community.

Building the capacity of the Campsie Community Association also continues and during 2017/18 training on Good Governance, Managing Finances and on Measuring Impact was delivered by Supporting Communities to CRA members.

During 2017/18 DfC set an objective for the Hub to achieve 200 people becoming involved in programmes/events that promoted shared space, providing footfall of around 500 users including those external organisations hiring the Community Hub. By the end of the year this target was well exceeded as the Hub engaged with a total of 358 users, with an overall footfall of 2,872. This achievement demonstrates that the Hub in NRA of Campsie is being used to its full potential, attracting as many residents from the community to get involved in the activities and programmes on offer. Programmes such as the Arts and Crafts, the Community Garden and the Youth Programme also attracts residents of all ages and helps integrate them in addition to building confidence and self-esteem particularly with the young people for their return to school as well as summer activities.

The Hub and all the activities on offer are available to all minorities. There are a significant number of immigrants living in the area and they are aware of the Hub and how they can become involved. Projects such as the Community Mosaic Project encouraged engagement from ethnic minorities and activities at the Hub build on this engagement to improve relations.

CRA liaise with the community police; they discuss and help address ASB and work closely with the PCSP. Representatives from CRA meet with the PSNI on a quarterly basis to discuss ASB. CRA also work closely with Breakthru regarding drugs and alcohol prevention.

## Strategic Objective: Social Renewal - Education

*“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”. To support these areas advance educational attainments through education and training support mechanisms that will reduce the impact of underachievement in these communities.*

### 3. Strathroy Afterschool & Homework Club

Strathroy Afterschool Club has been in receipt of Neighbourhood Renewal funding since 2009. The Afterschool Club provides top quality play and learning opportunities in a warm, nurturing safe and child friendly environment for a total of 52 children registered during 2017/18. The Homework tutor assesses each child and sets baselines to ensure that the success of the intervention is able to be measured.

In 2017/18 52 children attended the Club weekly which is a similar figure to that delivered in 2016/17.

The attendance of the children at the Club is measured in two ways – attendance at the club itself and then improvements in attendance at school because of their participation in the Club. The average attendance in the Omagh NRA for primary school children in 2014 was 95.37% against the N Ireland average of 95.42%. During 2017/18 year the average attendance rate of the 52 children at both the Club and at Christ the King PS was 99%. It should be noted that in 2016/17 attendance rates achieved was 93% compared to only 80% in 2014/15.

The other elements of the project that are measured are:

- Children’s behaviour;
- Attainment in literacy and Numeracy for all P4 – P6 children;
- KS2 Level 4 results for all P7 children, and
- Numbers of Volunteers who engage with the Project.

Behaviour is measured on a daily basis and if a child raises any cause for concern they are put on a monitoring assessment which is measured until the child’s behaviour issues are improved and no longer causing concern. Monitoring the children’s behaviour at the homework club is having a positive impact on these children’s behaviour at school and vice versa. These joint efforts are having an impact in the children’s attendance and attainment along with addressing their social skills for life in school and at home. The Homework Club works alongside the School and Parents in achieving this. During 2017/18 49 out of the 52 children who attended the Club achieved an acceptable level of behaviour. The other 3 children and their families were supported during the year, through the Solihull programme principles

Academically again 50 out of the 52 children continued to progress steadily in improvements in their literacy and numeracy while additional support was provided to the other 2 children who did not reach their goal. It was anticipated, as an outcome for this project, that if children attended the homework club and help was provided to help complete their homework, then their attendance at school would improve as a result, which then leads to the children achieving in the long term academically.

A longer term outcome from good attendance rate along with improvements in literacy and numeracy is a noted increase in the percentage of pupils resident in NRAs achieving a Level 4 in their Key Stage 2 assessments. It is evident at this time that without the help and support of Community based homework clubs this would not be achievable as school based homework clubs do not see the same level of engagement from the young people.

The analysis of this data provided YTD shows all of these children have shown improvement in literacy and numeracy as reflected in the comments from their teachers. These comments clarify that the additional help provided by the Homework Club helps their confidence, behaviour, attitude and self-esteem, as well as the homework completion. Improvements in attendance directly impacts on attainment levels as well.



In June 2017 the results of the 19 P7 children attending Christ the King PS in Strathroy who sat their KS2 Level 4 assessments in Maths, Communication and ICT were received.

Number of P7 children (all children and not just NRA)	19
Number of P7 children from the Omagh NRA	9
Number of P7 children who were assessed in KS2 Communication	19
Number of P7 children who were assessed in KS2 Mathematics	19
Number of P7 children who were assessed in KS2 using ICT	19
Number of P7 children who achieved a Level 4 or higher in KS2 Communication	13
Number of P7 children who achieved a Level 4 or higher in KS2 Mathematics	13
Number of P7 children who achieved a Level 4 or higher in KS2 using ICT	16
Number of P7 NRA children who were assessed in KS2 Communication	9
Number of P7 NRA children who were assessed in KS2 Mathematics	9
Number of P7 NRA children who were assessed in KS2 using ICT	9
Number of P7 NRA children who achieved a Level 4 or higher in KS2 Communication	5
Number of P7 NRA children who achieved a Level 4 or higher in KS2 Mathematics	6
Number of P7 NRA children who achieved a Level 4 or higher in KS2 using ICT	7

The results of the KS2 children in Christ the King PS in Strathroy now clearly shows that similar numbers of NRA children are sitting and achieving results in Level 4 KS2 assessments.

Out of the 19 P7 who sat these tests in 16/17 9 were NRA children (47%).

All P7 children were assessed in KS2 in communication, Mathematics and ICT. All 9 NRA children were assessed.

13 (68%) of these 19 children achieved a Level 4 grade in Communication skills of which 5 (38%) were NRA children.

Similarly 13 (68%) of these 19 children achieved a Level 4 grade in Mathematics of which 6 (46%) were NRA children.

In ICT skills there were 16 (84%) children who achieved a Level 4 grade, of which 7 (44%) were NRA children.

Lastly, yet very importantly, Strathroy Homework and Activity Club is assisted by 5 Volunteers. It has been noted that these volunteers are proving to be a very valuable asset to the homework club, their leaders and the children. Additionally they assist over the summer period by working with the Strathroy Summer Scheme and this provided continuity with the children, who have established a level of trust with these volunteers which is transferable between the school academic years at the end of summer and the beginning of September. In addition over the years some volunteers who have been engaged in the project have gone on to obtain NVQ qualifications in child care and employment as classroom assistants.

#### 4. Omagh Learning Mentor

The Learning Mentor project is now well established in each of the participating schools-Sacred Heart College, Omagh High School, Drumragh Integrated and Omagh Academy. Each school's teaching staff are aware of the programme and concerns are forwarded to key contacts within schools to identify potential NRA pupils for referral. The Mentor meets weekly with each pupil for a 50 minute session each and a broad range of strategies are implemented to address any identified or perceived pupil barriers to learning. The Learning Mentor establishes regular contact with home, by phone, home visits and school meetings to provide a wrap-around support for the individuals engaged in the project.

Since September 2017 the Learning Mentor has worked with 30 students; 17 were new referrals and 13 are pupils who were part of the programme up to June 2017. Attendance continues to be an issue for many Omagh NRA students- **see statistics below**. 26 of the 30 pupils currently being mentored are from the NR areas and although the remaining 4 are not from NRA's they have been assessed as in need of help as Section 75 referrals. Two students from 16/17 school year were identified as having continued poor attendance due to health reasons and therefore it was decided to continue their engagement with the Mentor.

During the 17/18 year, 30 pupils received the one-to-one mentoring and support Reasons for referral include: (some pupils have multiple reasons for referral)

- Learning Difficulties – which covers dyslexia, numeracy and literacy difficulties, poor organisational skills and time management skills,
- Underachievement – which includes pupils not meeting their CATS and needing a challenge,
- Attendance – includes pupils experiencing difficulties at home, pupils with caring responsibilities and illness including mental illnesses,
- Pastoral – which covers social and emotional issues,
- Behaviour - which includes negative attitudes to learning
- English as a second language

The following statistics give a brief synopsis of the 30 young people from Omagh Neighbourhood Renewal Areas who availed of mentoring from April 2017 – March 2018.

- At the beginning of the year 23 of the 30 mentees were referred because of attendance issues being less than 85% and at risk of being managed by the Education Welfare Officer. By the end of the year 12 of these pupils were achieving an attendance of 90% and 6 were achieving between 85 – 90%. Only 5 pupils failed to achieve the required attendance of more than 85% and were continuing to be monitored by the Education Welfare Officer.
- Out of the 30 young people availing of one to one support from the Learning Mentor, there were twenty five year 12 pupils, along with two other children in year 13 who were due to sit AS exams. There were two year 14 children who were due to

sit their A levels. Two thirds of the current tranche of year 12's will be sitting English and Maths GCSEs and the remaining third have achieved level 1 functional skills. Most have sat their essential skills level 2 and results are pending. The outcome of these exam results will not be known until August 2018.

- During the year there were 14 pupils assessed for behavioural issues. By the end of the year only 1 child did not achieve an acceptable level of behaviour and was eventually referred to the ETOS programme in Arvalee. A variety of strategies were employed in order to address a complex set of needs.
- During the first quarter of the year there were 25 students who undertook their GCSE exams in May/June 2017. This was the first year that a 100% record of all pupils on this project sat a GCSE, whereas before this programme started only 10% of the NRA children were sitting a GCSE. In August 2017 the GCSE results showed that 7 achieved 5 A\* - C GCSEs. With regard to these 7, 2 got GCSE English, 1 got GCSE Maths and 4 got both English and Maths. In addition 2 pupils achieved 3 GCSE A\* – C but not in English and Maths; 1 pupil got 2 GCSE A\* - C not English and Maths. The remaining 4 all sat their exams and achieved a number of GCSEs in grades D – G which included 1 child who got 7 GCSEs grades D – G. The Mentor advised this was a fantastic achievement for this particular student. Due to the complexities of referrals it has to be recognised that not all pupils automatically sit or obtain the DE standard of A\*-C in GCSE English and Maths or that they will all achieve academically.

The 2014 Omagh Census Comparison reports show that the Omagh NRA has shown an 11% decrease in the percentage of the working age population with no qualifications, from 54% in 2001 to 43% in 2011. This is slightly higher than the percentage across all NRAs (41%) but still significantly exceeds that in non-NRAs (27%). While the statistics reflect on the improvement in the area over the last 10 years they also evidence the need to continue to invest in tackling education inequalities through a project such as this one so as to improve on economic and social deprivation.

## Strategic Objective: - Economic Renewal

*'To develop economic activity in the most deprived neighbourhoods and connect them to the wider urban economy'*

### 5. Going Places with South West College – Omagh NRA

This project involves the dedicated services of the three Mentors in a combined programme who work together as a team to cover all four Neighbourhood Renewal areas across Enniskillen, Omagh, Dungannon and Coalisland.

The Going Places project has continued to act as a stepping stone for Neighbourhood Renewal residents to access Education, Training or Employment. Although it is recognised that there are a number of training courses available in the area, this project is funded to target and provide support to a specific group of people who, without the additional support of one-to-one mentoring, throughout their training period to ensure participants remain on the programme and focus on developing transferable skills required for the World of Work.

The project continues to focus on Level 2 and above training provision to avoid duplication with other training courses and meets an identified gap in these Neighbourhood Renewal areas.

Another unique feature of this project is the fact that there is no age limit restrictions which are sometimes evident in other programmes. Prior to the introduction of the Going Places Project a lot of the current opportunities available, were being specially targeted at the under 25 age bracket. The Department for Communities Jobs & Benefits Offices have confirmed that this programme compliments existing college provision, by providing access to education and training, as Neighbourhood Renewal area residents are currently under represented in College enrolments in each of the four Neighbourhood Renewal areas.

The Omagh Neighbourhood Renewal Programme had a total of 30 participants engaged in The Going Places Programme delivered by the South West College during 2017/18. The programme achieved the following outputs:

17-18	Target	Outcome	%
	Engage 110 (30 Omagh Neighbourhood Renewal)	112	102.8%
	50 participants into Vocational Tasters	65	130 %
	60 signposted into ETE (26 Omagh Neighbourhood Renewal)	112	186%
	32 into employment (9 Omagh Neighbourhood Renewal)	44	134.4%
	110 careers advise (30 Omagh Neighbourhood Renewal)	112	102.8%
	100 into job specific training (25 Omagh Neighbourhood Renewal)	84	84%
	10 into non-job specific training (5 Omagh Neighbourhood Renewal)	13	130%
	90 people attaining a formal qualification	93	103%
	12 into voluntary work (5 Neighbourhood Renewal)	8	66.7%

**The following are direct quotes from participants of the programme reflecting impact of the programme:**

- *“This programme has saved my life, I mean that, I have never had the confidence or the support to do anything in my life and this programme has given me belief in myself and the confidence to believe I can be who I want to be and with support I can achieve things.”*
- *“I have stated course in this college every year for the last 3 or 4 years and I have dropped out of them all within the first couple of weeks. Now with the support of the mentor I will be completing two courses this year, never did I think I would do that, fear has been my biggest barrier, afraid of failure, afraid of people laughing at me, afraid that I won't fit in, afraid of giving my family bad example, afraid that all the negative things people have said to me during my life are right. But now I know they're not right I am a good person who has ability and who can achieve things, and who can be a good role model for my family. Thank you Going Places”*
- *“I have tried to get my driving theory for a couple of years not but I failed it 8 times and just couldn't or wouldn't think of doing it again. Following my accident at work I already felt like I was on the scrap heap and I needed to be able to drive to help me look for alternative work. But the support the mentor has given me has been fantastic following their constant support and belief in me I agreed to do my theory one more time and I passed I couldn't believe it, I now have my driving license and I am doing essential skills level 2 in Maths and ICT and know that I am going the course I am going to do in September none of this would I have thought possible without the support of the mentor.”*
- *“My life has never been very positive and I never realised the effect it had on me until I lost my two children. I knew I wanted to be a good parent but I realised that I obviously wasn't, the choices I had made had a negative effect on my children and this was my fault but having worked with the mentor on the Going Places Programme I discovered that I can only teach what I have been taught and I have learnt that there is a better way to live and a better way to do things. Following the support of the mentor my mental health is in a good place, I now get to see my children more and I feel that I can be whatever I want and it is thanks to the support of my mentor that I am where I am today.”*



**GOING**   
 **PLACES**

*Students visit STEM Centre, South West College*

## Strategic Objective: Social Renewal – Health

### 6. Omagh NR Health and Well Being Project

The Omagh Health and Well Being Project delivers a wide range of initiatives to improve the quality of life for residents in the Omagh Neighbourhood Renewal areas. The Omagh Health subgroup has agreed three overall outcomes for their Health Project:

- *To enhance positive mental health and well-being and to contribute to the reduction of suicide rates within deprived neighbourhoods in Omagh*
- *To contribute to a healthier, fitter community, equipped with the knowledge to make better lifestyle choices and to work towards the reduction of obesity and associated illness*
- *To support the reduction in the number of adults and young people drinking above the recommended number of units and experimenting with any other substance use*

#### Neighbourhood Renewal Health Co-ordinator

An Omagh Health Coordinator is funded by NR, employed by the Western Health and Social Care Trust and is managed by the Health Improvement Team. The Health Coordinator, in line with the Health Improvement department promoted regional campaigns throughout the year amongst the Neighbourhood Renewal communities, such as World Mental Health Day, No Smoking Day and Men's Health Week. NR area residents had opportunities throughout the year to attend a variety of training including Mental Health First Aid, safe TALK, Walk Leader training, Cook It! training and much more.

In addition to supporting the programmes organised by each of the community groups and the work delivered by Breakthru, the Health Co-ordinator also supported, organised and delivered on the following events:

- Walk Away Your Worries campaign including a walk and fresh fruit refreshments (19 people)
- Poster competition for Alcohol Awareness Week in association with Omagh Drugs and Alcohol Forum (7 young people from Omagh NR competed, one taking first place overall and another taking third place)
- Childhood obesity campaign with 50 packs distributed amongst young people living across the 5 NR areas
- Resilience seminar called 'Looking After Yourself' delivered by Marie Dunne (Mental Health Promotion Specialist for the Western Health and Social Care Trust), attended by 37 people at the Hub, Campsie
- Summer High – a programme funded by the Public Health Agency and delivered in partnership with ASCERT and the Neighbourhood Renewal Health Co-ordinator with 11 NR residents

- Traveller Cultural Awareness Training delivered to 18 people
- Traveller Health and Wellbeing event for traveller females (15 attendees)
- Sure Start Antenatal event attended by 20 people
- Sure Start Men's Health event attended by 34 males
- No Smoking Day

Other activities organised and delivered by the Health Co-ordinator throughout 2017/18 included the implementation of Summer Schemes over the month of July for children living in the NR areas. Children in the areas enjoyed the summer schemes and especially liked meeting up with other children over their school holidays and having the opportunity to do fun activities both in their community centres and also through trips away. Physical activity programmes were implemented in each of the NR areas including Jiving, Caged Football, Fishing, Pilloxing, Circuits, Boxercise and Gym Passes. Crafts courses were organized in the community centres – these included flower arranging and candle making. All programmes coordinated and delivered in the NR areas improve social inclusion and aim to target poor mental health amongst the participants.

## **Breakthru**

The Health Project aims to support the reduction of alcohol and drug use within the Omagh NR areas. To support the implementation of this, the Health Project employs a Breakthru worker, to deliver education and prevention programmes throughout the NR areas. During 2016/17, Breakthru delivered drugs and alcohol awareness programmes in all 4 NR areas, provided brief interventions for young people, facilitated diversionary activities and trained young people as peer educators. Breakthru also delivered adult programmes to NR residents - raising awareness of issues regarding alcohol and drug use, as well as general life skills. Diversionary activities delivered by Breakthru included Cage Football, senior youth programmes, art projects, parent programmes in 3 of the NR areas and a fishing trip.

Throughout the year Breakthru ran a number of programmes targeting all members of the Neighbourhood Renewal communities both through groups already established in the communities and by developing new, innovative programmes. The programmes delivered are outlined below:

- Cage Football with young people from O'Kane Park and MACCA who were often engaged in antisocial behaviour and raised concerns that there was 'nothing for them to do' in the street that they lived in. A total of 21 young people participated in this physical activity. This was run in conjunction with Fermanagh and Omagh District Council.
- Parenting programme at O'Kane Park – due to be 4 weeks however there was no engagement from NR residents.

- After Schools Programme with youths from O’Kane Park – in partnership with NR Co-ordinator.
- ‘Me Time’ - the Breakthru worker delivered 2 Me Time sessions with adults (one in Gallows Hill and one in Strathroy) and covered the following topics:
  - Stress and stress management
  - Healthy eating and cookery
  - Alcohol and Drugs
  - Mental Health Workshop with Rosie Maguire (Action Mental Health)
  - Youth Gambling
- Provided support to the Summer Schemes at each of the NR areas, playing outdoor games with the children to promote physical activity, talked about family life, dilemmas, cheating in sport, fruit tasting and engaged with arts and crafts programmes.
- Fishing trip to Loughmacrory with youths and adults from MACCA and Gallows Hill. All participants enjoyed fishing and felt it really helped them to relax and experience a new sport.
- 6 week art programme at MACCA facilitated by Anne Marie McCusker
- Junior youth club at Strathroy looking at the theme of ‘Body Image’

## **Community Groups Health Programmes**

### **Gallows Hill**

The following programmes were delivered in Gallows Hill this year:

- Summer Scheme with 11 children
- Health Check day (14 attendees)
- Circuits with 10 attendees

### **Campsie**

The following programmes were delivered in Campsie this year:

- Mindfulness (16 attendees)
- World Mental Health Day (28 attendees)
- Youth Self Esteem sessions for children going back to school (16 children)
- Halloween Workshop with young people (9 children)
- Youth Away Day to Omagh pantomime (20 children)
- Health Check Day (16 people)

## **O’Kane Park**

The following programmes were delivered in O’Kane Park this year:

- Senior Youth Programme (12 youths)
- CKS Summer Scheme
- Senior citizens trip to Dobby’s Garden Centre (12 senior citizens)
- Christmas Health Hampers (20 people)
- Physical activity programme
- Gym Passes (5)
- Crafts course (10 ladies)

## **Strathroy**

The following programmes were delivered in Strathroy this year:

- Strathroy Summer Scheme with 13 children
- Drama programme with 11 young people
- Health for Life weekend with 44 young people

## **MACCA**

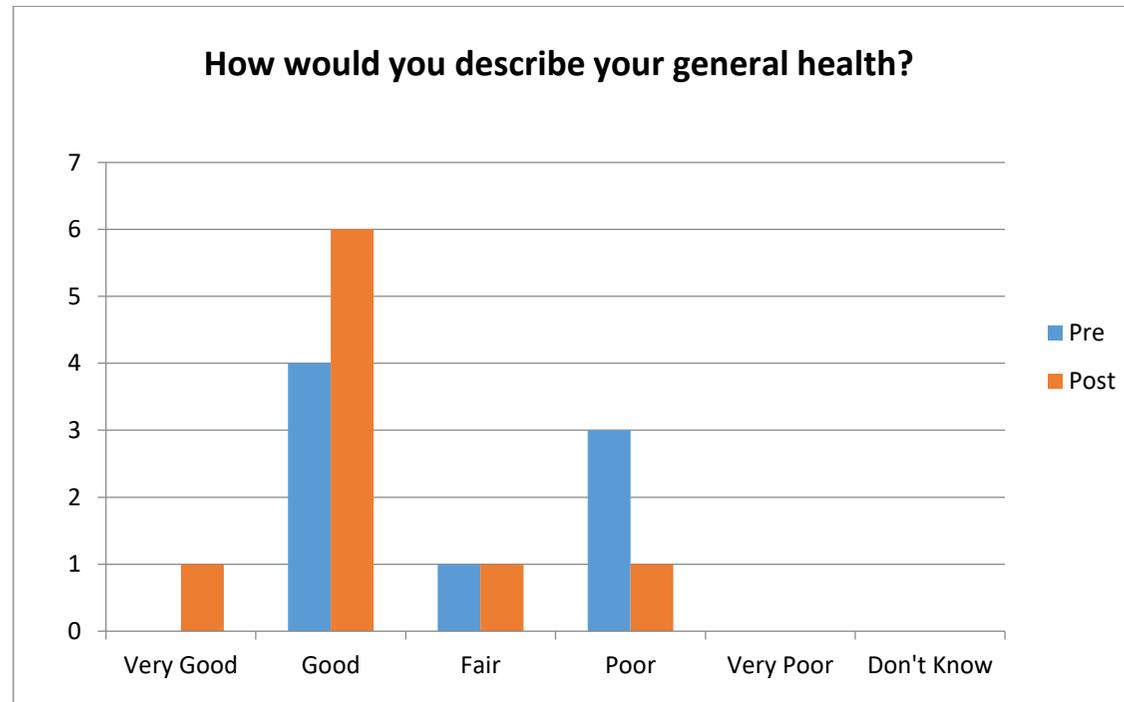
The following programmes were delivered in MACCA this year:

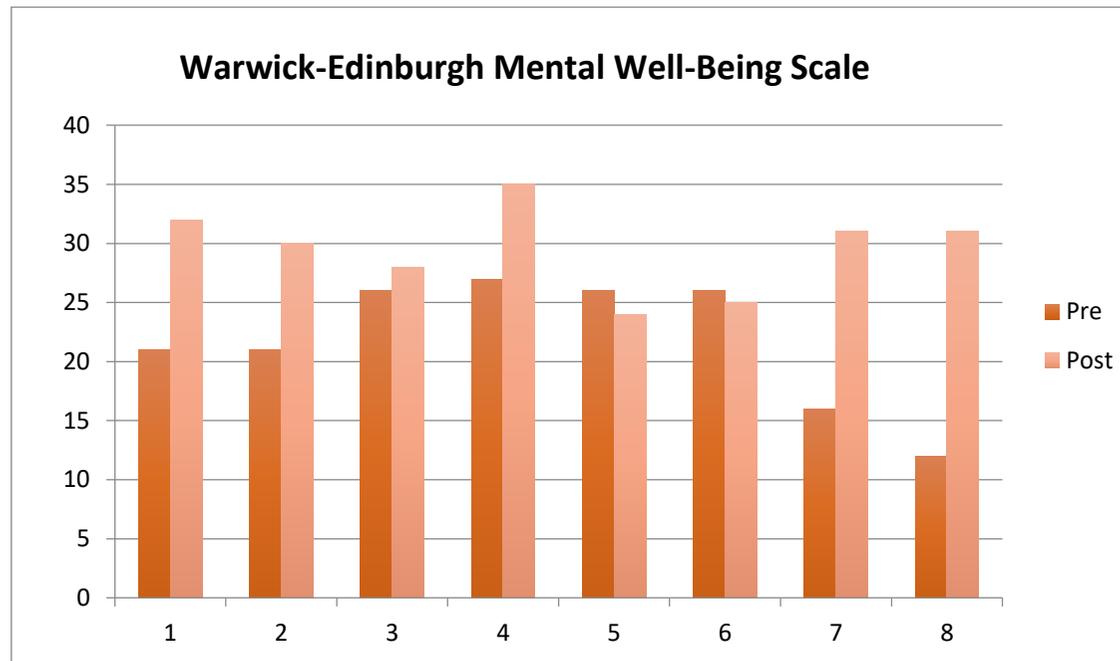
- Summer Scheme with 50 young people
- 2 x six week Piloxing classes (physical activity programme) with 16 adults

## Evaluation of Programmes

### *Mindfulness at Campsie*

There was 2 x three week sessions of Mindfulness delivered in the HUB at Campsie. These were attended by up to 20 people, and were very well received in the local area. Of those who attended, 8 people completed pre and post questionnaires and some of the relevant findings are illustrated below:





The shortened Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Well-Being scale was used to measure mental health and well-being before and after the Mindfulness course. Scores are calculated using this evaluation tool, and as can be sign from the graph above, participants generally increased their Warwick scores, showing an increase in positive mental health. The average Warwick score of all participants pre course was 21.9, and this increased to 29.6 after completing the Mindfulness course.

#### Testimonials from participants at Mindfulness course:

- ❖ *“Gives me peace of mind.”*
- ❖ *“I have an immediate feeling of relaxation at this group.”*
- ❖ *“Very fulfilling and uplifting.”*
- ❖ *“I am able to switch off from everyday life and meditate. This leaves me feeling at peace with all.”*

### ***Back To School Self-Esteem Programme at Campsie***

The Back to School Programme was developed to support and encourage young people aged between 5 and 11 years old to enjoy the experience of going back to school and enable them to deal with the stress and worries that they may fear.

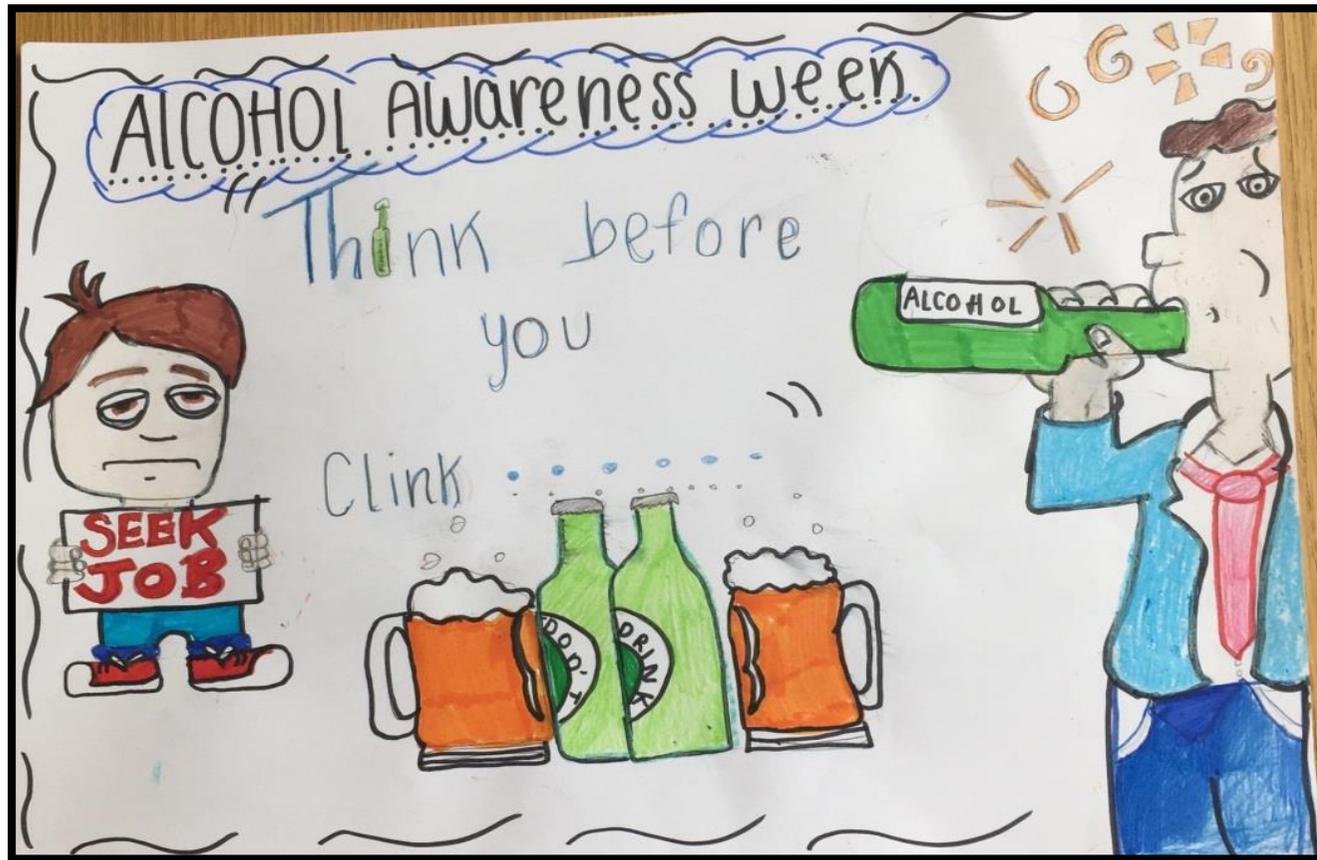
The programme was designed to improve self-esteem, build confidence and self-assurance in a motivational environment, helping to prepare and practice their educational and creative skills and abilities which will help to improve their transition back to school after the summer break.

Over a four week period the young people were involved in literacy and numeracy sessions, creative development projects, group work games, peer feedback and time out for relaxation. The children are encouraged to bring healthy snacks and drinks.



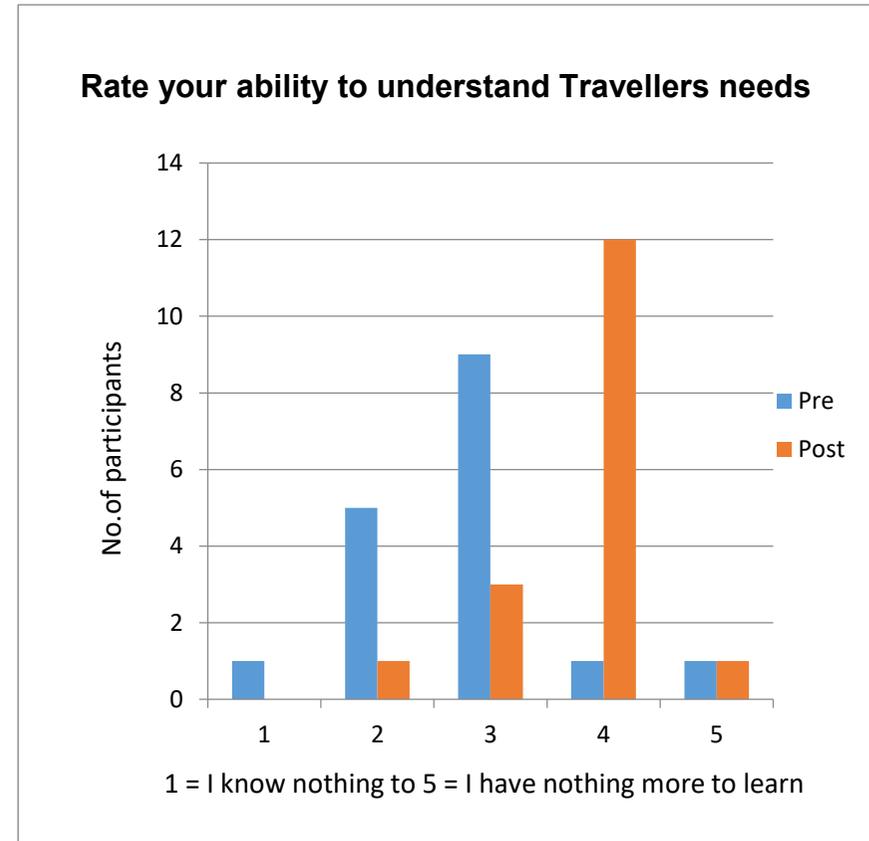
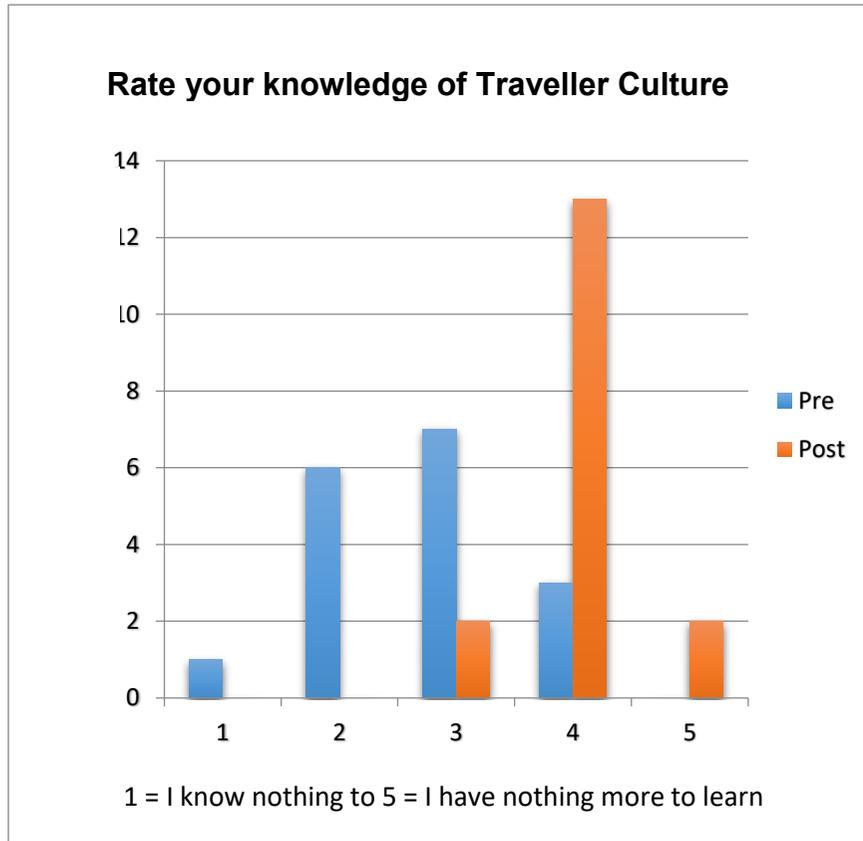
### Youth Group at O’Kane Park

This group of 12 – 18 year olds met on a weekly basis for one hour after school for a period of 10 weeks. Throughout the weeks the youths participated in a range of activities including cooking healthy meals, outdoor games to promote physical activity, a walk as part of Walk Away Your Worries Campaign and designing posters for Alcohol Awareness Week. One of the youths in this group won the poster competition organised by Omagh Drug and Alcohol Forum, and another placed third. Pictured below is the winning poster for Alcohol Awareness Week – this was printed in large quantities and distributed around the Omagh area.



### Traveller Culture Awareness Training

This training was delivered by the Health Improvement Department and a member of the Traveller Community. A total of 18 people attended, and found the information shared from the Traveller representative was very beneficial and helpful for those working and volunteering in the Neighbourhood Renewal areas. As can be seen from the graphs below, all participants increased their knowledge of traveller culture and also their ability to understand Traveller needs.



### ***Looking After Yourself***

On World Mental Health Day in October, Marie Dunne (Mental Health Promotion Specialist with the Western Health and Social Care Trust) delivered a resilience seminar to Omagh Neighbourhood Renewal residents entitled 'Looking After Yourself'. This seminar was very well received by the huge number in attendance. Participants commented on how much they enjoyed the event, and the positive impact Marie had on their state of mental health.



## **Summer High**

This year the Health Project delivered another successful 'Summer High' programme which was facilitated by staff from ASCERT. Young people on the programme participated in workshops throughout the 2 days covering issues such as alcohol and drugs, healthy eating, healthy relationships and risky behaviours. Everyone enjoyed the programme and met people from different areas of Omagh including both NR areas and non-NR areas.



## **Conclusion**

In conclusion, looking at the delivery of the NR Health project in the Omagh Neighbourhood Renewal Area, the Health Project has largely been successful in engaging residents of all ages living in the NR areas. The number of programmes delivered, and the numbers attending demonstrates the obvious need and demand for the project. Having worked more closely with the community groups over the past number of years, and co-producing action plans which best meet the needs of their individual communities – this project has continued to address health concerns in the Omagh area.

Although the NR projects have been in existence for a number of years, there is still an obvious need to address the 3 key themes within the health project; mental health, obesity and alcohol and drug use. Funding remains a vital resource for the community groups as NR funding allows them to offer specific courses and programmes that are tailored to the specific needs and issues within their communities.

## Omagh Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership 2017/2018 Expenditure (by Strategic Objective)

The following table details current projects funded via the Neighbourhood Renewal Investment fund. It also details the 2017/18 individual spend for each project, the total amount of expenditure by strategic objective and the overall 2017/18 total expenditure in the Omagh Neighbourhood Renewal Area.

Programme/Project	CFF Funding Period	CFF Amount at 01/04/2017	17/18 Spend (as at 31/03/2018)
<b>COMMUNITY RENEWAL</b>			
Omagh NRA Employment of Coordinator and Associated Costs to 31/03/2018 (which then changed to Enniskillen and Omagh Neighbourhood Renewal Coordinator and TA Project to 31/03/2018)	01/04/2017-31/03/2018	£76,073.28	£71,471.47
Campsie Community Hub	01/04/2017-31/03/2018	£10,366.71	£10,154.28
<b>Total Community Renewal Expenditure</b>		<b>£86,439.99</b>	<b>£81,625.75</b>
<b>SOCIAL RENEWAL - EDUCATION</b>			
Strathroy Afterschool & Homework Club	01/04/2017-31/03/2018	£36,743.00	£36,586.46
Omagh Learning Mentor	01/04/2017-31/03/2018	£50,620.00	£45,161.92
<b>Total Social Renewal Education Expenditure</b>		<b>£87,363.00</b>	<b>£81,748.38</b>

<b>SOCIAL RENEWAL - HEALTH</b>			
<b>Programme/Project</b>	<b>CFF Funding Period</b>	<b>CFF Amount at 01/04/2017</b>	<b>17/18 Spend (as at 31/03/2018)</b>
Omagh NR Health & Well Being Project	01/04/2017-31/03/2018	£50,285.92	£50,285.92
<b>Total Social Renewal –Health Expenditure</b>		<b>£50,285.92</b>	<b>£50,285.92</b>
<b>ECONOMIC RENEWAL</b>			
Going Places with South West College – Omagh	01/04/2017 – 31/03/2018	£59,090.00	£59,090.00
<b>Total Economic Renewal Expenditure</b>		<b>£59,090.00</b>	<b>£59,090.00</b>

## Achievements of Neighbourhood Renewal Funding in 2017/18 Year

### Community Renewal Output Measures 17/18 Annual Report

PROJECT	CR1 - Number of people participating in community relations projects	CR2 – Number of people participating in community bonding projects	CR3 – Number of people volunteering for community development activities	CR4- Number of people engaged/involved in unpaid voluntary work	CR5 – Number of people receiving training in community development skills/capacity building	CR6 - Number of people using new or improved community facilities	CR7- Number of community/voluntary groups supported	CR8- Number of community relations projects supported	CR9 - Number of people involved in projects that promote shared space	CR10 - Number of people using existing community facilities	CR11 - Percentage of residents who say they are aware of community facilities/services in their area
Campsie Community Hub				11	3				358	100	
Strathroy Homework & Activity Club				5							

## Social Renewal - Education Output Measures 17/18 Annual Report

PROJECT	SR(Ed) 1 - Number of childcare/nursery school places created/safeguarded	SR(Ed)2 - Number of pupils whose attendance is measurably enhanced/improved	SR(Ed) 3 - Number of pupils whose attainment is measurably enhanced/improved	SR(Ed) 4 - Number of pupils whose behaviour is measurably enhanced/improved	SR(Ed) 5 - Number of people engaged in parenting skills development programmes	SR(Ed) 6 - Number of pupils directly benefitting from the project	SR(Ed) 7 - Number of pupils whose attainment is measurably enhanced/improved	SR(Ed) 8 - Number of pupils directly benefitting from project	SE(Ed) 9 - Number of pupils whose attainment is measurably enhanced/improved (in STEM subjects)	SR(Ed) 10 - Number of pupils directly benefitting from the project	SR(Ed) 11 - Number of pupils whose attainment is measurably enhanced/improved against baseline position to ensure pupils reach full potential	SR(Ed) 12 - Number of pupils whose attendance is measurably enhanced/improved
Strathroy Afterschool & Homework Club		52	50	49		52						
Omagh Learning Mentor		18	25	13		30						

*SR(Ed)1–Early Years, SR(Ed)2–5-TacklingBarrierstoLearning, SR(Ed)6-7ImprovingAttainmentinLiteracyandNumeracy, SR(Ed)8-9-ClosingthePerformanceGap, SR(Ed)10-11-TacklingbarrierstoLearningSpecialEducationalNeeds, SR(Ed)12-13-TacklingbarrierstolearningEmotionalHealthandWellbeing, SR(Ed)14-17-YouthServices, SR(Ed)18-22-ExtendedSchools, SR(Ed)23-25–ICT, SR(Ed)26-28–TacklingBarrierstoLearningExtendedSchools, SR(Ed)29-35SharedEducation.*

## Social Renewal – Health Output Measures 17/18 Annual Report

PROJECT	<b>SR(H)1</b> - Number of people benefiting from Healthy Lifestyle Projects	<b>SR(H)2</b> - Number of people attending Health Education/Awareness initiatives	<b>SR(H)3</b> - Number of people accessing intervention/treatment services	<b>SR(H)4</b> - Number of health education awareness initiatives provided/delivered	<b>SR(H)5</b> - Number of people benefiting from new or improved health facilities	<b>SR(H)6</b> - Number of new /improved sports facilities provided	<b>SR(H)7</b> - Number of people participating in suicide prevention projects	<b>SR(H)8</b> - Number of new/improved sports facilities provided	<b>SR(H)9</b> - Number of people using new sports facilities	<b>SR(H)10</b> - Increase (n%) in the number of people using improved sports facilities
Omagh NR Health & Well Being Project	453	211		12			453			

*SR(H)2-4–Early Intervention.*

## Economic Renewal Output Measures 17/18 Annual Report

PROJECT	ER1 - Number of FTE permanent jobs created	ER2 – Number of residents going into employment	ER3 – Number of people accessing careers advice	ER4- Number of people receiving job specific training	ER5 – Number of weeks (per participant) of job specific training provided	ER6 - Number of people receiving non job specific training e.g. first aid	ER7- Number of weeks (per participant) of non-job specific training provided	ER8- Number of new business start ups	ER9 - Number of new/existing businesses requiring/receiving advice/support	ER10 - Number of people becoming self-employed	ER11 - Number of Social economy enterprises created/supported	ER12 - Number of new business start-up surviving 52 weeks	ER13 - Number of new/existing childcare places supported to facilitate training and or employment	ER14 - Number of people attaining a formal qualification from participation in Adult education	ER15 - Number of FTE jobs safeguarded
Going Places with South West College – Omagh		9	30	25		5								22	

## Omagh Partnership Conclusion

In the 2017/2018 financial year, Omagh Partnership's total overall spend was **£272,750.05**

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

<b>Community Renewal</b>	<b>£81,625.75</b>
<b>Social Renewal</b>	<b>£132,034.30</b>
<b>Economic Renewal</b>	<b>£59,090.00</b>
<b>Physical Renewal</b>	<b>£0.00</b>

In addition, the Neighbourhood Renewal Coordinator supported various community organisations across the Neighbourhood Renewal areas gain the confidence and capacity to research various other funding organisations and to apply support. Successful applications in the 17/18 financial year included:

- £18,800 from Northern Ireland Housing Executive to Strathroy Enterprise was awarded in October 2017 to appoint an architect led team to design plans for additional enterprise units. Since the award the Coordinator has continued to meet with the group weekly to ensure progression of the project. Currently the working group are seeking out additional funding applications to ensure the project is progressed to the next stage which is to finance the build;
- 218 Warm Bags delivered to vulnerable children and adults throughout the Neighbourhood Renewal areas. Each bag contained thermal under garments, blankets, a scarf, hat and gloves, a fleece and thermal socks.

The Neighbourhood Renewal Coordinator throughout the year continued to ensure all Neighbourhood Renewal Members were aware of any possible funding opportunities via telephone, email and shared information at Partnership and Sub-Committee meetings. In addition she requested that Members got in touch if they required support completing applications.

Examples include:

- FODC Community Grant Aid
- Live Here Love Now Small Grants Scheme
- Change Your Mind Mental Health Scheme
- Stop Campaign CYPSP
- Big Lottery
- ESB Funding Scheme
- British Red Cross Small Grants Scheme

- Peace IV
- Children in Need
- Northern Ireland Housing Executive
- Social Enterprise
- Princes Trust

**Breakdown of actual achievements for total NR expenditure:**

Under *Community Renewal*, the following organisations continued to be involved:

- Campsie Residents' Association
- Gallows Hill/Johnston Park Community Association
- Mullaghmore and Castleview Community Association(MACCA)
- Culmore/O'Kane Park Community Association(CKS)
- Strathroy Community Association
- Local Voluntary Organisations including Breakthru, Omagh Volunteer Centre, FOCUS, Supporting Communities NI and Action for Children.

The funding for the venue of Campsie Hub has enabled the group to go from strength to strength with activities planned for every day of the week including:

- College Outreach programme providing Maths, English and Computer Tuition
- Weekly Basic Computing Classes
- Women's Health Workshops (funded by Community Pharmacy Programme)
- Mindfulness Courses

The Health and Well Being programme successfully ran throughout 2017/18 with a series of circuit classes and Boxercise sessions in Gallows Hill and CKS; piloxing classes at MACCA; Health Check days across the Neighbourhood Renewal areas; and Sure Start Health events.

The following Education Programmes ran during 2017/18:

- Strathroy Afterschool Club. During 17/18 a total of 52 children from the Strathroy NRA were registered and used this facility which exceeded the original target set by DfC when funding was initially awarded in April 2011.
- The Learning Mentor has worked successfully across the secondary schools, on a one to one basis, with pupils experiencing a range of barriers to education.

The Economic Renewal Project delivered the following during 2017/18:

- The Going Places Programme – all targets set by the Department for Communities were met for this programme

## Looking Forward

Under **Community Renewal** the Neighbourhood Renewal Coordinator will continue to work alongside Supporting Communities to discuss and identify continuing needs to help address capacity building and sustainability for the 5 Community Groups in the Omagh NRA. Additional training will be made available throughout the five areas.

The NR Coordinator will also continue the delivery of existing funded projects in accordance with Department for Communities guidelines and timescale. They will also:

- In response to community interest and need, continue to identify and assess potential projects that will be of benefit to Omagh Neighbourhood Renewal.
- Identify and highlight opportunities for additional funding to groups, also highlight to groups additional services and potential funding opportunities.

Further engagement will be sought with the Community Safety Wardens which now operate across the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council and have received funding support for 2018/19. The scheme employs 5 part time Community Safety Wardens operating throughout the district. They are supported by one full time warden who has strong links with local communities. The Neighbourhood Renewal Coordinator will continue to attend the Bonfire Working group.

Under **Economic Renewal** it is envisaged that Strathroy Enterprise Company Ltd will be in a position to submit final design plans for the additional six enterprise units during 2018/19. It is expected that the full project will cost £400,000 and Strathroy Enterprise Company will seek funding from other sources for example Places and Spaces, Big Lottery and Fermanagh and Omagh District Council.

Under **Social Renewal – Education** the Education Sub-Committee are attempting to re-engage with nursery schools, preschools and primary schools across the Omagh area to identify problems and learning disadvantages in young children and the steps which could be taken to address these issues.

Under **Social Renewal – Health** it has been agreed that the Health Sub-Committee will seek to prioritise mental health of younger people in coping with stress, pressure and the building of their resilience skills. Actions around Suicide Awareness have been added to the Action Plan for 2018/19.

Under **Physical Renewal** it has been agreed that a Programme of Works for the O’Kane Park and Gallows Hill Estates will be sought to be delivered by the Department for Infrastructure during 2018/19. Additional lighting for the Mullaghmore and Campsie Play Parks has also been identified along with some additional car parking for residents in the Mullaghmore estates.

### **Impact of Neighbourhood Renewal Funding**

The Neighbourhood Renewal areas in Omagh prior to Neighbourhood Renewal endured decades of economic decline, social dislocation, poor service delivery and political marginalisation. Throughout 2017/18 extra difficulties were added including the political instability and the underlying challenges presented by the on-going economic climate. Despite these challenges it is very evident that the projects that have been presented in this annual report that Neighbourhood Renewal have supported have played a significant role in making Omagh Neighbourhood Renewal areas more attractive places to work and live.

In recent discussions throughout the Omagh Neighbourhood Renewal Sub Committees and Partnership, young people’s mental health has been a re-occurring topic especially with the recent increase of suicides in the areas. Although there has been a strong focus on children and young people through programmes such as the Strathroy Afterschool Programme, Omagh Learning Mentor and of course through the Omagh Neighbourhood Renewal Health and Well-Being Programme more work still needs to be done in the longer term to improve the prospects of these younger people living in the area.

Excellent feedback was received from community representatives and service providers on the professional publication of the Neighbourhood Renewal Newsletters and this has resulted in people living in the areas gaining not only more knowledge on the projects that Neighbourhood Renewal support but even just gaining the knowledge that they live in a Neighbourhood Renewal area.

## **Conclusion**

The latest multiple deprivation measures report shows limited mobility in terms of the relative ranks of areas. That does not mean however that there has not been positive change in the absolute position of neighbourhoods across a range of community, social and economic indicators. Statistically it is somewhat difficult to demonstrate the success of the NR investment in closing the gap between NRA's and non- NRA's as there has been a clear decline in the non- NRA's and an increase in demand/need in these areas seem. Many of those living in the non- NRA's are approaching NR (and others) for help as demand for better access to services and programmes increases and this in itself is an indication of how others view the success of NR.

Moving forward Members of the Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership will continue to update the Neighbourhood Renewal Action Plan to ensure that the Neighbourhood Renewal areas priorities continue to be supported. The Omagh Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership will continue to bring about positive change to the areas through the Neighbourhood Renewal Action Plan throughout 2018/19 to allow their areas to continue to be viewed as an attractive place to live and work while continuing to increase awareness of Neighbourhood Renewal.

## Omagh NRP Proposed Members 2018-2019

<b>Name</b>	<b>Surname</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Status</b>
Hazel	McGuigan	Campsie Residents' Association	Community Representative
Rozella	Kelly	Culmore & O'Kane Park Community Association	Community Representative
Ernie	Coburn	Gallows Hill Community Association	Community Representative
Pat	McCauley	Gallows Hill Community Association	Community Representative
Alice	Duggan	Johnston Park Community Association	Community Representative
Aidan	Colgan	Mullaghmore & Castlevew Community Association	Community Representative
Peggy	Colgan	Mullaghmore & Castlevew Community Association	Community Representative
Michael	Kelly	Strathroy Community Association	Community Representative
Joanne	Donnelly	Fermanagh & Omagh District Council	Elected Representative
Josephine	Deehan	Fermanagh & Omagh District Council	Elected Representative
Errol	Thompson	Fermanagh & Omagh District Council (Vice Chairperson)	Elected Representative
Sorcha	McAnespy	Fermanagh & Omagh District Council	Elected Representative
Chris	Smyth	Fermanagh & Omagh District Council	Elected Representative
Martin	McColgan	Fermanagh & Omagh District Council	Elected Representative
Kieran	McCroy	Fermanagh & Omagh District Council	Local Government Representative
Kevin	McShane	Fermanagh & Omagh District Council	Local Government Representative
John	Ball	Department for Communities	Statutory Representative
Monica	MacIntyre	Department for Communities	Statutory Representative
Seamus	Byrne	Department for Communities	Statutory Representative
Coleen	McBrien	Neighbourhood Renewal Coordinator- FODC	Statutory Representative
Oonagh	McAvinney	Northern Ireland Housing Executive	Statutory Representative
Fionnuala	McKinney	Western Health & Social Care Trust	Statutory Representative
Priscilla	Magee	Western Health & Social Care Trust	Statutory Representative
Colm	McDaid	Supporting Communities NI (Chairperson)	Voluntary Representative



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