



Inner East Belfast Neighbourhood Renewal Area

Annual Report
2017/18



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Inner East Neighbourhood Renewal Area Annual Report 2017-2018



Contents

1. Neighbourhood Renewal
2. Inner East Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership
 - a. Background
 - b. Membership
3. Inner East Context and map
4. Inner East Neighbourhood Partnership Action Plan
 - a. Physical Renewal – Context
 - b. Social Renewal – Context
 - c. Community Renewal – Context
 - d. Economic Renewal – Context
5. Inner East Neighbourhood Renewal Funded Projects
 - Community Renewal*
 - a. Newtownards Road Women’s Group Limited - Carew II Family and Training Centre Childcare Services
 - b. Willowfield Parish Community Association – Soul Sisters Family Support Project
 - c. East Belfast Community Counselling – Open Door Project
 - d. EastSide Partnership – Delivering Effective Regeneration Locally and Citywide
 - e. EastSide Partnership – Neighbourhood Renewal Coordinator
 - f. East Belfast Community Development Association - Inner East Neighbourhood Renewal - Community Development Programme
 - g. East Belfast Community Development Association – Inner East Neighbourhood Renewal - Youth Development Programme
 - h. Skainos Development Manager

Annex 1 - Inner East Neighbourhood Renewal Action Plan 2017-18

Annex 2 - Outputs

1. Neighbourhood Renewal

a. Background

In June 2003, Government launched “People and Place – A Strategy for Neighbourhood Renewal”. This long-term (7-10 year) strategy was designed to target those communities through Northern Ireland suffering the highest levels of deprivation. Neighbourhood Renewal is a cross government strategy, which aims to bring together the work of all Government Departments in partnership with local people to tackle disadvantage and deprivation in all aspects of everyday life.

Neighbourhoods in the most deprived 10% of wards across Northern Ireland were identified using the Noble Multiple Deprivation Measure. Following extensive consultation, this resulted in a total of 36 areas, and a population of approximately 280,000 (1 person in 6 in Northern Ireland), being targeted for intervention. The areas include:

- 15 in Belfast
- 6 in the North West (including 4 in Derry/Londonderry)
- 15 in other towns and cities across Northern Ireland.

Neighbourhood Partnerships were established in each Neighbourhood Renewal Area (NRA) as a vehicle for local planning and implementation. Each Neighbourhood Partnership should include representatives of key political, statutory, voluntary, community and private sector stakeholders. Together, they have developed vision statements and action plans designed to improve the quality of life for those living in the area.

The four strategic priorities for Neighbourhood Renewal, identified by DfC are:

- Community Renewal – to develop consistent communities that are 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
- Physical Renewal – to help create attractive, safe and sustainable environments in the most deprived neighbourhoods
- Social Renewal – to improve social conditions for the people who live in the most deprived neighbourhoods through better coordinated public services and the creation of safer environments

2.Inner East Neighbourhood Partnership

a. Background

Established in March 2005, the Inner East Neighbourhood Partnership (IENP) has met regularly to carry out the task outlined in the Department for Communities (DfC) 'People and Place' document: 'to develop an action plan for Neighbourhood Renewal for the area'. IENP covers the Short Strand, Lower Newtownards Road, Albertbridge Road, Albertbridge/Beersbridge, The Mount, Woodstock Road and Lower Ravenhill Road areas in East Belfast. These areas are contained within the four Inner East electoral wards of Island, The Mount, Ballymacarrett and Woodstock and they are representative of the two main traditions/communities working on a cross-community basis to address regeneration.

The IENP identified high level objectives, which it believed were fundamental to addressing the four strategic priorities in Inner East Belfast. These objectives then formed the basis of action planning and an outline action plan was produced in November 2006. The action plan has been refined and improved since then as a result of targeted consultation with relevant government departments, Belfast City Council, local community organisations and a series of open community meetings across the area. The most recent review took place in January 2018 and continual updates were assessed by IENP members on a thematic basis in IENP meetings throughout 2017-18.

It should be noted that members of the Inner East Neighbourhood Partnership and subgroups all signed up to and abide by the Neighbourhood Renewal Code of Practice, Guiding Principles and subsequent subgroup terms of reference.

b. Membership

To take forward the Neighbourhood Renewal programme for the area, Inner East Neighbourhood Partnership (IENP) was established in 2005 to oversee the development and delivery of the action plan. From April 2017 to March 2018, the Partnership was composed of 30 members, which included representatives from the local community, voluntary organisations, elected representatives, and statutory organisations. It met monthly with facilitation and administration services being provided by the Neighbourhood Renewal Coordinator at EastSide Partnership.

Inner East Neighbourhood Partnership	
Name	Organisation/Sector
Michael Briggs (Chair)	EBCDA
Madeline Hutchens	ESP
Geraldine Millican	CED (Observer)
Yvonne Cowan	South & East Belfast Health & Social Services
Rachael Davison	Walkway Community Association
Rev. Mervyn Gibson	Westbourne Presbyterian Church
Rosheen Heath	Short Strand Community Forum
Chris Lyttle	Elected Rep
John Keery	Ballymac Friendship Trust
Ruth Wallace	Oasis
John Kyle	Elected Rep
Bernie McConnell	Short Strand Community Forum
Rosheen Heath	Short Strand Community Forum
Heather McMurray	Carew II Family Centre
David Moore	PSNI
Andy Moorehead /Mandy Maquire	East Belfast Alternatives
George Newell	Lagan Village Youth and Community Group
David Armitage	Elected Rep
Jenny Oliver	Belfast City Council Community Services
Julie Carson	DOJ

Gary Ballantyne	NIHE
Sean Brannigan	CED (Observer)
Jim Rodgers	Elected Rep
Pauline Smart	Belfast Education & Library Board
David Stitt	Charter NI
Glenn Thomas	Belfast City Council Community Safety
Karen Purdy	Bloomfield Community Association
Mairead O'Donnell	Elected Rep
Maurice Kinkead	ESP

3. The Context: Inner East Belfast

Inner East Belfast is part of the East Belfast electoral constituency. The constituency is less deprived than others in Belfast. Inner East Belfast, nonetheless, contains clusters of intense deprivation. The area includes four 'Super Output Areas' (S.O.A.s) which appear in the top 10 per cent of the most deprived SOAs in Northern Ireland, in respect of the overall measure (NIMDM 2017). Ballymacarret and The Mount endure intense levels of deprivation, particularly in relation to educational disadvantage, health deprivation and crime and disorder.

Map of Inner East Neighbourhood Renewal Area



4. Inner East Neighbourhood Partnership Action Plan

The Inner East Neighbourhood Partnership agreed the following Vision Statement in August 2005:

“Inner East Belfast will be transformed into a safer, attractive, healthier community in which people choose to live, learn, work and invest.”

The most up-to-date Inner East Neighbourhood Partnership’s action plan can be found in Annex 1.

a. Physical Renewal – Context

Three of the Inner East wards remain within the ten worst in NI in relation to Noble’s living environment domain. The poor quality of housing within the private sector, difficulties accessing mortgage finance and the shortage of social housing have combined to put additional pressure on young people trying to get onto the housing ladder. The need for social housing is indicated in the fact that in five wards in Belfast East, housing benefit claimants exceed 20 percent, in contrast to the Northern Ireland average of 11.0 per cent. While the Neighbourhood Partnership has welcomed the positive influences that the regeneration of the city centre and the ambitious developments of the Titanic Quarter, and refreshed plans for the Sirocco site etc. They are acutely aware of the remaining need for these developments to provide real benefits for people in Inner East. The Neighbourhood Partnership has become increasingly alert to the risk of ‘gentrification’ in relation to the built environment and wishes to ensure that recreational developments are accessible to all NRA residents.

The more visible change in Inner East over recent years in relation to the physical environment has been as a result of investment from DFC, the Urban Villages initiative, Belfast City Council and various other funders. Examples of projects in 2017-18 include further enhancement of the Connswater and Comber Greenways and of Orangefield Park. Commuter and recreational use of new bridges, such as the Sam Thompson Bridge, continues to rise. The CCG community worker has proactively engaged with local communities throughout all development processes to ensure community ownership and involvement at each opening. The considerable physical benefits are having an impact beyond the area adjacent to the river. Several well-attended festivals and events on these sites have enlightened all sections of the public to the opportunities for recreation and commuting use. The engagement of local community activists and political representatives has helped to ensure that these developments remain largely free from vandalism or defacement. Belfast Rapid Transport System continued to develop. Roadworks to this end caused substantial difficulties for motorists but will finish early in 2018-19. It remains uncertain how many benefits will accrue for the inner-city inhabitants from the BRT project.

The strategic priority areas for the regeneration of Inner East Belfast agreed in January 2018 are;

- Establishment of improved physical links with Titanic Quarter and the City Centre
- Increased provision of good quality affordable housing
- Development of open space/derelict sites
- Strategic co-ordination of physical improvements across the Neighbourhood Renewal Area.
- Effective application of the BCC Investment Fund to support strategic interventions.
- Strategic Development of Templemore Avenue to support new civic facilities.
- Comprehensive regeneration of Holywood Arches.
- Improved accessibility to railway/rapid transport network.
- Development of the Greenway network and component parks

The opening of the Sam Thompson Bridge has provided a new gateway into the NRA from Titanic Quarter; with over 700 crossings a day, on average. The opportunities to connect and provide benefits for communities within the Neighbourhood Renewal area are extensive. The Neighbourhood Partnership is committed to ensuring that every opportunity is taken to add value to the Greenway project for residents of the NRA. More broadly the Action Plan recognises the importance of improving all our open spaces throughout the area and ensuring that appropriate levels of community and recreation facilities are available to all the NRA residents.

The Neighbourhood Partnership is committed to support the plans and implementation of new facilities to widen the availability of accessible support services for local communities. The Visitor Centre for East Belfast, located at C.S. Lewis Square, opened in August 2016; financed by Tourism Northern Ireland, Belfast City Council through the Local Investment Fund and Landmark East: this project illustrates the capacity for achieving a 'cocktail' of investment, when a project meets several regeneration objectives. The Visitor Centre includes a coffee shop, interactive information points, high tech displays celebrating local legends and an opportunity to purchase locally made merchandise. The total number of visitors between April 2017 to March 2018 is approximately 80,000, much higher than expected.

b. Social Renewal – Context

The effective delivery of the key public services of education and health remains a critical factor in the success of the Neighbourhood Renewal Action Plan. Effecting change in the agencies charged to deliver the main body of these provisions is a considerable challenge. The Inner East Neighbourhood Partnership's objectives for Social Renewal, revised in January 2017, were identified as:

- Increased provision for Adult Education.
- Consolidation and improvement of Primary School provision in the NRA.
- A shared vision and strategy for Health Improvement in the NRA, leading to residents of the NRA living longer, healthier lives.
- Integrated planning for education across agencies and schools.
- Raising the value of education – improved engagement of parents / children and schools.
- Increased provision and support for early years provision and after schools groups.
- Strategic co-ordination of family support services in the NRA.
- Development and improved collaboration of the Youth sector.
- Ensure accessible and early referrals made to support services where appropriate.
- Improved access to high quality advice, advocacy and relief services for residents in the NRA.

The East Belfast Health Framework continues to deliver outcomes relating to five priority themes: Healthy hearts; Healthy bodies; Healthy minds; Healthy relationships; Healthy neighbourhoods. Members of the Neighbourhood Partnership remain committed to ensuring that their programmes are aligned with the Framework as appropriate, and that groups within the NRA are working collaboratively on this shared purpose. Moreover, members of the Neighbourhood Renewal are also contributing to various stakeholder groups.

The Health Hub in the Network Centre continues to provide local individuals, groups and organisations information about local health programmes and services. The NP remains committed to supporting the work of health forums in Inner East; the East Belfast Health Forum and the Mental Health Forum.

People in Inner East continue to be challenged by poverty, with the imminent onset of welfare reform becoming a priority issue for some groups. The NP is committed to new cross-cutting initiatives aimed at improving information sharing and collaboration around advice services and crisis provision. A working group of the IENP envisioned the formation of a collaborative group that would address crises resulting from poverty. The Scaffolding Project emerged from inter-agency discussions. The Project unites representatives from thirteen agencies which provide crisis response, family support services and programmes for health and well-being. A steering group was established, which acquired funding from Urban Villages with which to recruit a co-ordinator for the Scaffolding Project in November 2017. The Co-ordinator has established effective partnerships with

community activists in the Partnership, and programmes have begun which address poverty.

Making progress in relation to educational attainment and aspiration remains a significant challenge for the NRA as inequalities in education remain extremely high. EastSide Learning launched the East Belfast Community Education project in March 2017 which aims to directly address these inequalities. The project has established a framework outlining where they plan to concentrate their efforts (available at www.eastsidelearning.co.uk). The project has also included several events/activities in 2017-18, as follows: an Easter School for GCSE pupils, community-based GCSE revision sessions, family learning visits, Better Reading Partnership training, a Reading fair and Literacy day. IENP members have, where possible, supported these events/ activities, acknowledging their importance in furthering the action plan.

Providing more efficient youth provision in the NRA is another objective and EBCDA continues to provide co-ordination for the East Belfast Youth Practitioners Forum. The Forum provides an opportunity for youth workers to share good practice and skills, ensures that staff employed in this area are supported and well trained and work is coordinated more effectively. They have undertaken a number of successful training days and collaborative projects during 2017-18.

c. Community Renewal - Context

The Neighbourhood Partnership has acknowledged that a key challenge within community renewal is to build participation and the capacity of local communities to become more involved in decision-making. While there are several community based groups in the Neighbourhood Renewal area whose work is recognised as first class there remain neighbourhoods where little is happening, and new groups struggle to get established in what is a shrinking community sector. An additional challenge is the interface where at times the pressure on local people is immense; this has been great putting additional strain on already disadvantaged communities.

The IENP's objectives for community renewal were identified as:

- Building leadership
- Building trust and creating confident communities
- Addressing community division and building cohesion
- A commitment to maximising participation
- Cooperation
- Recognising quality
- Sharing resources

The Neighbourhood Partnership is committed to ensuring that all communities have equal access to opportunities arising from Neighbourhood Renewal and other key government programmes aimed at improving quality of life for people in disadvantaged communities. Without well informed and connected local leadership some communities are at a distinct disadvantage. Key groups supported within the NR programme contribute significantly to keeping residents connected to developments and benefitting from new opportunities. The Social Investment Fund Community Capacity Building Project managed by EBCDA which is due to launch in late 2017 will provide TNP members with new opportunities for training and development.

The importance of addressing issues associated with the Interface has been referred to earlier as part of the physical renewal agenda under Neighbourhood Renewal. The Neighbourhood Partnership is acutely aware that improving relations between the communities along the interface will be the key to success. Despite the political progress that has been made, there remain some very marginalised communities on the interface. Provision has been made in the action plan to secure resources to support joint activities and programmes between the communities on the interface. These activities will need to be well resourced and coordinated if sustainable progress is to be made.

The final action outlined within the Community Renewal theme relates to local delivery of the Belfast Community Safety Partnership Strategy. While considerable resources are being deployed in the area for community safety initiatives and community safety staff; communication is at times poor and not all communities within the NRA could articulate their issues. The NP plans to work more closely with Belfast City Council on this issue to ensure that activities supported are both well targeted and link effectively with other local projects and plans. A subgroup meeting was facilitated, and action points followed up to address communication issues and more effective work moving forward.

d. Economic Renewal - Context

While the Inner East area was historically the location of Belfast's key industries, this is no longer the case and the area experiences disproportionately high levels of unemployment within East Belfast. Ballymacarrett and The Mount are placed within the 10% of worst wards in NI and Woodstock and Island are well within the 20% of most deprived places. Income deprivation is also evident throughout the NRA.

The 2011 Census indicates that average weekly earnings within East Belfast are the lowest in the city, with a difference of forty-five pounds per week between the East Belfast average and that found in West Belfast. This suggests that while the level of employment in East is good in relative terms, the nature of that employment may be characterised by more part-time and low paid work when compared with other places. The Census also illustrated that 20.72% of unemployed people were aged 50 or over in East Belfast compared to 16.71% in North, 14.32% in South and 13.10% in West. This suggests that there is a large pool of people living in East Belfast who could benefit from reskilling and an employer base that welcomes older workers.

The Employment East programme was launched in September 2016, aiming to help people living in East Belfast build the skills and experience they need to get a new or better job, or to start up their own business. The funds, provided through the Social Investment Fund, will support at least 300 people, people who are unemployed or under-employed or who are low paid or low skilled, to find future employment and enable them to compete in the market place or to move up in their chosen career path. The IENP will keep up to date with this programme through regular progress reports and ensure the appropriate links are made.

The NP recognises that elements of economic renewal could be better connected in terms of employability and economic development. There have been several attempts to support a more collaborative approach to employability and economic development, with limited success. However, the NP recognises that there is a need for this to continue, particularly due to the investment in the Employment East programme. Moving forward the NP plans to support more inter-agency working to enhance the delivery of economic development within the NRA.

The IENP's objectives for economic renewal were identified as:

- Creating opportunity for investment and increasing prosperity
- Maximising employment potential
- Undertaking a skills audit
- Articulating barriers to employability including transport and childcare
- Taking a proactive approach – possibly using a model of economic 'hubs' in key places
- Ensuring that appropriate Further and Higher Education opportunities exist

A new group involving traders has been established for Holywood Arches to maximize the opportunities arising from the development of the Greenway, CS Lewis Square and the Visitor Centre. ESP is working closely with the UV initiative and DfC to update the development strategy to reflect the completion of a number of the projects and highlight the new opportunities this presents. The importance of developing the Social Economy within the NRA is also recognised in the Action Plan, particularly in light of the reducing funding environment. While a significant number of people are employed within the social economy sector there are concerns that many groups are unaware of opportunities and incentives that exist to grow this sector. The work of East Belfast Social Enterprise Hub seeks to tackle this and the Hub is promoted amongst NP groups as an option to explore to improve their sustainability.

5.Inner East Neighbourhood Renewal Funded Projects

The Neighbourhood Renewal Investment Fund has supported the following projects in the Inner East Neighbourhood Renewal Area during 2017-18;

a. Newtownards Road Women's Group

Neighbourhood Renewal Investment of £88,543.28 for 2017/2018 financial year was awarded to Carew II to secure and sustain the following service delivery. The aim of this project is to provide high quality, affordable and accessible childcare and family support services within the Inner East Belfast area which focuses on the following:

Crèche (both planned and respite)	0 – 1 year old
Mother/Father and Toddler(s)	1 – 3 year old
Development Programme/Playgroup	3 year old
Pre-school	3 – 4 year old
After-school	5 – 11 year old
Homework clubs	5 – 11 year old (Primary)

This programme of activities is supported by childcare staff and volunteers. The following staff members are employed to oversee, deliver and develop these essential services:

- Operation Manager: ensures that strategic and operational plans for the organisation are adhered to
- Development Manager: determines future service planning and looks at ways of securing fund to take this work forward
- Finance Administrator: responsible for agreed financial recording systems
- Childcare Leaders (3): manages and coordinates activities of the crèche, toddler's groups, after school club and summer scheme

- Childcare Workers (3): offers a stimulating, progressive and varied programme of child care services within the Centre
- Receptionist: public face of Centre and provides administrative support to staff

The Project provides the children and their families with a designated and professional high-quality service, aimed at improving the child's opportunity to a secure start in life and access to learning and development from an early age; this is essential for holistic development of the child. It also offers newcomer families a sense of belonging and helps their children adapt to their new environment. The child care services are an integral part of the success of the Centre providing much needed support for parents who may be in employment or training.

Feedback from families has indicated that this has improved the family as a unit and promoted family cohesion. The centre has been able to identify children with complex needs and developmental delay conditions and work with parents in receiving additional help and services to meet their needs.

b. Soul Sisters – Willowfield Parish Church

Neighbourhood Renewal Investment of £29,126.56 for 2017-2018 financial year was awarded to Willowfield Parish Community Association to secure and sustain the following service delivery. The Willowfield 'Soul Sisters Family Support Project' is a community-based service using existing networks and venues to provide family support to people in the Inner East Belfast area. It particularly targets families in need who have not taken up or sustained uptake of other services which are available and issues for which there is a local shortage of provision or a growing need.

The project started in November 2013. This year of the project has seen growth in the number of service users and also in complexity of issues presented by families using the service. This reinforces the need for this one on one, needs based and family led model of working. Such methods we have found really help families (and therefore communities), develop healthy and ongoing internal relationships as well as being able to interact constructively with the statutory and voluntary agencies designed to support them also. As a result, many clients availing of the Family Support Service are beginning to show positive progress in dealing with the difficulties that they face and in interacting with the statutory organisation involved in their situation. These families have also availed of other services within WPCA such as the Food store and children and youth programmes, CAP Job Club and parenting and welfare advice. The project continues to be informed and supported by the various relevant local networks such as Inner East Family hub.

Two-part time workers deliver the programme. The posts facilitate various services such as:

- *Home visits to clients
- *Accompanying clients to statutory or legal meetings where they feel unable to attend by themselves i.e. family court, social service meetings etc.
- * Supporting clients through emotional and sensitive personal/ family issues
- *Supporting clients to attend weekly appointments i.e. GP, CPN, support groups
- *Directly referring families to other support services in the local area ie counselling
- *Providing parenting programmes /focusing on parenting skills
- *Initiatives to help parents support their children in education
- *Health lifestyle programmes for mums and children
- *Support via a listening ear and someone to meet regularly with them
- *Food Store, to help families when in food poverty
- *Provide food hampers at other Holiday seasons such as Christmas and Easter
- *Help families' avail of furniture and domestic appliances through WPCA's Fresh Start furniture distribution ministry to help families on very low incomes
- *Social Inclusion and interaction - meeting up with other local parents, especially positive for mums and tots from an Ethnic minority background
- *Parents and Tots Summer scheme- An opportunity for local parents and children from 0-4 to attend and participate in a fun interactive summer programme which also includes healthy break and snack. As well as fun and educational crafts and activities, the local services also come and provide activities ie Local library, Oral Health practitioners.
- *Tuesday Takeaway project - a programme designed to tackle the issues of holiday hunger. Throughout August families benefit from a weekly food pack containing fresh fruit vegetables and meat and healthy recipes to assist them in making food. Families are invited to stay for a cuppa and to chat whilst the children play in the facilities. They also have the opportunity to watch and participate in cookery demonstrations and sample the meals at the end.
- *Organise health and community relations events e.g. health days.
- *Peaced Together programme- this programme consists of 10 weekly 2 hour sessions and its aim is to support women to deal with issues through a creative arts project, promoting emotional wellbeing, personal development and confidence.

c. East Belfast Community Counselling–Open Door Project

Neighbourhood Renewal Investment of £52,990.85 for 2017/2018 financial year was awarded to the East Belfast Community Development Agency (EBCDA) Open Door Project to secure and sustain the current level of service delivery. Further details to be found in the EBCDA annual report Note, this project achieved all the desired outcomes for 2017/18.

d. Eastside Partnership– Delivering Effective Regeneration Locally and Citywide

Neighbourhood Renewal Investment of £142, 541.78 for 2017/2018 financial year was awarded to the EastSide Partnership to secure and sustain the current level of service delivery. Please see EastSide Partnership Annual report for further information. Note, this project achieved all the desired outcomes for 2017/18.

e. Eastside Partnership – Neighbourhood Renewal Coordinator

Neighbourhood Renewal Investment of £25,864.91 was awarded for the 2017/2018 financial year to EastSide Partnership to support the Neighbourhood Renewal Coordinator post. Please see EastSide Partnership Annual report and Neighbourhood Renewal Coordinator quarterly reports for further information. Note, the Coordinator achieved all the desired outcomes for 2017/18.

f. Inner East Community Development Programme

Neighbourhood Renewal investment of £302,261.96 was awarded in the 2017/18 financial year to the EBCDA Community Development Programme, comprising the following groups: EBCDA; Walkway; Lagan Village Youth and Community Group; Ballymac Friendship Trust; Oasis Caring in Action; Short Strand Community Forum; and Short Strand Partnership

Of which £75,314.60 was awarded in the 2017/18 financial year to the Community Development programme managed by EBCDA to secure and sustain the current level of service delivery. Further details are to be found in the E.B.C.D.A Annual Report. Note, this project achieved almost all the desired outcomes for 2017/18.

g. Inner East Youth Development Programme

Neighbourhood Renewal investment of £75,493.87 was awarded in the 2017/18 financial year to the EBCDA Youth Development Programme, comprising the following groups: EBCDA; Lagan Village Youth and Community Group; and Ballymac Friendship Trust. Of which £25,814.18 for 2017/2018 financial year was awarded to the Youth Development theme managed by EBCDA to secure and sustain the current level of service delivery. Further details are to be found in the E.B.C.D.A. Annual Report. Note, this project achieved almost all the desired outcomes for 2017/18.

h. Skainos Development Manager

DfC investment of £32,364.24 was awarded to Skainos Ltd. to develop and implement a business development strategy which will examine and evaluate the day to day running of the Skainos Centre and seek to increase the usage of the Centre, while at the same time identifying cost efficiencies that can be made and implemented. The project will seek to raise the profile of the Centre as a conference and meeting room facility in East Belfast both locally and on a broader geographic reach.

The project is to be delivered through the engagement of a Centre and Development Manager by EBM, who are acting as the agent for Skainos, to oversee and manage the commercial aspect of Skainos, and to create a sustainable business model for the future. The project will build on work to date establishing the Skainos Centre as a critical community hub, building on existing synergies between various organisations by bringing in new stakeholders from the business and community sectors.

Outcomes achieved by the project were:

- 50,000+ people using the community facilities
- 2,000+ people involved in projects that promote shared space
- 1 FTE job created/safeguarded
- 40+ childcare/nursery places safeguarded
- 3+ social economy businesses supported/created
- Deliver & sustain an increase in Skainos Centre Tenancy to 90% of capacity by 07/2017
- Deliver & sustain an increase in meeting room usage.

Annex 1: Inner East Neighbourhood Renewal Action Plan

Physical Renewal

Desired Outcome:	Action Sought:	Delivered by:	Next steps:
Current Priorities			
Establishment of improved physical links with Titanic Quarter and the City Centre	Support for the construction of further links with the Titanic Quarter and City Centre	EastSide Partnership (ESP) Ballymac Friendship Trust Urban Villages (UV) Titanic Foundation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Receive an update regarding the progress of any capital funded projects.
Increased provision of good quality affordable housing	Support stakeholders to develop and maintain good quality housing for NRA residents.	Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE) Inner East Housing Forum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gather more information regarding current housing stock and the waiting list. - Ensure regular updates regarding Housing developments/demolitions in the NRA.
Development of open space /derelict sites	<p>Map and support local initiatives' (if appropriate) sites within the NRA for short to medium term interim improvements.</p> <p>Work with local communities to secure interim uses – parklets etc.</p> <p>Facilitate and support groups to emerge with a focus on tackling local dereliction – target areas Avoniel/Beersbridge, Woodstock, Ravenhill.</p>	<p>Inner East Neighbourhood Partnership (IENP)</p> <p>Short Strand Comm. Forum</p> <p>Walkway CA</p> <p>Lagan Village CA</p> <p>Oasis</p> <p>Landmark East</p> <p>UV</p> <p>The Diamond Project</p> <p>Charter NI</p> <p>HA Steering Group</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Receive an update regarding the progress of the capital funded projects in the NRA. - Circulate UV derelict site report.

Work in Progress			
Strategic co-ordination of physical improvements across the NRA	<p>Ensure the IENP is a key partner in consultation and implementation of physical developments in the area.</p> <p>Support and co-ordinate the work of the Executive Office: Urban Village Initiative and other relevant plans impacting in the NRA.</p> <p>Identify new areas and projects that could benefit from BRO Physical Developments funding.</p> <p>Secure resources and support the development of neighbourhood based environmental improvements across the NRA.</p> <p>Support the improvement of existing community and youth facilities in the NRA and the development of new facilities where needed.</p>	<p>ESP Belfast Regeneration Office (BRO) Department for Communities (DfC) Belfast City Council (BCC) OFMDFM NIHE DRD IENP Landmark East Key stakeholders as and when they emerge UV Reference Group Connswater Community Greenway (CCG) East Belfast Area Project East Belfast Youth Practitioners Forum East Belfast Community Development Agency (EBCDA) The Strand Arts Centre</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure that the IENP is regularly updated regarding physical developments in the NRA including, PREI schemes, UDG and other government funded initiatives.
Effective application of the BCC Investment Fund to support strategic interventions	<p>Provide advice and support to projects for BCC Local Investment Fund within the NRA as required.</p>	<p>IENP BCC</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Receive an update from BCC regarding the BCC Investment Fund.
Strategic development of Templemore Avenue to support new civic facilities	<p>Support the development of Templemore Avenue Baths as an important leisure facility for the area.</p>	<p>BCC/ Templemore Ave. Users Trust IENP</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Receive an update from Brian Carr at BCC regarding the progress of this project.

Comprehensive regeneration of Hollywood Arches	<p>Support Hollywood Arches Steering Group where appropriate.</p> <p>Provide support for community use of the 'pocket park' at Connswater Street and the adjacent DfC Community Garden.</p> <p>Support and facilitate activities/events in the CS Lewis Square in partnership with CCG.</p>	<p>ESP Landmark East HA Steering Group CCG UV</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Receive an update from a representative of the Hollywood Arches Steering Group.
Improved accessibility to railway/rapid transit network	<p>Provide support for local consultation and liaise with DRD regarding proposed Rapid Transit infrastructure changes that are taking place.</p> <p>Participate in the Rapid Transit Key Stakeholders Forum.</p> <p>Provide relevant information to local communities.</p>	<p>ESP EBCDA IENP</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure that the IENP is regularly updated regarding the implementation of this project.
Development of the Greenway network & component parks	<p>Provide support for programming and continued development of the NRA Greenway networks and parks.</p>	<p>ESP CCG Sustrans IENP Comber Greenway BCC</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure that the IENP is regularly updated regarding ongoing programmes and development.
To make the NRA a cleaner environment	<p>Provide support for local initiatives aimed at improving the cleanliness and appearance of neighbourhoods i.e. community clean ups.</p>	<p>IENP UV Local CA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collaborate with community clean ups in the NRA.

Social Renewal

Desired Outcome:	Action Sought:	Delivered by:	Next Steps:
Current Priorities			
Increased provision for Adult Education	Provide support for adult education and essential skills initiatives (Numeracy, Literacy and ICT).	Belfast MET Employment East Oasis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish a point of contact in each local delivery organisation to offer our support where appropriate.
Consolidation and improvement of Primary School provision in the NRA	<p>Contribute to the local area planning process and discussions with EANI/DE regarding future provision for the area.</p> <p>Provide support for schools to access additional resources to support children's learning.</p> <p>Support the work of ESL in the NRA.</p>	ESP IENP EastSide Learning (ESL)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Receive an update from a representative of ESL. - Attend relevant local area planning meetings.
A shared vision and strategy for Health Improvement in the NRA, leading to residents of the NRA living longer healthier lives	<p>Support the implementation of the East Belfast Health Framework 5 themes in the NRA:</p> <p>HealthyHearts HealthyMinds HealthyBodies HealthyNeighbourhoods and Healthy Relationships</p> <p>Increase engagement in and the capacity of community based health clinics addressing priority issues.</p>	EBCDA ESP IENP HSCT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Receive an update from a representative of the Health team at EBCDA. - Gather relevant STATs in attempt to quantify this outcome. - Attend relevant Health Forums.

Work in Progress			
Integrated planning for education across agencies and schools	<p>Provide on-going input and support to ESL - resourced by SIF Education Programme.</p> <p>Support stakeholders to secure resources and provide support for initiatives identified in the Education Framework for East Belfast.</p>	ESL ESP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Receive an update from a representative of ESL. - Ensure that the IENP is regularly updated regarding the progress of ESL.
Raising the value of education – improved engagement of parents/children and schools	<p>Engage community groups in activities focused on raising aspiration and promoting learning communities.</p> <p>Support families to improve parenting skills and secure their involvement in their children’s education.</p> <p>Support schools and local groups to deliver extended schools programmes and develop innovative approaches to involve parents in their children’s education.</p>	ESL ESP IENP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Receive an update from a representative of ESL. - Ensure that the IENP is regularly updated regarding the progress of ESL. - Identify good practice and disseminate this information in the NRA.
Increased provision and support for early years’ provision and after school’s groups	<p>Support the work of the Early Years Network to improve outcomes for pre-school children in the NRA.</p> <p>Ensure all children in the NRA have access to high quality, affordable early years and after schools’ provision.</p>	ESP ESL Sure Start Carew Centre Oasis East Belfast Early Years Network IENP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure that the IENP is regularly updated regarding the progress of ESL. - Ensure that the IENP is regularly updated regarding the East Belfast Early Years Network.

Strategic co-ordination of family support services in the NRA	<p>Promote collaboration among groups working with families in the NRA.</p> <p>Provide strategic advice to the East Belfast Locality Planning Group and the Inner East Family Hub.</p> <p>Support groups to extend and develop services and secure resources to deliver these.</p>	<p>ESP</p> <p>Inner East Family Hub</p> <p>IENP</p> <p>East Belfast Locality Planning Group</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Present the Inner East Family Hub as an example of best practice to disseminate. - Attend relevant East Belfast Locality Planning meetings.
Development and improved collaboration of the Youth sector	<p>Support the Youth Practitioners Forum to develop new opportunities for young people and workers in the NRA through a collaborative approach.</p> <p>Support key stakeholders to identify gaps and weaknesses in youth provision in the NRA and develop plans to address these.</p>	<p>EBCDA</p> <p>Youth Practitioners Forum</p> <p>ESP</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure that the IENP is regularly updated regarding the Youth Practitioners Forum. - Attend relevant Youth Practitioner Forum meetings.
Ensure accessible and early referrals made to support services where appropriate	<p>Ensure that groups within the NRA are accessing programmes offered by health agencies – voluntary and statutory responsible for citywide initiatives and that higher levels of participation are evidenced.</p> <p>Hold agencies to account for the implementation of policy/strategy in the NRA.</p>	<p>EBCDA</p> <p>Belfast Health and Social Care Trust (HSCT)</p> <p>IENP</p> <p>PHA</p> <p>BHDU</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure that the IENP is regularly updated regarding changes in policy and practice. - Facilitate effective lobbying where appropriate.
Improved access to high quality advice and advocacy services for residents in the NRA	<p>Co-ordinate a response in the NRA to tackling poverty – connecting stakeholders and producing a plan for more effective support.</p> <p>Offer support to accessible advice services.</p>	<p>IENP</p> <p>EBIAC</p> <p>EBCDA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish a point of contact in each local delivery organisation to offer our support where appropriate. - Arrange a meeting to bring all delivery partners together to strategically discuss a collaborative plan for more effective support.

Desired Outcome:	Action Sought:	Delivered by:	Next Steps:
Current Priorities			
<p>Strengthen community infrastructure, community development and capacity to engage in the transition to Community Planning</p>	<p>Arrange and facilitate opportunities to develop collaborative work within and between communities.</p> <p>Identify and facilitate events to highlight and share good practice.</p> <p>Support local groups to develop good practice in Community Development.</p> <p>Provide support for projects focused on building capacity and reinvesting in communities – SIF Capacity Building Programme.</p>	<p>EBCDA IENP BCC UV</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Attend and provide support for BCC Locality Planning pilot. - Ensure that the IENP is regularly updated regarding community planning developments through the various delivery partners. - Receive an update from the delivery partner of the SIF Capacity Building Programme.
<p>Encourage a new generation of skilled community leaders</p>	<p>Provide support for the delivery of a Community Leadership programme.</p> <p>Provide support for the EBCDA Mentoring support programme for community and youth workers and encourage participation.</p> <p>Develop and support a programme to support university students in the NRA.</p>	<p>EBCDA IENP ESP</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Explore best practice of programmes supporting university students locally. - Ensure the IENP is regularly updated regarding the progress of the EBCDA Mentoring support programme. - Facilitate events/activities to share good practice.

<p>Improve relationships across the Interface</p>	<p>Support the work and agenda of the BCC Tension Monitoring Group and Good Relations team.</p>	<p>BCC</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Receive regular updates from the Good Relations team/ BCC Tension Monitoring Group. - Maintain good links with the Good Relations team/ BCC Tension Monitoring Group.
<p>Improve Community safety initiatives in the NRA</p>	<p>Identify local priorities to inform the DPCSP strategy and seek to improve access to these.</p> <p>Ensure that appropriate communication and or representation is provided to the DPCSP and provide support for its effective operation.</p> <p>BCC Community Safety representative due to attend NP Board meeting 2/3 times per year as an opportunity to update and discuss gaps/current issues.</p> <p>Support the formation/development of Neighbourhood Watch Schemes as appropriate.</p> <p>Facilitate local communities to articulate community safety issues and access support to address these.</p> <p>Increase awareness of crime prevention initiatives operating in the NRA.</p>	<p>DOJ BCC DPCSP Local Groups IENP PSNI</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maintain good links with the DPCSP, PACTs, community leadership. - Support group of IENP members meeting to discuss better reporting procedures. - Attend relevant forums.

Work in Progress

<p>Increased numbers of people volunteering and getting involved in their communities</p>	<p>Work with Volunteer Now and others to promote volunteering opportunities in the NRA.</p> <p>Arrange events to recognise, celebrate and co-ordinate the role of volunteers in local groups.</p> <p>Support groups to access internships and work placement opportunities to build local capacity among individuals and groups.</p>	<p>EBCDA IENP ESP EastSide Tourism (EST)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support the SIF funded Community Capacity programme to implement the existing EBCDA framework, find specific roles and incentives for volunteers. Establish how to amplify good practice on the larger scale. - Ensure the IENP is regularly updated regarding all volunteer programmes in the NRA.
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Economic Renewal

Desired Outcome:	Action Sought:	Delivered by:	Next steps:
Current Priorities			
Effective networks and mechanisms to ensure that new opportunities for employment and training are communicated to target groups	Ensure effective communication facilitates collaborative working.	IENP Employment East – SIF funded project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Receive an update from a representative of Employment East. - Ensure the IENP is regularly updated regarding the progress of this project.
Increased numbers of residents within the NRA accessing employment	<p>Provide on-going input and support to Employment East -resourced by SIF Employability Programme.</p> <p>Ensure that employability resources are effectively targeting unemployed in the NRA.</p>	IENP Employment East DfC DEL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gather relevant STATs in attempt to quantify this outcome. - Establish points of contact from Employment East to offer our support where appropriate and keep the IENP up to date.
Development of the tourism product in the NRA	<p>Support the future development and encourage participation of NRA communities and organisations in the east Belfast 'Brand.'</p> <p>Provide support for the development of the Titanic People project.</p> <p>Support the use of heritage and social history based walking trails.</p>	EST IENP Westbourne Presbyterian Church CCG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Receive an update from Chris at EST. - Ensure the IENP is regularly updated regarding the progress of these projects.
Increased numbers of visits to the NRA	Support the development of East Belfast events and festivals that present a positive image and encourage visits.	ESP CCG EST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gather relevant STATs in attempt to quantify this outcome.

<p>A reduction in the number of young people aged 16-24 who are not in Education, Employment, or Training (NEET)</p>	<p>To remain aware of and improve co-ordination of existing opportunities relevant to those NEETS living in the NRA.</p> <p>To work more closely with schools and parents to support exam performance and career choices.</p> <p>To develop new initiatives as appropriate.</p>	<p>Youth Practitioners Forum ESL NEET providers Alternatives NI IENP</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure the IENP is regularly updated regarding the progress of these projects to ensure the appropriate referrals.
<p>Work in Progress</p>			
<p>More people from the NRA training in business skills and engaging in new business initiatives</p>	<p>Securing representation from and to the NP on East Belfast Enterprise.</p> <p>Support groups within the NRA to disseminate information on employability and business development programmes offered by BCC and EBE.</p> <p>Support traders' associations to promote, support and increase economic activity and tackle dereliction within the NRA.</p>	<p>IENP East Belfast Enterprise (EBE) ESP</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gather relevant STATs in attempt to quantify this outcome. - Establish effective networks of communication.
<p>Increased level of social economy activity in the NRA</p>	<p>Support the work of the Local Social Enterprise Hub.</p> <p>Support events to promote the social economy in the area.</p>	<p>IENP East Belfast Enterprise Hub</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gather relevant STATs in attempt to quantify this outcome. - Establish effective networks of communication.

Annex 2 Outputs

INNER EAST NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL AREA ACHIEVEMENTS OF NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL FUNDING IN 2017/18 YEAR

Community Renewal - Output Measures

PROJECT	EBCDA Community Development	EBCDA Youth Development	Willowfield Soul Sisters	Newtownards Rd Women's Group - Carew II	Oasis Recall Good Morning	EBCC – Open Door
CR1 - Number of people participating in community relations projects	3,154	1,062	441	270		
CR2 – Number of people participating in community bonding projects	7,494	1,362		772		
CR3 - number of people volunteering for community development activities				100	1	
CR4 - Number of people engaged/involved in unpaid voluntary work	749	209				129
CR5 -Number of people receiving training in community development skills/capacity building	501	148				

CR7 - Number of community/voluntary groups supported	546	38				45
CR8 - Number of community relations projects supported	393	43				
CR9 - Number of people involved in projects that promote shared space		328				
CR10- Number of People using existing community facilities	18,331					
CR11- Percentage of residents who say they are aware of community facilities in their area	>5% increase	>5% increase				
CR12 – Number of enquiries and clients by category						251
CR13-Total number of beneficiaries			704		247	641
CR14 – Waiting list times and numbers						106
CR16- Number of direct referrals to other support services			174			41

Social Renewal - Education Output Measures

PROJECT	EBCDA Community	EBCDA Youth	Willowfield Soul Sisters	Newtownards Rd Carew II	Oasis Good Morning	EBCC – Open Door
SR(Ed) 1 - Number of childcare/nursery school places crated/safeguarded	1,231			32		
SR(Ed) 2 – Number of pupils whose attendance is measurably enhanced/improved						133
SR(Ed) 3 - Number of pupils whose attainment is measurably enhanced/improved				215		135
SR(Ed) 4 – Number of pupils whose behaviour is measurably enhanced/improved						135
SR(Ed) 5 - Number of people engaged in parenting skills development programmes	455		230	87		62
SR(Ed) 6 - Number of pupils directly benefitting from the project	205					136
SR(Ed) 7 - Number of pupils whose attainment is measurably enhanced/improved	289					
SR(Ed) 14 - Number of young people directly benefitting from the project		1,304				
SR(Ed) 16 - Number of young people having access to specialist support to address assessed needs		35				

Social Renewal - Health Output Measures

PROJECTS	EBCDA Community	EBCDA Youth	Willowfield Soul Sisters	Newtownards Rd Carew II	Oasis Good Morning	EBCC – Open Door
SR(H)1 - Number of people benefiting from Healthy Lifestyle Projects	2,834	1,185	365	315		
SR(H)2 - Number of people attending Health Education/Awareness initiatives	2,108	732				
SR(H)3 - Number of people accessing intervention/treatment services	1,210	87				
SR(H)4 - Number of health education awareness initiatives provided/delivered	1,410	49				
SR(H)6 Number of people participating in suicide prevention projects		74				

Social Renewal - Crime Output Measures

PROJECT	EBCDA Community	EBCDA Youth	Willowfield Soul Sisters	Newtownards Rd Carew II	Oasis Good Morning	EBCC – Open Door
SR(C)1 - Number of people receiving advice on crime prevention	1,527	232				
SR(C)2 - Number of community safety initiatives implemented		32				
SR(C)3 - Number of people participating/attending community safety initiatives	930	623				
SR(C)4 - Number of crime prevention initiatives implemented	323	18				
SR(C)5 - Number of people participating/attending crime prevention initiatives		545				
SR(C)6 - Number of young people benefiting from youth inclusion/diversionary projects		1,299				
SR(C)10 - Number of people involved in dealing with the impact of Interface issues		191				

Economic Renewal Output Measures

PROJECT	EBCDA Community	EBCDA Youth	Willowfield Soul Sisters	Newtownar ds Rd Carew II	Oasis Morning	Good	EBCC – Open Door
ER2 - Number of residents going into employment	18						
ER4 - Number of people receiving job specific training	176			18			
ER6 - Number of people receiving non job specific training e.g. first aid	331		17				
ER13 - Number of new/existing childcare places supported to facilitate training or employment	467			21			
ER14 – Number of people attaining a formal qualification from participation in adult education	293						
ER15 – Number of FTE jobs safeguarded	73.5	32	1.2		3		6.6

Other – Willowfield Soul Sisters

PROJECTS	Achieved
Families supported. Home visits completed. Services contacted.	461

Other – Eastside Partnership – Co-ordinator

PROJECTS	Achieved
Use of NR Action Plans at NP meeting	15
To facilitate an annual review of the NR Action Plan to ensure that it continues to reflect local evidence based priorities	15 thematic reviews
Identify and promote training opportunities/development measures	Ongoing
Facilitate NP meetings and subgroup meetings	23
Update NPs on subgroup meetings	8
Provide and publish an annual report of activities undertaken	1
Meeting with DfC	Ongoing
Identify and promote funding opportunities.	Ongoing.

Other – Eastside Partnership – Delivering Effective Regeneration locally and citywide

PROJECTS	Achieved
Number of initiatives delivered in partnership with at least one other BAP to support the numerous relevant initiatives.	12
Number of engagements with organisations and delivery agents	11
Number of meetings of ESP Board and Executive, EastSide Arts, Eastside Learning, Locality Planning, Early Years Network, Hollywood Arches Traders	42
All groups meeting regularly and operating with an agreed business/action plan	36
Number of people participating in Community Bonding projects	43,168
Number of people/volunteers involved in ESP sponsored events	427
Number of meetings of Hollywood Arches Traders Group	4
Number of visitor events at CS Lewis Square	62
Landmark East and Avec continue to operate profitably	Ongoing
Number of economic deveopment initiatives delivered in the Inner East and Tullycarnet NRAs.	4
Number of ESP initiatives centered on a good relations, collaborative approach	13

Number of joint funding initiatives supported	10
Number of programmes developed linking schools and community based education initiatives.	6 Community Groups 9 Parents Groups 2 Primary School 'clusters' 2 Post Primary School 'clusters'
Number of people engaged in parenting/skills development programmes	210 parents
Number of Landmark East led interventions across the area	2
Number of joint planning meetings held to secure better neighbourhood planning, ie CDT, UV Reference Group	11
Support for meanwhile use – targeted sites within the NRA through the Urban Village Initiative and BCC LIF and SIF funding.	1

Other – Skainos Development Manager

PROJECTS	Achieved
CR6 (04/13) – Number of people using new or improved community facilities	37500
CR9 (04/13) - Total number of beneficiaries (incl family members)	950
ER11 (04/13) – Number of Social economy enterprises created/supported	3
ER15 (04/13) – Number of FTE jobs safeguarded	3
SR(Ed)1 (04/13) – Number of childcare/nursery school places created/safeguarded.	180



Available in alternative formats

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