



# Grange Neighbourhood Renewal Area

Annual Report 2017/18



Department for  
**Communities**  
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# **GRANGE 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 to be representative of local community interests together with appropriate Government Departments, public sector agencies, private sector interest and local elected representatives.

### **About Grange Partnership**

To take forward the Neighbourhood Renewal Programme, Grange Partnership was set up in 2006 to oversee the development and delivery of the local Neighbourhood Renewal Action Plan, this action plan was updated in March 2017. The Partnership currently comprises 26 members which include representatives from local communities, voluntary organisations, elected representatives, churches and local statutory organisations. It currently meets on a bi-monthly basis and its administration services are provided through a development worker and administrator within Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council.

The Partnership has established 3 sub-groups:

**Youth:** to assist with the identification, development and, where appropriate, the delivery of projects which aim to address youth projects in the area.

**Communication and Events:** to provide direction and support for all NR events and activity and to communicate and promote these events and activities through the quarterly Newsletter and Website. To actively recruit onto all of the programmes and to seek to improve community consultation and community engagement.

**Economic and Employability:** to develop a strategic approach for training and other support to promote and support employability training programmes to increase skills/employability within the Neighbourhood Renewal Area.

**It should be noted that Grange Partnership and Subgroup members have all signed up to, and abide by, the Neighbourhood Renewal Code of Practice and Guiding Principles and subsequent Subgroup Terms of Reference.**

## GRANGE Partnership Projects

The Neighbourhood Renewal Investment Fund supported 3 key projects in the GRANGE Neighbourhood Renewal Area in the 2017/18 financial year as follows:-

### Community Renewal

#### 1. Grange Community Development Worker

The project aims to address the objectives identified in the Grange Neighbourhood Renewal Action Plan 01 April 2015 to 31 March 2018 through the appointment of a full time Community Development Worker who will work with local residents, Grange Youth & Community Group, Grange Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership and other community and voluntary groups to build capacity, promote the development of community infrastructure and progress a range of Neighbourhood Renewal initiatives.

The Community Development Worker will assist the Grange residents to identify issues that affect their lives, set goals for improvement, and bring about positive change through active participation. With the input of local residents the Community Development Worker will organise a range of community based programmes, co-ordinating delivery, evaluating and monitoring progress.

The Worker supports Grange Youth & Community Group and statutory groups to identify funding for projects, (Appendix 1 details funding the Community Development Worker has secured outside of the NR programme). The worker assists with developing a timetable of work and a fundraising strategy and provides the link between the Grange residents, Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council, Statutory Bodies and central government departments.

Projects currently being supported by the Community Development Worker include:

**Grange Women's Group:** Grange Women's Group avail of a full programme of activities, workshops and events throughout the year which are organised with the help of the Community Development Officer. Some events and activities are funded by successful funding bids completed with the help of the Grange Community Development Officer and others are funded by the women themselves. The 17/18 year has seen the group participate in a range of arts and craft themed workshops on Thursday afternoons in Grange Community House. They have participated in leisure courses in Creative Crafts such as origami, decoupage, quilting and glass painting and they have also completed sessions in flower arranging and music therapy. In December 2017 they hosted a winter well-being event to raise awareness around how to look after yourself during the winter months. They also completed 'Be Mindful' programme facilitated by The Sunshine Project and funded by South Antrim

Community Network's Public Health Authority funded Mental & Emotional Well-Being & Suicide Prevention grants which covered the areas of relaxation, creativity, stress reduction, gratitude and even some laughter yoga sessions.



**Grange Women's Group in action**

**Grange Allotments:** The allotment site is leased by Northern Ireland Housing Executive to Grange Youth and Community Group. The site currently provides 9 raised beds which in some cases have been subdivided into 3 more manageable plots to be used as growing space, a lockable shed, for storage of tools etc., and a greenhouse. The Community Development Worker completed a successful funding bid to Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council's Outreach & Involvement Fund resulting in £500.00 being made available for the Eco Warriors group to make bird houses from recycled materials. Activity stalled during this year due to the proposed stock transfer of the area to Choice Housing. However residents voted against the transfer and the area has remained with NIHE. Plans are being progressed to transfer the management of the allotment site to Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council.

**Youth Group:** Young people from the Neighbourhood Renewal Area have been engaged in a wide variety of programmes, projects and events. Programme costs were made available through the funding for the Community Development project in Grange which has supported weekly dance and swimming lessons for local young people.

A youth summer scheme runs each year over July and August and is coordinated by the Community Development Worker. Successful funding bids to the Education Authority and Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council allowed a variety of activities, trips and workshops to take place. The scheme was attended by 71 young people during summer 2017 and also provided leadership training for 4 junior leaders. Summer scheme activity included visits from Jude Clay, Rocket Making with Climb NI, multi sports sessions with Belfast Community Development & Sports Network, cookery and arts and crafts. Trips included visits to Streamvale Open Farm, Lagan Valley Leisureplex, Nerf Wars, Foot Golf, Sportsbowl and The Soccer Shed.

### Youth Group's activities and events









**Reimaging:** Summer 2017 also saw the official launch of the Youth Mural that was completed as part of the Re-imagining Programme with NIHE Cohesion Unit. This was celebrated with a slippery slide as well as barbeque and climbing wall funded by NIHE.

### Phase 3 Grange reimaging – Youth moving on mural



Photos from the official launch of the 'Youth Moving On' mural



In addition a successful funding bid to South Antrim Community Network's PHA funded Mental & Emotional Well-Being & Suicide Prevention grants supported the delivery of a 'Be Your Selfie' programme for local teenage girls. This programme looked at areas such as self-esteem, coping with exam stress, coping mechanisms, confidence and overall mental and emotional well-being.

Grange Community Development Officer continued to support the Grange Go Swim programme which provides local children with the opportunity to participate in small group swimming lessons with a qualified instructor. It also helps them to work towards their ASA Swim awards. There were 26 young people registered during the year.

The Grange Eco Warriors project took part in a short programme which taught them how to make bird feeders from recyclable materials and also took part in session where they made mini gardens to take home.

Grange Dance Group continued to practice on a weekly basis throughout the year.

**Parents:** The Mums & Little Tots Programme funded by Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council provided the opportunity for parents and small children to take part in sensory sessions with Mini Explorers and Sing, Shake & Smile which aims to develop the family bond through song, dance and play.

A total of 8 local mums completed an OCN Level 1 in Health Literacy which covered topics such as understanding medicine labels, food labels, recommended daily amounts and being able to communicate more effectively with health professionals.

The number of parents becoming actively involved in various aspects of community development in the area is steadily increasing and they are also availing of capacity building training as part of their volunteer development. Parents have also become increasingly involved in workshops and programmes on offer as part of the Community Access to Lifelong Learning Project and have participated in classes such as Holiday Spanish, Sign Language and Counselling.

There has been a significant increase in community activity across the age spectrum with there being a marked increase in programme uptake year on year. All programmes, workshops and activities address the actions on the Grange Neighbourhood Renewal Action Plan, promote Neighbourhood Renewal and increase social capital. All of the work we do is linked to the provision of a family-wide initiative to increase community development activity in the area. All of the current and ongoing projects and programmes effectively complement each other and demonstrate a joined up approach which helps to address the key priorities identified in the current Action Plan for the area.

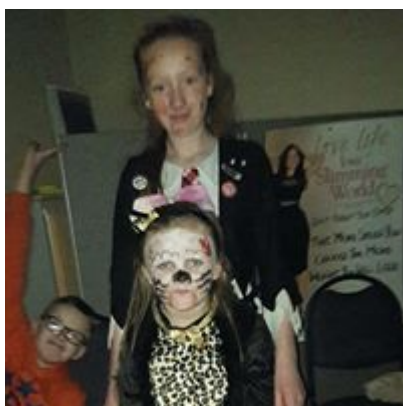
## Photos from the Mums & Little Tots Programme



**Grow with Grange Community Engagement Day:** A Neighbourhood Renewal community engagement day was held in the area on Saturday 5th August 2017. A variety of activities were on offer including petting farm, pony rides, face painting, temporary tattoos, inflatables, barbeque and health marquee. The event was extremely well attended, was successful in raising local awareness of Neighbourhood Renewal and providing signposting for local residents. It also provided the opportunity to recruit more volunteers and to advertise upcoming activity in the local area.

**Seasonal Activities:** Grange Community Development Worker supported the delivery of seasonal activities in the local area during the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018. These events included a series of events for Halloween which included arts & crafts such as lantern making and a Halloween disco with party food and games; a series of Christmas events including Christmas movie night, arts and crafts and cookery which culminated in a Santa visit to the Grange Winter Wonderland event on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2017.

### Photos from the Grange Community Engagement Day & Seasonal Activities



**Grange Fishing Club:** Grange Fishing Club was established in the summer of 2016 with the help of volunteers from First Cast NI who secured funding to run a Get Into programme for young people age 7+ to try fishing for the first time. During these events a core group were identified who were keen to continue fishing in some form. The Grange Community Development Worker worked alongside Grange Youth & Community Group to establish the club and identify further opportunities to expand the experience of the group. During this time complimentary game rod licences were secured thanks to the Department for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs.

## 2. Grange Community House Running Costs 2017-2018

Funding was secured in 2017-2018 for the running costs associated with the Grange Community House including costs for cleaning equipment and gas.

The aims of the project, all of which were achieved within this reporting period, were to:

- Enable the community group to open the Community House 5 days and 5 evenings per week.
- To provide opportunities for all sections of the community to become involved in the Community House
- To deliver a series of activities to engage local people including workshops, classes, festivals, recreational activities and coffee mornings.
- To enhance relationships with statutory bodies by inviting them to deliver workshops, classes and activities in the Grange Community House.
- To offer accredited training to enhance the skills of the residents within the Grange/Thornhill and Ollardale estates, and
- To continue to work towards addressing the renewal themes contained within the Grange Neighbourhood Renewal Action Plan.

In addition Grange Community House has provided a venue from which to run a number of programmes made available as part of the Community Access to Lifelong Learning (CALL) Project. These programmes have included Quilting, Needle Felting, Embroidery, Nail Art, Flower Arranging, Computer and Literacy/Numeracy classes.

The Grange Community House continues to be widely used for a variety of activities for all ages.

**Grange Community House**





## **Economic Renewal**

### **3. Community Access to Lifelong Learning (CALL)**

CALL - The Community Access to Lifelong Learning programme secured funding from DfC to offer residents from Grange NR area training opportunities through Northern Regional College. There is a full programme of training available to any Neighbourhood Renewal Area resident and a tutor may be found to support training that is not currently offered through NRC's Community Education Department. A CALL steering group is in place and the Grange Community Development Worker is a member.

There has been extensive use of the CALL Project over the last year.

The courses delivered as part of the CALL Project during the 17/18 financial year have included:

- Creative Crafts (Decoupage)
- Basic IT
- British Sign Language Level 1
- Creative Crafts (Origami)
- Flower Arranging
- CPCAB Level 2 in Counselling Skills
- Holiday Spanish

Local residents were able to avail of these courses free and this project has been key in advancing skills, capacity and employability in the area.

## Grange 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 Grange Neighbourhood Renewal Area.

<b>Programme/Project</b>	<b>CFF Funding Period</b>	<b>CFF Funding Amount (Project allocation)</b>	<b>17/18 Spend (as at 31/03/18)</b>
<b>COMMUNITY RENEWAL</b>			
Community Development Worker	01 April 2017 – 31 Mar 2018	£44,461.68	£39,699.00
Grange Community House Running Costs	01 April 2017 – 31 Mar 2018	£5,192.06	£3,293.91
<b>Total Community Renewal Expenditure</b>		<b>£49,653.74</b>	<b>£42,992.91</b>
<b>ECONOMIC RENEWAL</b>			
NRC CALL (Community Access to Life-Long Learning)	01 April 2017 – 31 Mar 2018	£13,859.60	£13,572.46
<b>Total Economic Expenditure</b>		<b>£13,859.60</b>	<b>£13,572.46</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>£63,513.34</b>	<b>£56,565.37</b>

## **GRANGE Partnership Conclusion**

In the 2017/2018 financial year, GRANGE NR Partnership's total overall spend was **£56,565.37**

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

Community Renewal      **£42,992.91**

Economic Renewal      **£13,572.46**

**ACHIEVEMENTS OF NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL  
FUNDING IN 2017/2018 YEAR**

**Community renewal Output Measures to be used for 17/18 Annual Report**

<b>PROJECT</b>	<b>CR3 – Number of people volunteering for community development activities</b>	<b>CR6 - Number of people using new or improved community facilities</b>	<b>CR7- Number of community/voluntary groups supported</b>	<b>CR10 - Number of people using existing community facilities</b>
<b>Community Development Worker</b>	25	433	7	
<b>Community House Running Costs</b>	25		7	433

## Economic Output Measures to be used for 17/18 Annual Report

PROJECT	<b>ER3</b> – Number of people accessing careers advice	<b>ER6</b> - Number of people receiving non job specific training e.g. first aid
<b>NRC – CALL (Community Access to Life-Long Learning)</b>	26	71

**Non Neighbourhood Renewal funding secured by Community Development Worker from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018**

<b>Funding Body</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council	Grange Festivals	£5,000.00
Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council	Grange Outreach & Involvement (Allotments & Recycling)	£500.00
Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council	Grange Summer Scheme	£1,500.00
Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council	Men's Shed Running Costs	£4,500.00
Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council	Men's Shed Outreach & Involvement	£2,000.00
South Antrim Community Network	SACN Mental health/suicide prevention - Youth - Be Your Selfie	£1,000.00
South Antrim Community Network	SACN Mental health/suicide prevention - Women's Group - Mindfulness	£1,000.00
South Antrim Community Network	SACN Mental health/suicide prevention - Men's Shed - Keep Calm Feel Reel	£1,000.00
South Antrim Community Network	NICHI Model - Men's Shed LAUGH Project	£2,500.00
Education Authority	Grange Summer Scheme	£3,000.00
Asda Foundation	Grange Christmas event	£500.00
<b>Total for period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018</b>		<b>£22, 500.00</b>



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