

Strabane

Neighbourhood Renewal Area

Annual Report

2019/20



Northern Ireland
Statistics and Research Agency



Department for
Communities

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Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Area Annual Report 2019/20 year



About Neighbourhood Renewal (NR)

In June 2003 the Department launched the Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy 'People and Place. This long term strategy seeks to target those communities throughout Northern Ireland who are suffering from higher than average rates of unemployment, ill health and crime, lower levels of educational attainment and higher rates of income deprivation. 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 and close the gap between the quality of life for people living in the most deprived neighbourhoods in Northern Ireland and the rest of society. The Neighbourhood Renewal Programme aims to reduce the social and economic inequalities which characterise these areas of deprivation and decline.

The Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy has four interlinking strategic objectives under the following themes:

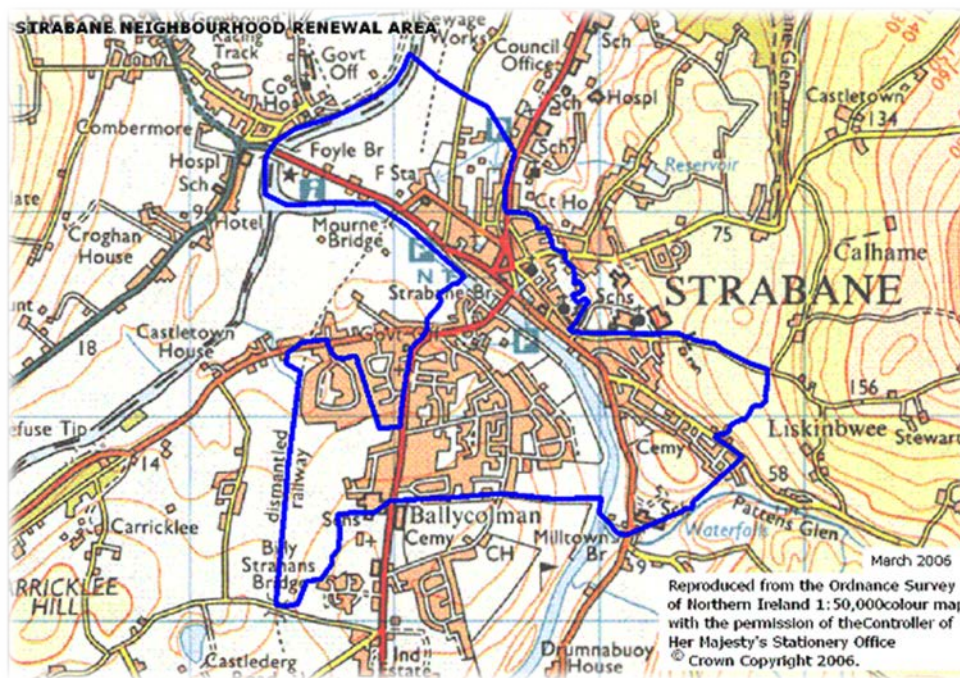
- Community Renewal – to develop confident communities that are able and committed to improving the quality of life in their areas.
- Economic Renewal – to develop economic activity in the most deprived neighbourhoods and connect them to the wider urban economy.
- Social Renewal – to improve social conditions for the people who live in the most deprived neighbourhoods through better co-ordinated public services and the creation of safer environments.
- Physical Renewal – to help create attractive, safe and sustainable environments in the most deprived neighbourhoods.

North West Development Office (NWDO) is responsible for the delivery of the Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy in Londonderry and the neighbouring towns of Limavady and Strabane. It produced an implementation plan which set out the Department's approach to the selection of the Neighbourhood Renewal areas and the establishment of delivery structures in the City and neighbouring towns. The Neighbourhood Renewal Areas were identified as those within the top 10% most deprived areas according to the Noble Multiple Deprivation Measures. Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership Boards were set up in each Neighbourhood Renewal Area i.e. 4 across

Londonderry, Strabane and Limavady to manage the delivery of the Neighbourhood Renewal Programme. The Neighbourhood Partnership Boards took the lead in the process of drawing up the Neighbourhood Vision Framework and Neighbourhood Action Plans for their Neighbourhood Renewal areas. Following a local consultation process Neighbourhood Action Plans were developed which identified priority issues and actions required meeting the specific needs of local neighbourhoods and achieving the Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership Board's vision for their respective area.

Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Area

The Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Area broadly covers the five main housing estates of Ballycolman, Carlton Drive, Lisnafin Park, Barrack Street, Springhill Park, Fountain Street, Innisfree Gardens, Drumrallagh and the town centre. A map of the Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Area (NRA) is shown below.



At the last Census (2011) there were 2,430 households and 5,583 people living within the boundaries of the Neighbourhood Renewal Area. There were 6% of residents who identified themselves as having a 'Protestant and Other Christian (including Christian related) community background', while approximately 93% identify themselves as having a Catholic community background. Approximately 64% of the population is of working age.

This Neighbourhood suffers high levels of unemployment since the decline of the textile and agricultural industries. There is multiple deprivation with higher levels of crime, anti-social behaviour, benefit dependency and lower levels of educational attainment. Benefit uptake in Strabane NRA is currently considerably higher than Non NRAs and also has among the highest percentage of benefit claimants among all other NRAs. Although there has been positive change in Strabane NRA for the percentage achieving 5 or more GCSEs, (where the percentage has almost doubled since 2004/05), the rate for Strabane NRA remains lower than Non NRAs.

The town centre has seen a reduction in footfall and economic activity as a result of shop closures and retailers moving out of the town centre to edge of town retail parks. There are a number of vacant and derelict properties that have also diminished the town's place quality and economic and social character. Historically there are community divisions within the Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Area.

Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership

Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership was established in 2005 to take forward the Neighbourhood Renewal Programme and oversee the development and delivery of the Neighbourhood Renewal Action Plan, with the vision that '*Strabane will be physically attractive and economically prosperous, with strong, well-led communities that work together for lasting change. Public services will be accessible and responsive to need. Local neighbourhoods will be safe, attractive places where people want to live. Opportunities will be available to build a healthier community and a positive future for our children and young people*'. The Partnership is defined as non-constituted entity acting in an advisory role to the Department for Neighbourhood Renewal issues in the designated Neighbourhood Renewal area. Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership currently comprises of 23 members who include representatives from local voluntary and community organisations, elected representatives, other government departments and local statutory organisations. It currently meets on a six weekly basis. A Neighbourhood Renewal Officer and Part-time Administrator provide the administrative services to the Partnership.

Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership has established sub/working groups to assist it in the identification, development and where appropriate the delivery of projects which aim to address the Programme's four strategic objectives of community renewal, social renewal, economic renewal and physical renewal. The 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.

Composition of Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership

Name	Organisation	Sector
Mr Noel McNulty	Northern Ireland Housing Executive	Statutory Sector
Mr Mark Haggan	Jobs & Benefits Office	Statutory Sector
Sgt Robin Blair	Police Service for Northern Ireland	Statutory Sector
Ms Sonia Montgomery	Western Health & Social Care Trust	Statutory Sector
Mrs Sandra O'Doherty	Extended Schools Cluster (Melmount)	Statutory Sector
Mrs Bridget Wilders	Extended Schools Cluster (Strabane)	Statutory Sector
Ms Teresa Bradley	Derry City & Strabane District Council	Statutory Sector
Ms Novia Arbuckle	Department for Communities	Statutory Sector
Mr Ivan Barr	Community & Voluntary Sector	Community & Voluntary Sector
Mr Damien Gavigan	Community & Voluntary Sector	Community & Voluntary Sector
Miss Kamini Rao	Community & Voluntary Sector	Community & Voluntary Sector
Mr Aodhan Harkin (Chairperson)	Community & Voluntary Sector	Community & Voluntary Sector
Mrs Wendy McGlinchey	Community & Voluntary Sector	Community & Voluntary Sector

Name	Organisation	Sector
Mrs Liz Kavanagh	Community & Voluntary Sector	Community & Voluntary Sector
Ms Teresa Stewart (Vice Chairperson)	Community & Voluntary Sector	Community & Voluntary Sector
Mr Jarlath McNulty	Community & Voluntary Sector	Community & Voluntary Sector
Ms Mary Deery	Community & Voluntary Sector	Community & Voluntary Sector
Mr Tony McLaughlin	Community & Voluntary Sector	Community & Voluntary Sector
Cllr Jason Barr	Derry City & Strabane District Council	Political Representative
Cllr Raymond Barr	Derry City & Strabane District Council	Political Representative
Cllr Michaela Boyle	Derry City & Strabane District Council	Political Representative
Cllr Maurice Devenney	Derry City & Strabane District Council	Political Representative
Cllr Paul Gallagher	Derry City & Strabane District Council	Political Representative
Cllr Dan Kelly	Derry City & Strabane District Council	Political Representative

Roles and Responsibilities

Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Objectives

The objectives of the Partnership are to manage, develop and oversee the regeneration of Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Area to:

- Ensure that people living in the Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Area have access to the best possible services and to opportunities which make for a better quality of life, better prospects and the creation of a safer environment for themselves and their families.
- Develop economic activity in the Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Area and connect the community to the wider economy of Strabane and Northern Ireland.

- Develop confident communities that are able and committed to improving the quality of life in the Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Area.
- Improve the environment and image of the Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Area so that it becomes an attractive place to live and invest in.

The Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership is responsible for:

- Analysing and prioritising the needs of the Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Area.
- Engaging with and consulting local communities to drive and implement Neighbourhood Renewal.
- Leading the process in the preparation of the Neighbourhood Renewal Action Plan
- Overseeing the implementation of the Neighbourhood Renewal Action Plan.
- Reviewing the Action plan annually to ensure that it reflects the priority needs in the area.
- Monitoring and evaluating progress against the priorities in the action plan quarterly.
- Publicising and building awareness of Neighbourhood Renewal by informing and updating local communities of progress made on a regular basis.
- Facilitating and securing agreement between local service providers on integrated working in the Neighbourhood Renewal Area.
- Taking decisions on individual projects and activities to be undertaken in the Neighbourhood Renewal Area.
- Establishing systems to monitor the overall progress and impact of Neighbourhood Renewal in the area and providing monitoring reports to the Department.

The Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership has established Sub/Working Groups to address the priorities under the themes Community Renewal, Social Renewal – Crime & Anti-Social Behaviour, Education, Health, Economic Renewal – Worklessness, Social Economy and Physical Renewal. During 2019/20 these sub-groups worked to bring forward a number of projects including:

Community Renewal

Establishment of a Community Leaders (CL) Forum to increase strategic partnership working and to consolidate and strengthen the local community and voluntary sector. Fourteen community groups have committed to the work of the CL Forum.



The CL Forum members established the Strabane Together against Covid-19 (STAC-19) Partnership to mobilise a community response to the Coronavirus pandemic including the set up and operation of a dedicated helpline to provide assistance with food, medicines, shopping and hospital appointments. The STAC-19 helpline went live on Monday 6th April and dealt with and actioned 2,323 calls up to Friday 8th May; 350 'DfC' food boxes delivered per week, 1,000 cooked meals per week provided; over 3,000 people provided with other forms of food support; three hundred and sixty households enabled to access prescriptions/medicines; An estimated three hundred staff and volunteers worked as part of STAC-19.

Community Planning



During 2019/20, Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership (NRP) commenced delivery of the Local Growth (Community) Plan for Strabane Town. The Local Growth Plan was published and launched in September 2019 and, in parallel with the Neighbourhood Action Plan, seeks to improve the social, economic and environmental well-being of local residents.

Strabane Shared Space Programme

A consortium of community groups from Strabane, Lifford, Ballymagorry, Bready, Donemana and Derry City commenced delivery of a Peace IV Shared Space Programme in Strabane & surrounding area. The programme has engaged fifty participants and will involve the strengthening and building of relations within the consortium, a history/tourism project to develop a trail of local cemeteries, a women's peacebuilding programme and a music programme engaging young people from all backgrounds.

Strabane Christmas Fayre



The key purpose of 'Strabane Christmas Fayre' is to help build closer working relationships between the local community/ private sectors and Council; bring a strong sense of celebration and community spirit to Strabane; provide an outlet for local production and crafts and opportunities for local entrepreneurs/businesses. The event featured over thirty local food and craft market stalls, as well as festive entertainment by local arts groups, musicians, brass bands and school choirs. An estimated three thousand people attended the event on 1st December 2019.

Social Renewal

Health Hub Pre-development Project

The purpose of the Health Hub Pre-development Project is to transform the way that services and communities work together in Strabane by working towards the creation of a community owned health & well-being hub. The Hub will serve as a body that is more strategic and capable of pursuing new opportunities to help deliver improved health outcomes in Strabane and is also intended to be a demonstration project to the wider community & voluntary sector.

The core purpose of the Hub will be to make it easier for people to live a healthier life and to make more visible and more accessible a wide range of non-clinical health content and services e.g. social prescribing, community health champions, peer support, supporting healthy behaviours. The primary beneficiaries of the *Health Hub* Pre-development Project will be the partner organisations who have come together to support collaborative local action to tackle health inequalities in Strabane. The project partners are Koram Centre,

Strabane Community Project, Strabane District Caring Services, Strabane Health Improvement Project supported by Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal/Community Growth Partnership and WHSCT Health Improvement Team.

During 2019/20, the project partners commissioned a scoping study to:

- Identify, locate and map community health assets in Strabane.
- Explore and evaluate a number of delivery model options and produce a business case for the preferred option
- Produce a five year strategic plan for the health & well-being hub.

The pre-development phase of the Health Hub project is expected to be complete by late Summer 2020.

Alongside the pre –development work for the proposed Strabane Community Health Hub, the project partners also worked with Derry City & Strabane Council's (DCSDC) Education & Skills team to help develop an online health & well-being portal. When operational, the online portal will help organisations and residents across the DCSDC area to map, connect and utilise local assets and will be modelled on a social prescribing approach to well-being.

Neighbourhood Health Improvement sub -group

This group is primarily responsible for the implementation of the Neighbourhood Health Improvement Project (NHIP) and Active Citizens Programme. In 2019/20, over two hundred residents from Strabane NRA participated in health improvement programmes designed to help people:

- Become more physically active
- Lose weight and maintain an overall healthy diet
- Promote good mental health
- Work in partnership to improve health & well-being

Physical Renewal

During the 2019/20 year, the Partnership continued to support and liaise with local community groups DfC, DCSDC, Donegal County Council, National Lottery Community Fund to help bring forward a number of physical renewal projects including:



- Completion of a new modular Community Health Building located at the allotments site of Strabane Health Improvement Project. The new building is being used to run programmes to improve the skills, knowledge and confidence of the community, tackling loneliness and supporting people to make better decisions for themselves and their families. Led by local families, the project includes: a community garden food box programme; development of the Men's Shed and Handy Mandy's programme; mental health awareness; and home cooking.
- New play area for 0-4 year olds at Fountain St Community Centre
- Replacement modular community centre building in Springhill Park
- New purpose designed premises for the Koram Centre to meet the growing demand for counselling, psychotherapy and psycho-social support
- Riverine Community Park involving the re-development by Donegal County Council and DCSDC of thirty acres of public space either side of the River Foyle (in Strabane and Lifford) to be interconnected by a community footbridge.

Economic Renewal



The South West College's *Going Places* Programme and Strabane Unemployed Centre continued to be the two key Neighbourhood Renewal 'employability' interventions during 2019/20.

In addition, Strabane Community Project, another Neighbourhood Renewal funded group, was the partner hub in Strabane for delivery of Skills North West which addresses personal barriers to employment, education and training, including social and economic circumstances affecting employment opportunities.

Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership Projects

The Neighbourhood Renewal Investment Fund in 2019/20 has supported 13 projects in the Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Area (NRA) and 3 Citywide projects which also deliver services in the Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Area, as follows:-

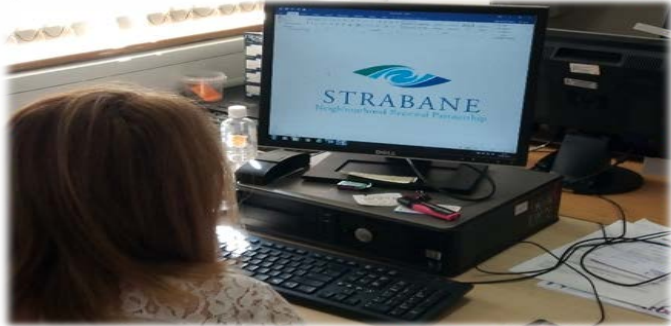
Community Renewal

1. Derry City & Strabane District Council – Technical Assistance

Derry City & Strabane District Council provides technical assistance support to Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership. In order to enable Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership to implement its Vision Framework and Action Plan, Derry City and Strabane District Council facilitates and co-ordinates:

- Analysing and prioritising the needs of the Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Area.
- Engaging with and consulting local communities to drive and implement Neighbourhood Renewal.
- Leading the process in the preparation of an action plan.
- Overseeing the implementation of the action plan.
- Reviewing the action plan annually to ensure that it reflects the priority needs in the area.
- Monitoring and evaluating progress against the priorities in the action plan quarterly.
- Publicising and building awareness of Neighbourhood Renewal by informing and updating local communities of progress made on a regular basis.

The Technical Support project facilitates action teams and associated working groups around the Community, Economic, Social and Physical Renewal objectives of the Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy.



These sub-groups are the ‘action arm’ of the partnership and are responsible for developing, planning, monitoring and reviewing specific themes or projects. Membership of each action team is drawn from the partnership and external advisors on the basis of their expertise and knowledge being relevant to the overall strategic objective under which the action team was established.

2. Fountain Street Community Development Association – Head of the Town Rejuvenation Project

This project delivers services, interventions and programmes that address the issues of crime and anti-social behaviour, underage drinking, vandalism, graffiti, drugs and alcohol, unemployment, poor health, low education attainment etc. for residents of all age groups living in the Fountain Street area and neighbouring areas.

- Department of Education – Surestart Programme
- Junior and senior youth club
- Essential Skills Maths, English & ICT
- First Aid
- Women’s Craft Group
- Personal Development Programmes
- Health Awareness Projects
- Fountain of Fun/New 2U Social Enterprise
- Community Cultural (Digital) Hub

- Social and recreational activities such as bingo, local community fun days, senior citizen's lunch etc.



Women's Group



Paverpol Classes



Peace Building Workshops

3. Lisnafin/Ardnalee Trust Cross Community Development Association

Project Co-ordinator's Salary/ENIC and Running Costs

Lisnafin Ardnalee Trust Cross Community Development Association delivers a comprehensive package of services, interventions, training etc. that address education, worklessness, health, crime and anti-social behaviour. In addition to the above, the Project delivers social and recreational activities from the local community centre. Some of the activities are as follows:

- IT Classes, both accredited and non-accredited, Construction Skills Register
- Play and Stay (0-4 years)
- Citizens Advice Outreach Clinic
- Community Cultural (Digital) Hub
- Over 50's Fitness Classes
- Irish Dancing, Box-exercise, Zumba
- Summer Scheme – Gaelic training, soccer training, multi-sports,
- Arts & Crafts

- Guest Teas, Birthday Parties and other charitable events



Summer Scheme



Arts and Crafts Classes



Cooking Classes

4. Melmount East Bank Estates Community Association Forum

Melmount East Bank Estates Community Associations Forum represents a number of community groups with unpaid staff based in the Ballycolman Estate and surrounding area. The Forum works closely with other organisations to help residents to access services and facilities such as the Community Allotment Project, Flexicare and community safety initiatives. The Forum, with other community organisations, takes a lead role in the delivery of Strabane's St. Patrick's Day Festival and Strabane Christmas Fayre. The organisation delivers a number of programmes as follows:

- Community Safety Initiatives – Feel Safe in the Home, Help at Hand, Winter Packs
- Senior Citizens social outings and events
- St. Patrick's Day Parade, Strabane Christmas Fayre
- Good Relations – Travellers project
- Health Initiatives – Community Allotment, Flexicare
- Youth Initiatives – Summer Project (Tournaments and Competitions), volunteering
- Environmental Enhancement Project involving graffiti removal, tree and shrub planting, community garden, public art projects



Chinese New Year



Visit to Shankill Road

5. Strabane Community Project – Project Co-ordinator and Part-time Finance/Admin Officer Salaries

Strabane Community Project provides a range of services for older people, in particular those who are vulnerable and suffer from isolation as follows:

- Meals on Wheels Service
- Luncheon Club
- Good Morning Listening Ear Telephone Alert Service
- Respite Care for Carers
- Transport
- Sign posting to other services
- Fuel stamp savings scheme
- Information and advice sessions – social security benefit checks
- Social and recreational activities
- Health and safety initiatives, community safety initiatives
- Grass roots café and social supermarket



The Parlour vintage tea rooms



The Walled Garden and Allotments

6. Strabane Ethnic Community Association

Ethnic Community Development Worker's Salary and Running Costs

Strabane Ethnic Community Association works directly with ethnic minority and local residents in activity and learning programmes surrounding cultural awareness and to assist ethnic minority groups to integrate into communities. They provide the following:

- English Language classes, anti-racism & diversity training, IT courses
- Cultural events - Diwali Festival, Polish Night, Bollywood dancing, multi-cultural food
- Community Cultural (Digital) Hub
- Health Initiatives
- Local Primary Schools Project – Diwali Story presentation
- Youth Intervention Project – Cricket tournaments, football, cross community activities
- Signpost to local statutory bodies - housing issues, education, employment, social security benefits



English Language Programme



Polish Classes



Samba Workshops

Social Renewal Health

1. Derry City & Strabane District Council – Neighbourhood Renewal Active Citizenship through Sport

The project involves the delivery of a range of accredited sports and generic coaching courses that allow people to access training provision that will add value to new or existing coaching, physical activity and exercise programmes within the five local NRA's i.e. Triax,

Outer west, Out North, Waterside and Strabane. The programme delivers targeted exercise, health and sporting physical activity programmes that address the key themes presented in the Neighbourhood Action Plans.

In Strabane NRA physical programmes such as swimming for the disabled, fitness classes and nutrition advice, Cardio Fit, Box Exercise, Bowling, Dance, Kayaking, Archery and Yoga are delivered through the following organisations/community groups.

- Lisnafin/Ardnaee Trust CCDA
- Melmount Forum
- Strabane District Caring Service
- Strabane Health improvement project
- Strabane special Olympics
- Fountain Street Community Development Association
- Strabane Sigersons GAA



Box Exercise



Yoga Class

2. HURT (Have your Tomorrows)

Support and Treatment Programmes for those Marginalised through Drugs and Alcohol

HURT is a drug and alcohol family support group that provides opportunities for those individuals and their family members, marginalised as a result of alcohol and drug use, to help them reintegrate within home, community and employment life. HURT provides holistic services through a tailored care plan designed to meet the needs of the individual. It offers the following services:

- Operates an open referral system and works closely with relevant Statutory Body and Voluntary Sector
- Following initial assessment provides a tailored care plan that meets individual needs
- Provides counselling, a range of complementary therapies to individuals and family members affected by addiction.
- Delivers Drugs and Alcohol Workshops and Programmes to youth groups, local schools and communities.



Participants attending drug & alcohol information event



Team building exercise in Gartan

3. Strabane Sigersons GAA – Project Co-ordinator delivering for a better Ballycolman

Strabane Sigersons GAA designs and facilitates the delivery of social, health and education programmes addressing the inequalities in health and improving the health and well-being of local people along with the delivery of appropriate programmes and courses aimed at empowering local people and extending the impact throughout the community. They deliver a number of programmes to provide opportunities for people of all age groups to improve health and well-being through the medium of sport as follows:

- Gaelic football – children, young people and adults
- Youth Intervention - Off the Streets Project
- Youth Tournaments – local schools
- Use of Flood Light Football Pitch, Youth Football Pitch
- Health initiatives – Drugs and Alcohol Awareness, Keep fit classes, Health & Well-being Promotion, First Aid & Defibrillator training

- Coaching courses
- Easter & Summer Coaching Camps



Banter around the Bridges



Foundation Coaching Course



Suicide Awareness Day

4. The Koram Centre

Provision of counselling, psychotherapy and psycho-social support to beneficiaries of the Strabane NRA

This project provides funding towards a Manager/Cognitive Behavioural Therapist/Researcher, Part-time Clerical Officer, running and programme costs to deliver a professional counselling and psychotherapy service.

The Koram Centre offers therapeutic interventions that include individual treatment plans for depression, anxiety, suicidal ideation, agoraphobia, trauma – physical and sexual, obsessive compulsive disorder, and bereavement, anger and relationship difficulties. It provides couples therapy, family therapy, learning disability counselling and child counselling.

The Koram Centre works closely with the Western Health & Social Care Trust (WHSCT) – Public Health Agency and receives referrals through the local health centre and social services.



Counselling room at The Koram Centre



The Koram Centre's allotment site at Tulacorr

5. Western Health & Social Services Board – Neighbourhood Health Improvement Project

The aim of project is to develop an integrated and collaborative approach to addressing health improvement. The project is instrumental in addressing health related issues identified in the Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Area. Some of the programmes delivered are as follows:

- Weight management
- Yoga
- Healthy eating
- Grow your own
- Ladies/Men's Health
- Mental Health Awareness
- Stay young
- Teenage outreach programme
- Dementia awareness
- Winter health



Stay Young Group that was funded through the NHIP programme

Social Renewal – Education

1. Holy Cross College – Strabane Educational Support Programme

Holy Cross College, in partnership with Strabane Academy delivers this programme that targets pupils who are disengaged from the current education system providing academic and pastoral support. A Learning Mentor works with pupils on an individual basis and assists them to remain engaged with mainstream education. Pupils are offered a tailored education support and personal development plan to meet individual needs. The Learning Mentor supports each young person in academic and vocational courses that are not available at local schools and improves their opportunities for employment, training or employment.

The project also delivered an 'Intergenerational Programme' where 15 year 9 students worked alongside 6 skilled mature ladies from Strabane District Caring Services to learn the skill of knitting to make hand muffs to be donated to The Alzheimer's Society.



Friendship group meet weekly to develop team building, communication, friendship making and social skills

Economic Renewal

1. Derry City & Strabane District Council – Generalist Voluntary Advice Services

DfC Neighbourhood Renewal funding is awarded to Derry City & Strabane District Council which has a service level agreement with Advice North West to deliver advice services within the Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Area. This project specifically targets local residents in receipt of social security benefits to ensure they are encouraged and supported to take up their full entitlement and that the process of seeking advice on a wide range of benefit and other issues is made more accessible. The Generalist Adviser provides advice and support as follows:

- Provides individual assessment of Social Security benefits to ensure that individuals living in Neighbourhood Renewal areas receive maximum income
- Advice on passport benefits – road tax, free school meals, prescriptions, blue and white badges, medical treatment
- Advice on consumer rights, employment, housing issues
- Outreach centre based in housing estates
- Debt management
- Ongoing changes to Welfare Reform (Universal Credit) and Tribunal Advocacy



CAB Office, Strabane



Generalist Advisor

2. Strabane Community Unemployed Group – Project Co-ordinator

This project provides funding toward the employment of a Project Co-ordinator to work within communities to help people who are unemployed, in particular long term unemployed and people suffering from long term health problems, to overcome barriers to learning that prevent them moving into employment. Through partnership working with the North West Regional College, the organisation delivers a number of formal education courses from the Unemployed Centre.

- Essential Skills, Numeracy, Literacy and ICT
- Introduction to Computers
- START IT
- Arts and Crafts
- Creative Writing



Education Trip to Liverpool



Presentation of blankets for rental unit at Altnagelvin Hospital



Providing Trauma Bears to PSNI to support children in trauma

3. South West College – Going Places Programme – Learning Mentor & Programme Costs

The project involves a targeted training programme for the unemployed and young people who are no longer in education. The programme also includes the provision of a mentor who will support participants both during and after their training. During 2017/18 forty residents participated on the programme, fourteen of whom moved into employment. The Programme is delivered in three phases annually.



Phase 1

Engages residents in accredited training, participants are unemployed and not participating in education, training or employment at point of entry.

Phase 2

Provides progression from Phase 1 and offers an opportunity for 24 residents to obtain a driving licence via access to 18 driving lessons and 2 funded attempts at the driving test. Residents are also provided with directed training in preparation to sit the Driving Theory Test, the programme provides for 2 attempts at theory test. All participants have access to accredited employability training in the Health and Social Care and Customer Services sectors and Basic First Aid during this phase. A 4 week work placement is completed by participants at the conclusion of phase 2.

Phase 3

Phase 3 provides participants who have fully engaged with the programme during Phases 1 and 2 the opportunity to undertake specialist education or training including:

- Specialist driving (LGV, HGV, PSV and Fork Lift Truck)
- SIA (Security, Industry, Authority) Licence

Physical Renewal

1. Strabane Health Improvement Project CIC – Construction of Modular Community Health Building

Construction works were completed in 2019 on a new community health building located at the Ballycolman allotment site of Strabane Health Improvement Project. The new development, costing over £290,000, involved the removal of the existing portable cabin and replacing it with a state of the art modular building on the same site. The new facility is equipped with offices, counselling room, kitchen, toilet areas and a large communal meeting room and will become a hub for the local community.

This new building was officially opened 2019 and is expected to have a significant impact on the health and wellbeing of the communities of Strabane town. The purpose built building has allowed SHIP to develop a range of new community partnership programmes that will complement existing health and wellbeing programmes already being developed within the Strabane area.



Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership 2019/20 year Expenditure (by Strategic Objective)

The following table details current projects funded via the Neighbourhood Renewal Investment fund. It also details the 2019/20 year individual spend for each project, the total amount of expenditure by strategic objective and the overall 2019/20 year total expenditure in the Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Area.

Community Renewal Expenditure

Programme/Project	Contract for Funding (CFF) Funding Period	CFF Funding Amount (Project allocation)	2019/20 Spend (as at 30/09/20)
Derry City & Strabane District Council – Technical Assistance	1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020	£33,152.60	£32,666.98
Fountain Street Community Development Association Ltd – Project Co-ordinator’s Salary/ENIC and Running Costs	1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020	£42,913.19	£42,720.81
Lisnafin/Ardnalee/Trust Cross Community Development Association – Project Co-ordinator’s Salary/ENIC & Running Costs	1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020	£29,560.23	£29,560.23
Melmount East Bank Estates Community Association Forum – Uniting Neighbourhood Renewal Communities	1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020	£41,553.38	£38,792.60
Strabane Community Project – Project Co-ordinator & P/T Finance/Administrator Salaries	1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020	£29,790.82	£28,786.90
Strabane Ethnic Community Association – Ethnic Community Project	1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020	£10,400.00	£10,400.00
Total Community Renewal Expenditure		£187,370.22	£182,927.52

Social Renewal Health Expenditure

Programme/Project	Contract for Funding (CFF) Funding Period	CFF Funding Amount (Project allocation)	2019/20 Spend (as at 30/09/20)
Derry City & Strabane District Council – Neighbourhood Renewal Active Citizenship through Sport	1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020	£48,252.08	£6,222.50
HURT (Have your Tomorrows) – Support and Treatment Programmes for those marginalised through Drugs and Alcohol	1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020	£9,694.08	£9,694.08
Strabane Sigersons GAA– Project Co-ordinator delivering for a better Ballycolman	1 April 2019 to 30 June 2019	£3,701.62	£3,497.07
The Koram Centre – The Provision of Counselling, Psychotherapy and Psycho Social Support to Beneficiaries of the Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Areas	1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020	£64,159.35	£59,314.79
Western Health & Social Care Trust – Neighbourhood Health Improvement Project	1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020	£165,133.56	£26,888.42
Total Social Renewal – Health Expenditure		£290,940.69	£105,616.86

Social Renewal Education Expenditure

Programme/Project	Contract for Funding (CFF) Funding Period	CFF Funding Amount (Project allocation)	2019/20 Spend (as at 30/09/20)
Holy Cross College – Strabane Educational Support Programme	1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020	£31,947.16	£31,938.60
Total Social Renewal – Education Expenditure		£31,947.16	£31,938.60

Economic Renewal Expenditure

Programme/Project	Contract for Funding (CFF) Funding Period	CFF Funding Amount (Project allocation)	2019/20 Spend (as at 30/09/20)
Strabane Community Unemployed Group - Salary Costs – Full time Co-ordinator	1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020	£20,427.24	£20,427.24
South West College - Going Places Programme in the Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Area	1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020	£74,536.48	£74,498.05
Total Economic Renewal Expenditure		£94,963.72	£94,925.29

Physical Renewal Expenditure

Programme/Project	Contract for Funding (CFF) Funding Period	CFF Funding Amount (Project allocation)	2019/20 Spend (as at 30/09/20)
Strabane Health Improvement Project CIC – Construction of Modular Community Health Building	1 July 2018 to 31 March 2019	£291,635.15	£229,673.14
Total Physical Renewal Expenditure		£291,635.15	£229,673.14
Total Expenditure		£896,856.94	£645,081.41

ACHIEVEMENTS OF NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL FUNDING IN 2019/20 YEAR

Community Renewal Output Measures

Project (Strabane)	CR 2– Number of people participating in community bonding projects.	CR 3– Number of people volunteering for community development activities.	CR 4 – Number of engaged/involved in unpaid voluntary work.	CR 6 – Number of people using new or improved community facilities.	CR 7 – Number of community/voluntary groups supported.	CR 10 – Number of people using existing community facilities.
Fountain Street Community Development Association Ltd – Project Co-ordinator’s Salary/ENIC and Running Costs	1,248		62			1,587
HURT (Have your Tomorrows) – Support and Treatment Programmes for those marginalised through Drugs and Alcohol			5			
Lisnafin Ardnalee Trust Cross Community Development Association – Project Co-ordinator’s Salary/ENIC & Running Costs	132	32				1,755
Melmount East Bank Estates Community Association Forum – Uniting Neighbourhood Renewal Communities	306		70		9	509
Strabane Community Project – Project Co-ordinator & P/T Finance/Administrator Salaries	502		105			
Strabane Community Unemployed Group - Salary Costs – Full time Co-ordinator	45		9			
Strabane Ethnic Community Association						451

Project (Strabane)	CR 2 – Number of people participating in community bonding projects.	CR 3 – Number of people volunteering for community development activities.	CR 4 – Number of engaged/involved in unpaid voluntary work.	CR 6 – Number of people using new or improved community facilities.	CR 7 – Number of community/voluntary groups supported.	CR 10 – Number of people using existing community facilities.
Strabane Health Improvement Project CIC – Construction of modular Community Health Building			17	931		
Strabane Sigersons GAA – Project Co-ordinator delivering for a better Ballycolman		44	44			
South West College - Going Places Programme in the Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Area			25			
The Koram Centre, Counselling, Psychotherapy and Psycho Social Support Ltd – The Provision of Counselling, Psychotherapy and Psychosocial Support to Beneficiaries of the Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Area			69			

Economic Renewal Output Measures

Project (Strabane)	ER 1 – Number of FTE jobs created.	ER 3 – Number of people accessing careers advice.	ER 4 – Number of people receiving job specific training.	ER 6 – Number of people receiving non-job specific training	ER 11 – Number of Social Economy enterprises created or supported	ER 14 – Number of people attaining a formal qualification from participation in Adult Education.	ER 15 – Number of FTE jobs safeguarded.
Derry City & Strabane District Council – Technical Assistance							1.6
Fountain Street Community Development Association Ltd – Project Co-ordinator's Salary/ENIC and Running Costs				56	2	0	1
Holy Cross College – Strabane Educational Support Programme							1
HURT (Have your Tomorrows) – Support and Treatment Programmes for those marginalised through Drugs and Alcohol							0.1
Lisnafin Ardnalee Trust Cross Community Development Association – Project Co-ordinator's Salary/ENIC & Running Costs						31	1
Melmount East Bank Estates Community Association Forum – Uniting Neighbourhood Renewal Communities				55			2
Strabane Community Project – Project Co-ordinator & P/T Finance/Administrator Salaries				129			1.5
Strabane Community Unemployed Group - Salary Costs – Full time Co-ordinator				54		22	1
Strabane Health Improvement Project CIC – Construction of modular Community Health Building				39			
Strabane Sigersons GAA – Project Co-ordinator delivering for a better Ballycolman				20			0.7

Project (Strabane)	ER 1 – Number of FTE jobs created.	ER 3 – Number of people accessing careers advice.	ER 4 – Number of people receiving job specific training.	ER 6 – Number of people receiving non-job specific training	ER 11 – Number of Social Economy enterprises created or supported	ER 14 – Number of people attaining a formal qualification from participation in Adult Education.	ER 15 – Number of FTE jobs safeguarded.
South West College - Going Places Programme in the Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Area	13	37	37	25		37	1
The Koram Centre, Counselling, Psychotherapy and Psycho Social Support Ltd – The Provision of Counselling, Psychotherapy and Psychosocial Support to Beneficiaries of the Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Area							1.5

Social Renewal (Education) Output Measures

Project (Strabane)	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	SR(ED) 8 – Number of pupils directly benefitting from the project (Closing the	SR (ED) 14 – Number of young people directly benefitting from the project	SR(Ed)15_13/14 - Number of young people experiencing improvements against baseline position of assessed needs	R(Ed)17_13/14 -Type and number of accredited qualifications completed
Holy Cross College – Strabane Educational Support Programme	192	188	354	92	579			

Social Renewal (Health) Output Measures

Project (Strabane)	SR (H) 1 – Number of people benefiting from Healthy Lifestyle Projects.	SR (H) 2 – Number of people attending Health Education/Awareness Initiatives.	SR (H) 3 – Number of people assessing intervention/ treatment services.	SR (H) 4 – Number of health education/awareness initiatives provided/delivered.	SR (H) 5 – Number of people benefiting from new or improved health facilities.	SR (H) 6 – Number of people participating in suicide prevention projects.
Fountain Street Community Development Association Ltd – Project Co-ordinator’s Salary/ENIC and Running Costs	217	76				
HURT (Have your Tomorrows) – Support and Treatment Programmes for those marginalised through Drugs and Alcohol			42			
Lisnafin Ardnalee Trust Cross Community Development Association – Project Co-ordinator’s Salary/ENIC & Running Costs	206			17		
Strabane Community Project – Project Co-ordinator & P/T Finance/Administrator Salaries	460			7		
Strabane Health Improvement Project CIC – Construction of modular Community Health Building		106		11		
Strabane Sigersons GAA – Project Co-ordinator delivering for a better Ballycolman		82			142	
The Koram Centre, Counselling, Psychotherapy and Psycho Social Support Ltd – The Provision of Counselling, Psychotherapy and Psychosocial Support to Beneficiaries of the Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Area	213		415			102

Social Renewal (Crime) Output Measures

Project (Strabane)	SR (C) 2 – Number of community safety initiatives implemented.	SR (C) 3 – Number of people participating/attending community safety initiatives.	SR (C) 4 – Number of crime prevention initiatives implemented.	SR (C) 5 – Number of people participating/attending crime prevention initiatives.	SR (C) 6 – Number of young people benefiting from youth inclusion/diversionary projects.
Fountain Street Community Development Association Ltd – Project Co-ordinator's Salary/ENIC and Running Costs					182
Lisnafin Ardnalee Trust Cross Community Development Association – Project Co-ordinator's Salary/ENIC & Running Costs	4				68
Melmount East Bank Estates Community Association Forum – Uniting Neighbourhood Renewal Communities	3	370	4	40	
Strabane Community Project – Project Co-ordinator & P/T Finance/Administrator Salaries	6	3,923			

Physical Renewal Output Measures

Project (Strabane)	PR 11 – Number of people/volunteers involved in physical development and/or environmental improvement projects
Fountain Street Community Development Association Ltd – Project Co-ordinator's Salary/ENIC and Running Costs	10

Achievement of Neighbourhood Renewal Funding Citywide In 19/20 Year

The Projects below are Citywide Projects covering Triax~Cityside, Outer North, Outer West, and Waterside NRAs. The Projects are reflective of the whole of the Citywide area (with the following exceptions): Derry City & Strabane District Council – Generalist Voluntary Advice Services Support Programme 2019-2020 includes Strabane, Derry City & Strabane District Council - Active Citizenship through Sport Programme includes Strabane, Western Health and Social Care Trust – Neighbourhood Health Improvement Project includes Strabane and Limavady.

Community Renewal Output Measures

Project (Citywide)	CR 4 – Number of people engaged/involved in unpaid voluntary work.
Derry City & Strabane District Council - Active Citizenship Through Sport Programme	106
Derry City & Strabane District Council – Generalist Voluntary Advice Services Support Programme	8

Community Renewal – Advice Projects Output Measures

Project (Citywide)	CR 12 – Number of enquiries and clients by category.	CR 13 – Total number of beneficiaries (including family members).	CR 14 – Waiting list times and numbers.
Derry City & Strabane District Council – Generalist Voluntary Advice Services Support Programme	61,748	87,680	95%

Economic Renewal Output Measures

Project (Citywide)	ER 4 – Number of people receiving job specific training.	ER 10 – Number of people becoming self-employed.	ER 14 – Number of people attaining a formal qualification from participation in Adult Education.	ER 15 – Number of FTE jobs safeguarded.
Derry City & Strabane District Council - Active Citizenship Through Sport Programme		70	159	
Derry City & Strabane District Council - Generalist Voluntary Advice Services Support Programme	34			
Western Health & Social Care Trust - Neighbourhood Health Improvement Project				3

Social Renewal (Health) Output Measures

Project (Citywide)	SR (H) 1 – Number of people benefiting from Healthy Lifestyle Projects.	SR (H) 2 – Number of people attending Health Education/Awareness Initiatives.	SR (H) 4 – Number of Health Education/Awareness Initiatives provided/delivered.
Derry City & Strabane District Council - Active Citizenship Through Sport Programme	2,108		
Western Health & Social Care Trust - Neighbourhood Health Improvement Project		1,253	26

Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership Conclusion

In the 2019/20 financial year, Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership total overall spend was £645,081.41.

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

Community Renewal	£182,927.52
Social Renewal	£137,555.46
Economic Renewal	£94,925.29
Physical Renewal	£229,673.14

The total value of funding invested in Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal projects during the year 2019/20 was £645,081.41. The programmes/services supported by the Neighbourhood Renewal Investment Fund ranged from locally based community services through to physical renewal and neighbourhood health improvement programmes. Neighbourhood Renewal funding addressed a number of key priorities identified in the Strabane Neighbourhood Action Plan.

Community Renewal

The key actions sought under Community Renewal aim to build the area's social capital by improving the capacity of community groups to identify and meet community needs; support more people to get involved in community activity and to promote equality and good relations between people of different nationalities, race, gender, sexuality, religion and political opinion.

During 2019/20, local community groups and other stakeholders continued to plan, organize and deliver a wide range of services to residents from Strabane NRA. A total of sixteen projects were funded through the Neighbourhood Renewal Programme to deliver a range of services in support of:

- Community Development,
- Counselling/psychotherapy treatment,
- Education,
- Employability/vocational training,
- Drug & alcohol support & treatment,
- Health improvement,
- Physical renewal works,
- Welfare advice,
- Technical assistance (Neighbourhood Partnership)
- Youth Intervention

Through its action teams and working groups, The NR Partnership continued to bring together a representative mix of key community, political and statutory sectors to take the lead in helping to develop and regenerate Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Area. From 1st April 2019 – 31st March 2020, the NR Partnership liaised/collaborated/worked with:

- National Lottery Community Fund and various project working groups to bring forward projects including Community Health Hub, Strabane Connect – a trauma informed community project, Strabane Youth Zone, Community Learning Hubs (North West Regional College +4 community centres).
- NHIP Management Group to manage delivery of 2019/20 NHIP Programme.
- Barnardo's NI to organise and deliver a series of trauma informed practice workshops for staff and volunteers working for local community organisations.

- Health needs project steering group to put into practice asset based approaches to address underlying factors affecting health and well-being in Strabane. NR Co-ordinator continues to facilitate ongoing work to bring forward a 'one stop' health & well-being hub.
- DCSDC Sports Development Team and seven community groups (Strabane District Caring Services, Lisnafin CA; Fountain St CA; Sigersons GAA, Strabane Special Olympics, Cairde, Melmount Forum) to deliver 2019/20 'Active Citizenship through Sport' (ACTS) programme.
- DCSDC's Business & Culture Directorate, NR community groups, Strabane BID Co. and Strabane Chamber of Commerce to develop and deliver Strabane Christmas Fayre 2019.
- NR Social Economy Working Group (Strabane District Caring Services, Strabane Community Project, Strabane Health Improvement Project) to establish a jointly owned Community Maintenance social enterprise. The working group undertook a scoping study to assess the market for and viability of the joint venture social economy business.
- DCSDC, NIHE and Springhill Park Community & Residents Association to progress refurbishment/replacement of existing community centre at Springhill Park. The project is dependent upon land transfer from NIHE to DCSDC and external funding. Decision about community asset transfer pending.
- DCSDC, DfC and Lisnafin/Ardnalee/Trust CDA to develop a green space Masterplan for Lisnafin Park.

The NR Partnership continues to support and facilitate the Strabane local community planning process. With effect from 10th April 2019, Strabane NR Partnership will oversee delivery of the Strabane Community Growth Plan (in addition to Strabane Neighbourhood Action Plan)

Economic Renewal

In 2019/20, Strabane Neighbourhood Partnership continued to focus on fostering 'bottom up' economic development through supporting the development of social economy enterprises and helping to raise the skills levels of NRA residents to take advantage of emerging job opportunities. This was done by working alongside Enterprise North West, local Social Enterprises, Department for Communities, Derry City & Strabane District Council and by working with the North West Regional College, South West College and Strabane Unemployed Resource Centre in support of various employability programmes.

Social Renewal

The priority actions sought under Social Renewal broadly focus on improving early child development and educational attainment; reducing inequalities in health; supporting low income households and preventing crime and reducing anti-social behaviour. The Social Renewal Action Team represents a wide range of stakeholders with interests in health, education, early years, welfare advice, the arts and sports & leisure.

The Partnership's Health Sub Group continues to direct and oversee the delivery of the Neighbourhood Health Improvement Project in Strabane. In the past year, the project reached almost five hundred people through the delivery of programmes and events designed to help people become more physically active, maintain an overall healthy diet, reduce and promote positive mental health.

Based on research carried out by the Partnership, the Health sub-group is also seeking to bring forward a 'one stop' health & well-being that will provide a systematic framework for analysing, mobilising, linking and getting the most from the area's resources. The asset maps created and maintained by the Hub will offer a visual representation of community knowledge and, allied with other supporting community data, will be used to network organizations, highlight the availability or lack of health assets and to influence/support strategic planning efforts.

The various Barnardo's Surestart programmes continue to be delivered on an ongoing basis. The services delivered by Surestart range from baby massage and baby yoga classes through to speech and language and school readiness programmes. In 2019/20, 154 children from the NRA registered with Surestart.

The Education Steering Committee continued to facilitate schools based and community based initiatives that help to improve children's educational/life outcomes. Barnardo's NI, with support from the Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership, organised and delivered a series of '*Strabane Connect, Why People Need People*' workshops for schools and community groups to raise awareness of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and embed trauma informed practice in local organisations/services. The NR Learning Mentor from Holy Cross College, in partnership with Surestart and St Catherine's PS and St Mary's PS, designed and delivered a bespoke resilience programme to the parents of children attending nursery school.

The PSNI Neighbourhood Policing Team and community representatives continue to build working relationships with NRA residents to identify and tackle local priorities;

Physical Renewal

The Physical Renewal Action Team worked on the following priority actions during 2019/20.

Improvements to Estates

- Liaise with Department for Infrastructure Roads and DfC to implement environmental improvements in Lisnafin Park, Bridge St and 'Head of the Town' areas.

Sport, Leisure and Recreation Facilities

- Assist Fountain St Community Development Association and Derry City & Strabane District Council with the regeneration of a derelict site at Fountain St Community Centre



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