

Greater Falls Neighbourhood Renewal Area Annual Report



2014/2015

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The comments and views included in the narrative of this report are those of the Greater Falls Neighbourhood Partnership and may not reflect or represent the views of the Department for Social Development.

GREATER FALLS NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP

The Greater Falls Neighbourhood Renewal Area covers from the bottom of Whiterock to Castle Street, it takes in three full electoral wards which are the Falls, Clonard and Beechmount. It also has part of the Whiterock and Falls Park electoral wards. The area takes in 6,202 households with a population size of just over 17,000. The following graph outline the extent and long term nature of the challenges we face in relation to deprivation across all the wards that make up our Neighbourhood Renewal area.

Ward	Deprivation Rank 2010	Deprivation Rank 2005	Deprivation Rank 2001
Falls	2	2	2
Clonard	7	18	20
Beechmount	34	37	29
Falls Park	101	80	99
Whiterock	1	3	3

The area is characterised by interfaces starting at Millfield and continuing right across its geographical spread. There are also a number of physical barriers which reach across the neighbourhood partnership area. The so-called 'Peace-line' then abounds the area from Townsend Street, Finn/Fingals, Percy Street, Northumberland Street, North Howard Street, Conway Street, St Gall's Avenue to Bombay Street and Cupar Street. It continues along the Springfield through Lanark Way up to Workman Avenue and the Invest NI site. The West Circular Roundabout area would also be considered an interface. While on the other side of the partnership area the interface stretches from the vicinity of Broadway roundabout down the length of the Westlink towards Roden and Distillery Streets.

GREATER FALLS NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP

Across significant indicators (see graph below) the Greater Falls area requires significant co-ordinated input from all relevant stakeholders.

Key facts	Economically inactive %	No or low qualifications %	Long term limiting illness %
Falls	51.74	63.50	33.80
Clonard	45.94	56.05	29.09
Beechmount	42.21	53.32	26.87

To take forward the Neighbourhood Renewal Programme, the Greater Falls Partnership was set up to oversee the development and delivery of the local Neighbourhood Renewal Action Plan. The Partnership currently comprises members which include representatives from local communities, elected representatives and local based statutory organisations.

GREATER FALLS NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP

Greater Falls Neighbourhood Partnership (GFNP) has developed 5 cross cutting thematic areas of work involving the following partners;

- Divis Joint Development Committee (DJDC)
- Blackie River Community Group (BRCG)
- Roden Street Community Development Group (RSDCG)
- Clonard Neighbourhood Development Partnership (CNDP)
- Welcome Trust (WT)
- Ionad Uíbh Eachach
- Neighbourhood Development Association (NDA)
- Springfield Charitable Association (SCA)
- West Belfast Parent Youth Support Group (WBPYSG)

The 5 areas of work are bound by a common ethos of community development and all local partners are committed to this process.

The GFNP, as will be demonstrated again throughout this report have been active partners who stretch across the neighbourhood renewal area and across the city in terms of influence to enhance and improve local services. All partners actively look for opportunities to collaborate to share best practise and to maximise the most efficient of resources.

As can be seen the work of the individual groups who benefit from Neighbourhood Renewal support from DSD produces results, however the broader impact of NR cannot be underestimated and many of the partners who don't receive direct financial support from DSD are part of the NR process and developments, their work is not directly reflected in any detail in this report, however it may be referenced by many of the GFNP partners listed above as part of their community development approach.

We also demonstrate the value in increased financial investment by others with DSD core financial input acting as leverage and the unpaid input of local volunteers attached to all our partners contained in this report.

A number of examples of this working partnership are;

Capacity Building Programme;

- GFNP continues to implement specific capacity building initiatives with a number of residents groups the Falls & St Marys residents associations
- The GFNP continues to build the capacity of local groups in terms of governance & their capacity to work with statutory agencies

The Coordinator completed the application to NIHE & secured funding for Falls development workers post
- The GFNP coordinator continues to work closely with local residents groups on a number of projects
- The GFNP secured support for Divis Youth Project from Belfast City Council for diversionary work around the 8th August bonfire 30 young people were taken on diversionary activities around the bonfire period. The Funding secured from BCC for a development programme involving young people who were ‘bonfire collectors’. The programme explored attitudes to the August Bonfire & also included face to face meetings between residents and young people involved with the bonfire. Last year was seen as one of the quietest in years on the 8th August

Ethnic Minority Groups

PUSO-NI (Filipino network)

- The GFNP continues to support the integration of ethnic minorities groups PUSO NI is now up and running and has successfully organised a number of events so far, the coordinator continues to be involved with the group to give support and guidance

Negotiation/ Lobbying

GFNP members as can be seen clearly from the details of this report are prominent in many aspects of development across the city and are actively contributing to the redesign and reshaping of services across Departmental lines

This year included input to;

- **Children Services Planning**
 - A number of GFNP members remain actively involved at all stages of children services planning and as such play key roles on the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership and the Belfast Outcomes Group, this has facilitated a greater understanding of the impact of the redesign of services and in particular the creation of a locality planning group for West Belfast and the imminent development of family support hubs including one for the Greater Falls area which will be led by Blackie River Community Association.
- **Budgets**
 - The GFNP contributed to both DSD's and the overall budget consultation pre-Christmas
- **Social Clauses**
 - Involved in a range of discussions across Departmental lines and inputted to Belfast City Council consultation on such

Civic role

Our members are fulfilling a full civic duty in the decision making processes which determine how services are developed across the city including key inputs to Policy developments;

1. Local Government Reform

The GFNP partners and members have actively contributed to policy discussions and development and have made several submissions to consultations across Departmental lines in health, education, employment/ employability and of course social development in particular around concerns about welfare reform. Additional key discussions have been held within the local community around the value and shape of community planning with local government reform.

2. Building Successful Communities

The GFNP continues to input to this forum and shape discussions around where investment should be put although it has to be recorded that it has been a difficult and frustrating process both in the context of the severe limitations of the initiative and the approach of DSD officials coordinating the programme.

The GFNP lead on local consultation with local groups to produce a number of priority projects to Building Successful Communities project team.

3. Together Building United Communities (TBUC)

Several partners within the Falls area have cooperated and worked on a pilot programme for the Sports element of TBUC and across the Falls/ Village areas

4. Belfast Strategic Partnership

Our partners have been heavily involved in the outworking of this city-wide Partnership and across the 5 thematic areas identified by the BSP including the launch of a city wide framework for Lifelong Learning and the development of Belfast City Council's Employability and Skills Strategy.

Improvements to the Environment

- The GFNP at the tail end of the year was working to develop an environmental programme that includes Divis Youth Project, Falls Community Council, Grosvenor Development & Recreational Centre and Falls Residents Association. The project has a number of themes including raising awareness around recycling, littering and damage to the local environment and also a poster competition for local children to design an environmentally friendly poster. There will be a scheme that focuses on a number of streets for environmental improvements also included.

Physical Improvements

Key partners have been involved in a range of negotiations/ discussions for physical improvements to community facilities throughout the area including;

GREATER FALLS NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP

- Immaculata Amateur Boxing Club have secured £78k for health and safety improvements to their premises within the area and Clonard Boxing Club is currently relocating to a revamped premises close to the Blackie River Community Group and we are working to support this
- Additionally Blackie River a key partner has been working to secure Michael Davitt's GAC new pitch on the Corpus Christie school site.
- Roden Street Community Development Group, Divis Joint Development Committee through the Falls Partnership Initiative in partnership with the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure (DCAL) have secured almost £400k worth of improvements to both of their sites
- For several years the GFNP has highlighted and supported Falls Community Council in their campaign/ programme to revitalise the former St Comgalls school site, which looks likely now to happen with support from the Social Investment Fund and Belfast City Council.
- The GFNP have been actively involved in supporting a proposal for relocation and expansion of Radio Failte and its digital media services to be located on derelict land at the end of Cullingtree Road (in the Falls electoral ward) commonly known as the 'bonfire site'. Those plans are now at an advanced stage and work will begin shortly to prepare the site.

Community Safety

- The GFNP coordinator is undertaking a review of community safety structures in the Greater Falls area
- The GFNP are developing an action plan that will incorporate key community safety actions with a clear timeline and a capacity building programme for community groups around local community safety issues and communication with statutory agencies.
- There are ongoing meetings with Community Safety Coordinator at Belfast City Council on structures and support to local community safety forums

GREATER FALLS NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP

- The coordinator continues to chair the Greater Falls Community Safety Forum
- Secured the funding through the Divis intervention for a community safety worker for the area
 - GFNP liaises with the community safety worker to address local concerns
- Coordinator continues to act as the key lead contact concerning community safety in the Greater Falls area.
- Particular attention has been paid to the work carried out with Older people within our community and the impact of anti-social behaviour and social isolation has on the quality of their lives

Unwanted Bonfire Strategy

- The GFNP leads on the unwanted bonfire strategy group
- Development of an action plan around community and statutory involvement in bonfire diversionary activities
- The GFNP currently chairing the physical works group dealing with the regeneration of the Townsend Street and back path way site
- The GFNP produced a bonfire strategy document that is used as a template of good practice by statutory partners
- The GFNP area is bounded by a number of interfaces and strategically are working to regenerate the interface areas and to develop practical working arrangements on areas of common interest across these shared spaces which this year included work around the Townsend Street Interface.

SIF Schemes

- GFNP and key partners have made significant inputs to the development of tenders through discussion on how the employability and early intervention strands of this initiative can best serve the Greater Falls population

Introduction to Blackie River Community Group:

Blackie River Community Group has been established for 20 years and has evolved over this time. When the group was first established it came together to look at housing needs within the Beechmount area and from that point it has developed to meet the physical, social, economic and environmental needs of local residents.

The board of directors for Blackie River Community Group seen from a very early stage that the main way to improve the Beechmount area is to empower local residents to take ownership of the area and to build the capacity of local people to lobby for resources which would have a positive impact on the area.

Through this process the board of directors and staff of Blackie River Community Group agreed their mission statement would be:

“Blackie River Community Group seeks to empower the residents of the Blackie area, and to enable them to celebrate their creativity and culture, develop their skills, enhance their self-esteem, play a full and equal role in society, and secure the social and economic regeneration of their area”.

Blackie River Community Group has expanded over the last 20 years to meet the current and future needs of the local area. The needs which we need to address are:

- Family Learning
- Supporting Parents
- Supporting Children and Young People to reach their full potential
- The legacy of the conflict
- Under investment of government for generations
- Raising Educational achievement
- Tackling Health inequalities
- Tackling Mental health
- Physical regeneration of the local area
- Improving employment opportunities

Over the last year Blackie River Community Group has been working very hard with other partners and stakeholders to continue to address the needs of local residents. A snapshot of the work which we have been involved in is:

Early Years

Blackie River Community Group has been working to develop our childcare setting to ensure we not only meet the new day-care standards but surpass them. We have developed a very comprehensive training calendar for all our staff to ensure they are keeping up to day with their professional development and using the newest of techniques to help children reach their milestones.

Youth Development

We have found this year difficult for achieving our own objectives for youth development as we have lost the funding for our core staff member but we have continued on with the homework support, personal development programmes, mental health awareness, physical activities programmes and engagement process with young people who are disengaged from the community.

Promotion of Life Long Learning

This year we have completed more education programmes than ever before. The education programmes have been both accredited and non accredited programmes and we use a person centred ethos to ensure each student gets the most out of their education experience to help ensure they move forward to reach their full potential.



Young people of the Blackie Centre at the Homework Support Club

Community Engagement

We continue to work with Beechmount Residents Association to help them develop and to build on their capacity. We have designed a residents questionnaire which we had local people fill in to find out their needs and to allow us to shape our programmes to meet the needs of the local residents.

Older People's Programme

We have worked with our Young at Hearts group to put in place a year long programme which was designed to tackle social isolation and to build the confidence of older people to make them feel safe within their area and to allow them to play a full and active role in community life.

Health Programmes

BRCG have worked with a variety of stakeholders over the past year to develop health initiatives which are targeted at local people to identify their needs. We use this information to work with other agencies/organisations to put in place initiatives and programmes to promote health and well-being.



Introduction to Divis Joint Development Committee (DJDC):

We continue to focus on the development of the Falls Partnership Initiative and the Greater Falls Neighbourhood Partnership as the 2 vehicles for strategic and operational development of educational initiatives whilst providing our own very direct input in the delivery of services.

We are:

- Involved in the development of the GFNP action plan and the roll out of new priorities for the coming number of years, in particular the next CSR period and a subsequent new Programme for Government.
- Continue to co-ordinate the Falls Partnership Initiative's responses to the implementation of community planning processes.

Much work has taken place around the core priorities of the GFNP

and many issues have been raised, day to day support takes place across the area with a range of smaller local organisations which do not have staff or physical resources, we have been working with many of these groups to determine their needs and develop appropriate responses and plans to help them, this year for example we secured through cooperation between Roden Street CD Group and the DJDC nearly £400k of investment through DCAL, Immaculata Junior Football Club were the beneficiaries of a new 17 seater minibus.

At all levels of our organisation there are attempts to fully involve local people in the processes by which decisions are made, however there are many discussions that need to be held with key statutory agencies as to how and when local communities should be involved in the design and potential delivery of services.



Concerns remain that the discussions between DSD and Belfast City Council around responsibilities and budget transfers have not broadened sufficiently to include key stakeholders in NR and across the community affected and that we may be handed a 'fait accompli' with very little opportunity to change the process or the outcome, to the detriment of local infrastructure and service delivery. Community planning does offer an opportunity to change that approach but it is early days.



Introduction to Roden Street Community Development Group

The Roden Street Community Development Group, (RSCDG) is an organisation which can be categorised in both a strategic and practical sense as led by and for the community. The organisation successfully re registered as a charity in the period 2014/2015 whilst sustaining the core aim of realistically and achievably improving quality of life socially, economically, environmentally and culturally. The organisation has more finely tuned provision in the period with an enhanced focus on sharper outcome based programmes. In the latter part of 2014/2015 this was further substantiated by development of new wider based survey and evidence gathering practices. The organisation also

undertook a period of ‘future proofing’ in the period focused on staffing and essential job roles, culminating in streamlining. RSCDG has continued to pursue a strategy of direct need reflection through the community management model, innovation and provision of wider geographically focused capacity support. In the period the organisation also worked with other organisations/partnerships in furtherance of the application of the community management model. RSCDG lease, (from Belfast City Council), and manage Grosvenor Centre, (formerly Grosvenor Recreation Centre), the accompanying 3G Playing field, community garden, facilities and play park. The site is a substantial venue and facility, housing a wide spectrum of projects, programmes and beneficiaries. Essentially RSCDG seeks to meet need, make positive change and foster meaningful participation which helps to improve quality of life. In operational terms this means that ALL voices are relevant and are used to define, schedule and plan services. We abide by the view that anything is possible and achievable with the right vision pathway driven in a shared capacity by communities.

“This area, like others, is a valuable piece of the mosaic of Belfast and deserves to be cherished and developed as such”.

Community



The organic historical development, developed in 1984 and launching with 'We Want Heat Not Cold Fee', of the organisation means that the climate at Grosvenor Community Centre is embedded in community management, responsiveness, flexibility, innovation and pro-active inclusion. Grosvenor Community Centre has become one of the hubs in the area for community activity, community sports, physical activity, environmental programming, capacity building, engagement, family support, youth participation and good relations. Grosvenor Community Centre is viewed as an open, welcoming and feasible arena in which to meet, network, develop and grow, particularly in relation to good relations programme at the local level. RSCDG is both a local provider of a plethora of services and programmes, matched with occupying an active role in terms of area wide development, partnership, shared programming and lobbying. The focus at Grosvenor Community Centre is fixed on the wider determinants of community, social, economic and cultural development as well as in redressing the wider impacts of disadvantage. As such related to the Themes and Aims of the Greater Falls Neighbourhood Partnership, service provision at Grosvenor Community Centre in 2014/2015 encompassed:

Early Years, Education & Family Support: RSCDG is committed to improvement through the mechanism of the wider modern family unit. As such, Grosvenor Community Centre provides Early Years Direct Services, Afterschool's Programme and Youth Service. The organisation

also operates a large scale summer support programme enabling participation of families at a time of acute need. In 2014/2015 the organisation placed a firmer focus on sharing of learning in tandem with other providers, both community and educational with a view to carrying curriculum based learning across into Afterschool's, Youth provision, Family and Summer Provision.



Completion of Roden Street Interface Development with Roden Street Afterschool's – In partnership with Belfast City Council Interfaces Programme



Health, Wellbeing, Physical Activity & Sporting Capacity: Grosvenor Community Centre has become a visual hub of community sports, physical activity and health development programming. The ethos of the organisation is reflected in community management of the 3G Playing Field, diverse usage of indoor amenities enabling good relations work locally and an engaging programme of activities which have levered in participation and redressed gaps.

Community Development, Capacity & Inclusion: From its inception RSCDG has worked towards the visual, social and cultural improvement of the area through direct, sustained yearlong services, pro-active inclusion of emerging communities and valid contribution to the wider regeneration of new Belfast. We have one eye on the future and



are consistently developing the next generation of skilled, open minded and innovative community leaders.

Physical & Environmental Development: RSCDG has worked towards the improvement of the facility as a key feature of the Grosvenor Road, improved housing and regeneration of problematic. Recent illustration being the community garden and installation of new art work on the Grosvenor Road and negotiation with Roads Service for new parking measures at Genoa/Distillery/Roden Street and Roden Pass.



Introduction to Ionad Uíbh Eachach

‘ Ag céiliúradh 25 bliain/Celebrating 25 yrs

Ionad Uíbh Eachach founded by local parents in 1990 in a disused community centre to provide services through Irish for parents and children in the Greater Falls area where none existed and to build an open & inclusive community around the Irish language. This vision remains central to the significant development of community, economic, care, education, health and early year's services in the centre over the last 25 years. Ionad Uíbh Eachach recently celebrated 25 yrs of service to the community and has now developed into a community and family centre providing high quality, accessible and responsive services through Irish, supporting local employment, community development, lifelong learning, family support and early years services for the local community. Services have been developed in response to need and the expansion of Irish language services in the Greater Falls area reflects the significant number of local residents recorded as Irish speakers in the census and enhances the cultural and language resources in the Gaeltacht Quarter. Ionad Uíbh Eachach has gone through a period of review, planning and development over the last year, adopting a strategic plan based on needs /issues identified by users and stakeholders. Work is now organised around key themes and principles which support GFNP Priorities.



Ionad Uíbh Eachach supports and provides:

- **Language & Cultural Opportunities for all** – Promoting Lifelong Learning opportunities for over 160 adult/youth learners weekly
- **Early Years Education & Care:** High quality, inclusive Irish language early years preschool, P2YO & afterschool services -140+ children.
- **Child-Centred, High Quality Services** –flexible, accessible, affordable daycare through Irish supporting access to employment/training
- **Economic Regeneration**– Removing barriers to training/employment through a social economy childcare project – affordable, flexible childcare
- **Health:** Holistic health & wellbeing services including family support, respite childcare, targeted support for children with additional needs
- **Community Based, Responsive Services** - Open & Inclusive, Celebrating Diversity- annual programme of community events
- **Parental, User & Community Involvement** – working in partnership to develop services and resources for local people
- **An Ceathrú Gaeltachta** – building community cohesion by sharing the rich linguistic and cultural heritage of the Greater Falls
- **Community Infrastructure:** Irish language and cultural programmes, multicultural & cross community events, building social cohesion & community identity



Gaelchúram daycare

High quality care & early learning engagement

through Irish for young children family trip



Health & Well Being Group

Family & peer support, befriending,

health education, culture & music



Lifelong Learning

Full range of access & accredited

courses, cultural workshops and trips



World Book Day

Annual programme of parental

activities, workshops, fun days &

Ionad Uíbh Eachach- Cultural, social and economic regeneration:

Ionad Uíbh Eachach works across the key issues and themes prioritised by the GFNP partners - health /education inequalities, social & physical regeneration and strengthening community development and infrastructure in the context of the present economic crisis. Ionad plays a key role in promoting the cultural / linguistic diversity and heritage in the Greater Falls area as part of the Ceathrú Gaeltachta, identified as a priority given the large number of Irish speakers and services in the GFNP area and the positive contribution that language and culture can make to promoting social cohesion and physical, social & cultural regeneration.

Ionad Uíbh Eachach has contributed to local regeneration by:

- Transforming a derelict site into a high quality community resource
- Supporting social /economic regeneration through cultural and language development as part of the Ceathrú Gaeltachta
- Expanding access to language /cultural activities in local schools & community centres -fostering community cohesion
- Creating a wide range of learning and cultural opportunities for local adults and youth- supporting lifelong learning
- Creating a unique Irish language high quality early years service including pre-education, care, childcare and afterschool services
- Supporting Beechmount Sure Start, Tús Maith Ard na bhFeá and providing a Programme for 2 year olds through Irish
- Providing health & well being services for parents, holistic family support and targeted services for children with special needs
- Contributing to training employment and economic regeneration through development of social economic activity
- Supporting the development of inclusive services for ethnic minorities and nurturing new local groups e.g. SHINE autism support group



Introduction to the Welcome Trust

Welcome Trust directly provide social and educational services for children youth and adults with disability. We reach out to families and the community with services, information, workshops and training. The systems of support we use run across

all groups due to the developmental delay of all clients, we recognise the need to provide access to impartial communication, guidance and support. Through a network of professional organisations we have established working relationships with statutory, voluntary and community who have a shared interest in supporting clients vulnerable to social exclusion and their families.

We have a wealth of training and knowledge, which is utilized alongside tutors, therapists and specialists to promote all areas of development. We work to reduce health inequalities and put in place programs resources and services which will help to improve people's physical, mental emotional health.

Welcome Trust support families to enable them to continue to care for a dependent person. Disability affects the whole family unit and can be distressing isolating and frightening. We help families find the language to communicate on the journey with severe disability. We provide opportunities for children and young people to develop and mix with others in a similar situation. Welcome trust has a central roll in many of our client's lives, providing opportunities to meet and share experiences with friends. We approach holistically the opportunities for the family, discuss individual need and support were possible. We encourage enjoyable interactive programs, training, provide specialist support to nurture ordinary family life and minimize the impact on each family member. Our tailored assistance creates respite independence and development improving family life.

We work together to develop collaborative strategies to ensure our services are providing the best for service users and the overall benefit of the community.

We continue to develop facilities through simple processes to meet needs and choice. We have delivered a diverse range of projects that has had an impact and made our clients lives more fulfilled. We continue to meet difficulties and change programs to reflect need. In general the process this year has been a positive one. We encourage everyone at Welcome Trust to think more explicitly about their role in relation to our services, we are focused on meeting the needs of our clients directly by providing relevant services.

Welcome Trust deliver a comprehensive choice of services on a wide range of topics while maintaining and sharing resources, we are committed to providing a range of diverse projects and technology workshops. Some examples ongoing are providing transport tuition and assessment. Voluntary work is a good experience in preparation for employment and a valuable way to give something back to the community. All services are delivered in the clients own community. We offer a wide range of resources and support to ensure each person benefits form accessible projects. Age and gender appropriate for example Women's health group. We have focused on none verbal communication and have been actively delivering structured projects to those more isolated within the groups such as eating and swallowing demonstration, slips trips and falls prevention, keeping yourself safe at home and in the community. Programs activities events and exhibitions as well as supporting clients to take part in treatment plans. All involved have access to learning and development, they have the opportunity to engage and take ownership of events and activities at a community level. Everyone is given full support to meet our aims to reduce social isolation by providing quality bespoke local services.

We continue to provide health related activities to encourage participation in health improvement projects running across all our services this year. Our aim is to raise awareness of health related matters for those who attend our services. We set realistic achievable goals for health improvement in individual care plans.

W.T. have had the opportunity to develop a range of programs promoting choice in the areas of development. The projects are adapted to afford physically disabled adults and children, and those with learning difficulties the opportunity to independently take part using aids and volunteer support. We have supported parents and siblings to take part in activities while knowing that their family member is also enjoying additional programs. Volunteer achievements in the areas of health and wellbeing are thriving. We source information and support through continuous good working relations with partnership organisations. In general we look at promoting healthier life choices relevant to families and the community. We improve health by providing practical workshops, professional support and opportunities for awareness and learning. Welcome Trust indirectly promote physical activity through informal games, activities, friendships, individual interests and groups pursuits. One to one support of individuals is on going

We feel we have made great strives to take an active roll in terms of our capacity for mental health and emotional wellbeing promotion and healthier choices. Initially we did not identify ourselves in some the projects we have taken part in, however we have found that we are successful in encouraging clients' families and volunteers to take part in a range of community opportunities. We work closely with a agencies developing interventions to ensure a coordinated approach to deal with complex needs and implement best practice.



The Welcome Trust provides practical hands on learning opportunities in a variety of areas including health wellbeing and personal development. We deal with complex needs and aim to get the most out of our multi sensory environment and existing resources. We invest time into relevant planning processes appropriate to help improve our client's future health and well being prospects. We have been investing in equipment and resources suitable for both new and experienced users providing a wide range of opportunities. Clients are in a stimulating environment with volunteers who have the knowledge, experience, motivation and enthusiasm to care for and meet the needs of each client.

One in five adults in the North of Ireland have a disability. Welcome Trust advocates a model that encourages our community to value and respect people with a disability. We continually encourage practices that are inclusive and break down barriers. Welcome Trust is uniquely placed to provide services and have been a role model to the local community and voluntary sector.

We ensure that people are informed and aware of good practice in relation to disability, our work with children and adults with learning disability over the past fifteen years has enabled us to develop skills in many areas. We use the skills and knowledge gained through successful partnerships to engage our clients and improve standards of care and client satisfaction.

The Welcome Trust design, deliver and review service programs by specifically identifying and targeting the needs of clients and their families.

We have engaged in community events throughout the year while sustaining project provision in the areas of:

- Projects, programs and activities
- Health, awareness
- Information days and sessions
- Formal programs
- Informal projects
- Education
- Promoting disability inclusion and awareness
- Skills & knowledge
- Hands on experience
- Partnership



- Help, Advice and Signposting
- Facilitation
- Committed Volunteering
- Training
- Empowering people through choice and opportunity

At the Welcome Trust we are aware that dialogue and constant commitment to mutual understanding and listening throughout the delivery of our work is key to helping people achieve. Having trained volunteers helps us to identify the needs of clients with complex needs and learning disabilities. We can provide suggestions for the individuals to support learning, social skills, wellbeing and behavior management. We continue to provide workshops for the families. We find families fearful of the future due to changes in benefit and care systems and work closely to signpost and refer where we can. We enable parent's caregivers and siblings to access information and guidance regarding the options and support available to them. The Welcome Trust will carry on developing and maintaining partnerships with other agencies to improve community responses to issues by increasing access to information and services. We continue to initiate services that support and increase participation in local community development particularly in the areas of disability, inclusion and health.

Welcome Trust's involvement in social care at a community level is outlined throughout our current services we involve people in social care planning, decision-making and the delivery of services. Service users needs and views are central to our work. We make every effort to ensure that people have the opportunity to influence how services are run and they are involved in all the activities.

Member and volunteer participation covers a spectrum of activities, including local representation, encouraging people to join networks and supporting people to set up and run their own community social care activities.

Introduction to Neighbourhood Development Association (NDA)

NDA has been working in our community from 1990 and formally with charitable status since the beginning of 1992. We primarily work in the areas of community development and advice provision.

Our Mission Statement is 'Working together for the future' and under Neighbourhood Renewal our work is aimed at promoting social inclusion and building community capacity. Since our inception we have been involved in the demolition of the old Divis Flats, establishing the Maureen Sheehan Centre, re-establishing the St. Vincent de Paul Conference in St. Peter's to help people in need and we also founded the Welcome Organisation based in the St. Peter's area of Falls and Divis which continues to grow and thrive. We also helped establish through constructive meetings and persuasion, the NIHE community framework in the then District 3 NIHE offices which has now grown regionally into the Housing Community Network and is a strategic development area of the NIHE.

We have helped develop services and projects in partnership with public service bodies, community organisations and communities resulting in many successful ventures. Our work is targeted and dedicated in this area of community development. We have risen to many challenges and in our advice work have assisted in forming a new successful partnership across CAB and independent advice offices in West Belfast known now as the West Belfast Advice Partnership which promotes shared working and collaborative partnerships sharing agreed resources such as training, money advisers, tribunal workers in areas where it is cost effective and prudent to do so.

In all of these examples we have complemented and not duplicated the work of others and will always seek to reduce duplication of services yet meet identified gaps in provision

NDA continues to seek to empower local people, particularly those economically inactive, to play a positive role in the redevelopment and growth of their own communities. We provide projects, services and facilities to help alleviate poverty and reduce long-term unemployment as well as to actively encourage local people to play a part in community development and regeneration via our neighbourhood development projects and services.

Introduction to West Belfast Parent Youth Support Group (WBPYSG)

West Belfast Parent Youth Support Group

The West Belfast Parent Youth Support Group (WBPYSG) was established in 1984 and is an umbrella organisation made up of 3 locally based groups working throughout West Belfast in Neighbourhoods targeted by the Department of Social Development's Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy.

As well as being an administrative resource to the locally based member groups we also provide support for the projects operating within the WBPYSG premises at 141-143 Falls Road, Belfast.

The WBPYSG works directly with members of the community in providing support and advice to young people and their parents. We provide some recreational activities for the young people we work with as well as engaging them on personal development programmes. These activities may include trips to the cinema or outdoor pursuits.

The organisation has a proven track record in working with young people involved in criminal behaviour, drug and alcohol abuse and misuse and have a proven track record in working with adjudicated offender.

Through our Positive Steps Project we also provide a service to those people in our community who are most vulnerable and suffer from long term depression and mental illness or have attempted suicide or self-harm.

WBPYSG employ 3 part time members of staff, 1 financial administrator (DSD/BRO) 2 on the Roghanna Project (PBNI) and another full-time staff member seconded from The Belfast Health and Social Services Trust to work with the Positive Steps Project.

We also have 3 volunteers – myself - Marie Osborne (10 hours week) who acts as a manager/co-ordinator for the organisation to ensure the smooth running of services. I also make funding applications for projects and represent the WBPYSG at meetings, seminars and on partnerships.

There are 2 advice workers who each work 3 hours weekly. **During the 2014/15 year over 800 people availed of this service.**

Introduction to the Springfield Charitable Association



Our ambitions are many, yet resources few. We continue to fight the good fight on diminishing funding and sadly many of our community sector colleagues have had to close their doors. Our board and staff continue to progress our vision and our responsibilities within the community sector. Our services have increased immensely, particularly in relation to our care for older people in the day centre with a rising number living with dementia and through our Big Lottery funded Triage programme. The demand for our advice services appears to have grown exponentially. Our ultimate aim has to be to move beyond dependency on funding and to become fully self sufficient and I feel with the help of my fellow directors and excellent staff we are well on the road to achieving this. Our next step in our evolution is to centralise many of our activities and services under one roof and next year will see SCA endeavouring to acquire a suitable site.

SCA's festival Positive Ageing Week has grown phenomenally, the first year of our launch almost 500 older people participated in a weeklong series of events based around diet exercise and stimulation. This year we had over 1,000 from west and north Belfast. Next year will be our most ambitious yet; we will be attempting with our community partners to expand this festival throughout the city.

During the year we opened up another shop on the Stewartstown Road and are grateful to the community for the support they have demonstrated; in patronage and in donations

We are incredibly grateful to a range of funders, partners and community who have supported our work over the last year and I look forward to maintaining and developing these new relationships in the future.

I would also like to welcome Tom Kernaghan onto our Board and express my profoundest thanks to my fellow directors for everything they have contributed throughout the year.



Divis Joint Development Committee – Community Infrastructure Lead Partner



As a result of Department of Social Development funding Divis Joint Development Committee (DJDC) has secured the delivery of core community development services housed at the Frank Gillen Centre;

Children’s emotional, social and educational development (via Crèche, 2-3 year old programme and an After Schools project)

- Crèche continues to operate daily, morning and afternoon for up to 8 children per session (Monday to Friday with 2 sessions per day, except on Friday afternoon)
- 2-3 year old programme for 12 children each day (down from 16 due to Dept. of Education restrictions rather than the needs of local children and families).
- After-schools programme currently due to staff restrictions 24 but can cater for 32 if staff/ child ratio met)

Youth Development (at present we operate both an in-house youth programme and an outreach project) covers key elements of personal development and life skills, employment support, skills development and capacity building.

- Our Youth programme operates on a nightly basis with some weekend activity both on and off-site, other activity also included; football coaching, community relations & community planning training, study support, digital technology, magazine production, photography, drama & dance classes.





- Study support is provided on both a Monday and a Thursday evenings. Additionally GCSE study support is provided on a one to one basis for up to 32 young people.

Women's support services. We continue to host the Clan Mor Women's groups and deliver for Clan Mor Surestart, a programme for 0-4 year olds and family support.

- Through Clan Mor support we provide, child protection and paediatric first aid training to a range of local staff and volunteers at the FGC. This year courses in stress and anger management classes for local parents/ families/ carers, food hygiene and advice on budgeting home finances were also held at the centre.

Employment support service we, with the continued support of DSD, operate our own education and training programme.

- DJDC's continues to be involved in city wide discussions around the issues pertaining to Life Long Learning (LLL) through the Belfast Strategic Partnership (BSP) and hold the position of chairperson on this thematic area. A strong strategic base for the initiative and activity has centred on developing an LLL strategy, including a binding charter and a demonstration project (Belfast Works) which can highlight the value of BSP partners working together and collectively make a greater impact on reducing life inequalities across the city. Additionally the Belfast City Council's new employability and skills strategy will include an initiative around a Belfast Works initiative

The revamp of ESF priorities caused many difficulties for local groups and undoubtedly has negatively impacted on our collective ability to deliver on this agenda. Additionally we continue to await the impending implementation of SIF's employment strand and the potential for this area.





ICT training and development provision; Our ICT suite was revamped last year and is used in a variety of other ways e.g. study support and IT training for both women and men and jobcentre online. A Belfast City Council scheme aimed at creating/ supporting ICT in 12 community centres/ organisations across the city has taken place under a ‘Super Connected Communities’ scheme was established. DSD also gave support in maximising the development of this initiative. This year we have run ICT courses for older men and older women as well as a continuation of iMedia training where the original course was split into modular form to facilitate specific interests and maximise attendance.

Partnerships/ Networking. We continue to play an active role in a number of local networks including;

Clan Mor Surestart, a programme for 0-4 year olds and family support

The **Heart & Calm projects** - healthy living centre initiatives based in a community health complex, the Maureen Sheehan Centre delivering health education and direct condition management support

- **Falls Partnership Initiative [FPI]** a local partnership operating throughout the Falls electoral ward area, brought together to develop and implement an area wide development plan. This group has improved its focus and completion of key pieces of work throughout the year and have been planning for the year ahead. Both Roden Street CDG and ourselves with the support of the Partnership have brokered a programme of improvements with DCAL which has/ are making physical improvements to Centre, this will if approved amount to nearly £400k worth of improvements to both sites, work continues to progress through the stages of development to make this happen with the FGC elements (new kitchen, play park and additional ICT equipment) now completed and Roden Street works now started and on-site.



- **Greater Falls Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership;** we continue to work at all levels of the Partnership to implement the key issues and priorities outlined in guiding strategic document. This has led to a more robust and focussed partnership and tangible outcomes. Discussions have continued to make this happen during this period. Priorities have been identified across all five thematic areas and this will remain our key focus as well as preparing locally for new tender and procurement opportunities.
- **Healthy Living Centre Regional Alliance;** as part of the sustainability, development and quality assurance of the local Healthy Living Centre we continue to play an active role in this organisation. A key focus is the ongoing issue of sustaining not only the organisation’s work but as crucially the organisation itself. A lot of innovation and effort is expended on this approach and it is not always replicated by an appropriate statutory response.



A key concern around the process of tendering & procurement of individual elements of the organisation work is causing much concern and has been raised consistently with the Public Health Agency. The Alliance with our key workers direct involvement is involved with Price Waterhouse Coopers in an ‘Inspiring Impact’ programme which is examining the Public Health Agency’s commissioning of the Healthy Living Centres.

A memorandum of understanding has been agreed across all 14 HLC’s including the one in our area (Maureen Sheehan Centre) to bolster the governance of the Alliance and increase collaboration

- Our key worker remains an active member of the **Belfast Local Commissioning Group** seeking wherever possible to promote the values (and active input) of the local community infrastructure to health and social care developments including of course the Greater Falls area, from April this year (2015) he will take on the mantle of Interim Chair of the group until a new public appointment is made.

Specifically this relates to the development of Integrated Care Partnerships, an expansion of the Mental Health pilot and the rollout of reablement in the West of the city. Additionally it has also meant being heavily involved in the design and linkages of a new city wide chronic conditions hub in all 4 parts of the city.

- As part of the **Belfast Strategic Partnership** (Public Health Agency, Belfast City Council, Belfast Health Trust, DSD and others key agencies) we play a full civic role both locally and citywide and are currently part of the development of a citywide framework which will shape both city and local development across 5 key areas; Mental Health, Education, Early Intervention, Drugs and Alcohol and Regeneration & Place. We believe all these key areas compliment the GFNP's and the Divis Joint Development Committee's programmes of work, a key theme of emotional resilience has emerged as the glue to link all the thematic areas.

DJDC's key worker continues to be involved in city wide discussions around the issues pertaining to **Life Long Learning** (LLL) through the Belfast Strategic Partnership.

- **West Belfast Partnership Board** of behalf of the Neighbourhood Partnership and a member of their health sub-group
 - West Belfast Partnership Board on behalf of the Neighbourhood Partnership and a member of their health sub-group. Our work on developing strategic health priorities for the West of the city continues and a strategic proposal will be presented to the WBPB shortly, our local role will be to ascertain how the Greater Falls can respond to growing challenges.
 - We play an active role in the Integrated Care Partnership's Mental Health Hub. This will we believe improves access to GMS services and primary care, making service providers more accountable a key priority of the GFNP. This has now been rolled out across the city
 - We are playing a full role in the development of a chronic conditions hub for each part of the city in its remit and scope.



Roden Street Community Development Group – Community Infrastructure Partner



The Roden Street Community Development Group is committed to the pro-active growth of the area as whole in partnership with renewal drives. RSCDG operate Grosvenor Community Centre in a leasehold arrangement with Belfast City Council, representing the first community organisation in Northern Ireland to enter into such a community management model. In 2006 this was further augmented with a community management structure for the 3G Playing field. The organisation is intent on ensuring that the public perception of the area reflects the massive scale of positive engagement, activity and participation which is occurring. RSCDG operate services and programmes which directly correlate to community demand and contribute towards what makes and sustains a 'strong, viable and happy community'. The organisation is also proud of innovation levels and inclusivity.

Current services, activities and programmes focused on the fostering of community capacity, social and cultural capacity are:

Family Capacity and Development:

➤ *Roden Street Childcare Services*

A range of projects to support families facing exclusion, additional needs levels and the challenges of disadvantage. The services are high quality in nature, engage a high level of parental participation and encourage direct participation of children in decision making. The services are embedded in carrying forward learning in the community setting with a keen eye on educational achievement as a lynchpin of a strong and capable community.

➤ *Family Support Services*

A range of innovative long, short and medium projects to help correlate and grow the capacity of the entire family unit in tandem. The family support menus help to enshrine participation, assist inner family development and work towards a level of quality of life which is fair and equal for all children and young people.

➤ *Roden Street Youth Service*

*"We shouldn't limit what we can achieve together,
think big, think local and think global"*

The service packages engage young people from the disadvantaged area and wider based minority ethnic community members through additional service provision. RSYS is youth led and received the Youth Council NI Award for outstanding endeavour in 2011.

Community Development:

To actually state what makes a ‘good’ community is pretty difficult, for RSCDG this equates to a community where people know one another, where there is a sense of support, a willingness to engage for the better of others, strong, skilled and confident participants. *As such a handful of examples of how we work towards such goals are outlined for the relevant period:*

For instance: RSCDG encouraged community members to get involved in the period through the Community news sheet (dispensed to 450 dwellings), delivered by Roden Street Youth Service members.

For instance: RSCDG engaged children and young people in decision making, right down to scheduling and with a youth developed chapter in the current organisation business plan.

Most Importantly Grosvenor Community Centre is Open and Welcoming.....

Community Development isn't a technical term it is about how people Treat One Another, how valued a person feels and how much they can influence THEIR LIVES

For instance: RSCDG implemented training where an illustratable gap in the labour market was determined, namely an immediate employment opportunities on a City Centre development and provided the



Blackie River Community Group – Community Infrastructure Partner

As a result of DSD funding Blackie River Community Group has secured the delivery of core community development services housed within the Centre and across the local community which include;

- **All Day Care** – We provide 49 Full day care sessions each day in a safe environment for children between 0 -4 years old who will get a full range of play activity that will help in all areas of the children’s development. This provision is for working parents, parents that need respite and children who had developmental needs.
- **Afterschool’s Programme** for 26 children aged between 4-12year olds daily. This programme provides stimulating fun based programme for children to learn and develop.
- **Homework Support** for local children to get support for the curriculum which they work on within a school setting. This is completed in a fun, informal, structured way to enhance children’s learning outcomes.
- **Beechmount SureStart:** BRCG are the lead organisation for Beechmount SureStart. We are responsible for its Administration and Co-ordination of this SureStart programme. BRCG is also responsible for hosting and resourcing the meetings of the local childcare partnership who make up this SureStart Initiative.
- **Education Programmes:** BRCG have developed our education programmes which are both accredited and non-accredited courses which meet the individual needs of learners. We have also been successful in becoming the first community organisation which has been award the CACHE level 5 in ChildCare.
- **Health Initiative:** BRCG have lead a number of local health initiatives which has seen local people participating in the programmes and courses which will benefit their health and well-being.
- **Older People:** BRCG have a very active older people’s group where we tackling social isolation by proving space, programmes and information on a range of topics.

- **Partnerships/ Networking.** We will continue to play an active role in a number of local networks including;
- **Beechmount SureStart** - We work in partnership with other childcare providers of 0-4 year olds in the developing of the local SureStart plan and in the rolling out of its initiatives.
- **Playboard Cluster Group** - Our Childcare Co-ordinator is part of the Playboard Cluster Group, this is a group that comes together to look at best practice and developments in the childcare provision 4-12 year olds.
- **Greater Falls Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership** - We work at all levels of the Partnership to implement the key issues and priorities outlined in their most recent document
- **Integrated Services** - We sit on the board to ensure a co-ordinated approach across the Greater Falls area in the support of children, young people and their families.
- **Healthy Hearts** - We play a full role in the development of a 'Healthy Hearts' strategy across West Belfast and in the development of a Greater Falls 'Healthy Hearts' hub feeding into this initiative.
- **Children and Young People Strategic Partnership** - We sit on the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership, Belfast Outcomes for Children and Young people, West Belfast Locality Planning for Children and Young People.
- **West Belfast Neighbourhood Forum:** BRCG sits on the West Belfast Neighbourhood Forums which links each of the Neighbourhood Partnership across West Belfast to align services and inform each other of policy developments.



Ionad Uíbh Eachach – Community Infrastructure Partner

Training Employment and Local Economic Development

- Successful Irish language social economy childcare project for over 100 children
- Supporting training placements and employment (over 30 staff employed)
- Supporting local parents to access training and employment
- Supporting economic and social development through language and culture

Service Provision for 0-4 year olds

- Dedicated baby unit with 21 places/ provision for 50 2-4 yr olds
- Wrap around childcare service for over 30 preschool children
- Full time year round childcare provision –open 8.15-5.30
- Targeted support and respite care for vulnerable / at risk children
- Delivery of Sure Start Programme for 2 Year Olds through Irish



After-School Provision

- Child-centred stimulating Irish language programme supporting learning and development
- High quality after school/summer provision for over 60 children
- Expansion of school closure and holiday provision
- Summer scheme including trips to Planetarium, Exploris, Belfast Zoo,
- Participation in BCC Community Clean ups/intergenerational projects
- Supporting inclusion and development of services for children with autism – SHINE autism group





Springfield Charitable Association – Community Infrastructure Partner

The Montague Day Centre has a very person centred approach, and our members are actively encouraged to participate in all aspects of the daily running of the centre with their views being sought by way of client surveys, food surveys and through our client committee meetings. This has helped greatly with our service provision, as we strive to ensure that our activities are structured not only to meet the needs of each individual but also the preferences too. The day centre should not just be seen as the stereotypical place to go and play bingo (although our members love it) and we like to push the boundaries as to what activities the centre provide, so there is no better way than to ask the members what they want themselves.

WHAT WE OFFER

We provide quality individual care to each of our service user in the day care setting. According to need we are able to provide a tailored package of care for you which can include some or all of the following:

- Helping with personal care, bathing, continence care
- Varied range of activities e.g. reminiscence, arts/crafts, music therapy, boccia, carpet bowls, walking clubs etc.
- Hairdressing
- Chiropody
- Respite for Care



OUR CARE TEAM

We have an excellent team of highly skilled professional care staff and volunteers to look after you. Each staff member and volunteer undergo training that ensures that we deliver the highest quality services to you. This training includes appropriate Health & Safety issues such as: Safeguarding Vulnerable adults, Infection Control, First Aid, Fire Safety, Food Hygiene, Aggression and Challenging Behaviours, Moving & Handling. In addition to all the mandatory training requirements set by RQIA, all care staff have been trained to NVQ level 2 or above, and we currently have 2 staff members almost finished QCF Level 5 in Health and Social Care



RETAIL

Second Time around Stewartstown Road

Continuing to grow.....

SCA's second nearly new shop now in its second year of operation has grown from strength to strength. Though we are going through a difficult economic period, were charity shops, are hindered by the likes of online trade and cash for clothes schemes, we continue to innovate and initiate with the community, making bonds and connections with other local businesses and our neighbouring communities. We continue to provide an affordable and friendly place for all, and to demonstrate an array of good quality furniture and clothing at affordable prices.

Making the climb.....

Complimentary refreshments in celebration of our 1st successful year in business



We continue to appeal to the local and greater community for good quality clothing and furniture in a bid to continue to generate much needed revenue to support SCA's services which are crucially needed in the area. Whilst economically these are challenging times for any business to enhance or expand, we have strived to progress and have fortunately received continuous turnover thanks to the generosity of you, the community. We try to attract our customers on a regular basis by given them exciting and imaginative displays and up to date info on how their generosity has helped us be who we are today.

Building for the future....

We continually strive to improve and extend our services and provide the highest level of service possible, we endeavour to provide a professional service and guide our team in all aspects of training required for the position they hold, including customer service training and team building exercises. We are extremely blessed to have a team of innovative and passionate volunteers who proactively incorporate our vision daily in the tasks they undertake. We encourage all our volunteers and customers past, present or future to actively inform us of any ideas or suggestions they have, good or bad, to help us to grow and make our future visions a reality



Welcome Trust– Community Infrastructure Partner

Welcome Trust have developed a multidisciplinary approach which attempts to address the issue surrounding disability by combining a community development approach alongside care, education and social support models for young people and adults with learning disabilities. We work in partnership to create safer, healthier communities by reducing the negative impact of isolation from disability through advocacy and the provision of services. For nearly two decades, the welcome trust has encouraged disabled people and their families to have a say, respond to consultations, take part in commissioning and recruitment, and be involved in ongoing planning. People with complex care needs are also involved directly in running activities we are very much a user-led community group.

Acknowledging the importance of the W.T. volunteers role in a specialised and none paid role is essential to show the high levels of care and commitment each one meets. One volunteer contributes a minimum of ten hours per week; on average a volunteer completes 600 hours a year excluding training. All have the opportunity to have an input into the direction and workings of the Welcome Trust. Volunteers demonstrate professionalism in terms of the commitment, competence and respect of the valuable work they carry out for the benefit of the client base “supporting adults with learning disability and their families”. We appreciate their community contribution and investment it encourages growth and sustainability.



We offer a wide range of services that go hand in hand with the client and volunteer programs. Family support is at the core of our work as we acknowledge the amazing input families and carers have on the quality of life of people with learning disabilities. We also know the first hand the stress and concerns they face.

Together we try to raise standards of care and promote opportunity. We aim to address the negative effects on the individual, family and community by giving a holistic approach to our services and design programs to improve health and well-being. The Welcome Trust have been developing carer's groups within the organisation over the last number of years and we feel that we were adhering to best practice. We also realised that there are gaps in this service and we want to work to achieve a more constant stream of activities and support. Carers have a strong voice for the client base and help us focus. Working together provides us with the tools to highlight the need and try to bring about positive change.

We engage with community representatives to determine the issues that impact on our community and how we can best address areas of need. We have a very strong and capable team of community workers locally who deliver services with an ethos in place that is imbedded in community development. The need for inter-agency working specifically for disability was highlighted recently in the several reports encouraging key agencies to work together to improve outcomes for disadvantaged people. We have been actively encouraging parents and carers along with clients to contribute in these plans to take into account the aspirations and needs of our clients and the community to assist their progression into meaningful opportunities such as education, training, social and leisure activities, along with appropriate care and support.

This year Welcome Trust has been successful in delivering a variety of programs and training opportunities to members, carers and volunteers. We have met targets and contracted agreements and hope to continue to provide this level of service while contributing to future strategic health objectives. We remain committed to maintaining an impact on the social and economic development in the area and will maintain a wide range of services within the community. We may need to adapt differently in the areas of family support, counseling and training due to the stains of volunteer commitment and retention. We will continue to regularly review our services and projects to ensure that they meet the needs of disabled people in the greater Falls area.

Welcome trust support people with learning disabilities, chronic illness and functional limitation through our services. We know the importance of improving health and mobility, currently the chronic illness we deal with are epilepsy, mental health illness, complex physical disabilities, diabetics, dialysis, cancer asthma and dementia. We cannot change the illnesses however we bring new options to people by offering fun workshops, practical and emotional support and social interaction. Also providing reflective therapeutic workshops that give the opportunity to talk and have someone who will listen. We bring people together with a variety of creative activities. We represent the views of our member groups and work to bring about positive change to the physical, social, emotional and cultural life of people with disabilities and consequently to our entire community.



The programs provided this year enabled us to get involved and help to make a real difference to the lives of people with disabilities within the community.

We have encouraged our youth and adult groups to improve their sporting opportunities. We have successfully incorporated new programs enabling us to surpass targets to improve facilities. Some of the highlights of this success are increased services for physical activity and engagement- social and recreational opportunities and personal development. We are making a positive impact on vulnerable youth and older people. The new equipment is a visible resource providing opportunities for three group sessions each week to promote health programs, social engagement, development opportunities, skills progression and highlight disability awareness.



Over the past year we have made contributions to promoting a holistic approach to disability services. We have facilitated community programs for disabled people and ensured inclusion. We have engaged with the Greater Falls Neighborhood Partnership and with the public, voluntary and community sectors to address inequality and raise the standards within our community. We target need by helping to meet the widest range of interests and promote community development. Together we have implemented a wide range of community events. We continually strive to provide opportunities to positively address and support people through a range of issues:

Managing the challenges of caring for a dependent

Managing Anxiety / stress, Lack of confidence

Disability and dealing with chronic pain and illness

Experiences from the past that affect the present.

Bereavement, loss and loneliness

We encourage flexibility choice control empowerment support and respite through planned and tailored projects. We feel we have entered into a time where we need to focus first and foremost on the best way to maintain the range of services offered to clients and their families. We want to remain big enough to function and small enough to better target the needs of our clients through a caring service. We aim to maintain access to quality services within disability care. It is essential to maintain recruit and retain volunteers, to develop new ways of delivering services while keeping the integrity of the Welcome Trust.

We continue to provide an invaluable setting, which allows disabled people to take part in structured events. We allocate time to meet, interact and engage. We provide opportunities for play, education, leisure and social interaction. We address significant difficulties experienced by families providing respite and care provision especially in the area of dependents on the autism spectrum. Through advocacy we help clients to know what choices they have and what the consequences of those choices might be. We provide information for disabled people and their families relevant to their needs and encourage them to make informed choices. fostering an ethos which focuses





on the rights of disabled people through education, capacity building and influencing change.

Welcome Trust have used all our resources to meet agreed contracts and continue to successfully provide services to client's volunteer's families and the community.

Future planning is in direct response to the need and resources of the groups.

We are responsive and flexible to change, engaged participation is at the core of our planning and improving opportunities to support sustainable services.

We work to maintain high standards and source the necessary support and co-operation from colleagues and relevant organisations, performing against agreed targets and clear goals to benefit our services and community development.

This year has been very successful. We have been able to deliver a variety of programs and training opportunities to members, carers and volunteers. We have been able to meet all of our targets and contracted agreements and hope to continue to deliver this level of service and contribute to the future strategic health objectives.

Neighbourhood Development Association (NDA) – Community Infrastructure Partner

Last year (2014/15), via our NDA advice facility and our advice line, we dealt with of 9,351 enquiries (averaging around 200 per week) and were successful in clawing back over £93,000 worth of unclaimed Social Security benefits as recorded from those clients that returned to advise us of the success.

Our well established client base over the past 23 years have come to rely heavily on our services particularly as we are located in the most deprived Wards Falls SOA's 1,2&3 (Source: NISRA).

NDA continues to proactively engage with & support the Neighbourhood Partnership and associated partners and cross cutting themes in the delivery of the neighbourhood action plan.

1.8 FTE permanent jobs safeguarded under Neighbourhood Renewal and a further 3 previously funded posts are now core funded outside of NR.

Clonard Neighbourhood Development Partnership-Community Infrastructure Partner

➤ We continue to offer support, information and advice to all our member organisations which include:

- Clonard Residents Association
- Clonard Boxing Club
- Tar Anall
- Community Restorative Justice Ireland
- Clonard Youth Centre
- Clonard Soccer Club
- Springfield Residents Action Group
- Belfast Reconciliation Network



Clonard Monastery Youth Club



Clonard Boxing

- We continue to sit on the Greater Falls Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership and feed into the area action plan.
- We sit on the E3 steering group which was established to develop relationships between the new E3 Campus on Springfield Road and the local communities of Clonard and Shankill.
- We are represented on the board of Interaction Belfast that looks at interface issues along the Springfield Road.

- Continued to sit on the Healthy Hearts Partnership which looks at health and well being programmes across the Greater Falls area and which during the year was being planned to morph into a new chronic conditions hub across Belfast.
- We remain actively involved in volunteer recruitment for a range of our programmes and have been very successful in recruiting new members during 2014-15 period, although this is becoming increasingly difficult to sustain as we demand more of our volunteers.
- We continue to support an advice worker who is based in our office one morning per week.
- We have organised a range of training programmes for our volunteers to build their capacity, training included:
 - Committee skills
 - Child Protection / Keeping Safe Training
 - Access NI Checks
- We continue to work with local youth providers and sporting organisations to develop youth engagement programmes throughout the year along with intervention programmes at seasonal times such as July and Halloween. This last year we organised:
 - **Summer Cohesion & Intervention Programme**
 - **Halloween programme**
 - **Christmas Programme**
 - **Easter Programme**

Blackie River Community Group - Education Lead Partner

- Blackie River Community Group values the concept of community education being delivered through a community development model to help support people in their journey of lifelong learning.
- Lifelong learning is a very important aspect of the work which is completed by our organisation and over the year we have developed our programmes to ensure they meet local needs.
- Over the past year we have developed programmes around our accreditation from CACHE. This accreditation has allowed us to write up our own programmes and also to use CACHE courses which have already been designed which through the education framework.
- We have successfully completed our CACHE level 5 Diploma in Leadership for Children's Care, Learning and Development where we have 14 students achieve the qualification. We have now began a second year of the course.
- We have developed a CACHE level 3 family support programme, which is the first of its kind within the North of Ireland. We have 11 students completing the pilot initiative.
- We have been successful in getting an online learning porthole provider (Lazer Learning) from London to extend their services to our organisation which will help support learning through online support and guidance.
- We have continued to run non accredited courses for local people to get them engaged in learning in a fun and unique way. This we hope will begin a new pathway to learning and success.
- We promote lifelong learning by engaging with local residents to ascertain their needs and to offer or signpost participants towards programmes which meet their needs. The method which we used to promote lifelong learning is a community development model which is about engaging people where they feel comfortable and to attend courses in setting which suits their needs.





development through a fun and active model. Our staff are highly qualified and professional and work with each child to meet their needs and to help set realistic goals for their future development.

- We provide a community based homework club in partnership with Integrated Service for Children and Young people. This service allows children to complete their homework in an informal setting which is relaxed and supportive.
 - We have run a number of child development courses in partnership with Beechmount Sure Start to give parents the support and guidance which they require. This programme gives us the opportunity to support parents in developing strategies in dealing with their children and help give each child the best start in life.
 - Beechmount area has a high level of people who are new to both Ireland and the local area. We run 3 classes per week which include ESOL, English conversation, and get to know your community classes.
- We are currently working with a number of children who have additional educational needs to help support them with their personal development. We have begun a pilot programme with some of our children with special educational needs in the pre-school to get them to use Ipads to help meet their needs.
 - Blackie River Community Group has been working with a variety of stakeholders (BMET, Frank Gillen Centre and USDT) in developing community based education programmes which are residents led and promote lifelong learning. We have run over 40 programmes/courses and if we had more capacity and resources we would like to develop this piece of work across Beechmount area.
 - We run a very successful Afterschool programme throughout the year where we support children with their homework and also promoting personal development through a fun and active model. Our staff are highly qualified and professional and work with each child to meet their needs and to help set realistic goals for their future development.

Roden Street Community Development Group – Education Partner

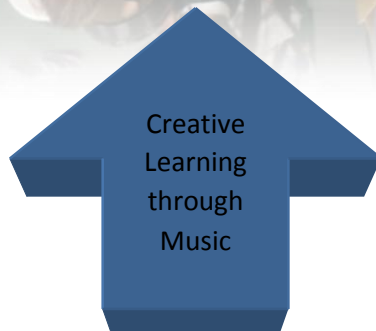
This period represented a time of more fine tuning and focus. We genuinely feel that educational progression and family skill, confidence and advancement are some of the bedrocks of successful communities. We also want to ensure that this talent is sustained and refocused into the area rather than relocating elsewhere when progression is achieved.

Illustrative Snapshots 2014 – 2015.....

- In 2014 – 2015 the focus was on teaching support in the Afterschool's and Youth setting. As such two local primary teachers provided learning and homework support on site for 8 x sessions per week term time. The programme actually surpassed expectations with demand and uptake increasing on a weekly basis as parents realised the value at home. The impact data will be collated in December 2015 but to date both teachers have indicated:
 - Improved learning levels and enthusiasm in the actual school setting
 - Improved behaviours in the school and Afterschool's setting
 - Improved Performance in learning terms and actual achievement
 - Positive parental feedback, uptake and voluntary participation of children

RSCDG placed a firmer focus on sharing of learning with other providers both community and educational with a view to carrying curriculum based learning across into Afterschool's, Youth provision, Family and Summer Provision. This will remain a key aim of 2015 to 2016 with shared data collection and alternation of programmes across sites.





- WISH – Writing is Sharing Hope, creative story writing, awareness of fiction, imagination and literacy, the programme culminated in completion of anonymous stories by young people aged 11- 18 years and children aged 4 – 10 years. The programme helped in a dual capacity to focus on literacy, engage parents, enable appreciation of imagination and provided an insight into the views, thoughts and fears of writers.
- Teacher support on site – this programme helped to more fully coordinate and communicate the activities in community based Afterschool’s and youth provision with formal educational providers.
- Learning Through play, particularly in relation to Outdoor Play at the Grosvenor Community Garden and the ‘World Around Us’.
- Learning outside of term time, particularly in relation to Summer off site programming with visits to compliment the curriculum.
- Sustained Core Service Provision in period 2014 to 2015, including **successful inspections**, as outlined;

Roden Street Early Years Services (Roden Street Playgroup) - Roden Street Childcare Services as a whole aim to provide safe, stimulating and quality arenas for children, matched with innovation and flexible support for families and parental needs. The services aim to assist the emotional, social, cultural, educational and personal development of children with a view to supporting transition and early engagement in positive community and social life.

Roden Street Afterschool Service - enables families living in the area to engage in quality, developmental, safe and welcoming programmes located in an arena and organised in a way to meet their needs. Programme content includes, physical activity, homework support, play development, outdoor play, health programming and arts and crafts.

Roden Street Youth Service – in 2014 to 2015 the youth service participated in the pilot TBUC initiative as well as sustaining 5/6 sessions per week of direct programming. One further dynamic element of youth programming at Grosvenor resides in diversity.

Family Support Programmes - Family support programming is targeted to provide an additional support platform but is also visible in the daily support and assistance provided at the centre for parents. The services include: Area Wide Minority Ethnic Father's Weekday Support Programme, the Respect Programme for 8 – 11 year olds, Respect Programme for 11 – 15 year olds the Respect Programme for Parents and Youth Minority Ethnic Support Programme.

Roden Street Summer Scheme – 7 week programme for Children and Young People, including evenings and weekends. The summer programme enables daily and sustained engagement of children, young people and families coupled with weekend events and residential programming. The summer period can be contentious but more than this can represent a time of vulnerability for a number of families and children. The Summer programme stimulates by necessity high levels of communication, parental engagement at the site, children and young people's feedback, their planning input, high beneficiary number activities and 7 day opening. In Summer 2015 we intend to ensure that the programme corresponds to and compliments learning plans in the primary and post primary settings. For instance, with excursions to Titanic Building, Ulster Folk and Environmental Learning to aid "World Around Us" development related to the programme whereby we hope to schedule excursions and activities which are related to curriculum content and actual activity programming.

Volunteering & Vision Pathways – The volunteering and placement programme in operation at Grosvenor Community Centre incorporates parents, young people and children. This is substantiated by a training and skill development programme which in the period included;

CSR Training for 20 Young Men in response to an immediate employment opportunity in Belfast City Centre, Sports Coaching, First Aid, Designated Fire Warden, Vision Pathway Development (Achievable, Realistic, Aspirational), Public Speaking, Lobbying & Presentation Giving, Interactive Whiteboard and Media Training.

Ionad Uíbh Eachach - Education Partner

Despite changes in Belfast Met provision Ionad has maintained the following adult /youth educational courses over the year:

Ranganna/Classes:

- 160 adults and youth attending 18 daytime and evening courses
- Beginners Irish through to A Level Irish and Conversation Classes
- Team of ten tutors supported by Belfast Met, Queens University & Gaelchúrsaí
- 80 students achieved CCEA /OCN certificates, GCSE and A Levels
- 5 Dianchúrsaí/ Over 220 attended Crash courses
- 15 adults achieve silver fáinne
- GCSE and Post GCSE courses for 20 ex-Irish medium children

Cultural/Language activities

- Spraoi – outreach Irish Language activities in local schools for 100 children
- 25 + parents attend themed courses for parents in Irish Medium
- 12 Irish for Parents classes organised for parents in Gaelscoil an Lonnáin
- Annual programme of bilingual cultural talks, trips and guided walks

Playgroup, P2YO, Afterschool Parental Involvement, Health & Well Being

- Irish language playgroup for over 26 children – stay and play, involvement of parents
- Irish language Programme for 2 Year olds in partnership with Beechmount Sure Start
- Developing programme of parental and family activities to support parents involvement in their child's learning
- High quality Irish language afterschool, school closure and holiday service
- Summer scheme for school age and preschool children
- Health & Well Being Group for parents of school age children

- Drugs & alcohol awareness workshops, breast cancer awareness programmes
- Inclusive service, targeted support for children with additional needs including autism support group

EDUCATION PICTURES BELOW



Afterschool environmental trip



Parents trip to Ulster Museum



Spraoi – learning Irish is fun!



Early learning in the mud kitchen



Divis Joint Development Committee – Education Partner

In line with the key aspirations of the Greater Falls Neighbourhood Partnership (GFNP), DJDC has considered educational programming in its widest sense. In the period 2013/2014 the organisation has provided a range of services to support the development of children, young people and adults. Please note that all of these services contain elements of direct family support to enhance the progress of the child.

- **Children’s emotional, social and educational development** (via Crèche, 2-3 year old programme and an After Schools project)
 - Crèche continues to operate daily, morning and afternoon for up to 8 children per session (Monday to Friday with 2 sessions per day, except on Friday afternoon)
- 2-3 year old programme for 12 children each day (down from 16 due to Dept. of Education restrictions rather than the needs of local children and families).
- After-schools programme currently due to staff restrictions 24 but can cater for 32 if staff/ child ratio met)
- **Youth Development Programme** (at present we operate both an in-house youth programme and an outreach project) which covers key elements of personal development and life skills, employment support, skills development & capacity building and including recreation/ sporting activities. Our Youth programme operates on a nightly basis with some weekend activity.



- **Women's support services.** We continue to host the Clan Mor Women's groups, we will continue a development process with this group to determine their future needs. Increased focus has been through the Integrated Services programme and other groups of women have become involved in initiatives at the Centre although not as a formal women's group.
- **Employment support service** (we continue to operate Steps to Work as part of the Springvale consortium) and with the continued support of DSD, operate our own education and training programme. This year we had 2 new on the Steps to Work Youth Employment Scheme. This scheme will come to an end in May 2014 and we have no idea at this stage how the new controversial Steps to Success scheme will work out.
- **ICT training and development provision;** Our ICT suite has been revamped and is used in a variety of other ways e.g. study support and IT training for both women and men and jobcentre online, a revamp of this resource under a Belfast City Council scheme aimed at creating/ supporting ICT in 12 community centres/ organisations across the city has taken place. DSD also gave support in maximising the development of this initiative. We hope (finally) to have real progress made in the few months on this development.



This year we have run courses for older men and older women as well as beginning a iMedia level 2 course in creative media for young people aged 16+

Additionally we are active partners delivering services and working with;

- Clan Mor Surestart, a programme for 0-4 year olds and family support
- The Heart & Calm projects - healthy living centre initiatives delivering health education and direct condition management support

- Belfast Strategic Partnership's citywide Lifelong Learning Group;

DJDC's key worker continues to be involved in city wide discussions around the issues pertaining to **Life Long Learning** (LLL) through the Belfast Strategic Partnership. Following a mapping exercise and recommendations focus has now turned to develop a strong strategic base for the initiative and activity has centred on developing an LLL strategy, including a binding charter and a demonstration project (Belfast Works) which can highlight the value of BSP partners working together and collectively make a greater impact on reducing life inequalities across the city. Currently there is a business case being prepared by Locus Management for a Belfast Works model which may become clearer in our next report.

DJDC continues through its base at the Frank Gillen Centre and through its active involvement in the Falls Partnership Initiative and its member groups dealing with early years, youth development and adult training initiatives provide practical support and mentoring on a daily basis across a range of issues from life skills to employment support.

The Roden Street Community Development Group – Health Lead Partner

RSCDG were able in this period to work with a wider number of sports, youth and physical activity teams, minority ethnic community groups and individuals, particularly in relation to strategic development and increased engagement of women in physical activity. The organisation has undoubtedly become a hub provider of engagement and participation avenues in the period and has continued to diversify internally related to programming content. The ethos of including the excluded and vulnerable is reflected in community health programming at the site. As such community sports, physical activity, cultural engagement health and well-being programming have increased at Grosvenor Community Centre in the period 2014 - 2015.



Illustrative Snapshots @ Grosvenor Community Centre 2014 – 2015:

- The 3g Playing field and targeting of internal facilities, enabled substantial growth in physical activity and sports engagement centred around extracurricular access to sports, competitive sports, school sports, training, youth engagement and area wide physical activity events.
- Grosvenor Women's Wellness initiated a new session to the weekly programme and fully branded, with participants wearing green and black kits. The service targets effectively those women/young women who have not participated in a sustained physical activity

programming historically. The unique selling point of the service is the degree to which the programme corresponds to other projects on site enabling accessibility and willingness to participate.

- The organisation worked in partnership with FPI in the period to secure a major physical investment at Grosvenor Community Centre. The new shower and changing block will significantly increase team capacity and helped to continue working towards redressing gaps in physical activity provision and sports related to gender participation rates.
- The 3G Playing Field and Grosvenor Community Centre are open 7 Days Per Week, including Evenings.
- The organisation sustained 7 day week opening and facilitation of sports/youth teams.
- RSCDG continued in the period to facilitate physical activity provision at another site via ongoing operational support including payroll support.
- The organisation completed 2 x Business Cases in the period which were successful for major capital investment.
- Multi-cultural programming has been sustained in the period particularly related to basketball provision and volleyball, with an annual international sports event held in August.
- Physical and capital investment secured in the period will see the facilities capacity to host sporting events and league progression maximised.



Growing Your Own – Healthy Eating and Minimise Environmental Impact
 Friday Summer Community Nights @ "The Pitch"

Illustrative Snapshots @ Grosvenor Community Centre 2014 – 2015:

- Outcome focused health promotion through learning is embedded across projects related to nutritional, positive and healthy lifestyle choices and risk taking behaviours.
- Respect Programme continued in the period focused on the wider family unit in relation to participation, lifestyle choices, personal safety and mental wellbeing.
- RSCDG were able in this period to work with a wider number of sports, youth and physical activity teams, minority ethnic community groups and individuals, particularly in relation to strategic development and increased engagement of women in physical activity. As such community sports, physical activity, cultural engagement health and well-being programming have increased at Grosvenor Community Centre in the period 2014 - 2015. The 3g Playing field enabled substantial growth in physical activity and sports engagement centred around extracurricular access to sports, competitive sports, school sports, training, youth engagement and area wide physical activity events.
- The organisation has successfully sustained and increased a massive Women's Wellness Programme including branding, promotion and networking.
- The gardening and environmental programme developed in year to facilitate additional groups.
- Support increased internally in partnership with BHSCT in facilitation of the Golden Girls, a group supporting those with hearing difficulties.
- Health programming across services increased in the period, including services for children and young people, such as Rowing For Life, Eating Well Nutritional Awareness and World Around Us – Understanding the environmental impact of food transportation.
- Non-traditional sports and physical activity provision increased in the year including rowing, street games, creative dance.
- Respect Programme incorporated health development programming in the period (as outlined).
- RSCDG has continued to support the strategic development of groups/projects via Funding submissions, development plan completion and partnership work to lever in additional physical regeneration support.

Redressing Access to Healthy Lifestyle Opportunities:

We are delighted that in the period 2014/2015 the organisation was able to successfully being to redress the gender inequalities related to physical activity at the local level via the Women's Wellness Programme. RSCDG worked in the period 2014/2015 to reduce health inequalities by providing direct opportunities to engage in Physical Activity Programming, Health Awareness Programmes and regarding access to organised competitive sports. A key component of an improving community resides in the improving the overarching health of that community. As such and in line with the community management model services and programmes were scheduled in the period to meet beneficiary need.

Innovation in Physical Activity Participation:

Historically RSCDG sought funding from Sport Northern Ireland towards a capital investment for Basketball posts, an electronic scoreboard and fixtures. This investment enabled the realisation of entry in the Basketball Ireland league, greater multi-cultural sports and physical activity provision, coaching programming, increased engagement in non-traditional sport and increased engagement of women and young women in physical activity. Coupled with this the organisation funded installation of netball equipment to enable the Polish Volleyball Group (Syrena Polonia), to use Grosvenor Community Centre as a home venue and site for multi-cultural engagement. Scheduling and services relative to physical activity programming are designed to reflect beneficiary need, for example, Monday night Ladies Wellness Programme, Weekday morning Physical Activity Programme for Young Men.



Healthy Lifestyle Programming at Grosvenor Community Centre - 2014 / 2015

Respect Programme for Children, Young People and Parents: A cocktail of activities focused on developing personal confidence, respect for oneself physically and mentally and respect for others. The programme elements include: Nutrition, Physical Activity, Language Awareness, Personal Safety, Personal Respect, Lifestyle Choices.

Mental Health and Well Being: The ‘Mind Yourself’ project engaged young men aged 14 – 22 years in stress relieve techniques, physical activity, aspirational thinking and training. The level of support which is daily accessible on site we have found to significantly aid individuals who are in needs well being, simply having a place where you are welcome, have something to do and talk is of enormous social and mental impact.

Some Other Highlights to Give a Flavour.....

- 7 Family Fun, Physical Activity Play and Get Fit Together Days.
- Activities to help entrench positive lifestyle choices, such as Youth Awareness of the ‘downers’ after drug and alcohol usage.
- Physical impact of alcohol and the social problems it can cause if abused, implemented for 22 young people, 20 adults and a fun programme to illustrate dangers to 48 children.
- Early age learning in relation to personal protection and identity using cards and illustrative devices to show behaviours which are not acceptable and illustrating personal space and gender well being.
- Grosvenor Cup held in August every year has become an annual feature of the sporting calendar for persons who are not fully engaged in competitive year round football.
- League launches continued in the period including the Sunday afternoon initiative.
- Sessions to support small group health and wellbeing aimed towards younger women continued in the period with significant health benefits and physical development demonstrated by 89% of participants.



Divis Joint Development Committee – Health Partner

Our key worker remains an active member of the Belfast Local Commissioning Group seeking wherever possible to promote the values (and active input) of the local community infrastructure to health and social care developments including of course the Greater Falls area.

- Specifically this relates to the development of Integrated Care Partnerships, a citywide expansion of the Mental Health Hubs and the rollout of reablement in the West of the city, combined with a development of 4 city chronic conditions hubs. DJDC are actively involved in these discussions.



- As part of the Belfast Strategic Partnership outworking of their 5 core thematic areas.

- We are also part of the Executive Programme Group of the Belfast Strategic Partnership, part of a key decision making process for the city and of course the Greater Falls on many key health issues aiming to tackle life inequalities.

- Through the West Belfast Partnership Board of behalf of the Neighbourhood Partnership and a member of their health sub-group, currently developing a strategic plan on behalf of the group.



- Our key worker is the Belfast LCG's representative on the Belfast Outcomes Group set up as part of a regional revamp of children and young people's service planning. This includes the establishment across Belfast of Locality Planning Groups and Family Support Hubs although this is a difficult arena with little resources to implement the approach.
- Through our core activities e.g.
 - Divis Youth Project we have provided a range of opportunities to highlight issues affecting the health of young people in this area.
 - Our core early years and primary school age programming
- Through our contact and development work with Clan Mor Women's Group, Immaculata Junior Football Club and Greater Falls Integrated Services we have provided a platform for highlighting the health needs of local people.



Blackie River Community Group - Health Partner

Blackie River Community Group has been working in partnership with a variety of community and statutory agencies to deliver on health initiatives. Some of the initiatives include:

- We offer physical activities to combat sedentary lifestyles by providing programmes such as Yoga, Tai Chi, Bums and Tums, Walking Club and trampoline classes.
- We have worked with young people throughout the last year to look at the issue of suicide and self harm awareness. This piece of work has resulted young people being more aware around mental health issues.
- We have delivered a variety of older people's programmes which was aimed at combating social isolation. The programme is part of our Young at Hearts groups who come into the centre once a week to discuss issues which affect them and to plan activities throughout the year.
- The Young at Hearts group delivered a number of programmes throughout the year which included flower arranging, basket weaving, art classes, ICT programme and social outings.
- We work in partnership with Social Services to offer places within our childcare facility to families who are in need of additional support.
- Within our childcare setting we have a healthy eating policy which mean all the children receive food and snacks which are good for them and promote healthy living from an early age.
- We have developed a Butterfly programme for children who did not access the programme for 2 year olds to help each child meet their developmental milestones.
- We have worked very closely with Beechmount Sure Start to help support parents of children between the ages of 0-4 to meet their developmental stages and to support parents/guardians in their journey of parenthood.



- Blackie River Community Group representative sits on the Children and Young People Strategic Partnership and Belfast Outcomes Group to give a view from the community sector about the issues which children and young people are facing.
- We have supported direct deliver services for people with disabilities by giving Action on Disability access to our premises a few times per week to support their clients who live in the local area.
- We have run a number of health days throughout the year to give local people better access to services which they require.

Clonard Neighbourhood Development Partnership – Health Partner



Healthy Hearts at Springvale in the Clonard area

- We organise an annual health day in the local community which brings together a range of health professionals such as Health Hearts, Falls Leisure Centre, local Pharmacist etc...to offer information and advice to the local community.
- We have organised a series of get active circuit programmes which aims to get people actively involved in fitness training again.
- We continue to run the Youth Get Active Programme which looked at the issue of obesity and low physical activity. This remains a very successful programme which informed the young people about healthy eating and also incorporated a fitness programme.

Neighbourhood Development Association – Health Partner

NDA is involved in a range of activity across all 5 GFNP thematic areas and for example in health we have supported and delivered the following;

- 89 people benefiting from healthy lifestyle projects
- 114 people accessing new/improved health facilities

Ionad Uíbh Eachach – Health Partner

Ionad Family Support Programmes 14-15– in partnership with BHSCT & Health & Social Care Board & BBC Children in Need

- **Health & Well Being** Group every Tuesday- relaxation, parenting support, cooking on a budget
 - Healthy Hearts workshops - smoking cessation, getting fit, nutrition and dental health
 - Drug & alcohol workshops – breast cancer awareness course
 - Advice and support for parents with children facing additional challenges
 - Individual and group play support with play therapists –in partnership with Trinity counselling
 - Individual befriending programme for parents in crisis – in partnership with Ardmonagh Family Centre
- Effective signposting for benefits, employment/housing advice support
- Outreach family support and in-house counselling in partnership with integrated services
- Targeted family summer activities including local trips and activities
- Establishment of **SHINE Autism Support Group** by local parents seeking peer support
- **Tuistí & Tachrán:** (Parent & Toddler) Ionad Parents have enjoyed learning Irish with their children in the parent & toddler course



West Belfast Parent Youth Support Group (WBYSG) – Social Environment Lead Partner

The Roghanna Project (Social Environment/Community Safety)

Established in 1995 in partnership with the Probation Board for Northern Ireland the Roghanna Project began working with both juvenile and adult adjudicated offenders including those in low, medium and high risk categories in both the Belfast and Lisburn areas.

The staff team developed a programme that meets the needs of both PBNI and its clients and works within an agreed direct and efficient referral system. The programme focuses on changing behaviour to reduce offending, including problem-solving, self-management and social skills; to increase public protection and challenges offenders to accept responsibility for their crime and its consequence

The programme is based on working with offending behaviour and includes the following subjects:

- Understanding personal triggers to offending
- Learning about consequences to self and others
- Using positive thinking skills
- Understanding the impacts of offending on victims
- Developing social decision making skills
- Exploring and managing negative influences
- Planning positive change and developing a support plan

A range of methods including community living, structured group work, individual coaching and mentoring are used in the delivery of the programme and it places high emphasis on building links in the wider community and increasing employability.



The Staff team have over 20 years combined work experience on The Roghanna as well as formal qualifications in Youth & Community Work, Working with Offending Behaviour' and OCN Mentoring and Befriending. As well as delivering programmes the team have adapted the service and have assisted clients in dealing with other agencies e.g. N.I. Housing Executive, Hostels etc

They have also made a very positive contribution in case conferences on child protection issues and a vulnerable adults planned review meeting. On these occasions, as well as working with PBNI, Roghanna staff have had to liaise with other agencies including Social Services Child Protection Team and Community Restorative Justice.

We have also worked with 'Workforce Training Services' on their SPEED Project offering those clients between the ages of 16 – 19 years who are not in employment or education, a training programme which can offer them an allowance of £40 per week and travel, lodging and childcare allowances may also be paid depending on individual circumstances. Workforce Training find the work experience placements for clients and they can 'job sample' in vocational areas. This is a very fully flexible programme and it can also be accessed at the Roghanna Project premises.

During the 2014/15 financial year the Roghanna Project staff worked with more than 50 clients who were referred by PBNI.

We are currently awaiting the outcome of a funding application made to PBNI to allow us to continue our work on the Roghanna Project in the 2015/16 Financial Year.

'Positive Steps' (Mental Health Project)

It is now widely acknowledged that there is more to health than simply the absence of illness. Mental health problems are very common and can affect the way you think, feel and behave and how we cope in tough times. It affects our ability to make the most of the opportunities that come our way and play a full part amongst our families, friends, community and co-workers. It's also closely linked with our physical health.

Given this knowledge and experience of working within the local community the WBPYSG felt there was a need for a project that would help address some of the issues local people are facing. This project is not a duplication of other local services but offers a programme entirely designed to meet the needs of the client and can be delivered in the WBPYSG premises or in their homes.

Whether we call it well-being, emotional welfare or mental health, it's key to living a fulfilling life. **The Positive Steps Project** was established with support from Belfast Health and Social Care Trust – who seconded 1 full time member of staff. The project seeks a fairer chance in life for people facing or living with mental ill health

The main objectives of the project are to improve life for project service users and reduce risks of suicide and self-harm thus enabling people to live the lives they want.

We believe 'Recovery' is about building a meaningful and satisfying life. The key themes of recovery for us are:

1. Gaining a sense of control over one's life and one's illness.
2. Building a life beyond illness. Using informal supports to achieve integration and social inclusion.
3. Believing that you can still pursue your own hopes and dreams,

The delivery of the service is based on a one-to-one relationship with face-to-face meetings but the project is flexible and will be a response to meet the individual needs of service users and finding the most appropriate way to support to them.

We have developed a 'Mentoring and Befriending' service is aimed at socially isolated people such as older people and people of all ages with mental health problems needing support to re-engage with others and their communities.

This project helps participants build new support networks, increase their self-confidence, develop new skills, broaden their horizons and ultimately change their lives for the better.

Through this project we have developed excellent working relationships with a number of other organisation working in the community in order that we can avail of the services they have on offer if we are unable to deliver ourselves. These organisation include: Greater Falls Neighbourhood Development Partnership, Lifeline (Contact), the Probation Board for Northern Ireland, North & West Belfast Health and Social Services Trust, Lenadoon Counselling Project and FASA (Forum for Action on Substance Abuse, Suicide and Self Harm).

During the 2014/15 financial year the project worked with 40 clients

DSD/BRO Funding

The WBPYSG are the 'lead' partner under the social environment strand of the GFNP – other partners are Clonard Neighbourhood Development Partnership and Springfield Charitable Association. The services we provide can also come under the headings of Community Infrastructure and Health.



WBPYSG receives funding for 1 part-time (20 hours) Financial Administrator - who is the back-bone of the organisation and keeps the building going on a daily basis. As well as doing the administration for WBPYSG, Roghanna and Positive Steps and some of the member groups she also is responsible for accounting procedures, PAYE and completing and submitting DSD/BRO Claim forms.

We have 3 volunteers – myself - Marie Osborne (10 hours week) who acts as a manager/co-ordinator for the organisation to ensure the smooth running of services. I also make funding applications for project etc and represent the WBPYSG at meetings, seminars etc.

During the year 2014 the WBPYSG delivered services to more than 1000 people.

Clonard Neighbourhood Development Partnership – Social Environment Partner

- We continue to work with Belfast City Council on the bonfire reduction programme which aims to reduce the number of potential bonfires over the August period. We have developed a full intervention programme targeting young people who would often become involved in building bonfires which often lead to ASB and criminal activity.
- We continue to work with Interaction Belfast and also Belfast Reconciliation Network around interface issues in the local area and we continue to dialogue with residents from the Greater Shankill.
- We are involved in the E3 forum which involves BMC, PSNI, BCC, DOJ, elected representatives and community representatives from both the Clonard and Shankill areas which looks at interface issues along the Springfield Road.
- We work with Springfield Residents Action Group on the issue of contentious parades along the Springfield Road which takes place every June and July. We have organised intervention programmes at times of heightened tension throughout the summer months which aim to offer young people an alternative to tension and violence.
- We continue to develop a local community festival every August which aims to replace the issue of bonfires.
- We are leading in a dual language street naming project which aims to have all the Clonard area dual street names in Irish and English and have been working with Belfast City Council who has the statutory responsibility to oversee this.
- We continue to monitor any planning applications within the local community to ensure they fit with the character of the area and that there is no over development. As and when is required we facilitate planning objections of engagement meetings with local residents and the developers.
- We continue to work with CRJI around ASB and criminal activity that takes place and we also engage with the PSNI when required on these issues.
- We completed three community murals in the area. The work ran in conjunction with the summer community cohesion programme from June-August 2014.



SCA – Social Environment Partner

The last year has been one of new challenges and experiences for our Advice team. We have had to adapt to meet the impact of new social security changes and have engaged through partnership working with the wider advice sector while striving to ensure the highest quality services to our clients.

Continually adopting and changing helps us meet the challenges of being located in one of the most deprived areas in the North. It is therefore no surprise that this has been a busy year for our Advice Centre team, keeping abreast of the new up to date changes is difficult, explaining to clients on how this will impact on their families income causes uncertainty and fear for their future.

SCA continue to work in partnership with other advice providers through the West Belfast Advice Consortium and our funders Belfast City Council, DSD, and DETI. Collectively we have agreed a partnership approach to the delivery of Advice services targeted in a more effective focused manner at ensuring that free, confidential, advice, information and representation reaches those in most need.

Lucinda Interviewing a Client



Based in the heart of our community the team is committed to providing a professional, community based advice service to the people of West Belfast and beyond, the corner stone of which is challenging wrong decisions that are made by government departments through providing assistance to those facing hardships. Along with the Debt Action service assisting those clients facing bankruptcy, repossessions and financial problems.

The Advice Centre team face many issues in the time ahead especially with Welfare reform and the challenges it will bring in providing the best possible service to the public.

Rita Money Debt Advisor

We look forward to playing an active role in the future development of the Advice sector that will ensure a safety net remains in place for people who find themselves and their families requiring support and representation.

What have we done over the past year?



After what felt like an eternity, we finally reached our target following our minibus appeal and our new bus us scheduled to be on the road in the summer of 2015. This will allow for more day trips / outings for our members who enjoy heading out for the day, whether the weather permits or not!! Our members and staff all took part in " The Voice of Montague " concert held in the Culturlann for friends, family and members of the public, where they sang songs, read poems and reminisced about their lives which proved to be a big success. They have also recently enjoyed days out in Belfast Castle and St Georges Market in Belfast City Centre, the Day Centre held an Open Day and one of our members celebrated his 100th birthday with an extra special visit from the Lord Mayor of Belfast



SCA'S RETAIL OUTLET

SPRINGFIELD ROAD BELFAST.

Well another successful year for Springfield Charitable Association despite a worrying trend from previous reports showing a decline in donations to all charities due to the economic climate with all charities striving to keep afloat. An array of weird and wonderful things through donated goods has come through our doors. Quality brands like Ecco, Hotter, M&S. Cross Hatch, Aria, Dolce & Gabbana, Adidas, Next and much more only add to the top class range of clothing at affordable prices displayed in store. Bric a brac with names like Royal Doulton, Tyrone Crystal and Aynsley grace our window displays and cabinets.

SCA want you to feel confident that all your donations are picked up safely and that your local charity will get the proceeds that benefit all in the community through our other worthwhile projects. SCA (Springfield Charitable Association). A “not for profit” organisation, that makes generated income available to their customers and clients. The continuous turn over, shows the amazing amount of hard work by everyone to sort out daily donations that pour into the shop every day. The generosity of the community only shows the ability to showcase the best of those donations that enable our customers to buy with confidence at affordable prices. I take this opportunity to say a big **“thank you”** to all our valued customers who either have donated or purchased items to and from our organisation.

Testimonials SCA love to hear positive feedback from our customers as they enter the shop and their journey has been a good one. **“It’s like alladan’s cave” – “some beautiful stuff in this shop” – “staff are always pleasant and smiling” “got a wee bargain thanks” “who did your window display its gorgeous” “some lovely shoes”**. More and more young people are now coming into charity shops and SCA like to entice and target this group of people by putting

out what is **trendy** and of course branded names. For years young ones would not dare be seen in a charity shop with their parents



Fire place donated by the public raised £150 for the charity

but now they realise that their money goes further for same brands cheaper in a charity shop rather than in the High street.

SCA play a major role in the reuse of a wide range of second hand good quality inexpensive furniture for those less well off. Our van is on the road daily picking up and delivering suites, beds, units, wardrobes, tables and chairs and other household furniture.

We could fit out a whole bedroom for the princely sum of **£150** or a living room for **£200**.

These affordable prices are on offer to those who cannot afford to buy new on the high street, single parents, ethnic minority groups and those moving from hostels to allocated accommodation and have no furniture.



- Tables & Chairs
- Wardrobes
- Suites
- Beds
- Units/Other



We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our customers for their kind donations and for all those who have bought from us over the past year. All donations are welcome. To donate please telephone 02890 237160 or call into our premises on 77A-C Springfield Road Belfast



Some volunteers enjoying their trip to Crumlin Road Gaol

Thank you...

I would like to take this opportunity to say a massive thank you to everyone who has helped us to get to where we are today. To everyone who has supported us through your generous donations, purchases, kind words and continued custom, we are forever indebted to you.

Another group of people I would like to thank is my amazing team of volunteers, without you there would be no Second Time Around, your hard work, innovative ideas and dedication to the organisation is faultless.

Thank you to all our valued customers for your support in the past, present and in the future, your generosity knows no boundaries.

If you have goods you want to donate in support of SCA and the vital work we do, please contact us and we will arrange collection at a time suitable to you, you can contact us at

Blackie River Community Group - Social Environment Partner

- Blackie River Community Group has been working with local residents and other community groups to create a better environment for the Greater Falls area.
- We completed a questionnaire with local residents about their needs in a variety of areas such as community spirit, health, education, safety etc. This sample survey was conducted by our staff team who completed a door to door canvass of the Beechmount area and we had over 120 people residents complete the forms. The results of the survey will help guide and direct the work of Blackie River Community Group.
- We have been working with Beechmount Residents Association to tackle the issue of bonfires within the local community. We have engaged with local people to ascertain their views on bonfires and then we have reflected this to statutory agencies.
- We have worked with South West Action Team to look at the issue of Broadway and the difficulties around the 11th July. Through this engagement we called a meeting with statutory, voluntary, community and business sectors to develop an action plan. This work resulted in no violence on the 11th July period.
- We have engaged with local young people in partnership with Integrated Services for Children and Young People. This engagement was a way to find out the needs of the local young people and to challenge the behaviour which they are demonstrating within the area. This is an ongoing piece of work but has the potential to help young people achieve their full potential.
- Blackie River Community Group has worked with Beechmount Residents Association to get alley gates scheme extended to extra streets within the Beechmount area.



- Blackie River Community group has been working with other communities to build relationships and trust between communities. Our young people have participated in a programme with the travelling community which was very successful. We have also been engaging with the Village area through SWAT and building programmes and relationships for local people.
- We also work with Belfast City Council and NIHE around local people's needs such as bin collections, graffiti, block up houses, safety etc.
- We delivered over 80 warm packs to local families and older people who were in need of this support.

Divis Joint Development Committee – Social Environment Partner

DJDC through its member groups has facilitated or directly provided a range of programmes and measures to support the GFNP's social environment key issues and priorities including;

- DJDC were directly involved in the planning of St Patrick's Day celebrations which were preceded by a range of workshops exploring cultural diversity
- We have young people involved in a range of initiatives and activities including personal development programmes including anti-bullying, drug/ alcohol awareness and good relations.



- We play a full role in the development and programme around the Falls Youth Providers and the FYP use the Frank Gillen Centre on a regular basis, DJDC continues to provide operational, strategic and administration support to the Falls Youth Providers wherever required.

- DJDC, Blackie and Roden Street jointly participate in a volunteer based Youth Participation Group which has been active on a range of issues over the period of this report including car crime, graffiti removal, drug & alcohol abuse and suicide awareness. In particular over the July and August periods there was an intense focus of activity to reduce tension and anti-social behaviour with a key focus on the periods around the 12th July and running up to the Divis bonfire of the 8th August. This was a series of discussions with people from the loyalist community on the rationale and impact of bonfires in their communities.

- DJDC through its very active member group the Divis Youth Project were part of a series of summer schemes organised collectively

under the banner of the Falls Youth Providers, with over 100 young people in our youth and 40 in our early year's summer schemes directly within the Frank Gillen Centre.

- We were involved in a range of discussions with DCAL representatives involved in developing the Together Building a United Community strategy and programme. A range of local groups were facilitated by both organisations to be involved in these discussions including a number of local youth groups.
- Our youth programming continues to be involved in activity which spans a number of communities, this includes involvement in an OCN (Building Relationships Through Sport) with the 'Peace Players'
- A volunteer group of young people continue to design, produce and distribute 'Cool Reads' a youth magazine throughout the Falls area.
- The film 'Being Yourself', by Divis Youth Project which was created during a WheelWorks Multiple Realities Project, was awarded winner of the Group Film of the Year at The MAC's Self Made Film Night in October 2014.
- Young volunteers from Divis Youth Project have been involved in training with Belfast City Council around the key elements of 'community planning'.
- Young volunteers in the area were recognised at an awards ceremony hosted in Queens University Students Union. The "Volunteering Excellence Awards" was attended by the then Belfast Mayor Nicola Mallon
- We have with local groups been involved in clean up campaigns involving local schoolchildren and facilitated environmental awareness sessions with local children through our own groups with various ages ranging from 4- 18 years old.



The Roden Street Community Development Group – Social Environment Partner

Illustrative Snapshots 2014 /2015

- Gardening and environmental programme at Grosvenor Community Garden increased in the period enabling new beneficiaries and 2 new external groups to engage in the centre and at the site.
- Generated significant positive media related to the Falls ward area.....

5 Year Celebration of the 3G Playing Field @ Grosvenor Community Centre



- RSCDG actively engaged in the Greater Falls Housing Providers Forum enabling communication with key housing providers in the area and strategy development at the local level to redress challenges and development of plans for area issues.
- Grosvenor Community Centre has continued to represent an engaging direct facility related to good relations work, particularly engaging the Filipino community and Eastern European community through facilities, programmes and capacity support provision.



Building Successful Communities Launch
Activity at Distillery Street with Board
Members

- RSCDG actively engaged in the Divis/ Falls Intervention Programme including related to Youth Work Hours, Shared Diversionary programming, the Youth Participation Forum, Community referral planning and in promotional activities.
- The organisation established a new sculpture garden in August 2013 with a view to displaying temporary art at the site or further sculptures creating a stop off point for foot fall traffic, tourists and community members.
- RSCDG has participated in identifying relevant vacant land sites in the Grosvenor estate with a view to development opportunities.
- The organisation is committed to good relations at the local level and in the period has continued to facilitate and foster shared cultural working at the visible local level in a sustained year round capacity. This activity has quite simply become part of the 'community infrastructure' and micro community which exists in Grosvenor Community Centre.
- 2014/2015 programming also extended with facilitation of 2 new organisations at the site. This physical development has enabled an associated programme of Environmental Learning, Practical Gardening and Growing Skills, Training and Engagement aiming to enhance health and well-being through healthy eating, physical activity and environmental appreciation.

Neighbourhood Development Association– Social Environment Partner

The NDA over the past year has delivered;

- 36 people/volunteers involved in advice service, physical development and/or environmental improvement projects during the year
- 104 people benefiting from projects to promote personal & social development
- 48 volunteers created/sustained

Additionally we;

- Work with the NIHE, via the District & Area Community Housing Networks to gather information about proposed developments and redevelopments and schemes in the NRA;
- Held 2 information events to provide information and advice on Welfare Reform changes.

Ionad Uíbh Eachach – Development & Regeneration Lead Partner

Contributing to the physical, social and cultural regeneration of the Greater Falls and raising the profile of the Irish language was a key priority for Ionad Uíbh Eachach as part of the Ceathrú Gaeltachta. In partnership with local community centres and the GFNP we have rolled out a number of Irish language outreach programmes and initiatives which have reached community groups, afterschool clubs and local English schools. In addition an innovative series of language and cultural opportunities for adults, study support for young students and new courses for parents and beginners has supported community cohesion and regeneration.

Supporting social and economic regeneration through cultural and language development as part of the Ceathrú Gaeltachta has also been a priority particularly in the context of the economic crisis.

Affordable, flexible Irish language childcare services have allowed local parents to continue to access childcare and weather some of the uncertainty and social economy development has sustained local employment for over 30 staff and supported a wide range of training opportunities for local people. Work with Invest NI over the last year has led to the development of a business plan around the expansion of Irish language social economy childcare provision and Ionad recently launched its social economy project – Gaelchúram – as part of its 25 yr celebration. Affordable accessible quality daycare through Irish is now provided for over 140 children aged 3 months – 12 yrs.

Cultúr & Teanga/Culture and Language services.

- **Beginners:** Free taster courses to support people who want to brush up on their language skills
- **Fáinne:** Free courses were offered for the Fáinne Óir/Airgid attended by 40 local people
- **Líofa 2015:** Ionad Uíbh Eachach have signed up 200 for DCAL's Líofa 2015 and Líofa support classes have also been started.
- **Cainteanna & Turasanna:** regular talks and trips to build local access to our rich cultural heritage.



Blackie River Community Group - Development and Regeneration Partner

Blackie River Community Group has been working in partnership with a variety of stakeholders over the last year to develop the physical and economic regeneration of the local area, some of the initiatives which we have been involved in are:

- We are supporting Clonard Boxing Club to gain new premises which are fit for purpose and that meet the needs of the local area. We have worked in partnership with a variety of stakeholders to develop a business case for the boxing club and to negotiate with NIE to get their disused premises handed over to the club. This is an on-going process where we will support the local club to ensure it survives and continues to support local children and adults in this sporting field.
- We supported Davitt's GAA to gain a new pitch and car parking facilities within the Beechmount area.
- We have been in talks with NIHE to develop a piece of land beside Blackie River Community Group. This environmental project will see the site transformed and will be support by local residents to maintain and develop the site. This is an on-going process and will be achieved for autumn of 2014.
- We have also been support the local residents in building their capacity and over the last year we have:
- A door to door canvass was completed by Blackie River Community Group staff to ascertain local residents views on the area and their needs. This canvass seen us engage with over 300 people and gain valuable information about people's needs and also set the strategic direction of the organisation.
- We have support a variety of projects and residents in building their capacity by providing a venue to meet, engage with statutory agencies and provide administration support.
- Worked with the South West Action Team to look at the economic and physical regeneration of the Broadway interface. This has been an engagement process between two communities and statutory providers to look at developing a shared vision for the future

Divis Joint Development Committee – Development & Regeneration Partner

Throughout the year we have represented the views of the Falls community at a number of events and facilitated discussion on a range of topics locally including with/ to:

- All local organisations have inputted to a pre-consultation discussion involving Belfast HSC Trust around plans to transform Grovetree House into a development of 30 self-contained apartments built to dementia friendly standards.
- Both Roden Street CDG and ourselves with the support of the Falls Partnership have brokered a programme of improvements with DCAL which has/ are making physical improvements to both the Frank Gillen Centre and Grosvenor Recreation Centre, this will amount to nearly £400k worth of improvements to both sites, the FGC elements (new kitchen, play park and additional ICT equipment) are now completed and Roden Street works started and on-site.
- We have been involved in a range of discussions around the development of derelict land in the Falls area, in particular the development of what is commonly known as the ‘bonfire site’ for a capital investment for a new Radio Failte premises
- DJDC’s key worker has been involved as chair of the Belfast Strategic Partnerships Life Long Learning thematic area in a range of discussions around the value of community education and the linkages and support needed to enhance those services for local people. The group launched ‘Belfast a Learning City’ in February 2015 in Belfast City Hall.
- We continue to make an ongoing input to the development of Belfast City Council’s Employability and Skills strategy through the Centre for Local Economic Studies and through the Mayors Forum on this key strategy.





- DJDC have also responded to a variety of public consultations including social housing reform and the budget, to give local people views on a range of subjects and daily engage with a range of statutory organisations and issues relating to service provision across the area.
 - There have been many discussions held with key statutory agencies as to how and when local communities should be involved in the design and potential delivery of services locally. This year this has reflected around discussions on the services available to the frail elderly and those experiencing reablement after discharge from hospital.
 - Additionally there have been a range of discussions with key partners around the SIF programme (Youth Intervention and Employability themes) and their potential impact on this area.
 - The NR coordinator (employed through DJDC) has identified core issues to work with local groups around governance, policy development and understanding of collaboration opportunities and we are addressing those on an ongoing basis.
 - We have been pro-actively supporting local group's governance procedures including new registration processes as charities under the Charities Commission NI.
- DJDC through a variety of fora have also been involved in a range of conversations about tendering and procurement which we hope will benefit local people in expanding the range of services on offer to the community but also continue to help shape the commissioning specifications, outcomes and design of future tenders.
 - Through active involvement in both the Greater Falls Neighbourhood Partnership and local partnership arrangements in the Falls area we continue to contribute to the building of this measure by active participation in the development of the Greater Falls NP's key issues and priorities document and strategic framework. Together with other key partner organisations we have been involved in a series of sessions to make the priorities and issues document of the GFNP into a living document with action points which are both achievable and something we can also aspire too. Much work has taken place around the core document of the GFNP and many of these issues have been raised there, day to day support takes place across the area with a range of smaller local organisations which do not have staff or

physical resources, we have been working with many of these groups to determine their needs and develop appropriate responses and plans to help them.

- We continue to be involved in discussions across health and social care, including Belfast Outcomes Group regarding children services planning. We worked with Beechmount & Clan Mor Sure Starts to provide quality professional services for local families and a number of organisations were supported to make bids for support from Belfast Outcomes Groups Family Support funding pot.
- With Belfast Local Commissioning Group regarding the implications of Transforming Your Care and the continued roll out of population plans, the outworking of Integrated Care Partnerships particularly around key issues like mental health and heart disease and chronic condition management and development of self-care options.
- We together with Blackie River Community Association and Roden Street CDG are driving the discussions around community infrastructure (a GFNP core theme).
- DJDC continues through its base at the Frank Gillen Centre and through its active involvement in the Falls Partnership Initiative and its member groups dealing with early years, youth development and adult training initiatives provide practical support and mentoring on a daily basis across a range of issues from life skills to employment support. DJDC provides practical and direct administrative support to the Falls Residents Association, Falls Youth Providers and Immaculata Junior Football Club
 - For example Immaculata Junior Football Club have been supported to acquire a new 17 seater minibus with support from DCAL.



DJDC have responded to a variety of public consultations including the draft budget, to give local people views on a range of subjects and daily engage with a range of statutory organisations and issues relating to service provision across the area

Additional discussions included;

- Development of Locality planning and Family Support Hubs
- Appropriate access to GP's
- Collaboration and mergers
- BIG Lottery funding
- Inspiring Impact programme
- West Belfast Strategic Health Planning
- Making Life Better – Public Health Strategy.

Our ethos and values are based within Community Development principals and we endeavour to use this style of working to develop both local people and local group's needs.

The Roden Street Community Development Group – Development and Regeneration Partner

Illustrative Snapshots:

- RSCDG assisted in the completion 2 x business cases in the period for other organisations related to physical infrastructure development culminating in installation of new sporting facilities.
- RSCDG engaged in Divis Falls Intervention, Greater Falls Housing Providers Forum, South West Action Team and Housing Consumer Panel & Building Successful Communities.
- The organisation has continued to actively liaise in partnership and hosted a number of events in the period related to development, including, Launch of Building Successful Communities (DSD), Launch of Initial Grove Tree Plans (BHSCT),
- The organisation lobbied for inclusion of additional parking measures at Roden Street/Roden Pass and Distillery Street successfully.
- The organisation has sustained Roden Street Tenants and Residents Group in the period.
- RSCDG negotiated with Roads Service for inclusion of parking measures at Roden Street/Roden Pass & Genoa Street.

“Community Led and Driven
Physical Improvement Strategies at
the Local Level”



- RSCDG compiles and disseminates a Monthly Community news sheet to 450 dwellings in the immediate area outlining key area issues, community news, events, services, training opportunities and schedules.

- Roden Street Afterschool's Service participated in an arts programme with Belfast City Council Interface Programme, culminating in the improvement of Roden Street Interface, (illustrated below with Councillor Marie Hendron).
- The organisation partnered in a submission business case for renovation and improvement at two sites, this has culminated in a substantial improvement to the physical infrastructure at Grosvenor Community Centre, enabling capacity growth of teams in the area, continued diversity in usage and 'future proof'.





Continued lobbying in partnership relative to Distillery Street and Roden Street, including Place Checks with QUB Students.

Next on the Agenda..... Distillery Street



One Aim of 2014/2015:
Upgrade Physical Activity Facilities and
Install New Family Focus and Wellnss
Fitness Zone

Clonard Neighbourhood Development Partnership – Development and Regeneration Partner

- We have secured funding through Belfast City Council for the development of a MUGA (Multi Use Games Area) beside the play park in Springfield Avenue.



- We are engaging with Belfast City Council around the Invest NI/Mackie's Site. BCC are developing plans for a £11m Innovation Centre on this site and we are working with them to look at the community benefits for both the Springfield and Shankill areas and also the potential regenerative effects on the entire site.
- Discussions have been on-going with DOJ to renew the interface gates at Workman Avenue. Work has already begun at the side with the installation of new CCTV cameras at this location and also improved lighting. The gates will be installed in late August and both communities have been meeting on a monthly basis with DOJ and the PSNI to look at incidents and planning for the works to take place.
- We supported Clonard Boxing Club to look at alternative premises and they have been successful in gaining the funding to relocate.

Greater Falls Neighbourhood Partnership 2014/15 Expenditure (by Strategic Objective)

The following table details current projects funded via the Neighbourhood Renewal Investment fund. It also details the **2014/15** individual spend for each project, the total amount of expenditure by strategic objective and the overall **2014/15** total expenditure in the **Greater Falls Neighbourhood Renewal Area**.

Programme/Project	CFF Funding Period	CFF Funding Amount (Project allocation)	Spend as at 31/03/15
SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT			
Social Environment Theme	01 April 2012 to 31 March 2015	£284,131.00	£88,432.61
Total Social Environment Expenditure		£284,131.00	£88,432.61
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & REGENERATION			

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & REGENERATION			
Community Development & Regeneration Theme	01 April 2012 to 31 March 2015	£263,486.00	£87,371.21
Total Community Development & Regeneration Expenditure		£263,486.00	£87,371.21
COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE			
Community Infrastructure Theme	01 April 2012 to 31 March 2015	£305,021.00	£101,673.38
Total Community Infrastructure Expenditure		£305,021.00	£101,673.38
EDUCATION			

Education Theme	01 April 2012 to 31 March 2015	£389,188.00	£118,881.18
St Joseph's Primary School - 'Learning today to create a better tomorrow'	05 January 2015 to 31 March 2015	£56,425.50	£56,425.50
NOW Project Ltd	20 February 2015 to 31 March 2015	£60,120.00	£60,120.00
Total Education Expenditure		£505,733.50	£235,426.68
HEALTH			
Health Theme	01 April 2012 to 31 March 2015	£362,559.00	£116,322.76
Total Health Expenditure		£362,559.00	£116,322.76
TOTALS		£1,720,930.50	£540,794.03

This figure is exclusive of **£283,013.58 NRIF** awarded for the delivery of services/projects on a West wide basis within the Greater Falls NRA. An overview of the projects is attached at **Annex A**.

ACHIEVEMENTS OF NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL FUNDING IN 2014/15 YEAR

Community Output Measures* - from April 2014

PROJECT	CR1 - Number of people participating in community relations projects	CR2 - Number of people volunteering for community development activities	CR3 - Number of people engaged/involved in unpaid voluntary work	CR4 - Number of people receiving training in community development skills/capacity building	CR5 - Number of people using new or improved community facilities	CR6 - Number of community/voluntary groups supported	CR7 - Number of community relations projects supported	CR13 - Number of advice enquires
Social Environment		75				31		865
Development and Regeneration		61	48	55	262	1	142	
Community Infrastructure	177	3						

Education Output Measures* from April 2014

PROJECT	SR(Ed) 5 - Number of people engaged in parenting skills development programmes	SR(Ed) 7 - Number of pupils whose attainment is measurably enhanced/improved	SR(Ed) 8 - Number of pupils directly benefiting from project	SR(Ed) 14 - Number of young people directly benefiting from the project	SR(Ed) 17 - Type and number of accredited qualifications completed
Social Environment	5			323	
Development and Regeneration					
Health					
Education	68	580	142		302
Community Infrastructure					

Social Renewal - Health Output Measures* from April 2014

PROJECT	SR(H)1 - Number of people benefiting from Healthy Lifestyle Projects	SR(H)5 - Number of people benefiting from new or improved health facilities	SR(H)6 - Number of people participating in suicide prevention projects	SR(H)8 - Number of people using new sports facilities
Social Environment	86		16	
Development and Regeneration	150			
Health	701	433	169	845

Social Renewal - Crime Output Measures* from April 2014

PROJECT	SR(C)1 - Number of people receiving advice on crime prevention
Social Environment	28

Physical Renewal Output Measures* from April 2014

PROJECT	PR5 - Number of building(s) improved	PR8 - Number of projects improving community facilities
Development and Regeneration	1	
Education		2
Community Infrastructure	1	2

Economic Renewal Output Measures* from April 2014

PROJECT	ER3 - Number of people accessing careers advice	ER4 - Number of people receiving job specific training	new/existing childcare places supported to facilitate training or employment	A2 - Number of full time jobs safeguarded
Social Environment	13			3.5
Development and Regeneration		55		3.5
Health			658	4.5
Education				3.5
Community Infrastructure				3

ANNEX A**Community Development and Economic Regeneration**

This project is focused on the implementation of a range of the Neighbourhood Renewal Action Plan (NAP) priorities across the West, namely, Greater Falls, Upper Springfield Whiterock, Andersonstown, Lenadoon and Colin NRAs.

Community Development underpins most of the work and services delivered by community organisations. Through this partnership core community development has been delivered across west Belfast. Working with residents groups, community organisations, delivering services directly to the women's sector, Irish language and community based tourist initiatives, this partnership has delivered to most communities in the west and beyond. The following is a brief overview of that work.

Falls Community Council continues to Chair the West Belfast Partnership Board and to be a member of OFMDFM Social Investment Board. Falls Community Council is centrally involved in the development and economic regeneration of West Belfast.

Falls Community Councils AMPS Studio in partnership with the Armagh Observatory and the National Trust hosted 'Sounds of the Night Sky' a unique installation created by artist and sound designer Robert Jervis, staged on the Black Mountain in March 2015. This event was attended by over 100 individuals from across the city. During the 2014 – 15 year the AMPS Studio have delivered,

tailored workshops to disability groups and care homes across West Belfast; music industry advice workshops supporting 77 individuals; a new website to raise the profile of the services provided.



Falls Community Council Director with a cross community delegation meeting the DSD Committee at Stormont

Fáilte Feirste Thiar continues to promote the tourist industry within West Belfast. During 2014 - 15 they have lead delegations from the local tourism industry showcasing their offering at leading trade show across Ireland and Britain and most significantly they have succeeded in gaining a foothold in the US market place.

Education West Wide

The aim of this project is to address the training and educational needs of the West Belfast community, especially those who are hard to reach.

The Falls Community Council's AMPS Studio has provided accredited training in recording techniques, provided work based placements for students and long term unemployed and hosted Music Industry Advice workshops.

Tar Anal has supported the delivery of a range of training including: Health & Safety Training Course, Basic IT Through Essential Skills, Basic French and Italian speaking classes and a fitness programme.

Conway Education Centre continues to provide a safe and encouraging environment for learning opportunities, enabling local people to improve their confidence and skills in order to fulfil their potential, enhance their chances of employment, and participate in the development of their community.



Bryson An Munia Tober

An Munia Tober is a Traveller support organisation dedicated to the reduction of inequalities that effect the Traveller population in Greater Belfast through improvements in health, housing, education/training, economic, young people's outcomes and integration activities.

Since An Munia Tober became part of the Bryson Charitable Group in April 2012 the charity has developed and implemented a range of programmes for Travellers that respond to the identified needs of this indigenous ethnically marginalised group as identified in the Northern Ireland Race Relations Order (1997).

Through developing and maintaining partnership approaches to working with Travellers, local communities, relevant statutory and voluntary bodies and other minority ethnic groups, An Munia Tober continues to promote good relations, integration and the building of community cohesion.

Health and Wellbeing

The aim of this project is to support services focused on the Health and Wellbeing of families, children and young people.

Below are some pictures of programmes which are on offer.

Falls Community Council Drug Awareness



Newstart Education Centre – Talking about tough issues group



Frank Gillen Centre – Bullying Awareness Group and Falls Youth Providers Fun Day & Personal Safety Workshop



Roden Street and St James Personal Development Programs



West Wide Disability

The aim of this project is to promote social inclusion by engaging with people with disabilities and their families. This project works with children, young people and adults with a range of disabilities – from severe complex needs to social and emotional issues, to support positive life changes environmentally, physically and socially.

Action On Disability's (AOD) and Kids Together's (KT) professional staff and volunteers ensured 2014 was a very exciting, challenging and progressive year.

A big development took place in 2014 for Action on Disability as they re-named to **Action Ability Belfast** in consultation with their service users and associates. The re-naming came about to reflect the aim of what they do which is to help develop and harness

the natural abilities of our service users and lose focus on disabilities. They launched their new name and logo, incorporating a butterfly, in June with a celebration evening, of song and dance.

They have developed a new website which features a caterpillar turning into a butterfly. www.actionabilitybelfast.com. This is a well-known and poignant image that people recognise as transformation into bigger and better things, which is what we aim to support our service users in doing. Their range of activities throughout the year have been very successful and a range of new activities and partnerships have been established. They now work in partnership with the Tree of Life at Conway Mill where service users are able to experience a wider range of arts and crafts activities. The Expressions group were involved in an art project titled *Lights Out* at the City hall in August. Artists involved were Bob and Roberta Smith and Platform Arts. This project was around the theme of World War 1, the group created words around peace and war which was displayed along-side many other works in the grounds of the City Hall.

The services continue to develop and grow, befriending is in huge demand and the Floating Support team have increased their case-loads. The groups volunteers have continued to provide excellent support and many have received recognition through national awards for their great work.

A large number of service users and volunteer's achievements were recognised at the Success of the West awards in June. This was a wonderful event that gave recognition to many people who had never experienced receiving acknowledgment of their success.

The group has began research into the needs of people with disabilities within west Belfast, over 130 interviews and questionnaires were completed. Action on Disability's youth inclusion programmes across North, East, South and West Belfast have continued to flourish and grow. A number of young people who have benefited from the service have gone onto to become volunteers with Action on Disability and various other voluntary/ community organisations in West Belfast. This year's summer scheme was an overwhelming success with a vast array of activities on offer for both our young people and adults. The adults

programme concluded with Action on Disability's Got Talent which was won by Brenda Wright. During the past year AOD introduced two new services. The Royal National Institute for the Blind chose AOD as one of its partners in their Community Engagement Projects (CEPs). The project is piloting a range of evidence-based eye health interventions to understand how effective they are at increasing service uptake and treatment concordance.

Kids Together have also had a land mark year with the opening of new and improved premises within the Oasis Building on the Stewartstown Road. Kids Together continue a range of services to their clients including,

- Summer programme with a total of 182 children attending over July and August 2014;
- After school projects delivering provision of 6 sessions per week of which 64 children avail;
- Youth project delivered 4 sessions per week with 48 children using this service;
- Time for me project with 2 sessions per week with 20 children availing of this service.



Social Environment Programme (Crime)

The aim of this project is to support the priorities of the communities within West Belfast, these priorities are community safety, community participation and improving life at the interfaces.

Community Restorative Justice Ireland (CRJI) is a voluntary service within the local community. They are committed to building a just restorative process that is tolerant, responsive and inclusive. CRJI offers support, assistance and referrals to relevant agencies where appropriate and have established excellent relationships with all local organisations; Housing Associations, Youth Groups, Suicide Support Groups, Counselling Projects, Youth Services and Statutory Agencies.

They utilize all available resources in order to address the diverse range of issues presenting/referred that impact and affect the community. CRJI staff and practitioners provide a safe and confidential environment and their role is to provide an impartial structured format that brings local people together to enable them to resolve issues that are affecting their quality of life.

A brief description of what CRJI does and/or the activities it undertakes

To provide a mediation service for the local community.

To recruit, train, manage and support volunteers.

We also provide a victim/offender conferencing service to meet the needs of victims of crime and support offenders to make right the hurt they have caused.

To engage more members of the community in the governance of the organisation and meet their training and support needs.

To encourage collaboration and reintegration rather than coercion and isolation.