

Public Document Pack

**Democratic Services Section
Legal and Civic Services Department
Belfast City Council
City Hall
Belfast
BT1 5GS**

HYBRID MEETING OF CITY GROWTH AND REGENERATION COMMITTEE

Dear Alderman/Councillor,

In addition to those matters previously notified to you, the following item(s) will also be considered at the meeting to be held at 5.15 pm on Wednesday, 9th August, 2023.

Yours faithfully,

JOHN WALSH

Chief Executive

AGENDA:

2. Presentation

- (a) Renewed Ambition Partnership (Pages 1 - 54)

3. Restricted Items

- (d) Year-End Finance Report 2022-23 (Pages 55 - 60)

6. Positioning the City to Compete

- (b) Artist Studios Update (Pages 61 - 70)
- (c) Major Events Update (Report to Follow)
- (d) Music Strategy Update (Report to Follow)

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Subject:	Renewed Ambition Programme Update
Date:	9 August 2023
Reporting Officer:	Cathy Reynolds, Director of City Regeneration and Development
Contact Officer:	Marie Miller, Marketing Manager, City Regeneration & Development

Restricted Reports									
<p>Is this report restricted? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?</p> <table style="width: 100%; margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">After Committee Decision</td> <td style="width: 20%; text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>After Council Decision</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Some time in the future</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Never</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </table>		After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>	Never	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>								
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>								
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Call-in									
<p>Is the decision eligible for Call-in? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p>									
1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues								
1.1	<p>The purpose of this report is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update Members on the Renewed Ambition Public - Private Partnership 2022 / 2023 programme; and proposed 2023 / 2024 programme of work aimed at attracting inclusive investment for the delivery of regeneration, infrastructure and a modern built environment for Belfast and wider City Region. Seek approval to extend the Council's involvement in the Partnership Programme for 2023 / 2024 and contribution as part of a wider public-private approach. 								
2.0	Recommendations								
2.1	<p>I. Note the presentation from representatives from the Renewed Ambition Partnership Taskforce, a public private sector partnership, aimed at attracting inclusive investment for the delivery of regeneration, infrastructure and a modern built environment for Belfast and wider City Region. The presentation provides</p>								

	<p>an update on the 22 / 23 programme of work and the proposed approach to the 23 / 24 Programme.</p> <p>II. Approve that Officers continue to support the 23 / 24 programme including governance processes, administering programme funded expenditure and entering into associated contracts on behalf of and with oversight from the Taskforce, and in line with Council's procurement processes.</p> <p>III. Approve the Council investment (from existing and approved City Regeneration and Development Budget) as part of the wider public private partnership contribution towards the delivery of the 23 / 24 Programme.</p> <p>IV. Approve attendance of Senior Officers at the proposed New York Real Estate Investment Showcase as part of the 23 / 24 programme, subject to event plans being sufficiently progressed and support from wider city partners, noting that it will be funded from the wider public private Renewed Ambition Partnership budget.</p> <p>V. Approve attendance by the Chairperson of the Committee, or their nominee, along with Senior Officers as appropriate at MIPIM 2024, noting that it will be funded from the wider public private Renewed Ambition Partnership budget.</p>
3.0	Background
3.1	Members will recall that the Committee agreed in June 2023 to receive a presentation from the Renewed Ambition Partnership (RAP) Taskforce to update Members on the 2022 / 2023 programme; and proposed 2023 / 2024 programme of work, including priority issues and objectives for the Partnership moving forward.
3.2	The Renewed Ambition Partnership (RAP) is a joint public-private initiative that is delivering a programme of work aimed at ensuring Belfast is positioned to continue to attract investment to underpin regeneration, development and infrastructure activities in the city required to deliver our inclusive growth ambitions.
3.3	The Renewed Ambition Partnership is supported by public, private and key anchor institution partners. Partners comprise of Belfast City Council, all BRCD partner Councils, Invest NI, Belfast Harbour, Translink, Housing Association representation, the local development community and representatives from key city infrastructure, regeneration and development projects.
3.4	In terms of context setting, it is relevant to highlight to Members that the Council have been supporting a public private sector approach to ensuring Belfast is positioned to

	attract inclusive investment and delivering sustainable and inclusive growth for the last eight years.
3.5	<p>The Belfast Agenda (the City's Community Plan) sets bold ambitions and economic development priorities for the city. Delivering inclusive growth and ensuring that no one is left behind is central to this vision. It aims to develop a competitive city region economy by creating 46,000 additional jobs and attracting 66,000 new residents into the city. Positively through the Belfast Agenda Statement of Progress, which is published every two years, significant progress has been made in achieving key short term targets including attracting £1 billion in private sector investment and securing a Belfast Region City Deal. The joint public private sector approach and shared focus created through RAP has been key to achieving this. It is an important platform and lever within our wider 'Position the City to Compete' proposition which seeks to build on the city's reputation as a unique destination for investment, tourism, development and supporting inclusive economic growth.</p>
3.6	<p>Members will be aware that whilst the city has experienced a positive trajectory in terms of regeneration and investment, there is still more work to be done to achieve the ambitious targets as set out within the Belfast Agenda, and importantly unlocking the wider inclusive benefits of such investment and, ensuring these reach every part of the city. This will require significant private and public sector investment. To give members a sense of investment required, the Belfast Agenda indicates the need for a total investment in the region of £7.5 billion by 2035. This includes the requirement to deliver 31,600 new homes for and development of 550,000 sq m of employment floor space to support the additional jobs.</p>
3.7	<p>The priorities within the Belfast City Centre Regeneration and Investment Strategy (BCCRIS) together with the Future City Programme and city-wide regeneration and investment priorities remain critical to delivering physical and inclusive development in the city. From a Community Planning and city leadership perspective, the cross sectoral City Development Board has identified housing-led regeneration; improving connectivity active and sustainable travel; supporting city-wide development and regeneration and delivering the Future City Centre programme as key priorities for the city's future growth. It is important to note that a number of Renewed Ambition partners are also represented on the City Development Board, underpinning the importance of a collaborative approach to city development.</p>

3.8	Through our Inclusive Growth Framework, we are committed to working with our partners including the private sector, anchor institutions, community and voluntary sector and our wider public sector partners to create an inclusive city. The physical and built environment is part of an overall enabling framework to deliver on this.
3.9	Members will also be aware of the 'Reset for Growth' report that the Innovation and Inclusive Growth Commission produced in 2021. This report set out a number of strategic priorities for action which would help support inclusive economic growth in Belfast. these included delivering a house building programme at scale, creating a sustainable, connected, and animated city centre, focusing on making Belfast a globally significant innovation hub in key sectors and building strong global co-operation frameworks. Specifically, the Commission highlighted the need for collaborative working with partners, building strategic networks and relationships and developing viable investment propositions to bring to market as being critical to positioning the city globally as an attractive investment location.
4.0	Main Report
4.1	<p>Renewed Ambition Programme 2022 / 2023 Update</p> <p>As outlined in the accompanying presentation, the RAP 2022 / 2023 programme ran from 1st April 2022 to the 31st May 2023 and delivered a structured programme of work focussed on the five key pillars of Research; Events; Advocacy and Engagement; Communications and Repository aligned to securing investment and regeneration for the Belfast region.</p>
4.2	<p>Benefits achieved through the 2022/2023 Programme</p> <p>As highlighted previously, to Council, RAP is one lever within the wider "Position the City to Compete" proposition and forms a key element within the Corporate Plan. It aligns and complements other city partnerships including Innovation City Belfast, Belfast Region City Deal and alongside council-led activities to accelerate city centre living, Smart Belfast, Resilience / Net Zero and our Economic Development activities. It is a key tool in attracting external capital investment required to deliver key regeneration projects across the city.</p>
4.3	Council's participation in the 22/23 programme has delivered a number of benefits in terms of working to achieve our corporate and city level strategic priorities. Members will be aware that in March 2023, the Council launched an Expression of Interest seeking to

	<p>establish a long-term arrangement with an investor / development partner to bring forward the sustainable, residential-led regeneration of a number of Council assets within the city centre. Through the 22/23 RAP programme the Council were able to promote this opportunity with institutional investors at events such as UKREiiF and MIPIM. Attending these events provided Officers with an opportunity to hold one to one meetings with key institutional investors, banks and pension funds all with strong track records and focus on Environmental, Social and Governance. There was a significant footfall on the Belfast Stands at both events, and requests for impromptu meetings from investors and developers interested in Belfast. This interest can be evidenced in the responses received to the EOI which closed at the end of May.</p>
4.4	<p>The Belfast City Regeneration Tracker (Appendix A) was presented to the Committee in March 2023. This provided an overview of regeneration and development activity which took place across the city during 2022, as aligned to the Belfast Agenda and the eight policies set out in BCCRIS. There was positive progress across the range of asset classes throughout 2022, which is expected to continue through 2023 given the scale of schemes commencing or planning to commence. As previously noted by this Committee, in 2022 / 2023 there was a 2% growth in rates base (arising from additional development), which resulted in additional rates growth of £3.3m every year.</p>
4.5	<p>2023 / 2024 Programme</p> <p>As touched on within the request to present report to Committee in June this year, Members were advised that the governance of the Renewed Ambition Partnership is via a Taskforce comprised of representatives of the public and private sector. Council plays a key role in both the strategic and operational management of RAP; including the development, management and delivery of the Programme of Activity; and supporting the governance processes, administering programme funded expenditure, and entering into associated contracts on behalf of, and with oversight from, the Taskforce. Members are asked to approve Council continuing to take on this role, with officers supporting the 23/24 programme including governance processes, administering programme funded expenditure and entering into associated contracts on behalf of and with oversight from the Taskforce, and in line with Council's procurement processes.</p>
4.6	<p>The presentation accompanying this report from the Renewed Ambition Partnership Taskforce sets out the core objectives and workstreams for the 2023 / 2024 programme. It will continue to be delivered as a structured pillared programme of work (Events,</p>

	<p>Advocacy & Engagement, Communications and Research). The 2023/2024 programme will continue to align to and complement other BCC led activities within the context of 'Positioning the City to Compete' and delivering a 'Global Future' - a key action area from the Innovation and Inclusive Growth Commission. This includes work being undertaken by Economic Development, Tourism and Culture, International Relations, Resilience, the SMART team and partnerships including Innovation City Belfast, Belfast Dublin Economic Corridor and BRCD. In addition, the need to continue to work in collaboration with international partners, including Department for Business and Trade (DBT) and Invest NI to promote investment opportunities in Belfast will be a critical component, notably through the upcoming Northern Ireland Investment Summit.</p>
4.7	<p>For the Council, the key aims and objectives of being part of the Renewed Ambition Partnership and contributing to the programme include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Securing investment to assist with delivery of our growth ambitions as outlined in the Belfast Agenda, and aligned to corporate priorities - Maximising the benefits of the Belfast Region City Deal investments - Identifying and potentially securing longer term institutional investment to support the implementation of agreed regeneration plans for the city, with a particular emphasis on housing led regeneration and city centre living - Securing investment in the built environment on a city-wide basis to maximise opportunities to create jobs, support inclusive economic growth alongside enhancing physical and social infrastructure across the city - Securing investment in key city infrastructure schemes including waterfront regeneration, connectivity, net-zero and innovation related projects - Investment to help address dereliction and support the re-use and preservation of heritage assets - Investment in tourism and cultural products to underpin regeneration priorities - Investment in clean tech, environmental and sustainability initiatives
4.8	<p>The Council has a lead role to play in delivering on this shared agenda. Supporting the collaborative partnership approach taken by the Renewed Ambition Programme to showcasing Belfast, locally and globally, to the real estate investment, development and occupier market is critical, as we seek to attract the right investment into the city to drive the delivery of key regeneration projects, including residential, commercial and forthcoming BRCD projects, to provide for sustainable inclusive growth in the city.</p>

4.9	<p>All five BRCD partner Councils have invested in RAP since 2019 and it has been an important forum to showcase the real estate investment potential for the wider Belfast City Region and forthcoming BRCD projects. BRCD, which seeks to deliver a 10-year programme to increase GVA by £470m and creating up to 20,000 new and better jobs across the Belfast City Region is in delivery phase across 6 Council areas. Within Belfast, it will support the delivery of Belfast Stories, active travel through a new cycle & pedestrian bridge, a Smart District as well as innovative University-led centres of excellence in life & health sciences, artificial intelligence and data analytics and virtual production at Studio Ulster. BRCD is targeting a further £1bn of private sector investment in order to deliver the benefits in terms of jobs and productivity set out within the business cases.</p>
4.10	<p>The Renewed Ambition Partnership is supported and funded by public, private and key anchor institution partners, with external funding forming the majority of the overall programme delivery budget. Members are asked to note the proposed approach to the 2023 / 2024 Programme and approve the Council investment (from existing and approved City Regeneration & Development Budget) as part of the wider public private partnership contribution towards the delivery of the 23 / 24 Programme.</p>
4.11	<p>New York 2023 Real Estate Investment Showcase</p> <p>The RAP Taskforce endorsed exploring the opportunity to organise a focused Real Estate Investment Showcase in New York as part of the 23/24 programme to meet with potential investors and occupiers, to ensure the inclusion of the real estate opportunity in Belfast and the wider region to these audiences. The partnership is engaging with other partners including Invest NI to gauge support and further endorsement. From a Council perspective, officers are working across City Regeneration, Economic Development and International Relations through the wider “Position the City to Compete” proposition to ensure alignment with the planned International Relations Programme, notably New York New Belfast and on-going engagement with US Diplomats and Consulate. Subject to event plans being sufficiently progressed and support from wider city partners, Members are asked to approve senior officer attendance at the proposed Real Estate Investment Showcase, noting that it will be funded from the wider public private Renewed Ambition Partnership budget.</p>
4.12	<p>MIPIIM 2024</p> <p>Members are reminded that in previous years the Council has participated in the ‘Team Belfast’ attendance at MIPIIM, and more recently in 2023 as part of the Renewed</p>

	<p>Ambition Partnership. MIPIM is the world's leading built environment conference and exhibition. The Renewed Ambition Taskforce has recently endorsed a Belfast presence at MIPIM in March 2024 and its inclusion within the Programme of activity for 2023 / 2024. The presentation to Committee from representatives from the Renewed Ambition Taskforce will provide further detail on how a Belfast Region presence at MIPIM assists on the delivery of investment that provides for sustainable inclusive growth in the city and wider city region, based on previous experience at MIPIM and looking forward.</p>
4.13	<p>MIPIM brings together nearly 27,000 public and private sector built environment representatives from across the globe, including all major UK and European cities. It provides city leaders with an opportunity to promote their city to a global audience and connect with potential partners and sources of investment required to unlock built environment regeneration and development, while supporting the built environment industry to bring forward sustainable development and help accelerate on the road to net zero.</p>
4.14	<p>From a Renewed Ambition Partnership perspective, partners feel that attending MIPIM allows Belfast and the Belfast Region to position itself to a global audience and attract the interest of institutional investors, developers, occupiers and funders in the context of bringing forward sustainable development to create a well-connected and culturally vibrant, sustainable city and region. The Partnership has therefore proposed a Belfast City Region presence at MIPIM 2024, in line with other UK Cities.</p>
4.15	<p>The RAP Partnership feel that in order to successfully showcase Belfast and the wider City Region, it requires the civic leadership and attendance of Belfast City Council. The Council's involvement will align to and complement other BCC led activities within the context of 'Positioning the City to Compete' and delivering a 'Global Future' - a key action area from the Innovation and Inclusive Growth Commission. Members are asked to approve attendance by the Chairperson of the Committee, or their nominee, along with Senior Officers as appropriate at MIPIM 2024, noting that it will be funded from the wider public private Renewed Ambition Partnership budget.</p>
5.0	<p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p>
5.1	<p>2023 / 2024 Partnership and Programme Support: Council plays a key role in both the strategic and operational management of RAP; including supporting the governance processes, administering programme funded expenditure, and entering into associated</p>

	contracts on behalf of, and with oversight from, the Taskforce, and in line with Council's procurement processes. Subject to Member agreement it is proposed that the Council continues to take on this role, with officers supporting the 23/24 programme including governance processes, administering programme funded expenditure and entering into associated contracts on behalf of and with oversight from the Taskforce, and in line with Council's procurement processes.
5.2	Council investment in the 2023 / 2024 Programme: The Renewed Ambition Partnership is delivered as a public private sector sponsorship fund and is supported by a range of public, private and key anchor institutions. The partnership comprises of all BRCD partner Councils, Belfast Harbour Commissioners, QUB, and representatives from the developer and built environment supply chain community. They contributed towards the 2022 / 2023 programme, with external and private sector funding forming the majority of the overall programme budget. It is anticipated that the majority of the 2023 / 2024 programme budget will again be funded through external funding.
5.3	Council has previously agreed to contribute of £80,000 towards the 2022 / 2023 Programme, and subject to Members agreement it is proposed that Council contribute £80,000 (from existing and approved City Regeneration and Development Budget) as part of the wider public private partnership investment towards the delivery of the 23 / 24 Partnership and Programme.
5.4	New York 2023 Real Estate Investment Showcase and MIPIM 2024: The RAP Taskforce are proposing that a Belfast City Region presence at MIPIM 2024 and a proposed New York Real Estate Investment Showcase as part of the 23 / 24 programme, with associated costs being funded through the 23 / 24 Partnership sponsorship budget.
5.5	Approval is sought for attendance by the Chairperson of the Committee, or their nominee, along with Senior Officers as appropriate at MIPIM 2024.
5.6	Approval is also sought for Senior Officer attendance at the proposed New York Real Estate Showcase; however this is subject to event plans being sufficiently progressed and alignment with strategic Council corporate objectives.
5.7	Travel costs for Council attendance at the proposed New York Real Estate Investment Showcase and MIPIM 2024 to be met from within existing and approved departmental

	budgets. All other costs related to these events would be met from the 2023 / 2024 RAP Public - Private Partnership budget.
6.0	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/ Rural Needs Assessment</u> None associated with this report.
7.0	Appendices – Documents attached
	Appendix A – Belfast Regeneration Tracker Review of 2022 Appendix B - Renewed Ambition Partnership Presentation



Belfast City Centre Regeneration Tracker

Review of 2022



1 Increase the residential population



1/ Increase the residential population

City Centre



Loft Lines, Titanic Quarter

Planning granted for 778 new homes at Titanic Quarter, including 151 social and affordable homes and a new public park. The mixed tenure regeneration scheme is expected to commence during 2023.



City Quays 4

Belfast Harbour submitted planning for 256 'energy efficient' Build-to-Rent apartments on the Maritime Mile, next to the proposed City Quays Gardens.



Belfast Waterside

Plans to develop up to 500 new apartment homes at the former Sirocco Works site progressed during 2022. The scheme includes up to 80 social apartments overlooking the River Lagan.



Weavers Cross

Outline planning granted for c.400 new homes adjacent to Belfast Grand Central Station, including at least 20% affordable. Translink is expected to announce a Development Partner during 2023.



Portland 38, Ormeau Road

Construction continued at Portland 38; a development of 38 apartments adjacent to Portland 88 - a development of 88 apartments completed in 2019.



Wilton House, College Square North

£4.5m restoration, conversion and extension of a Grade B1 listed building to create 23 apartments. The scheme secures the future of a 17th century property previously on the Buildings at Risk Register.



Castle Place

Conversion of a prominent listed building into 9 apartments, including a re-furbished ground floor retail unit. The scheme represents the only Living Over the Shops (LOTS) scheme to progress during 2022.



Porter's Annex, Apsley Street

Construction continued throughout 2022 to deliver 23 apartments off Donegall Pass. Completion is expected during late 2023.

1/ Increase the residential population

City Centre



College Square North

Triangle Housing Association commenced construction on 48 social apartments comprising 38 General Needs, 7 Active Elderly and 3 wheelchair units.



Pilot Street, Sailortown

Belfast Harbour consulted on plans for 70 affordable / social townhouses and apartments within Sailortown. A planning application followed in February 2023.



Posnett Street, Belfast

Clanmil Housing Association consulted on plans for up to 28 social homes. A planning application is expected to follow in 2023.



Gasworks Northern Fringe

Planning granted for 94 social homes on Belfast City Council's Gasworks Northern Fringe lands. Radius Housing Association expect construction to commence 2023.



McClure Street

Apex Housing commenced construction on 22 social homes, comprising 20 houses, 2 apartments and 1 wheelchair bungalow. The scheme, on land transferred from Belfast City Council, is due to complete during 2024.



Durham House, Durham Street

Radius Housing continued to progress plans for the redevelopment of the existing Durham House into 22 new apartment homes. A planning application is expected during 2023.



Loft Lines, Titanic Quarter

Planning granted for 151 social and affordable homes at Titanic Quarter. The 4 acre waterfront regeneration scheme is expected to commence during 2023.



Ormeau Centre, Verner Street

Habinteg Housing continue to progress plans for the redevelopment of an existing hostel building to provide new residential units.

1/ Increase the residential population

Housing Led Regeneration



Inner North West - North

Work continued to deliver a city centre living project across three sites in Council and DfC ownership. The opportunity is centred around the INW Masterplan regeneration principles.



Inner North West - South (Smithfield)

Work continued to prepare a placemaking opportunity including new public spaces, re-imagined Smithfield Market and high quality mixed-tenure city centre living connected to surrounding neighbourhoods.



Gloucester Street / May Street

Work continued to prepare a high quality mixed-tenure city centre living project on Council's former Digital Services building at Gloucester Street.



Ravenhill Road / Albertbridge

Work continued to prepare a waterfront regeneration project including mixed-tenure residential and a focus on re-connecting to the river and surrounding neighbourhoods.



Corporation Street / Exchange Street

Work continued to prepare a mixed tenure residential-led regeneration scheme with a focus on placemaking and connections between Sailortown / City Quays and the Cathedral Quarter / City Centre.



Dunbar Street

Work continued to prepare a placemaking opportunity across nearly 3 acres of the Cathedral Quarter. Includes Council's cleansing depot and Commission House, public car park and adjoining private land.



Ormeau Avenue / Bankmore

Work continued to prepare a residential-led regeneration scheme with a focus on placemaking and connections between the Ormeau-Gasworks City Deal bridge and Weavers Cross, via the preferred route for the G3 North-South Glider.



Surrounding City

Council continued to work with public sector partners to identify potential land and assets that could enable housing-led regeneration opportunities across the city.

1/ Increase the residential population

Student Accommodation



Aster House, University Road

CA Ventures, Lacuna Developments and Farrans Construction completed 253 student beds on top of a culverted railway line. The building is managed by Novel Student.



Alma Place, Library Street

CA Ventures, Lacuna Developments and Farrans Construction completed the first phase of 393 student beds. The building fully opens early 2023 and is managed by Novel Student.



Bradbury Place

Elkstone Partners and Mascott Construction commenced construction on 156 student beds for Mezzino Student's first Belfast location.



Bruce Street

McAleen & Rushe commenced construction on 271 student beds for Vita Student's first Belfast location.



Nelson Street

Graham commenced construction on Belfast's largest student scheme. In addition to 774 beds the building will include sports and recreation facilities and a zero carbon energy strategy. This is Student Roost's 5th Belfast location.



48-52 York Street

ROK Property commenced site enabling works, including site clearance. Work is scheduled to commence during 2023. The completed scheme will comprise 307 managed student bedspaces.



Glenalpin Street

Artemis Developments Ltd submitted a Pre-Application Notice for a managed student accommodation building comprising 410 beds accessed from Wellwood Street.



Dublin Road

FMN Properties submitted a Pre-Application Notice for an 11-storey managed student accommodation building comprising 210 beds over a redeveloped public house.

1/ Increase the residential population

Outside City Centre



Brookfield Mill, Crumlin Road

Kerr Property and EHA Group completed 77 social homes for Clanmil Housing Association. The redeveloped former linen mill comprises 55 apartments and 22 duplex apartments.



St Gemma's, Ardoyne

Kerr Property and EHA Group completed 53 social homes for Clanmil Housing Association. The scheme comprises 29 houses, 24 apartments and 5 retail units.



Park Avenue, Holywood Road

Choice Housing commenced a mixed tenure development comprising 90 social units and 27 private rental units. The project is expected to be completed during 2024.



Lesley Parklands, Knocknagoney

Lesley Residential completed 90 one, two and three bedroom apartments across three buildings for private rental. The site had been vacant since 2015.



King's Hall

Choice Housing, and subsidiary Maple & May, commenced construction of 81 new apartments on Plot 3. The £14m scheme includes 45 apartments for over 55s and 36 apartments for private rental.



Glenmona

Site enabling works commenced to prepare the 75 acre site for future housing development. The £95m seven year programme will deliver 653 new homes, including 549 social housing homes and 104 affordable homes.



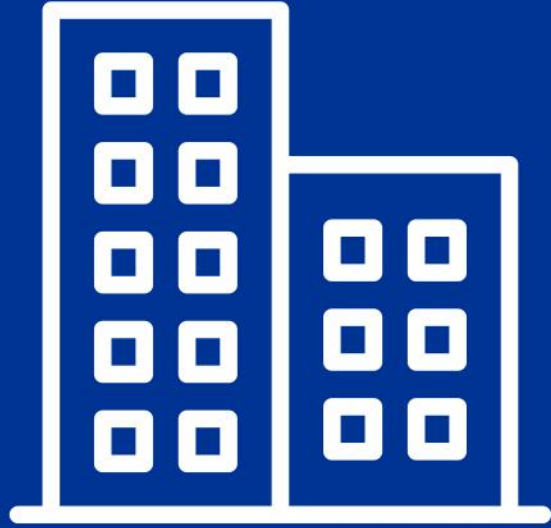
Beersbridge Road

Planning granted for 31 new social homes at the junction of Woodstock Road and Beersbridge Road with construction expected to commence during early 2023.



Lewis Square, Connswater

Choice Housing, and subsidiary Maple & May, completed a £10m mixed tenure scheme comprising 44 social apartments across three buildings, 12 affordable for sale and 15 private rented apartments across a further two buildings.



2 Increase the employment population



2/ Increase the employment population



The Ewart, Bedford Street

McAleer & Rushe completed the £85m restoration and extension of the Grade B+ former Ewart's warehouse with a BREEAM Excellent rating. The 200,000ft² building is expected to be fully let during 2023.



Olympic House, Titanic Quarter

O'Hare & McGovern completed Titanic Quarter and Belfast Harbour's joint investment to create 146,000ft² of BREEAM Excellent workspace. The building achieved an EPC 'A' rating and features rainwater harvesting and recycling and PV panels.



City Quays 3

Farrans Construction completed NI's largest office building for Belfast Harbour. The 250,000ft² riverfront building is built to a BREEAM Excellent sustainability standard. Tenants include Investec, Aflac and Microsoft.



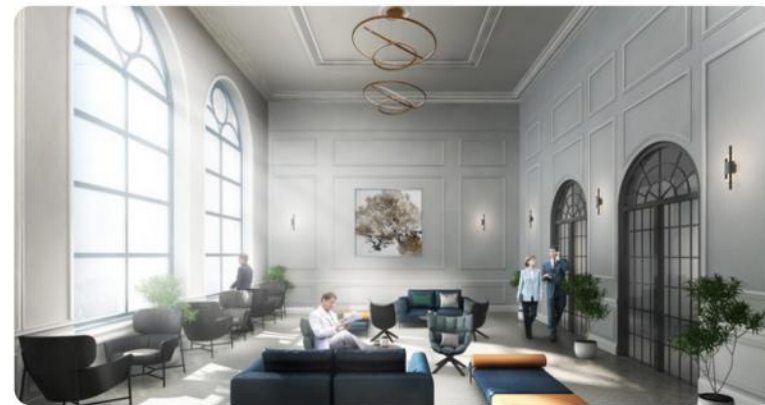
Print Works, Queen Street

Angus Properties commenced work to refurbish and extend a late 19th century red-brick warehouse into 50,000ft² of office space over ground floor retail units. Completion is expected late 2023.



The Paper Exchange, Chichester St

Heron Bros. continued construction on 155,000ft² of office accommodation for Wirefox. The building includes two ground floor retail / cafe units, creating active frontage to Chichester Street. Completion is expected early in 2023.



Custom House

Straidorn completed the first phase of a £6m refurbishment of the Grade B+ listed building and entered into a JV arrangement with BE Offices to manage the 58,000ft² building.



The Shipmaker's House

During late 2022 MJM commenced site enabling works to extend and refurbish a B1 listed Georgian terrace at Donegall Square East; creating over 35,000ft² of office accommodation.



Pearl Assurance House

During late 2022 MJM commenced site enabling works to refurbish this late 19th century listed building into high-end office accommodation. The basement and ground floor will comprise a new restaurant unit with adjoining cafe space.

2/ Increase the employment population



Urban HQ 2, Upper Queen Street

Magell submitted planning for a second £7m Urban HQ shared workspace building opposite their existing Eagle Star House location, completed in 2020.



One Grosvenor Gate

Planning granted for Ossian Holdings' 225,000ft2 grade A office development adjacent Weaver's Cross.



Create Lab, Bruce Street

Andras House commenced refurbishment of a former furniture showroom to create 10,500ft2 of grade A office accommodation.



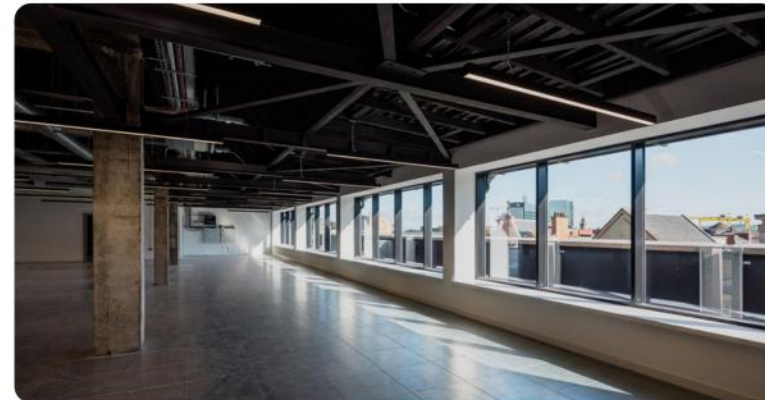
The Vantage, Great Victoria Street

McAleer & Rushe completed a £25m redevelopment of a vacant office building, sustainably repurposing over 60,000ft2 of office space and achieving BREEAM 'Very Good' and EPC A.



BT Tower, Lanyon Place

GRAHAM Fit Out commenced work at BT's Riverside Tower as part of BT's five year programme to modernise and consolidate its estate from 300 to 30 locations. Over 160,000ft2 of renewed office space will accommodate more than 2000 BT staff.



35DP, Donegall Place

Wirefox acquired 35DP following redevelopment of the vacant upper floors by Ashmour, Bywater & LRE Capital. The 80,000ft2 scheme includes anchor tenant Boots which has occupied the building for 55 years and renewed their lease to 2030.



Kainos, Bankmore Square

Kainos released a development brief seeking a development partner to deliver an 80,000ft2 office building, supporting the company's future growth plans and accommodate up to 3,000 staff by 2026.



Transport House

Unite the Union submitted a planning application proposing to bring the Grade B+ listed building back into active use for the Union and partner organisations. The landmark building has been vacant for over 15 years.



3

Manage the retail offering



3/ Manage the retail and leisure offering

City Centre



Primark, Castle Place

Primark completed the largest retail development in Belfast for 15 years at a cost of more than £70m. The conservation-led re-development of Bank Buildings provides in excess of 88,000ft2 and provides employment for over 500 staff.



The Keep, Castle Lane

Alterity Investments commenced re-development of the former BHS building, vacant since 2016. The 70,000ft2 retail and leisure space will include Ireland's first Deichmann footwear store.



RiverStudios, Donegall Place

River Island submitted plans to redevelop the former Disney store and extend across two floors to create a 10,000ft2 concept RiverStudios store with Click & Collect.



Victoria Square

Tessuti opened its first Irish store in the former Topshop unit and joins Sweaty Betty and Gilly Hicks as new to Belfast. Goldsmiths and Gym + Coffee upsized in 2022 and Slim Chickens opens in 2023.



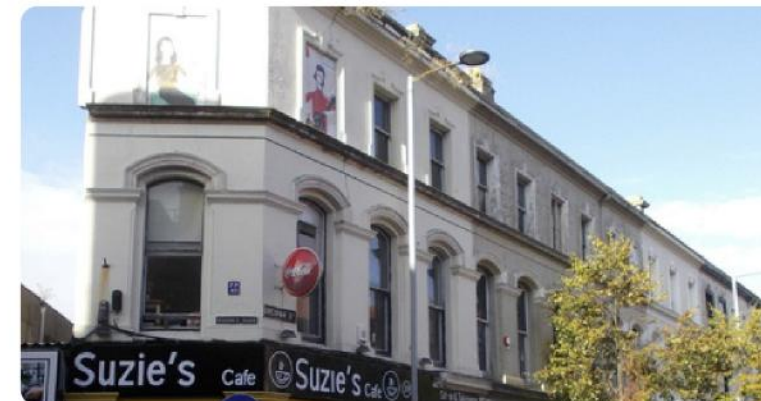
Cornmarket

Mascott Construction completed a refurbishment of the building for Castle Square Ltd. The re-purposed building, vacant since 2009, now comprises a 3,000ft2 cafe space at ground and mezzanine level with office space above.



Queens Arcade, Donegall Place

Swiss watchmaker Breitling opened alongside Italian fashion house Gucci and OMEGA, in partnership with Lunns Jewellers opened a two storey showroom,



Smithfield

Further heritage shopfront improvements at Gresham Street and Winetavern Street, including the opening of new local independent businesses, Suzie's Cafe and Never Never Clothing. Smithfield Market also became fully let during 2022.



Vacant to Vibrant

£1m pilot capital grant scheme opened to incentivise property owners and potential occupiers to bring vacant spaces back into use. Six applications have been approved to date.

3/ Manage the retail and leisure offering

City Centre



Odyssey Pavillion

Hollywood Bowl opened a new £2.4m outlet at the refurbished Odyssey Pavillion. Nando's commenced fit-out of a new restaurant expected to open 2023 alongside Five Guys, Pizza Express and Zizzi.



The Avenue, Castle Court

Construction commenced to convert the former Debenhams to a new £10m leisure and retail destination. Omniplex revealed a new 30,000ft2 luxury cinema brand 'The Avenue' whilst Starbucks opened a new flagship store at the mall entrance.



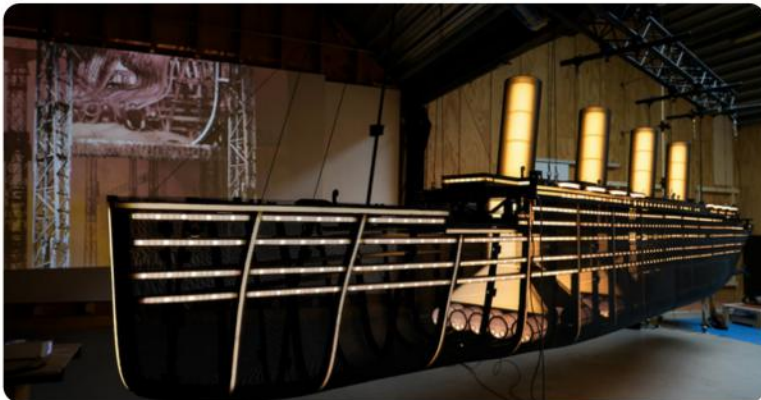
The Ivy, Donegal Place

Planning applications associated with the change of use and conversion of units at the Robinson & Cleaver building submitted and approved throughout the year with The Ivy expected to commence fit-out during 2023.



2 Royal Avenue

Following a short closure during late 2022 the internal space was re-imagined to provide new facilities, including family friendly spaces, and an improved café offering with seating and meeting space.



Titanic Belfast

A £4.5m refresh of the Titanic Belfast visitor attraction commenced. The attraction reopens in March with four new galleries and an illuminated 7.6m long scale model of RMS Titanic designed by OPERA Amsterdam.



Titanic Distillers, Thompson Dock

Titanic Distiller's commenced work to convert the Thompson Dock Pump House into a distillery and visitor attraction on the Maritime Mile. The £7.6m attraction is expected to open in March 2023.



Trade Market, Dublin Road

A unique pop-up shipping container market opened on the site of the former Movie House Cinema at Dublin Road. Kainos offered the site on a temporary basis pending future redevelopment.



Haymarket, Royal Avenue

Planning application submitted seeking permission for a £3m phased masterplan across several interconnected buildings at Royal Avenue. The re-development comprises a series of connected food and beverage outlets around a central space.

3/ Manage the retail and leisure offering

Outside City Centre



Boucher Shopping Park

Fraser's Group acquired Boucher Shopping Park for a reported £40m, making it the largest commercial property transaction of 2022.



Kennedy Centre

Planning submitted to extend the centre, accommodating an enlarged O'Neill's store. Tim Horton's opened a standalone unit and the centre submitted planning to construct an EV charging area.



Cityside Retail & Leisure Park

The 300,000ft² retail and leisure complex was acquired for more than £14m. Cityside comprises over 140,000ft² of leisure space, including a 14 screen cinema.



Lidl

Lidl opened new expanded stores at Shore Road and Castlereagh Road and submitted planning for a redeveloped store at Stewartstown Road and new store at Olympia, Boucher Road.



Giant's Park, North Foreshore

Giant's Park Belfast Ltd continued to progress regeneration plans for the 250-acre former landfill site, including leisure and recreational uses.



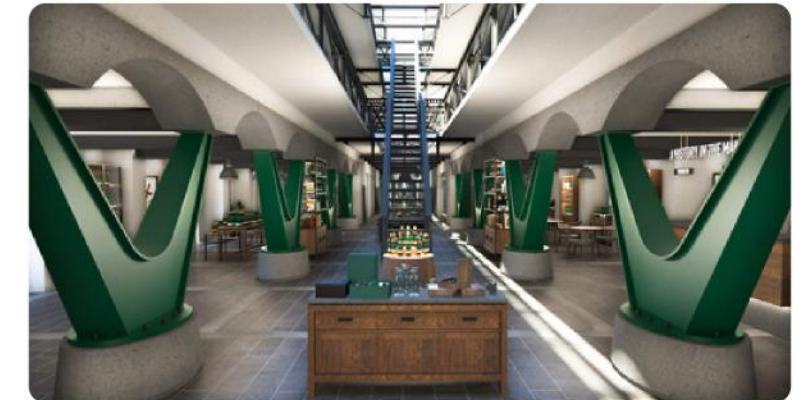
Portview Trade Centre

Boundary Brewing, an independent co-op brewery opened a taproom next to the existing brewery on site, serving food from neighbouring business Flout Pizza.



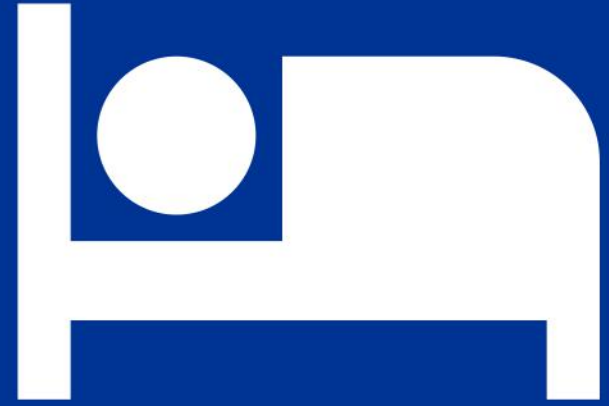
Templemore Baths

Construction continued throughout 2022 on the £17m refurbishment and extension of the leisure facilities, as part of a £105m Leisure Transformation Programme. A £5m National Lottery Heritage Fund grant supports delivery of the scheme.



Crumlin Road Gaol

Belfast Distillery Company commenced construction on a £15m conversion of the Crumlin Road Gaol A-wing into a whiskey distillery with visitor centre, shop and restaurant.



4 Maximise tourism opportunities



4/ Maximise tourism opportunities

City Centre



Belfast Stories, Royal Avenue

Site acquisition was completed for a new £100m visitor destination. Procurement of design teams commenced in 2022 and the teams will be appointed during 2023.



room2, Queen Street

Construction continued at Oakland Holdings Queen Street apart-hotel. The 175-room scheme will be operated by room2 hometels, part of the Lamington Group when completed in 2023.



The Dean, Bedford Street

Press Up Hospitality Group submitted proposals for a boutique hotel comprising 91 bedrooms a rooftop restaurant and rooftop swimming pool, to be operated as The Dean Hotel.



Aloft Hotel by Marriott, Titanic Quarter

JMK Group submitted revised proposals for an Aloft by Marriott Hotel and Residence at Hamilton Dock. The scheme comprises 135 hotel beds and 93 aparthotel beds and is expected to commence during 2023.



Moxy Hotel, Waring Street

Planning permission granted for a 164 bedroom Moxy by Marriott Hotel at Waring Street within the retained Nambarrie building. Construction is expected to commence during 2023.



Adagio Apart-Hotel, Great Victoria St

Andras House commenced pre-application discussions to convert the vacant Dorchester House office building into 130 apart-hotel rooms for Adagio; a luxury international provider of apart-hotels.



Scottish Mutual, Donegall Sq South

Martin Property Group acquired the Grade B1 listed building from the administrators with a view to restoring and enhancing the heritage building to create a boutique hotel.



War Memorial Building, Waring St

SOM Properties submit planning to convert and extend the Grade B2 listed building to 120 hotel bedrooms with ground and rooftop restaurant / bar venues. The former office building has been vacant for over 15 years.

4/ Maximise tourism opportunities

City Centre



Quarter, Donegall Street

Hospitality start-up the Warren Collection converted former student accommodation to create 45 guest bedrooms for 'lower cost city centre breaks'.



Centre House, Chichester Street

Kilmona Property submitted a planning application proposing to convert and extend part of the Centre House office building into a 163-bedroom apart-hotel.



Beaufort House, Wellington Place

Lotus Property submitted a planning application proposing to convert a vacant office building into a 113-bedroom apart-hotel.



35-37 Donegall Street

Clover Group submitted a planning application proposing a 20-bedroom hotel around a central beer garden and live music stage formed using stacked repurposed shipping containers.

Outside City Centre



Mountainview Hotel, Glenmona

Fáilte Feirste Thiar and the Ortus Group announced plans for a 4-star hotel run as a social enterprise. The 50+ bedroom hotel will form part of the mixed-use Glenmona development.



EastSide Hotel

Planning permission granted for Eastside Partnership's proposed container hotel at CS Lewis Square. The scheme comprises a 21 bedroom hotel with ground floor cafe / bar facilities.



St Comgalls, Falls Road

A £7.2m restoration of the vacant former school building completed. The Grade B1-listed building was repurposed on behalf of Falls Community Council to include conference and exhibition facilities, event spaces and a café.



Belfast City Airport

Lufthansa announced it will commence flights in 2023 to Frankfurt, Germany. Further expansion by easyJet and Aer Lingus and the new outlets in the terminal lounge included Caffè Nero and La Piazza.



5 Create a regional learning and innovation centre



5/ Create a regional learning and innovation centre



Ulster University, York Street

Ulster University opened the final phase of its new £360m Belfast city centre campus. Over 15,000 staff and students have now fully relocated from Jordanstown to the 75,000m2 campus.



One Elmwood, University Road

Queen's University opened a new £42m Student Centre and Students' Union. The 100,000ft2 building brings together a range of student services alongside social, commercial and administrative uses.



Global Innovation Institute (GII)

Queen's University commenced pre-application discussions to develop a £58m Global Innovation Institute by 2025. The GII is a City Deal funded expansion of QUB's ECIT institute at Catalyst's Belfast campus.



Loop Studios, Castlereagh Road

Planning granted to facilitate an extension to the existing film studios and workshop facilities including virtual studios.



Studio Ulster, Giant's Park

Belfast Harbour commenced construction on a £25m 57,000ft2 production studio at the North Foreshore. The project is being developed in partnership with Ulster University and NI Screen and is funded via the Belfast Region City Deal.



King's Hall Health & Wellbeing Park

Reserved Matters application submitted for the next phase of development within the King's Hall masterplan. The proposed Medical & Health Services building will sit alongside the recently completed Data Works building.



iREACH, Lisburn Road

Queen's University commenced pre-application discussions to develop two buildings to accommodate iREACH, a project led by QUB in partnership with the NHS. The City Deal funded project aims to establish research excellence in Advanced Clinical Healthcare in NI.



W5 LIFE, The Odyssey

The Odyssey Trust launched W5 LIFE, a 20,000ft2 extension to W5 to address the skills requirements of NI's increasingly digitalised economy.



6 Create a green centre, accessible for cycling and walking



6/ A green centre, accessible for cycling and walking



Adelaide Street

Completion of a public realm scheme that reduced the traffic to one lane, creating a calmer, safer, greener environment with a 400 metre long urban garden incorporating seating, playspace and cycle parking. A 2023 RIBA MacEwen Award shortlisted project.



Little Patrick / Little York Street

Consultation progressed through 2022 on proposals to re-imagine the streets between and around the City's recently development student accommodation. A planning application is expected in 2023.



Cathedral Gardens Active Travel Hub

The Hub opened at Cathedral Gardens with-in two refurbished shipping containers. A two year pilot project supported by Belfast City Council, Department for Infrastructure, Department for Communities, Ulster University and the Public Health Agency.



Cathedral Gardens

The Outline Business Case was prepared during 2022 following public consultation and procurement is expected to commence during 2023 for the Integrated Consultant Team.



Street Dock, Weavers Cross

The first meanwhile use at Weavers Cross launched. Street Dock established a second location for their last mile delivery service using zero emission e-cargo bikes. The initiative is supported by Belfast City Council.



City Quays Gardens

Belfast Harbour's submit planning for a proposed new urban garden. Phase 1 involves a £3m investment across 2 acres of land beside the listed Harbour Office building. Construction is expected during 2023 subject to planning permission.



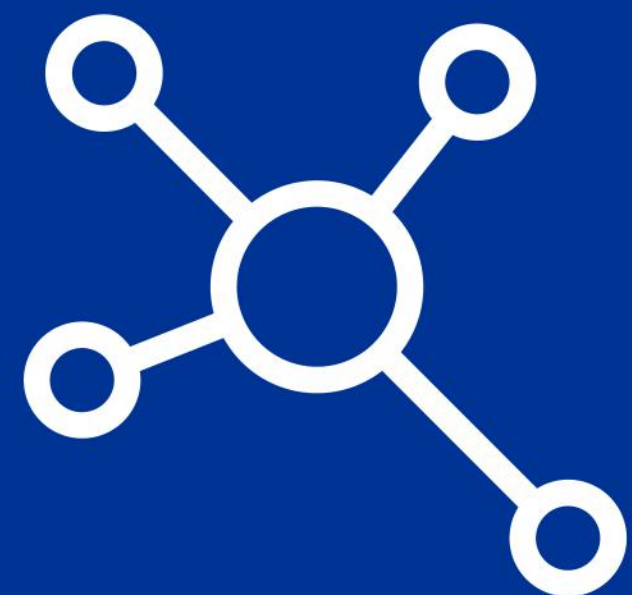
York Street Traffic Control Scheme

DfI commenced consultation on an Experimental Traffic Control Scheme for York Street, outside the new Ulster University Campus. The proposal includes restricting access to only buses, bicycles and blue badge holders for a trial period.



The Bike Yard, CastleCourt

A free, secure public cycle parking facility opened at CastleCourt Shopping Centre. The partnership between Belfast City Council and CastleCourt was delivered by Department for Infrastructure funding and includes space for 24 bikes.



7 Connect to surrounding city



7/ Connect to surrounding city



Belfast Grand Central

Work commenced on the building's structure during late 2022. The hub is expected to complete by 2025 and will comprise 26 bus stands, 8 railway platforms, cycle and taxi provision and enhanced public realm.



York Street Interchange

Placemaking and Active Travel Review report published. The report identified several options to enhance placemaking and improve active travel provision around the York Street Interchange area.



City Quays - Titanic Quarter Bridge

Belfast Harbour announce plans for a new pedestrian bridge linking City Quays with the Odyssey Pavilion and Titanic Quarter. A planning application is expected during 2023.



Belfast Bikes

New docking stations were installed at Lisnasharragh Leisure Centre and Kennedy Centre, facilitating further expansion of the network. Further expansion is planned in 2023.



Glider Phase 2

DFI announced the preferred route for Phase 2 of Belfast Rapid Transit (BRT2). Detailed design of the proposed G3 route along the Antrim Road, Ormeau Road and Saintfield Road is now progressing. The G2 will extend to QUB and City Hospital.



YorkGate Train Station

Graham commenced construction of the new YorkGate Train Station for Translink. The new station is expected to open in 2024 and will also include secure cycle parking, bus and taxi drop-off areas and enhanced public realm around.



Central Area Track Renewal

Work commenced on the Lagan Junction to Yorkgate Track Renewal Project. The project involves the replacement of the rail tracks from Lanyon Station to YorkGate station and 400 metres on the Bangor line from Lagan Junction.



Belfast Streets Ahead

DfC continued to progress Belfast Streets Ahead 3 and 5 throughout 2022 with a particular focus on aligning both projects with A Bolder Vision.



8 Enhance shared space and social impact



8/ Enhance shared space and social impact



Loft Lines, Titanic Quarter

Alongside the mixed tenure residential buildings the Loft Lines project will deliver extensive public realm including a new one acre public square and waterside promenade connecting to the Maritime Mile.



The Ewart, Bedford Street

Alongside the 200,000ft² BREEAM Excellent building and restored 19th century linen warehouse a new public space connects Bedford Street with Franklin Street.



2 Royal Avenue

During late 2022 the internal space was re-imagined to provide new facilities, including family friendly spaces, and an improved café offering with seating and meeting space. A unique covered public space.



100 GPS, Great Patrick Street

Construction completed on a new £2m city centre youth space. The 9,000ft² facility was developed by Include Youth and Voice of Young People in Care (VOYPIC).



Belfast Stories, Royal Avenue

Site acquisition was completed for a new £100m visitor destination. The completed development will feature extensive internal and external public spaces.



Ulster University, York Street

The full opening of Ulster University's new city centre campus has brought the surrounding streets to life with increased footfall. The campus offers shared public space throughout the ground floor areas.



Cathedral Gardens

Following public consultation in 2022 the procurement of a Integrated Consultant Team will progress during 2023. The reimagined space will offer world class public realm for residents and visitors.



Belfast Grand Central

Work continued through 2022 to deliver the new integrated transport hub and associated social value. The project also includes a new public space; Saltwater Square and extensive streetscape improvements.

Belfast City Centre Regeneration Tracker

Source: www.futurebelfast.com



Belfast
City Council



Belfast

Renewed Ambition Partnership
City Growth & Regeneration Committee

09 August 2023



INNOVATION

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Joe O'Neill
Chair,
Renewed Ambition



Anita Conway
Director of Development,
Radius Housing

Overview

09 August 2023

Renewed Ambition Partnership 2022/23

- Welcome and scene setting
- Research
- Engagement
- Expos

Next Steps 2023/24



Renewed Ambition Partnership

2022/23



Belfast
City Council



Antrim and
Newtownabbey
BOROUGH COUNCIL



Ards and
North Down
Borough Council



Lisburn &
Castlereagh
City Council



Mid & East
Antrim
Borough Council



Comhairle Ceantair
an Iúir, Mhúrn
agus an Dúin
Newry, Mourne
and Down
District Council

ARUP



Belfast
Harbour

BY
W
AT
ER



CARSON
McDOWELL

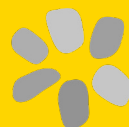


Causeway
ASSET MANAGEMENT

GRAHAM



Invest
Northern
Ireland



LACUNA
DEVELOPMENTS



OAKLAND
HOLDINGS



QUEEN'S
UNIVERSITY
BELFAST

Radius
HOUSING



Silverwood
BUSINESS PARK



TITANIC
QUARTER
Belfast, Northern Ireland



MRP



Translink

Tughans

Renewed Ambition Partnership

2022/23

Objectives

1

Continue to build collaboration and partnership in the city and wider region.

2

Continue to promote and market the Belfast region outside Northern Ireland.

3

Increase engagement and advocacy with all key stakeholders, in particular, investors and government.

Renewed Ambition Partnership

2022/23

Pillared Programming



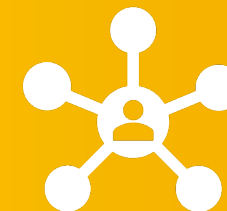
Research



**Programme &
Content**



**Engagement
& Advocacy**



**Media &
Communication**



Repository



Objectives

1

Look back at what social, environmental and economic benefits have been achieved through real estate investment in the Belfast city region over the past five years

2

Look further afield to what best practice looks like through international case studies and a review of sustainable development frameworks and certification schemes

3

Look to the future and provide recommendations to further improve the social, environmental and economic outcomes from future real estate investment in the Belfast city region

This research recognises the important role that city region partners, including the real estate and construction industry in the Belfast region, and councils in the Belfast region, and the NI Executive, play in delivering sustainable, inclusive development and the wider benefits this brings to the region.



Role of the real estate sector in delivering inclusive and sustainable growth

Page 44

Economic

- Inclusive economic growth
- Job creation
- Skills development
- Reduced inequalities
- Opportunities for SMEs and VCSEs
- Green economy
- Resilient and sustainable supply chains



Social

- Revitalisation of communities and placemaking
- Social mobility
- Community cohesion
- Improved connectivity
- Amenity features, public realm improvement and community facilities
- Reduced crime risk
- Health and wellbeing benefits
- Active, healthy and empowered citizens

Environmental

- Carbon emissions
- Climate resilience and adaption
- Circular economy
- Biodiversity
- Green and open spaces
- Air quality
- Water efficiency



Opportunity

It is vital that forthcoming investment in the city is leveraged to help tackle the pressing social, economic and environmental issues the region is facing now and in the future. As well as addressing wider societal challenges, other benefits to the city include:

- capitalising upon a unique opportunity to position a significant house building programme at the heart of economic plans;
- improved attractiveness to financial investors;
- quicker occupation by tenants (and attracting major business tenants from various sectors who are seeking high quality offices that are fit for the future);
- reduced energy bills and lower maintenance costs;
- stronger community relationships and brand enhancement or reputational benefits.



The Belfast Agenda

continuing the conversation

Page 46



Advocacy & Engagement

2022/23



Page 47



Belfast outperforms the UK average for work-life balance, jobs, housing, transport, income distribution and safety, according to PwC's Good Growth for Cities index.

Ranks Belfast as its leading city among the devolved regions and in the top 10 UK-wide.

Belfast is ranked ninth among 50 of the UK's largest cities, down from eighth in last year's index, but coming out top of cities in Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales.



INNOVATION
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**International
Trade Expos**

MIPIM & UKREiif



Belfast sharing stages alongside other UK and European cities and partners, inc. a number of collaborative events:

London, Manchester, Stockholm, Cardiff, Liverpool, Newcastle, Homes England



Highlighting high-growth sectors across Belfast Region:

Creative Industries, Professional Services, Fintech, Advancing Manufacturing, Tourism & Hospitality, Life & Health Sciences



Team Belfast
35 & 16 delegates



Building momentum
Expressions of interest £270m
resi-led developments



BRCD
Partnership approach



fDi Awards
4 x Top 10



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**Next Steps:
2023/24**

Belfast Place Partnership

2023/24

Page 51



1. Continue to build collaboration and partnership in the city and wider region.
2. Continue to promote and market the Belfast region outside Northern Ireland.
3. Increase engagement and advocacy with all key stakeholders, in particular, investors and government.

Plus, support delivery of...

- BRCD projects by attracting collaborative partners.
- Belfast City Council's key inclusive economic and investment strategies.



INNOVATION

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Questions



Belfast

Renewed Ambition Partnership
City Growth & Regeneration Committee

09 August 2023

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By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6
of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014.

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Subject:	Artist Studios and Maker Spaces Organisational Grants 2023/24
Date:	9 th August 2023
Reporting Officer:	John Greer, Director of Economic Development
Contact Officer:	Chris McCreery, Culture Development Manager

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	The purpose of this report is to update Members on the dedicated programme of work and funding scheme to support artist-led organisations in the city
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>The Committee is requested to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> note the contents of this report and agree the recommendations for artist studio grants, as set out in Appendix 1 of this report.

3.0	Main report
3.1	Members will be aware that at a meeting of City Growth and Regeneration Committee in February 2022, members agreed to open a new funding scheme for artist led organisations to provide financial and development support for this sector. In April 2023, members agreed to continue this support for the second consecutive year and £100,000 has been allocated to support Artist Studios & Makers Spaces in 23/24.
3.29	<p>Background and context</p> <p>The ten-year cultural strategy for Belfast, <i>A City Imagining</i>, committed to a broader investment model that considered the diversity of the city's cultural landscape. In response to detailed consultation with the sector, Committee agreed in February 2022 to bring forward a specific funding programme for studios and artist-led organisations, with the latest audit identifying 17 studios/ artist-led organisations in Belfast directly supporting an estimated 450 artists. This in part is due to the value of artist-led spaces not being effectively captured through traditional metrics such as income generated through ticket sales or audience figures and it was agreed that an alternative form of funding would be developed for artist-led spaces. Belfast City Council's current support programmes do not include any of these organisations as annual or multi-annual clients.</p>
3.30	In addition to the funding for artist studios, members agreed a strategic review of artist studios and maker-spaces in Belfast. This research study, which is exploring the current and future requirements of artist workspaces in Belfast, is led by Turley Communications. As the first analysis of needs and demand across all creative artforms, this research involves extensive consultation with the sector, benchmarking and policy recommendations. To ensure alignment with other statutory partners, council officials have been working closely with the Arts Council NI in the development of this review. It is envisaged that the scope of this work will inform a set of robust action focused recommendations that could be implemented on a phased basis and this report will be presented to members in Autumn 2023.
3.31	<p>Organisational funding</p> <p>The "<i>Artist Studios and Maker Spaces Organisational Grants 2023/24</i>" programme was opened on 9th June 2023 and closed on 27th June 2023. The purpose of this strand of work is to provide financial and developmental support to organisations similar to the support offered under cultural multi-annual grants (CMAG).</p>

3.32	<p>The Artist Studios and Maker Spaces Organisational Grants 2023/24 scheme was advertised widely. The information and application details were emailed directly to a GDPR compliant mailing list representing over 370 organisations from across the cultural and creative sectors alongside associated social media marketing. An online information session was held in advance of the deadline, as well as organisations availing of one to one support sessions with the Culture Development team.</p>
3.33	<p><u>Criteria for Decision making</u></p> <p>The criteria and guidance for Artist Studios and Maker Spaces Organisational Grants 2023/24 applicants are included in Appendices 1 and 2. Assessments were made, and scoring applied under four key areas of criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fit with our investment aims, & themes 3 & 4, of cultural strategy “A City Imagining” • Need and potential impact • Value for money • High quality organisational development plan <p>Assessments were made only based on information supplied by the applicant within their submission. This included the application form and supporting documentation such as business plans and strategies.</p>
3.34	<p><u>Assessment</u></p> <p>A summary of recommended grants and proposed grant recipients is included at Appendix 1. A summary of award descriptions is included in Appendix 2.</p> <p>The unit received 12 applications, one of which was ineligible, for Artist Studios and Maker Spaces Organisational Grants, requesting a total of £197,886. Percentage of funding allocated is based on scoring percentage. The recommendation is that we fund 10 organisations, with support of £100,000.</p>
3.35	<p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p>An allocation of £100,000 is recommended to “<i>Artist Studios and Maker Spaces Organisational Grants 2022/23</i>”. These activities outlined in this report will be resourced from the 2022/23 budget for the Culture and Tourism section of the Economic Development division of the Place and Economy Departmental budget in line with existing approvals.</p>
3.36	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p>

	The cultural strategy, <i>A City Imagining</i> has been subject to an Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA) and a Rural Needs Assessment (RNA). Specific initiatives as required will be subject to a further equality screening.
4.0	Appendices
	<p>Appendix 1: <i>Artist Studios and Maker Spaces Organisational Grants 2023/24 - Recommended Awards</i></p> <p>Appendix 2: <i>Artist Studios and Maker Spaces Organisational Grants 2023/24 - Award Descriptions</i></p>

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