

Belfast City Centre Regeneration Tracker

Review of 2022







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.



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.



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.



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.



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.



Castle Place

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



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.



Porter's Annex, Apsley Street

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

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.

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.



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.



Inner North West - South (Smithfield)

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



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.



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.



Ormeau Avenue / Bankmore

Work continued to prepare a residentialled 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.



Ravenhill Road / Albertbridge

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



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.

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.



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.



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.



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.



Bradbury Place

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



Bruce Street

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



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.

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.



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.



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.



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.



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.



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.



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.



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.



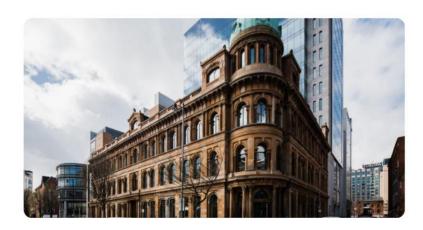


Belfast City Centre Regeneration Tracker

Review of 2022

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.



The Paper Exchange, Chichester St

Heron Bros. contintued 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.



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.



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.



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.



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.



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.



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.

Belfast City Centre Regeneration Tracker | Review of 2022

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 o 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.

Belfast City Centre Regeneration Tracker | Review of 2022



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.



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.



The Keep, Castle Lane

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



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,



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.



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.

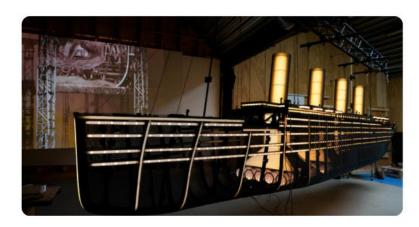
3/ Manage the retail and leisure offering

City Centre



Odyssey Pavillion

Holywood 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.



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.



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.



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.



The Ivy, Donegall 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.



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.



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.



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

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



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.



Kennedy Centre

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



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.



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.



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.



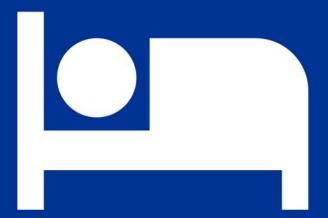
Lidl

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.



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.





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.



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.



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.



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.



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.



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.



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.



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



Qaurter, Donegall Street

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



Beaufort House, Wellington Place

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



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.



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.



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.



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.



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.



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.



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.



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.



Global Innovation Institute (GII)

Queen's University commenced preapplication 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.



iREACH, Lisburn Road

Queen's University commenced preapplication 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.

Belfast City Centre Regeneration Tracker | Review of 2022



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.



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.



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.



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.



Cathedral Gardens Active Travel Hub

The Hub opened at Cathedral Gardens within 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.



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.



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.



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.

Belfast City Centre Regeneration Tracker | Review of 2022



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.



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.



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.



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.



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.



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.



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.



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.



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.



2 Royal Avenue

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



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.



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 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.

