

# Public Document Pack

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

8<sup>th</sup> October

## **MEETING OF PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES 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 Tuesday, 8th October, 2019.

Yours faithfully,

SUZANNE WYLIE

Chief Executive

### **AGENDA:**

- 3** (c) Committee Planning Workshop - Feedback (Pages 1 - 30)

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Subject:	Committee Planning Workshop - feedback
Date:	08 October 2019
Reporting Officer:	Nigel Grimshaw, Strategic Director City & Neighbourhood Services
Contact Officer:	Ryan Black, Director Neighbourhood Services, City & Neighbourhood Services Siobhan Toland, Director City Services, City & Neighbourhood Services

<b>Restricted Reports</b>	
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"/>

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues</b>
1.1	This report provides a summary of feedback from the People & Communities Committee Planning workshop held on 10 September 2019.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
2.1	The Committee is asked to note the report and agree to a draft Committee Plan being brought for consideration and agreement to Committee at a future date.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main report</b>
3.1	Members will recall that a Committee Planning workshop was held on 10 September 2019.

	<p>The Strategic Director of City &amp; Neighbourhood Services delivered an introductory presentation (see Appendix 1) outlining :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– An overview of draft council Corporate Plan 2019-23</li> <li>– The opportunities and challenges facing the city and council</li> <li>– Emerging priorities for the council</li> <li>– Summary of the terms of reference of the committee</li> <li>– Brief description of the City &amp; Neighbourhood Services</li> <li>– Detailed presentation of two of the committee’s key priorities within the Corporate Plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Neighbourhood Regeneration</li> <li>○ Waste &amp; resourceful Belfast</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Members were provided with a workshop pack containing further information about the committee, the City &amp; neighbourhood Services Department and previous achievements. (see Appendix 2)</p> <p>Following the presentation Members held a discussion to consider two questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– What are the priorities that need more or less attention or are new priorities?</li> <li>– Over the next three years, what areas of work need more focus and perhaps resource?</li> </ul>
3.2	<p>The feedback from members was collated (see Appendix 3) and a summary is listed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Strong emphasis on the need to prioritise climate mitigation and environmental factors including renewable energy. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Importance of addressing issues and the need to set targets.</li> <li>○ Suggestion to reflect this importance in reports and decision making (eg including a sustainability impact section in committee reports).</li> <li>○ Climate Crisis working group minutes to be presented to P&amp;C Committee monthly.</li> <li>○ Specific mention of electrification of fleet and the need to take into account infrastructure, costs, targets.</li> <li>○ Future proofing BCC buildings &amp; facilities.</li> </ul> </li> <li>– Development of an anti-poverty strategy.</li> <li>– Importance of protecting neighbourhood renewal funding for communities &amp; other funding allocation focus to be on areas of deprivation.</li> <li>– Emphasis on outcomes and monitoring impact:</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ ensuring plans have appropriate targets and outcomes.</li> <li>○ enabling closer alignment to the Belfast Agenda.</li> <li>○ to support effectiveness of AWGs.</li> <li>○ to help fulfil potential of assets eg community centres.</li> <li>– Members request to be more involved in priority setting.</li> <li>– Emphasis on collaboration with others - council cannot do all on its own: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ across council departments (especially planning in terms of climate issues).</li> <li>○ with NI Assembly Departments (including consideration of shared contracts to reduce costs and minimise duplication).</li> <li>○ with communities – ‘working with’ not ‘doing to.’</li> <li>○ importance of the Belfast Agenda and Community Planning.</li> </ul> </li> <li>– Changes in council can be challenging and have an impact on staff but also there are opportunities for creative approaches to better meet our customer needs eg. providing targeted advice in recycle centres; operating more flexible opening hours at recycling centres; street cleansing dealing with weeds; increased use of appropriate SLAs etc.</li> <li>– Focus on Belfast becoming a greener city in terms of use of park, open spaces, wilding.</li> <li>– Concern about lack of space and facilities regarding cemeteries and crematorium.</li> <li>– Concern regarding growth of HMO areas and the need to support communities and mitigate impact.</li> <li>– Closer working with relevant partners to address health inequalities and improve quality of life.</li> <li>– Funding allocations to disability groups to take into consideration higher associated costs eg. specific transport, suitable facilities etc.</li> <li>– Prioritisation of adequate services for children and young people and also older people.</li> </ul>
3.3	<p>Next steps</p> <p>It is proposed that officers draft a more detailed Committee Plan taking into account the feedback from the committee workshop and the relevant priorities from within the Corporate Plan and bring this back to Committee for consideration and agreement.</p>
3.4	<p><u>Financial &amp; Resource Implications</u></p> <p>There are no financial or resource implications directly relating to this report.</p>

	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u> There are no implications directly relating to this report
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Appendices</b>
	Appendix 1 - Presentation slides 10 September 2019 Appendix 2 - Member Workshop pack Appendix 3 - Feedback from the Committee Planning workshop

# People and Communities Committee

Committee Planning Workshop  
10 September 2019

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# Agenda

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## 1. Welcome and Overview

- Overview of corporate plan
- Role of Committee
- Ongoing/emerging priorities

## 2. Roundtable Discussion

## 3. Next Steps

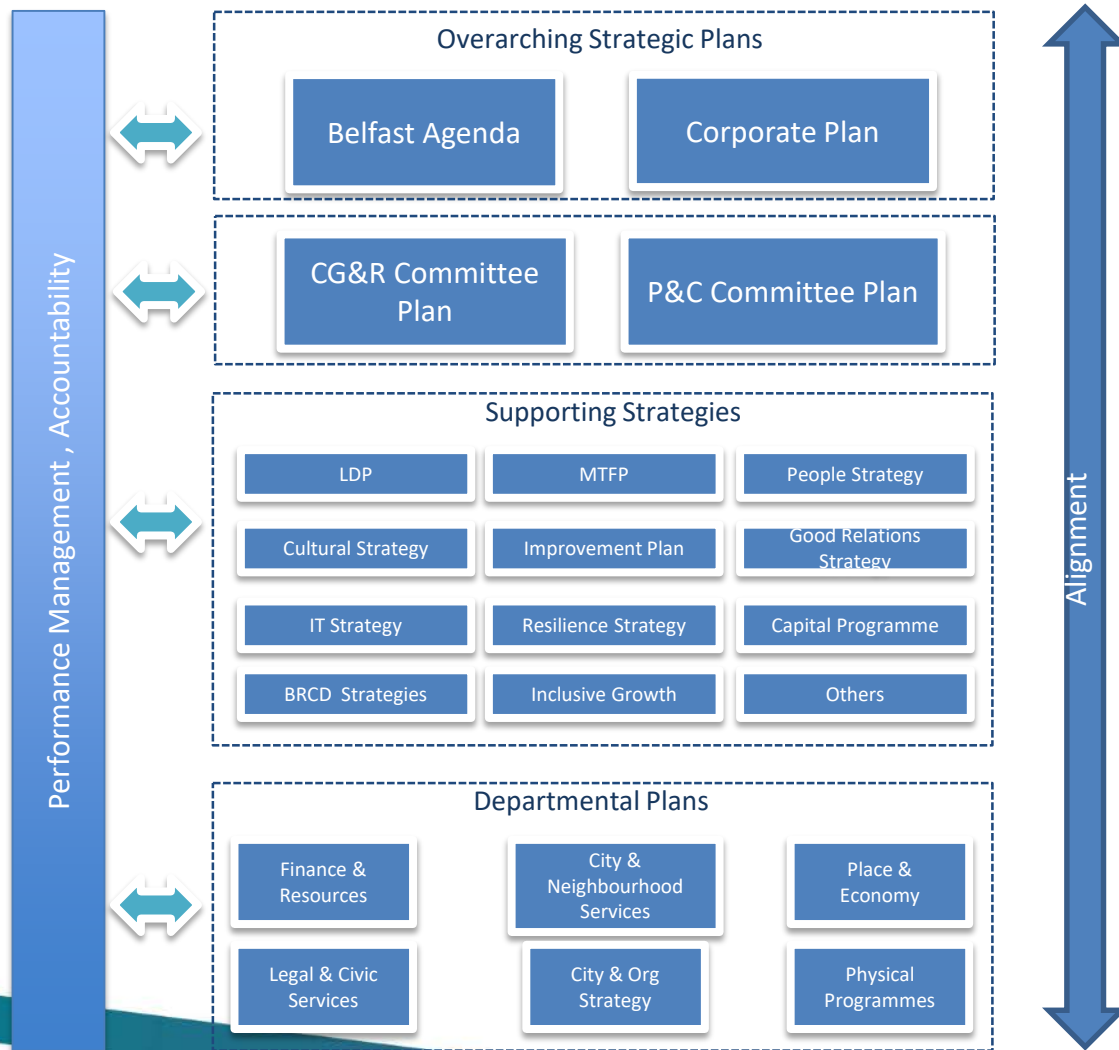


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# Strategic Planning Framework

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# What is the Corporate Plan?



## Why it's important

- Articulation of political direction in to deliverable priorities for Council term
- Sets ambitious priorities that drive real change in Belfast
- Determines resource allocation for the life of the Council term and beyond



## Governance of corporate plan

- Managed through SP&R Committee
- Individual priorities in corporate plan managed through other Standing Committees
- Cascades in to individual committee and departmental plans, fixing the allocation of departmental resources



## Rate setting process

- The priorities agreed in corporate plan enable an understanding of resource requirements and is the reference point for rate setting process



# Opportunities & Challenges



7,322 people in Housing Stress



18.8% working age population have no qualifications



NI Assembly suspended since January 2017



**Climate:**

58% of the working population travel to work by car or van

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Belfast economy grew by 1.8% over the last 2 years



**Brexit**



6.5% unemployment rate



30.7% of the working age population were economically inactive



**Council Current Financial Situation**

BAU, Rate Base, Growth, Efficiency Programme, Reserves, Balanced Budget



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# Emerging Priorities

New priorities that are at concept or development stage that will have significant resource and organisational change implications.

- Customer Focus Programme
- Inclusive Growth Strategy
- Sustainable Development and Resilience
- Innovation and Growth Commission
- Cultural Strategy
- Belfast Dublin Economic Corridor
- Neighbourhood regeneration
- Waste & Resourceful Belfast



# TOR: People & Communities Committee



# City & Neighbourhoods Dept

- Key staff
- Budget & services
- Funding
- Achievements

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# P&C Committee priorities

## CROSS CUTTING PRIORITIES

- Deliver the **Belfast Region City Deal**
- Publish the **Belfast Spatial Planning Framework**
- Develop and implement the city's **Cultural Strategy**
- Build better **partnership working** to deliver **Belfast Agenda** outcomes
- Continue to deliver a **physical programme** that brings about better economic, social and environmental conditions for Belfast
  - Implement the **Inclusive Growth Strategy** to ensure everyone benefits through enhanced social value policies
    - Implement the **Good Relations Strategy**
- Develop a medium term **city finance plan** to support delivery
  - Deliver **excellent, value for money services**

- Develop a **city growth plan** through the City Growth & Innovation Commission
- Drive economic growth through **£350 million investment in digital innovation projects**
- Progress the **digital innovation strategy**
- Increase **tourism** spend by developing new products and the Belfast Story
- Encourage **business start-ups**
- Support **indigenous business growth**
- Provide the environment to support **inward investment**
- Promote and **market the city internationally** for investment
- Maximise the economic benefit of the Belfast-Dublin Economic Corridor

- Develop **integrated services** at a local level
- Develop **neighbourhood regeneration plans**
- Build and open **five new leisure centres**
- Work with **partners to maximise** the housing development opportunities
- Continue to build our **community capacity**

- Help to **address educational underachievement**
- Support residents to **access employment** through initiatives such as Belfast Workplace
- Provide **upskilling opportunities**



- **Resilience Strategy** to reduce strategic risks for the city
- City wide focus on **climate adaption and mitigation**
- **Urban waste & the circular economy**
- Improve **urban air quality**
- Develop an **energy transition plan**
- Support and encourage a switch to more sustainable transport

- Continue to implement the **City Centre Regeneration & Investment Strategy**
- Continue to support solutions for the required **city infrastructure**
- Facilitate and enable **city wide regeneration**
- Continue to develop the **Destination Hub**
- Make the city more easily **connected**

# Emerging priority: Neighbourhood regeneration

- Scope & agree our definition of neighbourhood working and align with the refocusing of Area Working Groups;
- Develop an evidence baseline for areas to inform area planning opportunities;
- Design a new model of neighbourhood working, with teams which are better integrated, flexible and responsive.
  - Review the Council 'community Provision' offer
  - Commence Implementation of our Open Space & Street Scene project (integrating street cleansing & parks operations);
  - Review front line regulatory and enforcement services
- Develop 5 transformational, place based regeneration programmes in local areas across N,S,E & W Belfast.

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# Emerging priority: Neighbourhood regeneration

## Current status

- Officers are preparing a position for Members to consider the critical issues on what this work is; what it is called for integrated service delivery in neighbourhoods.
- AWG/ Member workshop being planned to shape the way forward in the months ahead.
- Second phase of community provision being scoped.

## Next steps

- Developing our approach to area / neighbourhood working & refreshing the governance arrangement for AWG.
- Resources need considered for this continuous improvement alongside the review of community provision.
- Maximise our partnership working in creating better joined up working and improved community outcomes.



# Emerging priority: Waste & Resourceful Belfast

- Successful cities manage the impact of growth and ensure that it does not limit the quality of life of future generations.
- Waste management is a key risk in the resilience of the city.
- Manage urban waste to create a quality materials product to support jobs via a circular economy. As a result we wish to develop waste management arrangements for a resourceful Belfast.



# Emerging priority: Waste & Resourceful Belfast

## Current status

- Propose new waste collection arrangements under the 10 Year Waste Framework Strategy;
- Test new collection arrangements for around 5,500 households (September 2019);
- Prepare a Fleet Strategy for the Council's vehicles;
- Through the Resourceful Belfast programme maximise economic potential by creating social enterprises;
- **Urban waste and the Circular Economy:** We will develop a strategy which will ensure waste is managed effectively and investigate the economic potential of the circular economy to increase skills, jobs and growth.

## Next steps

- Critical factors moving forward are managing the key targets and costs to support the waste framework roll out and cultural change to supporting a circular economy .
- Fleet resourcing and future planning – assessing and feeding into capital program.
- Keeping eye to Brexit impacts and NI Infrastructure gaps in waste management





# Committee Member Discussion

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- What are the priorities that need more or less attention or are new priorities?
- Over the next three years, what areas of work need more focus and perhaps resource?



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# Next steps

- Summary report of workshop
- Timetable of reporting on key priorities



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# People & Communities Committee

## Planning workshop

10 September 2019



# People & Communities Committee

## Planning workshop

### AGENDA

<p><b>1. Welcome and Overview – (20 minutes)</b></p> <p>1.1.Format/approach</p> <p>1.2.Introduction/Context</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Overview of Corporate Plan</li><li>– Role of Committee</li><li>– Main areas of work already signed off for this year 2019/20</li><li>– Emerging Priorities</li></ul>	<p>6:20 – 6:40 pm</p>
<p><b>2. Round table discussions – (40 minutes)</b></p> <p>2.1.Looking forward and discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– What are the priorities that need more or less attention or are new priorities</li><li>– Over the next three years, what areas of work need more focus and perhaps resource?</li></ul>	<p>6.40 – 7.20 pm</p>





## People & Communities Committee – Terms of Reference

The People and Communities Committee is responsible for the development and implementation of strategies, policies, programmes and projects aimed at improving life at a local level in the context of the outcomes agreed in the community and corporate plans and other corporate strategy. This includes:

- Developing and delivering programmes, events and activities to promote health, safety and well-being at a local level
- Administering and enforcing the Council's powers and duties under the Public Health Acts and all environmental health and building related legislation and regulations
- Securing and providing adequate provision for the recycling, treatment and disposal of commercial and domestic waste including bulky waste and the collection and disposal of abandoned motor vehicles.
- Exercising the Council's powers for improving local environmental quality in relation to housing legislation, managing controlled waste, emergency planning and community safety and anti-social behaviour, clean neighbourhoods and other environmental or regulatory issues not falling within the remit of any other Committee.
- Managing, maintaining and maximising the benefit of the Council's parks, pitches, playgrounds and other public spaces as well as community centres and other indoor facilities
- Developing and implementing activities to ensure the delivery of corporate strategies and initiatives in respect of the promotion of health and physical activity, environmental protection, community safety and other such areas under the domain of this Committee
- Overseeing the delivery of the Council's frontline services and associated community assets including:

Environmental Services; Cleansing; Waste Management; Parks and Cemeteries service (excluding zoo, Malone House and Belfast Castle), Neighbourhood and Development Services; Community Services, Community Safety and Emergency Planning.



## People & Communities Committee – Responsibilities

Corporate Plan Priorities	
Living Here	Key Deliverables
Develop integrated services at a local level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commence implementation of our Open Spaces and Streetscene project (integrating street cleansing and parks operations.)</li> <li>• Review of regulatory and enforcement services</li> <li>• Review the Council <i>community provision</i> offer through the commissioned programme of research and identified recommendations for change.</li> </ul>
Develop neighbourhood regeneration plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop five transformational place based regeneration programmes in local areas across north, south, east and west Belfast.</li> </ul>
Build and open five new leisure centres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Open the new £25 million Andersonstown, £15 million Brook and the £20 million Lisnasharragh Leisure Centres.</li> <li>▪ Commence construction of the new £8 million Avoniel and £17m restoration of Templemore Baths which has received £5m of support from the HLF. We will also continue to progress plans for a new facility at Girdwood.</li> <li>▪ Create 75 new employment opportunities in our new centres at Andersonstown, Brook and Lisnasharragh.</li> <li>▪ Work with GLL to develop mobilisation plans for the opening of the three new centres.</li> <li>▪ Develop our Sports Development Framework, in collaboration with our Leisure Partners (GLL), to enhance the delivery of sport and leisure opportunities &amp; outcomes and create pathways to improved health &amp; wellbeing.</li> </ul>
Continue to build our community capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work in partnership with local communities and provide physical investment, resource support and funding to enhance community capacity</li> </ul>
Resilience & Sustainability	Key Deliverables
<p>2024</p> <p>Urban waste and the circular economy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Propose new waste collection arrangements under the 10 Year Waste Framework Strategy.</li> <li>• Test new collection arrangements for around 5,500 households (September 2019).</li> <li>• Undertake Phase 2 of the “No Food Waste” campaign.</li> <li>• Complete route optimization exercises for domestic and commercial waste.</li> <li>• Prepare a Fleet Strategy for the Council's vehicles.</li> <li>• Through Resourceful Belfast maximise economic potential through the creation of social enterprises.</li> <li>• Develop a waste acceptance policy at the Council's Household Recycling Centres &amp; CA sites.</li> <li>• Undertake a feasibility study for development of the Duncrue Complex for fit-for-purpose waste facilities.</li> </ul>
Improve urban air quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delivery of the Air Quality action plan to support emerging target to lower carbon emissions for the city.</li> </ul>
Organisational Priorities	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure the organisation supports community development through community capacity building and increased community engagement.</li> </ul>	
Improvement Plan Objectives	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We will increase the levels of household recycling and reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill.</li> <li>• We will support people to lead healthier more active lives</li> </ul>	
Corporate Risks	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Waste Management:</b> failure to manage the city's waste against targets in an affordable manner.</li> <li>• <b>Neighbourhood Area Plans:</b> if we do not develop / agree Area Plans then our resources may not be aligned to the needs of the community</li> </ul>	



## People

### Key Contacts

<p><b>Nigel Grimshaw</b> <b>Siobhan Toland</b> <b>Ryan Black</b></p>	<p>Strategic Director of City and Neighbourhood Services Director of City Services Director of Neighbourhood Services</p>	<p><b>Valerie Brown</b> <b>Tim Walker</b> <b>Kelly Gilliland</b> <b>Stephen Leonard</b> <b>Cate Taggart</b> <b>Alison Allen</b></p>	<p>City Services Manager - Regulatory City Services Manager – Resources and Fleet Neighbourhood Services Manager – North Belfast Neighbourhood Services Manager – South Belfast Neighbourhood Services Manager – East Belfast Neighbourhood Services Manager – West Belfast</p>
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## Budget

- To plan and deliver services in 2019-2020 the People and Communities Committee is responsible for a budget of £80.5 million net. The budget is allocated as follows:

Service	£000s
Cleansing	18,414
Community Services	6,825
Environmental Health CN	6,477
Leisure Centres	8,513
Neighbourhood and Development	3,920
Parks and Cemetery Services	9,382
CN Business Support	3,709
Vehicles	2,130
Waste Management	21,132

## External Funding

- We received and are currently delivering **£14.5 million** of Peace IV funding.
- In 2018/19 we received £6 million in external grants from other government bodies eg.
- Provided over £5 million funding for community, community safety, active and good relations activities for example:
  - Funding awards for over 170 projects for Good Relations, St Patrick's Day, 21 Summer Intervention awards and Bonfire & Cultural Expression.
  - £3 million of community provision to 279 groups.
  - Part funded advice services returning £31 million benefit maximisation in 17/18.
  - Part fund a Citywide Tribunal Service
  - Manages Policing & Community Safety Partnerships, their activities and small grants
  - Supports a family friendly Belfast



## Committee Achievements 2018-2019 - highlights

- Acquired responsibility for the regional Houses of Multiple Occupancy (HMO) Licencing Scheme from 1 April 2019 (6,000 licensable HMOs.)
- Joined UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities.
- Provided a 24/7 on-call emergency response service.
- Provided over £5 million funding for community, community safety, active and Good Relations programmes.
- Enabled over 3 million participants and visitors to our community programmes and centres.
- Worked with over 550 groups and organisations to deliver our neighbourhood offer such as active, sports, community, community safety, older and young people etc.
- Managed and delivered the City of Belfast Crematorium as a regional service.
- Further progress on Phase 1B of the Leisure Transformation Programme and opening of the new £60 million worth of assets in Lisnasharragh Leisure Centre and Brook Leisure Centre (November 2019) and Andersonstown Leisure Centre (April 2020.)
- Diverted 106,986 tonnes of waste from landfill.
- Cleaned 276,510 miles (445,000km) of streets
- Welcomed 842,800 visitors to recycling centres.
- Achieved 20 Green flag standard awards for parks.
- Successfully developed the historical Tropical Ravine
- Transition and Improvement Programme is underway within the Department and includes the Open Spaces and Streetscene, Regulatory, Waste and Community Provision work streams for Continuous Improvement.



## City and Neighbourhood Services Department (Continued)

### Service Achievements

The City and Neighbourhood Services Department is moving to an area management model for service delivery in north, south, east and west of the city. There is a citywide services model in place for Resources and Fleet as well as Regulatory Services.

#### City Services (2018-2019)

##### City bereavement services and regional City of Belfast Crematorium

- Alongside managing cemeteries, maintain accurate burial records from 1869 and the five historical closed cemeteries of Knock, Balmoral, Clifton Street, Shankill and Friars Bush.

##### Housing

- Acquired responsibility for the regional Houses of Multiple Occupancy (HMO) Licencing Scheme from 1 April 2019 (6,000 licensable HMOs.)

##### Waste

- Recycled 65,000 tonnes of waste; recycled almost 44% of household waste; diverted 106,986 tonnes of waste from landfill; received 842,800 visitors to our recycling centres.

##### Environmental Health and Regulatory Services

- Responded to 1,740 night-time noise service requests, 1,105 animal welfare calls and 5,700 pest control requests.
- Investigated 2,689 litter and waste incidents, issuing 1,801 fixed penalty notices.
- Issued 2,500 fixed penalty notices for litter and dog offences.
- Carried out 2,580 food safety inspections.
- Cleaned 278,510 miles (445,000km) of streets.
- Supported 150 community clean-ups.
- Delivered 1,304 free home safety checks.
- Issued 380 entertainment licences.
- Carried out 187 entertainment inspections.
- Undertook on street alcohol enforcement operations.

##### Emergency Planning

- Responded to 26 emergency incidents such as security alerts, flooding, wind storms, gas leaks and the fire at Bank Buildings

#### Neighbourhood Services (2018-2019)

##### Developed programmes for participation, engagement and empowerment in neighbourhoods and communities that has led to:

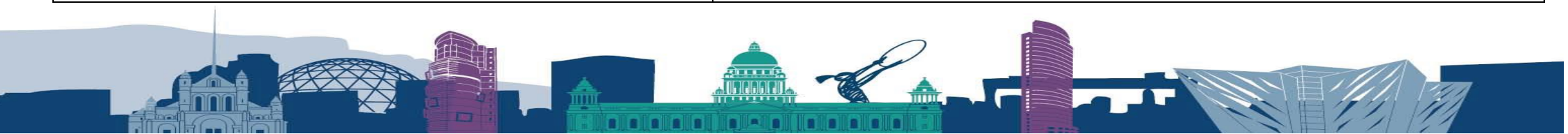
- 3 million+ participants and visitors to our community programmes, centres and sites.
- 2 million+ leisure centre visitors (throughput.)
- 134,000 people attended outdoor leisure activities in parks & open spaces.
- 48 nominations for the Older Volunteer Awards.
- Distribution of over £5 million grant funding for community, community safety and active programmes.

##### To do this we delivered:

- Summer schemes.
- Good relations programmes including *Our Diverse city* project.
- Support for Sport grant aid.
- Physical activity referrals via Healthwise (812); cardiac rehabilitation (153); cancer rehabilitation (86).
- *Take Five* wellbeing toolkit.
- Belfast Festival of Learning.
- Belfast Youth Forum 2018-2020.
- Council's Play team.
- Traveller Liaison officer post.
- *Every Body Active* programme.
- Age-friendly Belfast Plan 2018 -2021.
- *Beelicious* programme and other biodiversity training & events.
- Consumer advice.

##### Through a range of events and activities including:

- Summer Rose Fair; Autumn Fair; fun days; summer fun days; primary schools cross-country; music in the parks.
- Use of parks and open spaces for park runs and Belfast Marathon etc.
- Community centre annual programme of events.
- Celebrate Positive Ageing Month.
- Hosting Greater Belfast Seniors Forum and their six local fora.
- Four Good Relations grant aided programmes supporting a total of 170 projects e.g. 52 St Patrick's Day Celebration Grants; 28 Bonfire and Cultural Expression project awards.
- Delivery of eleven projects in the Peace IV Belfast Local Action Plan.





Service Achievements	
City Services (2018-2019)	Neighbourhood Services (2018-2019)
	<p><b>Programmes were delivered in partnership with various organisations and groups:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Over 550 community groups and organisations.</li><li>• Led smart city SBRI 'Amazing spaces: Smart places' competition to discover how technology may address antisocial behavior and open space management.</li><li>• Joined UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities.</li><li>• Partnership working e.g. Belfast Strategic Partnership; Policing and Community Safety Partnerships; Shared City Partnership; Arc 21; five Belfast advice consortia.</li><li>• Stadia Community Benefits Initiative with IFA and GAA.</li><li>• Belfast Emergency Preparedness Group Partnership with 80+ organisations.</li><li>• Invested in our Emergency Co-ordination Centre.</li><li>• Sustainable development and networking.</li><li>• 20 green flag standard parks.</li><li>• Successfully developed the historical Tropical Ravine.</li></ul>



APPENDIX 3 Collated member Feedback: People and Communities – Committee Planning 10 September 2019

Member	Comments
Cllr Baker	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Keen to look at closer working with Planning to ensure decisions are taken with consideration given to green/renewable energy, emissions and environmental factors.</li> <li>Council have target to use electric vehicles for waste collection by 2030 but do we have the infrastructure eg charge points? Targets for waste but also for other areas</li> </ul>
Cllr Black	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Suggested a comprehensive review of existing physical infrastructure of independent centres to ensure facilities are used and funds are allocated appropriately – eg installation of footfall monitoring systems at BCC centres to monitor usage/review funding if centres are not used to their potential.</li> <li>Facilities Management Agreements – should include repair responsibilities</li> <li>Review new IFA legislation given the sizeable impact on BCC facilities especially upgrade of pitches</li> <li>Enhance environmental improvements by adapting/futureproofing BCC facilities and resources</li> <li>Although funding programmes need to be open and transparent it would be useful to also have fluidity to ensure provision for new and emerging issues in the current Committee/Council term</li> <li>Ring-fencing Neighbourhood Renewal funding for areas of deprivation</li> <li>Not forcing change to meet a centrally driven theme when local groups and projects are working well</li> <li>Community planning should be needs-led and not centrally driven</li> <li>Tender management – mitigate risk of losing quality local providers and support for smaller groups</li> </ul>
Cllr Cobain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Environmental issues, including fleet management as a significant strain on BCC budgets – suggested consideration is given to looking at rate relief. Rates may need to rise however important to ‘sell’ anticipated improvements to ratepayers.</li> <li>Important to set targets regarding energy that is not dependent on fossil fuels but yet is affordable.</li> </ul>
Cllr Corr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recognised climate as a priority in this council term.</li> <li>Outlined concerns regarding bureaucracy and numerous plans which don’t appear to achieve measured outcomes</li> <li>Suggested that there is a lack of understanding of the importance of the Belfast Agenda and that Members need to have a better understanding of the plan and increased awareness of outcomes in order to align priorities eg. proactively working to address health inequalities.</li> <li>AWGs could lack effectiveness without money available for capital builds/projects but need to focus on outcomes</li> <li>Closer alignment with government departments is required – many Notices of Motion do not fall within the remit of the Council, but in the absence of the NI Assembly, Council is the only forum to move these issues forward at present</li> <li>Suggested increased involvement for Members in setting priorities aligned to the Belfast Agenda.</li> <li>Focus on regeneration in collaboration with communities, not ‘to communities’ as will not work</li> </ul>

Cllr Verner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recognition that BCC cannot carry sole responsibility for all issues in regard to improving the quality of life for citizens, but BCC should be working with others to lead on the needs of its people</li> <li>• Community Planning is hugely important– everyone has a role to play in achieving good quality of life for all; working with the Departments as have identified outcomes.</li> <li>• CNS Transition and Improvement Plan – significant change and risk of front line staff feeling discontent/undervalued – important to manage this carefully.</li> </ul>
Cllr Kyle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concerns regarding Neighbourhood Renewal – hugely important for communities and serious difficulties could arise in the absence of funding. Brexit also poses risks for poorer communities.</li> <li>• Recognised positive work undertaken by BCC community centres and the significant increase in the use of parks and green spaces eg fun days, park runs etc – need to ensure this good work continues ensuring the greening and wilding of the city – Belfast benefits from being a greener city.</li> <li>• Suggested merit in the production of an Anti-Poverty Strategy</li> </ul>
Cllr Magee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suggested a review of shared contracts with DRD, DfI, Housing Executive etc – cited an example in the New Lodge (Victoria Barracks) where three agencies clean one small piece of ground which is an obvious and unnecessary duplication of efforts and increases the carbon footprint. Are there opportunities for cost saving? Can staff be encouraged to come up with ideas? For example, is there an opportunity to have street cleaners spray weeds etc if appropriate equipment was provided?</li> <li>• Recycling facilities – suggested longer opening hours to facilitate daytime/weekend workers, and encouraging yard operatives to provide more assistance in terms of recycling advice to encourage customers to increase their recycling.</li> </ul>
Cllr McLaughlin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suggested that an inclusive health strategy targeting areas of deprivation is required to improve quality of life and address health inequalities– new centres alone are not enough, as no measure of how health has improved for those in that area. BCC need to work closely with others to address these issues.</li> <li>• Consideration required when allocating funding to disability groups as associated costs (transport, suitable facilities) etc can be substantially higher</li> </ul>
Cllr de Faoite	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Echoed Cllr Cobain’s concerns in relation to mitigating climate crisis cost impacts – suggested sustainability impact assessments should form part of any Committee reports and decision making process on these issues going forward identifying cost implications.</li> <li>• Suggested Climate Crisis minutes are presented to P&amp;C Committee on a monthly basis as well as to SP&amp;R Committee</li> <li>• Provision of adequate services for both children &amp; young people, and the elderly should be priorities going forward – making Belfast a CYP-friendly city (linked to proposed Resilience Strategy)</li> <li>• Outlined concerns regarding cemeteries and crematorium use - limited spaces and facilities available.</li> <li>• Echoed Cllr Kyle’s suggestion for an Anti-Poverty Strategy</li> <li>• Concerns re impact of large numbers of HMOs in South and East Belfast – BCC need to support these communities, and mitigate the impact of the Ulster University on the North and West of the city. BCC should strive to ensure development is mixed to provide best outcomes and avoid a duplication of the issues caused by HMOs in the Holylands.</li> </ul>