

Public Document Pack

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

HYBRID MEETING OF THE CITY GROWTH AND REGENERATION COMMITTEE

Dear Alderman/Councillor,

The above-named Committee will meet in the Lavery Room - City Hall on Wednesday, 13th September, 2023 at 5.15 pm, for the transaction of the business noted below.

You are requested to attend.

Yours faithfully,

John Walsh

Chief Executive

AGENDA:

- (a) Committee Plan 2023-24 and End of Year Report (22-23) (Pages 1 - 34)

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Subject:	CG&R End of Year Report (23-23) and CG&R Committee Plan (23-24)
Date:	13 September 2023
Reporting Officer:	John Greer, Director of Economic Development Cathy Reynolds, Director of City Regeneration and Development
Contact Officer:	Jamie Uprichard, Business Research and 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	To provide an end of year progress update (Appendix 1) on the key actions contained in the 2022-23 City Growth and Regeneration (CG&R) Committee Plan, as agreed by this Committee in June 2021.
1.2	To present to Committee the draft City Growth & Regeneration Committee Plan for 2023-24 (Appendix 2).

2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note the content of the end of year report; • Approve the City Growth and Regeneration Committee Plan for 2023-24; and • Agree to hold a committee workshop as part of the development of a new Corporate Plan 2024-28 during October 2023.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p>The 2022-23 Committee Plan End of Year Report (EOYR) and draft CG&R Committee Plan for 2023-24 were originally presented to, and agreed at the April 2023 meeting of the CG&R Committee. However due to a procedural error, they were referred back to Committee for further consideration and approval. The procedural error related to the roles and responsibilities of the Committee included within the introduction of the draft plan (attached at appendix 1). The functions have been updated to ensure they are consistent with Appendix 3 (Standing Orders) of the Council's Constituion.</p>
3.2	<p>The draft CG&R Committee Plan for 2023-24 has been developed in the context of the Council's Corporate Plan 2023-24 and the draft refreshed Belfast Agenda. Consequently, the new Committee Plan contains the commitments within the Corporate Delivery Plan, as agreed at August SP&R, and which fall under the duties of this Committee, and deliverables that have been agreed by CG&R Committee throughout the 22/23 period and are relevant to the Standing Orders. The Plan sets out the main priorities and programmes of work that the Committee is overseeing to maximise the Council's contribution to the Belfast Agenda.</p>
3.3	<p>The 2022-23 Committee Plan End of Year Report (EOYR) and the draft Plan for 2023-24 were both developed in the context of the Council's Corporate Plan and the draft refreshed Belfast Agenda. Consequently, the new Committee Plan contains the commitments within the Corporate Delivery Plan (agreed at the August meeting of SP&R and endorsed at the September council meeting), which fall under the duties of this Committee, and deliverables that have been agreed by CG&R Committee throughout the 22/23 period and are relevant to the Standing Orders. The Plan sets out the main priorities and programmes of work that the Committee is overseeing to maximise the Council's contribution to the Belfast Agenda.</p>
3.4	<p><u>Progress Reports</u></p> <p>Following agreement of the draft Committee Plan, officers will bring a six-monthly progress report against all commitments in the Committee Plan in November 2023 and a further end of year report in April 2024.</p>

3.5	<p><u>New Corporate Plan 2024-28</u></p> <p>At the SP&R meeting on 18 August 2023, the Committee approved the proposed approach and timeline for the development of the 2024 –28 Corporate Plan and accompanying Committee and Departmental Plans for 2024-25. The proposed timeline identified that committee planning workshops should be held in October 2023, with a view to producing a draft plan by February 2024.</p>
3.6	<p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>The draft Committee Plan 2023/24 and the subsequent annual programmes of work are aligned with the budget agreed by the Strategic Policy & Resources Committee on 20 January 2023, namely a cash limit for the City Growth & Regeneration Committee of £20.45 million as set out in Appendix 2.</p>
3.7	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications / Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>Strategies, programmes and actions within the Committee Plan are developed and delivered in consultation with the Council's Equality & Diversity Officers and subject to appropriate equality, good relations and rural needs assessment.</p>
4.0	Appendices
	<p>Appendix 1 – CG&R Committee Plan 2022-23 – End of Year Report</p> <p>Appendix 2 – draft CG&R Committee Plan 2023-24</p>

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CG&R Committee Plan 2022-23 – End of Year Report

INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC RECOVERY

Strategic Priority	2022-23 Deliverables	Progress at Year End
Cultural Strategy Senior Responsible Officer: John Greer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress the 'A City Imagining Plan' • Consult on, then launch, the Music Strategy • Theme 4: Unlock the unifying power of UNESCO 	Belfast 2024 Year of Cultural Celebration for Belfast: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • June 2022's CG&R committee noted the principles, concept and work related to the development of a year of culture and Belfast Imagining. • Public consultation completed and the full Music Strategy was agreed in December 2022. • An OBC was developed in partnership with Grant Thornton to support the case for Belfast 2024's ambitious year of cultural activity. Engagement programmes are currently underway to pilot Co-Design Framework with various communities to develop projects for 2024. The official launch of Belfast 2024 is on hold until later in 2023 in consultation with BCC Marcomms. • Commissioning for Anchor Programmes is underway with key Signature Partners, Eden Project, Little Amal, Oona Doherty and BBC/ City of Music collaboration on dance music with Ulster Orchestra. • An Open Call Design Contest for Belfast 2024, a 4-stage process with a R&D phase was launched in December 2022. Full commissions coming from this scheme will be contracted by June 2023. • BCC became the first council in the UK to directly support individual artists on a non-project basis when it completed Year 1 of the Creative Bursary Scheme in August 2022. The Creative Bursary Scheme Year 2 opened for applications in January 2023 (closing March 2023) – 13 bursaries are available and particular target for creatives identifying with/working in Irish language, new migrant communities and LGBTQIA+ sector. • Belfast 2024 Brand Identity and Guidelines were developed in partnership with McCadden. Festival 2022/UNBOXED – celebration of STEAM creative industries <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MarComms and Education regional working groups were formed to advise on and support the delivery of Festival 22 across NI. • Supported the delivery of Dreamachine, Storytrails, Green Space and Dark Skies regional projects.

Strategic Priority	2022-23 Deliverables	Progress at Year End
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overseen and delivered Our Place In Space (OPIS) on behalf of SOLACE at Derry, Belfast, Cambridge, Liverpool, Cultra, including pivoting to incorporate a 5th site at Liverpool as the opportunity arose. Highlights included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over 1M live visitors to the site App downloaded in 150 Countries 28,000 students and 2,200 teachers directly engaged with 5 new learning resources 1 new Minecraft world 1 World Record smashed! Note: above figures accurate at end of 4th site, the project is ongoing at 5th site, Ulster Transport Museum. The trail is gifted to NMNI to be displayed at the Ulster Transport Museum
City Recovery, Reopening the City and support for businesses CG&R Senior Responsible Officer: Cathy Reynolds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revitalisation Fund: Physical interventions 	<p>Delivery of a DfC funded Covid Recovery Revitalisation Programme. A Mid-Term Covid recovery revitalisation programme Evaluation Report was presented to the August CG&R committee. A final report is currently under development and due to be complete by 31 March reporting into CGR Committee in June 2023. This will provide an annual review of all funded projects within the programme. An extension of time, subject to sign off has been granted in relation to Entries Phase 2 and Castle Place Kiosk until end of September 2023.</p> <p>We have also supported the 'Vibrant Business Destinations' scheme across the city, securing resources for and working with local business associations outside of the city centre.</p> <p>The Vacant to Vibrant Pilot Grant scheme was launched and is currently 8 months into a 24-month pilot timeline. Over 200 application packs were issued, and officers are currently working with a number of applicants, providing support to develop their proposals. A total of 6 applications have been approved (1 subject to Council ratification in April 2023), a further 26 applicants are actively engaging with officers to finalise their applications with an expectation that these will be submitted by Summer 2023.</p>
City Development and Investment Senior Responsible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regeneration Programme Framework City Centre Investment Fund Institutional investment partner Provide Council input and strategic direction to major regeneration and development projects 	<p>Work is underway in relation to the commissioning of a Lobby & Advocacy Paper for Place Based Regeneration Funding and the development of a Regeneration Framework and Project Prioritisation Process. A wider engagement plan has been developed including Party Group Leaders, MPs, Permanent Secretaries and other stakeholders. This is aligned to the ongoing work via City & Organisational Strategy to develop a project pipeline for Council aligned to funding opportunities and city priorities.</p>

Strategic Priority	2022-23 Deliverables	Progress at Year End
<p>Officer: Cathy Reynolds</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to progress city wide strategic opportunities relating to the use of BCC assets • Progress the future use options for 2 Royal Avenue • Continue to promote the Sixth • Complete assembly of optimal site for development of Belfast Stories project • UU Community Campus Regeneration Forum 	<p>An Expression of Interest was launched mid-March 2023 to attract an Institutional Investment / Development partner in respect of Council lands for housing-led regeneration as part of the ongoing concept regeneration plans (including PADS).</p> <p>Officers continued to actively engage on major private sector led regeneration schemes through the established Project Reference Groups.</p> <p>While an application to the Levelling Up Fund (Round 2) was unsuccessful for 2 Royal Avenue, formal feedback was received, and work continues on the proposal of its long-term use including a focused piece on end user models and identifying potential funding. Work on the Sixth was also progressed via the BelTel LLP. The council continued to lead the UU Community Campus Regeneration Forum, including its transition in line with the opening of the Belfast campus.</p> <p>The council continued to work with DfI and DfC on the finalisation of the Bolder Vision Strategy with the emerging draft Strategy approved by the CG&R Committee in August 2022. Departments were engaged, in the absence of Ministers through the oversight and steering groups involving the CX and Perm Secs from DfC and DfI. DfI accelerated the Belfast city centre element of the BMTP to the Climate Action Plan to model options for the provision of the strategic transportation network and to help inform the emerging capital project list.</p> <p>Strategic Site Assessment for Council lands have been undertaken on a city-wide basis with an initial assessment for housing-led regeneration purposes. A similar exercise was undertaken (as part of a Housing-Led Regeneration Group with NIHE and DfC) in respect of other public sector lands. Proposals and next steps to be brought to a Members' Workshop.</p>
<p>Increase tourism spend through sustainable tourism products</p> <p>Senior Responsible Officer: John Greer</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start delivery of the 10-year Tourism recovery plan "Make Yourself at Home" including: • Positioning Belfast • Sustainable Tourism • Deliver the Annual Events programme 	<p>We have delivered a number on initiatives to help Grow tourism sustainably in Belfast. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ An Accessible Tourism Programme to improve the visitor experience and value of the 'purple pound'. ▪ Implementation of Food and Drink Tourism plan to increase associated spend and improve the experience, while strengthening Belfast's position as a food and drink destination. ▪ Ongoing scoping of the Neighbourhood Tourism Investment Programme to extend tourism's economic benefits to communities beyond the city centre. ▪ Working to improve our Global Destination Sustainability Index (GDSI). Belfast is now rated 8th in the world among 65 other destinations. ▪ Promoting the Green Tourism Certification, which has resulted in 80% of hotel rooms; and ensuring that sustainability is fully integrated in all tourism / event planning.

Strategic Priority	2022-23 Deliverables	Progress at Year End
<div>Page 8</div>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Delivery of Conference Subvention Programme to assist in winning conferences and business events for Belfast. Belfast was named the world's best conference destination for a second consecutive year this year. ▪ Working to Position Belfast as an attraction tourist destination with Visit Belfast, Tourism NI and Tourism Ireland. This ensures Belfast is positioned as a Gateway to Northern Ireland and a must-see urban destination. ▪ Tourism & Belfast Stories teams working together to support Neighbourhood Tourism organisations to tell the key stories of the city. ▪ Securing Tourism NI product development funding to support new products such as Ceili at the Castle, Music Tours and music workshops. ▪ Mapping Council-owned and existing tourism assets against the city's 'Belfast brand' and Tourism NI 'Embrace the Giant Spirit' brand to deliver on experiential tourism in Belfast. ▪ Further development of the Neighbourhood Tourism Framework to bring to Committee in June 2023 for consideration. ▪ Catalyst 2: Make Yourself at Home ▪ Strategic and operational planning is ongoing for the delivery of the One Young World event in October 2023. ▪ Other major bid-for events have been progressed during the year including the Fleadh Cheoil (in partnership with the Ards Comhaltas) and the European Football Championships in 2028 (decision due Sept. 2023). ▪ Christmas 2022 was successfully delivered. The analysis, learning and future actions from the St Patrick's Event pilot, were agreed by June's CG&R committee, and the 2023 event is imminent. ▪ The Maritime Festival development continues, in consultation with partners, with the next edition planned for September 2023. The funding process for local sports events has recently concluded.
Encourage business start-ups and support indigenous business growth Senior Responsible Officer:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide 'Starting a Business' services • Support social enterprises and co-operatives • Provide 'Growing a Business' services 	<p>Officers have engaged councils to progress the enhanced approach to business start-up and growth support. Since the update to Committee in October, the DLUHC committed up to £17m for an 11-council Entrepreneurship Support Service (ESS), over 2 years from April 2023. Council will be lead council.</p> <p>We engaged 755 individuals, supporting them to progress to start a business. We continue to extend our reach to engage individuals who are under-represented including: people with disabilities, the economically inactive, females and young people. Additionally, 40 students and graduates also accessed support. We also enabled 31 test trading opportunities at St George's Market.</p>

Strategic Priority	2022-23 Deliverables	Progress at Year End
John Greer		<p>Business start-up activity engaged 503 individuals, with 476 developing a business plan through 'Go For It', supporting the creation of 299 jobs. 70 had additional 1-1 mentoring and financial support to help kick start their business.</p> <p>Direct support for 60 Social Enterprises and Co-operatives included one-to-one mentoring, advice and guidance. Four of these were new co-operatives. Overall Social Enterprise and Co-operative Support included 25 events/workshops with over 300 attendees. To increase awareness of the sector, we also targeted 50 young people in community settings. Our focused engagement with co-operative organisations also continued, this included 10 events, with 42 attendees.</p> <p>The £50,000 Social Economy Incentive Fund launched in September 2022 to support social economy businesses business growth plans. In recognition of these efforts, Belfast City Council won 'Council of the Year' at the Social Enterprise Northern Ireland Awards in October 2022.</p> <p>Through our business growth support, we have assigned mentors to over 246 businesses and delivered 20 workshops with over 265 attendees. Helped has bene provided for growth strategies, increasing resilient, enhance digital and online presence, improve tendering skills and accessing specialist support for businesses with high growth potential.</p> <p>We also delivered a large-scale Opportunity Export event with over 70 attendees and speakers from Invest NI, DIT and Intertrade Ireland. We also launched the Digital Surge programme with the other councils to help businesses with innovation and digital transformation. 22 Belfast-based companies have benefitted.</p> <p>In January 2022, we launched the Vibrant Business Destinations programme in partnership with DfC. This aims to drive footfall and create vibrancy in areas outside of the city centre. Four associations have now been supported to develop area-based action plans.</p> <p>The Innovation Factory is now at 77% occupancy (yearly average) and the operator has ambitious plans to increase those numbers in 2023/2024 with interest from sectors including TV/film, digital, engineering, and green tech. Over the year, 78 businesses engaged in masterclasses and events at the centre, 38 work placements were facilitated, and a series of school engagement activities took place involving 223 young people.</p> <p>The Way to Scale programme supported 40 individuals to transform their businesses and grow to turnover of more than £3million. 10 were supported to participate in a one week residential at MIT and access a peer-to-peer workshop series with Catalyst. We also put in place support for businesses in creative and digital industries and financial services sectors to build capacity and access opportunities for finance to support the growth and development of their businesses. 90 new companies will be supported through these services.</p>

Strategic Priority	2022-23 Deliverables	Progress at Year End
Promote and market the city internationally Senior Responsible Officer: Cathy Reynolds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Positioning the City to Compete Provide the Investing in Belfast service 	<p>Delivery of a public private Renewed Ambition Programme is on-going across the 5 pillared structure of activity aimed at marketing the city locally, nationally and internationally across events, engagement & advocacy, communications and repository.</p> <p>An Invest in Belfast website has been set up with information on Belfast, the key growth sectors and specific investment and development opportunities. A Marketing Prospectus of key public and private investment opportunities across the BRCD region has been prepared.</p> <p>A 'Building Impact' report on the social, environmental and wider economic impact of the built environment was completed and was presented to the Social Policy Working Group in August 2022. Work is on-going to develop an internal action plan to address the report recommendations relevant to BCC.</p> <p>Monitoring and analysis of valid planning applications to inform the City Development Tracker continues on an ongoing basis. Work has progressed on integrating the city investment narrative into the Invest in Belfast website to align the messaging with wider Council led initiatives and other stands of work. The new CRM system was completed and is currently being rolled out.</p> <p>Through our investor support activity, we continued to provide advice and connections to potential investors.</p>
Belfast Dublin Economic Corridor Senior Responsible Officer: John Greer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue development work with our seven partners arising from Dublin-Belfast corridor programme. 	<p>The strategy and action plan have been finalised. The partnership members have agreed to jointly fund two staff resources to drive delivery against priority actions in 2023.</p> <p>€150,000 funding was secured from the Shared Island Fund to conduct a feasibility study on regional Innovation Hubs. This was complemented by a successful joint application with Dublin City Council to the Shared Island Fund for a €250,000 award to conduct a feasibility study on circular economy facilities in both cities.</p>
Future City Centre Programme and Belfast City Centre Regeneration & Investment Strategy Senior Responsible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to progress the Future City Centre Programme and priority areas under the Belfast City Centre Regeneration & Investment Strategy Regeneration Projects Developer Contributions 	<p>We have developed Future City Centre Programme priority actions across the 6 pillars of Regeneration & Connectivity (including city centre living and Bolder Vision); Business & Investment; Positioning the City to Compete; Vibrancy & Culture; Innovation & Digital; Clean, Green, Inclusive & Safe.</p> <p>We have continued to work with city stakeholders through the Community Planning Partnership's City Development Board and relevant sub-structures. This included ongoing engagement with partner organisations and co-chairing the Community Campus Regeneration Forum (CCRF), including its transition in line with the opening of the Belfast campus.</p> <p>We established new City Centre Governance structures and continue to meet and progress priorities and address issues. This has included initial work to develop appropriate metrics and measurements for the overall Future City Centre programme. A cross-department was delivered to facilitate officer engagement</p>

Strategic Priority	2022-23 Deliverables	Progress at Year End
<p>Officer: Cathy Reynolds</p>		<p>on the scoping of this workstream to further scope and refine the pillars of the FCC programme and objectives.</p> <p>Externally the Future City Centre Leadership Group has considered the draft emerging action plan in respect of the FCC as part of the refresh of the Belfast Agenda and has agreed leads for delivery of associated actions.</p> <p>A number of priorities and projects identified within Belfast City Centre Regeneration & Investment Strategy continue to be progressed via BCC and other private /public sector partners. The 2022/23 regeneration tracker was presented to the CG&R Committee in March 2023.</p> <p>The Joint Regeneration Group (BCC, DfC, DfI, NIHE) met on a monthly basis to co-ordinate the public sector approach to Housing-Led Regeneration, A Bolder Vision, public realm projects and the FCC programme. DfI have provided Council with a Letter of Offer to fund the “Grey to Green” programme in March 2023 (subject to capital approvals), awaiting LoO in respect of Active Travel Enabling funding proposal and as reported to March 2023 CGR Committee the South West Quarter Revitalisation proposal has received a LoO (£250k) from DfC this project and subject to final approval works will commence shortly, along with the opportunities within the BCCG fund and proposals within the Linen Quarter BID 5 year business plan further investment is planned in the area, noting that the proposal Council submitted to DfI under the Blue and Green Fund has been withdrawn due to the information outline at Committee in March 2023.</p> <p>The council continued to lead the Community Planning Partnership’s City Development Board with a focus on the refresh of the Belfast Agenda and associated emerging draft action plans aligned to the newly identified priorities of the City Development Board, ie, Housing Led Regeneration; Future City Centre Programme and Citywide Regeneration; Connectivity, Active & Sustainable Travel.</p> <p>Developer Contributions (historical contributions) continue to be monitored and scheme proposals utilising the contributions are being progressed. This includes progressing the 5Cs public realm developer contributions catalyst project with DfC (with additional funding of £162k for a 5C’s Revitalisation Project underway), progressing to RIBA Stage 3 for Little York Street / Little Patrick Street for the utilisation of developer contributions, working with DfC on a proposal for a catalyst Blackstaff Square Public Realm project and progressing delivery of contributions aligned to the Great Victoria St/Shafsbury Sq Project.</p>
<p>City Infrastructure</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take forward the findings from the Belfast Infrastructure Study 	<p>Ongoing work to finalise the Belfast Infrastructure Study. Continue to provide civic leadership and strategic input to the major city infrastructure projects and represent Council on citywide boards, enabling, facilitating, and influencing major infrastructure development and investment.</p>

Strategic Priority	2022-23 Deliverables	Progress at Year End
Senior Responsible Officer: Cathy Reynolds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to champion the Council's preferred position for major infrastructure projects and Continue to represent Council and play a key role on city wide boards 	
Belfast Hills and North Foreshore Senior Responsible Officer: John Walsh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Belfast Hills (and Zoo) 	<p>A full restricted update was taken to CG&R committee in February 2023. Highlights included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> By the end of Q3 the zoo had welcomed 184k visitors. This is 14k higher than the five-year average. The summer welcomed above average footfall, although September to November experienced lower footfall than expected. The current cost of living and fuel crisis may have contributed to lower footfall during off-peak season. The Zoo was open to the public as normal throughout Q3 and re-launched its Junior Keeper experience in November. Several zoo initiatives, including interactive animal experiences, unfortunately, continue to remain unavailable. In this quarter the zoo friend's community group celebrated their 25th anniversary and received charity status from the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland.
Belfast Stories Senior Responsible Officer: Wendy Langham	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete OBC 1 Departmental Review Progress the acquisition of the 2 additional smaller properties Procurement and appointment of IDT / EDT to progress the concept design Progress the collection of Belfast stories Continue stakeholder and community engagement including consultation and EQIA Deliver 2022-23 communication programme Progress OBC 2 / RIBA 2 and Establish Benefits Framework and monitoring and evaluation system. 	<p>The assembly of the two remaining properties has been completed. Council is in ownership of all properties at the site. The next key step is to complete the abandonment of the adopted alleyway off Kent Street (which is in progress).</p> <p>The procurements for the professional services teams (Integrated Design Team (IDT), Interpretative Planning and Exhibition Design Team (IPEDT) and Project Management and Design Assurance Team PMDAT) are underway, with the prequalification stage now completed. Invitation to Tender (ITT) stage is to commence in March with appointments of the teams expected summer 2023.</p> <p>A city-wide Stories Audit is underway and due for completion in May 2023. An update will be provided to key stakeholders, including elected members, on the audit findings.</p> <p>A 14-week public consultation exercise has been completed with the findings and recommendations, including feedback on the draft EQIA and Rural Needs Assessment, currently under review. A summary report will be prepared for and brought to CGR Committee in June 2023.</p> <p>An engagement plan and communications plan has been developed and updated in line with consultation feedback. The plan will include consultation and engagement activities in 2023/24.</p> <p>Belfast Stories social media channels (Facebook and Instagram) support ongoing online engagement.</p>

Strategic Priority	2022-23 Deliverables	Progress at Year End
		An action plan for 2023 to support Inclusive Growth has been developed to ensure this area of work is considered at the project development stage.
Access, Connectivity, Active and Sustainable Travel Senior Responsible Officer: Cathy Reynolds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active Travel and Connectivity • A Bolder Vision for Belfast • City Transport Plan • Belfast Urban Greenways (BUG) • Sustainable Travel Initiatives • Belfast Bikes • Car Parking Strategy • Access to the Hills/ Connectivity Programme 	<p>An update on Connectivity, Active and Sustainable travel was presented to the CG&R Committee in February 2023. This included the ongoing work across Council and with stakeholders in respect of the Committee's strategic priority of Access, Connectivity, Active and Sustainable Travel as set out in the CGR Committee Plan, and alignment into the Corporate Plan and refresh of the Belfast Agenda including the new Connectivity, Active & Sustainable Travel subgroup. Work is underway to arrange an All Party Round Table regarding Connectivity, Active and Sustainable travel as agreed by the Committee.</p> <p>We have continued to engage with DfI on the development of the BMTP.</p> <p>Ongoing delivery of the DfC Covid Recovery Revitalisation funded covered city-wide cycle stands, 21/22 DfI B&G funded Active Travel Enablers including the launch of secured cycle parking at CastleCourt in October 2022, and proposals submitted on Active Travel Enablers for DfI B&G 22/23 funding. The Active Travel Hub at QUB has been delivered and is now operating successfully. The Cathedral Quarter Active Travel Hub has been delivered and was launched in October 2022.</p> <p>The Sustainable Travel E- Cargo Pilot launched in the first half the year, with the operator presenting to Committee in September 2022.</p> <p>As agreed by CG&R Committee in June 2022 the refresh of the Car Parking Strategy is deferred pending the finalisation of the LDP & BMTP.</p> <p>BCC continues to work with DfI and DfC on finalisation of the Bolder Vision Strategy with the emerging draft Strategy approved by CG&R Committee in August 2022. Ongoing engagement with departments, in the absence of Ministers through the oversight and steering groups involving the CX, and Perm Secs from DfC and DfI. DfI have accelerated the Belfast city centre element of the BMTP to the Climate Action Plan to model options for the provision of the strategic transportation network and to help inform the emerging capital project list. Updates will be provided to CG&R as this work progresses.</p> <p>Council Officers continue to develop a pipeline of projects aligned to A Bolder Vision to identify, prioritise and work up catalyst connectivity projects to attract external funding.</p> <p>Belfast Bikes - Three new stations were introduced at Lisnasharragh and Olympia Leisure Centres and the Kennedy Centre. Work continues to install a new station at the Waterworks and develop additional stations in line with the directions from CGR and SP&R in June 2021.</p> <p>Final end of year figures will not be available until early in the new financial year, but there were 76,565 registered Belfast Bike users at the end of Q3. 'Pay as you go' (PAYG) remained the most</p>

Strategic Priority	2022-23 Deliverables	Progress at Year End
		<p>popular form of membership, accounting for 88% of users.</p> <p>Officers continue to engage with DfI on the delivery of the Belfast Cycling Network and the BMTP with regular updates provided to the CG&R Committee, and at the proposed All-Party Connectivity & Active Travel Workshop.</p>
Educational underachievement Senior Responsible Officer: John Greer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to engage in development work with partners/providers to refine support for those young people, most at need, to progress through education and into employment. Provide a Youth Support programme to assist young people to build confidence and develop capabilities to enter and progress on a career pathway. Continue to deliver our GCSE support programme to increase the % attaining grade C and above in English and Maths and Work with the Department for Education and the Education Authority to explore how the Fair Start report's recommendations can be implemented in Belfast. 	<p>Since September, our GCSE support programme has engaged 281 young people who had been identified as being unlikely to achieve at least Grade C in GCSE English and Maths without support. Through the entire 2022/23 academic year, this programme is expected to support 365 young people.</p> <p>We also supported 170 young people through our Youth Support Programme. These participants either already have or are at risk of dropping out of the education system, employment or training. So far, 87 have completed accredited training and 65 are undertaking essential skills qualifications. This programme is due to complete in summer 2024 with an expected 55% achieving a positive destination, either into training, education or employment.</p>
Access to employment Senior Responsible Officer: John Greer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver Employment Academies in priority sectors Provide match-funding for ESF projects Deliver Enterprise Pathway with intensive, person-centred support for those further back in the labour market and Support job brokerage and career events. 	<p>Since April 2022, we have had over 700 places on Employment Academies, utilising Council's and additional resources through the Labour Market Partnership, Learning & Work Institute's New Futures programme and the Community Renewal Fund. On average, 93% of those who started an Employment Academy successfully completed, and for those, we achieved an into-work rate of 75%.</p> <p>The most attended academies were in logistics, education, construction and upskilling academies for people in traditionally low-paid sectors.</p>
Upskilling opportunities Senior	Strategic Partnerships <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver the Belfast Employability and Skills Action Plan as part of the Belfast LMP, including: 	<p>The Gateway to Choices Service is being co-designed with key stakeholders such as the JBO Network, Careers Service, VCSE sector etc. Engagement with the LMP partners identified the need for independent advice and guidance outside of mainstream JBO support for those who are out of work and non-job ready</p>

Strategic Priority	2022-23 Deliverables	Progress at Year End
<p>Responsible Officer: John Greer</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Quickly back to work: for those who have been or are risk of being made unemployed, especially as a consequence of the pandemic ○ Increasing Opportunities: Empowering those furthest from the labour market to succeed through quality support, especially those who will be considered long-term unemployed ○ No-one Left Behind: Targeting of those disadvantaged groups ○ Catching Up: Supporting access to careers pathways, re-skilling and upskilling for those unemployed as well as those on low incomes ▪ Implement a labour market observatory to review the impact of interventions and inform future investment. ▪ Build on the 'test and learn' career pathway work for those furthest from labour market in digital and green sectors in support of BRCD and the wider 10x economic vision. ▪ Deliver the Digital Badges project to help recognise the non-accredited skills of individuals and support employers to think about how to broaden the talent pool by including those individuals ▪ Continue to ensure employability and skills issues are properly integrated into the Belfast Business Promise, Developer Contributions, Social Value Policy and the BRCD. 	<p>such as long-term unemployed and the economically inactive. The Gateway will support up to 1,200 people in the coming year. Participants will engage on a voluntary basis and delivery will commence in April 2023.</p> <p>Officers have now completed the scoping and preparatory work and secured additional resources from DfC to establish the Labour Market Observatory.</p> <p>All Employment Academies are now digitally badged as an alternative validation of achievement, with 779 badges issued to participants. In addition to this, the Council is working with 6 organisations in the city to use Digital Badging for their own participants/employees.</p> <p>Following December Committee's approval, indicative funding awards have been issued to 6 providers to pilot Bridges to Progression schemes. These are for young people, aged 16-17 years who are at risk of disengaging from Training for Success/Skills for Life & Work due to their personal circumstances.</p>

COMMUNITY RECOVERY

Strategic Priority	2022-23 Deliverables	Progress at Year End
Maximising housing development and regeneration opportunities Senior Responsible Officer: Cathy Reynolds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BCC Housing Led Regeneration Programme • City wide strategic opportunities • Strategic City Centre Cluster Sites • City Centre Living Vision 	<p>Detailed work has been completed on several city centre cluster sites (from the Strategic Site Assessment work) including Concept Regeneration Plans for each of the cluster sites; ongoing engagement with other public and private sector neighbouring landowners; the adoption of a placemaking approach to development and progress through the planning process through Pre-Application Discussions (PADs), as well as site and title due diligence. This forms part of the overarching Institutional Investor / Development Partner approach and the launch of the Expression of Interest in mid-March 2023.</p> <p>Work on the city-wide strategic site assessments was progressed via the agreed mechanism under the Housing Led Regeneration Group (established under the Community Planning Partnership's City Development Board). To date, BCC, NIHE and DfC lands have been mapped via LPS and these have been overlaid with records from the Urban Capacity Study and Housing Monitor to identify those with housing potential. A number of these sites have been assessed at both organisational level (including Council assets) and via the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) subgroup to consider operational requirements, planning, title, etc and consideration as to how lands can best be assembled (including adjoining private sector ownerships). A Member's Workshop is to take place to consider potential for identified BCC sites (and other public lands as appropriate). A similar mechanism for mapping of other public sector lands has also been progressed via the Housing Led Regeneration Group.</p> <p>This Eol process is seeking an institutional investor / development partner to fund, develop and manage as appropriate housing led regeneration schemes at scale, (including affordable /social) working in partnership with Council and with a placemaking approach.</p> <p>The City Centre Living Vision has been completed. This followed extensive consultation and ongoing engagement, and with recommendations and next steps to be brought back to CGR Committee shortly. Ongoing engagement with the private sector, NIHE, Housing Associations and BCC Planning Service to identify challenges to development, especially city centre residential development and consideration of options to address such challenges.</p>



City Growth and Regeneration

Committee Plan 2023- 2024



Belfast
City Council

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Introduction

The City Growth and Regeneration Committee is responsible for the development and implementation of strategies, policies, programmes and projects directed to the regeneration and growth of the city in the context of the outcomes agreed in the community and corporate plans and other corporate strategy.

Its specific functions, as outlined within the Belfast City Council Constitution Appendix 3 – Standing Orders, include:

- Influencing and contributing to regional regeneration and growth strategies and activities
- Developing and implementing city-wide economic strategies and policies
- Managing and maximising the impact of major physical developments in the city
- Coordinating and promoting major city-wide events
- Sourcing and providing support to attract and utilise European and other grants which contribute to the growth of the city
- Providing support for economic development initiatives
- Supporting the development of culture, heritage and the arts
- Working with other agencies to promote Belfast as a key investment and tourism opportunity
- Developing programmes and actions to support local businesses and attract inward investment
- Managing the Council's markets and maximising their benefit to the city
- Influencing and contributing to strategies and policies affecting skills, employability, transportation and energy in the City
- Overseeing the delivery of the following services:
 - Economic Development;
 - Tourism;
 - Culture and Arts;
 - European and International Relations;
 - City Markets;
 - City Events;
 - Belfast Castle;
 - Malone House;
 - Belfast Zoo;
 - City Centre Development; and
 - The transferring car parks.

Committee Members



Councillor Clíodhna Nic Bhranair (Chair)
Party: Sinn Fein
DEA: Collin



Councillor Matt Garrett
Party: Sinn Fein
DEA: Collin



Councillor Andrew McCormick
Party: DUP
DEA: Ormiston



Alderman Ron McDowell (Deputy Chair)
Party: TUV
DEA: Court



Councillor John Gormley
Party: Sinn Fein
DEA: Botanic



Councillor Emmet McDonough-Brown Gormley
Party: Alliance Party
Ward: Botanic



Councillor Sarah Bunting
Party: DUP
DEA: Balmoral



Alderman James Lawlor
Party: DUP
DEA: Ormiston



Councillor Ian McLaughlin
Party: DUP
DEA: Court



Councillor Claire Canavan
Party: Sinn Fein
DEA: Court



Councillor Donal Lyons
Party: SDLP
DEA: Balmoral



Councillor Ross McMullan
Party: Alliance Party
DEA: Ormiston



Councillor Sammy Douglas
Party: DUP
DEA: Titanic



Councillor Conor Maskey
Party: Sinn Fein
DEA: Castle



Councillor Micky Murray
Party: Alliance Party
DEA: Balmoral



Councillor Joe Duffy
Party: Sinn Fein
DEA: Collin



Councillor Fiona McAteer
Party: Alliance Party
DEA: Titanic



Councillor Séanna Walsh
Party: Sinn Fein
DEA: Collin



Councillor Anthony Flynn
Party: Green Party
DEA: Ormiston



Councillor Áine McCabe
Party: Sinn Fein
DEA: Black Mountain

Belfast City Council Priorities

The [Belfast Agenda](#) has shaped and will continue to shape the plans of council and those of our partners. Our corporate plan, which is aligned to the Belfast Agenda, sets out the work we will do to contribute to the shared city's commitments and what we will do as an organisation to continually improve and develop and focus on continuing to deliver excellent services.

In addition to the Belfast Agenda related priorities, our corporate plan also contains several organisational priorities designed to create the type of organisation we need to be to support the ambitions in the Corporate Plan and Belfast Agenda. This includes work to: develop and build the capacity of our people and Elected Members; manage our assets, data and finance; enhance partnership working and drive equality; and work to improve our services and customer care.

The City Growth and Regeneration Committee Plan for 2023-24, which is aligned to the Corporate Plan, outlines the key areas of work that this committee will be responsible for delivering. These are set out on the following pages, under the strategic objectives:

- 1) Inclusive Economic Recovery; and
- 2) Community Recovery.



Key Programmes of work

1. Inclusive Economic Recovery

Strategic Priority	In Year Deliverables (In 2023-24 we will
Cultural Strategy Senior Responsible Officer: John Greer	<p><u>Progress the 'A City Imagining Plan' and:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver year 4 of cultural multi-annual funding programme (CMAG) to deliver an annual programme of activities • Provide grant support to organisations through 8 different grant streams • Deliver a programme of sectoral development and strategic partnerships to develop the sector • Develop a heritage audit and roadmap for development • Progress cultural animations activities including Belfast Canvass, City as a Gallery, and city centre spaces. • Design and deliver wraparound support programmes including leading sector forums for festivals, visual arts and sustainability • Design launch and deliver a range of capacity building initiatives for the sector including initiatives designed to increase accessibility and cultural participation • Complete review of strategic review of artist studios and maker-spaces in Belfast and provide support to these organisations • Develop report on the impact of culture and cultural participation <p><u>Implementation of "Music Matters" Music Strategy and:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver the UNESCO City of Music actions • Deliver actions within the Music Strategy 4 strands: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Theme 1: Place artists at the heart ○ Theme 2: Nurture the Sector ○ Theme 3: Ignite the IRL experience ○ Theme 4: Unlock the unifying power of UN <p><u>Belfast 2024 Year of Cultural Celebration for Belfast</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To continue to develop and deliver this ambitious programme the Belfast 2024 team will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Launch and deliver the Governance Model ○ Commission and contract Anchor Signature Partners ○ Finalise Open Call Design Contest and commission up to 30 local projects. ○ Deliver Engagement Plan ○ Develop and Deliver Evaluation Plan ▪ Support 10 Artists through the competitive bursary programme
City Recovery, reopening the city and support for businesses Senior Responsible Officer: Cathy Reynolds	<p><u>Revitalisation Fund: Physical interventions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Deliver the remaining projects under the DfC Covid Recovery Revitalisation Programme. ▪ Deliver ongoing support for the business and community sectors via projects under: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the Sustaining Vibrant Business Destinations,

Strategic Priority	In Year Deliverables (In 2023-24 we will
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Vacant to Vibrant Pilot Capital Grant Scheme, ○ Future City Centre Programme, ○ Belfast City Centre Regeneration and Investment Strategy ○ City Development and Investment, including facilitation of the FCC Leadership Group and ○ Positioning the City for Investment
<p>City Development and Investment</p> <p>Senior Responsible Officer: Cathy Reynolds</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Take forward the Regeneration Framework for the prioritised city project business cases to attract necessary investment to enable the delivery of the city's regeneration and development priorities. ▪ Take forward the recommendations within the Lobby paper seeking to secure Belfast's additional investment and funding to realise the city and Region's growth ambitions. ▪ Undertake a review and purpose of the City Centre Investment Fund to align with delivery of city development aspirations. ▪ Continue to progress the Expression of Interest process to attract an institutional investor / development partner to bring forward investment at scale for the delivery of housing led placemaking regeneration, including the inclusion of identified Council property assets – "seed sites". ▪ Provide Council input and strategic direction to major regeneration and development projects. ▪ Continue to progress citywide strategic opportunities relating to the strategic use of BCC assets including housing led regeneration. ▪ Progress the future use options for 2 Royal Avenue in line with objectives of the Future City Centre Programme. ▪ Promote the Sixth investment & development opportunity. ▪ Management of the Regeneration Assets in line with the objectives of the City Centre Investment Fund. ▪ Chair and drive forward the transitioning of the Ulster University Community Campus Regeneration Forum. ▪ Take a civic lead on A Bolder Vision for Belfast aimed at a significant transformation of the city centre streets and places, including leading on supporting governance strands, identifying BCC led projects and scoping innovative funding mechanisms.
<p>Increase tourism spend through sustainable tourism products</p> <p>Senior Responsible Officer: John Greer</p>	<p>Delivery year 2 of the 10-year Tourism recovery plan "Make Yourself at Home" including:</p> <p><u>Experience Belfast</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Neighbourhood Tourism Investment Programme. ▪ Developing Council Assets. ▪ Accessible Tourism. ▪ Food Tourism. ▪ Visitor Pass. <p><u>Research and development</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Audit of Visitor Signage, Wayfinding, Street Dressing. ▪ Develop a prioritised plan for enhancing the visitor experience.

Strategic Priority	In Year Deliverables (In 2023-24 we will)
	<p><u>Positioning Belfast</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Business Tourism - Conference Subvention. ▪ Positioning of Belfast in national and international Markets and Gateway role of Belfast for Visitors with partners. ▪ Strategic Oversight / Implementation Group. <p><u>Encouraging Sustainable Tourism</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Global Destination Sustainability Index & Actions for Sustainable Tourism work including certification. ▪ Working with the supply chain to incentivise change programmes, raise awareness and pilot projects. <p><u>Delivering the Annual Events programme</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Building on the developmental work which started with Christmas 2021/2022 & St Patrick's 2022. ▪ Maritime / Made in Belfast ▪ Lord Mayors Day ▪ International Events - working with partners to plan & develop bids. <p><u>Small Grants</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continuing to provide grants for community-based sporting events.
<p>Encourage business start-ups and support indigenous business growth</p> <p>Senior Responsible Officer: John Greer</p>	<p><u>Provide 'Starting a Business' services by:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Delivering the 'Go For It' programme to support new businesses, social enterprises and cooperatives across the city to September, then; ▪ with the other councils, launching the new Entrepreneurship Support Service (ESS) in September 2023. <p><u>Support social enterprises and co-operatives by:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Finalising the refresh of our social economy action plan based on research and engagement with sector partners such as SENI, Cooperative Alternatives and Trademark. ▪ Introducing a new financial incentive (with Community Finance Ireland CFI) to improve the financial management skills of new and growing social enterprises. ▪ Provide a range of additional support interventions including mentoring, workshops and event. <p><u>Provide 'Growing a Business' services by:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Using the previously mentioned new Entrepreneurship Support Service to also help existing businesses. ▪ Pending the introduction of the new service, continuing to provide mentoring and guidance support to Belfast based businesses. ▪ Delivering a series of workshops and events on issues such as Website and SEO basics, E-commerce essentials, Sales and Marketing, Investment Readiness, Writing a Winning bid, Strategy and Business Planning and Introduction to Innovation. ▪ Providing a range of support services to advice small businesses on critical issues such as environmental sustainability and cyber awareness. ▪ Working with InterTrade Ireland and Invest NI to increase the number of businesses engaging in export activity.

Strategic Priority	In Year Deliverables (In 2023-24 we will
	<p><u>Scaling Support and Innovation by:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Focusing on the priority sectors as identified in the Economic Strategy (Fintech and Financial Services, Creative and Digital, Life and Health Sciences, and Advanced Manufacturing, and opportunities through green transition and a drive for more sustainable investment). ▪ Working with the City Innovation Team to build capacity among local businesses, with a particular focus on helping them to access challenge funds and alternative funding sources, including those coming from the Belfast Region City Deal. ▪ Working with key partners including Digital Catapult, Ulster University, Queen's University, Catalyst and Invest NI to increase the number of innovation driven enterprises and scaling businesses. <p><u>Progress the Belfast-Dublin Corridor by:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Supporting delivery of key interventions within the strategy and plan. ▪ Supporting the completion of the feasibility studies on innovation and circular economy that have been funded through the Shared Island Unit.
<p>Support City Markets</p> <p>Senior Responsible Officer: John Greer</p>	<p><u>Enhance St George's Market by:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Undertaking a development and investment plan to support the sustainability of the market in the future – this will include additional activities such as Twilight Markets and externally-organised events in order to drive additional revenue to support investment in new equipment and facilities. We will also invest in additional visitor insights in order to improve the customer experience at the market. <p><u>Deliver Continental Market by:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Supporting the delivery of the annual Christmas Continental Market at City Hall and will explore opportunities for additional markets, with a particular focus on alignment with other events and activities taking place in the city. <p><u>Support external markets by:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continuing to encourage and support other markets taking place across the city, particularly where these align with and support wider cultural, animation and tourism activity.
<p>Promote and market the city internationally</p> <p>Senior Responsible Officer: Cathy Reynolds</p>	<p><u>Positioning the City to Compete, by:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Playing a lead role in the Renewed Ambition Programme public/private partnership, participating in a programme of events, active engagement and advocacy to promote inclusive real estate development and investment and addressing barriers to investment. ▪ Facilitating investment and development related visits aimed at positioning the city to compete and promote inclusive growth and development for the city. ▪ Implementation of the Building Impact Report, which examines the role the built environment /real estate plays in delivering Social, Economic and Environmental benefits to Belfast and the wider Belfast City Region, including the development of a targeted action plan. ▪ Collating and monitoring the City Development Tracker and market intelligence. ▪ Maintaining and developing the Invest in Belfast website.

Strategic Priority	In Year Deliverables (In 2023-24 we will)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ongoing management of the CRM system to manage the database of investment and development contacts.
<p>Future City Centre Programme and Belfast City Centre Regeneration & Investment Strategy</p> <p>Senior Responsible Officer: Cathy Reynolds</p>	<p>Continue to progress the Future City Centre Programme and priority areas under the Belfast City Centre Regeneration & Investment Strategy including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Partnership working and engagement with city stakeholders across the public, private and third sectors to include the Community Planning Partnership: City Development Board, Future City Centre Leadership Group, UU Community Campus Regeneration Forum the High Street Task Force and relevant developer led fora ▪ Oversee the delivery of the Future City Centre (FCC) Programme six pillars: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Regeneration and connectivity - including City centre living, Bolder Vision; maximising major developments reimagining public realm connectivity and active travel; tactical regeneration etc and continue to deliver physical regeneration and environmental improvements e.g. the Entries Programme, Cathedral Gardens redevelopment and others. Progress the city centre Vacant to Vibrant Capital Grant pilot to address vacancies; ○ Business and Investment; ○ City Centre Vibrancy; ○ Position the city to compete; ○ Digital & Innovation; and ○ Clean, green, inclusive and safe. ▪ Undertaking a refresh of the overall FCC programme based on ongoing work across the pillars to ensure that the programme takes account of changing local and global situations. Considering the vision, objectives of the programme and pillars, refreshed data / performance metrics <p><u>Belfast City Centre Regeneration & Investment Strategy (BCCRIS)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continue to progress (with partners) projects and interventions identified within BCCRIS and undertake a review of the priorities within the BCCRIS Action Plan. <p><u>Regeneration Projects</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lead the Joint Regeneration Group with other partners to prioritise and drive key regeneration initiatives ▪ Provide strategic input as appropriate with private and public sector developments via established Regeneration Project Reference Groups ▪ Delivery of the Tactical Regeneration programme including Grey to Green, Active Travel Enablers, 5C's Revitalisation Programme and Entries Phase 2 programme. ▪ Lead the Community Planning Partnership and City Development Board on the identified priorities of housing led regeneration; connectivity, active and sustainable travel; Future City Centre; and City-wide regeneration & investment. ▪ Continue to develop the Cathedral Gardens physical project by creating a multi-use civic space in the city centre and ▪ Deliver Phase 2 of the Belfast Entries project comprising environmental enhancements in the city centre.

Strategic Priority	In Year Deliverables (In 2023-24 we will
	<u>Developer Contributions</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor and analyse valid planning applications to bring forward projects and infrastructure proposals utilising developer contributions.
City Infrastructure Senior Responsible Officer: Cathy Reynolds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to champion the Council's preferred position for major infrastructure projects. Continue to represent Council and play a key role on city wide boards facilitating, enabling and influencing major infrastructure development and investment including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> York Street Interchange; BRT Phase 2; Belfast Streets Ahead; and Weaver's Cross.
Committee Assets Senior Responsible Officer: John Greer	<u>Continue to operate and seek ways to improve the main assets associated with this committee, including:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Belfast Zoo; Belfast Bike Scheme Malone House; and Belfast Castle.
Belfast Stories Senior Responsible Officer: Wendy Langham	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete the abandonment of adopted alleyway at the site. Appointment of the professional services teams (Integrated Design Team (IDT), Interpretative Planning and Exhibition Design Team (IPEDT) and Project Management and Design Assurance Team PMDAT). Complete Belfast Stories Audit. Deliver Stories collection trial project. Draft RIBA 2 design and commence RIBA 2 design consultation. Deliver 2023/24 Engagement and Communications Plan, including further stakeholder and community consultation. Complete Consumer testing of RIBA 2 design proposals. Draft OBC 2 / RIBA 2 agreed by BCC for approval.
Access, Connectivity, Active and Sustainable Travel Senior Responsible Officer: Cathy Reynolds	<u>Active Travel and Connectivity</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop an overarching programme, including feasibility stages to coordinate our approach to access, active and sustainable travel and connectivity aligned to corporate priorities across policy, project delivery, programming and partnership working (including the Belfast Agenda City Development Board) and the Bolder Vision for Belfast, development of greenways, Access to the Hills and other initiatives. <u>A Bolder Vision for Belfast</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalisation of strategy, SEA consultation and Action plan Focused work with partners in terms of mitigating the risk around alignment on the Vision for the Civic Spine within the Client / Translink Team – outworking of the BMTP and Climate Risk Action Plan Belfast Urban Greenway (BUG): Complete the BUG study, ensuring engagement with internal and external stakeholders to agree the next steps around feasibility and delivery.

Strategic Priority	In Year Deliverables (In 2023-24 we will
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the delivery / integration of the joint working approach with DfC/DfI for delivering key projects. Identifying priority projects to bring to business case and identify funding opportunities including a focus on Embracing the River and connecting to the Civic Spine. Work with delivery partners to develop and deliver Bolder Visions projects. <p><u>Horizon Europe Urban Planning 2030</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lead the Horizon Europe UP2030 including research, training and policy development to create a framework for a net zero district <p><u>Waterfront Proposition – Belfast Waterfront Promenade</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progressing the Belfast Waterfront Promenade Proposition in conjunction with the Waterfront Task Group <p><u>Belfast – Cork Harbour Cities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support on the feasibility around a joint bid for investment with Cork City Council under the Shared Island fund focused on Waterfront area aligned to A Bolder Vision “Embrace the River” <p><u>Sustainable Travel Initiatives</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to implement the various active travel projects currently underway and further pending award of funding <p><u>Belfast Bikes</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expansion of the Belfast Bikes scheme network. <p><u>Car Parking Strategy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to monitor and review the implementation of the city centre Car Parking Strategy in conjunction with DfI and other stakeholders. <p><u>Access to the Hills/ Connectivity Programme</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access to the Hills – Develop a plan for enhanced access to the Hills including exploring the creation of further access points into the Hills and Continue to create a more connected city by using existing and new greenways, urban greenways and existing and enhanced green spaces connecting the North, South, East and West of the city as well as the city centre.
Educational underachievement Senior Responsible Officer: John Greer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to deliver our GCSE support programme. Deliver the Youth Support programme for those most at risk of disengaging from formal education. Work with the Partnership Boards and the Education Inequalities sub-group to secure longer-term options to support young people.
Access to employment	<p><u>Deliver Employment academies in areas such as:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Practical sectors such as logistics, construction, utilities, fibre. Professional services such as administration, business and tech.

Strategic Priority	In Year Deliverables (In 2023-24 we will
Senior Responsible Officer: John Greer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Care and education sectors including classroom assistants, health and social care, childcare and playwork. ▪ Customer service sectors such as leisure and tourism. <p><u>Improving demand side support by:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Working with public sector bodies and key employers in priority sectors to increase the use of academies to match jobs to people
Upskilling opportunities Senior Responsible Officer: John Greer	<p><u>Progress the Belfast Labour Market Partnership (LMP)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Gateway to Choices to support 1200 individuals to move into training or employment. ▪ Development work to be undertaken to progress the Labour Market Observatory. ▪ Extension of the Digital Badging initiative to an additional 20 organisations/employers. ▪ Bridges to Progression to support 180 young people engaging on Training for Success/Skills for Life & Work.

2. Community Recovery

Key 2022/23 deliverables

The following list of deliverables will be reported on a six-monthly basis to Committee to demonstrate progress and explain if progress has been delayed.

Strategic Priority	In Year Deliverables (In 2022-23 we will:)
Maximising housing development and regeneration opportunities Senior Responsible Officer: Cathy Reynolds	<p><u>BCC Housing Led Regeneration Programme</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to bring forward regeneration, and development options for BCC assets in conjunction with wider public and private sectors, to include the ongoing strategic site assessment of BCC lands for regeneration purposes including housing. Work with city wide partners to maximise residential development opportunities jointly working to overcome obstacles to increasing residential development including city centre living. Identify and progress as appropriate potential external funding opportunities to help facilitate housing led regeneration schemes. <p><u>Citywide strategic opportunities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to work through the Community Planning Partnership Housing Led Regeneration Group to collate public sector land data and undertaking an analysis of public sector lands utilising the LDP Urban Capacity Study and Housing Monitor to identify public sector land opportunities for housing. Progress next steps for development of each of the identified sites, including Member engagement planning and site appraisals, feasibility and progress development options as appropriate for identified BCC sites. Continue working with relevant public and private sector bodies to identify wider potential housing development opportunities and identify and help unblock challenges to delivery via Housing Led Regeneration. <p><u>Strategic City Centre Cluster Sites</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manage the Development Brief marketing and development process for the INW Northern Cluster Continue to progress development options for each of the cluster sites (inc placemaking concept plans, planning etc) at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> INW (Southern); Exchange St/Corporation Street; Ormeau Avenue; Dunbar; Gloucester Street; and Ravenhill. Progress next steps, following the launch of the EOI process for an Institutional investor / development partner, , including potential delivery vehicle opportunities for the identified housing led and mixed-use regeneration sites.

Strategic Priority	In Year Deliverables (In 2022-23 we will:)
	<p data-bbox="528 297 791 327"><u>City Centre Living Vision</u></p> <ul data-bbox="528 331 1398 434" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="528 331 1398 434">▪ Alignment of finalised Vision with the implementation of the LDP, including next steps / recommendations / engagement / Outward document and comms.

Key Expenditure

The expenditure for the 2023-24 City Growth and Regeneration Committee Plan is based on a total planned investment of £20.45 million, as agreed at the Strategic Policy & Resources committee meeting on 20 January 2023, as follows:

Service	Budget (£) 2023 - 24
Off-Street Car Parking	-989,113
City Regeneration	1,852,268
Place and Economy Directorate	2,214,726
Economic Development	17,367,473
Total	20,445,354



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