

Public Document Pack

Democratic Services Section
Chief Executive's Department
Belfast City Council
City Hall
Belfast
BT1 5GS



Belfast
City Council

3rd August, 2017

MEETING OF CITY GROWTH AND REGENERATION COMMITTEE

Dear Alderman/Councillor,

The above-named Committee will meet in the Lavery Room - City Hall on Wednesday, 9th August, 2017 at 5.15 pm, for the transaction of the business noted below.

You are requested to attend.

Yours faithfully,

SUZANNE WYLIE

Chief Executive

AGENDA:

1. **Routine Matters**

- (a) Apologies
- (b) Minutes
- (c) Declarations of Interest

2. **Matters Referred Back from Council/ Notices of Motion**

- (a) Response from the Department for Infrastructure re: limited waiting outside shops (Pages 1 - 4)

3. **Restricted Item**

- (a) Update on City Centre Fund Acquisition (Pages 5 - 8)

4. **Requests to Present to Committee**

- (a) Invest NI Regional Briefing for Belfast (Pages 9 - 12)
- (b) NI Water (Pages 13 - 16)

5. **Regenerating Places and Improving Infrastructure**
 - (a) City Centre Living - Update (Pages 17 - 78)
6. **Positioning Belfast to Compete**
 - (a) Capital of Culture - Update Report (Pages 79 - 84)
 - (b) Boston Update and Outward Mission (Pages 85 - 88)
 - (c) Belfast Brand - Update (Pages 89 - 92)
 - (d) Events and Festivals Report (Pages 93 - 100)
7. **Growing Businesses and the Economy**
 - (a) Educational Inequalities Action Plan (Pages 101 - 106)
 - (b) Community Based Tourism Proposals (Pages 107 - 112)
 - (c) Routes Europe - post event review (Pages 113 - 120)
8. **Operational**
 - (a) Belfast Bikes - Progress Report (Pages 121 - 126)
 - (b) Atlantic Youth Trust (Pages 127 - 132)



Subject:	Response from the Department for Infrastructure re: limited waiting outside shops
Date:	9th August, 2017
Reporting Officer:	Suzanne Wylie, Chief Executive
Contact Officer:	Louise McLornan, Democratic Services (6077)

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

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

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	The Committee will recall that it recently agreed that a letter be sent to the Department for Infrastructure requesting that it considers introducing limited waiting outside commercial properties on arterial routes which are close to a bus stop, to prevent all-day commuter parking.
1.2	A response has now been received.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> note the response and provide any specific locations for consideration to officers.

3.0	Main report
	<p data-bbox="272 295 419 324"><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p data-bbox="165 398 1469 629">3.1 A response has been received from the Department for Infrastructure (copy attached at Appendix 1). The Department outlines that it has introduced limited waiting in laybys which front commercial properties on arterial routes where there is a benefit in both maintaining a turnover in parking and increasing the availability for delivery vehicles serving local shops and businesses.</p> <p data-bbox="165 696 1469 880">3.2 The Department advises that that, in conjunction with the Belfast Rapid Transit (BRT) project, it is proposing to implement limited waiting in some lay bys along the route, including the Andersonstown Road, Falls Road, Divis Street, Upper Newtownards Road, Albertbridge Road and Stewartstown Road.</p> <p data-bbox="165 947 1469 1032">3.3 The Department also advises that it has provided limited waiting in laybys along the Lisburn Road, Ormeau Road and Stranmillis Road.</p> <p data-bbox="165 1099 1469 1234">3.4 Members are asked to provide officers with any specific locations which they have in mind in relation to this matter so that they can be passed onto the Department for its consideration.</p> <p data-bbox="165 1301 719 1386">3.5 <u>Financial & Resource Implications</u> None associated with this report.</p> <p data-bbox="165 1453 791 1538">3.6 <u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u> None associated with this report.</p>
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	Appendix 1 - Letter from the Department for Infrastructure (20.07.17)

Eastern Division



Department for

Infrastructure

An Roinn

Bonneagair

www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk

Ms Louise McLornan
Belfast City Council
City Hall
Belfast
BT1 5GS

Hydebank
4 Hospital Road
Belfast
BT8 8JL

Telephone: 0300 200 7893

Textphone: 028 9054 0022

Email: Traffic.Eastern@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk

Website: www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk

Being Dealt With

By: N M^oKeown

Direct Line: 028 90253020

Your Ref: LM

Our Ref: MT 72655-17

Date: 20 July 2017

Dear Ms McLornan,

LIMITED WAITING, BELFAST

Thank you for your letter dated 4 July 2017 addressed to our Divisional Manager, Mr Monaghan, requesting that we consider introducing limited waiting outside shops which are close to a bus stop. Mr Monaghan has read your letter and has asked me to respond to you directly.

We try and introduce limited waiting in lay byes that front commercial properties on arterial routes where there is a benefit in both maintaining a turnover in parking and increasing its availability for delivery vehicles serving local shops and businesses.

In conjunction with the Belfast Rapid Transit (BRT) project, we are proposing to implement limited waiting in some lay byes along the route. These roads include Andersonstown Road, Falls Road, Divis Street, Upper Newtownards Road, Albertbridge Road and Stewartstown Road. These restrictions will create a turnover of available parking spaces for local businesses and offices, whilst discouraging all day parkers.

We have also provided limited waiting in lay byes along roads such as Lisburn Road, Ormeau Road and Stranmillis Road.

If there is a specific location you have in mind, please forward this so we can review its appropriateness for limited waiting.

I hope you find this information useful.

Yours sincerely,

P A ROBINSON
Network Traffic Manager



This page is intentionally left blank

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

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank



Subject:	Invest NI Regional Briefing – Request to Present
Date:	9 August 2017
Reporting Officer:	Donal Durkan, Director of Development,
Contact Officer:	Claire Patterson, Business, Research & 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	Invest NI has produced its first update to its annual ‘Regional Briefing’ for each of the 11 council areas. The Committee received the first Regional Briefing for Belfast at their meeting in April 2016 as part of the ongoing analysis of the city economy to support the underpinning evidence base for the Belfast Agenda and propositions around investments in the city as the economic driver for the region.
1.2	The annual briefings have been informed by and also helped to inform the development of the Belfast Agenda; specifically the priority to grow the Belfast economy and the stretch goal to attract £1bn of private sector Foreign Direct Investment by 2021. It also helps to shape the development of a range of programmes of work that aim to grow the economy,

1.3	<p>build on the city's competitiveness and ensure that all citizens can benefit from city growth and regeneration e.g. international relations, employability & skills and the development of a City Advice & Investment/Concierge Service.</p> <p>The Committee has expressed the importance of and their interest in hearing from a diverse range of perspectives on the economic position and prospects for Belfast and the region. It is therefore proposed that Invest NI be invited to present its updated profile of the city and an overview of the investment prospects and global interest in Belfast. It will also provide an opportunity to highlight areas where the Council and Invest NI can work collaboratively to maximise the benefits for the city.</p>
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agree to receive a presentation on the Belfast Regional Briefing 2017 from Invest NI at the next Committee meeting; and • Note that the Invest NI Regional Briefing document will be made available to all Members once finalised.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>The Belfast Regional Briefing provides an overview of the key metrics from a range of data sources, including Invest NI corporate intelligence. It also provides comparative data across all 11 council areas in terms of population, labour market and the nature and scale of sectors.</p>
3.2	<p>Invest NI is currently finalising the Belfast Regional Briefing and the presentation will provide an opportunity to consider the main changes in the last year, the level of global interest and investment prospects in Belfast in relation to the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Demographic and labour market structure; - Business base, productivity, jobs, skills and earnings; - Tourism impact; - Invest NI support and investment data; - Performance indicators and sectoral trends for Invest NI supported businesses; and - An overview of Belfast key economic sectors and economic development partners.

3.3	It will also provide an opportunity to explore future collaborative working opportunities between the Council and Invest NI to maximise the benefits for the city; for example, delivering the International Relations Framework and the proposals for the future City Investment Advice & Concierge Service which will be designed to complement the work of Invest NI and other city partners.
3.4	The Committee will also note that government departments are also making more information and statistical bulletins available at a Council level, such as the Department for Communities in relation to economic inactivity and employment data. Sharing information and intelligence is one way in which we are working with city partners to create a shared understanding of the Belfast economy and a key component in collaboratively prioritising programmes of work to support inclusive economic growth.
3.5	<p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p>There are no resource implications.</p>
3.6	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>There are no equality or good relations implications.</p>
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	None

This page is intentionally left blank



Subject:	Request to present: NI Water
Date:	9th August, 2017
Reporting Officer:	Suzanne Wylie, Chief Executive
Contact Officer:	Louise McLornan, Democratic Services Officer

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

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

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	The Committee is asked to consider a request from NI Water to attend a future meeting of the City Growth and Regeneration Committee.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	The Committee is asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • accede to a request from NI Water to present to a future meeting of the Committee.

3.0	Main report
3.1	NI Water has given a commitment to present to all 11 Councils once per year in order to highlight how it is delivering what matters to its customers in terms of health, the environment, the economy and on investments in the local area.
3.2	Members are reminded that representatives from NI Water attended a Special meeting of the Committee on 3rd February, 2016.
3.3	NI Water has now contacted the Council to seek a date in which it can present a further briefing.
3.4	<u>Financial and Resource Implications</u> There are no financial or resource implications associated with this report.
3.5	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u> None.
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	Appendix 1 – Letter of request

Northern Ireland Water
Westland House
40 Old Westland Road
Belfast
BT14 6TE

Tel: 0345 3006461

Chief Executive's Office		
Date:	3/7/17	
Noted by CX:	Y/N	
Ref:	SW 2/7	
Referred to:		
Copy sent	Original sent	
MB updated	Invite reg	



Ms Suzanne Wylie
Chief Executive, Belfast City Council
City Hall
Belfast
BT1 5GS

28 June 2017

Dear Suzanne,

NI Water has been very pleased to visit local Councils right across Northern Ireland over the last few years in order to highlight how we are delivering what matters for our customers in terms of health, the environment and our economy, as well as to provide updates on how we are investing in your area. We trust your members and officials have found this as beneficial as we did.

We have previously given a commitment that NI Water would undertake to present to all eleven Councils at least once a year; to that end, I am writing to you to ascertain potential dates for an updated briefing to your Council during the 2017/18 year.

I would be grateful if you could contact our Public Affairs and Media Officer, Graeme Smyth, with details on when you would like to receive us again. Graeme can be contacted by dialing 028 9035 4757 or by emailing Graeme.smyth@niwater.com. I would be grateful if you could confirm any potential dates as soon as possible in order to allow us to make arrangements in good time.

NI Water values our relationships with local authorities, and we appreciate the importance of keeping you informed of what we are doing within your council area. We hope to do so once again over the coming months.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sara Venning'.

Sara Venning
Chief Executive,
NI Water

This page is intentionally left blank



Subject:	City Centre Living
Date:	9 th August 2017
Reporting Officer:	Nuala Gallagher, Director of City Centre Development
Contact Officer:	Alice McGlone (Ext 3415)

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

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

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	The purpose of this report to advise Committee of a suggested approach to develop discussions on city centre living.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	Members are asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> consider undertaking a study visit to examine good practice in terms of city centre housing developments in September 2017; note the proposal to facilitate a workshop on the issue of city centre living in October 2017.

3.0	Main report
	<p data-bbox="252 241 432 275">Background</p> <p data-bbox="164 342 1433 477">3.1 In March 2017, the City Growth and Regeneration Committee received an update on work underway to identify the key issues around liveability and increasing the residential population in the city centre.</p> <p data-bbox="164 544 1406 734">3.2 In May 2017, during discussion on the City Centre Programme for 2017/18, Members discussed the importance of addressing the needs of families living in the city centre, in terms of schools and play facilities and noted that a workshop on the issue of city centre living would be held at a future date.</p> <p data-bbox="252 790 794 824"><i>Work Underway or Undertaken to date</i></p> <p data-bbox="164 891 600 925">3.3 <i>Local Development Plan</i></p> <p data-bbox="252 947 1453 1182">A Population and Housing Growth Study was completed in October 2016 to help inform the preparation of the Local Development Plan (LDP). In addition to this study, a series of Topic Papers were prepared that relate to Population Change and Housing and the City Centre, which offered an opportunity to examine the contribution the City Centre can make to supporting the potential for growing the population of the city.</p> <p data-bbox="164 1249 1406 1585">3.4 The Council undertook an extensive public consultation on the preferred options and engagement with key stakeholders which concluded on 20th April 2017. The Preferred Options Paper noted that there are underused, derelict sites and significant areas of brownfield land which we are encouraged to redevelop by regional policy and which lie within the city centre. The responses to the POP consultation were published this month and it is anticipated that the draft Plan Strategy will be published for consultation in early 2018.</p> <p data-bbox="164 1653 1453 1989">3.5 To supplement the preferred options research an Urban Capacity Study is currently underway to identify where any additional housing requirements can be accommodated, including the contribution that the City Centre can make through the re-use of vacant buildings on upper floors and housing as a component of mixed use developments. This will be incorporated into the Plan Strategy which will be subject to an independent examination before it can be adopted as the first part of the new policy framework for the city. Following adoption of the Plan Strategy, the preparation for the Local Policies Plan will</p>

	<p>be commenced including, where appropriate, work to set out more detailed policies and site specific designations.</p>
<p>3.6</p>	<p>Department for Communities</p> <p>The Department for Communities undertook a second stage of a Review of the Role and Regulation of the Private Rented Sector with a public consultation exercise on the document taking place between January and April 2017.</p> <p>The Council’s response was reported to the People and Communities Committee on 7th March 2017. The Review set out proposals on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supply • Affordability • Security of Tenure • Tenancy Management • Property Standards • Dispute Resolution
<p>3.7</p>	<p>In respect of housing supply, which could be of particular relevance in the city centre, it promoted the following proposals:</p> <p>Supply Proposal 1: Commission work to gauge the appetite of institutional investors with existing portfolios of private rented sector properties in Great Britain to invest in Northern Ireland and the conditions needed to support such investment;</p> <p>Supply Proposal 2: Explore opportunities to use money available for shared housing through the Fresh Start agreement to incentivise the development of more mixed-tenure housing areas, including private rented accommodation, underpinned by a shared ethos;</p> <p>Supply Proposal 3: Scope the opportunities with housing associations for greater involvement in the private rented sector.</p> <p>DfC is currently considering the comments received through the consultation exercise.</p>
<p>3.8</p>	<p>Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE)</p> <p>NIHE have stated that there is a high social housing need for Belfast which has grown over recent years. The latest figures for 2017 show 10,738 households on the waiting list, of which approximately 7,322 were considered to be in housing stress. They note that Housing Associations are finding it increasingly difficult to acquire land for social housing development and advocates that additional land should be made available to Housing Associations to develop much needed social housing. NIHE would like to see sites in Belfast City Centre being made available for affordable housing. Affordable housing</p>

	includes social rented homes and well as co-ownership housing and NIHE's Shared Future Housing Programme.
3.9	<p>On 2nd August 2017, NIHE will be presenting its Housing Investment Plan for Belfast (Appendix 1) to the People and Communities Committee. All elected members will be invited to attend. NIHE has responded to the Council on its LDP Preferred Options Paper and is supportive of promoting affordable housing through the LDP.</p> <p>Private Housing for Sale and the Private Rented Sector</p>
3.10	<p>The NIHE Housing Investment Plan (HIP) notes that the local housing market is slowly recovering from the economic crash of 10 years ago. House prices have increased slowly in recent years but private sector building activity remains low and mortgage lending remains inhibited despite historically low interest rates and prices in Belfast actually fell in the latter part of 2016. There is considerable variation across different property types throughout Belfast. Semi-detached houses and apartments have reduced in price over the past year while detached houses and bungalows have increased. First time buyers are still experiencing difficulty in obtaining mortgage finance; this effectively puts a brake on market activity.</p>
3.11	<p>Recent developments such as "The Gallery", an apartment block at Dublin Road, suggest there is some interest developing in housing for private sale. This might be expected to continue as other sites come forward for development. Housing for sale is another form of tenure required as an important element in a successful and vibrant city centre and home ownership is an integral element within new housing areas which can create balanced and sustainable communities</p>
3.12	<p>The HIP identifies the Private Rented Sector (PRS) as continuing to play a significant role in the local housing market. Local estate agents report that there is continuing strong demand for private rental accommodation at the top end of the market and in the Lisburn Road, Ormeau Road and Stranmillis areas. Terrace properties and apartments bought during the 'buy to let' boom of the early 2000s provide most of the stock in the PRS.</p> <p>Local estate agents have indicated that key drivers affecting the PRS in Belfast include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • high demand for private rental; • no net additional supply; • high demand and low turnover in the social housing sector;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • job and income uncertainty; • lower numbers of private new build development; • lending restrictions; • an oversupply in certain areas.
3.13	<p>PRS will play an increasingly important role meeting the needs of younger households on lower incomes, who in previous decades would have become first time buyers. High levels of demand for social housing in some areas will also continue to underpin the demand for private rented accommodation.</p>
3.14	<p>The March 2017 report to Committee on City Centre Living emphasised the importance of the Council working in partnership with DfC and NIHE to determine the contribution that the city centre can make to growing Belfast’s population and increasing housing supply. It is proposed that a Members’ workshop considering the issues around city centre living would be valuable in taking this process forward. If supported, a study visit to examine good practice in terms of city centre housing developments will be arranged in advance of the workshop to allow best practice ideas to inform and assist at the workshop.</p>
3.15	<p>Connectivity with Neighbouring Communities</p> <p>In addition to a number of apartments in private ownership and private rented tenures at locations such as Adelaide Street, Castle Street/King Street and Victoria Square, it is important to recognise that there are also established residential communities in, and immediately adjacent to the city centre. At its meeting in May, Committee recognised the importance of engaging with these communities by agreeing that the City Centre Development Team will develop a new engagement plan covering strategic regeneration across Belfast, with specific focus on the city centre and surrounding communities. The plan will engage a wide range of stakeholders, but with a particular aim to involve and empower residents, ensuring impacts are understood and benefits shared. An internal trawl is underway to identify a dedicated resource to develop and implement the strategy.</p>
3.16	<p><u>Finance and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>Any additional resource implications associated with this report can be met from approved budgets.</p>

3.17	<p><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>Equality and good relations screening will be conducted as required, in parallel with any future proposed consultation process.</p>
4.0	<p>Appendices</p>
	<p>Appendix 1: People and Communities Committee, 2nd August 2017: Item 2a NIHE Housing Investment Plan for Belfast</p>



Geography of Belfast City Council



Belfast is divided into ten district electoral areas



Contents

Foreword	3
Introduction	5
Vision	5
HIP themes and outcomes	5
The HIP and the Community Plan	6
The HIP and the Local Development Plan	6
Context	7
Strategic Context	7
Local Context	11
Update on resources/budget	13
Progress Report	13
Theme One: Identify and meet housing need and demand	15
Theme Two: Improving people's homes	23
Theme Three: Transforming people's lives	27
Theme Four: Enabling sustainable neighbourhoods	31
Theme Five: Delivering quality services	35
Appendices	37
Appendix 1: Community Planning Themes and Outcomes	37
Appendix 2: Social Housing Need by settlement 2016/21	39
Appendix 3: Social Housing Development Programme	40
Appendix 4: Maintenance and Grants programme	43
Appendix 5: Management Team contact details	49
Appendix 6: Glossary	50

This document is available in alternative formats. Contact:

Land and Regeneration (Housing Analytics), The Housing Centre, 2 Adelaide Street, Belfast BT2 8PB

Tel: 03448 920 900 Fax: (028) 9031 8775 Textphone: 0845 6504381

Email: corporate.planning@nihe.gov.uk www.nihe.gov.uk

All mapping material within the document is crown copyright and is reproduced with permission of Land and Property Services under delegated authority from the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationary Office, © Crown copyright and Database rights NIMA ES&LA209.3.



37,611

applicants were on the housing waiting list at 31 March 2017



86,069

homes managed by the Housing Executive



23,694

of these classified as being in housing stress



367,412

repairs were carried out at a cost of £41.9m, which equates to approximately four repairs per dwelling



11,488

housing applicants were deemed to be homeless after investigation



£511

the average amount we spent on each dwelling for repairs



4,740

approvals were issued to private households to assist with insulation and heating measures through the Affordable Warmth Scheme



£107.3m

invested in over 23,000 homes



1,604

new homes were started through the Housing Executive's Social Housing Development Programme



7,970

social homes were allocated last year



19,060

housing support places were provided to assist the most vulnerable citizens in our local community



£336m

we collected 99.87% of rent and rates on our properties



1,070

Disabled Facilities Grants were approved to the value of approximately £11.3m



500

community groups worked in partnership with us through the Housing Community Network



668

mandatory Repair Grants were approved



0.31%

lettable voids continue to remain low, with only 0.31% of our stock vacant



£671m

paid out in Housing Benefit payments



61,263

claims for Housing Benefit assessed and 510,831 changes made to existing claims



£860,000

awarded through our Social Housing Enterprise (SHE) Strategy, with 99 schemes supported and 25 new initiatives created



61

jobs created or supported by SHE initiatives

Foreword

In 2015 we published our four year Housing Investment Plans (HIP). These plans identified housing-related desired outcomes, and were intended to initiate discussions with councils and other stakeholders in order to develop a shared vision for the future of housing in each council area.

Last year we published our first HIP annual update, and now we are publishing the second annual update. This update reports on the progress of the Housing Executive and other agencies to achieve the intended outcomes, and on how we plan to deliver housing ambitions over the remaining two years of the HIP, and the longer term.

In 2015, new powers were given to local councils, including responsibility for planning and a duty to produce a Community Plan. The Housing Executive, as a statutory partner in planning and Community Planning, has engaged with the new Local Development Plan (LDP) and Community Planning teams, other statutory partners and community representatives.

Joint working throughout the last year has enabled us to develop strong

relationships and also to benefit from collaboration and the sharing of information. The HIP has been instrumental in this process.

Close working with stakeholders, and our role in the Community Plan are key elements in the Housing Executive's 'Journey to Excellence' programme, which aims to deliver top class housing and regeneration solutions that meet the needs of communities and partners, now and in the future.

We look forward in 2017 to developing further our relationships with councils and other stakeholders through the various planning and Community Planning processes to build lasting housing solutions that benefit the whole community.



Professor Peter Roberts
Interim Chair



Introduction

In 2015, the Housing Executive published the Belfast Housing Investment Plan (HIP) 2015-19, which aims to provide a long term and ambitious vision for the development of housing. This is the second annual update which records progress of actions set out in the HIP for 2015-19, HIP update 2016-17 and details new proposals for 2017-19. The annual update should be read in conjunction with the HIP 2015-19.

This annual update will not only show how the actions contribute to achieving the HIP outcomes but also how they can support the delivery of the emerging Belfast Community Plan outcomes.

The HIP sets out a strategic direction for housing across all tenures, both new and existing. Proposals detailed within this annual update seek to achieve this by promoting development, improving health and wellbeing, reducing inequality, and by creating more cohesive, safe, vibrant and successful places for all.

Since the publication of the HIP, the Housing Executive, as a statutory Community Planning and Local Development Plan (LDP) partner, has welcomed the opportunity to work with the council and stakeholders to incorporate and embed the HIP vision and outcomes within Community Planning and LDP processes.

With limited and reduced public resources, the partnership approach, which the Community Plan facilitates, will become increasingly important to deliver good quality services and housing solutions for local communities.

The annual update retains the HIP framework based around five themes and associated outcomes. Detailed information of proposals is set out in the Appendices. All statistics in this document refer to Belfast City Council unless otherwise stated.

Vision

The housing sector throughout Northern Ireland faces a number of challenges in the current economic climate but is committed to working in a way that goes beyond a simple 'bricks and mortar' approach. The housing vision for Belfast is one where:

"housing plays its part in creating a peaceful, inclusive, prosperous and fair society..."

This vision for Belfast seeks to deliver sustainable communities, living in dwellings of a decent standard and in sufficient numbers to meet local needs in both urban and rural areas.

HIP Themes and Outcomes

Success for housing providers necessitates measuring the effect of interventions therefore, under each of the five themes, a number of outcomes have been identified.

Themes and Outcomes

THEME ONE

Identify and meet housing need and demand

1. Identify new housing requirements.
2. Increase the supply of affordable renting to meet the needs of communities.
3. Assist home ownership.

THEME TWO

Improving people's Homes

4. Improve the quality of the housing stock.
5. Develop low carbon homes and reduce fuel poverty.

THEME THREE

Transforming people's lives

6. Provide suitable accommodation and support services for vulnerable residents.
7. Homelessness is prevented or is addressed effectively.

THEME FOUR

Enabling sustainable neighbourhoods

8. Regenerate neighbourhoods.
9. Create safer and cohesive communities.

THEME FIVE

Delivering Quality Services

10. Deliver better services.



The Belfast Agenda

Community Planning Outcomes

1. Everyone in Belfast benefits from a thriving and prosperous economy
2. Belfast is a welcoming, safe, fair and inclusive city for all
3. Everyone in Belfast fulfils their potential
4. Everyone in Belfast experiences good health and wellbeing
5. Belfast is a vibrant, attractive, connected and environmentally friendly city.

The HIP and the Community Plan

Belfast City Council and its statutory partners have been preparing a Community Plan, the Belfast Agenda, which has a bold and ambitious vision: "Belfast will be a city re-imagined. A great place to live for everyone. It will re-energise and drive a successful economy where everyone can reach their potential. Beautiful and well connected, it will be a shared city and loved by all its people and admired around the world. It will be a producer and a magnet for talent, investment, innovation and creativity, a compassionate place where people create value and are valued."

To achieve this vision the Council and its partners will work towards these adjacent outcomes.

Housing has a key role in this process and can contribute to achieving many of these actions. Housing can have a positive effect on health and wellbeing, regeneration and the environment, community cohesion and neighbourhoods, combating fuel poverty and promoting the use of renewable energy and assisting economic growth.

The HIP themes are complementary to many of the Community Planning themes. Each action under the HIP themes can contribute to the achievement of Community Planning outcomes. In addition, actions contained within the HIP often contribute to more than one Community Plan outcome.

The HIP and the Local Development Plan

Belfast City Council Local Development Plan (LDP) will replace the Belfast Metropolitan Area Plan (BMAP 2015) in 2020. The Housing Executive has provided a full submission on its analysis of the housing market to inform the preparation of the LDPs Preferred Options Paper.

The LDP will influence housing development in Belfast for 15 years from 2020. It is therefore important that the Community Plan and HIP themes and outcomes be taken into account in the preparation of the LDP.

It is important that the emerging LDP, through engagement with local communities and elected representatives takes the opportunity to develop a housing strategy for Belfast.

The plan will address land availability for housing across Belfast. It will examine the take up of zoned land with the correct development plans. The LDP will be the main vehicle for assessing future housing land requirements.

Housing allocations will be determined by:

- Housing Growth Indicators (HGIs);
- Allowance of existing commitments;
- Urban capacity studies;
- Housing Needs Assessment;
- Allowance for windfall housing sites; and
- Residual housing need.

The LDP has an important role to fulfil in terms of the allocation of new housing across the council area. This is crucial given the aspiration within the LDP to increase the population of Belfast by almost 70,000 people and develop an additional 37,000 new homes in the period to 2035.

Context

Strategic Context

The HIP annual update has been developed within the context of the Northern Ireland policy framework.

The White Paper, 'Fixing Our Broken Housing Market'

The new housing strategy for England was launched for consultation in February 2017. The White Paper unveils plans to change focus from Starter Homes to building a wider range of affordable homes.

The Government will also consult on a standardised calculation of housing demand to force councils to produce 'realistic' local plans. The White Paper outlines plans that will see builders given two years to start developing sites after planning permission is granted, rather than three; a presumption in favour of development on brownfield land and an aspiration for high density housing in areas of limited land availability. All of these issues and the proposed approaches may also shape thinking in Northern Ireland.

The draft Programme for Government (PfG)

The draft PfG contains 14 high level outcomes, and 48 indicators. While our work supports many of the outcomes in the draft PfG, there is no specific 'housing outcome' included. Nevertheless, housing and many other elements of the work of the Housing Executive are cross-cutting, especially in relation to place-making and help achieve many of these PfG outcomes. Our investment plans and activities, as set out in this Plan, illustrate how and where our plans can contribute directly and indirectly to the delivery to not only local Councils' Community Plans, but also many of the overall PfG outcomes.

Welfare Changes

Changes to the benefits system in Northern Ireland for working age claimants came into effect with the introduction of the Welfare Reform Order (NI) 2015 on 10 December 2015.

Each of the changes has had an impact on the Housing Executive with the key changes being Benefit Cap, Social Sector Size Criteria (sometimes referred to as 'Bedroom Tax'), Housing Benefit changes and freezing of the Local Housing Allowance.

The Northern Ireland Executive has put in place arrangements to provide financial support for people impacted by some of the changes to the welfare system.

The Housing Executive is working closely with the Department for Communities (DfC) to provide advice and assistance to tenants and housing applicants who are likely to be impacted by these welfare changes.

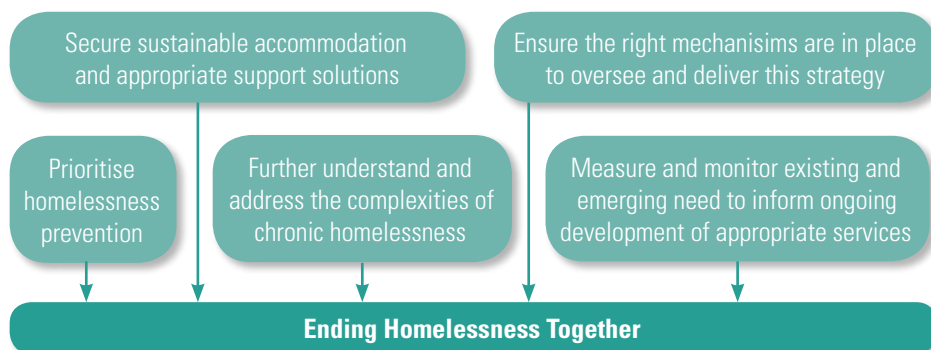
Housing Benefit Changes

A number of changes have impacted housing benefit since September 2016:

- Backdating rules have been amended for working aged claimants;
- Family premium has been removed for new claimants or existing claimants who start a family or have a break in claim;
- Temporary absence rules have been introduced from 30 January 2017, reducing the period claimants can be absent from their home;
- Social Sector Size Criteria was introduced on 20 February 2017 for social housing tenants who have more bedrooms than their household requires; and
- From 11 May 2017, restrictions will apply in the assessment of Housing Benefit, limiting dependent premiums to 2 children, unless in exceptional cases.

Universal Credit is due to be introduced in September 2017, with a phased implementation for roll-out across NI by September 2018. Universal Credit will replace a number of working age benefits, including Housing Benefit. A Rates Rebate replacement project will also be effective from September 2017, led by LPS, for those claimants moving to Universal Credit who require assistance with payment of Rates charges as a separate application to LPS will be required.

The Homelessness Strategy has five objectives



Homelessness Strategy

In line with our statutory duty the Housing Executive published a new Homelessness Strategy in April 2017. The Homelessness Strategy 2017-22 has a vision of ‘Ending Homelessness Together’ and this vision is reflective of our engagement with the sector in the development of this Strategy. This engagement and a statutory consultation noted the need for statutory and voluntary agencies to work with the Housing Executive to prevent homelessness and address issues arising from homelessness.

Each objective has associated short, medium and long term key milestones that are outlined in the document. The Homelessness Strategy 2017-22 is on the Housing Executive website at

http://www.nihe.gov.uk/northern_ireland_homelessness_strategy.pdf.

It is accepted by government that homelessness is a cross cutting issue and the Strategy will therefore, be supported by a Cross Departmental Action Plan led by the DfC which will outline key actions that will enable collaborative working across government to improve the lives of homeless clients across Northern Ireland.

Delivery Strategy

Social Housing Development Programme (SHDP) delivery targets have been consistently met over the past ten years through strong partnership working between DfC, Housing Executive, housing associations and Northern Ireland Federation of Housing Associations (NIFHA). However, there remain a number of significant challenges, and it was recognised that a new strategy was required in order to overcome some of the barriers to successful long-term delivery of new social and affordable housing.

In response, following a process of detailed consultation and engagement, the SHDP Delivery Strategy was produced. The key objectives of the Strategy are:

- More sustainable neighbourhoods through effective place shaping within Community Planning;
- Reformed delivery of social and affordable housing to create a more flexible and responsive system;
- 8,000 new social housing units and at least 2,800 new affordable homes delivered, over a four year period to 2020 (subject to available funding), to meet housing need and demand.

An action plan was developed as part of the Strategy and it will be implemented between 2017 and 2020 in order to bring about an enhanced delivery system for new social and affordable housing.

House Condition Survey 2016

The House Condition Survey 2016 is progressing. Work has completed on fieldwork, translation, validation and analysis of the data. A preliminary report was published 30 March 2017 and is available on the Housing Executive website. Modelling work has been procured and began in May 2017. The full report is due to be published early 2018.

HMO Bill

The HMO Bill received Royal Assent in May 2016 and this legislation provides powers for Councils to develop and implement HMO Licensing Schemes. It is anticipated that this area of responsibility will be transferred to Councils by April 2018. The Housing Executive is fully committed to working with the Councils and DfC to ensure this transition is facilitated.

Housing Strategy 'Facing the Future'

In September 2015 an action plan update was published, setting out progress on 33 actions emanating from the Housing Strategy, the majority of which are on track for delivery by 2017.

The action plan sets out ongoing implementation of the Social Housing Reform Programme and policy proposals to include:

- A social housing rent policy;
- Tenant Participation Strategy;

- Regulatory Framework for Social Housing Providers; and
- Engagement of the housing system with local government.

The Review of the Social Housing Allocation Policy by DfC is underway and any proposals for change will be subject to public consultation. The Housing Executive continues to work closely with DfC to progress this review.

DfC commenced the Review of the Role and Regulation of the Private Rented Sector (PRS) in November 2015. The aim of the review is to consider the current and potential future role of the sector and assess the effectiveness of current regulation, identifying where improvements can be made to help make the PRS a more attractive housing option.

A public consultation was launched in January 2017 with a number of proposals including:

- Restriction of the number of times rent can be increased in a 12 month period;
- Introduce a minimum notice to quit period from four weeks to two months; and
- Introduce a regulatory framework for letting agents.

Rural

The Housing Executive provides a range of services tailored specifically for those living or wanting to live in rural areas.

In 2016, the Housing Executive launched 'Sustainable Rural Communities' the refreshed Rural Strategy & Action Plan 2016-2020, which is aimed at identifying the housing needs of rural communities and working with housing providers, councils, public bodies and rural stakeholders to ensure that where possible, needs are addressed.



Facing the Future: The Housing Strategy for Northern Ireland Action Plan Update 2015

In 2017/18, the Housing Executive is committed to carrying out a review of policy and procedure for identifying hidden rural housing need, examining the potential to increase housing association involvement in the process. It is hoped that this partnership approach will encourage more people to come forward and may also broaden the scope to include an examination of the demand for affordable/mixed tenure housing.

Asset Management Strategy

The Housing Executive's new Asset Management Strategy was approved in early 2016. The Strategy adopts an 'active asset management approach' in which investment decisions are based on the performance of the stock in supporting the Housing Executive's business plan and its landlord objectives.

In the past year, the Housing Executive has been assessing its stock using the work carried out by Savills in the DfC/Housing Executive Joint Asset Commission in 2014/15. The Strategy also includes a new investment standard - the Commonly Adopted Standard - as the basis for investment in the modernisation and maintenance of our housing stock.

The Housing Executive has been carrying out work to develop a new 10 Year Investment Plan based on the principles set out in the Strategy. However, future funding is uncertain and much will depend on the outcome of the Social Housing Reform Programme delivering a way forward that will secure sufficient funding to meet our stock's investment needs.



HECA Report 2016

Tower Block Strategy

The Housing Executive has prepared a strategy for its 32 tower blocks as part of its overarching Asset Management Strategy. This strategy determined that option appraisals should be carried out for each block given the various issues around investment needs, management and maintenance costs and housing demand.

A report on these appraisals was presented to the Housing Executive's Board for consideration at its meeting in November 2016. The Board requested that officers develop a comprehensive action plan for each tower by August 2017. However, following the fire in Grenfell Tower in London, the development of this plan will now be put on hold until the Housing Executive has had the opportunity to consider any preliminary findings from investigations into the fire and any potential implications arising from these.

Home Energy Conservation Authority (HECA)

The Housing Executive has released the 20th progress report which records the key outputs by the organisation, and other agencies, in improving the energy efficiency of housing in Northern Ireland. In the past year the Housing Executive invested over £21m for heating conversions in their homes and invested a further £8m on innovative schemes under the NI Sustainable Energy Programme.

Housing Growth Indicators (HGIs)

HGIs are estimates of new dwelling requirements based on new household projections. In 2016, the Department for Infrastructure (DfI) realigned HGIs for Northern Ireland, based on

2012 household figures. The current estimate for NI 2012-2025 is 94,000, approximately 7,200 per annum.

Together Building United Communities (TBUC)

The Housing Executive continues to work with housing associations to fulfil the NI Executive ambition to deliver ten new build shared housing schemes as part of the TBUC programme:

- Ravenhill Road, Belfast (Apex) - completed December 2014;



- Ravenhill Avenue, Belfast (Fold) - completed October 2016;
- Crossgar Road, Saintfield (Choice) - completed January 2016;
- Burn Road, Cookstown (Fold) - completed December 2016;
- Felden, Newtownabbey (Clanmil) - completed March 2017;
- Antrim Road, Ballynahinch (Choice) - expected to complete October 2017;
- Market Road, Ballymena (Choice) - expected to complete November 2017;
- Main Street, Dundrum (Clanmil) - expected to complete February 2018;
- Dromore Street, Banbridge (Clanmil) - expected to complete June 2018;
- The Embankment, Belfast (Clanmil) - started January 2017.

Local Context

Belfast is the capital of Northern Ireland with a population of almost 340,000. The City provides major opportunities for employment, learning, shopping, leisure and entertainment. It drives much of the economic growth across the region.

This section summarises the Belfast housing market and issues that have potential to affect its future development.

Housing Market Update

The population of Belfast is growing slightly, however the Belfast Agenda and the emerging LDP foresee a rapid expansion of the population in the period to 2035. An increase of almost 70,000 is forecast over that period. This will require an additional 37,000 homes, an average of 1,750 per annum, phased to align with infrastructure capacity and provision.

The local housing market is slowly recovering from the economic crash of 10 years ago. House prices have increased slowly in recent years but private sector building activity remains low and mortgage lending remains inhibited despite historically low interest rates. Prices in Belfast actually fell in the latter part of 2016, reflecting the market uncertainty prevalent since the Brexit vote.

Owner Occupied Sector

The average price of properties sold in Belfast in 2016 was £163,665. This represents a small decrease on last year's average price. However, since early 2014, house price change has been one of relative stability.

The majority of estate agents report that market uncertainty is likely to be a strong influence on both the Northern Ireland economy and the local housing market in the coming year.

There is considerable variation across different property types throughout Belfast. Semi-detached houses and apartments have reduced in price over the past year while detached houses and bungalows have increased. Sectoral differences are also apparent; South Belfast remains the highest priced sub market while North Belfast is the lowest. First time buyers are still experiencing difficulty in obtaining mortgage finance; this effectively puts a brake on market activity.

The LDP has set a target of 37,000 new homes in Belfast in the period up to 2035. Given that owner occupation is the dominant tenure in the City, it is reasonable to expect that a significant number of the new homes will be owner occupied. This is a challenging target and will require a change in approach to density, urban massing and land use.

Private Rented Sector (PRS)

The PRS continues to play a significant role in the local housing market. Local estate agents report that there is continuing strong demand for private rental accommodation at the top end of the market and in the Lisburn Road, Ormeau Road and Stranmillis areas. Terrace properties and apartments bought during the 'buy to let' boom of the early 2000s provide most of the stock in the PRS.

Local estate agents have indicated that key drivers affecting the PRS in Belfast include:

- high demand for private rental;
- no net additional supply;
- high demand and low turnover in the social housing sector;
- job and income uncertainty;
- lower numbers of private new build development;
- lending restrictions; and
- an oversupply in certain areas.

The PRS will play an increasingly important role meeting the needs of younger households on lower incomes, who in previous decades would have become first time buyers. High levels of demand for social housing in some areas will also continue to underpin the demand for private rented accommodation.

Housing Benefit continues to play a vital role in supporting low-income tenants in the PRS. The increasing impact of welfare reform will affect the sector in the near future, the freeze of the local housing allowance which could potentially exclude households from certain areas and property types.

The rapid expansion of purpose built student accommodation in the City to coincide with the relocation of the Ulster University into the city centre will impact those areas traditionally associated with student lets, most notably the Holylands. The Housing Executive is working with South Belfast Partnership Board to research the effects of this. The impact of these new developments will be closely monitored over the period of the HIP and beyond.



Purpose built student housing in Belfast



New Lodge Redevelopment

Whilst it is envisaged that the risk of disinvestment in the sector is low, the market is unsure of the effect of the recent tax changes for private landlords. This matter will also be closely monitored.

Social Housing Sector

The requirement for new social housing in Belfast has consistently increased since 2010. The five-year assessment for 2016-21 shows a need for approximately 5,500 additional units. Need is apparent in all four sectors of the City (North, South, East and West). Single person households and small families account for almost three quarters of the total waiting list, reflecting the trend toward smaller households which is evident throughout Northern Ireland. The predominance of single and smaller family households and the welfare reform agenda will mean that new social housing will comprise a high proportion of one and two bedroom dwellings.

Land availability is a key issue for the future delivery of social housing in Belfast.

Housing associations report difficulties in obtaining sites in areas of housing need throughout the City. This results in housing associations having to acquire sites on the open market and therefore subject to market price fluctuations. To address social need, the Housing Executive's three year SHDP has almost 3,000 new social housing units planned for Belfast.

The LDP has an important role to fulfil in terms of the allocation of land for new housing across the council area. This is particularly important given the aspiration to increase the population of the City by 70,000 by 2035.

Regeneration

Regenerating neighbourhoods is vital to increase opportunities that connect local people to create economically viable places that will not only benefit the physical environment they live in, but also improve residents' overall quality of life and wellbeing. An important role for housing providers will be to foster a sense of identity, to encourage investment and to reduce deprivation. A priority is to ensure that communities are welcoming to all people regardless of religion, race or economic background.

Regeneration can be defined as activities that reverse economic, social and physical decline in areas where market forces will not do this without the support of government. To continue to build vibrant and welcoming places within Belfast it will be important that local communities are involved in decision making in their neighbourhoods, to identify priorities and plan solutions. There are a number of regeneration initiatives within Belfast which include:

Building Successful Communities

The Building Successful Communities programme is a strand of the 'Facing the Future - Housing Strategy for Northern Ireland' and aims to use housing interventions as a catalyst for local regeneration.

The objectives of the programme are to:

- improve current housing and infrastructure;
- deliver new social and affordable homes;
- deliver environmental upgrading works;
- improve access to amenities; and
- improve access to economic and social activity.

Six areas, five of which are in Belfast are included in the current programme. The areas in Belfast are - Lower Shankill/ Brown Square, Lenadoon and Glencolin, Lower Falls, Lower Oldpark and Hillview and Tiger's Bay. The programme is led by DfC and each area forum comprises political, statutory and community representatives. Funding totalling £3m per year is available and has been used to acquire land and provide infrastructural and environmental improvements across the various areas.

Urban Villages

Urban Villages is a programme under the Together Building a United Community strategy (TBUC). Four urban villages in Belfast have been declared in the programme. These are located across the city in Ardoyne/Ballysillan, Markets/ Donegall Pass, lower Newtownards Road and Colin. The overall programme is designed to improve good relations outcomes and to help develop thriving places where there has previously been a history of deprivation and community tension. Capital and revenue funding totalling almost £4m is available under this programme.

Update on Resources/Budget

The Housing Executive has not been able to set a budget for the forthcoming year as there has been no functioning government since January 2017. Therefore, no targets have been agreed for 2017-18, generating widespread uncertainty about funding over the coming year. The Housing Executive, along with other public bodies, must adapt with new, more effective and efficient ways of delivering high quality services for citizens in Northern Ireland.

The Community Plan will work alongside the Housing Executive to direct limited public sector resources more efficiently.

Progress Report

The following sections contain progress report tables for each HIP outcome. The tables detail progress of housing proposals set out in the HIP for 2015-19, new plans and schemes for 2017-19 and reaffirm the ten-year vision as well as linking our plans to the local Community Plan.

Where updated or new relevant data is available to that identified in the HIP, this has been incorporated in graphic or tabular form. The updated statistical information is reported by each HIP theme.

Table 1: Belfast Actual/Projected Public Sector Housing Spend

Activity areas	Actual spend £m	Projected spend £m
	2016/17	2017/18
Capital improvement work	13.81	19.88
Planned maintenance work*	17.15	23.41
Response maintenance	12.29	13.33
Private Sector Grants	1.55	1.64
Grounds Maintenance	1.20	1.92
Supporting People	23.97	22.61
Community Development	0.42	**
Investment in New Build***	41.76	****
Total	112.15	82.79

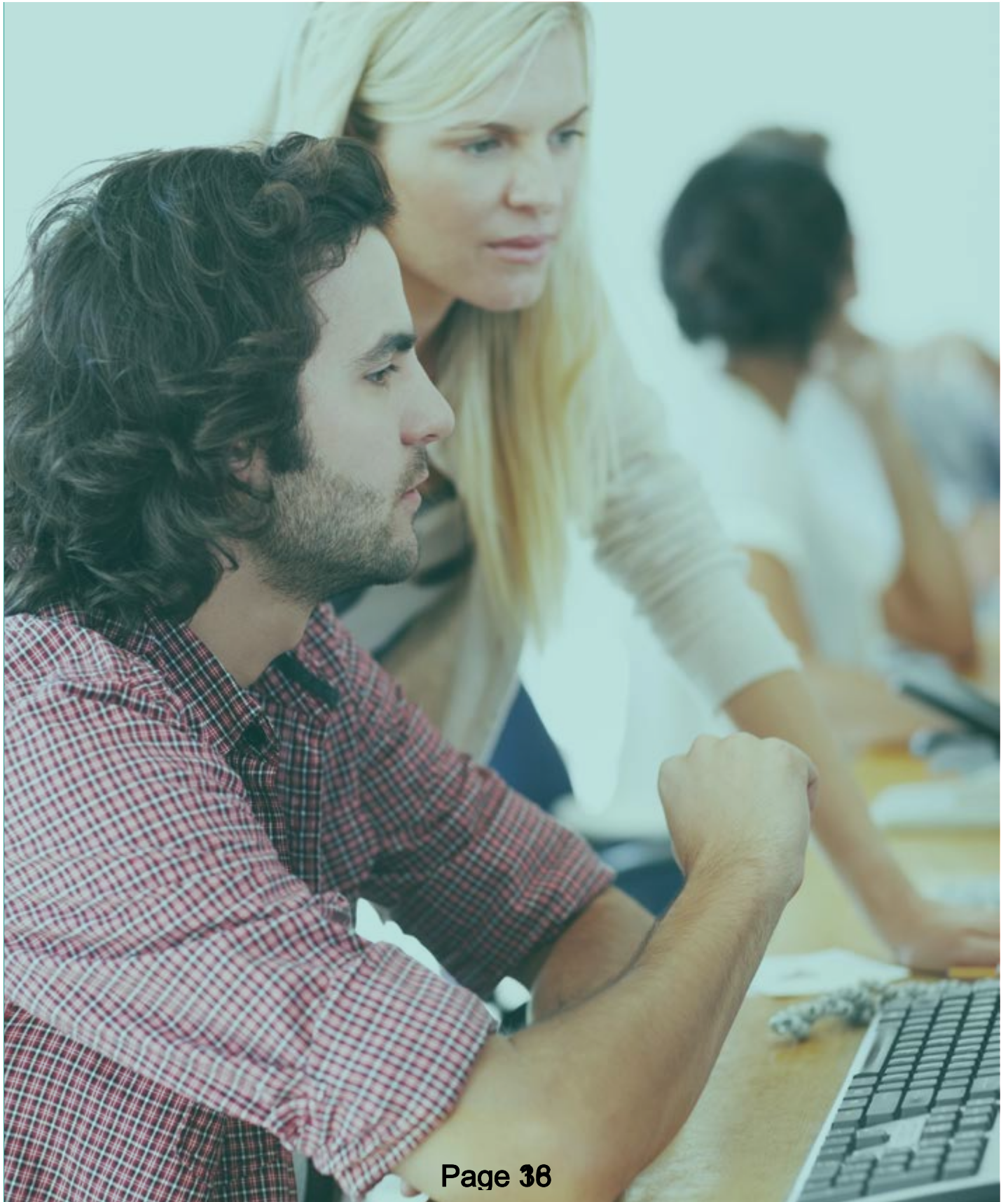
Source: NIHE

* Includes minor disabled person adaptations, redecoration and displacement grants.

** Community Development projected spend is not available.

*** Investment in new build is the total cost of schemes starting in the programme year but which may be spent over more than one year. The amount includes Housing Association Grant (HAG) and housing association funding.

**** The total cost of units in the gross SHDP for 2017/18 has not been finalised.



THEME ONE

Identify and meet housing need and demand

OUTCOME ONE IDENTIFY NEW HOUSING REQUIREMENTS				
Plans 2016/17	Progress	Plans 2017/19	Long term objectives	CP Ref
NIHE will update the Net Stock Model (NSM) in 2017 following the 2015 review of household projections.	Ongoing.	The NSM will be updated in 2017 and 2019.	NIHE will deliver updated objective assessments of affordable housing (social and intermediate housing) need by household type.	1.12
NIHE will carry out an annual five year projected social housing need assessment for Belfast.	Achieved. The five year social housing need for Belfast is 5,500.	NIHE will carry out an annual five year projected social housing need assessment for Belfast.	Continuously evaluate and update housing need and demand in line with best practice.	
NIHE will annually assess demand for intermediate housing for Belfast.	Achieved. The ten year intermediate housing need is 6,330.	NIHE will annually assess demand for intermediate housing for Belfast.		
NIHE will produce a HIP annual update for 2017/18 monitoring housing market performance across all tenures.	Achieved.	NIHE will produce a HIP annual update for 2018/19, monitoring housing market performance across all tenures.	Determine new housing requirements for local development planning through collaborative working between NIHE, DfC, NISRA and DfI.	1.12
DfI will review HGIs for LDPs.	Achieved. Revised annual HGI requirement for Belfast is 1,054 per year from 2012 to 2025.		NIHE will provide evidence based cross tenure analysis of the local housing market to inform Local Development and Community Planning.	1.12
NIHE will annually update councils with affordable housing need reports for the production of Local Development and Community Plans.	Achieved.	NIHE to deliver annual updates of affordable housing requirement to inform Local Development and Community Plans.		1.12
NIHE will review housing market geographies for NI and deliver Housing Market Assessments across NI.	Housing market geographies research scheduled to commence in 2017/18.	NIHE will commence programme to deliver Housing Market Assessments across NI upon the completion of the housing market geographies research.		1.12

Demographics

	Mid-year estimate 2005	Mid-year estimate 2015	Projected 2025
Children	66,851 (20.5%)	66,581 (19.6%)	71,660 (20.7%)
Working age	210,542 (64.7%)	223,018 (65.8%)	215,568 (62.3%)
Older people	48,090 (14.8%)	49,308 (14.5%)	59,029 (17.0%)
Total Population	325,483	338,907	346,257
Households	-	143,431	147,862
Average Household Size	-	2.32	2.31

Source: NISRA

Belfast Household Composition of Housing Applicants at March 2017

Type	Single Person	Small Adult	Small Family	Large Adult	Large Family	Older Person	Total
Applicant	5,286	452	2,945	141	678	1,236	10,738
App (HS)	3,619	258	2,089	86	458	812	7,322
Allocation	1,170	69	708	25	143	246	2,361

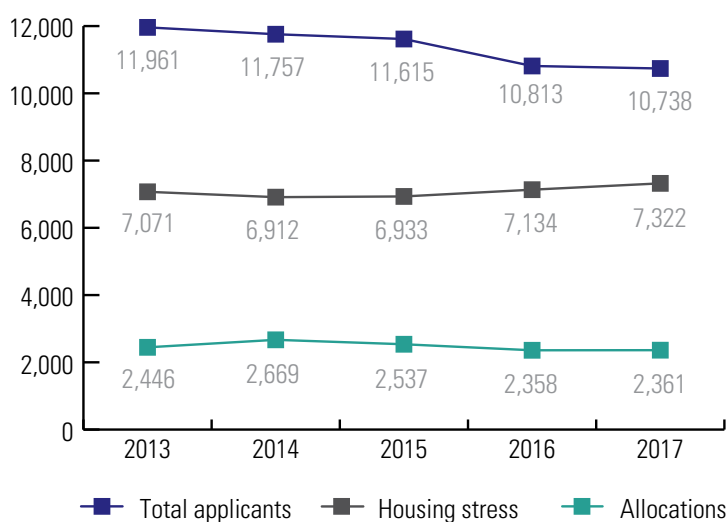
Applicant - Housing applicants at March 2017. App (HS) - Housing stress applicants at March 2017 (i.e. 30 points or more).

Allocation - Annual allocations for year ending March 2017.

Belfast Housing Executive Stock at March 2017

	Bungalow	Flat	House	Maisonette	Cottage	Total	Void
Current Stock	2,401	5,883	17,097	486	1	25,868	256
Sold Stock	407	1,748	21,683	239	22	24,099	

Social Housing Waiting List Trends



Source: NIHE

Definition of Household Types

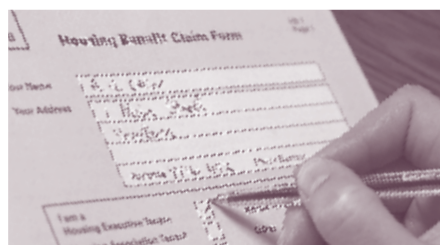
Single person	1 person 16-59 years old
Older person	1 or 2 persons aged 16 or over, at least 1 over 60
Small adult	2 persons 16-59 years old
Small family	1 or 2 persons aged 16 or over, with 1 or 2 children
Large family	1 or 2 persons aged 16 or over, and 3 or more persons 0-15, or 3 or more persons 16 or over and 2 or more persons aged 0-15
Large adult	3 or more persons aged 16 or over with or without 1 person aged 0-15

**OUTCOME TWO
INCREASE THE SUPPLY OF AFFORDABLE RENTING TO MEET THE NEEDS OF COMMUNITIES**

Plans 2016/17	Progress	Plans 2017/19	Long term objectives	CP Ref
<p>DfC will approve a gross, three year 2016/19 SHDP.</p> <p>NIHE with DfC and housing associations will implement an SHDP Delivery Strategy Action Plan over the period 2017-2020.</p>	<p>The SHDP delivered 416 units, including 34 one-bed units in 2016/17 in Belfast and there were 335 units started during 2016/17.</p> <p>The SHDP Delivery Strategy and Action Plan was approved by the NIHE Board in August 2016 and subsequently endorsed by DfC. A Commissioning Prospectus has been produced to support the new approach to commissioning the SHDP. The Commissioning Prospectus will provide a strategic, cross-tenure overview of housing need and demand across NI.</p>	<p>DfC will approve a gross, three year 2017/20 SHDP.</p> <p>The SHDP Delivery Strategy Action Plan will be implemented over the period 2017-2020. The Commissioning Prospectus will be published in conjunction with the SHDP 2017-2020 in 2017.</p>	<p>Maximise public funding through the procurement of affordable housing.</p> <p>The key objectives of the SHDP Delivery Strategy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - More sustainable neighbourhoods through effective place shaping within Community Planning; - Reformed delivery of social and affordable housing to create a more flexible and responsive system; - Deliver 8,000 new social housing units and at least 2,800 new affordable homes over a four year period (subject to available funding). 	1.12
NIHE will carry out site identification studies to examine sites for social housing as necessary.	During 2016/17 site identification studies were carried out at various locations in Belfast.	NIHE will carry out site identification studies as necessary.		1.12
NIHE will work with councils to develop social housing policies for the new LDP.	NIHE has formally responded to Belfast City Council on its LDP's Preferred Options Paper.	NIHE will work with councils to develop social housing policies for the new LDP.		1.12
DfC & DfI will engage with key stakeholders on recommendations detailed in the draft PPS 22 Affordable Housing.	Provision of affordable housing will be promoted in the LDP.	NIHE will work with councils to develop an affordable housing policy in the LDP.	Introduce developer contributions for affordable housing.	4.10

**OUTCOME TWO CONTINUED
INCREASE THE SUPPLY OF AFFORDABLE RENTING TO MEET THE NEEDS OF COMMUNITIES**

Plans 2016/17	Progress	Plans 2017/19	Long term objectives	CP Ref
DfC will continue to implement landlord registration and tenancy deposit schemes and analyse the data received. DfC will complete a fundamental review of the PRS in 2016.	Achieved. There were 29,381 landlord registrations at March 2017. Public consultation launched in January 2017 with a list of proposals to be discussed.	DfC will continue to implement landlord registration and tenancy deposit schemes and analyse the data received. Following the consultation period, DfC will set out how the agreed proposals will be implemented.	Monitor and evaluate the performance of the PRS to assess effectiveness in meeting affordable housing need. Introduce effective regulation for the PRS to maintain physical and management standards.	4.10
NIHE plan to process new public/private HB claims within the 22 day target and HB claim amendment within seven days.	In 2016/17 new claims were processed in an average of 14.3 days. Claim amendments were processed in an average of 2.9 days.	NIHE plan to process new public/private HB claims within the 22-day target and HB claim amendment within seven days.		
NIHE have made £370k available to fund Smartmove private rented access scheme across NI for 2016/17.	NIHE funded Smartmove private rented access scheme to a value of £445k across NI during 2016/17.	NIHE have made £450k available to fund Smartmove private rented access scheme across NI for 2017/18.		1.12

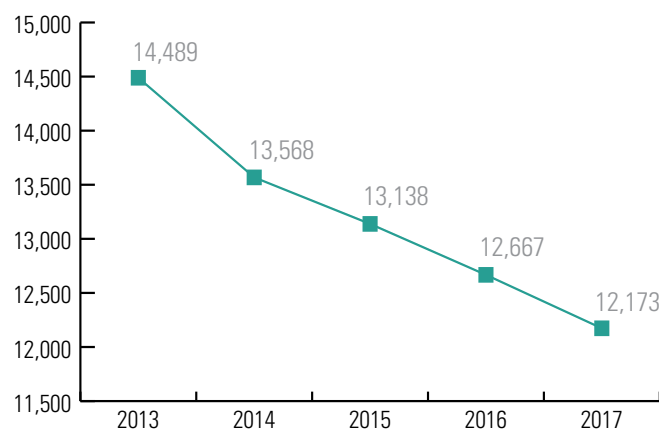


Housing Benefit public claimants at March 2017

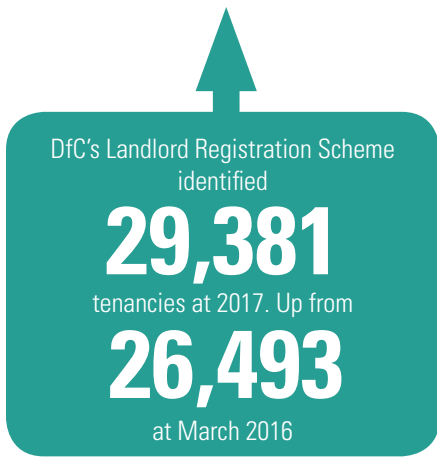
28,056

Source: NIHE

Private Housing Benefit Claimants



Source: NIHE



Source: DfC

Average Weekly Rent by House Type



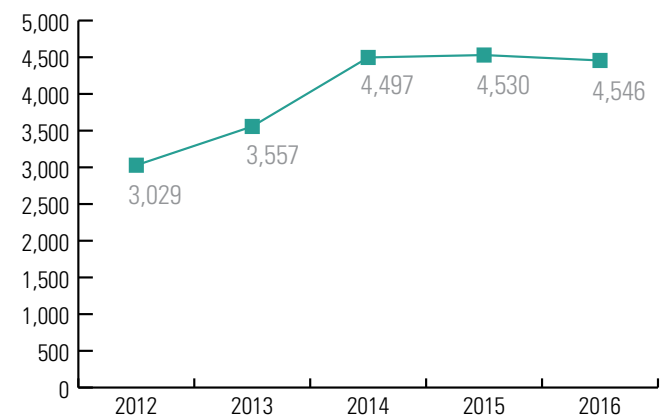
Source: Ulster University

Ten Year Intermediate Housing Demand 2016-2026



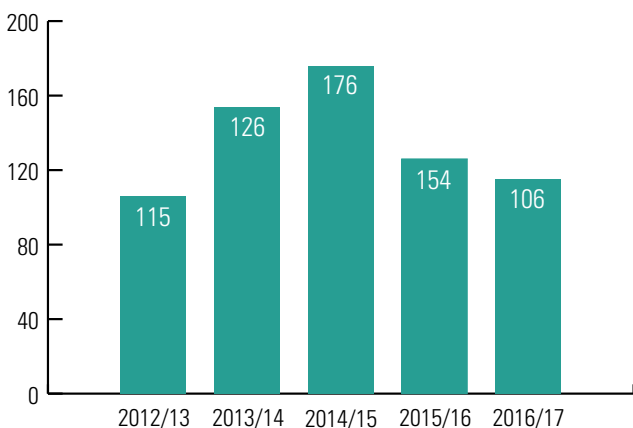
Source: NIHE

House Sales All Tenures



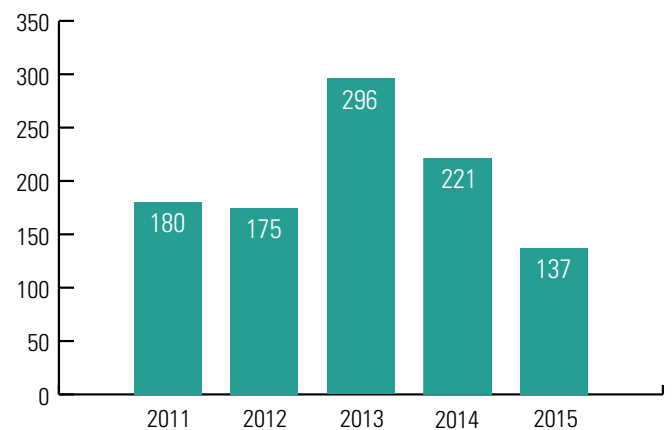
Source: LPS

Co-Ownership Approvals



Source: Co-Ownership

Repossessions



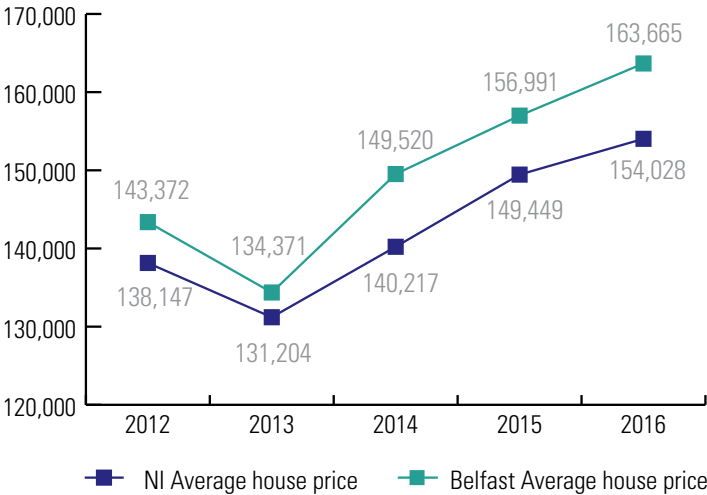
Source: DfC

OUTCOME THREE ASSIST HOME OWNERSHIP				
Plans 2016/17	Progress	Plans 2017/19	Long term objectives	CP Ref
NIHE and housing associations will implement the House Sales and Equity Sharing Scheme.	89 NIHE properties in Belfast were sold to tenants under the House Sales Scheme during 2016/17.	NIHE and housing associations will implement the House Sales and Equity Sharing Scheme.	Continue to assist home ownership through House Sales and Equity Sharing.	1.12
DfC will administer committed funding of £96.3m to Co-Ownership for 2015/16 – 2018/19 with a target of 2,643 affordable homes for NI.	During 2016/17 there were 115 properties purchased through Co-Ownership in Belfast.	DfC has committed funding of £100m to Co-Ownership for four years which along with £65m of private finance will allow for the provision of 2,800 new homes in NI.	Continue to assist households purchase their home through shared ownership.	1.12
DfC will pilot a number of initiatives across NI using the Affordable Home Loans Fund (AHLF) to deliver affordable housing. These include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. £19m to provide up to 600 affordable homes; 2. £9.2m in Financial Transactions Capital (FTC) funding to an empty homes scheme (being delivered by Clanmil); 3. £5m to date in FTC funding for a Rent to Own scheme (being delivered by Co-Ownership); and 4. Developing intermediate housing on surplus NIHE land (Clanmil and APEX). 	DfC has awarded £19m FTC under AHLF. FairShare has been set up by Apex, Clanmil and Choice as a new shared ownership scheme enabling homebuyers who cannot afford to purchase a property outright, to buy a share of a property directly from a housing association and pay rent on the rest. £12.5m FTC has been awarded to Co-Ownership for the Rent to Own initiative. The Rent to Own scheme is now operational.	Housing associations in NI will continue to offer affordable, high-quality properties for sale through the FairShare shared ownership scheme. Co-Ownership will continue to promote the Rent to Own scheme.	Introduce a developer contribution to increase the supply of intermediate housing. Deliver finance models to make better use of funding for intermediate housing. Deliver a range of intermediate housing products, such as intermediate rent.	1.12
NIHE will work with councils to develop intermediate housing policies through the LDP.	Planning has commenced collaborative work with NIHE on LDP's Preferred Options Paper.	NIHE will work with councils to develop intermediate housing policies through the LDP.	Deliver mixed tenure housing schemes in communities through planning.	1.12
NIHE will continue to investigate with housing associations, the potential for community self-build products for home ownership.	Work on site investigation is ongoing with Habitat for Humanity.	NIHE will continue to investigate with housing associations, the potential for community self-build products for home ownership.	Deliver a self-build affordable housing model.	1.12 4.9



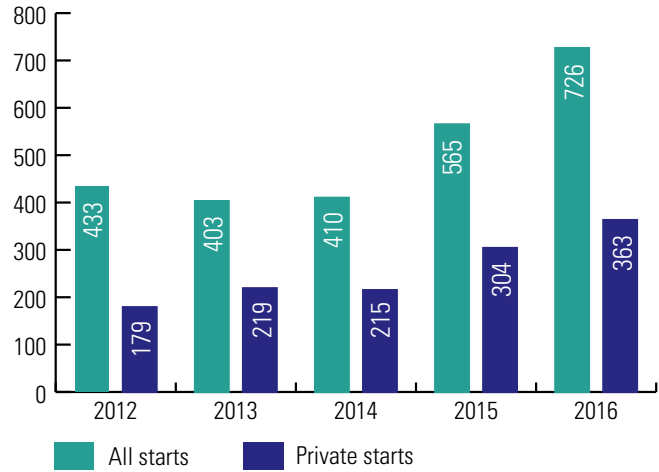
Source: NIHE

Average Annual House Prices



Source: Ulster University

New Build Starts



Source: LPS



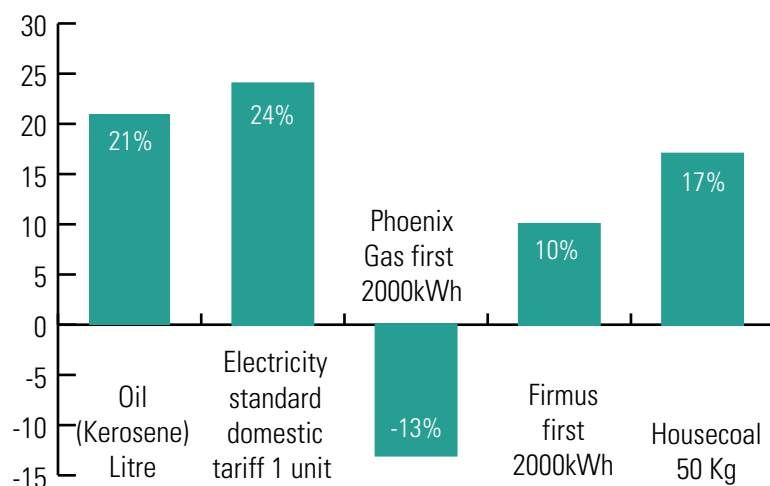
THEME TWO

Improving people's homes

OUTCOME FOUR IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF THE HOUSING STOCK				
Plans 2016/17	Progress	Plans 2017/19	Long term objectives	CP Ref
<p>Funding of discretionary grants for 2016/17 is £220k.</p> <p>Repair notices issued by councils on private rented landlords can be recovered through a mandatory grant of up to £7,500.</p>	<p>Discretionary grant approval in 2016/17 was £546k.</p> <p>There were 262 mandatory repair grants approved in 2016/17 with an approval value of £193k.</p>	<p>Budget information for discretionary grants for 2017/18 is not available.</p> <p>NIHE will issue mandatory repair grants as required.</p>	<p>Deliver policies to support sustainable design and improve the fabric of dwellings.</p>	4.10
<p>NIHE will register and inspect HMOs for building and management standards.</p>	<p>At March 2017 there were 3,737 properties registered as HMOs in Belfast. In the past year, 36 Article 80 Notices (fit for number of occupants) and 347 Article 79 Notices (Management Regulations) were served.</p>	<p>NIHE will register and inspect HMOs for building and management standards.</p>		4.10
<p>Funding for NIHE planned maintenance and capital improvement schemes in 2016/17 is estimated at £25m.</p>	<p>In 2016/17, the NIHE spent almost £31m on planned maintenance and capital improvement schemes. NIHE completed or started planned maintenance works to 7,941 properties: 3,728 properties received ECM works, 1,962 Kitchens, 682 Double Glazing & 1,569 Heating installations.</p>	<p>Funding for NIHE planned maintenance and capital improvement schemes in 2017/18 is estimated at £43.2m. NIHE will complete works to 7,450 properties: 3,725 properties will receive ECM works, 1,275 Kitchen replacements, 349 Double-Glazing & 2,101 Heating installations.</p>	<p>In line with the Asset Management Strategy NIHE will aim to bring all of its stock up to and maintain it at modern standards, subject to funding availability.</p>	4.10
<p>Funding for NIHE capital improvement schemes in 2016/17 is estimated at £13m.</p> <p>NIHE will complete response maintenance repairs within the required target time.</p> <p>NIHE will carry out response maintenance repairs to customers' satisfaction.</p>	<p>In 2016/17 NIHE spent £13.81m on capital improvement schemes.</p> <p>New contracts and working arrangements were introduced in 2016/17. The new contracts are progressing well but we are unable to report performance against targets until 2018.</p>	<p>Funding for NIHE capital improvement schemes in 2017/18 is £19.88m.</p> <p>NIHE will complete response maintenance repairs within the required target time and to customers' satisfaction.</p>	<p>NIHE has been carrying out work to develop a new 10 Year Investment Plan based on the principles set out in the Asset Management Strategy.</p>	4.10 4.10

OUTCOME FOUR IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF THE HOUSING STOCK CONTINUED				
Plans 2016/17	Progress	Plans 2017/19	Long term objectives	CP Ref
NIHE stock condition survey will complete in 2015 and inform the Asset Management Strategy.	NIHE's new Asset Management Strategy was approved in 2016.	NIHE will use the Asset Strategy as the basis for investment in the modernisation and maintenance of our housing stock.		
NIHE will commence work on the 2016 House Condition Survey.	Work is underway with the first preliminary report published on 30 March 2017.	The 2016 House Condition Survey final report will be published in early 2018.	Unfitness and decent home standards will be identified through NIHE House Condition Survey reports.	4.10

Household Fuel Cost % Change April 2007 to January 2017



Source: NIHE

**OUTCOME FIVE
DEVELOP LOW CARBON HOMES AND REDUCE FUEL POVERTY**

Plans 2016/17	Progress	Plans 2017/19	Long term objectives	CP Ref
Bryson Energy, with funding from NIHE deliver an energy efficiency awareness programme annually to 160 schools across NI and a local and impartial Energy Efficiency Advice Line.	Achieved. There were 15 schools visited in Belfast during 2016/17.	Bryson Energy will continue to deliver the Advice Line and Schools awareness programme.	Promote energy efficiency through contracts with social enterprises.	4.10 5.7
NIHE will implement the Affordable Warmth scheme. Funding of £16.5m is available for 2016/17 across NI. NIHE will continue to administer the Boiler Replacement scheme on behalf of DfC for the period 2016-19 with a budget of £3m for 2016/17 across NI. NIHE's 2016/19 energy efficiency programme includes 11 schemes at a cost of approx. £8m.	In Belfast, 1,973 measures were carried out to private properties under the Affordable Warmth scheme in 2016/17. In Belfast, 784 properties had boilers replaced at cost of £549k. In 2016/17 NIHE spend for the energy efficiency programme was £6.6m on 1,569 units.	NIHE will implement the Affordable Warmth scheme with anticipated funding of £16m for 2017/18 across NI. NIHE will implement the Boiler Replacement scheme 2016-19 with a budget of £700k for 2017/18 across NI. NIHE's 2017/20 energy efficiency programme includes 29 schemes at approx. £19m.	Reduce fuel poverty. Develop and promote alternative natural energies to improve environmental wellbeing and combat fuel poverty in the home. Deliver zero carbon dwellings within the SHDP.	4.10 5.5 5.7 5.5 5.5
Bryson Energy aim to increase membership of the 27 established oil buying clubs across NI.	Almost 5,000 households have become members of oil buying clubs across NI.	NIHE aims to increase membership of the established oil buying clubs.		5.7
NIHE aims to complete a further 111 planned PV panel installations across NI.	A total of 1,000 PV panels have been installed across NI since 2015/16. NIHE will ensure that tenants in these properties will utilise the potential of cheaper electric bills.	Seek innovative renewable options that can be used in public and private sector homes to reduce energy demand and household electric bills.	Seek value for money options for reducing energy demand to promote across all residential sectors.	5.1 5.5 5.7



THEME THREE

Transforming people's lives

OUTCOME SIX PROVIDE SUITABLE ACCOMMODATION AND SUPPORT SERVICES FOR VULNERABLE RESIDENTS				
Plans 2016/17	Progress	Plans 2017/19	Long term objectives	CP Ref
The gross, three year (2016/19) SHDP contains 5 supported housing schemes for 74 units, 6 of which are programmed to commence construction in 2016/17.	During 2016/17 there was one new supported housing scheme completed in Belfast which delivered 22 units of accommodation and a further scheme started which will deliver 6 units.	The gross, three year (2017/20) SHDP contains 3 supported housing schemes for 46 units 22 of which are programmed to commence construction in 2017/18.	Maintain collaborative working practices between NIHE, Health Trusts and Probation Service to deliver innovation, capacity and housing care and support services.	1.12 4.10
£23.7m has been approved to deliver the Supporting People programme for 2016/17	£23.97m was spent delivering the Supporting People programme for 2016/17. 205 accommodation based services for 4,520 service users. 19 floating support schemes for 1,656 service users.	£22.61m has been approved to deliver the Supporting People programme for 2017/18. A budget of £19m has been agreed for accommodation based services for 2017/18. A budget of £3.61m has been agreed for floating support in 2017/18.		1.12
2016/19 SHDP incorporates support for 36 wheelchair units.	12 wheelchair units went on site in 2016/17.	2017/20 SHDP incorporates support for approximately 40 wheelchair units.		1.12
NIHE will monitor and review Supporting People services through the contract management framework and take actions to remodel/realign services as needed.	Activity plan for 2016/17 underway.	Activity Plan in place for 2017/18.		1.12
NIHE will assess need for wheelchair accessible housing in the social housing sector.	Achieved. NIHE identified an annual need for 25 wheelchair properties for 2016/21.	DfC has agreed an initial Wheelchair Standard Accommodation target of 6% of general needs new build for 2017/18 which will rise to 7% for 2018/19.		1.12 4.10
NIHE has funding of approx £1m for Disabled Facilities Grants (DFGs) for the private sector in 2016/17.	NIHE approved 130 DFGs spending £1,089k.	NIHE has funding of approximately £9.5m for DFGs for the private sector in 2017/18 across NI.	Promote independent living through DFG adaptations.	1.12 4.10
NIHE will provide adaptations to its properties as required.	NIHE spent £1.51m on adaptations in 2016/17.	NIHE will provide adaptations to its properties as required.		1.12 4.10.

OUTCOME SEVEN HOMELESSNESS IS PREVENTED OR IS ADDRESSED EFFECTIVELY				
Plans 2016/17	Progress	Plans 2017/19	Long term objectives	CP Ref
Roll in of the Housing Solutions and Support Approach will continue across NI. NIHE have made £370k available to fund the Smartmove private rented access scheme across NI for 2016/17.	This approach has developed to focus on tenancy sustainment, homeless prevention and exploring housing and support options for customers who contact the NIHE with a housing issue. Housing Solutions and Support teams have been established in 3 Housing Executive Offices, covering 5 outlets. NIHE funded Smartmove private rented access scheme to a value of £445k across NI during 2016/17.	Roll in of the Housing Solutions and Support Approach will continue across NI. NIHE have made £450k available to fund Smartmove private rented access scheme across NI for 2017/18.	Deliver a framework and model for a fully operational housing options service. Ensure information is readily available across all tenures to meet the needs of a housing options service. Deliver an adequate supply of permanent accommodation to prevent homelessness and repeat homelessness.	4.9 1.12
NIHE will work with organisations to deliver homeless services, in line with Homelessness Strategy 2012-17. Homeless applications to be processed within 33 working day target. NIHE will review the Homelessness Strategy in 2017.	NIHE confirmed 5,395 homeless applications were received and 3,289 applicants were awarded Full Duty Applicant status. 100% of homeless applications were processed within 33 working days. The Homelessness Strategy 2017-22 'Ending Homelessness Together' was published in April 2017.	NIHE will work with organisations to deliver homeless services, in line with Homelessness Strategy 2017-22. Homeless applications to be processed within 33 working day target. Strategy will be implemented in partnership with relevant agencies.	Maintain and improve collaborative working arrangements to provide services to homeless people. Maximise return on funding for temporary homeless accommodation.	4.9

Homeless Figures

Year	No. of homeless presenters	No. of homeless acceptances	Households placed in temporary accommodation
2012/13	5,367	2,856	1,007
2013/14	5,329	2,506	1,047
2014/15	5,843	3,064	983
2015/16	5,664	3,316	1,205
2016/17	5,395	3,289	1,058

Source: NIHE

Older persons seeking sheltered accommodation

Year	March 2016	March 2017
Total applicants	445	457
Applicants in housing stress	350	362

Source: NIHE

Disabled Facilities Grants (DFGs)

Year	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Approved	136	172	143	109	130
Funding £k	£799k	£1,100k	£1,448k	£976k	£1,089k

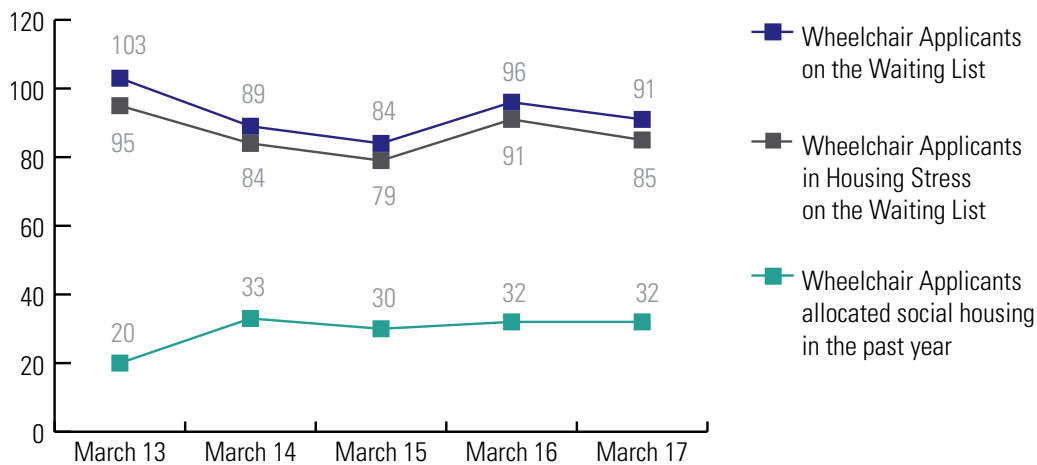
Source: NIHE

Supporting People

Type of Service	Client Group	No. of schemes	No. of providers	Actual payments 2016-17 (£k)	Budget 2017-18 (£k)	Max. no of services users
Accommodation Based Services	Older People	113	15	1,906	1,821	2,866
	Homelessness	37	19	11,431	10,509	874
	Learning Disability	18	7	1,766	1,817	156
	Physical Disability	8	3	1,462	1,273	271
	Mental Health	24	5	2,804	2,824	277
	Young People	5	5	852	759	76
	Sub Total	205	*	20,221	19,003	4,520
Floating Support Services	Older People	3	2	406	398	256
	Homelessness	9	8	2,019	1,947	955
	Learning Disability	1	1	55	55	18
	Physical Disability	2	2	799	743	190
	Mental Health	2	2	300	300	156
	Young People	2	2	173	173	81
	Sub Total	19	*	3,752	3,616	1,656
Grand Total		224		23,973	22,619	6,176

*Some providers supply both accommodation based and floating support services
Source: NIHE

Social housing wheelchair statistics



Source: NIHE



NIHE spent

£1.51m

on

359

adaptations

to its properties



THEME FOUR

Enabling sustainable neighbourhoods

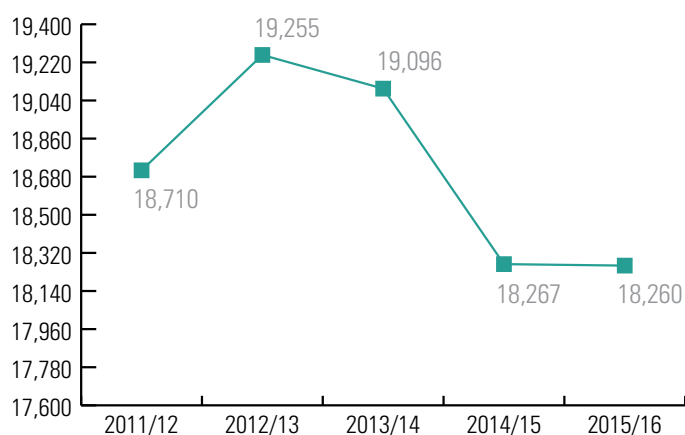
OUTCOME EIGHT REGENERATE NEIGHBOURHOODS				
Plans 2016/17	Progress	Plans 2017/19	Long term objectives	CP Ref
DfC will fund £84k for Areas at Risk, SPOD and Neighbourhood Renewal programmes for 2016/17.	DfC funded £120k for Areas at Risk, £25k for SPOD and £9.43m on Neighbourhood Renewal programmes for 2016/17.	DfC will continue to fund the Areas at Risk, SPOD and Neighbourhood Renewal programmes for 2017/18.	Develop collaborative working arrangements between DfC, NIHE and councils to deliver housing led regeneration in partnership with communities.	2.3
NIHE will capture details of empty homes as they are identified and reported and share with Department of Finance and DfC in line with the Housing (Amendment) Act 2016.	528 cases reported within Belfast. There were 148 closed, 224 deferred and 156 open cases.	The Empty Homes strategy is currently under review with DfC.		1.12
NIHE will implement the Heritage in Housing scheme throughout NI to bring empty town centre properties back into use, addressing blight and providing accommodation for affordable rent.	The NI target for the three year programme (2015-18) is to bring 15 empty properties back into use. To date, seven properties have been completed and a further five are underway.	NIHE will examine a further year of the Heritage in Housing scheme in 2017/18.	Improve the quality of urban and rural design and townscape quality in local communities.	1.12 5.9
Promote housing led regeneration through master planning proposals in areas across Belfast.	NIHE will continue to work with the Council through the Community Planning process.	Promote housing led regeneration through master planning proposals in urban and village centres.		1.12 5.9
DfC will continue to invest in social enterprise growth to increase sustainability in the broad community sector.	DfC is supporting Social Economy Enterprise growth in NI through Community Asset Transfer (CAT), Pilot Social Economy Projects, Social Enterprise Hubs and Social Innovation.	DfC will continue to invest in social enterprise growth to increase sustainability in the broad community sector.	Support local businesses and job creation through social enterprise.	1.12
NIHE's Social Housing Enterprise Strategy (SHE) will invest £0.5m in NI annually to support social housing enterprise developments.	During 2016 the SHE Strategy made 17 awards totalling £131k to a range of social economy/ social housing enterprise initiatives in Belfast.	NIHE's SHE Strategy will continue to invest in local communities to support social housing enterprise developments.		1.12 1.4
NIHE will transfer assets under the CAT framework to deliver community regeneration.	NIHE are currently developing the policy to implement this framework.	NIHE will transfer assets under the CAT framework to deliver community regeneration.		1.2

OUTCOME NINE CREATE SAFER AND COHESIVE COMMUNITIES				
Plans 2016/17	Progress	Plans 2017/19	Long term objectives	CP Ref
Implement NIHE's Community Safety Strategy 2014-17. Update the Strategy in 2017/18.	NIHE actively deals with ASB in our estates.	Develop new Community Safety Strategy 2017/20.	Develop community confidence and continue working with our communities and partners to address Community Safety issues and tackle ASB effectively. Reduce ASB crime.	2.2 2.3 2.4
NIHE will work to prevent hate crimes.	A hate harassment tool kit launched in 2016, Hate Incident Practical Action (HIPA) continues to be available to address damage to properties. During 2016/17, 12 HIPA incidents were responded to in Belfast.	Continue to work to prevent hate harassment.	Continue to work to prevent hate harassment.	
NIHE will continue to be a designated agency in the PCSPs.	NIHE Area Managers continue to attend their respective PCSP meetings.	NIHE will continue to be a designated agency in the PCSPs.		
NIHE will assess funding bids from Community Groups and PCSPs for community safety projects.	During 2016/17, £172k was awarded in Belfast for community safety projects, mostly working with children and young people.	NIHE will continue to assess funding applications and fund appropriate projects that address community safety issues in NIHE estates where money is available.		
NIHE will continue to partner on Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Forum.	Local office staff continue to work with statutory partners in addressing ASB issues.	NIHE will continue to partner on ASB Forum.		
NIHE will deal with reported cases of ASB in its estates.	During 2016/17 NIHE dealt with 380 cases of ASB.	NIHE will deal with reported cases of ASB in its estates.		2.3 2.4
NIHE will work to raise awareness and promote integration through its Good Relations Strategy and Race Relations Policy.	NIHE has provided Hate Crime Training to more than 70 staff across the organisation.	NIHE will implement bespoke training in good relations for staff and community groups.	Promote the shared ethos and development of shared communities through education programmes and shared new build developments.	2.2 2.3 2.4 2.6
NIHE will implement BRIC 2. NIHE will promote the good neighbour charter and the five cohesion themes of Race Relations, Communities in Transition, Interfaces, Flags, Emblems & Sectional Symbols.	NIHE has awarded grants of over £584k across its five community cohesion themes in 2016/17 in Belfast.	NIHE will identify another 26 groups to be involved in phase 2 of the BRIC2 across NI. £25k was awarded to 6 groups for a range of projects under BRIC2 in Belfast in 2016/17.		

OUTCOME NINE CREATE SAFER AND COHESIVE COMMUNITIES CONTINUED

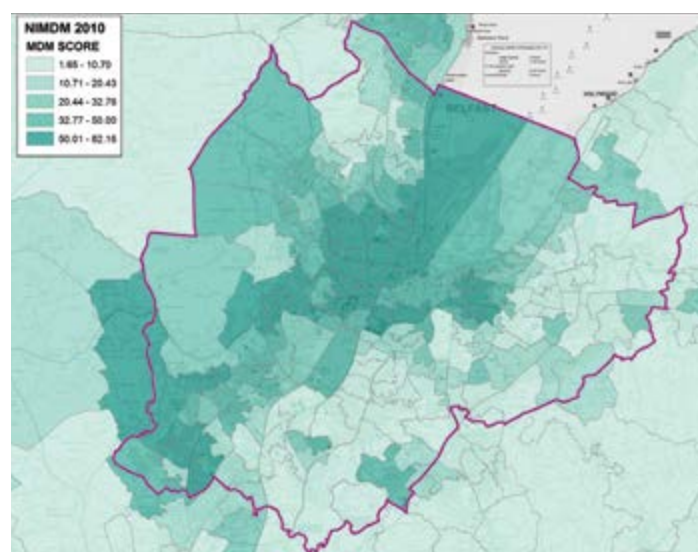
Plans 2016/17	Progress	Plans 2017/19	Long term objectives	CP Ref
NIHE will continue to fund Supporting Communities (SC) in their work with communities.	SC continues to be highly active in Belfast, supporting community groups. There is a dedicated Supporting Communities worker for the city which allows NIHE to encourage the formation of new groups.	Update the Community Involvement Strategy in 2017/18.	Increase tenant involvement in the management and future development of their communities.	2.3 5.9
NIHE will implement the Community Involvement Strategy 2014/17.	Achieved. Consultation on 2017/20 Strategy commenced January 2017.	NIHE will implement the Community Involvement Strategy and update for 2017/20.	Establish strong, collaborative working arrangements between government agencies, voluntary organisations and local community groups to support community regeneration.	2.3 2.4
Funding of almost £50k for 2016/17 for Community Grants and Scrutiny Panels is available.	£45k was spent in 2016/17 on Community Grants and Scrutiny Panels in 2016/17.	Funding of £45k for 2017/18 for Community Grants and Scrutiny Panel will be made available by NIHE.		

Anti-Social Behaviour Incidents



Source: NINIS/NISRA

Multiple Deprivation Measure 2010





THEME FIVE

Delivering quality services

OUTCOME TEN DELIVER BETTER SERVICES				
Plans 2016/17	Progress	Plans 2017/19	Long term objectives	CP Ref
Increase rent collection to reinvest to improve services.	NIHE collected 99.29% of rent during 2016/17 in Belfast.	Increase rent collection to reinvest to improve services.	Maximise income to deliver better services and improve stock.	1.12
Reduce arrears to maximise income. Implement the Tenancy Fraud Action Plan.	Arrears increased slightly during 2016/17. Action Plan in place and statistics reported quarterly to DfC.	Reduce arrears to maximise income. Continue to report Tenancy Fraud statistics to DfC.	Monitor and reduce tenancy fraud.	
Maintain voids below 1% of total stock to make best use of housing stock and increase revenue from rents.	NIHE voids at April 17 were 0.56% of total stock in Belfast.	Maintain voids below 1% of total stock to make best use of housing stock and increase revenue from rents.	Make best use of stock.	
Implement the welfare reform project plan as required.	NIHE have established a project team and project plan to investigate all welfare changes; identify the impact on our customers and business, and to develop appropriate responses. We are working very closely with DfC on the reforms and associated mitigations.	NIHE will continue to communicate with tenants and applicants, provide advice and assistance on the impacts of welfare changes and the mitigations available, as well as assisting DfC deliver the reforms and associated mitigations where appropriate.	Make best use of stock, minimise arrears and help sustain tenancies.	1.3
Contribute to and support the DfC Fundamental Review of Social Housing Allocations.	Ongoing. NIHE continues to work closely with DfC to progress this review.	Continue to contribute to the DfC Fundamental Review of Social Housing Allocations.	To improve the process for housing assessment and allocation of social housing.	1.12
Implement the Sustaining Tenancy Strategy locally and incorporate the approach in the 'Build Yes' revised ways of working.	The approach outlined in the strategy has now been mainstreamed into the 'Build Yes' new ways of working.	We will be rolling out the new ways of working across the organisation.	Reduce tenancy failure and help tenants stay in their own home.	1.12
Continue to monitor tenants' satisfaction through the CTOS.	Ongoing.	Continue to monitor tenants' satisfaction through the CTOS.		1.12



Appendices

Appendix 1 Community Planning Themes and Outcomes

Theme	Outcome	Ref
Everyone in Belfast benefits from a thriving and prosperous economy	City productivity levels	1.1
	Investment into Belfast	1.2
	Performance of the Belfast Urban Area economy	1.3
	The number of new business start-ups versus the number of business deaths	1.4
	The proportion of the population living in relative poverty	1.5
	The proportion of working-age population in Belfast who are unemployed	1.6
	The employment rate of 16 - 64 year olds by deprivation quintile	1.7
	Skills barometer measure - the gap between current and future skill needs	1.8
	Economic inactivity rate (excluding students)	1.9
	Average earnings	1.10
	Total spend by external visitors	1.11
	Supply of suitable housing	1.12
Belfast is a welcoming, safe, fair and inclusive city for all	Number of victims of any crime	2.1
	Number of hate-motivated crimes	2.2
	Proportion of people who feel safe	2.3
	Number of anti-social behaviour incidents	2.4
	Number of interfaces	2.5
	The number of people who agree that people from different background get on well together	2.6
	Proportion of population who believe the cultural identity is respected by society	2.7
Everyone in Belfast fulfils their potential	Proportion of population who have attained Level 2 or above	3.1
	Gap between percentage of school-leavers and percentage of free school meals school-leavers achieving at Level 2 or above, including English or maths	3.2
	Proportion of school-leavers entering employment, education or training	3.3
	Proportion of care leavers who aged 19 were in education training or employment	3.4
	Proportion of children who have reached attainment at Key Stage 2 (up to 11 years)	3.5
	Proportion of pre-school children at the appropriate stage of development	3.6
	School attendance rates	3.7

**Appendix 1 Continued
Community Planning Themes and Outcomes**

Theme	Outcome	Ref
Everyone in Belfast experiences good health and wellbeing	Healthy life expectancy at birth	4.1
	Gap in healthy life expectancy	4.2
	Preventable deaths	4.3
	Proportion of the population of adults and/or children who are obese	4.4
	Proportion of population who smoke	4.5
	Proportion of adults drinking above sensible drinking guidelines	4.6
	Proportion of people who rank themselves as having high levels of wellbeing	4.7
	Proportion of adults participating in moderate exercise at least five days per week	4.8
	Number of households in housing stress	4.9
	Proportion of population living in decent homes	4.10
	Proportion of the population volunteering	4.11
	Proportion of the population participating in culture, arts and sport	4.12
Belfast is a vibrant, attractive, connected and environmentally friendly city	Air quality	5.1
	Percentage of household waste that is recycled or composted	5.2
	Percentage of all journeys which are made by walking, cycling or public transport	5.3
	Visitor numbers	5.4
	Renewable energy as a percentage of all energy consumed	5.5
	Number of miles of cycle lanes, footways and footpaths	5.6
	Proportion of homes that are energy efficient	5.7
	Visitor satisfaction	5.8
	Satisfaction with Belfast as a place to live	5.9

Appendix 2

Social Housing Need by settlement 2016/21

Settlement	Social Housing Need 2016-21
North Belfast Sector	1,400
South & East Belfast Sector	1,435
West Belfast	2,558
Belfast City Total	5,393

New Intermediate Housing Demand for LCCC 2016/26

Council	New Intermediate Housing Demand 2016/26
Belfast	6,330

Appendix 3

Social Housing Development Programme: Schemes completed April 2016 - March 2017

Scheme	No of units	Client group	Housing association	Policy theme
Antrim Road	3	General Needs	Apex	Urban Need
Girdwood Site	60	General Needs	Apex	Urban Need
Kinnaird Terrace	15	General Needs	Apex	Urban Need
Rehabs North Belfast	5	General Needs	Apex	Urban Need
Roslyn Street	1	Complex Needs	Apex	Urban Need
Ainsworth Community Centre (T)	6	General Needs	Choice	Urban Need
53-57 Botanic Avenue	12	General Needs	Choice	Urban Need
Devonshire Tradas Phase 3	11	General Needs	Choice	Urban Need
Fountainville Phase 2	9	General Needs	Choice	Urban Need
Lower Shankill Phase 2 (T)	12	General Needs	Choice	Urban Need
ESPs*	11	General Needs	Choice	Urban Need
Re-improvement Salisbury Avenue	1	General Needs	Choice	Urban Need
137-141 Ormeau Road	15	General Needs	Clanmil	Urban Need
ESPs*	5	General Needs	Connswater	Urban Need
Fashoda/Grove Street East	13	General Needs	Fold	Urban Need
Mitchells GAA	19	General Needs	Fold	Urban Need
Mitchells GAA	2	Complex Needs	Fold	Urban Need
Ravenhill Avenue	84	General Needs	Fold	Urban Need
Ravenhill Avenue	2	Complex Needs	Fold	Urban Need
Ravenhill Avenue/Millar Street	41	General Needs	Fold	Urban Need
Torrens Playpark (T)	4	General Needs	Fold	Urban Need
Torrens Playpark (T)	1	Complex Needs	Fold	Urban Need
ESPs*	2	General Needs	Fold	Urban Need
18 Dundela Avenue	6	General Needs	Habinteg	Urban Need
Antrim Road/Bellevue Park	4	General Needs	Helm	Urban Need
Park Avenue	4	General Needs	Helm	Urban Need
Single house new build/rehab	5	General Needs	Helm	Urban Need
ESPs*	5	General Needs	Helm	Urban Need
Rehabs North Belfast	3	General Needs	Newington	Urban Need
Wyndham Street	2	General Needs	Newington	Urban Need
ESPs*	17	General Needs	North Belfast HA	Urban Need
ESPs*	2	General Needs	St Matthews	Urban Need
Connbrook Avenue	12	General Needs	Triangle	Urban Need
Hollywood Road/Station Road	22	Mental Health	Triangle	Supported
Total	416			

* Existing Satisfactory Purchase

Appendix 3 continued

Social Housing Development Programme: Schemes started April 2016 - March 2017

Scheme	No of units	Client group	Housing association	Policy theme
Rehabs	2	General Needs	Apex	Urban Need
Halliday's Road (T)	6	General Needs	Apex	Urban Need
Upper New Lodge Phase 2 (T)	2	Active Elderly	Apex	Urban Need
Upper New Lodge Phase 2 (T)	55	General Needs	Apex	Urban Need
263-285 Beersbridge Road (T)	9	General Needs	Choice	Urban Need
Blackmountain Way (T)	2	Complex Needs	Choice	Urban Need
ESPs*	7	General Needs	Choice	Urban Need
North Belfast Rehabs	4	General Needs	Clanmil	Urban Need
39-41 Falls Road	11	General Needs	Clanmil	Urban Need
Coleshill Gardens (T)	2	Complex Needs	Clanmil	Urban Need
Coleshill Gardens (T)	5	General Needs	Clanmil	Urban Need
Gainsborough Phase 3	10	General Needs	Clanmil	Urban Need
Lisnasharragh High School	6	Complex Needs	Clanmil	Urban Need
Lisnasharragh High School	19	General Needs	Clanmil	Urban Need
Moyard Park	6	General Needs	Clanmil	Urban Need
Port Building Annadale Embankment	55	General Needs	Clanmil	Urban Need
ESPs*	6	General Needs	Connswater	Urban Need
47 Park Avenue	15	General Needs	Fold	Urban Need
ESP*	1	General Needs	Fold	Urban Need
Lawnbrook Phase 3 (T)	2	Complex Needs	Fold	Urban Need
Lawnbrook Phase 3 (T)	18	General Needs	Fold	Urban Need
18 Dundela Avenue	6	General Needs	Habinteg	Urban Need
54-60 Whitewell Road	10	Active Elderly	Habinteg	Urban Need
Millburn Close Extension	6	Mental Health	Habinteg	Supported
149 Springfield Road	12	Active Elderly	Helm	Urban Need
ESPs*	5	General Needs	Helm	Urban Need
Wyndham Street	2	General Needs	Newington	Urban Need
ESP*	1	General Needs	Newington	Urban Need
ESPs*	26	General Needs	North Belfast HA	Urban Need
ESPs*	3	General Needs	South Ulster	Urban Need
ESP*	1	General Needs	St Matthews	Urban Need
ESPs*	5	General Needs	Triangle	Urban Need
Ballysillan Road Rehabs	3	General Needs	Triangle	Urban Need
13 Connsbrook Avenue	12	General Needs	Triangle	Urban Need
Total	335			

* Existing Satisfactory Purchase

Appendix 3 continued

Social Housing Development Programme: Schemes programmed 2017/18

Scheme	No of units	Client group	Housing association	Policy theme
35-41 Glenbank Place	5	General Needs	Apex	Urban Need
Lenadoon Flats Phase 3 (T)	4	General Needs	Apex	Urban Need
10-16 Parkgate Avenue	8	General Needs	Apex	Urban Need
Westbourne Church	6	General Needs	Apex	Urban Need
Beersbridge Road BRO sites	21	General Needs	Choice	Urban Need
Belvedere, Upper Dunmurry Lane	57	General Needs	Choice	Urban Need
Hannahstown Phase 1B	80	General Needs	Choice	Urban Need
Ligoniel Road	8	General Needs	Choice	Urban Need
Moyard Playpark (T)	14	General Needs	Choice	Urban Need
St Ninian's Whitewell Road	12	General Needs	Choice	Urban Need
Tyndale Gardens (T)	12	General Needs	Choice	Urban Need
Jamaica Inn, Jamaica Street	12	General Needs	Clanmil	Urban Need
136-138 University Street	12	General Needs	Clanmil	Urban Need
Rosetta Cottages	2	General Needs	Clanmil	Urban Need
Ormeau Centre	34	Homeless Singles	Habinteg	Supported
33-35 Newington Street	2	General Needs	Newington	Urban Need
119 Forthriver Road	18	General Needs	North Belfast HA	Urban Need
1 Hopefield Avenue	9	General Needs	North Belfast HA	Urban Need
Visteon Blacks Road	186	General Needs	Radius	Urban Need
Visteon Blacks Road	10	Complex Needs	Radius	Urban Need
Altan Gardens (T)	9	General Needs	Radius	Urban Need
288 Beersbridge Road	20	General Needs	Radius	Urban Need
288 Beersbridge Road	2	Complex Needs	Radius	Urban Need
54-56 Broom Park	11	General Needs	Radius	Urban Need
Durham House	34	General Needs	Radius	Urban Need
Roumania Way (T)	2	General Needs	Radius	Urban Need
Summerhill Drive	6	General Needs	Radius	Urban Need
1-3 EIA Street	15	General Needs	South Ulster	Urban Need
ESPs*	25	General Needs	Various	Urban Need
Total	636			

* Existing Satisfactory Purchase

Appendix 4

Maintenance and Grants programme: Schemes complete/schemes on site 1st April 2016 - 31st March 2017

Work Category	Scheme	Units	
Double Glazing	Finaghy Retrofit	219	
	Cluain Mor Retrofit	227	
	Cromac Retrofit	236	
	Mount Vernon Double Glazing	102	
Smoke Alarm Installations	Low Rise Fire Doors – North	333	
	Low Rise Fire Doors – East	541	
	Low Rise Fire Doors – South	446	
External Cyclical Maintenance	Shaws Rosnareen	197	
	Slieve Gallion	234	
	Lower Falls/Grosvenor	211	
	Ballymurphy	95	
	Antrim Rd/Lepper St	232	
	Lower Ormeau	92	
	Ardoyne	485	
	Lower Lenadoon	115	
	Clarawood	134	
	Lower Oldpark/Gainsborough	101	
	Sandy Row 1	127	
	Skegoniel/Fortwilliam	49	
	Cavehill	30	
	Tudor/Mid Shankill	83	
	Glenbawn	92	
	Turf Lodge/Monagh	37	
	Taughmonagh	0	
	Braniel Upper	8	
	Glasvey/Juniper	201	
	Beechmount/Rockmount	98	
	Inverary	154	
	Gortnamonagh/Gransha	96	
	Aitnamona	100	
	Lower Newtownards Road (Titanic)	305	
	Dover/Brown Square	206	
	Cregagh 2/4/5	145	
	Lower Oldpark	101	
	Smoke Alarm Installations	10 Year Smoke Alarm Head Replacement	176
	Special Schemes	Northwick Kitchen Extensions	24
		Strathroy Kitchen Extensions	27

Appendix 4 continued

Maintenance and Grants programme: Schemes complete/schemes on site 1st April 2016 - 31st March 2017

Work Category	Scheme	Units
Revenue Replacement	Turf Lodge	197
	Garnerville/Knocknagoney	107
	Finaghy	74
	Oldpark	134
	Gainsborough	130
	Banff/Claggan Kitchens	108
	Braniel Kitchens	119
	Twinbrook	73
	Conway/Culcavy	113
	Tullycarnet	98
	Beechmount/Cavendish Bk	30
	Donegall Pass Bk Ph1	30
	Belvoir/Bests Hill Bk	22
	Cregagh/Downshire Bk	15
	Duncairn Bk	15
	Cregagh/Downshire Bk	59
	Upper North Bk	121
	Springmartin 1	70
	Glencolin Bkr	54
	Alliance/Ardoyne Bkr	104
	Sydenham Bkr	49
	Springhill Bkr	46
	Constance/Edith Bkr	80
Ardoyne Bkr	114	
Heating Installation	Pre 98 Roomheater/Oil (North)	64
	Pre 2002 Gas (North) Phase 1	188
	Belfast 1-Off	100
	Electric Heating	81
	General 1-Off Phase 2	50
	South And East Oil 2	142
	Electric Heating North	34
	Electric Heating Shankill	39
	Emergency One-Offs 15/16	20
	General One Off's (75) Phase 1	75
	1998/99 Oil (South & East) Phase 1	249
	Twinbrook Remaining	114
	98/99 Oil West	220
	1998/99 Roomheater/Oil (North)	95
2001 Bbu's (West) Phase 2	98	

Appendix 4 continued

Maintenance and Grants programme: Scheme Activity and Expected Completions Up To 31st March 2018

Work Category	Scheme	Units
Heating Installation	Belfast 1-Off	100
	Electric Heating	81
	General 1-Off Phase 2	50
	Gas Shankill	82
	Gas West	109
	Gas South East	97
	Gas North	179
	Pre 2002 Gas (Shankill)	82
	Gen/Emergency 2017/18 Phase 1	75
	Pre 2002 Gas (West)	109
	Pre 2002 Gas (South & East)	97
	Pre 2002 Gas (North) Phase 2	179
	W Lisburn Dairyfarm 15yr Old	44
	Carrigart Avenue Flats	53
	Pre 2002 Oil (Shankill)	178
	South & East	85
	Pre 2002 Oil (South & East)	150
	2002 Heat (North)	120
	Lisburn Dairy Farm 15/16 15yr Gas	90
	Pre 2002 Oil (West)	90
Corrib Avenue Flats	21	
Cappagh Gdns E7	30	
External Cyclical Maintenance	Ardoyne	194
	Beechmount Rockmount	11
	Glasvey Juniper	61
	Lower Newtownards Road	187
	Dover St/Brown Square	98
	Drumard	59
	Cregagh 2,4,5	46
	Lower Lenadoon	69
	Clarawood	136
	Lower Oldpark/Gainsborough	80
	Sandy Row 1	202
	Skegoniel/Fortwilliam	145

Appendix 4 continued

Maintenance and Grants programme: Scheme Activity and Expected Completions Up To 31st March 2018

Work Category	Scheme	Units
External Cyclical Maintenance continued	Cavehill	234
	Tudor/Mid Shankill	36
	Glenbawn	102
	Turf Lodge/Monagh	167
	Taughmonagh	240
	Braniel Upper	198
	Upper Lenadoon/Carrigart/S	180
	Silverstream/Ballysillan	180
	W Broom/Twinbrook	140
	Ligoniel B/Shore Cres Flats	140
	S Milltown/Belvoir	140
	Ballymurphy/Glenalina	140
	M'collyer/Ardavon	120
	Sandy Row 2	120
	Braniel Lower	120
	L'bank/Girdwood	60
Short Strand	60	
Cavehill/Lower Newlodge	60	
Double Glazing	Carrick Hill	54
	Lower Lenadoon	118
	Sandy Row	177
Incremental Improvement	Lenadoon Avenue Pitched Roof	18
	Cregagh Estate Roof Coverings	186
	Springmartin Pitched Roofs	134
	Annadale Pitched Roofing	178
	Suffolk Road Flats – Flat To Pitch Roofing	24
	Ballysillan Finlock Guttering	75
Environmental Improvement	Open Spaces Shankill Parade	-
Health & Safety Schemes	Fire Doors – New Lodge High Rise	380
	High Rise Fire Doors	469
	Community Lets	20
	Moveen/Moylena Lift Replacement	2
	Tower Court Bathrooms	90
	Ashmount Gardens Bathrooms	77

Appendix 4 continued**Maintenance and Grants programme: Scheme Activity and Expected Completions Up To 31st March 2018**

Work Category	Scheme	Units
Insulation	Belfast Roof Space Insulation	122
	Whiterock Cavity Walls	145
Multi Element Improvement	Orsay Walk Flats	6
	Carrick House Hostel	14
	Constance Street	8
	Annadale Crescent	18
	North Belfast Single House Rehabs	5
	Malvern St/Foster St	16
	Finaghy Bungalows	14
	Kings Road Flats MEI	102
	Belvoir Bedsits	32
	Moyle Walk/Kilwarlin Walk	32
	Duncairn Parade	53
	S&E Belfast Single House Rehabs	4
Smoke Alarms	10 Year Smoke Alarm Head Replacement	860
Special Revenue	Multis CCTV	9
	Multi Storey Legionella Prevention	553
Special Schemes	Victoria Parade Capital Improvements	8
	Eithne House External Improvements	48
	Carlisle Multis CCTV	7
	Moyard OPDs	15
	Eithne House External Improvements	48
	Northwick Kitchen Extensions	5
	Whincroft & Carnet Multi Storey Flats	128

Note: Some schemes may start and complete in year.

Appendix 4 continued
Definition of Work Categories

External Cyclical Maintenance	Work to the external fabric of a dwelling and its immediate surrounding area.
Revenue Repair/Replacement	Repair or replacement of obsolete internal elements, e.g. sanitary ware and kitchen units.
Environmental Improvement	Work to include definition of focal point of an estate; work to open spaces, provision of hard standing/fences etc.
Multi Element Improvement	May include improvement of living/dining room space, refurbishment of kitchens/bathrooms, rewiring and the installation of central heating.
Incremental Improvement	Tackles the elements of work listed under Multi Element Improvement on a phased basis to reflect the availability of funds.
Insulation	Installation of roof or cavity wall insulation.
Smoke Alarm Installation/Replacement	Installation/replacement of hard wire smoke alarms (replacement after 10 years).
Heating Installation	Replacement of solid fuel or electric heating.
Health and Safety	Specific works where health and safety issues have been identified.
Double Glazing	Replacement of single glazed with double glazed units.
Special Schemes	Improvement works to dwellings outside the Improvement to Purpose Built Stock programme.

Adaptations to Housing Executive stock in 2016/17

Type of Adaptation	Adaptations commenced April 2016 to March 2017	Adaptations spend April 2016 to March 2017 £m
Extension to dwelling	24	0.44
Lifts	56	0.52
Showers	279	0.55
Total	359	1.51

Grants Performance 2016/17

Grant Type	Approved	Approval Value £m	Completed
Mandatory Grants	- Disabled Facilities Grant	130	98
	- Repairs Grant	262	262
Discretionary Grants	- Renovation Grant	19	11
Total	411	1.544	371

Appendix 5 Management Team contact details

Housing Services		All enquiries 03448 920 900
Office	Contact	Contact Information
Belfast Regional Manager 32-36 Great Victoria Street Belfast, BT2 7BA	Ian McCrickard	ian.mccrickard@nihe.gov.uk
North Belfast Area Manager 32-36 Great Victoria Street BT2 7BA	Malachy McKinney Area Manager	belfastnorth@nihe.gov.uk
West Belfast Area Manager 32-36 Great Victoria Street BT2 7BA	Sharon Beattie Area Manager	belfastwest@nihe.gov.uk
South & East Belfast Area Manager 32-36 Great Victoria Street BT2 7BA	Gary Ballantyne Area Manager (A)	sandebelfast@nihe.gov.uk

Regional Services		All enquiries 03448 920 900
Office	Contact	Contact Information
Land and Regeneration Services 2 Adelaide Street Belfast BT2 8PB	Elma Newberry Assistant Director	elma.newberry@nihe.gov.uk
Central Grants 2 Adelaide Street Belfast BT2 8PB	Danny O'Reilly Senior Principal Officer	daniel.o'reilly@nihe.gov.uk
Regional Place Shaper 2 Adelaide Street Belfast BT2 8PB	Robin Hawe Head of Place Shaping	robin.hawe@nihe.gov.uk
Development Programme Group 2 Adelaide Street Belfast BT2 8PB	Roy Baillie Head of Development Programme Group	robert.baillie@nihe.gov.uk
Supporting People 2 Adelaide Street Belfast BT2 8PB	Anne Sweeney Assistant Director	anne.sweeney@nihe.gov.uk

Appendix 6
Glossary

Affordable Housing	Affordable housing is defined as social rented housing and intermediate housing for eligible households.
Affordable Housing Fund	Administered by DfC, this finances an interest-free loan to housing associations, to fund the provision of new affordable homes and the refurbishment of empty homes.
Areas at Risk	This programme aims to intervene in areas at risk of slipping into social or environmental decline by working with residents.
Building Relations in Communities (BRIC)	Provides training on good relations and funding for good relations plans.
Building Successful Communities (BSC)	Carried out in a number of pilot areas; this uses housing intervention to regenerate areas and reverse community decline.
CAT	Community Asset Transfer provides for a change in management and/or ownership of land or buildings, from public bodies to communities.
Community Cohesion	Cohesive communities are communities where there is a sense of belonging, and there are positive relationships within the community, regardless of background.
CTOS	Continuous Tenant Omnibus Survey, is an assessment of the attitudes of Housing Executive tenants.
Decent Home	A decent home is one which is wind and watertight, warm and has modern facilities and is a minimum standard that all social housing should have met through time.
Department for Communities (DfC)	New government department in Northern Ireland which came into effect in May 2016 and replaces the Department for Social Development (DSD).
Disabled Facility Grant (DFG)	A grant to help improve the home of a person with a disability who lives in the private sector to enable them to continue to live in their own home.
Department for Infrastructure (DfI)	New government department in Northern Ireland which came into effect in May 2016 and replaces the Department for Regional Development (DRD).
Equity Sharing	Equity sharing allows social housing tenants to buy part of their dwelling (starting at 25%). The remaining portion is rented from the Housing Executive or registered housing association.
Floating Support	This enables users to maintain or regain independence in their own homes. Floating support is not tied to the accommodation but is delivered to individual users.
Fuel Poverty	A household is in fuel poverty if, in order to maintain an acceptable temperature throughout the home, it would have to spend more than 10% of its income on all household fuel.
Full Duty Applicant (FDA)	A Full Duty Applicant is a person to whom the Housing Executive owes a duty under Article 10 (2) of the Housing (NI) Order, 1988 to “ensure that accommodation becomes available for his/her occupation”.
HECA	Home Energy Conservation Authority, the Housing Executive is the HECA for Northern Ireland.
HMO	A House of Multiple Occupation means a house occupied by more than two people who are not members of the same family.

House Sales Scheme	The House Sales Scheme gives eligible tenants of the Housing Executive or registered housing associations the right to buy their property from their landlord at a discount.
Housing Growth Indicators (HGI)	Figures contained in the Regional Development Strategy to estimate the new dwelling requirement for council areas and the Belfast Metropolitan Urban Area for 2012-25.
Housing Market Area	A housing market area is the geographic area within which the majority of households move, work and live.
Housing Market Analysis (HMA)	This is an evidence base for housing and planning policies, which examines the operation of Housing Market Areas, including the characteristics of the housing market, how key factors work together and the potential housing need and demand on a cross tenure basis.
Housing Needs Assessment	This is an assessment of local housing needs primarily in relation to general needs social housing, supported housing, travellers and affordable housing.
Housing Stress	Applicants on the waiting list who have a points total 30 points or above are considered to be in housing stress, or housing need.
Intermediate Housing	Intermediate Housing consists of shared ownership housing provided through a registered housing association (e.g. the Co-Ownership Housing Association) and helps eligible households who can afford a small mortgage, but that are not able to afford to buy a property outright. The property is split between part ownership by the householder and part social renting from the registered housing association.
Latent demand test	Housing needs survey carried out in a rural area to assess any potential hidden need.
Mandatory repair grant	This is a grant made available by the Housing Executive to landlords who have been served a repair notice by the council.
Neighbourhood Renewal	Government departments and agencies working in partnership to tackle disadvantage and deprivation.
Net Stock Model	An assessment of housing need at a Northern Ireland level, using net household projections.
NIFHA	Northern Ireland Federation of Housing Associations.
NISRA	Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency.
Oil buying clubs	Oil buying clubs are designed to help consumers reduce their costs by purchasing oil orders in bulk as part of a group.
PCSPs	Policing and Community Safety Partnerships.
PPS	Planning Policy Statement.
SCNI	Supporting Communities Northern Ireland provides training and funding for community groups.
Shared Housing	These are communities where people choose to live with others regardless of their religion or race, in a neighbourhood that is safe and welcoming to all.
SHDP	Social Housing Development Programme, the SHDP provides grant to housing associations to build social housing. The programme is managed by the Housing Executive on a three-year rolling basis.
Smartmove Housing	This is a charitable organisation offering advice; support and accommodation to people that are homeless and in acute housing need.

Social Enterprise	Social enterprises are businesses with primarily social objectives whose profits are reinvested to achieve these objectives in a community.
Social Rented Housing	Social Rented Housing is housing provided at an affordable rent by the Housing Executive and registered housing associations; that is, housing associations, which are registered and regulated by the Department for Communities as a social housing provider. Social rented accommodation is offered in accordance with the Common Selection Scheme, administered by the Housing Executive, which prioritises households who are living in unsuitable or insecure accommodation.
SPOD	Small Pockets of Deprivation is a delivery vehicle for neighbourhood renewal.
Stock Transfer Programme	The aim of the Stock Transfer Programme is to deliver major refurbishment works to social homes through transfer of stock from the Housing Executive to housing associations.
Supported Housing	A term used to describe a range of both long and short-term accommodation provided for people who need an additional level of housing related support to help them lead an independent life.
Supporting People Programme	The Supporting People Programme is designed to provide housing related support to prevent difficulties that can typically lead to hospitalisation, homelessness or institutional care and can aid a smooth transition to independent living for those leaving an institutionalised environment.
TBUC	The Northern Ireland Executive Together Building a United Community Strategy containing objectives for a united and shared community and improved community relations.



Subject:	European Capital of Culture Update
Date:	9 August 2017
Reporting Officer:	Donal Durkan, Director of Development
Contact Officer:	Eimear Henry, Cultural Regeneration Manager

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

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

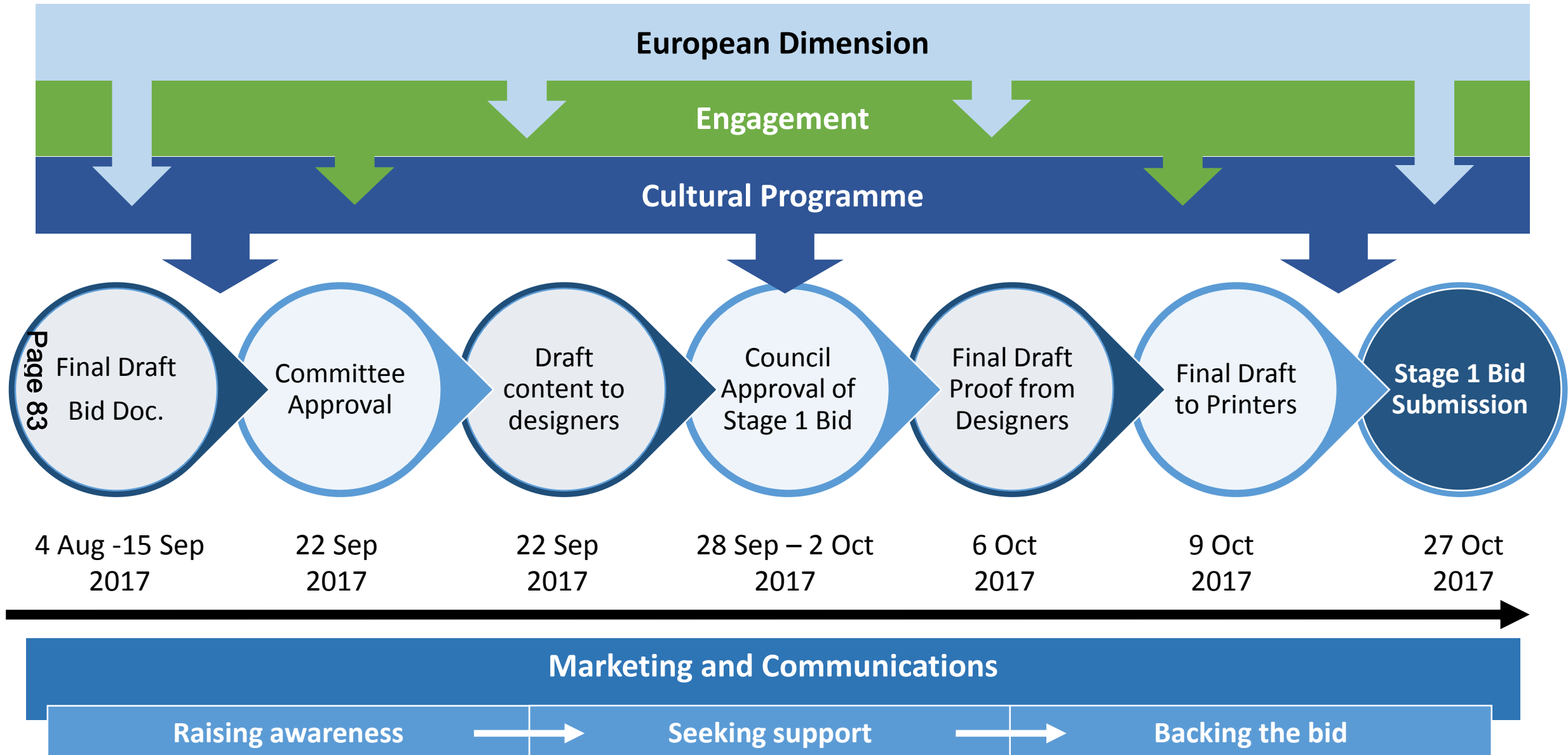
1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	The purpose of this report is to update Members on the development of a bid with Derry City and Strabane District Council to become the UK designated city for European Capital of Culture in 2023.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Note the contents of this report including ongoing progress against critical timelines – Note the planned workshop with Members in September 2017 – Consider the request for the Lord Mayor and 2 officers to attend an engagement programme including the launch of Belfast International Arts Festival.

3.0	Main report
3.1	<p><u>Background</u></p> <p>Members will recall that an update was provided to Committee in June 2017 with a follow up workshop held at the Seamus Heaney Centre on 19 June. The purpose of this workshop was to:</p>
3.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - explore the opportunities and benefits of progressing a European Capital of Culture bid - gain an insight into the experiences of other European Capitals of Culture in terms of the positive legacy which has been created - input and shape the emerging vision and themes of the bid.
3.3	<p>In recent months significant progress has been made on developing the bid with a number of activities having taken place including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Official media launch in both cities resulting in significant broadcast, print and online coverage - Ongoing civic engagement programme with over 2000 people across the city having directly engaged with the European Capital of Culture team sharing views on their aspirations for the future and helping to shape the emerging themes - Detailed community engagement through Council's summer schemes and activities as well as partner organisations - A series of sessions with the wider cultural sector to begin to develop programme ideas
3.4	<p>In order to ensure further Member engagement, it is proposed that a second workshop is held at the beginning of September. The purpose of this workshop would be to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - provide a detailed update on the engagement process and the associated themes for the bid - provide an overview of programme content - discuss the level of financial commitment required and the associated funding strategy
3.5	<p>It proposed that the same approach as agreed for the previous workshop would be adopted with invites being extended to all Members of the City Growth and Regeneration Committee as well as the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee and the Party Group Leaders (or nominees).</p>

3.6	<p>Given the timelines associated with the submission of the final stage 1 bid an update report will be taken to City Growth and Regeneration Committee in September however the final proposal and financial information will be presented at a meeting of Strategic Policy and Resources Committee on 22 September 2017. The updated critical path is included at Appendix 1.</p>
3.7	<p>A request has also been received for the Lord Mayor to attend the launch of Belfast International Arts Festival 2017 in New York on 18 September 2017. This would provide a platform to promote the European Capital of Culture bid with additional engagement activity scheduled as part of a three day programme. As well as engaging with the diaspora based in New York invitations would also be extended to sister city colleagues in Boston and Nashville.</p>
3.8	<p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p>Members are reminded that the Council has committed £500,000 to support the bid process, with Derry City & Strabane District Council contributing £300,000. This finance will cover costs associated with the bid development including staffing; consultancy; business case development; engagement process; marketing; public relations and bid design and production.</p>
3.9	<p>As part of the development work on this phase of the bid, officers are currently identifying the level of investment required for the delivery of the wider programme, if successful. This will require significant due diligence as well as engagement with other partners to explore opportunities for financial leverage. Additional information on this will be brought back to a future meeting of this Committee.</p>
3.10	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>In advance of stage 2 the engagement plan will be equality screened and any gaps addressed. The final programme and associated strategies will also be equality screened.</p>
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
4.1	Appendix 1 - European Capital of Culture Critical Path

This page is intentionally left blank

European Capital of Culture Stage 1 Bid – Critical Deadlines



This page is intentionally left blank



Subject:	International Relations – Boston Update
Date:	9 August 2017
Reporting Officer:	Donal Durkan, Director of Development
Contact Officer:	Laura Leonard, European & International Relations 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 After Council Decision Some time in the future Never	

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	The purpose of the report is to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Update Members on International Relations activity over the summer period, focusing on the city of Boston, and to seek approval for Members’ participation in an October outward mission to Boston in October 2017.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Note recent developments with respect to the Belfast-Boston Sister City relationship; – Agree to the attendance of the Lord Mayor and the Chair of the City Growth and Regeneration Committee, or their nominees along with one Officer on an outward mission to Boston, during the week of 16–20 Oct 2017. The cost of this visit will not

	exceed £5,000.
3.0	Main report
	<u>Boston Outward Visit</u>
3.1	Members will recall that, in March 2017, the City Growth and Regeneration Committee approved a new International Relations Framework for the period 2016-2021. Members will be aware that this Framework delivers primarily on the formal relationships already in existence through the Sister City Agreements with Shenyang, Boston and Nashville, the Memorandum of Understanding with Dublin, and developing relationships with London.
3.2	This March Committee report also included an annual action plan outlining upcoming events, projects and key opportunities for collaboration with city partners to promote Belfast on the international stage as a place to visit, study, work and do business. This plan included details of a proposed Belfast visit to Boston in the current financial year, subject to agreement with partner organisations.
3.3	Members will be aware that a cross-cutting and high profile delegation from Boston visited the city in June 2017. This visit marked the third anniversary of the signing of the Sister City agreement between Boston and Belfast – the first Sister City agreement signed by Mayor Walsh when he came into office. The delegation comprised senior representatives from a number of fields, including further and higher education, arts and culture and urban regeneration. In addition to meetings with elected members, the representatives also engaged in one-to-one meetings with their Belfast-based counterparts to either explore new areas of collaboration or to build on existing relationships and review how these could move to the next level.
3.4	In advance of the proposed outward visit, Belfast City Council will also host both Boston and Nashville in a joint inward mission from 4 – 6 October 2017. While details of the delegations from both cities are currently being finalised, it is expected that up to 60 representatives across both cities will be in Belfast at that time. In order to maximise the value of the inward visit and to ensure the appropriate level of civic welcome, Members of the City Growth and Regeneration Committee will be invited to meet the delegates on a number of occasions over the three days. Further details on the draft programme will be brought back to the September meeting of this Committee and invitations to the respective events will be circulated as appropriate.

3.5	<p>In order to maintain momentum on the Boston link, an outward mission is scheduled for Autumn. Having spoken to Mayor Walsh's officials, it is recommended that BCC undertakes this visit during the week of 16 – 20 Oct 2017, to coincide with the Boston Women's Entrepreneurs week. The City of Boston is keen to identify areas of business collaboration as the next focus of activity under Sister Cities. Having undertaken engagement with local partners and building on an understanding of the emerging opportunities already in the pipeline, it is proposed that the focus of the mission will also be on a number of other priority themes including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tourism promotion and development: Building on the opportunity created by the new direct air route by Norwegian Airlines, it is proposed that a tourism showcase event will take place. The Council will work with its strategic partners including Visit Belfast and Tourism Ireland to ensure that the messaging and city proposition is in place and also to secure interest from Boston-based partners interested in promoting Belfast as both a leisure and business tourism destination. • Exploring the opportunities to collaborate in the field of Life and Health Sciences: Last year, Belfast hosted a joint meeting in Boston of companies operating in this field from Boston, Nashville and Belfast. There are opportunities to expand on this initial engagement and to explore opportunities for local companies to become involved in new export markets. • Co-hosting a cyber security event to explore potential cooperation in this sector. • Reinforcing the civic linkages: Mayor Walsh is coming to the end of his first term in office and will be working on his campaign to stand for another term. Given that his first international engagement was with Belfast when he was appointed Mayor, he is keen to review Sister City activity and outputs to date and set the agenda for ongoing engagement between the two cities.
3.6	<p>Staff within the International Relations Unit have commenced initial programme planning with Boston for a mission in the week of 16 – 20 October, and will develop a full programme of events which will reflect the strategic priorities of the International Relations Framework and link the delegation with key city stakeholders in the areas identified above.</p>
3.7	<p>Members will be aware that Boston is one of the three Sister Cities with which Belfast is linked. Members have previously asked that they are kept up to speed with progress and outcomes of International Relations work. A six-monthly update report will be presented to the Committee in September 2017.</p>

3.8	Members are asked to agree to the participation of the Lord Mayor, Chair of City Growth and Regeneration Committee or their respective nominees and one Officer on the above programme for this activity which will be met through the International Unit budget.
3.9	<u>Financial & Resource Implications</u> There are no additional financial and resource implications.
3.10	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u> No specific equality or good relations implications.
4.0	Appendices
	None



Subject:	Place Positioning update – Belfast Brand
Date:	9 th August 2017
Reporting Officer:	Nuala Gallagher, Director, City Centre Development Donal Durkan, Director of Development
Contact Officer:	Marie Clarke, Marketing Manager, City Centre Development

Restricted Reports

Is this report restricted?

Yes

No

If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?

After Committee Decision

After Council Decision

Some time in the future

Never

Call-in

Is the decision eligible for Call-in?

Yes

No

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	The purpose of the report is to update Committee on the roll out of the new Belfast visual identity.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note the roll out approach for the new Belfast visual identity
3.0	Main report

3.1	<p>Background</p> <p>Belfast is competing with cities across the world for visitors, students and investment. In 2015-16, Belfast City Council began the process to create a competitive positioning, narrative and strategy for the city. Throughout the process Belfast City Council has engaged with City partners through interviews and workshops. The brand idea for Belfast is ‘Belfast – Energy Unleashed’. This overarching brand idea is supported by propositions for key sectors – Business, Tourism and Education. This positioning and strategy set the foundation for the creation of a new visual identity for Belfast. This new visual identity will replace the current city identity – the Belfast B.</p>
3.2	<p>Visual identity</p> <p>Following approval in September 2016, Members will be aware that as part of the work on competitive positioning, a contract was awarded to McCadden to create a new visual identity for Belfast.</p>
3.3	<p>The visual identity is based on the previously agreed narrative and will be used to market Belfast, both locally and internationally, moving forward. It is a dynamic system which is adaptable and flexible to ensure relevance and encourage usage to a range of stakeholders, partners and audiences.</p>
3.4	<p>McCadden presented the visual identity design to CG&R Committee in May 2017 and received approval to move forward and continue consultation with the City’s partners. This has been facilitated through a series of stakeholder group meetings.</p>
3.5	<p>Roll out plans</p> <p>No formal “launch” event for the new brand identity is planned, rather it will be rolled out through a series of flagship projects involving City partners such as Visit Belfast, Titanic Belfast, The Waterfront, Translink and key developers in the City from the end of August 2017.</p>
3.6	<p>During the roll-out phase it will also be incorporated into key Belfast City Council projects, including hoardings around Andersonstown, Brook and Robsinson Leisure centres during their re-development phase, alongside advertisements promoting Belfast City Council organised events, such as Autumn Fair and Halloween Monster Mash. It will also replace the current city identity – the Belfast B.</p>

3.7	<p>The next phase of the roll-out will include incorporating the new visual identity into all council international marketing activities, including MIPIM 2018 and brochures promoting investment in Belfast and working with City partners to encourage and support them to integrate the new competitive positioning and visual identity into their marketing activities, both locally and internationally.</p> <p><u>Financial and resource implications</u></p>
3.8	<p>The cost for this work is accounted for in existing provisions.</p> <p><u>Equality or good relations implications</u></p>
3.9	<p>No specific equality or good relations implications.</p>
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	To be tabled

This page is intentionally left blank



Subject:	Request for Events and Festivals Funding
Date:	9 th August, 2017.
Reporting Officer:	Donal Durkan, Director of Development.
Contact Officer:	Lisa Toland, Head of Economic Initiatives and International Development.

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	<p>The purpose of this report is to request approval from Members to financially support a range of music Events and Festivals within the current financial year and during the financial year 18/19 only, pending the outcome of the current strategic review of Events and Festivals. The events are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - BBC Music Events 2018/19 (BBC Big Music Weekend, Radio 2 Folk Awards & Proms) - Gradam Ceoil 2017/18 & 2018/19

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Féile an Phobail 2018/19 - Other Voices 2018/19
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approve, in principle, provision of a financial contribution towards some of the costs associated with the following Events & Festivals as part of a potential year of music. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gradam Ceoil 17/18 - £50,000 - Gradam Ceoil 18/19 - £50,000 - Féile an Phobail 18/19 - £180,000 - Other Voices 18/19 - £40,000 - BBC Music Events 18/19 (BBC Big Music Weekend, Radio 2 Folk Awards & Proms) - £200,000
2.2	<p>Based on the 2017/18 City Events Unit budget £200,000 would be available to support these events in 2018/19. (During 2017/18 City Events Unit have funded the Women's Rugby World Cup, the World B Ice Hockey Championships, the UEFA U-19 Women's Football Championships and the World 24 hour Endurance Race, totalling £200,000. None of these events will take place in Belfast during 2018/19).</p>
2.3	<p>Given the timescales required for the planning of the BBC Music Events it is recommended that the available £200,000 is allocated by Committee to the BBC events. Members should note that if approved, the funding of £50,000 for Gradam Ceoil 2017/18 would come from within existing departmental budgets. This would leave a shortfall in funding of £270,000.</p>
2.4	<p>The Committee is therefore further asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agree to refer the remainder of the funding requirement to the Strategic Policy & Resources Committee in September with a request to give priority to the remaining events and festivals when it is considering in-year re-allocations at the half year or year end.

3.0	Main Report
	<p data-bbox="272 259 520 293">Strategic Context</p> <p data-bbox="165 309 1469 490">3.1 As Members will be aware, Festivals and Events International Consultants have been appointed to develop an Events and Festival Strategy, this will be completed in December 2017. This Strategy will set the direction of travel in relation to the future decisions on Council’s funding of Belfast’s Events and Festivals for 2019/20 and beyond.</p> <p data-bbox="165 562 1469 842">3.2 Investment in Events and Festivals strengthens the profile of the City as a culturally vibrant destination, thus supporting the Belfast Agenda and also aligning well with the current bid for European Capital of Culture in 2023. They also reinforce the commitment to build the city’s cultural profile and showcase its creative talent. It is considered that support for the Events & Festivals noted in this report will make an overwhelmingly positive contribution towards the promotion of Belfast and its cultural offer.</p> <p data-bbox="165 913 1469 1048">3.3 In the interim period, 2018/19 will effectively be a transition year with regard to funding of Events and Festivals. As a consequence, Members are asked to approve funding towards a range of events and festivals in 2017/18 and 2018/19.</p> <p data-bbox="165 1120 1469 1301">3.4 The proposals tie in with the Council’s Cultural Framework Action Plan and the four strands which are: Distinctly Belfast, Inspiring Communities, Attracting Audiences, and Strengthening the Sector. Additionally, they are also in keeping with the emerging Place Positioning brand.</p> <p data-bbox="165 1373 1469 1599">3.5 The Events and Festivals in this report contribute to the use of public space, key conference and cultural venues, community cohesion, tourism, and the Belfast Agenda pillars. The ‘City Development’ theme of the Belfast Agenda focuses on supporting the cultural regeneration of the City as a means of supporting inclusive growth and profiling Belfast as a dynamic business location.</p> <p data-bbox="165 1671 1469 1951">3.6 It is worth highlighting that the Council has already approved £180,000 in 2018/19 towards the UK National Pipe Bands Championships. This demonstrates the Council’s ongoing commitment towards innovative and iconic music events throughout the city. The Council also provides funding through a variety of grant schemes for a range of other exciting Events and Festivals throughout the city. As mentioned previously, decisions regarding funding decisions for 2019/20 onwards will be informed by the outcomes in the Events and Festival</p>

	<p>Strategy.</p> <p>The UK National Pipe Bands Championships and the other events noted in this report will all help position Belfast as a unique musical destination, and will undoubtedly have great appeal for both local residents, tourists, and people across the region.</p> <p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>BBC Music Events</p> <p>Officers have been in discussion with the BBC (BBC NI and BBC national) in relation to staging three significant music events for Belfast during 2018.</p> <p>The three potential events are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - BBC Six Music Festival as part of BBC's Big Music Weekend, Titanic Slipways, 25th & 26th May, 2018; - BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards, Ulster Hall, date tbc; and - BBC Proms in the Park, Titanic Slipways, 8th September, 2018. <p>The first of these would be BBC Radio 2's National Folk Awards. The Awards celebrate outstanding achievement within the field of folk music, with the overarching aim of raising the profile of folk and acoustic music. The awards have been given annually since 2000. Previous Award recipients have included: Joan Baez, Cat Stevens, John Martyn, Steve Earle, The Dubliners, Kate Rusby, Cara Dillon, Don McLean, The Chieftains, Joan Armatrading and James Taylor.</p> <p>The event attracts significant national and international media attention and is broadcast live on BBC Radio 2 and via the BBC online TV service. The Awards normally take place in April, however, if approved, Officers would seek to move the event to May 2018 so it could be intertwined with the proposed BBC Big Music Weekend inclusive of the BBC Six Music Festival and the city's annual Belfast Titanic Maritime Festival.</p> <p>The second of the proposed events is the BBC Six Music Festival. This would be part of the BBC Big Music Weekend. This would see four days of music across the four Home Nations, with events at: Scone Castle (Scotland); Coventry; Swansea and if approved by Members at the Titanic Slipways on the 25th and 26th May, 2018. In 2017, Glasgow hosted the Six Music Festival which included the following line up: Goldfrapp, The Jesus and Mary Chain, The Shins, Bonobo, Belle & Sebastian, Depeche Mode and another twenty artists. The event is</p>
3.7	
3.8	
3.9	
3.10	
3.11	
3.12	

	<p>comparable to the BBC Radio One Big Weekend which was held as part of the Derry~Londonderry Year of Culture in 2013.</p>
3.13	<p>The third event would see the return of the BBC's Proms in the Park concert to Belfast. This event has previously attracted an audience of over 11,000 people with up to 75,000 applications for tickets. It is proposed that the live broadcast concert would be staged at the Titanic Slipways and the event would link to national and international audiences across multiple BBC broadcast platforms.</p>
3.14	<p>It is envisaged that the three BBC events would generate extensive economic value for the city as well as extensive positive media coverage.</p>
3.15	<p>Gradam Ceoil</p> <p>Gradam Ceoil is an annual awards ceremony which celebrates the best of traditional Irish music and song. It comprises a gala event as well as an extensive outreach and engagement programme before the event to maximise impact and economic benefit.</p>
3.16	<p>Gradam Ceoil organisers have approached the Council to explore the opportunity to host the 2018 event. To date, it has been held in cities such as Galway and Cork and it is broadcast live on TG4 and also live-streamed. The overall cost of the event is circa £200,000 with a proposed council contribution of £50,000. It is likely to take place at end of February 2018 in the Belfast Waterfront however there is some flexibility on this date. If the Council supports the event this year, the organisers would be keen to explore the opportunity for a multi-annual engagement (potentially to 2021).</p>
3.17	<p>Based on the experience of the city of Cork, it is estimated that Gradam Ceoil will have a direct economic impact in the region of £300,000 over the weekend, in terms of visitor spend. Furthermore, the live coverage on TG4 and the potential engagement of BBC (particularly BBC radio and online) and BBC Alba (Scottish channel), as well as PBS in USA (broadcast as recorded coverage), will all provide meaningful opportunities to showcase Belfast as a city of music, arts and culture.</p>
3.18	<p>There will be excellent opportunities to advertise and promote the city over the weekend. Gradam Ceoil will help attract new visitors to Belfast and make more people aware of the city's cultural offer.</p> <p>Other Voices</p>

3.19	<p>Members will recall that Committee approved financial support of £40,000 towards the 'Other Voices' event, in Belfast in October 2017, following a report in June 2017. Since this, the organisers have established the Duncairn Centre for Culture and Arts as the hub for the October 2017 events. As noted in the previous Committee report, it is intended that the 2017 event will be a precursor to a larger Belfast event in 2018 and onwards.</p>
3.20	<p>Other Voices has attracted a range of well-known acts since its inception in 2002. These have included Willie Nelson, Ellie Goulding, Gregory Porter, Amy Winehouse and Mumford and Sons. In addition, it has attracted many indigenous acts and has provided a platform to highlight up-and-coming talent. The event is currently broadcast on RTE's television and digital platforms. It also involves a wide range of outreach and engagement activity with local residents and those involved in the culture and arts sector.</p>
3.21	<p>The Other Voices team is currently exploring potential funding partners as well as building the local networks at community level to create a solid foundation for future activities. Experience from previous events suggests that it can have a significant economic, social and cultural impact on the local area. Other Voices continues to present an opportunity to demonstrate Belfast as city of musical prowess and to attract excellent media coverage. As a result, it is recommended that Belfast City Council continues to support this unique initiative in 2018/19.</p>
3.22	<p>Féile an Phobail 2018</p> <p>2018 marks the 30th anniversary / birthday of Féile an Phobail. It is marketed as Ireland's biggest community arts festival and summer school. Féile was established in 1988, as a direct response to the turbulence and conflict at the time. The purpose of the festival has always been to celebrate the positive side of the community - its creativity, energy, passion for arts, culture and sport.</p>
3.23	<p>Féile is recognised for its collaborative community approach and it is intended that its 30th anniversary year festival will bring an inclusive programme of events which will demonstrate good relations in action, attracting more tourism and visitor spend and building increased social and cultural capital.</p>
3.24	<p>The organisers are presently undertaking a stakeholder engagement strategy and have commenced consultation and planning for 2018 events. Since July 2017, workshops have been held with over 30 arts, cultural and tourism organisations from across the City. One of the key themes that has emerged from these workshops is 'ambition'. Taking this theme and</p>

	<p>the new event space at the Falls Park, they are aiming to attract some of the biggest artists from across the globe in 2018.</p>
3.25	<p>For 2018/19, Féile aims to create a year-round programme of inclusive and accessible arts and cultural events, delivered across the City with four specific festivals during the year. This will include 400+ events with an audience reach of up to 100,000 people.</p>
3.26	<p>We have committed to support Féile with £39,000 per annum under the Core Multi Annual Fund 2016-2020. However as this is its 30th anniversary, the festival will comprise a much broader scope and audience reach, so Féile has requested support from Belfast City Council totalling £180,000. The festival presents a wonderful opportunity to showcase Belfast as a centre of music, culture and arts, it will increase visitor numbers to the city and will enhance the city's reputation.</p>
3.27	<p><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>The Events and Festivals will all be equality proofed and there will be a significant complementary suite of outreach and engagement programmes open to all communities.</p>
3.28	<p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>The financial support required from Belfast City Council for each initiative is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC Music Events 2018/19 - £200,000 – as noted, from within existing departmental budgets • Gradam Ceoil 2017/18 – £50,000 – as noted, from within existing departmental budgets. • Gradam Ceoil 2018/19- £50,000 • Féile an Phobail 2018/19 - £180,000 • Other Voices 2018/19 - £40,000
3.29	<p>In total £470,000 additional funding is required to support these Events. Based on the 2017/18 City Events Unit budget level, £200,000 would be available to support the BBC events in 2018/19. The Gradam Ceoil event requiring a £50,000 would also be funded from within existing departmental budgets. This would leave a shortfall of £270,000. It is further recommended that the Committee agree to refer the remainder of the funding requirement to the Strategic Policy & Resources Committee in September as a request to give priority to the funding of the remaining events and festivals when it is considering in-year re-allocations at the half year or year-end.</p>

4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	None



Subject:	Educational Inequalities Action Plan
Date:	9 August 2017
Reporting Officer:	Donal Durkan, Director of Development
Contact Officer:	Ruth Rea, Assistant Economic 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
	<p>The purpose of this report is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note the key issues and factors associated with educational underachievement within the City • Seek Member endorsement and budgetary approval for priority initiatives, set out in 3.8-3.11 • Seek Member approval for Council to sign up to the Business in the Community Business Education Charter

2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>Members are asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note and approve priority actions identified in sections 3.8-3.11 for development and delivery in conjunction with relevant partner organisations in 2017/18 and approve expenditure of budgets. These skills development budgets have already been agreed as part of the annual estimates process and have been set aside within the Departmental budget • Seek Member approval for Belfast City Council to sign up to the Business in the Community (BITC) Business Education Charter.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>One of the Belfast's greatest economic strengths is its access to skills and talent. This is one of the reasons why the City has been so successful in attracting Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and why indigenous businesses are experiencing growth both locally and abroad. However, sustained investment in the skills and development of the workforce – and a re-focusing of education delivery in preparation for access to the world of work – is critical to ensuring sustainable and inclusive economic growth.</p>
3.2	<p>Many of the City's schools, colleges and universities rival the best in the world and nearly 35% of the city's working age population are educated to degree level or higher. Students from Northern Ireland achieve higher grades than their counterparts in all other UK regions at both GCSE and A-Level. Historical trends suggest that GCSE performance levels are improving annually with 60.2% of year 12 pupils in Belfast achieving 5 or more GCSEs (or equivalent) at grades A*-C in 2014/15. However, this also means that almost 40% of our young people area reaching the age of 16 not having achieved this standard. Educational attainment levels impact significantly on an individual's employment prospects. Research suggests that individuals with no skills are five times more likely to be unemployed than those with level 4 qualifications and above (BTEC/NVQ level). Employment trends indicate that this position is expected to worsen with future employment growth expected to be driven by jobs requiring higher levels skills.</p>
3.3	<p>While the overall level of those attaining 5 or more GCSEs (or equivalent) at grades A*-C is around 60%, this figure stands at only 35% for those young people who are entitled to free school meals (FSME). Social disadvantage clearly has a significant impact on educational</p>

	<p>attainment levels. Other contributory factors can include attendance levels, language barriers, special educational needs, overall school performance levels and the cultural importance placed upon education within the family and community setting.</p>
3.4	<p>The Belfast Agenda makes explicit commitments to ensuring that children and young people can get the best start in life and to proactively addressing educational inequalities for those who are socially disadvantaged. The Council's Employability & Skills Framework 2015-2025 mirrors this commitment, recognising that this will require a more integrated approach to learning and skills, ensuring that young people are supported through the education system and by their peer networks to develop their aspirations; to make informed career choices, based on labour market intelligence and have access to opportunities to experience the world of work. The framework also recognises a need to promote alternative routes into employment through entrepreneurship.</p>
3.5	<p>Access to an effective education system aligned to current and future employment needs are vital components of an effective pathway to employment across all skill levels. The activities being undertaken by Council in this regard span across the Growing the Economy and Working and Learning themes of the Belfast Agenda. A report will be brought to committee in Autumn 2017 to update members on work being undertaken and key achievements to date via infographics.</p>
3.6	<p>At the June meeting of the City Growth and Regeneration Committee, Members heard presentations from education experts working with young people across the City. These focused, in particular, on the innovative approaches that they are developing to focus on young people who risk leaving school without minimum education standards and also on new ways of improving work placements and careers guidance to help young people navigate the world of work and explore new employment opportunities.</p>
3.7	<p>Building on these inputs, Council Officers also engaged with a wider group of more than twenty careers teachers from across the City to identify interventions that they might find useful in delivering their work and improving the work experience and skills development opportunities of the young people within their schools. Teachers identified the need to simplify the current system, to provide access to meaningful work placements and to support the provision of high quality and timely information to give young people insights into the world of work. As a result of this engagement, and based on wider research, the following activities are planned for the coming year.</p>

3.8	<p><u>Career Advisory & Employer Engagement Initiatives</u></p> <p>Our research has identified the need to create mechanisms for employers to engage with schools to influence the curriculum and to provide meaningful insights to future employment opportunities. This might include industry insight days, careers events, school competitions aligned to skill needs and work placements.</p>
3.9	<p>The proposed priority activities to be taken forward will build on existing campaigns such as the “Connect to Success” work experience portal operated by the Department of the Economy’s Careers Service and the Skills NI careers event which will take place in the Titanic Exhibition Centre in October 2017. One new area of work to be developed will be a programme of paid work experience (4-6 weeks over the Summer period) for secondary school students, primarily in priority growth sectors. Across these activities a minimum of 50 employers will be engaged, 290 work experience opportunities will be provided (of which 40 will be the 4-6 week placements, although there is an opportunity to increase this figure as more employers are engaged) and over 1000 students will be engaged in careers events, insight days, school competitions etc. The costs associated with these employer engagement initiatives will be up to £70,000. The focus of these investments will be on those schools where the need is greatest and where proposed support would not normally be available to students.</p>
3.10	<p><u>Development of Digital Skills</u></p> <p>Future employment trends suggest a lack of digital skills is not only a barrier to people fulfilling their potential, but also a barrier to a more productive economy. As the demand for digital skills continue, there is a ongoing need to invest in education to ensure young people across the city are equipped with the skills required for future industry. It is proposed that Officers engage with key organisations such as NI Screen, Makematic etc as well as other potential funders in this area to identify how the Council can best contribute to this agenda. To support this activity a financial investment will be required by Council; it is proposed a budget of £60,000 will be ring-fenced from existing budgets for this activity in the 17/18 financial year.</p>
3.11	<p><u>Support for targeted activities to help young people who have recently fallen out of the education system</u></p> <p>It is recognised that not all young people fully engage with the education system while many fall out of mainstream provision before completing their education. To engage with those</p>

	<p>young people, it is proposed that Council resources are used to add value to existing interventions provided by the Prince’s Trust through the “Get Started” Programme and the Development Awards. Both initiatives aim to remove barriers for engagement for young people, by encouraging their positive engagement through Get Started or by removing financial barriers to training or employment through small cash grants (maximum £500 grant) through the Development Awards programme. It is expected that up to 250 young people will be supported through these initiatives, of whom 78 are expected to move into employment and 139 will move into further education. Both initiatives target individuals aged 16-25 year olds who face multiple barriers to employment including educational achievement levels below 5 GCSEs grades A*-C. The costs associated with these activities will not exceed £70,000.</p>
3.12	<p>As a key employer within the city, the Council has a vital position in leading the way for employers. Business in the Community (BITC) will shortly launch a new Business Education Charter and are encouraging employers to sign up to this charter and pledge their support to engaging more organisations in supporting literacy and numeracy in order to achieve the goal of 90% of children leaving primary school with Level 4 in Literacy and Numeracy by 2020. It is proposed that the Council demonstrates its commitment to this agenda by officially signing up to the Charter and aligning its investment with the broad commitments set out within the Charter. This will also ensure that there are opportunities to learn from other employers and to build economies of scale when developing interventions to improve business-education linkages.</p>
3.13	<p>The activities listed above will be in addition to existing support provided to local schools across the Council including the work of the Corporate HR team. Already, Officers from this team are engaged in an extensive range of school support activity such as undertaking mock interviews, attendance at career days and the coordination of work experience placements within the Council.</p>
3.14	<p>It should be noted these activities identify the planned areas of intervention for the 2017/18 financial year. However, Officers are continuing to engage with government departments and other Councils to identify areas for collaboration and to add value to the areas highlighted above. Additional opportunities for collaboration and engagement may emerge – as Departmental budgets are released – and these may include activities such as aligning resources to support Urban Villages activities and adding value to existing Careers Service intelligence at a city level. Proposals for joint working will be brought back through this</p>

	Committee for Members' endorsement.						
	<u>Financial & Resource Implications</u>						
3.15	The recommended budget allocations for the current financial year for each of the elements set out in 3.8-3.11 are summarised below. These skills development budgets are already available to undertake these areas of work and have been approved as part of the budget estimates process. A total of £200,000 has been allocated in the 2017/18 financial year. The breakdown is as follows:						
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Careers Advice and Work Placement support</td> <td>£70,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Development of Digital Skills</td> <td>£60,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Princes Trust Development Awards and Get Started programmes</td> <td>£70,000</td> </tr> </table>	Careers Advice and Work Placement support	£70,000	Development of Digital Skills	£60,000	Princes Trust Development Awards and Get Started programmes	£70,000
Careers Advice and Work Placement support	£70,000						
Development of Digital Skills	£60,000						
Princes Trust Development Awards and Get Started programmes	£70,000						
	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u>						
3.16	Events and programmes have and will continue to be designed to help remove barriers to participation and promote equality of opportunity.						
4.0	Appendices						
	None						



Subject:	Community Based Tourism Programme
Date:	9 August 2017
Reporting Officer:	Donal Durkan, Director of Development
Contact Officer:	Clare Mullen, Tourism, Culture, Heritage & Arts 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
1.1	<p>The purpose of this report is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide Members with an update on the work to date on the Community Based Tourism Programme Seek Members' approval to progress with a number of priority actions under this programme for the 2017/18 financial year.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note the contents of the report; and Consider the key areas of focus for 2017-18 as set out and endorse delivery of the actions and associated budgets as outlined.

3.0	Main report
3.1	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>The Integrated Tourism Strategy was approved by the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee in May 2015. The Strategy was developed in tandem with the City Centre Regeneration Strategy and Investment Plan and the proposals are aligned to support the future development, economic growth and profile of the city.</p>
3.2	<p>The vision is to develop Belfast as a city that wants to welcome the world and share its history by creating a destination that the world wants to experience first hand. The strategic goal is to double the value of tourism by 2020 with the focus on achieving this by generating discretionary tourist overnight stays, especially higher value leisure and business tourism.</p>
3.3	<p>The strategy sets out a number of priority areas for investment, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Visitor management – providing excellence in visitor management standards through our £1.8 million investment in Visit Belfast on an annual basis, as well as securing more recently, coach parking in the city. - Capacity building development – building the capacity of locally-based tourism providers to develop their products and sell more effectively with plans now in place to progress Community Tourism. - Business tourism – supporting investment in business tourism through our investment in the subvention programme in partnership with Tourism NI. - Increased tourism product – particularly through new hotel developments and progress to develop the Belfast Story Visitor attraction. - Improved quality of service – improving customer service standards across all hospitality establishments through the provision of training programme such as World Host and training programmes offered through the hospitality academy which is managed by Council’s Economic Initiatives team. - Increased marketing activity – targeting key market segments and partnering with organisations through partnership working with Tourism NI, Tourism Ireland and Visit Belfast.
3.4	<p>Members will be aware that approval was given in May 2017 for the delivery of this year’s Tourism Plan. One of the key actions contained within that report was the development of community tourism and the importance of supporting the development of local tourism products across the city which will ensure the benefits of tourism growth are felt across Belfast – not just in the city centre.</p>

3.5	<p><u>Local Tourism</u></p> <p>Since then, Officers have been working with key organisations including Tourism NI and local tourism organisations such as East West Tourism Development Steering Group (involving East Belfast Partnership and Fáilte Feirste Thiar) to identify and explore opportunities for supporting the development of local tourism. From the engagement to date with these organisations, officers have developed a proposal for enhancing local tourism in the current financial year.</p>
3.6	<p><u>Programme Overview</u></p> <p>The aim of the community-based tourism programme is to develop tourism infrastructure across the city, provide support to tourism-related businesses and enhance the product offer in local areas. The programme will focus on enhancing capacity by upskilling local organisations and businesses with a view to improving quality standards and diversifying the product offer and will add value to the current tourism offering. In order to provide oversight and to ensure alignment with wider investment in the sector and with local regeneration activity, the development and delivery of the programme will be overseen by a stakeholder advisory committee which will consist of key tourism bodies such as Tourism NI, Visit Belfast, Tourism Ireland and relevant officers from Belfast City Council. This will ensure that the activities developed complement how, for example, Belfast goes to market and will help all parts of the city to benefit from the projected growth in tourism in the coming years.</p>
3.7	<p><u>Mechanisms for delivery</u></p> <p>Officers are currently compiling a baseline of the local tourism infrastructure across the City. This will cover not only the facilities (hotels, restaurants, visitor attractions, tours etc.) but also the level of investment in skills (e.g. World Host) and planned infrastructure investment (new hotels, new visitor experiences such as St Comgall's and Connswater Greenway (both supported by Belfast City Council). Taking account of the likely business growth in tourism and hospitality in the coming years, Officers will work with local tourism organisations to build capacity to ensure that these areas can benefit from the growth and maximise the economic return all across Belfast.</p>
3.8	<p>Following engagement with a number of organisations as part of the planning and development work, it is proposed that the first stage of activity will be to work with partners in east and west Belfast. Both have dedicated organisations working to support local tourism (Eastside Visitor Centre and Fáilte Feirste Thiar) and this will be important in acting as a focal point for the programme activity. Both East and West Belfast festivals, cultural organisations</p>

and tourism organisations have developed a positive and practical working relationship and have built momentum for future engagement and activity. They have developed initiatives collectively that have had positive outcomes in growing visitor numbers, enhancing product and brand awareness and securing further investment. This proposal, therefore, is to pilot a programme of support this year that will build on the work already undertaken specifically in these areas and to use this as a model of working to support the development and implementation of local tourism frameworks in other parts of the city.

3.9 In parallel with the dedicated programme of work in East and West Belfast, Council Officers will engage with relevant local tourism organisations in other parts of the City to see how the local tourism initiatives can be developed in these locations and will bring forward relevant initiatives in conjunction with these organisations, and in line with the broader objectives of this programme.

3.10 While the final details of the programme are still under development, it is likely to comprise the following elements:

- Establishment of a local tourism stakeholder forum

The development of a localised stakeholder forum who will oversee the delivery of the programme and will include participation from Visit Belfast, Tourism NI and Belfast City Council. This forum will support and develop community-led tourism with Belfast's statutory tourism bodies and will work with local communities to build capacity and develop new investment in key areas.

- Investment in local staff resources

For this initiative to be meaningful in its implementation, partners have identified the need for dedicated resources. It is proposed that this approach is tested out in the east and west of the City in order to evaluate how this can drive the sectoral development activities. Council Officers from the Tourism Development team will work closely with the local staff to ensure alignment with wider Council and Tourism NI activity and to share lessons across other local areas.

- Capacity Building

A series of masterclasses/workshops will be delivered that will be needs-led and build the capacity of local organisations and businesses. A number of businesses will also be targeted to avail of programmes such as the World Host accredited training, sales and marketing training and other relevant programmes. This will ensure that the businesses receive the necessary training to become recognised in supplying the highest levels of customer service.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Employability opportunities</u> Additionally, the programme will examine the potential for the delivery of localised hospitality recruitment programmes. This area of work will be delivered in liaison with the Council's Employability and Skills team. Partners will engage with local schools to raise awareness of the career opportunities provided by the tourism industry. • <u>Marketing</u> This element of work will consider how the narrative of Belfast's story could redefine the city in its marketing and brand positioning efforts in partnership with Visit Belfast and Tourism NI from the Visitor servicing perspective.
3.11	<p>The programme will be expected to deliver on a series of agreed outcomes and targets. These will align to Belfast Agenda targets and will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in jobs • Improvement in skills • Additional visitor spend • Increase in overnight stays.
3.12	<p>Members will be aware that Belfast City Council, in conjunction with Derry City and Strabane District Council, has agreed to submit a joint bid for European Capital of Culture (ECoC) in 2023. Lessons learned from previous Cities of Culture have shown the importance of developing a sustainable investment programme to underpin the viability of the ECoC designation – not only for the year but also in the run-up and after the event. They also point to the potentially significant return on investment and there are numerous examples of how local communities have benefitted from investment both in terms of jobs created but also in terms of civic pride and engagement. By this early investment in local tourism support, there is an opportunity to secure buy-in and build capacity as part of the development phase of the bid.</p>
3.13	<p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p>Activities identified will be resourced from the agreed Departmental budget allocations for the current financial year. These have already been approved by the Committee as part of the estimates process.</p>
3.14	<p>The total budget available for this programme is £130,000 of which £80,000 will be allocated specifically towards the activities in east and west Belfast. The remaining budget will support</p>

3.15	<p>wider interventions that Belfast City Council and Tourism NI will deliver to support local tourism across all of the City.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>The Tourism Strategy was screened out and any major projects will be taken forward in consultation with the Council's Equality and Diversity Officer.</p>
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	None



Subject:	Routes Europe Conference 2017 – Post Project Review
Date:	9 August 2017
Reporting Officer:	Donal Durkan, Director of Development
Contact Officer:	Maggie McNally, Strategic Programme 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"/>

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

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of Main Issues
1.1	The Routes Europe Conference was held on 22 to the 25 April 2017. This report is to provide members with information regarding the success of the event as outlined in the Post Project Review carried out by Invest NI.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note the report on the Routes Europe Conference 1st Post Project Review.

3.0	Main report
3.1	In October 2016, Members agreed to commit £100,000 to support the costs of hosting the 2017 Routes Europe Conference at Belfast Waterfront. Routes Europe had indicated the benefits to a city in hosting the event would be in terms of positive PR coverage, potential new airline routes announcements and additional leisure/business tourism visitors. This was based on feedback and measurement of Routes Conferences that have been held in other cities.
3.2	<p>The bid for Belfast involved financial contributions from a range of partners. These included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Belfast City Council - £107,243 • Invest NI - £433,757, and in addition, they have spent £137,000 securing the Routes Conference for Belfast • Tourism Ireland (TIL) - £50,000 • Tourism NI (TNI) - £246,965 • Visit Belfast - £23,400 • BWUH Ltd - £10,000 • The local airports - approximately £110,000 each. • Dept. of the Economy - £18,000
3.3	In addition to these funding contributions, all partners made additional contributions in-kind in order to ensure the success of the event.
3.4	The main Conference and showcase took place in the Belfast Waterfront while a welcome reception was held in Belfast City Hall and a gala networking event took place in Titanic Belfast. The Lord Mayor, Members and the Chief Executive were in attendance.
3.5	<p><u>Key Deliverables</u></p> <p>The following deliverables were captured during the Conference:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1,160 delegates including 114 airlines, 270 airports and 36 tourism authorities • 51 visa applications completed by Invest NI for international delegates coming to the City • 140 delegate tours • 750 attendees at the City Hall Welcome Reception • 1,000 attendees at the Titanic Gala Networking Event • 81 Tweets between INI and Visit Belfast • 697 posts to the Routes App (This was the highest percentage of active and engaged

users for a Routes Europe event.)

- 3,635 Routes App likes
- 101 pieces of press coverage

3.6

Financial Information

The cost of the full project including previous engagements with Durban, Krakow and Chengdu, to secure the Belfast Event, was £1,127,115. The project came in within budget. Economic Benefits achieved to date: £386.06 x 3 nights x 1160 delegates – Total £1,343,488

3.7

In addition to the immediate economic benefits to the City, a further 8 new routes were announced during the event as a direct result of conversations in the lead up to the conference. These included Naples, Madeira, Almeria, Antalya, Crete, Malta, Rhodes and Paphos. The announcement created 50 new jobs.

3.8

Longer term results continue to be measured but the most important factor for both airports is that they are no longer just a business card in an airline meeting hall - they are now known as hosts of a prestigious Routes Europe event. They are reporting that from a lead generation point of view, doors are now much more open than they were before. We expect additional business routes to be announced over the coming months.

3.9

Post Event Delegate Survey

- The post delegate survey had a 25% response rate with a total of 189 respondents. This is on a par with previous years.
- Delegates highly rated the event with a Net Promoter Score* (NPS) of +45 – the highest NPS UBM (the event organiser) has ever received for a Routes Europe event. (**The Net Promoter Score is a customer loyalty metric which provides a clear and easily interpretable Customer Satisfaction score – Scores are ranged from -100 - +100*)
- Both the Welcome Reception and Networking Event were rated as market leading* in the conference and exhibition industry and the Routes Europe team have asked that Belfast be used as an exemplar case study of how to deliver a successful Routes Europe conference.
- The Welcome Reception in City Hall was rated by 82% of attendees as good/excellent

**Market leading classification is only given to attributes that score 80% or higher and the ratings are compared to 300+ shows in 31 countries and 52 locations in the past*

3.10	<p>18 months.</p> <p>When asked about their likelihood of returning to Belfast for business or leisure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 56% said they would return for business (highest percentage received ever for a Routes Europe event). • 63% said they would return for leisure purposes (average for all past Routes Events was 62%). 												
3.11	<p>Core event component parts (atmosphere, networking) were rated positively with significant increase in venue and transport services ratings. These were compared against the average in each area of the past 4 routes Europe and Belfast Routes surpassed previous scores in all metrics.</p>												
3.12	<p>Core Event Component Parts</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="274 896 1460 1198"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="274 896 742 996">2017</th> <th data-bbox="742 896 1082 996">4-5 (Excellent)</th> <th data-bbox="1082 896 1460 996">4 year average score for Routes Europe</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="274 996 742 1048">Event atmosphere/ambiance</td> <td data-bbox="742 996 1082 1048">88%</td> <td data-bbox="1082 996 1460 1048">78.3%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="274 1048 742 1099">Transportation services</td> <td data-bbox="742 1048 1082 1099">83%</td> <td data-bbox="1082 1048 1460 1099">70%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="274 1099 742 1198">Location (Belfast and venue Waterfront)</td> <td data-bbox="742 1099 1082 1198">79%</td> <td data-bbox="1082 1099 1460 1198">69%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	2017	4-5 (Excellent)	4 year average score for Routes Europe	Event atmosphere/ambiance	88%	78.3%	Transportation services	83%	70%	Location (Belfast and venue Waterfront)	79%	69%
2017	4-5 (Excellent)	4 year average score for Routes Europe											
Event atmosphere/ambiance	88%	78.3%											
Transportation services	83%	70%											
Location (Belfast and venue Waterfront)	79%	69%											
3.13	<p>The results show that the Routes Europe Event 2017 scored higher than the last 4 year average score.</p>												
3.14	<p>Those surveyed were asked about their perceptions of the City; 83% said that their perceptions of the City were more positive than before with 52% saying that they saw opportunities for their organisation in the City.</p>												
3.15	<p>A video of the Routes Europe event in Belfast was compiled from footage taken across the 3 days. The output is a 2min promotional video which can be viewed at https://youtu.be/QPyYdDbshrE</p> <p>UBM are keen to work with Belfast as a destination for other events in their portfolio. They are also working with Invest NI to produce the case study of how Routes Europe should be delivered. Steven Small, Brand Director, Routes has given the following testimonial:</p> <p><i>'Working with Team Northern Ireland in the planning and delivery of Routes Europe in Belfast was a pleasure. We experienced a professional and knowledgeable team of people</i></p>												

3.16	<p><i>who went the extra mile for us across all aspects of the event, and this was evident in the fantastic feedback we had from our delegates. Most of them regularly attend high profile international events and they were really impressed by Belfast – the partnership approach really works. We felt warmly welcomed from the minute we stepped off the plane and this spanned from taxi drivers to volunteers, bar staff to The Lord Mayor. I would thoroughly encourage event organisers to put Belfast on their list of destinations as we delivered a fantastic event.'</i></p>
3.17	<p>From the initial analysis this year, Routes Europe has been very successful and has showcased what Belfast and Northern Ireland has to offer. Appended are some of the tweets and posts on Facebook from delegates.</p> <p>Members are asked note the report.</p>
3.18	<p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>None.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>No specific equality or good relations implications.</p>
4.0	Appendices
	Appendix 1 – Online feedback samples from delegates

This page is intentionally left blank

Appendix 1

Routes Europe Feedback from Delegates

“Everything was organised perfectly, Routes itself, the transfers, the events, and Belfast was a wonderful city to visit.”

“Conference was well organized, venues very good, Belfast people really welcoming, Belfast interesting city”

“Very well organised -the hosts did a great job putting everything together.” Whole organisation has been superb, location, warm and friendly people, venue, food and drink plentiful during the whole event”

“Great Venue, well laid out and provisions were good. I was delighted to see a city I would never have normally considered”

“Belfast did a great job as the hosts”

“The city was small and easy to walk around in, yet it still had some beautiful architecture and good restaurants.”

“It was the best Routes conference I attended so far. Really good choice of venue, many airports attended with was beneficial for our business. Great organisation team.”

“Routes Europe Belfast was one of the best organised and executed conferences I've been to. I've attended routes conferences for 8 years.”

“It felt like one of the best organised Routes to date! Great location, great food and last but not least, good meetings.

This page is intentionally left blank



Subject:	Belfast Bikes
Date:	9 August 2017
Reporting Officer:	Donal Durkan, Director of Development
Contact Officer:	Maggie McNally, Strategic Programme 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
1.1	The purpose of the report is to update Members on the recent workshop held on the 21 st June 2017.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agree on the actions contained in the report; and • Note that a further report will be presented to the City Growth and Regeneration Committee in September 2017.

3.0	Main report
3.1	In May 2017 Members agreed to participate in a workshop which was scheduled for June 2017. This workshop was held to inform the Strategic Review of the Belfast Bikes which is currently being carried out.
3.2	<p>As part of the Strategic Review the discussions with Members were categorised as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To revisit the original rationale and aims and objectives for the scheme • To provide an update on the scheme to date • To discuss the highlights and challenges • To discuss and agree the way forward
3.3	<p>Members were provided with an update of the scheme to date and the benefits achieved thus far. These included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steadily increasing membership both Annual and Casual • Increased number of cyclists • Increased support of tourism events • Improved activity levels • Increased level of investment in cycling (leveraged funding) • Improved connectivity in the City Centre • Additional choice of mode of transport • Affordability for short distance trips • Increased number of tourists cycling • Improved city green credentials • Improved image of Belfast
3.4	Members were also provided with information regarding the scheme coverage and current usage patterns.
3.5	<p><u>Key Issues Identified</u></p> <p>The key issues identified by Members were in relation to the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cost of scheme • Pricing policy • Coverage and potential expansion • Vandalism and theft

3.6	<p><u>Cost of the Scheme</u></p> <p>Whilst Members acknowledged that the key outcomes of the implementation of a Bike Scheme in Belfast were not predicated on cost and that the other Benefits in relation to Health and Wellbeing were still relevant, there are concerns that the investment by the Council is substantially higher than the predicted level.</p>
3.7	<p><u>Pricing Policy</u></p> <p>Members questioned the pricing policy and a discussion was had in relation to examining the current pricing structure and membership options. Members requested that options were brought back to Committee in respect of pricing, benchmarking with other schemes and options for alternative memberships such as “Pay as You Go”.</p>
3.8	<p><u>Promotion</u></p> <p>Members acknowledged that the marketing and promotion of Belfast Bikes has been excellent and requested that further efforts were to be examined in the bid to increase membership. It was agreed that this would be looked at and Committee would be provided with options for moving forward.</p>
3.9	<p><u>Coverage and Expansion of the Scheme</u></p> <p>A detailed discussion took place in respect of the coverage of the scheme and future plans for expansion. It was recognised that some stations experienced low usage and Members asked about the possibility of moving said stations to other key areas. It was discussed how the current system is flexible and that stations could be moved, however there would be a cost to this. It was agreed that costs and implications of moving stations would be examined and brought back to committee, this would include the identification of stations with low usage and suggested locations for relocation.</p>
3.10	<p><u>Vandalism and Theft</u></p> <p>Members asked what current actions were being taken to curb vandalism and theft and whether the PSNI had made any arrests and the outcomes of this. It was explained that NSL/Council and the PSNI have been working closely together and this has resulted in the development of a Witness Statement template to assist the PSNI in apprehending individuals for vandalism and theft. There have been several referrals to the PPS and Community Resolution Orders have been issued. Other measures are ongoing for example Nextbike have put a development group in place that will further develop and improve the system aiming to make it more secure. The Ipedal pilot project is now live and information will be</p>

gathered over the coming months. Members requested that other measures were examined and costed. Again it was agreed that this area would be examined and reported back to Committee. This would include CCTV cameras for problematic stations, engaging with Community groups with Member support, other additional security measures e.g. extra hours for NSL staff to carry out checks and linkages with Community Safety.

3.11

In summary the following actions will be taken and a report taken back to Committee in September 2017 for consideration:

Action	Output
Review of business case costs and income.	Provide Members with realistic view of the proposed ongoing investment required by the Council
Review the pricing policy and membership options.	Provide Members with options and risks in relation to pricing. Provide Members with suggestions in relation to membership such as "Pay as You Go".
Examine coverage and usage of bikes across the City.	Provide Members with options in respect of relocation of existing stations and costs/implications of moving stations.
Examine vandalism and theft interventions.	Provide Members with information regarding intervention actions and the costs/implications of this.
Examine further promotional opportunities.	Provide Members with information regarding future promotion ideas.

3.12

Members are asked to note the report and agree to this work being progressed with a further report to come back to Committee with options and costs for the suggested improvements and activities.

3.13

Whilst not directly linked to the Bike Scheme, Members should be aware that Sustrans have offered funding of £1,547.40 (60% of purchase cost) towards the purchase of a

	<p>Bicycle Repair Station at the new C.S Lewis Square in east Belfast. The first of its kind in Northern Ireland - this free and publically accessible bike repair facility will comprise of a bicycle pump unit and a unit containing a range of eight retractable tools – to provide cyclists with a free facility to make adjustments and repairs on the spot. The remaining costs associated with equipment purchase, installation and maintenance will be taken forward as part of the Connswater Community Greenway project along which the new square was constructed last year.</p>
3.14	<p>The proposal is part of a wider EU funded CHIPS project being take forward by Sustrans to promote cycling on East Belfast’s Comber Greenway and includes cycle storage at Belfast Rapid Transport stops within the local area and a further Bike Repair Stations at Billy Neil Soccer Centre in Dundonald.</p>
3.15	<p>This proposal will be taken forward for agreement via CCG change control process i.e. Connswater Community Greenway budget will cover costs of installation. The management and maintenance implications/costs will be dealt with in respect of the Parks Service and C&N budgetary process.</p>
3.16	<p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p>The costs of the individual elements will be identified as part of the ongoing work on the strategic review. Members will be advised of the financial implications as well as the impact on the current programme budget.</p>
3.17	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>No specific equality or good relations implications.</p>
4.0	Appendices
	None

This page is intentionally left blank



Subject:	Atlantic Youth Trust
Date:	9 August 2017
Reporting Officer:	Donal Durkan, Director of Development
Contact Officer:	Lisa Toland, Head of Economic Initiatives and International Development

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	<p>The purpose of the report is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update Members on plans by the Atlantic Youth Trust to build a sail training vessel to facilitate youth development, mentoring and training on an all-island basis Seek Member support to encourage the Northern Ireland Executive to progress the release of the funding to allow the project to move forward.

2.0	Recommendations
	<p>The Committee is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note the work of the Atlantic Youth Trust (AYT) and the link to some of the Council activity to support major maritime-based events as well as supporting youth engagement and skills development through a Council funded Sail Training Programme. • Agree to write a letter to Northern Ireland Executive to encourage the release of the funding.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>The Atlantic Youth Trust is a youth development and cultural integration charity that brings together young people from Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland to engage in sail-based training and development activity.</p>
3.2	<p>One of the organisation’s key ambitions has been to develop its own Tall Ship that will act as a focal point for the future engagement and training activity. AYT has been engaging in an extensive programme of political outreach and lobbying to secure the necessary funding for the construction of the vessel. At this point in time, they have been able to secure resources from the Republic of Ireland government. These are to be matched by resources from the Northern Ireland Executive.</p>
3.3	<p>The Fresh Start Agreement included a commitment to work with the Irish government to “seek agreement on a funding plan for the Atlantic Youth Trust initiative”. This funding was to focus on the build and fit-out of the training vessel to facilitate youth development, mentoring, and training on an all-island basis.</p>
3.4	<p>As part of their fundraising engagement, AYT were able to secure a £20,000 legacy donation from the 2015 Belfast Tall Ships Races – an initiative lead by BCC.</p>
3.5	<p>If the project does progress, there are opportunities to link this to a range of additional activities in which the Council is engaged. These include the potential return of the Tall Ships event to Belfast between 2021 and 2023 (subject to funding), youth engagement and outreach activity through our Community Services Team and skills development support.</p>

<p>3.6</p> <p>3.7</p> <p>3.8</p>	<p>There is also the opportunity to use the vessel to support the city’s bid for European Capital of Culture as it would sail to a number of ports across Europe.</p> <p>Atlantic Youth Trust has asked for Council support to encourage the Northern Ireland Executive to engage to agree the funding plan and necessary match-funding resources to go alongside the resources provided by the Irish government. It is proposed that a letter of support is issued to the Northern Ireland Executive outlining the Council support for this activity and encouraging NI Executive engagement to progress the funding discussions.</p> <p><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u> No specific equality or good relations implications at this point.</p> <p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u> No specific financial requests at this point.</p>
<p>4.0</p>	<p>Appendices – Documents Attached</p>
	<p>Appendix 1 – Letter of Support</p>

This page is intentionally left blank

Mr David Sterling
Interim Head of the Civil Service
GD36 Stormont Castle
Stormont Estate
Belfast
BT4 3TT

Cc | Mr Leo O'Reilly, Mr Ian Maye, Neil O'Hagan

Topic | Atlantic Youth Trust

July 2017

Dear Mr Sterling,

We write to express our support and desire for the A Fresh Start commitment regarding the Atlantic Youth Trust to be progressed.

The project offers a valuable youth, education, reconciliation, maritime, and tourism proposition. Young people from all backgrounds, ability, beliefs, and means stand to benefit by the Trust's success.

It is our understanding that the Government in the Republic of Ireland is in a position to advance the project to the capital phase, we fully support the investment of funds and resources to match this.

Yours Sincerely,

This page is intentionally left blank