



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Strategic Policy & Resources Committee
Subject:	Area Working Groups – Update
Date:	18 May 2012
Reporting Officer:	Ronan Cregan, Director of Finance and Resources Gerry Millar, Director of Property and Projects
Contact Officer:	Caroline Wilson, Project Officer, Chief Executive's Department

1.0	Relevant background information
1.1	The Council at its meeting on 2 April 12 adopted 5 area working groups. SP&R has agreed that the Area Working Groups (AWG) should be convened on an advisory basis to inform the implementation of Belfast Investment Programme. The AWGs will have no delegated authority and no budget.
2.	Key issues
2.1	The 5 Area Working Groups (AWGs) have now all had their initial meeting. Draft minutes from each group are attached.
2.2	<p>Discussions are ongoing to develop the long-list of Local Investment priorities in each of the 5 areas. Officers will meet with local groups to ascertain further detail on the projects listed over the next 3 weeks. An overview of the long-list to date – which is a work in progress – is attached for information purposes.</p> <p>In summary, as of 11 May, the position is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">– West – projects fairly well identified – further to follow– East – ongoing engagement with community/voluntary reps– Shankill – comprehensive list– South – some additional projects identified – further to follow– North – further work needed on long-list <p>Over the coming days, Councillors are encouraged to swiftly forward any additional projects to Democratic Services, so that the long-lists can be finalised. Work has commenced to prepare proposal papers for the next meetings of the AWGs.</p>
2.3	Members generally are keen to maximise investment with Belfast Regeneration Office and Social Investment Fund but are also cautious that the Council should not be a substitute funder for other statutory agencies.

3.0 Decisions required

Members are asked to note the attached appendices.

4.0 Resource Implications

Human: None

Financial: None at present

Assets: None at present

5.0 Equality Implications

Good relations and equality are underpinning principles of the Belfast Investment Programme. Decisions to invest will be screened on a regular basis.

6.0 Documents Attached

Appendix 1	Long-list of potential projects seeking funding from the Local Investment Fund – <i>DRAFT</i>
Appendix 2	Draft Minutes – West AWG 30.04.12
Appendix 3	Draft Minutes – East AWG 01.05.12
Appendix 4	Draft Minutes – Shankill AWG 02.05.12
Appendix 5	Draft Minutes – South AWG 03.05.12
Appendix 6	Draft Minutes – North AWG 03.05.12