



Belfast
City Council

City Recovery Programme

Emerging Plans (Draft & Live)





Community 'A Plan on a Page' priority areas of focus



Phase 1: Response

-Up to 6 months-

Phase 2: Rebuild

-Up to 12 months-

Phase 3: Recovery

-Up to 24-36months-

Social / Community

- Deliver public services during pandemic; distribute food, provide community based services etc.
- Building Confidence, Capacity and Resilience
- Accelerate Consider alignment of any residual grant / funding allocations for 2020/21
- Imaginative use of open and civic spaces
- Accelerate community provision work
- Accelerate Area Planning (transformational places)
- Enhance Area Support Team model
- Enabling access and enhancing connectivity
- Enhance cycle infrastructure connecting city
- Improve links - neighbourhoods & city centre
- Extended Footways / Pedestrian priority streets
- Residential streets-prioritise walking& cycling
- Digital provision/support for children / vulnerable groups (e.g. laptops).
- Consider & introduce measures to enhance health & safety of our neighbourhood assets.
- Undertake BCC assets review and consider interim alternative uses
- Consider changing our Belfast Bike model - prioritise the busiest sites and employ cleaners to hand out and receive bikes

- Redesigning/retrofitting the city to enable social distancing
- Building confidence, capacity and resilience within communities
- Consider new delivery community support models
- Develop place-making neighbourhoods investment programme.
- Progress Strategic Sites Assessment & land assembly opportunities
- Support local economic models co-operatives, social enterprise etc.
- Civic engagement to shape recovery plans.
- Embed Area based working / expedite Community Provision work
- Community Greenways and enhanced sustainable movement
- Accelerate Social Value Procurement & 'Buying local' initiatives
- Develop and implement neighbourhood investment programme.
- Investment in Community Infrastructure and Assets
- Development of a culture and tourism recovery plan
- Delivery of 2020/21 local tourism programme & capacity building
- Embed Area based working / expedite Community Provision work
- Potential to create 'playable streets' in neighbourhoods (DFI).
- Proactive approach (with partners) to provide holistic family support Work with partners to support community preparations for any second wave / cycles of lockdown which may emerge
- Engage with Departments, SEUPB (Peace Plus), and others to develop our connected communities pathways model.
- Consider and identify opportunities for greater integration of VCSE delivery as part of mainstream delivery.

- Long term change in connectivity- how people move around the city, and spend time together
- Targeted work to reduce inequalities (health, income, educational.)
- Support the re-building the capacity of community organisations & community networks. Opportunities to invest in new delivery models & partnerships- co-operatives, social enterprise
- Implement neighbourhood investment programme.
- Supporting and investing in local tourism.
- Supporting and enabling social enterprises & co-operatives.
- Support 'buying local' initiatives
- Progress Strategic Sites Assessment and land assembly opportunities
- Working with DFC to overcoming the obstacles to housing across all tenures and to identify financial models to unlock the housing market.
- Work with partners to develop a long term revised and sustainable funding model for VCSE sector.



Economic 'A Plan on a Page' priority areas of focus



Phase 1: Response -Up to 6 months-

Phase 2: Rebuild -Up to 12 months-

Phase 3: Recovery -Up to 24-36months-

Economic

- Focus will be on job retention and business survival
 - Pivoting our business support offer to include a greater focus on support for digital transformation and business
 - Launch new business information line (8 June 2020)
- Reopening City (& Community)
- Developing public trust and confidence – comms & 'confidence mark'
 - Funding to support business reopening (NI Exc)
 - Business Advice Line.
 - Mapping/Zone retail & economic hotspots
 - Operational and logistical planning (e.g. social distance measures, signage, wayfinding etc)
 - Enhanced /visible cleaning /sanitising regime
 - Signage and wayfinding
 - Ambassadors 'feet on the street'
 - Environmental improvements
 - Street furniture thinning to support pedestrian flows and SDM
 - Imaginative use of open and civic spaces
 - Create an attractive environment
 - Licensing (on-street vendors)
 - Enabling access and enhancing connectivity

- Marketing campaign (Holiday at Home)
- Employer incentive scheme to encourage recruit LTU/economically inactive
- Business start-up and growth (e.g. Innovation Factory Support Programme)
- Enterprise pathway programme
- "Go for It" start-up support programme
- Digital Support Programme for Businesses
- Digital re-reskilling programme
- Supporting social enterprises and cooperatives
- Supporting and encouraging Apprenticeships
- Development of a culture and tourism recovery plan
- City Animation Programme – experience lead approach
- Meanwhile uses programme
- Academies Programme (e.g. Green Recovery, upskilling in social care, logistics)
- **Education programme for year-11 & 12 students (Halloween)**
- Educational Underachievement Programmes (e.g. GEMS, Belfast Youth Support Programme); Employment Academies
- Employment programmes & support for "newly unemployed", long-term unemployed and economically inactive through programmes/ academies
- Enterprise Research Centre at Aston Business School to re-model start-up offer

- Long term restructuring/ reset of economy- Innovation and Inclusive Growth Commission; City Deal /Climate / Housing / Innovation / Dublin Economic Corridor
- Influence stimulus and investment for inclusive & sustainable recovery
- Stimulus & Investment Plan – Green, Digital, innovation
- Permanent changes to city landscape
- Move forward on the plans for development and delivery of the proposals for 2023 and the UNESCO City of Music.
- Belfast Destination Hub and City Deal
- Develop a new model for business tourism, taking account of changing patterns of attendance and engagement (integrating digital and onsite conferencing).
- 10 year Tourism Plan for the city including economic modelling, experience based product development and local tourism framework
- Developing a new model for the delivery of business start-up and growth.



Environmental 'A Plan on a Page' priority areas of focus



Phase 1: Response -Up to 6 months-

- Improved air quality, reduced noise pollution due to reduced economic activity. High temperatures a risk as summer approaches.
- Locking in new behaviours
- Air Quality Assessment
- Develop options paper to minimise the impact of air and noise pollution post Covid-19 to inform the development of a new Air Quality Action Plan for Belfast

Phase 2: Rebuild -Up to 12 months-

- Incentivise reduced car use, promote & support use of public transport
- Partner with Translink on re-design of network to support environmental improvements
- Detailed review of air quality PM 2.5 for city and new Air Quality Action Plan for Belfast
- Accelerate electric vehicle infrastructure project and other sustainable/smart transport and mobility programmes
- One Million Trees programme -- accelerate site assessment and widen to include city centre
- With DFI, consider opportunities for sustainable urban drainage to reduce environmental risks and align with tree planting
- Finalisation and publication of Resilience Strategy
- Commence and complete energy review (BCC)
- Innovation and Inclusive Growth Commission to produce 'think piece' to position Belfast for short term stimulus programmes
- Scoping work for Academies Programme on green technology
- BCC Climate Plan – accelerate immediate 'quick wins'
- Focus on supporting food sustainability
- Participation in NI Executive lead 'Green Growth Forum'

Phase 3: Recovery -Up to 24-36months-

- One Million Trees at scale including wider 'greening' of city, e.g. rooftops programme with private sector
- Wider roll out of EV-PV hub to support electric vehicle infrastructure
- Options for major energy programme: infrastructure and market
- Mini Stern implementation- retrofit programme for social housing
- Investor prospectus for decarbonisation of commercial and public buildings (Belfast Climate Commission- Finance workstream)
- Investment in sustainable energy / Zero carbon projects / Community energy networks– BCC in partnership
- Partnership to deliver Living with Water Programme (Physical)
- Support Increase local renewable energy generation.
- Increase recycling of domestic & commercial waste streams (circular economy)
- Investment in biodiversity to improve for health and wellbeing.
- Contribute to review of building regulations
- Smart buildings/ healthy buildings/ resilient buildings- partnership with industry on smart metering
- Accelerate with partners sustainable/smart transport and mobility programmes (including electric vehicle infrastructure)
- Foundation programmes with DEARA as part of Green Growth Strategy
- Final report Innovation and Inclusive Growth Commission
- Belfast Climate Commission work on community capacity (energy)

Phase 1: Response

-Up to 6 months-

Phase 2: Rebuild

-Up to 12 months-

Phase 3: Recovery

-Up to 24-36months-

Economic

- Develop Digital Innovation Strategy to maximise impact in post COVID recovery
- Identify BRCD projects or programmes that could be accelerated for early implementation
- Assess potential for short-term programmes to operate across all City and Growth Deals
- Develop Belfast Digital Innovation Partnership Programme focus on accelerated recovery program.
- Identify Smart Belfast Projects that can be adopted or accelerated for early implementation
- Develop strategies and implementation plan to utilise fiscal levers under UK Governments "Levelling Up" strategy

Citizen

- Deliver Digital reskilling, upskilling and inclusion programs.
- Broker digital innovation expertise of local businesses with immediate societal needs through Covid Connect NI website
- Adoption of Smart technologies to support

Business

- Champion Belfast Start-up community re: funding support- InnovateUK
- Marketing "Belfast Digital Resilient Businesses"
- Support Increased business economic resilience & productivity through digital training /support services, infrast. investment, enabling greater digitisation
- Deliver Digital transformation program for on-line retail
- Develop the plans for the Smart District Sandbox to support rapid innovation

Economic

- Deepening engagement with BRCD Innovation OBC and Digital Pillar to maximise economic impact.
- Strengthen relations with UK Gov. Digital Innovation key stakeholders to ensure Belfast voice and special status is integrated in UK wide economic levelling up approach. (British Business Bank, InnovateUK).
- Develop BRCD challenge fund programme to tackle economic, societal and environmental challenges as part of digital programme OBC
- Progress Freeport plan in enabling digital innovation eco-system

Citizen

- Develop updated BRCD employability & skills programme reflecting post Covid need
- Development of innovation and digital lighthouse projects to maximise the economic, social, environmental impact of BRCD funding
- Adoption of Smart technologies to support citizen and smart city operations

Business

- Deliver Smart District Sandbox to support rapid innovation
- Stimulate increased industry collaboration with key innovation sectors and public /private sector co-investment through the Challenge Funds

Economic

- Deliver co-investment and collaboration across industry, academia and Government
- Deliver on Smart Belfast program to include Innovation District, Smart District and Smart Port
- Build upon our strength sectors to increase productivity and economic growth across the Belfast region.
- Implement first tranche of BRCD capital investments

Citizen

- Deliver Healthy Urban Living neighbourhoods
- Deliver sustainable urban mobility solutions
- Implement reskilling for the Digital economy and HealthCare
- Implement BRCD E&S programme and inclusive growth framework

Business

- Deliver enhanced digital infrastructure in gigabyte fibre and next generation wireless
- Deliver Energy Innovation District
- Develop Global HealthCare cluster
- Accelerate Digital Economy cluster
- Use Smart District to re-imagine High street