

An aerial photograph of Belfast, Northern Ireland, showing the city hall with its prominent green domes and the surrounding urban landscape. The city hall is a large, ornate building with multiple green domes. To its left is a green park area with a statue. The city is densely packed with buildings of various architectural styles, including modern glass-fronted buildings and older stone structures. The foreground shows a wide road with yellow markings and some greenery.

City Growth and Regeneration

Committee Plan 2021- 2022



Belfast
City Council

Contents

| | |
|---|----|
| Introduction..... | 3 |
| Committee Members..... | 4 |
| Belfast City Council Priorities | 5 |
| City Growth and Regeneration Committee Key Programmes of work..... | 6 |
| Key Expenditure | 13 |
| 3 | |



Introduction

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

Its specific functions include:

- Setting the overall strategic direction for the Council in the areas of cultural and economic regeneration and growth.
- Influencing and contributing to regional regeneration and growth strategies and activities.
- Developing and implementing city-wide economic strategies and policies.
- Managing and maximising the impact of major physical developments in the city.
- Coordinating and promoting major city wide events.
- Considering draft financial estimates for the Committee together with such statements, reports and recommendations as required.
- Monitoring quarterly performance and financial reports and year end reports.
- Approving all revenue purchases of works, goods or services relevant to this Committee which exceed or are likely to exceed the statutory amount (currently £30,000) and subject to tender.
- Monitoring reports on matters that are of direct relevance to the responsibility of this Committee.
- Sourcing and providing support to attract and utilise European and other grants which contribute to the growth of the city.
- Providing support for economic development initiatives.
- Supporting the development of culture, heritage and the arts.
- Working with other agencies to promote Belfast as a key investment and tourism opportunity.
- Developing programmes and actions to support local businesses and attract inward investment.
- Managing Council owned properties including the maintenance and repair of Council buildings, properties and vehicles.
- Managing the Council's markets and maximising their benefit to the city.
- Influencing and contributing to strategies policies and actions affecting skills, employability, transportation and energy in the City.
- Considering Year end and mid-year review of key corporate risks.
- Exercising the Council's functions in relation to:
 - Economic Development;
 - Tourism;
 - Culture and Arts;
 - European and International Relations;
 - Car parks;
 - City Markets;
 - City Events;
 - Belfast Castle;
 - Malone House;
 - Belfast Zoo; and
 - City Regeneration and Development.

Committee Members



Councillor Ryan Murphy
(Chair)
Party: Sinn Fein
Ward: Oldpark



Councillor David Brooks
Party: DUP
Ward: Lisnasharragh



The High Sheriff,
Councillor Michael Long
Party: Alliance Party
Ward: Lisnasharragh



Alderman George Dorrian
(Deputy Chair)
Party: DUP
Ward: Titanic



Alderman Brian
Kingston
Party: DUP
Ward: Court



Councillor Ciaran
Beattie
Party: Sinn Fein
Ward: Black Mountain



Councillor Micheal
Donnelly
Party: Sinn Fein
Ward: Black Mountain



Councillor Fiona
Ferguson
Party: People Before
Profit Alliance
Ward: Oldpark



Councillor John
Gormley
Party: Sinn Fein
Ward: Botanic



Councillor Eric Hanvey
Party: Alliance Party
Ward: Lisnasharragh



Councillor Brian
Heading
Party: SDLP
Ward: Collin



Councillor Carole
Howard
Party: Alliance Party
Ward: Titanic



Councillor John Hussey
Party: DUP
Ward: Ormiston



Councillor Donal
Lyons
Party: SDLP
Ward: Balmoral



Councillor Conor
Maskey
Party: Sinn Fein
Ward: Castle



Councillor Ronan
McLaughlin
Party: Sinn Fein
Ward: Black Mountain



Councillor Ross
McMullan
Party: Alliance Party
Ward: Ormiston



Councillor Mal O'Hara
Party: Green Party
Ward: Castle



Councillor Gareth
Spratt
Party: DUP
Ward: Balmoral



Councillor Carl
Whyte
Party: SDLP
Ward: Castle

Belfast City Council Priorities

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

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

The City Growth and Regeneration Committee Plan for 2021 - 22, which is aligned to the Corporate Plan, outlines the key areas of work that this committee will be responsible for delivering. These are set out on the following pages.



City Growth and Regeneration Committee

Key Programmes of work



Inclusive Economic Recovery

Belfast Region City Deal

Senior Responsible Officer:
Ronan Cregan

In 2021/ 22 we will:

Support the City Region Deal by working directly with partners to ensure alignment with Council priorities. Relevant strands include:

- Employability and Skills;
- Business Start, Scale & Grow;
- Investment & Trade;
- Tourism;
- The Destination Hub;
- Innovation & Smart Cities;
- BRT2; and
- the Gasworks bridge.

Cultural Strategy

Senior Responsible Officer:
Alistair Reid

In 2021/ 22 we will:

- Progress the 'A City Imagining Plan';
- Establish a 'City Compact' consisting of a range of partners and a participative forum;
- Provide grant support to organisations to deliver an annual programme of activities;
- Complete a feasibility study, business case, and programme for 2023 with a communications strategy and launch event;
- Launch the music strategy;
- Submit a UNESCO Application;
- Launch the NI Commission for Festival 2022;
- Complete cultural mapping and other research;
- Develop a heritage action plan;
- Deliver an annual events programme; and
- Project funding.

City Recovery, reopening the city and support for businesses

Senior Responsible Officer:
Suzanne Wylie

In 2021/22 we will:

Business cluster and community capital grants scheme

- Administer and deliver a capital grants programme and work with business clusters and community organisations to support the development and delivery of the project proposals.

Revitalisation Fund: Physical interventions

- Deliver a number of projects under the Reimagining Public Realm and Streetscaping Programme.

Revitalisation Fund: Local Business Interventions

- Continue to oversee payments & administration of the Grant; and
- Business support programmes including via the Innovation Factory, Brexit support sessions, and Development of transformative digital support aligned with BRCD.



Inclusive Economic Recovery

| | |
|---|---|
| | External Strategic Fora Engagement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support and lead as appropriate, externally focused fora including City Reference Group, Renewed Ambition Task Force etc in the context of city regeneration, development and investment objectives Lead and coordinate key city stakeholders on reopening the city. |
| Increase tourism spend through sustainable tourism products Senior Responsible Officer: Alistair Reid | In 2021/ 22 we will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalise, consult on, and launch the 10-year (tourism) recovery plan; Deliver 'Experience Belfast' to support local and neighbourhood tourism via 'City Connections', capacity building and support programmes; Complete market research; showcase Belfast's authentic cultural tourism offer through the commissioning of new online content; Progress sustainable tourism by updating the Global Destination Sustainability Index, including Environmental Impact Audit and Action Plan, and launching the Green Tourism Accreditation; Complete Impact of tourism research report; and Continue the delivery of capital projects under the £4m Social Outcomes Fund which was designed to support local tourism projects including the Roddy McCorley Heritage Museum and the Eastside Visitor Centre. Ensuring alignment to Council's wider tourism objectives, inclusive growth, and new social policies. |
| Encourage business start-ups and support indigenous business growth Senior Responsible Officer: Alistair Reid | In 2021/ 22 we will: <p>Provide 'Growing a Business' services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing delivery of support for existing business growth including Innovation Factory, BREXIT support, procurement and digital; Development and delivery of transformative digital support aligned with BRCD; and Development and delivery of support for businesses in high growth sectors including fintech, CDI, cyber, advanced manufacturing etc. <p>Provide 'Starting a Business' services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver local business start-up programmes; Support social enterprises and co-operatives; and Work with stakeholders to design new provision to develop entrepreneurs and business starts Develop agreed position on the level and type of funding required to replace current ERDF/ESF provision and fund new provision aligned to BRCD. <p>Manage and support the city markets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Redevelop existing markets by consolidating the existing trader base and attracting new traders; Invest in new layout/ stalls – SGM to be a flagship of a new "experience-based" city centre; and Exploring the potential for additional markets to support city animation and recovery. |



Inclusive Economic Recovery

Promote and market the city internationally

Senior Responsible Officer:
Alistair Reid

In 2021/ 22 we will:

Strategic Networks:

- Undertake a 'Positioning the City to Compete' programme to identify and target institutional investment and development opportunities to augment our growth ambitions for the city;
- Play a lead role in the Renewed Ambition Programme public/private partnership, participating in a programme of events, active engagement and advocacy to promote inclusive real estate development and investment, and addressing barriers to investment;
- Facilitate trade, investment and development related visits aimed at positioning the city to compete and promote inclusive growth and development for the city; and
- Collate and monitor the City Development Tracker and market intelligence.

Invest in Belfast Website:

- Develop the Invest in Belfast website with updated content, direct mailings and newsletters focused at inclusive development and investment opportunities for Belfast aligned to the Council's growth ambitions.

Provide the Investing in Belfast service:

- Reshape investment service to ensure alignment with emerging developments; and
- Identify City to city connectivity - key locations for strengthened partnership approach.

Belfast Dublin Economic Corridor

Senior Responsible Officer:
Alistair Reid

In 2021/ 22 we will:

- Continue development work arising from Dublin-Belfast corridor programme; and
- Expand governance and engagement activity.

City Regeneration and Development

Senior Responsible Officer:
Alistair Reid

In 2021/ 22 we will:

Future City centre programme and Enhanced public Realm

- Oversee the delivery of the Future City Centre Programme six pillars:
 - Regeneration and connectivity - including City centre living; maximising major developments; reimagining public realm; connectivity and active travel; addressing vacancies programme; tactical regeneration etc;
 - Business and Investment;
 - City Centre Vibrancy;
 - Position the city to compete;
 - Digital innovation; and
 - Clean, green and safe.

Joint Regeneration Group

- Work with partners (inc DfC, DfI and other public, private and third sector partners) through the Joint Regeneration Group and other fora to deliver on an agreed action plan on regeneration, infrastructure, and development projects including:



Inclusive Economic Recovery

| | |
|---|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> City Centre area-based intervention; focused regeneration projects to address vacancy and dereliction; streetscape and public realm projects; housing led regeneration; and infrastructure, active-travel and connectivity related interventions. <p>Belfast City Centre Regeneration & Investment Strategy (BCCRIS):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lead on the delivery of priorities and projects (with partners) as identified in BCCRIS and associated Masterplans. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> INW Regeneration including Castle St area Cathedral Gardens Redevelopment Open Spaces /Reimaging Public Realm Entries Programme Tactical Regeneration & Lighting Underpass Projects Corporation Sq/North South Spine Masterplan Actions – inc INW; Greater Clarendon /Sailortown; Linen Quarter; East Bank Review the priorities within BCCRIS and bring forward a refreshed action plan. <p>Major Regeneration Schemes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to work with anchor institutions and partners on major development and infrastructure schemes to maximise regeneration potential and drive inclusive growth: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> UU /BCC Community Campus Regeneration Forum BHC/BCC MOU Weavers Cross /Transport Hub Giants Park, the Sixth, INW regeneration, Tribeca, TQ, Waterside and other major schemes. York Street Interchange BRT Phase 2 Belfast Streets Ahead <p>Developer Contributions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bring forward development proposals and progress delivery of identified catalyst public realm projects utilising developer contributions. |
| <p>City Infrastructure</p> <p>Senior Responsible Officer: Alistair Reid</p> | <p>In 2021/ 22 we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalise the Belfast Infrastructure Study; Carry out engagement on the study findings; and Continue to champion the Council's preferred position for major infrastructure projects. Continue to represent Council and play a key role on city wide boards facilitating, enabling and influencing major infrastructure development and investment including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> York Street Interchange; BRT Phase 2; and Belfast Streets Ahead. |



Inclusive Economic Recovery

| | |
|---|--|
| North Foreshore Senior Responsible Officer: John Walsh | In 2021/ 22 we will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to progress agreed developments on the North Foreshore site including the £45m major extension to the existing Film Studios working closely with Belfast Harbour Commission and the £180m leisure led development with Giants Park Leisure Limited ensuring that the regeneration opportunities from these project are maximised for the city; and Continue to explore other options for the remaining sites including opportunities in the clean-tech/green sectors. |
| Belfast Hills Senior Responsible Officer: John Walsh | In 2021/ 22 we will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver a major new attraction at the Zoo with the development of a new Lion/Big Cat Enclosure; Progress options for the existing zoo, Belfast Caste and Old Zoo site; and Continue to improve access to the hills. |
| Destination Hub Senior Responsible Officer: Alistair Reid | In 2021/ 22 we will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure OBC 1 approval from Departments; Ensure BDH included in BRCD 'the Deal' with funding secured to progress to OBC 2 / RIBA 2; Secure control of BDH site; Develop OBC Commercial and Management Cases including BDH Procurement Strategy; Commence Procurement of IDT; Develop Belfast Stories Collection Framework and agree the approach and methodology for Belfast Stories collection; and Agree Stage 2 Communications Strategy and Stakeholder and Community Engagement Plan. |
| City Connectivity Senior Responsible Officer: Alistair Reid | In 2021/ 22 we will: <p>Active Travel and Connectivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with external partners and across Council to develop an overarching programme to capture ongoing connectivity and active travel related interventions, projects and priorities across the city and identify potential future strategic priorities via partners and/or Council (subject to funding). <p>City Centre Connectivity Study – Bolder Vision</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progress delivery of the Bolder Vision, CCCS phases 2 and 3, to include; a review of major infrastructure and development proposals; identification of interventions and draft delivery plan for consultation. Work with partners to influence emerging designs for key city centre junctions inc: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shankill Gateway; Fredrick Street / York Street; an Clifton Gateway. <p>Belfast Urban Greenways (BUG)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete the BUG study, and engage with DfI and other partners on next steps. |



Inclusive Economic Recovery

| | |
|--|---|
| | <p>Sustainable Travel Initiatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete the feasibility work associated with each of the supporting active travel/ cycling infrastructure proposals (Active Travel Hubs; Covered Bicycle Stands; E- Cargo Bikes) elements and implement delivery; and Undertake Scoping Study in respect of city wide Sustainable/ Active Travel Hubs. <p>Belfast Bikes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing management of Belfast Bikes scheme; and Secure a new sponsorship scheme. <p>Car Parking Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake a refresh of the Car Parking Strategy recommendations and action plan, in conjunction with partners. |
| <p>Educational underachievement</p> <p>Senior Responsible Officer: Alistair Reid</p> | <p>In 2021-22 we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage in development work with partners/providers to define what support young people require to progress through education and into employment; Provide a Youth Support programme to assist 160 young people to build confidence and develop capabilities to enter and progress on a career pathway; and To assist up to 350 young people to improve their level of education attainment. |
| <p>Access to employment</p> <p>Senior Responsible Officer: Alistair Reid</p> | <p>In 2021-22 we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver Employment Academies in priority sectors; Provide match-funding for 5 ESF projects; Deliver Enterprise Pathway with intensive, person-centred support for those further back in the labour market; Scope a 'test and learn' employability approach for mental health through Health Foundation; and Support job brokerage and career events. Finalise the Belfast Employability and Skills Action Plan as part of the Belfast Local Inclusive Labour Market Partnership (BLMP). |
| <p>Upskilling opportunities</p> <p>Senior Responsible Officer: Alistair Reid</p> | <p>In 2021-22 we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish Belfast Inclusive Labour Market Partnership (LMP) and action plan; Ensure employability and skills issues are properly integrated into the Inclusive Growth Charter, Developer Contributions, and the Social Value Policy; and BRCD; Develop 'test and learn' career pathways for those furthest from labour market in digital and green sectors in support of BRCD and wider 10x economic vision; and Develop a labour market observatory feeding LMI data to Regional Skills Forum |

Community Recovery

Maximising housing development and regeneration opportunities

Senior Responsible Officer:
Alistair Reid

In 2021/ 22 we will:

BCC Housing Led Regeneration Programme

- Bring forward the regeneration, development and disposal of strategic BCC assets in conjunction with wider public and private sectors;
- Work with city wide partners to **maximise residential development opportunities** and seek to overcome identified obstacles to increasing city centre living; and
- Undertake a strategic review of Council assets to facilitate further housing and regeneration opportunities.

City wide strategic opportunities

- Continue working with relevant public sector bodies to collate public sector land data and undertaking an analysis of public sector lands utilising the LDP Urban Capacity Study and Housing Monitor; and
- Work with relevant public and private sector bodies to identify potential housing development opportunities and develop a mechanism with partners, via the CPP City Development Board, to bring forward a collective approach on public sector land identification.

Strategic City Centre Cluster Sites:

- Progress an approach to secure an institutional investor /development partner to bring forward comprehensive development of identified housing and regeneration sites;
- Manage the Development Brief marketing and development process for the INW Northern Cluster;
- Complete concept regeneration and/or development plans for each of the cluster sites at:
 - INW (Southern)
 - Exchange St/Corporation St
 - Ormeau Avenue
 - Dunbar
 - Gloucester St
 - Ravenhill
- Develop and issue Development Briefs or other delivery mechanisms as appropriate (inc Development Partner approach) for each of the cluster sites.

City Centre Living Vision:

Complete a comprehensive City Centre Living Vision that considers: opportunities, challenges, demand, community engagement, infrastructure, viability and funding issues aimed at bringing forward housing development at scale.

Key Expenditure


The expenditure for the City Growth and Regeneration Committee is assigned as follows:

| Service | Budget 2021 - 22 (£) |
|--|----------------------|
| Carparks | -1,100,955 |
| City Events and Venues | 3,360,316 |
| City Regeneration | 1,824,057 |
| Economic Initiatives and International Development | 10,176,966 |
| Park Estates | 366,865 |
| Place and Economy Directorate | 2,649,343 |
| Zoo | 961,254 |
| Total | 18,237,846 |

Contact us:

Place & Economy Department
No.9 Adelaide Street,
Belfast
BT2 8DJ

 shawa@belfastcity.gov.uk

 +44 (0) 28 90270395

 www.belfastcity.gov.uk



Belfast
City Council