Belfast
All-Party Working Group on Community Planning
Continuing the Conversation to Review the Belfast Agenda
23rd February 2022 (Updated 3rd March 2022)
Supported by
Belfast City Council
DfC

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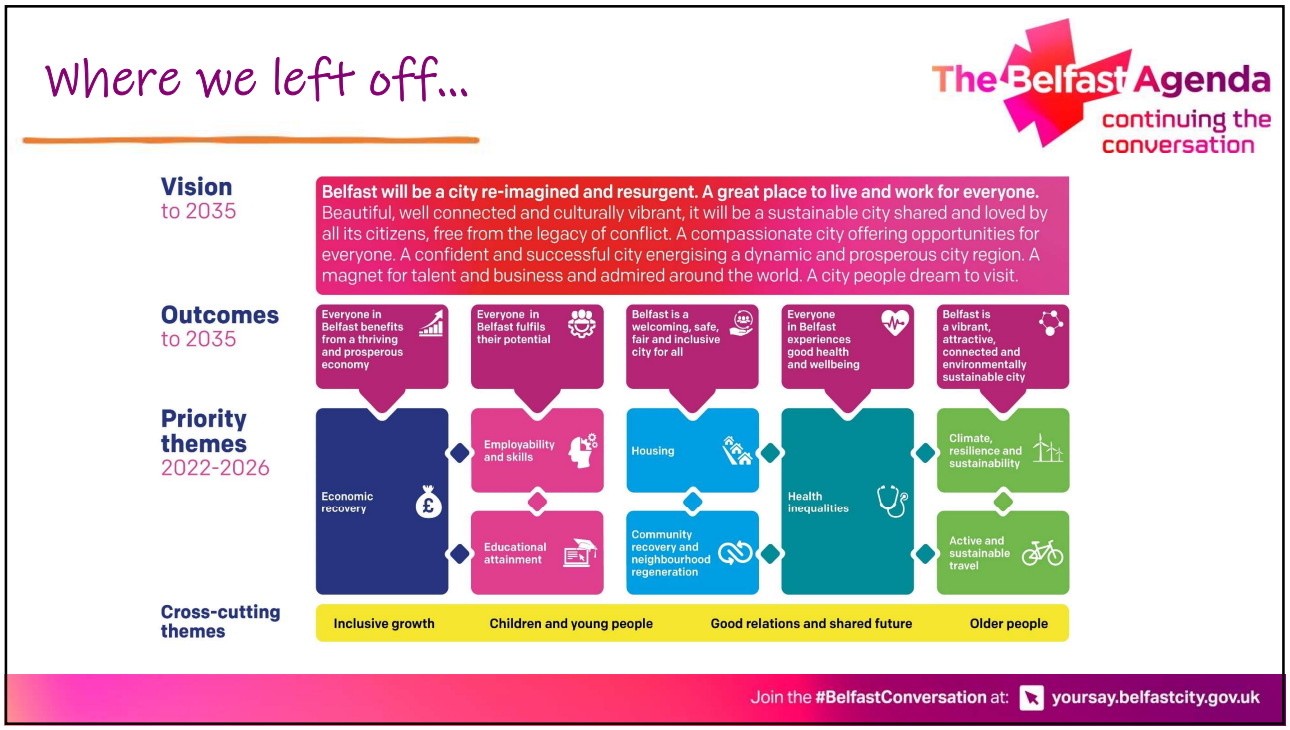
Where we left off...
The Belfast Agenda
continuing the conversation
Vision
to 2035
Belfast will be a city re-imagined and resurgent. A great place to live and work for everyone. Beautiful, well connected and culturally vibrant, it will be a sustainable city shared and loved by all its citizens, free from the legacy of conflict. A compassionate city offering opportunities for everyone. A confident and successful city energising a dynamic and prosperous city region. A magnet for talent and business and admired around the world. A city people dream to visit.
Outcomes
to 2035
Everyone in Belfast benefits from a thriving and prosperous economy
Everyone in Belfast fulfils their potential
Belfast is a welcoming, safe, fair and inclusive city for all
Everyone in Belfast experiences good health and wellbeing
Belfast is a vibrant, attractive, connected and environmentally sustainable city
Priority themes
2022-2026
Economic recovery
Employability and skills
Educational attainment
Housing
Community recovery and neighbourhood regeneration
Health inequalities
Climate, resilience and sustainability
Active and sustainable travel
Cross-cutting themes
Inclusive growth
Children and young people
Good relations and shared future
Older people
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Phase 1: Engagement & Co-design

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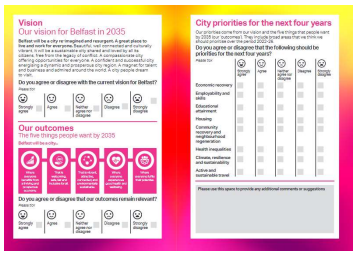
- 6 participatory workshops
- 130 participants from 63 organisations
- Board workshops / Online platform / social media/ 435 survey responses (online and paper based)
- Utilising local assets (libraries and community centres)



	Target Audience
1	South Belfast Stakeholders
2	Elected Members
3	North Belfast Stakeholders
4	West Belfast Stakeholders
5	East Belfast Stakeholders
6	Communities of Interest

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We Asked, You Said, We Did...

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"Participants discussed the need for targets and indicators in order to measure progress against the priorities."

ECONOMIC RECOVERY

"Participants broadly agreed that what economic recovery meant needed to be more accurately defined··· focus should be on how inclusive it would be, and how economic inequalities across the city would be addressed."

CLIMATE, RESILIENCE & SUSTAINABILITY

"Participants felt that this was a central and urgent issue that connected to all the other priority themes."

- Agreement that long term vision and outcomes are still relevant
- Public engagement, outcomes, accountability and measuring success emphasized as part of the action planning process
- City Development included as an additional priority area; Connectivity added to Active and Sustainable Travel
- Economic Recovery refocused as **Sustainable and Inclusive Economic Growth**
- Focus being given to interrelated or cross-cutting actions to avoid creation of silos

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What do the priorities mean for your community? E.g.

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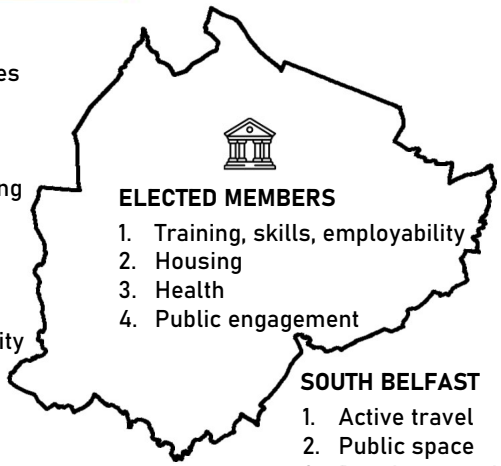
NORTH BELFAST

1. Access to services
2. Regeneration
3. Mental health
4. Housing
5. Health & Wellbeing

WEST BELFAST

1. Housing
2. Implementation
3. Outcomes and accountability
4. Public engagement
5. Poverty



ELECTED MEMBERS

1. Training, skills, employability
2. Housing
3. Health
4. Public engagement

EAST BELFAST

1. Good relations/social cohesion
2. Public engagement
3. Implementation and outcomes
4. Health inequalities
5. Education, skills and employability

SOUTH BELFAST

1. Active travel
2. Public space
3. Development, housing and regeneration

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Action Planning Process to date

Creating Alignment through to Delivery

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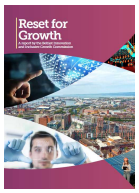
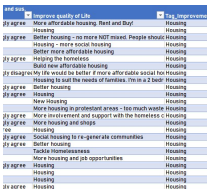
- Convening leads identified to form small task and finish group for each priority
- Group tasked with consideration of **inputs** and preparing a starting point for the co-design process





EDUCATIONAL INEQUALITIES

For example: Education Authority, Department of Education and Belfast City Council officials have considered all inputs and drafted proposals based on wider engagement with Educational Inequalities subgroup (Belfast Area Partnerships, QUB, UU and CCMS)

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Our Commitments and Milestones

Link between strategy document and delivery plans

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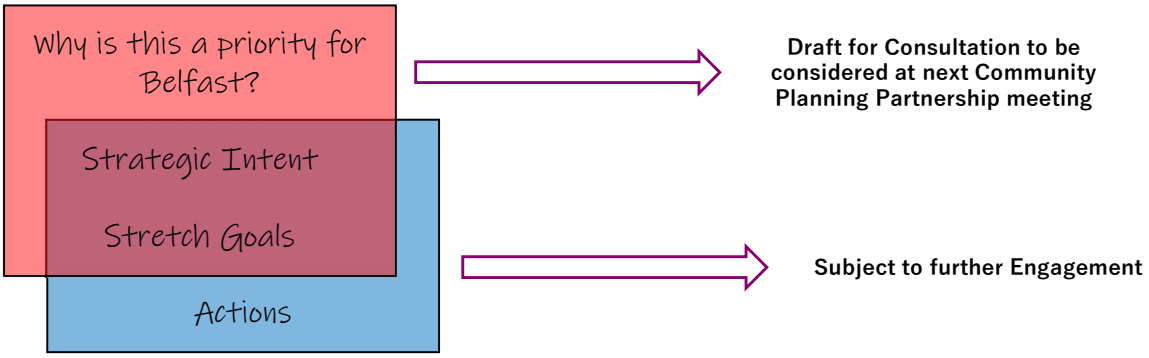
Strategy Document (and Easy Read version)



Delivery Plan(s)

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Action Planning Process to date

Ensure actions meet agreed guiding principles

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✓ **Adding clear value**	We can achieve **significant gains by collaborating** across our partnership and sectors in a way we cannot through our existing single agency or thematic 'business as usual'.
✓ **Impact for Belfast's people, place, economy**	The work we deliver together will be **felt in practical ways by individuals, families, communities, residents and businesses** in Belfast, delivering **tangible outcomes**.
✓ **With Belfast's Communities**	The work we do will fully **engage Belfast's residents, communities and businesses,** building on their strengths and ensuring their voice is central to planning and delivery. We will work **'with and alongside' our Communities, not 'To or For' them.**
✓ **Intelligence led priorities and action**	We will focus our collaboration on the things that **data, evidence and community insights tell us matter most to Belfast** and we will deliver together in ways that **evidence tells us will make a real difference**.
✓ **Resourcing**	Delivery will require joint resourcing and effort, (i.e. staff time, services or investment). Should be a **leadership commitment to jointly resource** the initiative.

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Action Planning our Agreed Priorities

Creating Alignment through to Delivery

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- CLIMATE, RESILIENCE & SUSTAINABILITY
- CONNECTIVITY, SUSTAINABLE & ACTIVE TRAVEL
- HOUSING-LED REGENERATION
- HEALTH INEQUALITIES
- FUTURE CITY CENTRE

Inclusive growth | Children and young people | Good relations and shared future | Older people

- EDUCATIONAL INEQUALITIES
- EMPLOYABILITY & SKILLS
- SUSTAINABLE & INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC GROWTH
- COMMUNITY & NEIGHBOURHOOD REGENERATION
- CITY REGENERATION & INVESTMENT

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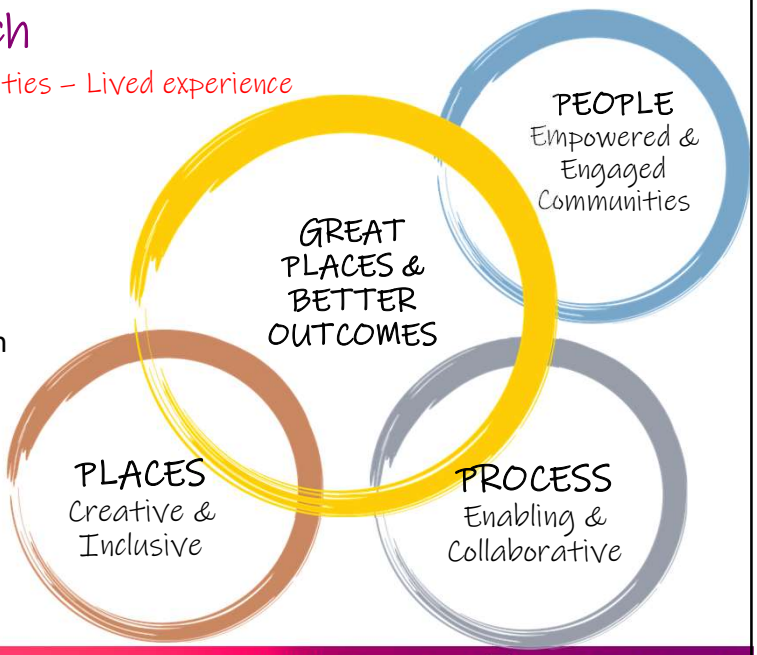
Co-Designed Approach

Ensuring delivering for communities – Lived experience

- Widen voices into the planning and priortisation process.
- Localised engagement N|S|E|W - Phase 1 and Phase 2
- Increases ownership and connection
- Encourages active participation in solving local problems
- Stimulates innovation and creativity
- Build capability to support delivery.
- Multiple layers of engagement and participation



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Co-Designed Approach

Ensuring delivering for communities – Lived experience

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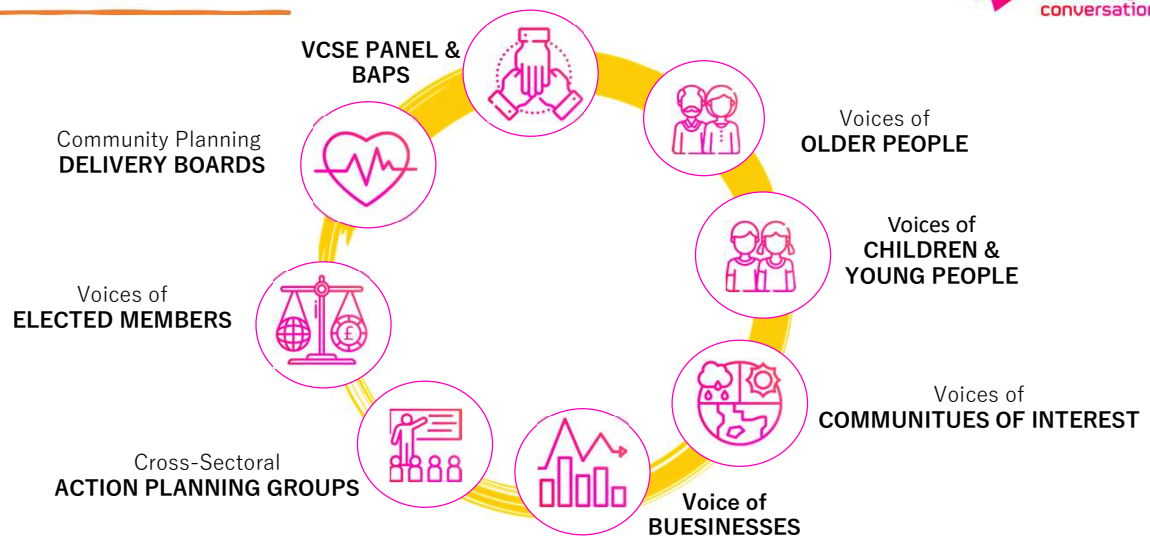

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Emerging Draft Framework

Enabling the co-design action plans

The Belfast Agenda
continuing the conversation

WORK IN PROGRESS

PRIORITY

CLIMATE, RESILIENCE & SUSTAINABILITY

STRATEGIC INTENT

Support the people of Belfast to transition to an inclusive, zero-emissions, climate-resilient economy in a generation

STRETCH GOALS

- Reduce carbon emissions (scope 1 and 2) by 66% (on 2000 levels)
- Increase investment in the green economy by XX and created XX new jobs
- XX homes will have adopted at least one energy efficiency measure
- Increase the number of battery electric vehicles and hydrogen fuel cell vehicles in the public transport service.
- Protect at least 1,770 homes and businesses from tidal and fluvial flood risk.
- Plant 30,000 trees to improve air quality
- Reduce residual waste sent to landfill

Note: The above framework is a starting point for the co-design process and should be considered a working draft as of 17/02/22

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Emerging Draft Framework

Enabling the co-design action plans

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WORK IN PROGRESS

PRIORITY

CONNECTIVITY, SUSTAINABLE & ACTIVE TRAVEL

STRATEGIC INTENT

- Reduce private car use
- Enable connections from and to the city centre, enhancing permeability with neighbourhoods by improving sustainable and active travel routes across Belfast

STRETCH GOALS

- Improve the cycling and active travel infrastructure to ensure no one in Belfast will live more than X km from a traffic free cycle/ walking lane that connects to a network across the city.
- Increase the use of sustainable transport by XX percentage points / to XX%

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Emerging Draft Framework

Enabling the co-design action plans

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WORK IN PROGRESS

PRIORITY

HOUSING-LED REGENERATION

STRATEGIC INTENT

- Increase housing supply across all tenures
- Increase provision of social housing inc. accessible properties
- Increase the city centre residential population
- Address dereliction in local areas
- Adopt places-haping approach to neighbourhood development
- Reduce fuel poverty and improve energy efficiency
- Reduce chronic homelessness

STRETCH GOALS

- 1,800 homes per year (20% affordable housing)
- Start at least 350 homes per year
- Create XXX additional homes in the city centre
- Deliver a housing retrofit programme for XXX properties
- XX homes will have adopted at least one energy efficiency measure

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Emerging Draft Framework

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WORK IN PROGRESS

PRIORITY

HEALTH INEQUALITIES

STRATEGIC INTENT

- Address vulnerability by focusing on mental health, drugs and alcohol and the wider support needs of those impacted by chronic homelessness
- Promote, improve and support mental health and emotional wellbeing
- Improve health by focusing on narrowing the inequality gap, increasing levels of physical activity and reducing levels of obesity

STRETCH GOALS

- *Fuel poverty target?*
- Develop one Belfast vulnerability service model, where key services/ partners work together to provide wrap around support to vulnerable citizens with complex lives.
- Support xx vulnerable people with complex lives into more positive and secure lifestyles.
- Reduce chronic homeless-ness by x%
- Increase the % of people reporting improved mental health and emotional wellbeing by xx% (Warwick Edinburgh Scale)
- Reduce levels of obesity
- Increase levels of physical activity
- Increase active travel

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WORK IN PROGRESS

PRIORITY

FUTURE CITY CENTRE

STRATEGIC INTENT

- Drive the physical, cultural and tourism regeneration of the city centre
- Create a vibrant, thriving city core through diversifying and enhancing the city centre offering
- Establish Belfast as a globally significant destination for innovation
- Facilitate a clean, green, safe, vibrant and inclusive city centre for all our citizens and visitors

STRETCH GOALS

TBC – stretch goals to align with A Bolder Vision strategy

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Emerging Draft Framework

Enabling the co-design action plans

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WORK IN PROGRESS

PRIORITY

EDUCATIONAL INEQUALITIES

STRATEGIC INTENT

Every child and young person is supported in their wellbeing and learning so that they develop the skills and capabilities to fulfil their potential and progress to a positive destination

STRETCH GOALS

- Support all schools, family and community place-based partnerships to establish a whole-community approach to the learning and development of C&YP
- Increase the % of school-leavers progressing to +ve destinations from 93 to 96%
- Support children in their early years in disadvantaged areas in a seamless journey from antenatal, to pre-school, school and beyond
- Reduce the proportion of pupils with less than 85% attendance from 12% to 8%

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Emerging Draft Framework

Enabling the co-design action plans

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WORK IN PROGRESS

PRIORITY

EMPLOYABILITY & SKILLS

STRATEGIC INTENT

- **Quickly back to work** – support those who have been or are at-risk of being made unemployed.
- **Increase opportunities** – empower those furthest from the labour market to succeed and progress in employment.
- **No-one left behind** – target disadvantaged groups through an integrated, comprehensive, inclusive, holistic and local employability approach.
- **Catching-up** – support access to careers paths, reskilling/ upskilling for those out of work and those on low incomes.

STRETCH GOALS

- Decrease the proportion of residents who are unemployed, yet actively seeking employment, to 1.5%
- Cut the proportion of working-age population with no qualifications to 12.0%
- Reduce the working-age economic inactivity rate within the city to 18.0%
- *Additional Inclusive Growth Targets?*
- Increase proportion who have attained Level 4 or above qualifications to 56%

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Emerging Draft Framework

Enabling the co-design action plans"

Development being aligned to engagement for the new Economic Strategy

WORK IN PROGRESS

PRIORITY

SUSTAINABLE & INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC GROWTH

STRATEGIC INTENT

- Create more growth-focused and innovation-driven enterprises.
- Stimulate the economy through green growth
- Supporting the development of new business models with social impact
- Create inclusive growth and address poverty

OBJECTIVES

- Foster growth of indigenous businesses in Belfast by improving innovation, scale up, growth, and survival rates in sectors aligned with Northern Ireland's vision for a *10x Economy*
- Create new and better jobs in the city by driving innovation and increasing value add of businesses activity
- Improve socio-economic inclusion in the city by providing fair access to well-paid jobs
- Build and maintain a skills pipeline that addresses the skills gaps of Belfast's current and future businesses, with clear pathways for employee growth and development into priority sectors
- Establish Belfast as a vibrant place to invest, live, work and play and attract a diverse and skilled workforce for the future
- Establish Belfast as a resilient, net-zero, circular economy and deliver business opportunities in green technology such as green hydrogen
- Grow levels of exports and FDI in Belfast, supporting businesses to capitalise on Belfast's unique geographical opportunities

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Emerging Draft Framework

Enabling the co-design action plans

The Belfast Agenda continuing the conversation

WORK IN PROGRESS

PRIORITY

COMMUNITY & NEIGHBOURHOOD REGENERATION

STRATEGIC INTENT

- Our people, places and services are connected at a neighbourhood level through partnership, planning and delivery supported by strong and empowered communities
- Co-design with city partners and communities innovative area based interventions where there are opportunities to collaborate, improve outcomes and provide solutions to systemic local challenges

STRETCH GOALS

- Develop integrated area plans aligned to local priorities and needs
- Invest £xx amount in local neighbourhoods
- *Target linked to Participatory Budgeting / Participatory engagement methods?*
- *Target linked to the wider university and Lower Ormeau project?*

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Emerging Draft Framework

Enabling the co-design action plans"

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WORK IN PROGRESS

PRIORITY

CITY REGENERATION AND INVESTMENT

STRATEGIC INTENT

- Maximise social, economic and environmental benefits of citywide regeneration schemes
- Unlock barriers to drive forward major regeneration schemes
- Address dereliction and maximise placemaking and regeneration opportunities across city and neighbourhoods
- Create a vibrant, thriving city centre which positions Belfast to compete
- Position the city to compete globally

STRETCH GOALS

Stretch goals to be confirmed

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Emerging Draft Framework

Enabling the co-design action plans

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WORK IN PROGRESS

CROSS CUTTING THEME

INCLUSIVE GROWTH

STRATEGIC INTENT

- Embed more inclusive business practices across the city
- Target activity on those identified most at risk of economic exclusion
- Expand and develop our approach to CWB
- Better understand issues/drivers of those in poverty and develop action plan to address key issues
- Measure and report on our inclusive growth progress

STRETCH GOALS

- Increase the % of jobs that pay the RLW to x / Decrease the % of ZHC to x / Decrease the % of leakage of procurement spend to x pp / Increase the rate of apprenticeship starts per 1000 people by x%
- Decrease the disability unemployment rate by x% / Decrease the % of residents who are unemployed but actively seeking work to x%
- Create and support an additional x social enterprises / co-operatives
- Decrease the % of residents living in absolute and relative poverty (BHC) by x% / Decrease the % of children living in households with relative low income (AHC)
- Establish baseline wellbeing indicators and improve performance by x % as rated by resident feedback/ % improvement in Multiple Deprivation Index for x neighbourhoods

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Cross Cutting Themes...

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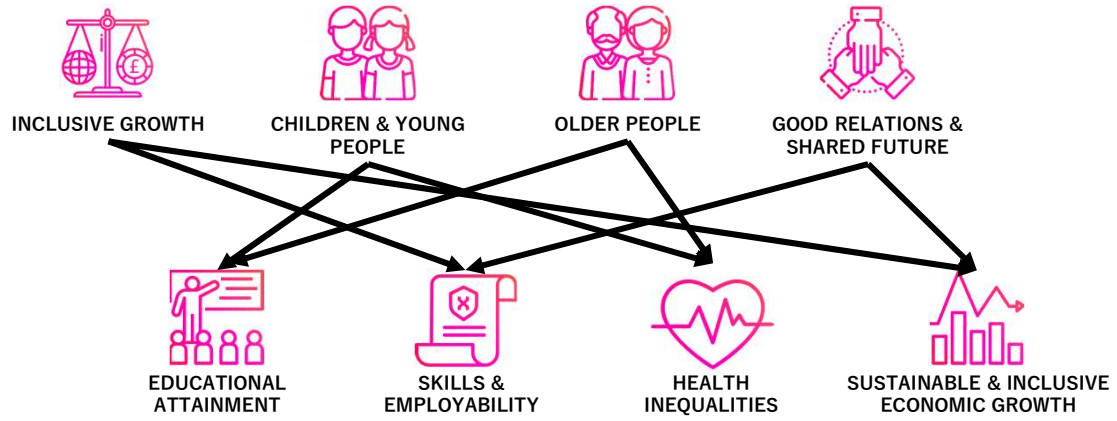

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Priorities are also cross-cutting

Need further consideration to agree governance arrangements

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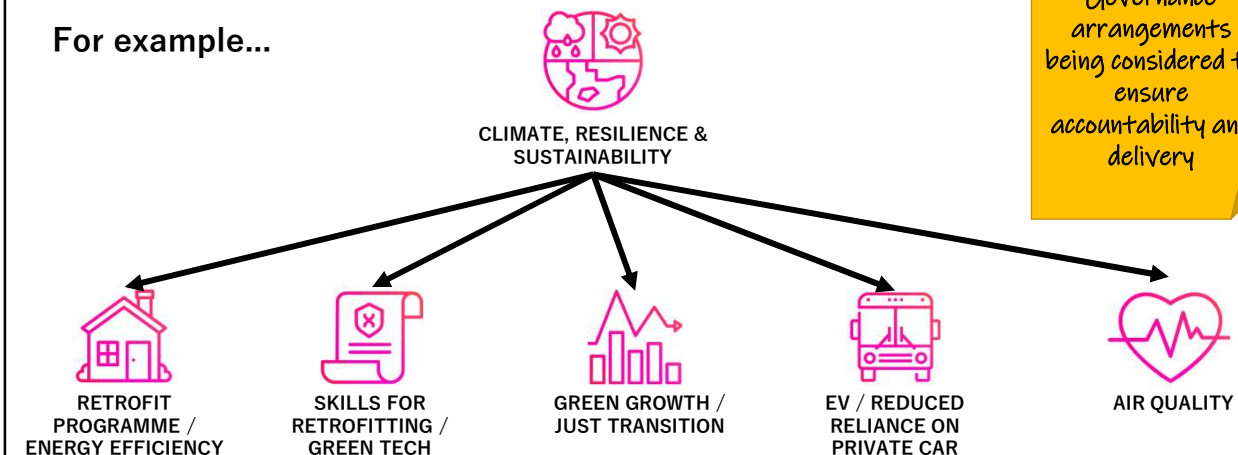
For example...



Governance arrangements being considered to ensure accountability and delivery

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Belfast Agenda Refresh & Delivery Plan(s)

Example: Educational Inequalities

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STRATEGIC INTENT	TARGETS / STRETCH GOALS	ACTIONS
Every young person is supported through their education journey to ensure that upon leaving education they progress into a destination	By 2026 we will Increase the percentage of school-leavers progressing into positive destinations from 93 per cent to 96 per cent	1. Develop impactful interventions based on identified need that align with the regional 'Reducing Educational Disadvantage' Programme
		2. Implement the most appropriate support mechanisms to enable boys to maximise educational outcomes, in keeping with A Fair Start Report
	By 2026 we will effectively support transitions for children and young people especially those identified as being at risk of underachievement – How can we measure impact and make this a SMART target? (Surestart Hanen Measures and others within FairStart?)	3. Maximise the proportion of children ready to start school through a range of support programmes for children aged 4 and younger and their parents
		4. Support young people 'at risk' as they transition through their learning journe
		5. Pro-actively provide young people at risk of underachieving with supports to remove barriers to learning, and support them to see the benefits of education through physical and extra-curricular activities. [DN: Suggest merging or cross referencing Actions 2, 5 and 8 together]
	By 2026 we will have supported 125 primary schools & 25 post-primary schools to deliver School Development Plan priorities that focus on developing parental and community engagement	7. Develop a collaborative community and school approach to support parental engagement and empowerment
		8. Support a community approach to education as referenced in Fair Start by developing capacity, skills and expertise within the community [DN: Suggest merging or cross-referencing Actions 2, 5 and 8 together]
		9. Engage Area Learning Communities across this city and provide opportunities for citywide collaboration, sharing of best practice and learning

This is what we're seeking to co-design by mid April

DRAFT

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Cross-cutting themes: an inclusive growth lens

Need further consideration of governance arrangements and action planning

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For example...

INCLUSIVE GROWTH

Retrofit Programme Creating additional homes in the city centre

Employability & Skills

Green economy jobs and skills

Business models with social impact – co-operatives and social enterprises

Positive destination for school leavers

Invest in local neighbourhoods Participatory budgeting

Note: The above framework is a starting point for the co-design process and should be considered a working draft as of 17/02/22

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Inclusive Growth: creating the right conditions

Working together...

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Inclusive Growth

Illustrative Actions

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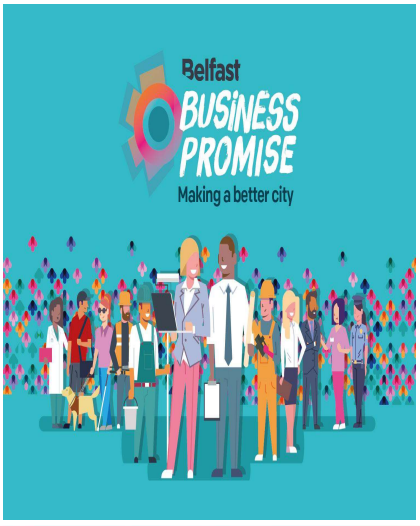

Implement the Belfast Business Promise

- Seek all CPP members to sign up as Supporters with the aim of achieving Membership accreditation within 2 years.
- Additional 50 organisations signed up as Supporters by end of year 1
  - ✓ create more high-quality jobs,
  - ✓ lower levels of poverty,
  - ✓ build stronger healthier communities,
  - ✓ reduce inequality in the workplace and
  - ✓ work towards a more sustainable local economy.

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Belfast Business Promise

Illustrative Actions

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Inclusive Growth

Illustrative Actions

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- **Implement Anchor Institution Commissioning & Procurement Group**
- **Further define and focus on specific cohorts**
- **Design & Implement Inclusive Growth Decision Making Framework**
- **Establish business sector/advisory group**
- **Support establishment of Poverty Truth Commission**
- **Establish Inclusive Growth Oversight Group**
- **Expand and develop our approach to Community Wealth Building**

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Community Wealth Building

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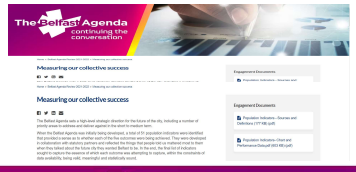
Population Indicators

Reviewed in line with the emerging stretch goals

- Currently 51 indicators which measure the contribution towards our 5 outcomes over the long-term
- Framework currently being reviewed, ensuring it is consistent with the current priorities and emerging measures of success
  - Possible new indicators include carbon emissions, biodiversity, proportion of working age population with no qualifications, homelessness…
  - Technical Assessment Process (TAP) used by TEO for PfG also being applied to streamline the 'curves we want to turn'.



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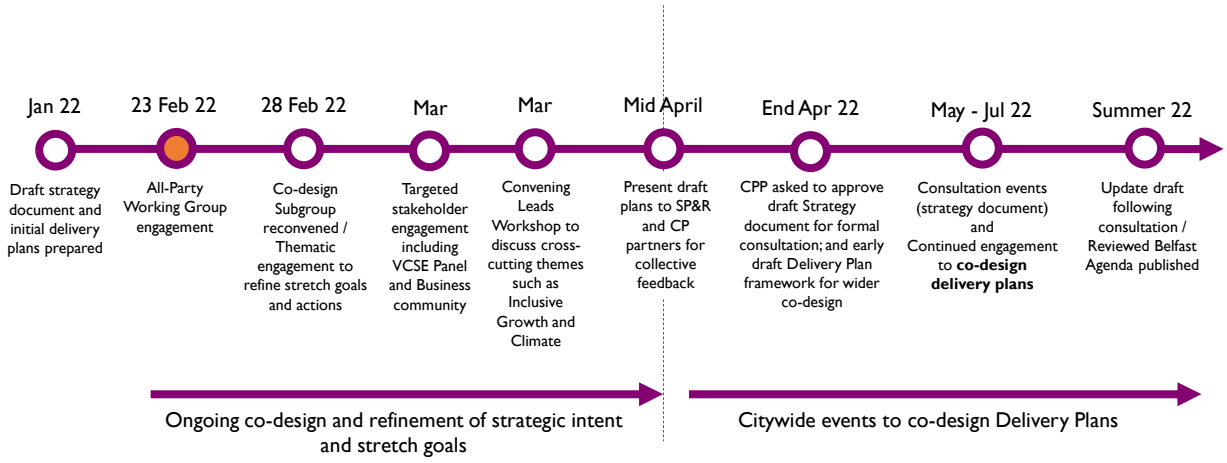
Process Timeline



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For Discussion

- Are the emerging stretch goals the correct measures of success?
- Are they ambitious enough?
- Anything missing?
- Further engagement? Party Group Briefings?

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