

Ballymena Neighbourhood Renewal Area Annual Report 2014/2015



**Ballymena Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership
ANNUAL REPORT 2014-15**

About Neighbourhood Renewal -

The Neighbourhood Renewal Programme aims to reduce the social and economic inequalities which characterise the most deprived areas. It does so by making a long term commitment to communities to work in partnership with them to identify and prioritise needs and co-ordinate interventions designed to address the underlying causes of poverty. Neighbourhood Renewal Partnerships were established to bring representatives of local community together with appropriate Government Departments, public sector agencies, private sector interest and local elected representatives.

About Ballymena Partnership -

To take forward the Neighbourhood Renewal Programme, Ballymena Partnership was set up in 2005 to oversee the development and delivery of the local Neighbourhood Renewal Action Plan. The Partnership currently comprises 23 members which include representatives from local communities, voluntary organisations, elected representatives and local statutory organisations. It currently meets on a bi monthly basis and its administration services are provided through a Coordinator and administrator with Ballymena Council.

The Partnership has established 4 sub-groups to assist them in the identification, development and where appropriate the delivery of projects which aim to address the Programmes 4 strategic objectives of community renewal, social renewal, economic renewal and physical renewal. The sub groups are categorised as; Health, Economic and Employability, Education and Community. Representation from appropriate local community, voluntary and statutory agencies has been sought to ensure added value to the process of developing projects that will impact the areas.

In the 12/13 financial year, Ballymena Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership undertook a general community audit with around 30 volunteers delivering and collecting surveys door to door across Ballee, Ballykeel and Harryville NR area. This survey has been used to inform projects going forward into the last period of Neighbourhood Renewal.

It should be noted that Ballymena Partnership and Subgroups have all signed up to and abide by the Neighbourhood Renewal Code of Practice and Guiding Principles and subsequent Subgroup Terms of Reference.

Ballymena Partnership Projects

The Neighbourhood Renewal Investment Fund supported 11 projects in the Ballymena Neighbourhood Renewal Area in the 2014/15 financial year as follows:-

Community Renewal

Ballymena Borough Council – Neighbourhood Renewal Development Officer and Administrative Support

Recruitment of a Development Officer who will be responsible for the implementation of the Ballymena Neighbourhood Renewal Action plan and will liaise with applicants, programme delivery agents and stakeholders to ensure projects are developed and delivered in accordance with the objectives of the plan.

Ballymena Borough Council – Ballymena South Community Development Officer

Ballymena Borough Council has encouraged community groups within the area to form four geographical clusters. The aim was to enhance self-support and collaborative working by the groups and was devised in response to a climate of change, brought about by the proposed Review of Public Administration. The employment of a Cluster Development Officer has embedded the cluster concept. The groups within Ballymena South area will receive support and guidance from a Development worker and projects will be developed to the benefit of the South Cluster area with groups working in partnership.



Economic Renewal

NRC – Creating Pathways to Success

The project aimed to address the issues of educational under achievement in Neighbourhood Renewal Areas. NRC employed 4 Learning Mentors to work with learners from the designated areas where participants were undertaking courses. This programme was developed to improve retention and achievement among the participants by the provision of tailored mentoring. This successful project finished at the end of December 2014. On Friday 23rd January 2015, Northern Regional College hosted an end of project celebration event to celebrate the achievements.

NRC- Community Access to Lifelong Learning

The Project was developed to bring education into the community removing barriers such as transport and cost to participants. Delivered by Northern Regional College tutors, participants have the opportunity to engage in courses of interest to them. The overall aim of the project would be to build self-esteem and encourage people from the NRA to actively participate in educational opportunities.

Ballee Community Childcare – Childcare project

The project has facilitated the recruitment of Childcare staff which has enabled an increase in the number of children supported through the Centre. The project is successfully addressing a major need in the Neighbourhood Renewal area – provision of affordable Childcare to support parents that wish to return to work or education.

Ballymena Business Centre – Business Gold

Business Gold was designed to encourage individuals and groups from the Ballymena South Neighbourhood Renewal Area to think seriously about starting a business. Applicants were invited to submit their Enterprising Ideas to be in with a chance of receiving financial support and one to one guidance to take their idea to the next level. Ballymena Business Centre provided help and support in a bid to help them achieve this. The most enterprising were shortlisted and each finalist received a certificate and £100 prize fund. The overall winner received an additional £500 prize fund. All projects were invited to showcase in Ballymena Business Centres exhibition space located in the Enterprise Hub, Church Street, Ballymena. Each project will benefit from additional Business Start-Up advice provided by Ballymena Business Centre.



Barnardo's – Jigsaw Project

Jigsaw aims to address the barriers to educational achievement and improve the experience of school for children and their parents, in the Ballymena Neighbourhood Renewal area. The project recruited three support workers across the four partnered schools to engage with parents on a range of school based family support interventions to parents and children.



Social Renewal – Health

NH&SCT – Northern Area Health Co-ordinator

The aim of the project is to tackle inequalities in health by coordinating health improvement programmes across 3 Neighbourhood Renewal areas. The project saw the appointment of dedicated Health Coordinators to develop, deliver and evaluate health projects/programmes in partnership with local community, voluntary and statutory groups.



Ballykeel Together Development Association – Mature Adults Luncheon Programme

The project aims to bring together and engage older people from the Ballykeel area. It is a social programme that looks at providing companionship, education, advice, exercise and health promotion. The activities planned will be delivered by trained volunteers from the local community.

Harryville Men's Shed

This project provides a focus for men who are unemployed or retired, to engage in activities to improve well-being and up skill. The project works actively with the NHSCT through health based initiatives and the participants have opportunity to develop skills in areas such as joinery and metal work. The project encourages those feeling isolated to re-engage within their community.

Basketball Twinning Project

This Council led community sport intervention project aims to establish interaction, dialogue, education and health and well-being amongst young people from interface and disadvantaged areas of Ballymena. This project is funded in partnership with Ballymena PCSP. The project provides 8 schools in the Borough to learn together in a safe, neutral venue through the promotion of neutral sports.



Physical Renewal

There are two projects currently under consideration:

- Drumtara Play park
- Drumtara Shared Space Community Growing Project



(Best Practice Visit – Incredible Edibles Project, Cloughmills)

Ballymena Partnership 2014/2015 Expenditure (by Strategic Objective)

The following table details current projects funded via the Neighbourhood Renewal Investment fund. It also details the 14/15 individual spend for each project, the total amount of expenditure by strategic objective and the overall 14/15 total expenditure in the Ballymena Neighbourhood Renewal Area.

Programme/Project	CFF Funding Period	CFF Funding Amount (Project allocation)	14/15 Spend (as at 31/03/15)
COMMUNITY RENEWAL			
Ballymena NR Coordinator	01/04/2012 – 31/03/2015	£127,746.24	£39,161.49
Ballymena BC - Ballymena South Community Development Officer	15/04/2013 – 31/03/2015	£36,821.58	£18,466.27
Total Community Renewal Expenditure		£164,567.82	£57,627.76
SOCIAL RENEWAL – EDUCATION			
Barnardo's Jigsaw Project (Parents and Schools Together)	01/04/2012 – 31/03/2015	£231,195.00	£85,149.39
Ballee Community Childcare	01/04/2012 – 31/03/2015	£79,514.10	£10,461.63
Total Social Renewal Ed Expenditure		£310,709.10	£95,611.02
SOCIAL RENEWAL – HEALTH			
Ballykeel Together Development Association – Mature Adults Luncheon Programme	01/04/2012 – 31/03/2015	£31,619.00	£12,559.30
NH&SCT – Northern Area Health Coordinator	01/07/2012 – 31/03/2015	£132,744.30	£74,037.26
Harryville Men's Shed Project	01/10/2013 – 31/03/2015	£26,331.10	£13,380.16
Ballymena Basketball Twinning Project	21/10/2013 – 31/03/2015	£32,798.35	£14,529.92
Total Social Renewal Health Expenditure		£223,492.75	£114,506.64

SOCIAL RENEWAL – CRIME			
Total Social Renewal – Crime Expenditure		£0.00	£0.00
PHYSICAL RENEWAL			
Total Physical Renewal Expenditure		£0.00	£0.00
ECONOMIC RENEWAL			
NRC Creating Pathways to Success	03/12/2012 – 31/03/2015	£113,714.41	£45,866.00
Ballymena Business Centre Business Gold Programme	26/01/2015 – 31/03/2015	£7,099.90	£0.00
NRC – CALL (Community Access to Life- Long Learning)	05/11/2013 – 31/03/2015	£98,582.24	£44,897.43
Total Economic Renewal Expenditure		£219,396.55	£90,763.43
TOTALS		Total Allocation £918,166.22	Total Spend £358,508.85

ACHIEVEMENTS OF NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL FUNDING IN 14/15 YEAR

Community renewal Output Measures to be used for 14/15 Annual Report

PROJECT	CR1 - Number of people participating in community relations projects	CR2 – Number of people participating in community bonding projects	CR3 – Number of people volunteering for community development activities	CR4 - Number of people engaged/involved in unpaid voluntary work	CR5 – Number of people receiving training in community development skills/capacity building	CR6 - Number of people using new or improved community facilities	CR7 - Number of community/voluntary groups supported	CR8 - Number of community relations projects supported	CR9 - Number of people involved in projects that promote shared space	CR10 - Number of people using existing community facilities	CR11 - Percentage of residents who say they are aware of community facilities/services in their area
BTDA – Mature Adults Luncheon Social Programme	80			17	17		1				
Ballee Childcare services			8				1			76	
NH&SCT Northern Area Health Co-ordinator		1517	13	13	57	30	4	20		1517	
Ballymena South Community Development Worker	338	435	40	60	90		9	3			
Harryville Men’s Shed Project			30			43	1				
Ballymena Basketball Twinning Programme	334	334						7*			

- * CR8 - Community Relations Projects Supported
- Basketball Twinning
 - Blackstone Community Basketball
 - Summer Fun
 - Engaging Dads Event
 - Schools Football Programme
 - Basketball Coaching
 - Men’s Health Football Tournament

Social Renewal Education Output Measures to be used for 14/15 Annual Report

PROJECT	SR(Ed) 1 - Number of childcare/nursery school places created/safeguarded	SR(Ed)2 - Number of pupils whose attendance is measurably enhanced/improved	SR(Ed) 3 - Number of pupils whose attainment is measurably enhanced/improved	SR(Ed) 4 - Number of pupils whose behaviour is measurably enhanced/improved	SR(Ed) 5 - Number of people engaged in parenting skills development programmes	SR(Ed) 6 - Number of pupils directly benefiting from the project	SR(Ed) 7 - Number of pupils whose attainment is measurably enhanced/improved	SR(Ed) 8 - Number of pupils directly benefiting from project	SE(Ed) 9 - Number of pupils whose attainment is measurably enhanced/improved (in STEM subjects)	SR(Ed) 10 - Number of pupils directly benefiting from the project	SR(Ed) 11 - Number of pupils whose attainment is measurably enhanced/improved against baseline position to ensure pupils reach full potential	SR(Ed) 12 - Number of pupils whose attendance is measurably enhanced/improved	SR(Ed) 13 - Number of pupils whose attainment is measurably enhanced/improved against baseline position	SR(Ed) 14 - Number of young people directly benefiting from the project	SR(Ed) 15 - Number of young people experiencing improvements against baseline position of assessed needs	SR(Ed) 16 - Number of young people having access to specialist support to address assessed needs	SR(Ed) 17 - Type and number of accredited qualifications completed	SR(Ed) 18 - Number of pupils directly benefiting from /being supported by the project	SR(Ed) 19 - Number of pupils whose attainment is measurably enhanced/improved against baseline position	SR(Ed) 20 - Number of children and young people having access to specialist support to enhance their physical and emotional well-being	SR(Ed) 21 - Impact on enhanced learning environment	SR(Ed) 22 - Increased number of young people and adults taking part on regular physical activity	SR(Ed)23 - Number of pupils whose attainment is measurably enhanced/improved (in ICT related subject)	SR(Ed)24 - Number of residents in an area who obtain a (ICT-related) qualification on completion of formal training	SR(Ed)25 - Number of pupils directly benefiting from project
Barnardo's Jigsaw Project					225					963		33													
Ballee Childcare services	22*																								
Creating Pathways to Success								47																	
NRC – CALL (Community Access to Life-Long Learning)																	8*								

SR(Ed) 1 – Early Years, SR(Ed) 2 – 5 - Tackling Barriers to Learning, SR(Ed) 6-7 Improving Attainment in Literacy and Numeracy, SR(Ed) 8-9 - Closing the Performance Gap, SR(Ed) 10-11 - Tackling barriers to Learning Special Educational Needs, SR(Ed) 12-13 - Tackling barriers to learning Emotional Health and Wellbeing, SR(Ed) 14-17 - Youth Services, SR(Ed) 18-22 - Extended Schools, SR(Ed) 23-25 - ICT

* SR(Ed)1 - Ballee Childcare Centre with the assistance of NR funding is able to sustain 76 childcare places;

- 22 (After School),
- 34 (Pre-School)
- 20 (Pre- Pre-School)

* SR(Ed)17 – Type of accredited qualifications completed

- Intro to Counselling Skills
- L1 ITQ Award in IT User Skills
- L1 ITQ Cert in IT User Skills
- L1 Award in Creative Craft
- CIEH L2 in Food Safety in Catering
- L1 Award in Fashion/Beauty
- L1 Award in Sports Leadership
- L2 Award in Effective Listening

Social Renewal - Health Output Measures to be used for 14/15 Annual Report

PROJECT	SR(H)1 - Number of people benefiting from Healthy Lifestyle Projects	SR(H)2 - Number of people attending Health Education/Awareness initiatives	SR(H)3 - Number of people accessing intervention/treatment services	SR(H)4 - Number of health education awareness initiatives provided/delivered	SR(H)5 - Number of people benefiting from new or improved health facilities	SR(H)6 - Number of people participating in suicide prevention projects	SR(H)7 - Number of new/improved sports facilities provided	SR(H)8 - Number of people using new sports facilities	SR(H)9 - Increase (n%) in the number of people using improved sports facilities
Barnardo's Jigsaw Project		780	13						
BTDA – Mature Adults Luncheon Social Programme	80	80		80					
NH&SCT Northern Area Health Co-ordinator	368	994		20					

Social Renewal - Crime Output Measures to be used for 14/15 Annual Report

PROJECT	SR(C)1 - Number of people receiving advice on crime prevention	SR(C)2 - Number of community safety initiatives implemented	SR(C)3 - Number of people participating/attending community safety initiatives	SR(C)4 - Number of crime prevention initiatives implemented	SR(C)5 - Number of people participating/attending crime prevention initiatives	SR(C)6 - Number of young people benefiting from youth inclusion/diversionary projects	SR(C)7 - Number of victims of crime supported	SR(C)8 - Number of homes with increased security	SR(C)9 - Number of Neighbourhood Wardens supported	SR(C)10 - Number of people involved in dealing with the impact of Interface issues
BTDA – Mature Adults Luncheon Social Programme	80		80							
Ballymena South Community Development Worker	230					52				
Ballymena Basketball Twinning Programme	334	24	334	24	334	334				334

Ballymena Partnership Conclusion

In the 2014/2015 financial year, *Ballymena* Partnership total overall spend was £358,508.85.

This can be further broken down into Strategic Objective spend as follows:-

Community Renewal	£57,627.76
Social Renewal	£210,117.66
Economic Renewal	£90,763.43
Physical Renewal	£0.00

Breakdown of actual achievements for total expenditure

The Ballymena Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership has continued to be successful with the delivery of 11 valuable projects in the Ballymena South Neighbourhood Renewal area. The Neighbourhood Renewal programme has allowed different groups to engage collaboratively in joint initiatives. The Ballymena Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership has built the capacity of groups from the Ballymena South area, which will serve the Community well with the introduction of Community Planning. Ballymena Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership is an excellent example of how local people have a voice when it comes to delivering better public services in their area. Community Planning is intended to be a process which helps public agencies to work together with the community to plan and deliver better services. This process is led by Councils in conjunction with partners and communities to develop and implement a shared vision for their area. It is about making sure that people and communities are genuinely engaged in the decisions made on public services.

The development of new Neighbourhood Renewal Investment Fund projects has been hindered due to DSD funding constraints. There are two physical projects in the pipeline with delivery likely in the 15/16 financial year. The programme continues to engage with statutory organisations to identify gaps in provision of services, as well as enlisting the support of local community organisations who are best placed to develop programmes that can make a positive change in their communities. We continue to

work closely with the NHSCT in developing a programme of community health initiatives; furthermore the environmental projects are being developed through strong partnership with the NIHE and the Community.

The impact of implementing the 11 projects in the NR area can clearly be seen in the outputs achieved to include:

- 1 Self Employment position created and 7.1 Full time permanent jobs safeguarded.
- 76 childcare/nursery school places safeguarded.
- 33 pupils whose attendance has measurably improved.
- 2817 participants in health and education awareness initiatives.
- 389 people benefiting from projects to promote personal and social development.

The partnership will continue to work for the benefit of the residents in the Neighbourhood Renewal Area for the remainder of the programme and will strive to secure further funding to address the needs identified locally.



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