

# Greater Falls Neighbourhood Renewal Area Annual Report



**2015/2016**

## **GREATER FALLS NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP**

The comments and views included in the narrative of this report are those of Greater Falls Neighbourhood Partnership and may not reflect or represent the views of the Department for Communities

## GREATER FALLS NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP

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## GREATER FALLS NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP

The Greater Falls Neighbourhood Renewal Area covers from the bottom of Whiterock to Castle Street, it takes in three full electoral wards which are the Falls, Clonard and Beechmount. It also has part of the Whiterock and Falls Park electoral wards. The area takes in 6,202 households with a population size of just over 17,000. The following graph outline the extent and long term nature of the challenges we face in relation to deprivation across all the wards that make up our Neighbourhood Renewal area.

Ward	Deprivation Rank 2010	Deprivation Rank 2005	Deprivation Rank 2001
Falls	2	2	2
Clonard	7	18	20
Beechmount	34	37	29
Falls Park	101	80	99
Whiterock	1	3	3

The area is characterised by interfaces starting at Millfield and continuing right across its geographical spread. There are also a number of physical barriers which reach across the neighbourhood partnership area. The so-called 'Peace-line' then abounds the area from Townsend Street, Finn/Fingals, Percy Street, Northumberland Street, North Howard Street, Conway Street, St Gall's Avenue to Bombay Street and Cupar Street. It continues along the Springfield through Lanark Way up to Workman Avenue and the Invest NI site. The West Circular Roundabout area would also be considered an interface. While on the other side of the partnership area the interface stretches from the vicinity of Broadway roundabout down the length of the Westlink towards Roden and Distillery Streets.

## GREATER FALLS NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP

Across significant indicators (see graph below) the Greater Falls area requires significant co-ordinated input from all relevant stakeholders.

Key facts	Economically inactive %	No or low qualifications %	Long term limiting illness %
Falls	51.74	63.50	33.80
Clonard	45.94	56.05	29.09
Beechmount	42.21	53.32	26.87

To take forward the Neighbourhood Renewal Programme, the Greater Falls Partnership was set up to oversee the development and delivery of the local Neighbourhood Renewal Action Plan. The Partnership currently comprises members which include representatives from local communities, elected representatives and local based statutory organisations.

## GREATER FALLS NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP

**Greater Falls Neighbourhood Partnership (GFNP) has developed 5 cross cutting thematic areas of work involving the following partners;**

- Divis Joint Development Committee (DJDC)
- Blackie River Community Group (BRCG)
- Roden Street Community Development Group (RSDCG)
- Clonard Neighbourhood Development Partnership (CNDP)
- Ionad Uíbh Eachach
- Neighbourhood Development Association (NDA)
- Springfield Charitable Association (SCA)

**The 5 areas of work are bound by a common ethos of community development and all local partners are committed to this process.**

The GFNP, as will be demonstrated again throughout this report in this report have been active partners who stretch across the neighbourhood renewal area and across the city in terms of influence to enhance and improve local services. All partners actively look for opportunities to collaborate to share best practise and to maximise the most efficient of resources.

As can be seen the work of the individual groups who benefit from Neighbourhood Renewal support from DSD produces results, however the broader impact of NR cannot be underestimated and many of the partners who don't receive direct financial support from DSD are part of the NR process and developments, their work is not directly reflected in any detail in this report, however it may be referenced by many of the GFNP partners listed above as part of their community development approach.

We also demonstrate the value in increased financial investment by others with DSD core financial input acting as leverage and the unpaid input of local volunteers attached to all our partners contained in this report.



A number of examples of this working partnership are;

**Capacity Building Programme;**

- The GFNP (through the coordinator) continues to work alongside local residents groups and has secured further funding for the full time Development worker post within Falls Residents.
- The GFNP (through the coordinator) continues to build the capacity of local groups and has secured funding for the upgrade and maintenance of two residents association buildings through involvement with the Building Successful communities programme.
- The GFNP continues to act as a point of contact for local organisations for help and support
- The GFNP (through the coordinator) has through his involvement with the Divis Intervention project secured the further funding of the Community safety officers post for another year

- The GFNP coordinator continues to work closely on a number of local projects;
  - Securing £15000 through the BSC programme for the Cross generational Falls mural project
  - Participating in the Changing face of Divis programme which included positive advertising boards £10000



## GREATER FALLS NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP



- The GFNP coordinator along with the Residents association and Welcome centre organised a winter warmer event in the Frank Gillen centre. the event was an overwhelming success and well attended by local people.
- The GFNP coordinator along with the Roden Street Development Group organised an 'Older Peoples' event in the Grosvenor community centre which seen Statutory agencies offering advice and support services to senior citizens

- Through the GFNP coordinators role within the Divis Intervention we have secured funding for a series of short documentary type films about the ongoing positive good work within the Falls area

- The GFNP coordinator continues to lead the Greater Falls Unwanted Bonfire programme and has secured further funding for 8th August diversionary work. Through our participation to this group and the programmes from it there has been a stark reduction in the effects of bonfires within the Falls area.

- The GFNP held a Christmas tree switch on event within the grounds of the Frank Gillen Centre in December. The event was well attended by local schools and guests of honour were local residents of the senior citizen fold.







This year this included input to;

- **Children Services Planning**
  - A number of GFNP members remain actively involved at all stages of children services planning and as such play key roles on the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership and the Belfast Outcomes Group, this has facilitated a greater understanding of the impact of the redesign of services and in particular the creation of a locality planning group for West Belfast and the development of a family support hubs including one for the Greater Falls area led by Blackie River Community Association.

### **Ethnic Minority Groups**

PUSO-NI (Filipino network)

- The GFNP continues to support ethnic minority groups including PUSO NI which held its 118th Independence Day event recently. PUSO continues with our support to use the Falls area facilities as a base for their organisation.

### **Negotiation/ Lobbying**

GFNP members as can be seen clearly from the details of this report are prominent in many aspects of development across the city and are actively contributing to the redesign and reshaping of services across Departmental lines



## GREATER FALLS NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP

- **Social Clauses**

- Involved in a range of discussions across Departmental lines, discussion have broadened to a campaign around the development of additional legislation in the form of a Social Value Act which would underpin local development and clearly define the extent to which local communities would be involved in service development and public planning.

- **Civic role**

- Our members are fulfilling a full civic duty in the decision making processes which determine how services are developed across the city including key inputs to Policy developments;

### 1. Reform

The GFNP partners and members have actively contributed to policy discussions and development and have made several input to consultations across Departmental lines in health (the Donaldson Report and the former Minister of Health's reform programme) education (around the direction of the new Education Authority), employment/ employability (through the SIF programme) and of course social development in particular around concerns about new welfare reform changes brought in from April this year. Additional key discussions have been held within the local community around the value and shape of community planning with local government reform (via the Belfast Agenda).

### 2. Building Successful Communities

The GFNP continues to lead discussions within this forum and has helped to shape discussions around budgetary spend. The GFNP after consultation with residents and community groups ensured that priority projects were included in area action plans. Two projects that will begin this year are the area around and including work at the Maureen Sheehan site and the back pathway site beside the Frank Gillen centre.



## GREATER FALLS NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP



### **3. Together Building United Communities (TBUC)**

Several partners within the Falls area continue to cooperate and work on a pilot programme for the Sports element of TBUC and across the Falls/ Village areas, this is led by Roden Street Community Development Group.

### **4. Belfast Strategic Partnership**

Our partners have been heavily involved in the outworking of this city-wide Partnership and across the 5 thematic areas identified by the BSP including the launch of a city wide framework for Lifelong Learning and the development of Belfast City Council's Employability and Skills Strategy.

### **Improvements to the Environment**

- The GFNP continues to engage with local groups on Environmental schemes throughout the year and have a number of calendar dates for community clean ups arranged.
- The GFNP coordinator continues to liaise with the Falls Community Council on the development of the St Comgalls site
- The GFNP continue to engage with key stakeholders with the Raidio Failte site and have the coordinator has been instrumental in securing the land which had been plagued with anti social behaviour. the land is now securely fenced ready for development

### **Community safety**

- The GFNP undertook a review of community safety structures within the Falls area. The actions from the review have been endorsed by the Greater Falls community safety forum and the West Belfast DPCSP

## GREATER FALLS NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP

- The GFNP continues to input along with elected members within Belfast City Council on key community safety priorities.
- The coordinator continues to play a full role within the Greater Falls Community Safety Forum
  - GFNP liaises on a weekly basis with the community safety worker to address local concerns

### **Unwanted bonfire strategy**

- The GFNP coordinator continues to lead and play a full role within the Unwanted Bonfire programme which has over the past number of years seen a drastic reduction in bonfire related activity
- The GFNP continues in the development of an annual action plan around community and statutory involvement in bonfire diversionary activities
- The GFNP coordinator continue to chair the physical works group dealing with the regeneration of the Townsend Street and back path way site
- The GFNP bonfire strategy document continues to be used as a model of best practice and template by statutory bodies who are working in areas suffering from bonfires
- The GFNP coordinator continues to be the contact point for statutory agencies in managing the unwanted bonfire programme.
- The GFNP continues to be bounded by a number of interfaces and strategically are working to regenerate the interface areas and to develop practical working arrangements on areas of common interest across these shared spaces which this year included work around the Townsend Street Interface.

### **SIF schemes**

- GFNP and key partners have made significant inputs to the development of tenders through discussion on how these the employability and early intervention strands of this initiative can best service the Greater Falls population



## Introduction to Blackie River Community Group:

Blackie River Community Group has been established for 20 years and has evolved over this time. When the group was first established it came together to look at housing needs within the Beechmount area and from that point it has developed to meet the physical, social, economic and environmental needs of local residents.

The board of directors for Blackie River Community Group seen from a very early stage that the main way to improve the Beechmount area is to empower local residents to take ownership of the area and to build the capacity of local people to lobby for resources which would have a positive impact on the area.

Through this process the board of directors and staff of Blackie River Community Group agreed their mission statement would be:

“Blackie River Community Group seeks to empower the residents of the Blackie area, and to enable them to celebrate their creativity and culture, develop their skills, enhance their self-esteem, play a full and equal role in society, and secure the social and economic regeneration of their area”.

Blackie River Community Group has expanded over the last 20 years to meet the current and future needs of the local area. The needs which we need to address are:

- Family Learning
- Supporting Parents
- Supporting Children and Young People to reach their full potential
- The legacy of the conflict
- Under investment of government for generations
- Raising Educational achievement
- Tackling Health inequalities
- Tacking Mental health

- Physical regeneration of the local area
- Improving employment opportunities
- Family Support Hub
- Supporting Community Infrastructure

Tackling Interface Issues Over the last year Blackie River Community Group has been working very hard with other partners and stakeholders to continue to address the needs of local residents. A snapshot of the work which we have been involved in is:

### Early Years

Blackie River Community Group have established a very successful early years programme for children from 0 – 12 years old. The programmes which we provide are full time Daycare, Crèche, Afterschool, ASD and developmental programme. We have worked to ensure we have surpassed the current minimum daycare standards and have ensured that all our staff are up to date with any professional development and new techniques for supporting children.

### Youth Development

We have had to change our youth development programmes due to the economic difficulties and the reduction in funding. We have developed a mentoring programme where we support young people on a one to one basis which has helped with their homework support, personal development programmes, mental health awareness, physical activities programmes and engagement process with young people who are disengaged from the community.

### Promotion of Life Long Learning

The education programmes have been both accredited and non accredited programmes and we use a person centred ethos to ensure each student gets the most out of their education experience to help ensure they move forward to reach their full potential.

### Young people of the Blackie Centre at the Homework Support Club



## Community engagement

We continue to work with Beechmount Residents Association to help them develop and to build on their capacity. We continued to engage with local residents about their needs and have adopted our strategic plan to ensure we deliver on local people. We have also responded to a variety of consultations with the support of local people around issues which affect the Beechmount and Greater Falls Area.

## Older People's Programme

We have worked with our Young at Hearts group to put in place a year long programme which was designed to tackle social isolation and to build the confidence of older people to make them feel safe within their area and to allow them to play a full and active role in community life.

## Health Programmes

BRCG have worked with a variety of stakeholders over the past year to develop health initiatives which are targeted at local people to identify their needs. We use this information to work with other agencies/organisations to put in place initiatives and programmes to promote health and well-being.



*"The Blackie River Centre provide a safe Daycare Service in a warm environment that is stimulating and challenging for children aged 6 weeks to 4 year old"*

## Introduction to Divis Joint Development Committee (DJDC):

We continue to focus on the development of the Falls Partnership Initiative and the Greater Falls Neighbourhood Partnership as the 2 vehicles for strategic and operational development of educational initiatives whilst providing our own very direct input in the delivery of services.

We are:

- Involved in the development of the GFNP action plan and the roll out of new priorities for the coming number of years, in particular the next CSR period and a subsequent new Programme for Government.
- Continue to co-ordinate the Falls Partnership Initiative's responses to the implementation of community planning processes.



Much work has taken place around the core priorities of the GFNP and many issues have been raised, day to day support takes place across the area with a range of smaller local organisations which do not have staff or physical resources, we have been working with many of these groups to determine their needs and develop appropriate responses and plans to help them.

At all levels of our organisation there are attempts to fully involve local people in the processes by which decisions are made, however there are many discussions that need to be held with key statutory agencies as to how and when local communities should be involved in the design and potential delivery of services.

Concerns remain that the discussions between DSD and Belfast City Council around responsibilities and budget transfers have not concluded, community planning does offer an opportunity to change that approach but it is early days and already appears to be suffering from fatigue.





**Introduction to Roden Street Community Development Group**

The Roden Street Community Development Group, (RSCDG) is an organisation which can be categorised in both a strategic and practical sense as led by and for the community. The organisation has sustained the core aim of realistically and achievably improving quality of life socially, economically, environmentally and culturally. In tandem with this RSCDG has focused on streamlined services, a small clearly defined staffing team, thorough needs analysis and development of new tools to measure outcomes. The organisation is there to serve the community whilst ensuring sustainability, value for money and measurable impact. RSCDG has continued to pursue a strategy of direct need reflection through the community management model, innovation and provision of wider geographically focused capacity support. In the period the organisation also worked with other organisations/partnerships in

furtherance of the application of the community management model across Northern  
 Ireland. RSCDG  
 lease, (from Belfast City Council), and manage Grosvenor Community  
 Centre, (formerly Grosvenor Recreation Centre), the  
 accompanying 3G Playing field, community garden, facilities  
 and play park. The site is a substantial venue and facility,  
 housing a wide spectrum of projects, programmes and beneficiaries.

*“This area, like others, is a valuable piece of the mosaic of Belfast and deserves to be cherished and developed as such”.*

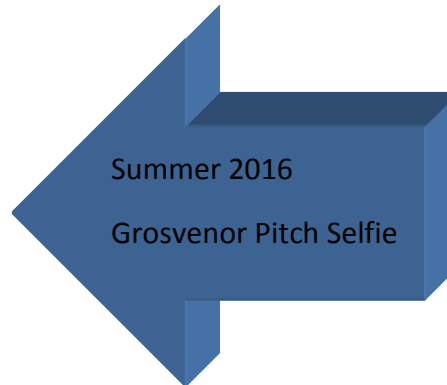
Essentially RSCDG seeks to meet need, make positive change and foster meaningful participation which helps to improve quality of life. In operational terms this means that ALL voices are relevant and are used to define, schedule and plan services. We abide by the view that anything is possible and achievable with the right vision pathway driven in a shared capacity by communities.



The organic historical development, developed in 1984 and launching with 'We Want Heat Not Cold Fee', of the organisation means that the climate at Grosvenor Community Centre is embedded in community management, responsiveness, flexibility, innovation and pro-active inclusion. Grosvenor Community Centre has become one of the hubs in the area for community activity, community sports, physical activity, environmental programming, capacity building, engagement, family support, youth participation and good relations. Grosvenor Community Centre is viewed as an open, welcoming and feasible arena in which to meet, network, develop and grow, particularly in relation to good relations programme at the local level. RSCDG is both a local provider of a plethora of services and programmes, matched with occupying an active role in terms of area wide development, partnership, shared programming and lobbying. The focus at Grosvenor Community Centre is fixed on the wider determinants of community, social, economic and cultural development as well as in redressing the wider impacts of disadvantage. As such related to the Themes and Aims of the Greater Falls Neighbourhood Partnership, service provision at Grosvenor Community Centre in 2015/2016 encompassed:

**Early Years, Education & Family Support:** RSCDG is committed to improvement through the mechanism of the wider modern family unit. As such, Grosvenor Community Centre provides Early Years Direct Services, Afterschool's Programme and Youth Service. The organisation also operates a large scale summer support programme enabling participation of families at a time of acute need. In 2015/2016 the organisation placed a firmer focus on sharing of learning in tandem with other providers, both community and educational with a view to carrying curriculum based learning across into Afterschool's, Youth provision, Family and Summer Provision.





**Health, Wellbeing, Physical Activity & Sporting Capacity:** Grosvenor Community Centre has become a visual hub of community sports, physical activity and health development programming. The ethos of the organisation is reflected in community management of the 3G Playing Field, diverse usage of indoor amenities enabling good relations work locally and an engaging programme of activities which have levered in participation and redressed gaps in physical activity participation.

**Community Development, Capacity & Inclusion:** From its inception RSCDG has worked towards the visual, social and cultural improvement of the area through direct, sustained yearlong services, pro-active inclusion of emerging communities and valid contribution to the wider regeneration of new Belfast. We have one eye on the future and are consistently developing the next generation of skilled, open minded and innovative community leaders. Essentially Grosvenor Community Centre is viewed as the ‘centre’ by of a range of diverse communities.

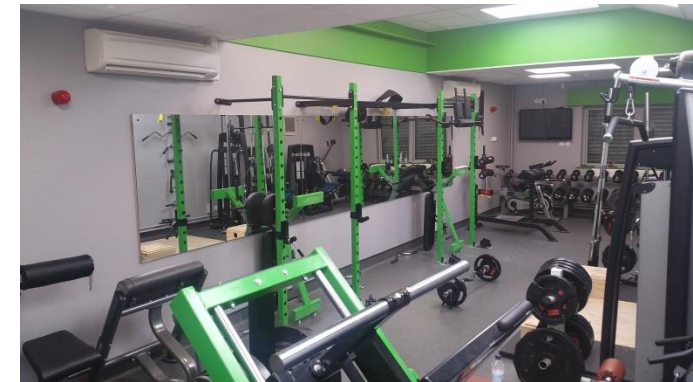


**Physical & Environmental Development:** RSCDG has worked towards the improvement of the facility as a key feature of the Grosvenor Road, improved housing and regeneration of problematic sites. Recent illustration being the community garden and installation of new art work on the Grosvenor Road and negotiation with Roads Service for new parking measures at Genoa/Distillery/Roden Street and Roden Pass. In 2015 the organisation launched major new redevelopments at Grosvenor Community Centre enabling area impact through community sports development, capacity and participation rates.



Official Opening New Shower, Changing and Sporting Facilities 9<sup>th</sup> September 2015 at Grosvenor Community Centre

Grosvenor Family Wellness Zone  
Completion April 2016  
(Supported by Department of Culture Arts and Leisure)





## Introduction to Ionad Uíbh Eachach

### **Pobal Gaeilge don Aois Nua**

**Building tomorrow's community through Irish**

Ionad Uíbh Eachach was founded by local parents in 1990 in a disused community centre to provide services through Irish for parents and children in the Greater Falls area where none existed and to build an open & inclusive community around the Irish language. This vision remains central to the significant development of community, economic, care, education, health and early year's services in the centre over the last 25+ years.

Ionad Uíbh Eachach has now developed into a community and family centre providing high quality, accessible and responsive services through Irish, supporting local employment, community development, lifelong learning, family support and early years services for the local community. Services have developed in response to need and the expansion of Irish language services in the Greater Falls area reflects the significant number of local residents recorded as Irish speakers in the census and enhances the cultural and language resources in the Gaeltacht Quarter. Ionad Uíbh Eachach supports a wide range of services and programmes supporting 160 adult learners a week and over 155 children accessing quality care & education services through Irish. Work is organised around key themes and principles which support GFNP Priorities.

#### **Ionad Uíbh Eachach supports and provides:**

- **Language & Cultural Opportunities for all** – Promoting Lifelong Learning opportunities for over 160 adult/youth learners weekly
- **Early Years Education & Care:** High quality, inclusive Irish language early years preschool, P2YO & afterschool -**155 children**.
- **Child-Centred, High Quality Services** –flexible, accessible, affordable daycare through Irish supporting access to employment/training
- **Economic Regeneration**– Removing barriers to training/employment through a social economy childcare project – affordable, flexible childcare



- **Health:** Holistic health & wellbeing services including family support, respite childcare, targeted support for children with additional needs
- **Community Based, Responsive Services** - Open & Inclusive, Celebrating Diversity-annual programme of community events
- **Parental, User & Community Involvement** – working in partnership to develop services and resources for local people
- **An Ceathrú Gaeltachta** – building community cohesion by sharing the rich linguistic and cultural heritage of the Greater Falls
- **Community Infrastructure:** Irish language and cultural programmes, multicultural & cross community events, building social cohesion & community identity



**Gaelchúram daycare**

High quality care & early learning

Parental participation



**Health & Well Being Group**

Family & peer support, befriending.

‘Take 5 for Your Emotional Well Being’



**Lifelong Learning**

Access & accredited language classes

From beginners Irish to ‘A’Level



**Parent & Toddler**

Annual programme of parent/

child activities /stay & play

### Introduction to Neighbourhood Development Association (NDA)

NDA has been working in our community for 26 years now since 1990 and formally with charitable status since the beginning of 1992. We primarily work in the areas of community development and advice provision.

Our Mission Statement is 'Working together for the future' and under our Neighbourhood Renewal programme our work is aimed at promoting social inclusion, building community capacity and empowering local people to play an active role in the regeneration of their neighbourhoods.

Since our inception we have been involved in the demolition of the former Divis Flats, establishing the Maureen Sheehan Centre, re-establishing the St. Vincent de Paul Conference in St. Peter's to help people in need and we also founded the Welcome Organisation based in the St. Peter's area of Falls and Divis which continues to grow and thrive at its new location at Townsend Street. We also helped establish through constructive meetings and persuasion, the NIHE community framework in the then District 3 NIHE offices which has now grown regionally into the Housing Community Network and continues to be a strategic investment and development area of the NIHE.

We have helped develop services and projects in partnership with public service bodies, community organisations and communities resulting in many successful ventures. Our work is targeted and dedicated in this area of community development in the most deprived neighbourhoods and with the most marginalised citizens. We have risen to many challenges and in our advice work have assisted in forming a new successful partnership across CAB and independent advice offices in West Belfast, including the Shankill CAB. This partnership is one we Chair and is a formal consortium known now as the West Belfast Advice Partnership which promotes shared working through formalised frameworks sharing agreed resources such as training, money advisers and tribunal workers in areas where it is cost effective and prudent to do so.

In all of these examples we strive to complement and not duplicate the work of others and will always seek to reduce duplication of services yet meet identified gaps in provision in these challenging times.

NDA continues to seek to empower local people, particularly those economically inactive, to play a positive role in the redevelopment and growth of their own communities. We provide projects, services and facilities to help alleviate poverty and reduce long-term unemployment as well as to actively encourage local people to play a part in community development and regeneration via our neighbourhood development projects and services.





## Introduction to the Springfield Charitable Association

"We at SCA provide professional support, care and advice enabling social inclusion. We aim to provide our service user with a comprehensive service of care of the highest quality within the day care environment. We will treat each service user with respect and remain sensitive to his / her individual needs and abilities, and aim to promote and maintain the service users independence and personal dignity".

The Montague Day Centre has been providing much needed care and support, both physical and emotional, for older people in the West Belfast area for the past 25 years. During this time, we have had a diverse range of members aging from 65 - 101 yrs old, with various ailments including physical disabilities, mental health issues and other cognitive impairments, who have not only benefitted from the services provided, but also have grown in confidence as they are reminded and assured that they are valuable members of society. Within the Day Centre setting, we encourage our members to be as



independent as possible in order to promote them to live full, active lives.

As we are registered with RQIA (Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority ), we adhere to the requirements and legislation they enforce in order to provide a top quality service to each individual who attends our centre







## Our Team

We have an excellent team of highly skilled professional care staff and volunteers to look after our clients. Each staff member and volunteer undergo training that ensures that we deliver the highest quality services to you. This training includes appropriate Health & Safety issues such as: Safeguarding Vulnerable adults, Infection Control, First Aid, Fire Safety, Food Hygiene, Aggression and Challenging Behaviours, Moving & Handling. In addition to all the mandatory training requirements set by RQIA, all care staff have been registered with NISCC and have undertaken NVQ level 2 or above. . One staff member is currently in the process of completing a level 5 diploma in health and social care, which once completed, will be a valuable asset to the individual and the organisation.

## Our volunteers

The Day Centre has 6 volunteers who commit themselves to specific hours over the course of the week. Their service to the Day Centre is invaluable as some possess individual sets of skills which they feed back into the centre, enabling many of the service users to maintain a certain level of independence and their dignity. For example one volunteer who would supervise and assist our male clients, whilst they enjoy attending to the vegetable garden outside, whilst another undertakes pamper sessions with the ladies, by having their nails filed and painted and getting their hairs done. These are simple activities, but they enhance our clients experiences at the centre and help them to feel like they are valued members of the society.

Our volunteers are all Access NI checked and take part in as many training sessions as they can manage, however if they do not attend a specific session, they simply refrain from that task and would carry on with something different that they see needs done.



## Divis Joint Development Committee – Community Infrastructure Lead Partner

The Frank Gillen Centre’s physical resource has acted as a catalyst for community development activity and delivery of services ranging from local discussions to planning the delivery of services.

### This includes;

**\*Children’s emotional, social and educational development** (via Crèche, 2-3 year old programme and an After Schools project)

- Crèche continues to operate daily, morning and afternoon for up to 8 children per session (Monday to Friday with 2 sessions per day, except on Friday afternoon)
- 2-3 year old programme for 12 children each day
- After-schools programme (currently due to staff restrictions) 24



**Youth Development** (at present we operate both an in-house youth programme and an outreach project) covers key elements of personal development and life skills, employment support, skills development and capacity building.

- Our Youth programme operates on a nightly basis with some weekend activity both on and off-site, other activity also included; football coaching, community relations & community planning training, study support, digital technology, magazine production, photography, drama & dance classes.
- Study support is now provided on both a Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings with help from students from QUB. Additionally GCSE study support is provided on a one to one basis for up to 32 young people.



**Women's support services.** We continue to host the Clan Mor Women's groups and deliver for Clan Mor Surestart, a programme for 0-4 year olds and family support.

- Through Clan Mor support we provide, child protection and paediatric first aid training to a range of local staff and volunteers at the FGC. This year this has included courses in stress and anger management classes for local parents/ families/ carers and advice on budgeting home finances were also held at the centre.
- Our Family Support Worker facilitates programmes to both families and children (as groups separately and as part of DJDC after school programming of activity.) Additionally a service of direct one to one support continues and liaises with the Greater Falls Family Support Hub.

**Employment support service** we, with the continued support of DSD, operate our own education and training programme.

- DJDC's continues to be involved in city wide discussions around the issues pertaining to Life Long Learning (LLL) through the Belfast Strategic Partnership (BSP) and hold the position of chairperson on this thematic area. A strong strategic base for the initiative and activity has centred on developing an LLL strategy, including a binding charter which can highlight the value of BSP partners working together and collectively make a greater impact on reducing life inequalities across the city. Additionally the Belfast City Council's new employability and skills strategy will include an initiative around a Belfast Works initiative and we (at the time of writing) await the outcome of that consultation. The group have also run a week long 'Learning Festival' and are making links to establish Belfast as part of UNESCO's Global Network of Learning Cities



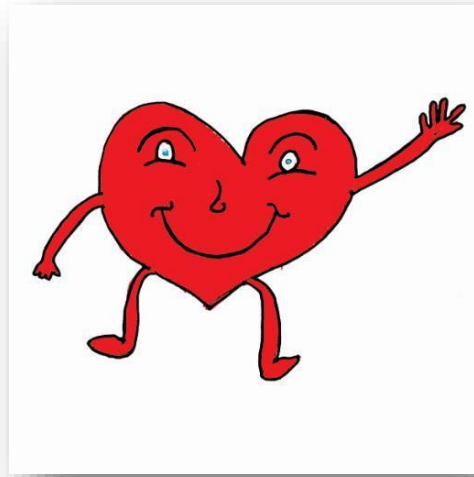
**ICT training and development provision;** Our ICT suite continues to be used in a variety of other ways e.g. study support and IT training for both women and men and job search (e.g. job centre online or community NI)

- This year for example we engaged 10 young people in an intensive IT technology course where they built their own computer from scratch.
- The ICT suite involves our older population and remains a useful mechanism for breaking down social isolation.
- Used by Cathedral Nursery for staff planning

**Partnerships/ Networking.** We continue to play an active role in a number of local networks including;

- **Clan Mor Surestart**, a programme for 0-4 year olds and family support
- The **Heart & Calm projects** - healthy living centre initiatives based in a community health complex, the Maureen Sheehan Centre delivering health education and direct condition management support
- **Falls Partnership Initiative [FPI]** a local partnership operating throughout the Falls electoral ward area, brought together to develop and implement an area wide development process.
- **Greater Falls Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership;** we continue to work at all levels of the Partnership to implement the key issues and priorities outlined in guiding strategic document. This has led to a more robust and focussed discussion around tangible outcomes. Discussions have continued to make this happen during this period. Priorities have been identified across all five thematic areas and this will remain our key focus as well as preparing locally for new tender and procurement opportunities. A mini review was held and the Key Issues and Priorities document has now been updated (October 2015)





○ **Healthy Living Centre Regional Alliance**; as part of the sustainability, development and quality assurance of the local Healthy Living Centre we continue to play an active role in this organisation. A key focus is the ongoing issue of sustaining not only the organisation’s work but as crucially the organisation itself. A lot of innovation and effort is expended on this approach and it is not always replicated by an appropriate statutory response.

A key concern remains the process of tendering & procurement of individual elements of the organisation work is causing much concern and has been raised consistently with the Public Health Agency. The Alliance with our key workers direct involvement in partnership with Price Waterhouse Coopers completed an ‘Inspiring Impact’ programme which is examined the Public Health Agency’s commissioning of the Healthy Living Centres. With the recent announcement by the former Health Minister Simon Hamilton the PHA’s future role is unclear which may impact on this work.

The memorandum of understanding agreed across all 16 HLC’s including the one in our area (Maureen Sheehan Centre) to bolster the governance of the Alliance and increase collaboration is now in place almost 18 months and has led to progress across all structures and programming and collaboration.

A programme has been firmly established under the title of ‘Strengthening Commonalities’ to continue to develop common approaches and programming across all 16 HLC’s. We are currently involved in supporting them to organise this initiative.

- Our key worker remains an active member of the **Belfast Local Commissioning Group** seeking wherever possible to promote the values (and active input) of the local community infrastructure to health and social care developments including of course the Greater Falls area and from April last year (2015) he took on the mantle of Chairperson.

Specifically this relates to the development of Integrated Care Partnerships, across the city. Additionally it has also meant being heavily involved in the design and linkages of a new city wide chronic conditions hub in all 4 parts of the city, this was approved subject to minor amendments by the Belfast LCG in May 2015 but has taken an inordinate length of time to establish. The chronic conditions hub continues to be





slowly developed having to clear many hurdles to get agreement across agency and community lines but will shortly advertise for a city wide managers and four locality referral workers

- As part of the **Belfast Strategic Partnership** (Public Health Agency, Belfast City Council, Belfast Health Trust, DSD and others key agencies) we play a full civic role both locally and citywide and are currently part of the development of a citywide framework which will shape both city and local development across 5 key thematic areas; Mental Health, Education, Early Intervention, Drugs and Alcohol and Regeneration & Place. We believe all these key areas compliment the GFNP's and the Divis Joint Development Committee's programmes of work, a key theme of emotional resilience has emerged as the glue to link all the thematic areas. **BSP** carried out a review of its approach and structure (in November 15) particularly in the light of the implementation of **community planning** and the public health strategy '**Making Life Better**'.

- DJDC's key worker continues to be involved in city wide discussions around the issues pertaining to **Life Long Learning** (LLL) through the Belfast Strategic Partnership, currently we were involved in the planning of a 'Belfast Festival of Learning' which took place between 7<sup>th</sup> -11<sup>th</sup> March 2016 and is currently coordinating a push for Belfast's inclusion in UNESCO's Global Learning Cities Network.

- **West Belfast Partnership Board** of behalf of the Neighbourhood Partnership and a member of their health sub-group
  - West Belfast Partnership Board of behalf of the Neighbourhood Partnership and a member of their health sub-group. Our work on developing strategic health priorities for the West of the city continues and a strategic proposal is being developed, our local role continues to ascertain how the Greater Falls can respond to growing challenges.
  - We play an active role in the Integrated Care Partnership's Mental Health Hub.





### **Roden Street Community Development Group – Community Infrastructure Partner**

The Roden Street Community Development Group is committed to the pro-active growth of the area as whole in partnership with renewal drives. RSCDG operate Grosvenor Community Centre in a leasehold arrangement with Belfast City Council, representing the first community organisation in Northern Ireland to enter into such a community management model. In 2006 this was further augmented with a community management structure for the 3G Playing field. The organisation is intent on ensuring that the public perception of the area reflects the massive scale of positive engagement, activity and participation which is occurring. There is genuine pride at the renewal, growth and sheer scale of physical change to the Falls area. RSCDG operate services and programmes which directly correlate to community demand and contribute towards what makes and sustains a ‘strong, viable and happy community’. The organisation is also proud of innovation levels, inclusivity and willingness to diversify to meet the new social and cultural landscape of Northern Ireland.

Current services, activities and programmes focused on the fostering of community capacity, social and cultural elevation are:

#### **Family Capacity and Development:**

##### ➤ *Roden Street Childcare Services*

A range of projects to support families facing exclusion, additional needs levels and the challenges of disadvantage. The services are high quality in nature, engage a high level of parental participation and encourage direct participation of children in decision making. The services are embedded in carrying forward learning in the community setting with a keen eye on educational achievement as the lynchpin of a strong and capable communities.

##### ➤ *Family Support Services*

A range of innovative long, short and medium projects to help correlate and grow the capacity of the entire family unit in tandem. The family support menus help to enshrine participation, assist inner family development and work towards a level of quality of life which is fair and equal for all children and young people.

***“We shouldn’t limit what we can achieve together,  
think big, think local and think global”***

➤ *Roden Street Youth Service*

2015 to 2016 represented major development of young people through the TBUC programme right across the GF area. The culmination of this work is the creative of a highly skilled, accredited and ready to go group of young people in key pocket and target sites facing disadvantage. These groups will be responsible for helping to organise, run and implement services, such as Grosvenor Summer Scheme and we hope will lead the process of need identification and sharing of survey models across the community. The service packages engage young people from the disadvantaged area and wider based minority ethnic community members through additional service provision. RSYS is youth led and received the Youth Council NI Award for outstanding endeavour in 2011.

**Community Development:**

To actually state what makes a ‘good’ community is pretty difficult, for RSCDG this equates to a community where people know one another, where there is a sense of support, a willingness to engage for the better of others, strong, skilled and confident participants. Trust is the key and the Grosvenor community is undoubtedly still one where you can rely on your neighbour, where you can access support, feel safe and happy.

As such a handful of examples of how we work towards such goals are outlined for the relevant period:

For instance: RSCDG encouraged community members to get involved in the period through the Community news sheet (dispensed to 450 dwellings), delivered by Roden Street Youth Service.

For instance: Grosvenor Community Centre has a small staff team but has cultivated a massive voluntary base. The centre is open 7 days per week and is something different every hour to every beneficiary. Therein lies the cross section appeal and continued relevance to lives.

Most Importantly Grosvenor Community Centre is Open and Welcoming.....

Community Development isn't a technical term it is about how people Treat One Another, how valued a person feels and how much they can influence THEIR LIVES

For instance: RSCDG implemented training where an illustratable gap in the labour market was determined. In particular the TBUC programme in the period saw a massive advancement in locally based young people.





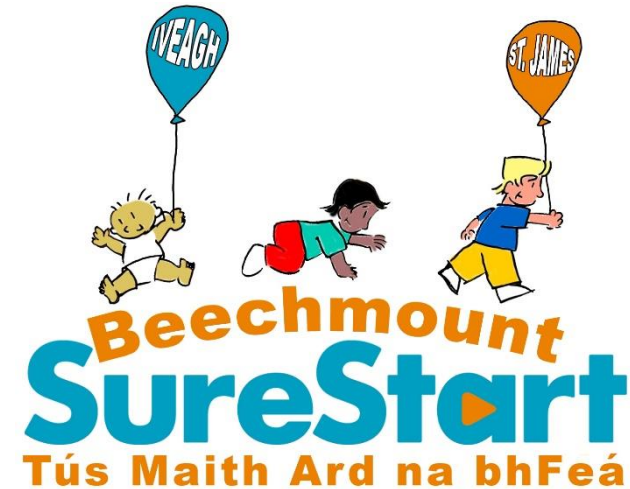
### Blackie River Community Group – Community Infrastructure Partner

As a result of DSD funding Blackie River Community Group has secured the delivery of core community development services housed within the Centre and across the local community which include;

- **All Day Care** – We provide 49 Full day care sessions each day in a safe environment for children between 0 -4 years old who will get a full range of play activity that will help in all areas of the children’s development. This provision is for working parents, parents that need respite and children who had developmental needs.
- **Afterschool’s Programme** for 26 children aged between 4-12year olds daily. This programme provides stimulating fun based programme for children to learn and develop.
- **Homework Support** for local children to get support for the curriculum which they work on within a school setting. This is completed in a fun, informal, structured way to enhance children’s learning outcomes.
- **Education Programmes:** BRCG have developed our education programmes which are both accredited and non-accredited courses which meet the individual needs of learners. We have also been successful in becoming the first community organisation which has been award the CACHE level 5 in Childcare.
- **Health Initiative:** BRCG have lead a number of local health initiatives which has seen local people participating in the programmes and courses which will benefit their health and well-being.
- **Older People:** BRCG have a very active older people’s group where we tackling social isolation by proving space, programmes and information on a range of topics.
- **Family Support Hub:** BRCG have been awarded the contract for the Greater Falls Area to be the coordinator the Family Support Hub. The hub has 19 core members and 25 associate members which coordinate services for families across the local area.

**Partnerships/ Networking.**

- **Beechmount SureStart** - BRCG are the lead organisation for Beechmount SureStart. We are responsible for its Administration and Co-ordination of this SureStart programme. BRCG is also responsible for hosting and resourcing the meetings of the local childcare partnership who make up this SureStart Initiative.
- **Playboard Cluster Group** - Our Childcare Co-ordinator is part of the Playboard Cluster Group, this is a group that comes together to look at best practice and developments in the childcare provision 4-12 year olds.
- **Greater Falls Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership** - We work at all levels of the Partnership to implement the key issues and priorities outlined in their most recent document
- **Children and Young People Strategic Partnership** - We sit on the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership, Belfast Outcomes for Children and Young people, West Belfast Locality Planning for Children and Young People.
- **West Belfast Neighbourhood Forum:** BRCG sits on the West Belfast Neighbourhood Forums which links each of the Neighbourhood Partnership across West Belfast to align services and inform each other of policy developments.
- **BCRC:** We continue to sit on a cross community Belfast Interface forum to discuss issues about improving the lives of people who live alongside the interface.
- **South West Action Team:** BRCG sits on the forum for the Broadway Interface to help keep communities connected and reduce tension and violence at key times.





### **Ionad Uíbh Eachach – Community Infrastructure Partner**

#### **Ionad Uíbh Eachach- Cultural, social and economic regeneration:**

Ionad Uíbh Eachach works across the key issues and themes prioritised by the GFNP partners - health /education inequalities, social & physical regeneration and strengthening community development and infrastructure in the context of the present economic crisis. Ionad plays a key role in promoting the cultural / linguistic diversity and heritage in the Greater Falls area as part of the Ceathrú Gaeltachta, identified as a priority given the large number of Irish speakers and services in the GFNP area and the positive contribution that language and culture can make to promoting social

cohesion and physical, social & cultural regeneration.

Ionad Uíbh Eachach has contributed to local regeneration by:

- Transforming a derelict site into a high quality community resource
- Supporting social /economic regeneration through cultural and language development as part of the Ceathrú Gaeltachta
- Expanding access to language /cultural activities in local schools & community centres -fostering community cohesion
- Creating a wide range of learning and cultural opportunities for local adults and youth- supporting lifelong learning
- Creating a unique Irish language high quality early years service including pre-education, care, childcare and afterschool services
- Supporting Beechmount Sure Start, Tús Maith Ard na bhFeá and providing a Programme for 2 year olds through Irish
- Providing health & well being services for parents, holistic family support and targeted services for children with special needs
- Contributing to training employment and economic regeneration through development of social economic activity
- Supporting the development of inclusive services for ethnic minorities and nurturing new local groups e.g. SHINE autism support group

#### **Training Employment and Local Economic Development**

- Successful Irish language social economy childcare project for accessed by 150 children

- Supporting training placements and employment (over 30 staff employed)
- Supporting local parents to access training and employment
- Supporting economic and social development through language and culture

### Service Provision for 0-4 year olds

- Dedicated baby unit with 21 places/ provision for 50 2-4 yr olds
- Wrap around childcare service for over 30 preschool children
- Full time year round childcare provision –open 8.15-5.30
- Targeted support and respite care for vulnerable / at risk children
- Delivery of Sure Start Programme for 2 Year Olds through Irish



### After-School Provision

- Child-centred stimulating Irish language programme supporting learning and development
- High quality after school/summer provision for over 60 children
- Expansion of school closure and holiday provision
- Summer scheme including trips to Planetarium, Exploris, Belfast Zoo,
- Participation in BCC Community Clean ups/intergenerational projects
- Supporting inclusion and development of services for children with autism – SHINE autism group



Over the past year the Advice Centre service has continued to meet various challenges while at the same time bringing to the service our collective experiences in meeting the needs of our clients. We continue to work in partnership with other advice services aimed at delivering a more focused and strategic approach. Over the past year the Advice Centre has delivered the following services.

#### **West Belfast Debt Action Programme.**

This project was based in our Advice Centre and provided support, advice and representation to people in debt. This is an example of a typical case our Debt Advisor dealt with.

#### **£7722.20 written off for client by Land and Property.**

Mrs B came to our advisor regarding a letter asking for the above amount of money which was owed to NIHE. I asked Northern Ireland Housing Executive to look at writing off this debt which was the discount associated with buying a NIHE house and is normally repaid if a property is sold within three years. The property in question had to be sold as my client's ex husband had died.

The client who was living on benefits was given £7722.20 and with this money she paid off her ex partner's funeral expenses and solicitors fees for the sale of the house. Client then got a letter from NIHE advising that the money she had been given was money which was owed to them. The sale of the house was less than a year after client bought the house and was given discount as a NIHE tenant. I wrote to Land and Property advising of the situation with client and explained why the house was sold. It took some time to have the debt written off as it had to go in front of a panel. The debt was with Land and property was eventually written off.





Every second week we provided a debt clinic in the Falls library to give debt and benefits advice from 12.00 -2.00 with a group called Making Moves. The debt advisor also networks with the Greater Falls Hub as a one stop shop for families in difficulty.

#### **Outreach Advice service**

SCA's Outreach Advice is continuing to provide Advice and support to those in the community who are prohibited using the Advice Centre due to disability, lack of mobility or mental health problems. The project has evolved from providing Outreach clinics at various locations in West Belfast to being the first port of call for Social Services, Community Groups, Support Services and Health Professionals. These organisations and health professionals refer clients and service users who have been identified as needing home visits. We continue weekly to provide outreach clinics at Clonard Residents Association and The Morning Star Hostel

**Neighbourhood Development Association (NDA-Community Infrastructure Partner**

Last year (2015/16), via our NDA advice facility and our advice line, we dealt with of 10,037 enquiries (averaging 200 per week) from 2,743 clients and were successful in clawing back over £100,000 worth of unclaimed Social Security benefits.

Our well established client base over the past 26 years has expanded to include BT17 areas due to the outworking of RPA and has come to rely heavily on our services particularly as we are located in the most deprived Wards Falls SOA's 1,2&3 (Source: NISRA).

NDA continues to proactively engage with & support the Neighbourhood Partnership and associated partners and cross cutting themes in the delivery of the neighbourhood action plan.

1.8 FTE permanent jobs safeguarded under Neighbourhood Renewal and a further 3 previously funded posts continue to be core funded outside of NR.



**Clonard Neighbourhood Development Partnership - Community Infrastructure Partner**

➤ We continue to offer support, information and advice to all our member organisations which include:

- **Clonard Residents Association**
- **Clonard Boxing Club**
- **Tar Anall**
- **Community Restorative Justice Ireland**
- **Clonard Youth Centre**
- **Springfield Residents Action Group**
- **Belfast Reconciliation Network**
- **Forthspring Intercommunity Group**
- **Workforce Training**
- **Job Assist**
- **Clonard Women’s Group**

- We continue to sit on the Greater Falls Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership and feed into the area action plan.

- We sit on the Springfield Multi Agency Group (SMAG) steering group which was established to develop relationships between the new E3 Campus on Springfield Road and the local communities of Clonard and Shankill.

- We are represented on the board of Interaction Belfast that looks at interface issues along the Springfield Road.





- We are taking the lead in establishing the Clonard Mid Shankill Initiative which aims to work together to improve relationships and in so doing create a better future for our respective communities.
- Continued to sit on the Healthy Hearts Partnership which looks at health and well-being programmes across the Greater Falls area and which during the year was being planned to morph into a new chronic conditions hub across Belfast.
- We remain actively involved in volunteer recruitment for a range of our programmes and have been very successful in recruiting new members during 2015-16 period,
- We continue to support an advice worker who is based in our office every Wednesday.
- We have organised a range of training programmes for our volunteers to build their capacity, training included:
  - Drug Awareness Training
  - Committee skills
  - Child Protection / Keeping Safe Training
  - Access NI Checks
- We continue to work with local youth providers and sporting organisations to develop youth engagement programmes throughout the year along with intervention programmes at seasonal times such as July and August. We also worked with Clonard Residents Association, Forthspring Intercommunity Group and Workforce Training Services to devise and implement a diversionary youth training programme in response to an upsurge in disruptive behaviour among some young people in the area. We have organised:
  - Summer Cohesion & Intervention Programme
  - A Summerscheme
  - Youth Training Programme





## **Blackie River Community Group – Education Lead Partner**

Blackie River Community Group values the concept of community education being delivered through a community development model to help support people in their journey of lifelong learning. Lifelong learning is a very important aspect of the work which is completed by our organisation and over the year we have developed our programmes to ensure they meet local needs.

➤ Over the past years we have developed programmes around our accreditation from CACHE, OCR, and OCN. These accreditations have allowed us to write up our own programmes and also to use our awarding centres courses which have already been designed and compile with the education framework QCF.

- We have successfully completed second CACHE level 5 Diploma in Leadership for Children’s Care, Learning and Development where we have 9 students achieve the qualification. We are now recruiting for our third year.
- We have developed a CACHE level 3 family support programme, which is the first of its kind within the North of Ireland. We have 9 students who completed this pilot initiative.
- We have been successful in getting an online learning porthole provider (Lazer Learning) from London to extend their services to our organisation which will help support learning through online support and guidance.
- We have continued to run non accredited courses for local people to get them engaged in learning in a fun and unique way. This we hope will begin a new pathway to learning and success.





➤ We promote lifelong learning by engaging with local residents to ascertain their needs and to offer or signpost participants towards programmes which meet their needs. The method which we used to promote lifelong learning is a community development model which is about engaging people where they feel comfortable and to attend courses in setting which suits their needs.

- We are currently working with a number of children who have autism to help support them with their personal development. We have continued our programme with children with additional educational needs in the pre-school to get them to use Ipads to help meet their needs.

- Blackie River Community Group has been working with a variety of stakeholders (BMET, Frank Gillen Centre and USDT) in developing community based education programmes which are residents led and promote lifelong learning. We have run over 40 programmes/courses and if we had more capacity

and resources we would like to develop this piece of work across Beechmount area.

- We run a very successful Afterschool programme throughout the year where we support children with their homework and also promoting personal development through a fun and active model. Our staff are highly qualified and professional and work with each child to meet their needs and to help set realistic goals for their future development.
- We provide a community based homework club in partnership with Integrated Service for Children and Young people. This service allows children to complete their homework in an informal setting which is relaxed and supportive.
- We have run a number of child development courses in partnership with Beechmount Sure Start to give parents the support and guidance which they require. This programme gives us the opportunity to support parents in developing strategies in dealing with their children and help give each child the best start in life.
- Beechmount area has a high level of people who are new to both Ireland and the local area. We run 3 classes per week which include ESOL, English conversation, and get to know your community classes.



## **Roden Street Community Development Group – Education Partner**

Grosvenor Community Centre has continued to pursue a strategy of partnership with other GF organisations across the community, educational and training sectors. More importantly this has translated into operational ‘joining up’. RSCDG is a partner in the Extended Schools Project Management Board, as well as being represented on a local board of governors. The organisation has been and is currently participating in a review of impact with new mechanisms due for launch in July 2016. This process will be implemented across the organisation including related to educational and skills advancement. On a more practical level the organisation has continued to support five primary schools in terms of facilities and support in the period related to out of school hours sports and physical activity, four post primary providers, three further education providers and 2 higher education providers. As well as this Grosvenor Community Centre continues to work with Peace Players International in facilitation of primary schools.

### **Illustrative Snapshots 2015 – 2016.....**

- In 2015 – 2016 the focus was on teaching support in the Afterschool’s and Youth setting. As such two local primary teachers provided learning and homework support on site for 8 x sessions per week term time. The programme actually surpassed expectations with demand and uptake increasing on a weekly basis as parents realised the value at home. The impact data has been collated and has shown already:
  - Improved learning levels and enthusiasm in the actual school setting
  - Improved behaviours in the school and Afterschool’s setting
  - Improved Performance in learning terms and actual achievement
  - Positive parental feedback, uptake and voluntary participation of children
  - Improved behaviours and confidence in the out of school hours setting

RSCDG placed a firmer focus on sharing of learning with other providers both community and educational with a view to carrying curriculum based learning across into Afterschool’s, Youth provision, Family and Summer Provision. This will remain a key aim of 2016 to 2017 with shared data collection and alternation of programmes across sites.



- WISH – Writing is Sharing Hope, creative story writing, awareness of fiction, imagination and literacy, the programme culminated in completion of anonymous stories by young people aged 11- 18 years and children aged 4 – 10 years. The programme helped in a dual capacity to focus on literacy, engage parents, enable appreciation of imagination and provided an insight into the views, thoughts and fears of writers.
- Teacher support on site – this programme helped to more fully coordinate and communicate the activities in community based Afterschool’s and youth provision with formal educational providers.
- Learning Through play, particularly in relation to Outdoor Play at the Grosvenor Community Garden and the ‘World Around Us’.
- Learning outside of term time, particularly in relation to Summer off site programming with visits to compliment the curriculum.





Sunday Car Wash – Young People Choose Their Cause to Support & Raising Awareness of Homelessness

Sustained Core Service Provision in period 2015 to 2016, including **successful inspections**, as outlined;

**Roden Street Early Years Services** (Roden Street Playgroup) - Roden Street Childcare Services as a whole aim to provide safe, stimulating and quality arenas for children, matched with innovation and flexible support for families and parental needs. The services aim to assist the emotional, social, cultural, educational and personal development of children with a view to supporting transition and early engagement in positive community and social life.

**Roden Street Afterschool Service** - enables families living in the area to engage in quality, developmental, safe and welcoming programmes located in an arena and organised in a way to meet their needs. Programme content includes, physical activity, homework support, play development, outdoor play, health programming and arts and crafts.

**Roden Street Youth Service** – in 2015 to 2016 the youth service participated in the pilot TBUC initiative as well as sustaining 5/6 sessions per week of direct programming. One further dynamic element of youth programming at Grosvenor resides in diversity.

**Family Support Programmes** - Family support programming is targeted to provide an additional support platform but is also visible in the daily support and assistance provided at the centre for parents. The services include: Area Wide Minority Ethnic Father's Weekday Support Programme, the Respect Programme for 8 – 11 year olds, Respect Programme for 11 – 15 year olds the Respect Programme for Parents and Youth Minority Ethnic Support Programme.



**Roden Street Summer Scheme** – 7 week programme for Children and Young People, including evenings and weekends. The summer programme enables daily and sustained engagement of children, young people and families coupled with weekend events and residential programming. The summer period can be contentious but more than this can represent a time of vulnerability for a number of families and children. The Summer programme stimulates by necessity high levels of communication, parental engagement at the site, children and young people’s feedback, their planning input, high beneficiary number activities and 7 day opening. In Summer 2016 we intend to ensure that the programme corresponds to and compliments learning plans in the primary and post primary settings. For instance, with excursions to Titanic Building, Ulster Folk and Environmental Learning to aid “World Around Us” development related to the programme whereby we hope to schedule excursions and activities which are related to curriculum content and actual activity programming.

**Volunteering & Vision Pathways** – The volunteering and placement programme in operation at Grosvenor Community Centre incorporates parents, young people and children. This is substantiated by a training and skill development programme which in the period included;

CSR Training for 20 Young Men in response to an immediate employment opportunity in Belfast City Centre, Sports Coaching, First Aid, Designated Fire Warden, Vision Pathway Development (Achievable, Realistic, Aspirational), Public Speaking, Lobbying & Presentation Giving, Interactive Whiteboard and Media Training.



## Ionad Uíbh Eachach - Education Partner

Despite the withdrawal of Belfast Met from community outreach provision Ionad has maintained the following adult /youth educational courses over the year:

### **Ranganna/Classes:**

- 160 adults and youth attending 18 daytime and evening courses
- Beginners Irish through to A Level Irish and Conversation Classes
- Team of ten tutors supported by Belfast Met, Queens University & Gaelchúrsaí
- 80 students achieved CCEA /OCN certificates, GCSE and A Levels
- 5 Dianchúrsaí/ Over 220 attended Crash courses
- 15 adults achieve silver fáinne

- GCSE and Post GCSE courses for 20 ex-Irish medium children
- Blind student (undertaking GCSE) receives award from CCEA.

### **Cultural/Language activities**

- Spraoi – outreach Irish Language activities in local schools for 100 children
- 25 + parents attend themed courses for parents in Irish Medium
- 12 Irish for Parents classes organised for parents in Gaelscoil an Lonnáin
- Annual programme of bilingual cultural talks, trips and guided walks

### **Playgroup, P2YO, Afterschool Parental Involvement, Health & Well Being**

- Irish language playgroup for over 26 children – stay and play, involvement of parents
- Irish language Programme for 2 Year olds in partnership with Beechmount Sure Start





- Parental engagement programme to involve parents in their child's learning
- High quality Irish language afterschool, school closure and holiday service
- Summer scheme for school age and preschool children
- Health & Well Being Group for parents of school age children
- Drugs & alcohol awareness workshops, breast cancer awareness programmes
- Inclusive service, targeted support for children with additional needs including autism support group

### **EDUCATION PICTURES BELOW**

Afterschool environmental trip



Preschool stay & play in the garden



Parents environmental trip to Carnfunnock



## Divis Joint Development Committee – Education Partner

In the period 2015/2015 the organisation has provided a range of services to support the development of children, young people and adults.



### Core Education Provision:

- Children's emotional, social and educational development (via Crèche, 2-3 year old programme and an After Schools project)
- Youth Development Programme including core personal development and Lifeskills programming
- Women's support services including a range of tailored programming
- Employment support services including job search, cv compilation and interview techniques
- ICT training and development provision for all ages

### Additionally we are active partners delivering services and working with;

- Clan Mor Surestart.
- The Heart & Calm projects - delivering health education.

### This year our list of training provision included;

- ICT provision for older men and women (inc. social media and skype usage),
- An intensive PC construction/ build programme for Young People
- GCSE study support and a homework club for primary and post primary aged children/ young people
- OCN Youth Leadership and Personal Development and Lifeskills support
- Budgeting skills and Cooking on a budget
- Behaviour management
- Stress and anger management
- Social Media training
- Child Protection training

Homework Helper

LEARNING IS FUN

Frank Gillen Centre  
Homework Club

Every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday between 4pm and 6.30pm (P2 +)

If you need support/ help with your homework then why not call in?

We provide, in partnership with Queen's University Belfast, a safe friendly and fun environment in which to learn



**The Roden Street Community Development Group – Health Lead Partner**

RSCDG were able in this period to work with a wider number of sports, youth and physical activity teams, minority ethnic community groups and individuals, particularly in relation to strategic development and increased engagement of women in physical activity, through DCAL supported redevelopment of Grosvenor Community Centre. The organisation has undoubtedly become a hub provider of engagement and participation avenues in the period and has continued to diversify internally related to programming content. The ethos of including the excluded and vulnerable is reflected in community health programming at the site. As such community sports, physical activity, cultural engagement health and well-being programming have increased at Grosvenor Community Centre in the period 2015 - 2016.



***Illustrative Snapshots @ Grosvenor Community Centre 2015 – 2016:***

- September 2015 saw the official opening of new shower, changing and associated facilities at Grosvenor Community Centre. On the surface this may suggest merely a physical development however the impact on community sports development has been profound related to competitive growth, league progression, participation figures and diversity within actual programming provision.



➤ April 2016 saw the completion of Grosvenor Wellness Zone, this facility is targeted at those individuals who for a number of reasons are unable to or not confident enough to participate in physical activity, sport or fitness development programmes. The site therefore enables supported but individual access, flexible participation, individual development planning and family unit access.

➤ The 3g Playing field and targeting of internal facilities, enabled substantial growth in physical activity and sports engagement centred around extracurricular access to sports, competitive sports, school sports, training, youth engagement and area wide physical activity events.

➤ Grosvenor Women’s Wellness initiated a new session to the weekly programme and fully branded, with participants wearing green and black kits. The service targets effectively those women/young women who have not participated in a sustained physical activity programming historically. The unique selling point of the service is the degree to which the programme corresponds to other projects on site enabling accessibility and willingness to participate.

- The 3G Playing Field and Grosvenor Community Centre are open 7 Days Per Week, including Evenings.
- The organisation sustained 7 day week opening and facilitation of sports/youth teams.
- RSCDG continued in the period to facilitate physical activity provision at another site via ongoing operational support including payroll support.
- The organisation completed 2 x Business Cases in the period which were successful for major capital investment.
- Multi-cultural programming has been sustained in the period particularly related to basketball provision and volleyball, with an annual international sports event held in August.
- Physical and capital investment secured in the period will see the facilities capacity to host sporting events and league progression maximised.





*Illustrative Snapshots @ Grosvenor Community Centre 2015 – 2016:*

- Outcome focused health promotion through learning is embedded across projects related to nutritional, positive and healthy lifestyle choices and risk taking behaviours.
- Respect Programme continued in the period focused on the wider family unit in relation to participation, lifestyle choices, personal safety and mental wellbeing.
- RSCDG were able in this period to work with a wider number of sports, youth and physical activity teams, minority ethnic community groups and individuals, particularly in relation to strategic development and increased engagement of women in physical activity. As such community sports, physical activity, cultural engagement health and well-being programming have increased



at Grosvenor Community Centre. The 3g Playing field enabled substantial growth in physical activity and sports engagement centred around extracurricular access to sports, competitive sports, school sports, training, youth engagement and area wide physical activity events.

- The organisation has successfully sustained and increased a massive Women’s Wellness Programme including branding, promotion and networking. (The Green and Black Kits branded as Grosvenor Women’s Wellness are worn with pride out and about around the Falls).

- The gardening and environmental programme developed in year to facilitate additional groups including Belfast Met.

- Support increased internally in partnership with BHSCT in facilitation of the Golden Girls, a group supporting those with hearing difficulties.
- Health programming across services increased in the period, including services for children and young people, such as Rowing For Life, Eating Well Nutritional Awareness and World Around Us – Understanding the environmental impact of food transportation.
- Non-traditional sports and physical activity provision increased in the year including rowing, street games, creative dance.
- Respect Programme incorporated health development programming in the period (as outlined).
- RSCDG has continued to support the strategic development of groups/projects via Funding submissions, development plan completion and partnership work to lever in additional physical regeneration support.

### **Redressing Access to Healthy Lifestyle Opportunities:**

We are delighted that in the period 2015/2016 the organisation was able to successfully being to go some way in redressing the gender inequalities related to physical activity at the local level via the Women's Wellness Programme. RSCDG worked in the period 2015/2016 to reduce health inequalities by providing direct opportunities to engage in Physical Activity Programming, Health Awareness Programmes and regarding access to organised competitive sports. A key component of an improving community resides in the improving the overarching health of that community. As such and in line with the community management model services and programmes were scheduled in the period to meet beneficiary need.

### **Innovation in Physical Activity Participation:**

Historically RSCDG sought funding from Sport Northern Ireland towards a capital investment for Basketball posts, an electronic scoreboard and fixtures. This investment enabled the realisation of entry in the Basketball Ireland league, greater multi-cultural sports and physical activity provision, coaching programming, increased engagement in non-traditional sport and increased engagement of women and young women in physical activity. Coupled with this the organisation funded installation of netball equipment to enable the Polish Volleyball Group (Syrena Polonia), to use Grosvenor Community Centre as a home venue and site for multi-cultural engagement. Scheduling and services relative to physical activity programming are designed to reflect beneficiary need, for example, Monday night Ladies Wellness Programme, Weekday morning Physical Activity Programme for Young Men.



**Healthy Lifestyle Programming at Grosvenor Community Centre - 2015 / 2016**

**Respect Programme for Children, Young People and Parents:** A cocktail of activities focused on developing personal confidence, respect for oneself physically and mentally and respect for others. The programme elements include: Nutrition, Physical Activity, Language Awareness, Personal Safety, Personal Respect, Lifestyle Choices.

**Mental Health and Well Being:** The ‘Mind Yourself’ project engaged young men aged 14 – 22 years in stress relieve techniques, physical activity, aspirational thinking and training. The level of support which is daily accessible on site we have found to significantly aid individuals

who are in needs well being, simply having a place where you are welcome, have something to do and talk is of enormous social and mental impact.

### Some Other Highlights to Give a Flavour.....

- 7 Family Fun, Physical Activity Play and Get Fit Together Days.
- Activities to help entrench positive lifestyle choices, such as Youth Awareness of the ‘downers’ after drug and alcohol usage.
- Physical impact of alcohol and the social problems it can cause if abused, implemented for 22 young people, 20 adults and a fun programme to illustrate dangers to 48 children.
- Early age learning in relation to personal protection and identity using cards and illustrative devices to show behaviours which are not acceptable and illustrating personal space and gender well being.
- Grosvenor Cup held in August every year has become an annual feature of the sporting calendar for persons who are not fully engaged in competitive year round football.
- League launches continued in the period including the Sunday afternoon initiative.



Launch of 'Our Centre' DVD – Showcasing Health and Physical Activity Programming at Grosvenor Community Centre

- Sessions to support small group health and wellbeing aimed towards younger women continued in the period with significant health benefits and physical development demonstrated by 89% of participants.





### **Divis Joint Development Committee – Health Partner**

Our key worker remains an active member of the Belfast Local Commissioning Group seeking wherever possible to promote the values (and active input) of the local community infrastructure to health and social care developments including of course the Greater Falls area.

- Specifically LCG input, in this context, relates to the development of Integrated Care Partnerships which included a citywide expansion of the Mental Health Hubs and the continuing rollout of reablement in the West of the city, combined with a development of 4 city chronic conditions hubs. DJDC are actively involved in these initiatives.
  - As part of the Belfast Strategic Partnership outworking of their 5 core thematic areas and 6 overarching areas of interest.
- We are also part of the Executive Programme Group of the Belfast Strategic Partnership, part of a key decision making process for the city and of course the Greater Falls on many key health issues aiming to tackle life inequalities.
  - Through the West Belfast Partnership Board of behalf of the Neighbourhood Partnership and a member of their health sub-group, currently developing a strategic plan on behalf of the group, which envisages a 10 year local reflection of the Public Health strategy ‘Making Life Better’.
  - Our key worker remains the Belfast LCG’s representative on the Belfast Outcomes Group as part of a regional structure of children and young people’s service planning. This includes the establishment across Belfast of Locality Planning Groups and Family Support Hubs although this is a difficult arena with little resources to implement the approach and theory.





- Through our core activities e.g.
  - Divis Youth Project we have provided a range of opportunities to highlight issues affecting the health of young people in this area.
  - Our core early years and primary school age programming
- Through our contact and development work with a local Women’s Group, Immaculata Junior Football Club and our own Family Support programme we have provided a platform for highlighting the health needs of local people.

Programming this year included;

- Sports and physical activity programmes for younger people including with Immaculata Junior Football Teams (across 6 age bands)

- Healthy eating with Surestart programme groups
- Diet and Nutrition with Immaculata Junior Football Teams
- Increased use of the Arts e.g. dance, drama and creative arts (as a therapeutic approach to behavioural and anger management, stress and anxiety issues). Also included making of a historical DVD (with young men and women) but using skills outlined in Public Health Agency’s Take 5 campaign
- Basketball development (with Peace Players and part of a broader Community Relations programme)

Support and discussions held with;

- Maureen Sheehan Healthy Living Centre re: health needs of area
- Healthy Living Centre Alliance re: sustainability and effectiveness of HLC’s
- MacMillan Cancer regarding needs of cancer survivors and carers in area
- Clan Mor Surestart regarding health needs of children and local families





people to help them check their medication, blood pressure, cholesterol and gain facts about different illness.

- We have delivered a variety of older people’s programmes which was aimed at combating social isolation. The programme is part of our Young at Hearts groups who come into the centre once a week to discuss issues which affect them and to plan activities throughout the year.
- The Young at Hearts group delivered a number of programmes throughout the year which included flower arranging, basket weaving, art classes, ICT programme and social outings.
- We work in partnership with Social Services to offer places within our childcare facility to families who are in need of additional support.

**Blackie River Community Group - Health Partner**

Blackie River Community Group has been working in partnership with a variety of community and statutory agencies to deliver on health initiatives. Some of the initiatives include:

- We offer physical activities to combat sedentary lifestyles by providing programmes such as Yoga, Tai Chi, Bums and Tums, and Walking Club.
- We have worked with young people throughout the last year to look at the issue of suicide and self harm awareness. This piece of work has resulted young people being more aware around mental health issues.
- We completed a community pharmacist programme for older

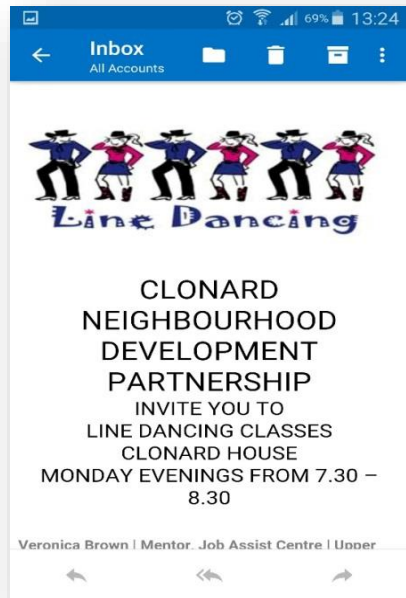


- Within our childcare setting we have a healthy eating policy which mean all the children receive food and snacks which are good for them and promote healthy living from an early age.
- We have developed a Butterfly programme for children who did not access the programme for 2 year olds to help each child meet their developmental milestones.
- We have worked very closely with Beechmount Sure Start to help support parents of children between the ages of 0-4 to meet their developmental stages and to support parents/guardians in their journey of parenthood.



- Blackie River Community Group representative sits on the Children and Young People Strategic Partnership and Belfast Outcomes Group to give a view from the community sector about the issues which children and young people are facing.
- We have supported direct deliver services for people with disabilities by giving Action on Disability access to our premises a few times per week to support their clients who live in the local area.
- We have run a number of health days throughout the year to give local people better access to services which they require.

## Clonard Neighbourhood Development Partnership – Health Partner



- We organised an annual health day in the local community which brought together a range of health professionals such as Health Hearts, Falls Leisure Centre, Drug Awareness Programme to offer information and advice to the local community.
- With Clonard Women's Group we have organised a series of get active circuit programmes in Clonard House which aims to get people actively involved in fitness training again.
- We have organised Yoga Classes for the Women's Group and weekly line dancing classes for the older members of the Women's Group



**Neighbourhood Development Association – Health Partner**

NDA is involved in a range of activity across all 5 GFNP thematic areas and for example in health we have supported and delivered the following;

- 91 people benefiting from healthy lifestyle projects
- 116 people accessing and engaged in new/improved health facilities as a result of direct referrals from our Project services.





### Ionad Uíbh Eachach – Health Partner

**Ionad Family Support Programmes 14-15– in partnership with BHSCCT & Health & Social Care Board & BBC Children in Need**

- **Health & Well Being** Group every Tuesday- relaxation, parenting support, cooking on a budget
- **Healthy Hearts** workshops - smoking cessation, getting fit, nutrition and dental health
- Drug & alcohol workshops – breast cancer awareness course
- Advice and support for parents with children facing additional challenges
- Individual and group play support with play therapists
- Targeted family support & Home Visiting Programme for parents in crisis
- Effective signposting for benefits, employment/housing advice support
- Targeted family summer activities including local trips and activities
- Fortnightly play & peer support sessions for **SHINE** Autism Support Group for local parents & children
- **Tuistí & Tachrán:** (Parent & Toddler) Ionad Parents have enjoyed learning Irish with their children in the parent & toddler



### Clonard Neighbourhood Development Partnership – Social Environment Partner

- We continue to work with Belfast City Council on the bonfire reduction programme which aims to reduce the number of potential bonfires over the August period. We have developed a full intervention programme targeting young people who would often become involved in building bonfires which often lead to ASB and criminal activity.
- We continue to work with BCRC around interface issues in the local area and, through the Clonard Mid Shankill Initiative are building ever closer links with residents from the Greater Shankill.
- We are involved in the E3 forum (SMAG) which involves BMC, PSNI, BCC, DOJ, elected representatives and community representatives from both the Clonard and Shankill areas which looks at interface issues along the Springfield Road.
- We work with Springfield Residents Action Group on the issue of contentious parades along the Springfield Road which takes place every June and July. We have organised intervention programmes at times of heightened tension throughout the summer months which aim to offer young people an alternative to tension and violence.
- We continue to develop a local community festival every August which aims to replace the issue of bonfires.
- We are leading in a dual language street naming project which aims to have all the Clonard area dual street names in Irish and English and have been working with Belfast City Council which has the statutory responsibility to oversee this.
- We continue to monitor any planning applications within the local community to ensure they fit with the character of the area and that there is no over development. As and when is required we facilitate engagement meetings with local residents and the developers.
- We continue to work with CRJI around ASB and criminal activity that takes place and we also engage with the PSNI when required on these issues.





### **Springfield Charitable Association Social Environment Partner**

#### General Advice Service

Many clients attend the SCA advice centre to get help with claiming welfare benefits such as Disability Living Allowance, Employment and Support Allowance and Jobseekers Allowance.

A typical example of this is the case of one client, Mr B attended for help in claiming DLA. He had recently applied for DLA but had been turned down and sought advice about how he could access this benefit. Mr B was 57 and lived alone, had contacted the SCA by phone and an appointment was arranged for the following week. He was an employee of a major public sector organisation but had not been able to attend work for the last 28 weeks due to his illnesses and was currently claiming Employment and Support Allowance and was finding it difficult to make ends meet. Talking to him it emerged that he had serious medical conditions which made walking painful and difficult, left him unable to work and dependent on family members for help in providing for his daily care.

He was receiving medical treatment for COPD, depression and chronic back pain caused by a prolapsed disc in his spine. He had great difficulty walking, due to both breathlessness and back pain and these physical problems had exacerbated his depression. He was at a loss to understand why he had been declined DLA.

However, it emerged that he had filled in his own DLA application and had found it difficult and anxiety provoking. He said he was not great at writing tasks and did not understand some of the questions on the application form and had left parts of it blank. He also said he found it uncomfortable answering questions on the form about his mental health and had skipped over parts of that section. He did not provide any medical evidence with his application despite having received a detailed medical report from an occupational therapy department he had been sent to by his employer.

We wrote to the Disability and Carers Service asking them to reconsider their decision and used the letter to elaborate on his health conditions and care needs and attached his employer's occupational therapy report. This report contained detailed information about his health including the





Volunteer Danielle Daly with Daycentre Member and regular customer Annie Maxwell.

results of x-rays on his back and lungs; outlined his mobility problems, the reasons for his chronic pain, information about his psychological state and the medical reasons why it was very unlikely that he would be able to return to work. .

Four weeks later the client phoned the advisor and explained he had been contacted by the Disability and Carers Service who said they had reconsidered his application for DLA and he had been awarded DLA at low rate mobility and middle rate care.

As he was awarded DLA at middle rate care he was advised that as lived alone and had no savings he should claim income based ESA and he would be entitled to a severe disability premium of £61.85 extra per week and this would entitle him to help with health costs, glasses, rates relief and help with mortgage interest payments.

Based in the heart of our community we remain committed to delivering a professional, community based advice service. There are many challenges ahead especially with welfare reform but we look forward to playing an active role in the further development of the Advice sector.

**Second Time Around**

**Making our mark.....**

SCA's retail service continues to enjoy community support in the form of donations of furniture, bric-a-brac and clothing.

All items donated to SCA are split equally between both our sites situated on the Springfield Road and Stewartstown Road. All monies generated from donations goes towards SCA's service provision to include, Day Care Service for elderly dependent people, Volunteer Project and Advice Centre Services. Though we are going through a difficult economic period where charity shops are hindered by the likes of online trade and cash for clothes schemes, we continue to innovate and initiate with the community, making bonds and connections with other local businesses and our neighbouring communities. We continue to provide an affordable and friendly place for all, and to demonstrate an array of good quality furniture and clothing at affordable prices.



One of our beautiful window displays

Meeting needs.....



One of our many ballots thanks to support from local businesses.

The newest of our retail units based on the Stewartstown Road opened in April 2013 and is proving very popular with the community with a steady growth in the number of people using our retail units while also promoting SCA in a currently unknown area. This has been enhanced recently with the latest shop front refurbishments, which included new illuminating signage, electronic shutters and new front door.

We continue to appeal to the local and greater community for good quality clothing and furniture in a bid to continue to generate much needed revenue to support SCA's services which are crucially needed in the area. Whilst economically these are challenging times for any business to enhance or expand, we have strived to progress and have fortunately received continuous turnover thanks to the generosity of you, the community. We try to attract our customers on a regular basis by giving them exciting and imaginative displays and up to date info on how their generosity has helped us be who we are today.

Our furniture department especially has proven to be very popular in the community and beyond because of its excellent condition and quality. This has been enhanced with the link between both stores and initiation of the request system, where customers can request items and both stores record and reply within a specific timeframe if an item matching request becomes available. This service has proven very popular.



Example of the quality goods generously donated.

## Staying focused....

We continually strive to improve and extend our services and provide the highest level of service possible, we endeavour to provide a professional service and guide our team in all aspects of training required for the position they hold, including customer service training and team building exercises. We are extremely blessed to have a team of innovative and passionate volunteers who proactively incorporate our vision daily in the tasks they undertake. We encourage all our volunteers and customers past, present or future to actively inform us of any ideas or suggestions they have, good or bad, to help us to grow and make our future visions a reality.

## Thank you...

I would like to take this opportunity to say a massive thank you to everyone who has helped us to get where we are today. To everyone who has supported us through your generous donations, purchases, kind words and continued custom, we are forever indebted to you.

Another group of people I would like to thank is my amazing team of volunteers, without you there would be no Second Time Around, your hard work, innovative ideas and dedication to the organisation is faultless.



Volunteers enjoyed a tour of the newly built titanic exhibition.



Volunteers enjoying part of their annual day out at the Whitefort.

Thank you to all our valued customers for your support in the past, present and in the future, your generosity knows no boundaries. If you have goods you want to donate in support of SCA and the vital work we do, please contact us and we will arrange collection at a time suitable to you, you can contact us at



influenced our strategic plan.

- We have been working with Beechmount Residents Association and Davitt’s GAA to tackle the issue of bonfires within the local community. We have engaged with local people to ascertain their views on bonfires and then we have reflected this to statutory agencies.
- We have worked with South West Action Team to look at the issue of Broadway and the difficulties around the 11<sup>th</sup> July. Through this engagement we called a meeting with statutory, voluntary, community and business sectors to develop an action plan. This work resulted in no violence on the 11<sup>th</sup> July period and 180 young people being safeguarded across the Greater Falls Area.

### Blackie River Community Group - Social Environment Partner

Blackie River Community Group has been working with local residents and other community groups to create a better environment for the Greater Falls area.

- We completed a questionnaire with local residents about their needs in a variety of areas such as community spirit, health, education, safety etc. This sample survey was conducted by our staff team who completed a door to door canvass of the Beechmount area and we had over 300 people residents complete the forms. The results of the survey



- We have engaged with local young people in partnership with SIF – Youth Intervention Programme. This engagement was a way to find out the needs of the local young people and to challenge the behaviour which they are demonstrating within the area. This is an ongoing piece of work but has the potential to help young people achieve their full potential.
- Blackie River Community Group has worked with Beechmount Residents Association to get an additional 80 alley gates agreed from Belfast City Council.
- Blackie River Community group has been working with other communities to build relationships and trust between communities. Our young people have participated in a programme with the travelling community which was very successful. We have also been engaging with the Village area through SWAT and building programmes and relationships for local people.
- We also work with Belfast City Council and NIHE around local people's needs such as bin collections, graffiti, block up houses, safety etc.
- We delivered over 60 warm packs to local families and older people who were in need of this support.



### Divis Joint Development Committee – Social Environment Partner

DJDC through its member groups has facilitated or directly provided a range of programmes and measures to support the GFNP’s social environment key issues and priorities including;

- DJDC were directly involved in the planning of St Patrick’s Day celebrations which were preceded by a range of workshops exploring cultural diversity involved the visual expression through artistic display of key themes.
- Ongoing programme with 2 local primary schools (St Josephs and St Peters) in an environmental awareness programme
- We have young people involved in a range of initiatives and activities including personal development programmes including anti-bullying, drug/ alcohol awareness and good relations.

- We play a full role in the development and programme around the Falls Youth Providers and the FYP use the Frank Gillen Centre on a regular basis, DJDC continues to provide operational, strategic and administration support to the Falls Youth Providers wherever required.
- Over the July and August periods there was an intense focus of activity to reduce tension and anti-social behaviour with a key focus on the periods around the 12<sup>th</sup> July and running up to the Divis bonfire of the 8<sup>th</sup> August. This was a series of discussions with people from the community on the rationale and impact of bonfires in the community.
- DJDC through its very active member group the Divis Youth Project were part of a series of summer schemes organised collectively under the banner of the Falls Youth Providers, with over 100+ young people in our youth and 40 in our early year’s summer schemes directly within the Frank Gillen Centre.

- We remain involved in the Together Building a United Community programme in partnership with others, this is driven by Roden Street Community Development Group but involving young people across the area including our own group. This included attending the TBUC celebration event in March of this year.
- Our youth programming continues to be involved in activity which spans a number of communities, this includes involvement in an OCN (Building Relationships Through Sport) with the 'Peace Players'
- 2 projects examining the impact on modern society of the 1916 anniversaries, young people engaged with groups from Donegall Pass to complete a programme of educational activity together on the anniversaries and through Belfast City Council's 'UR City 2' programme to produce a pamphlet/ dvd demonstrating those anniversaries impact on Belfast.
- Young people involved in an ongoing Citizenship group examining their role as role models for their groups.
- A volunteer group of young people continue to design, produce and distribute 'Cool Reads' a youth magazine throughout the Falls area.
- We have with local groups been involved in clean up campaigns involving local schoolchildren and facilitated environmental awareness sessions with local children through our own groups with various ages ranging from 4- 18 years old.
- A programme of activity was held throughout the year which facilitated the inclusion of our older community including a Winter Warmers advice day in conjunction with the Welcome Centre for the Homeless, this included warm clothing, fuel and safety advice. Local Youth compiled and distributed a number of Christmas hampers to older people and we held a Christmas tree unveiling and carol service with 2 local primary schools. Additionally we ran a Xmas dinner for service users and members of the local Folds.





## The Roden Street Community Development Group – Social Environment Partner

### Illustrative Snapshots 2015 /2016

- Gardening and environmental programme at Grosvenor Community Garden increased in the period enabling new beneficiaries and 2 new external groups to engage in the centre and at the site.
- Generated significant positive media related to the Falls ward area.....

### 5 Year Celebration of the 3G Playing Field @ Grosvenor Community Centre



- RSCDG actively engaged in the Greater Falls Housing Providers Forum enabling communication with key housing providers in the area and strategy development at the local level to redress challenges and development of plans for area issues.

- Grosvenor Community Centre has continued to represent an engaging direct facility related to good relations work, particularly engaging the Filipino community and Eastern European community through facilities, programmes and capacity support provision.



Building Successful Communities Launch  
Activity at Distillery Street with Board  
Members

- RSCDG actively engaged in the Divis/ Falls Intervention Programme including related to Youth Work Hours, Shared Diversionary programming, the Youth Participation Forum, Community referral planning and in promotional activities.
- The organisation established a new sculpture garden in August 2013 with a view to displaying temporary art at the site or further sculptures creating a stop off point for foot fall traffic, tourists and community members.
- RSCDG has participated in identifying relevant vacant land sites in the Grosvenor estate with a view to development opportunities.
- The organisation is committed to good relations at the local level and in the period has continued to facilitate and foster shared cultural working at the visible local level in a sustained year round capacity. This activity has quite simply become part of the ‘community infrastructure’ and micro community which exists in Grosvenor Community Centre.
- 2015/2016 programming also extended with facilitation of 2 new organisations at the site. This physical development has enabled an associated programme of Environmental Learning, Practical Gardening and Growing Skills, Training and Engagement aiming to enhance health and well-being through healthy eating, physical activity and environmental appreciation.

**Neighbourhood Development Association– Social Environment Partner**

**The NDA over the past year has had;**

- 53 people/volunteers involved in advice service, physical development and/or environmental improvement projects during the year
- 129 people benefiting from projects to promote personal & social development
- 49 volunteers created/sustained

**Additionally we;**

- Work with the NIHE, via the District & Area Community Housing Networks to gather information about proposed developments and redevelopments and schemes in the NRA;
- Held 3 information events to provide information and advice on Welfare Reform changes.
- Worked with 5 other community groups to help support their work and develop their capacity during 2015/16.



**Ionad Uíbh Eachach – Development & Regeneration Lead Partner**

Contributing to the physical, social and cultural regeneration of the Greater Falls and raising the profile of the Irish language was a key priority for Ionad Uíbh Eachach as part of the Ceathrú Gaeltachta. In partnership with local community centres and the GFNP we have rolled out a number of Irish language outreach programmes and initiatives which have reached community groups, afterschool clubs and local English schools. In addition an innovative series of language and cultural opportunities for adults, study support for young students and new courses for parents and beginners has supported community cohesion and regeneration.

Supporting social and economic regeneration through cultural and language development as part of the Ceathrú Gaeltachta has also been a priority particularly in the context of the economic crisis.

**Social Economy Development – supporting parents to access training/employment & creating jobs for local people**

Affordable, flexible Irish language childcare services have allowed local parents to continue to access childcare and weather some of the uncertainty and social economy development has sustained local employment for over 30 staff and supported a wide range of training opportunities for local people. Work with BCC Business Support last year helped with the completion of a business plan around the expansion of Irish language social economy childcare provision and funding has recently been secured to support this from the Pathway Fund. This work also included rebranding the Ionad social economy project – Gaelchúram, upgrading marketing (2 facebook pages opened) and registering with Companies House. Affordable accessible quality daycare through Irish is now provided for over 150 children aged 3 months – 12 yrs.



### **High quality Affordable, Flexible childcare which is accessible to local people.**

Income generation from the social economy project, combined with funding for respite places & family support helps to maintain affordable, flexible childcare services which are child-centred and driven by quality indicators.



### **Cultúr & Teanga/Culture and Language services.**

- **Beginners:** Free taster courses to support people who want to brush up on their language skills
- **Fáinne:** Free courses were offered for the Fáinne Óir/Airgid attended by 40 local people
- **Féile an Ionaid/Ionad Festival** – looking at the language and cultural heritage of Belfast
- **Cainteanna & Turasanna:** regular talks and trips to build local access to our rich cultural heritage.



**Blackie River Community Group - Development and Regeneration Partner**

Blackie River Community Group has been working in partnership with a variety of stakeholders over the last year to develop the physical and economic regeneration of the local area, some of the initiatives which we have been involved in are:

- We have supporting Clonard Boxing Club to gain new premises which are fit for purpose and that meet the needs of the local area. The funding, planning permission, and builders have all been agreed and we look forward to the new works beginning.
- We supported Davitt’s GAA to gain a new pitch and car parking facilities within the Beechmount area and hope that the work begins in the summer period as we have got planning permission and all legal arrangements agreed.

- We have asked for the NIHE land develop a piece of land beside Blackie River Community Group. This environmental project will see the site transformed and will be support by local residents to maintain and develop the site. This is an on-going process and will be achieved for autumn of 2016.

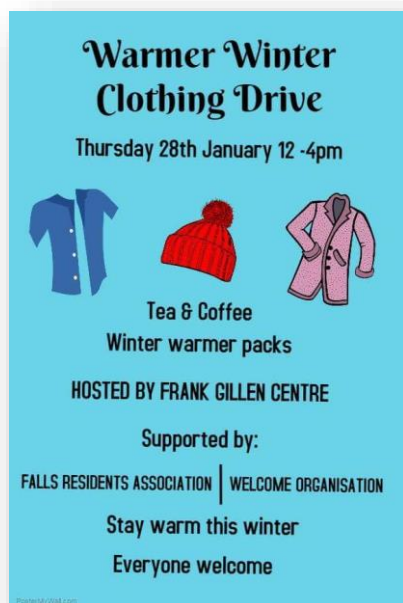
We have also been support the local residents in building their capacity and over the last year we have:

- A door to door canvass was completed by Blackie River Community Group staff to ascertain local residents views on the area and their needs. This canvass seen us engage with over 300 people and gain valuable information about people’s needs and also set the strategic direction of the organisation.
- We have support a variety of projects and residents in building their capacity by providing a venue to meet, engage with statutory agencies and provide administration support.
- Worked with the South West Action Team to look at the economic and physical regeneration of the Broadway interface. This has been an engagement process between two communities and statutory providers to look at developing a shared vision for the future

**Divis Joint Development Committee – Development & Regeneration Partner**

Throughout the year we have represented the views of the Falls community at a number of events and facilitated discussion on a range of topics locally including with/ to:

- West Belfast Health planning and with Public Health Agency around localising Making Life Better
- Belfast Local Commissioning Group re: Population Planning and Public Patient Involvement



- Department for Communities regarding engagement with their new structures
- Clan Mor Surestart re: Business Planning
- Healthy Living Centre Alliance re: sustainability of local HLC (i.e. Maureen Sheehan Centre) including with AGE NI and Dementia NI
- SCA – re: Older People’s Hub at Lawther Buildings
- Big Lottery Fund re: People and Places Programme
- Education Authority re: future direction of education services and areas for priority
- Belfast HSC Trust (older people’s services, ‘New Directions 2’ – 10 year strategy, Grovetree ‘Dementia Friendly - Supported Living’ capital programme development)
- Belfast City Council (community planning and community interventions including community safety initiatives and programmes)

- Belfast Strategic Partnership (health inequalities and Active Belfast)
- MacMillan Cancer Support (needs of cancer sufferers and survivors and appropriate planning)



- We have been involved in a range of discussions around the development of derelict land in the Falls area, in particular the development of what is commonly known as the ‘bonfire site’ for a capital investment for a new Radio Failte premises and the ‘back pathway’ adjacent to Cullingtree Road and the Frank Gillen Centre.
- DJDC’s key worker has been involved as chair of the Belfast Strategic Partnerships Life Long Learning thematic area in a range of discussions around the value of community education and the linkages and support needed to enhance those services for local people. This has included ongoing promotion of the planning processes required for implementation of the ‘Belfast a Learning City’ framework and Learning Charter launched last year in Belfast City Hall. The plan is now to push for Belfast’s inclusion in UNESCO’s Global Learning Cities Network
- There have been many discussions held with key statutory agencies as to how and when local communities should be involved in the design and potential delivery of services locally.
- The NR coordinator (employed through DJDC) has identified core issues to work with local groups around governance, policy development and understanding of collaboration opportunities and we are addressing those on an ongoing basis.
- DJDC through a variety of fora have also been involved in a range of conversations about tendering and procurement which we hope will benefit local people in expanding the range of services on offer to the community but also continue to help shape the commissioning specifications, outcomes and design of future tenders.
- Through active involvement in both the Greater Falls Neighbourhood Partnership and local partnership arrangements in the Falls area we continue to contribute to the building of this measure by active participation in the development of the Greater Falls NP’s key issues and priorities document and strategic framework. Together with other key partner organisations we have been involved in a series of sessions to focus the priorities and issues document of the GFNP into a living document with action points which are both achievable and something we can also aspire too. Much work has taken place around the core document of the GFNP and many of these issues have been raised there, day to day support takes place across the area with a range of smaller local organisations which do not have staff or



physical resources, we have been working with many of these groups to determine their needs and develop appropriate responses and plans to help them.

- We continue to be involved in discussions across health and social care, including Belfast Outcomes Group regarding children services planning. We worked with Beechmount & Clan Mor Sure Starts to provide quality professional services for local families and a number of organisations where supported to make successful bids for support from Belfast Outcomes Groups Family Support funding pot.
- With Belfast Local Commissioning Group regarding the implications of Transforming Your Care and the continued roll out of population plans, the outworking of Integrated Care Partnerships particularly around key issues like mental health and heart disease and chronic condition management and development of self-care options.
- DJDC continues through its base at the Frank Gillen Centre and though its active involvement in the Falls Partnership Initiative and its member groups dealing with early years, youth development and adult training initiatives provide practical support and mentoring on a daily basis across a range of issues from life skills to employment support. DJDC provides practical and direct administrative support to the Falls Residents Association, Falls Youth Providers and Immaculata Junior Football Club’.
- DJDC have responded to a variety of public consultations including the draft budget, to give local people views on a range of subjects and daily engage with a range of statutory organisations and issues relating to service provision across the area

Our ethos and values are based within Community Development principals and we endeavour to use this style of working to develop both local people and local group’s needs.



## The Roden Street Community Development Group – Development and Regeneration Partner

### *Illustrative Snapshots:*

- RSCDG assisted in the completion 2 x business cases in the period for other organisations related to physical infrastructure development culminating in installation of new sporting facilities.
- RSCDG engaged in Divis Falls Intervention, Greater Falls Housing Providers Forum, South West Action Team and Housing Consumer Panel & Building Successful Communities.
- The organisation has continued to actively liaise in partnership and hosted a number of events in the period related to development, including, Launch of Building Successful Communities (DSD), Launch of Initial Grove Tree Plans (BHSCT),
- The organisation lobbied for inclusion of additional parking measures at Roden Street/Roden Pass and Distillery Street successfully.
- The organisation has sustained Roden Street Tenants and Residents Group in the period.

“Community Led and Driven  
Physical Improvement Strategies at  
the Local Level”



Developing our centre  
Together

- RSCDG negotiated with Roads Service for inclusion of parking measures at Roden Street/Roden Pass & Genoa Street.
- RSCDG compiles and disseminates a Monthly Community news sheet to 450 dwellings in the immediate area outlining key area issues, community news, events, services, training opportunities and schedules.
- Roden Street Afterschool’s Service participated in an arts programme with Belfast City Council Interface Programme, culminating in the improvement of Roden Street Interface.

- The organisation partnered in a submission business case for renovation and improvement at two sites, this has culminated in a substantial improvement to the physical infrastructure at Grosvenor Community Centre, enabling capacity growth of teams in the area, continued diversity in usage and 'future proof'. The culmination of this work bore fruit in 2016 with completion, increased capacity and an all round better quality service to all user groups and beneficiaries.

Before.....



After.....





Continued lobbying in partnership relative to Distillery Street and Roden Street, including Place Checks with QUB Students.

Next on the Agenda..... Distillery Street



One Aim of 2014/2015:

Upgrade Physical Activity Facilities and Install New Family Focus and Wellnss Fitness Zone

And, Guess What It Was Achieved in 15/16!!!!

### Clonard Neighbourhood Development Partnership – Development and Regeneration Partner

- We have secured funding through Belfast City Council for the development of a MUGA (Multi Use Games Area) beside the play park in Springfield Avenue.
- We are engaging with Belfast City Council around the Invest NI/Mackie's Site. BCC has already built a £11m Innovation Centre on this site and we are working with them to look at the community benefits for both the Springfield and Shankill areas and also the potential regenerative effects on the entire site.
- We worked with Clonard Boxing Club in securing the funding to relocate



## Greater Falls Neighbourhood Partnership 2015/2016 Expenditure (by Strategic Objective)

The following table details current projects funded via the Neighbourhood Renewal Investment fund. It also details the 2015/16 individual spend for each project, the total amount of expenditure by strategic objective and the overall 2015/2016 total expenditure in the Andersonstown Neighbourhood Renewal Area.

Programme/Project	CFF Funding Period	CFF Funding Amount (Project allocation)	15/16 Spend (as at 31/03/16)
<b>SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT</b>			
Social Environment Theme	01/04/15- 31/03/16	£85,873.00	£78,645.00
<b>Total Social Environment Expenditure</b>		<b>£85,873.00</b>	<b>£78,645.00</b>
<b>COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT &amp; REGENERATION</b>			
Community Development & Regeneration Theme	01/04/15 to 31/03/16	£87,587.00	£86,379.00
<b>Total Community Development &amp; Regeneration Expenditure</b>		<b>£87,587.00</b>	<b>£86,379.00</b>

<b>COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE</b>			
Community Infrastructure Theme	01/04/15 to 31/03/16	£129,791.00	£129,203.00
<b>Total Community Development &amp; Regeneration Expenditure</b>		<b>£129,791.00</b>	<b>£129,203.00</b>
<b>EDUCATION</b>			
Education Theme	01/04/15 to 31/03/16	£120,514.00	£117,152.00
<b>Total Education Expenditure</b>		<b>£120,791.00</b>	<b>£117,152.00</b>
<b>HEALTH</b>			
Health Theme	01/04/15 to 31/03/16	£94,894.00	£90,598.00
<b>Total Education Expenditure</b>		<b>£94,894.00</b>	<b>£90,598.00</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>£518,659.00</b>	<b>£501,977.00</b>

## **Greater Falls Neighbourhood Partnership**

In the 2015/16 financial year, Greater Falls Neighbourhood Partnership total overall spend was **£501,977.00\***.

**\*This does not include services delivered on a west Belfast wide basis and across the Greater Belfast area. These services received £1,334,500 in 2015/16 from Neighbourhood Renewal funding.**

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

Community Renewal; Economic Renewal; Social Renewal; Physical Renewal



Breakdown of actual achievements for total expenditure

**ACHIEVEMENTS OF NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL FUNDING IN 2015/16 YEAR**

**Community Output Measures from April 2015 - 31 March 2016**

COMMUNITY RENEWAL									
	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 projects	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	CR16 - Number of direct referrals to other support services
@March16									
West Belfast Parent Youth Support Group - Social Environment inc Clonard Neighbourhood Development Partnership; Springfield Charitable Association.				26					
Ionad Uibh Eachach - Development & Regeneration inc Neighbourhood Development Association;	94		125	7	67	2	5	86	76
Divis Joint Development Committee incl Blackie River Community Group	98	20	12	75		9	13	65	
<b>Total</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>76</b>

**Economic Output Measures from April  
2015 - 31 March 2016**

ECONOMIC RENEWAL		
	ER3 - Number of people accessing careers advice	ER15 - Number of FTE jobs safeguarded
@March16		
West Belfast Parent Youth Support Group - Social Environment inc Clonard Neighbourhood Development Partnership; Springfield Charitable Association.	35	
Ionad Uibh Eachach - Development & Regeneration inc Neighbourhood Development Association;		32
Divis Joint Development Committee incl Blackie River Community Group		12.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>44.5</b>

**Social Renewal Output Measures from  
April 2015 - 31 March 2016**

SOCIAL RENEWAL - CRIME						
	SR(C)2 - Number of community safety initiatives implemented	SR(C)3 - Number of people participating/attending community safety 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)10 - Number of people involved in dealing with the impact of interface issues
@March16						
West Belfast Parent Youth Support Group - Social Environment inc Clonard Neighbourhood Development Partnership; Springfield Charitable Association.		82	292	115	143	232
<b>Total</b>		<b>82</b>	<b>292</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>232</b>

**SOCIAL RENEWAL - EDUCATION**

@March16	SR(Ed)1 - Number of child care/nursery school places created/safeguarded	SR (Ed) 7 - Number of pupils whose attainment is measurably enhanced/improved	SR(Ed)13 - Number of pupils whose attainment is measurably enhance /improved against baseline position (Tackling barriers to learning emotional health and wellbeing)	SR (Ed) 19 - Number of pupils whose attainment is measurably enhanced/improved against baseline position	SR (Ed) 27 - Number of people engaged in parenting/skills development programmes	SR (Ed) 28 - Number of people undertaking accredited courses and qualifications completed
Blackie River Community Group - Education inc Ionad Uibh Eachach and Divis Joint Development Committee	315	34	40	19	63	22
<b>Total</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>22</b>

SOCIAL RENEWAL- HEALTH				
	SR(H)1 - Number of people benefiting from healthy lifestyle projects	SR(H)5 - Number of people benefiting from new or improved health facilities	SR(H)8 - Number of people using new sports facilities	SR10 - Number of people using existing sports facilities
@March16				
Ionad Uibh Eachach - Development & Regeneration inc Neighbourhood Development Association;	100			
Roden Street Community Development Group - Health programme inc Blackie River Community Group	1524	381	1438	371
<b>Total</b>	<b>1624</b>	<b>381</b>	<b>1438</b>	<b>371</b>

**Physical Renewal Output Measures from  
April 2015 - 31 March 2016**

PHYSICAL RENEWAL	
@March16	PR (9) - Number of projects improving community facilities
Ionad Uibh Eachach - Development & Regeneration inc Neighbourhood Development Association;	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>



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