

Upper Ardoyne/ Ballysillan Neighbourhood Renewal Area Annual Report 2015/16



Neighbourhood Renewal Annual Report 2015/16	
Contents	
1	Chairman's remarks
2	Area map
3	About Neighbourhood Renewal About NRA
4	List of Partnership Members Structures diagram
5	Aims of Working/Sub Groups Working/Sub Group scope and membership
6	Area Groups –Chairs Forum, NB Economic Forum
7	Funded groups Description of local projects and programmes
8	DSD Expenditure Achievements
9	BRO contact details

Chairman' Remarks

This year has been another very successful one for the Ballysillan Upper Ardoyne Neighbourhood Partnership and the Neighbourhood Renewal area. We have seen regeneration continue, with progress on the Greater Ballysillan Masterplan delivering for the NRA. Projects have included housing for Ballysillan Avenue, uplifts to shop fronts on Oldpark Road and Cavehill Road and the completion of the refurbishment of the junction at Ballysillan Park/ Ballysillan Road.

It is with regret however, that due to continuing funding cuts within Government Departments, frontline services have been targeted yet again putting unnecessary pressure on the local Community and Voluntary Sector. Despite this the groups within Ballysillan and Upper Ardoyne have sustained a level of service for which all staff and volunteers are to be commended.

Going forward, the growing financial difficulties facing the Community Sector and changes being made to structures e.g. the Department for Communities being formed, the Northern Ireland Assembly Elections and the possible transfer of regeneration powers being handed to Belfast City Council further down the line, the Community and Voluntary Sector is entering a period of uncertainty. These factors combined will no doubt see across the Community Sector, further reductions in staffing levels which will lead to a reduction in frontline services which will, almost certainly, be felt by the community.

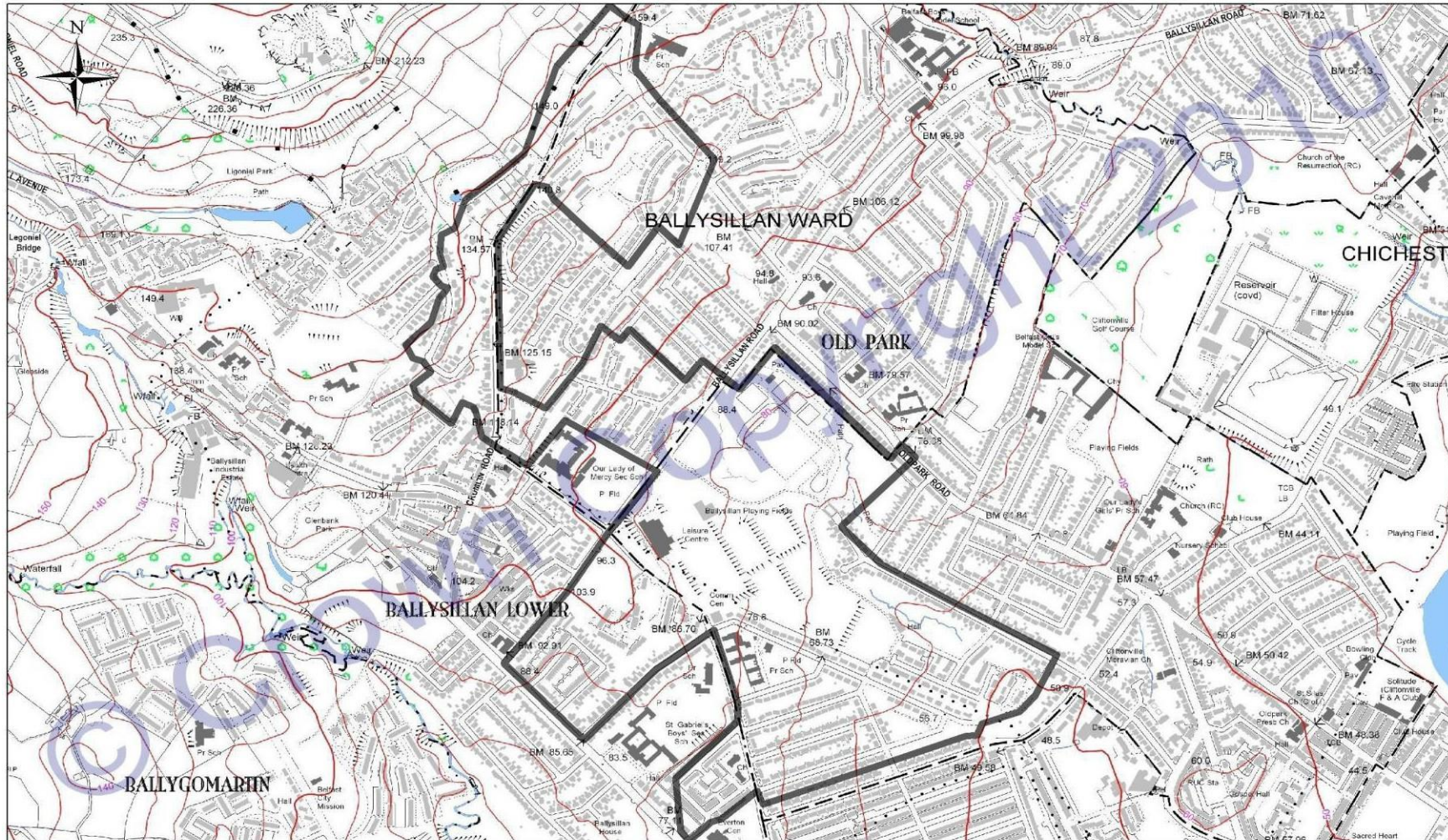
In this climate the role of social economy and frontline services is more important than ever and Ballysillan Upper Ardoyne Neighbourhood Partnership is well placed to build upon the changes that have already begun with the development of the Greater Ballysillan Masterplan and the recent inclusion into the Urban Village process.




Wilson Lambe, M.B.E., Chairperson

Ballysillan Upper Ardoyne
Neighbourhood Partnership

BALLYSILLAN/UPPER ARQOYNE NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL AREA



Scale: 0

NRA  Upper Ardoyne_Ballysillan
Belfast Regeneration Office

Kilometers
1

This material is Crown Copyright and is reproduced with the permission of Land and Property Services under delegated authority from the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationary Office Crown Copyright and database rights NIMA MOU207.2

Upper Ardoyne/Ballysillan Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership ANNUAL REPORT – 2015/16

About Neighbourhood Renewal

The Neighbourhood Renewal Programme aims to reduce the social and economic inequalities which characterise the most deprived areas. It does so by making a long term commitment to communities to work in partnership with them to identify and prioritise needs and co-ordinate interventions designed to address the underlying causes of poverty. Neighbourhood Renewal Partnerships were established with representatives of local community interests together with appropriate Government Departments, public sector agencies, private sector interest and local elected representatives. The socio economic statistics demonstrate some of the principal challenges facing the Upper Ardoyne/Ballysillan area; reflecting high levels of unemployment, low educational attainment, community health issues and the challenges facing young people in the area and lack of facilities available.

About Upper Ardoyne/Ballysillan Neighbourhood Partnership

Upper Ardoyne/Ballysillan Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership is located in North Belfast and covers a wide geographic area, bordering the hills of Belfast.

To take forward the Neighbourhood Renewal Programme, Upper Ardoyne/Ballysillan Neighbourhood Partnership was set up in 2006 to oversee the development and delivery of the local Neighbourhood Renewal Action Plan. The Partnership currently comprises of 22 members who include representatives from local communities, voluntary organisations, elected representatives, private sector and local statutory organisations. It currently meets on a bi-monthly basis and its administration services are provided through the North Belfast Partnership Neighbourhood Renewal Coordination Initiative with alternate bi-monthly Sub Group Chair meetings and regular working group meetings.

The main Partnership Committee of Upper Ardoyne/Ballysillan Neighbourhood Partnership provides the overall direction to the work of the partnership. Its membership is listed below:

Wilson Lambe (Chairperson)	Independent	
Dale Harrison	Community Representative	Ballysillan Community Forum
Ulrike Letzner	Statutory Representative	Belfast City Council
Gareth McKee	Councillor	Belfast City Councillor
Julie-Ann Corr Johnston	Councillor	Belfast City Councillor
John McCorry	Community Representative	North Belfast Partnership
Vacant Ballysillan Representative	Community Representative	
Kelly Harrison	Community Representative	Benview Community Centre
Marcella McNeill	Statutory Representative	Belfast Regeneration Office
Gabi Mornhinweg	Statutory Representative	Belfast Health & Social Care Trust
Anne McAleese	Statutory Representative	Northern Ireland Housing Executive
Joan Totten	Community Representative	Good Morning North Belfast
Alex Crossley	Community Representative	North Belfast Women's Initiative Support Project
Ronnie Black	Community Representative	Upper Ardoyne Community Partnership
Michael Cosby	Community Representative	Upper Ardoyne Community Partnership
Vivien Davidson	Community Representative	Upper Ardoyne Community Partnership
Conor Ellis	Statutory Representative	Belfast Regeneration Office
Gary Kelly	Community Representative	Upper Ardoyne Community Partnership
Jenna Dalzell	Community Representative	Upper Ardoyne Community Partnership
Helen Holland (Lydia Miskimmin)	Community Representative	Glenbank Community Centre
Con. Karl Quinne	Statutory Representative	PSNI

The Partnership has established 4 Sub-groups to assist them in the identification, development and where appropriate the delivery of projects which aim to address Neighbourhood Renewal's 4 strategic objectives of community renewal, social renewal, economic renewal and physical renewal. They also assist local community organisations to coordinate actions that are beneficial for all communities living in the Upper Ardoyne/Ballysillan Neighbourhood Renewal Area (NRA). The BUANP met on 20/05/15, 16/9/15, 18/11/15, 13/1/16 and 16/3/16. The sub groups met a total of 16 times to ensure the NR Action Plan was being implemented during development and delivery of programmes.

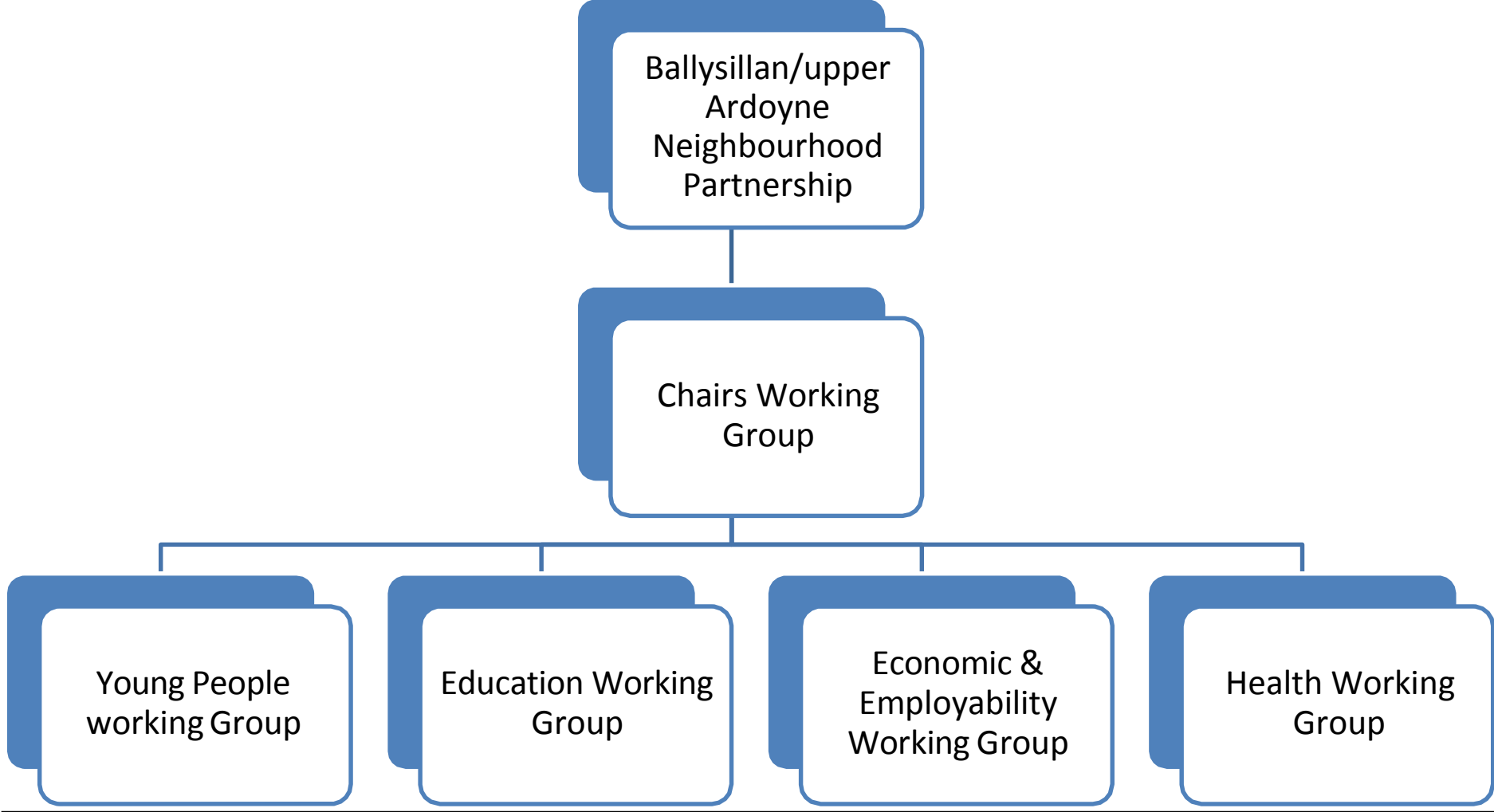
With the development of the first Neighbourhood Action Plan in 2007, all groups involved in delivering neighbourhood renewal priorities had a seat at the main Partnership Committee. After the review of the implementation plan in 2009 it was agreed that the Partnership would move towards a smaller more focused Partnership committee. This coincided with the re-launch of 4 sub-groups which would draw their membership from all those sub-groups working on Neighbourhood Renewal.

Each sub-group then nominated at least one member to sit on the main Partnership management committee. Each sub group appointed a chairperson and a secretary and continues to engage with the appropriate statutory representatives to ensure representation on the sub-group.

The aims of Sub-groups are:

- To influence statutory agencies to focus their investments and resources on the delivery of public services where they have most impact on improving the well-being and quality of life for those living and working in the Ballysillan / Upper Ardoyne area.
- To engage in effective working partnerships with key stakeholders from all relevant sectors to pro-actively deliver the identified priorities detailed in the Neighbourhood Action Plan;
- To maintain a Neighbourhood Partnership and related sub group structures that is representative of local regeneration that will lead, co-ordinate and monitor implementation of the Neighbourhood Action Plan.

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



The sub-group members are made up as follows from a range of statutory and community representatives:

Health Working Group

Alex Crossley, Chair	N.B. Women's Initiative & Support Project
Kelly Harrison	Benview Community Centre
Gabi Mornhinweg	Belfast Health and Social Trust
Joan Totten	Good Morning North
Ashley McNeil	Good Morning North
Marcella McNeill	Belfast Regeneration Office
Ulrike Letzner	Belfast City Council
Victoria Brown	Jigsaw Counselling Service
Joanne Clokey	N.B. Women's Initiative & Support Project
Ronnie Black	Upper Ardoyne Community Partnership

Education Working Group

Vivien Davidson, Chair	Upper Ardoyne Community Partnership
Kelly Gill	North Belfast Alternatives
Kelly Harrison	Benview Community Centre
Carol Massey	Jigsaw Counselling Service
Derek Harkness	Carr's Glen Primary School
Janice Clarke	Girls Model School Belfast
Craig Carlisle	Boys Model School Belfast
Ulrike Letzner	Belfast City Council – Community Development
Lydia Miskimmin	Glenbank Community Centre
Marcella McNeill	Belfast Regeneration Office
Dora Seaton	Hannah Centre Sure Start

Youth Working Group

Kelly Harrison, Chair	Benvue Community Centre
Lydia Miskimmin	Glenbank Community Association
Mabel McClelland	Concorde Community Centre
Graham Beattie	Education Authority
Ronnie Black	Upper Ardoyne Community Partnership
Marcella McNeill	Belfast Regeneration Office
Keeva Watson	Embrace Ballysillan
Peter Thompson	Youth for Christ, Blue Houses
Carly White	NB Alternatives

Economic. Employability Working Group

(Currently being restructured as the Community Vision Working Group)

Dale Harrison	Ballysillan Community Forum
Marcella McNeill	Belfast Regeneration Office
Alice Quinn	North City Business Centre
Anne McAleese	NIHE
Catherine Murray	Dept. Of Employment & Learning
Ronnie Black	Upper Ardoyne Community Partnership
Turlough McAleenan	North Belfast Partnership

North Belfast Neighbourhood Partnership Chairs Forum

Ballysillan/Upper Ardoyne Neighbourhood Partnership is one of five Neighbourhood Partnerships in North Belfast. The other four are:

- Crumlin / Ardoyne Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership
- Ligoniel Village Neighbourhood Partnership
- Inner North Neighbourhood Partnership
- Rathcoole Neighbourhood Partnership

The five North Belfast Neighbourhood Partnership Chairs meet bi monthly to co-ordinate the work of Neighbourhood Renewal across North Belfast's most disadvantaged communities. The Chairs Forum, which is facilitated by the North Belfast Partnership and attended by BRO, is a valuable mechanism for promoting the work of community organisations delivering Neighbourhood Renewal. The Forum also acts as a conduit for collective responses from Neighbourhood Renewal Partnerships on consultations, policy issues and potential collaborative funding opportunities.

North Belfast Economic Forum

Chairs from the five North Belfast Neighbourhood Renewal Partnerships along with representatives from Belfast Regeneration Office and North Belfast Partnership agreed to establish an Economic Forum to work collectively for North Belfast to boost economic regeneration locally. This grouping is called the North Belfast Economic Forum and has a remit to work collaboratively with local training and employment organisations, government departments, statutory organisations and private sector employers to promote increased economic regeneration, prosperity and investment for North Belfast.

Forum membership is as follows: (currently being reviewed)

- Arthur Acheson (Chairperson) representing North Belfast Neighbourhood Partnership Chairs Forum
- Patricia O'Hagan (Champion) Core Systems
- John McCorry representing North Belfast Partnership
- Stephen Reid representing Crumlin/Ardoyne Neighbourhood Partnership
- Pat Boyle representing Inner North Neighbourhood Partnership
- Dale Harrison representing Ballysillan/Upper Ardoyne Neighbourhood Partnership
- Maria Morgan representing Ligoniel Village Neighbourhood Partnership

- Vicky Moore representing Rathcoole Neighbourhood Partnership
- Lynn Carville ESF Representative (Women's TEC)
- Diarmuid Moore ESF Representative (Ashton Community Trust)
- Alice Quinn representing North City Business Centre
- Turlough McAleenan North Belfast Partnership
- Belfast Regeneration Office - DSD

The Forum delivered a very successful economic conference that was held in the new premises of Ulster University in York Street, Belfast.

To focus efforts on identifying economic opportunities, strengthening partnerships with relevant agencies and promoting North Belfast as a positive place to invest, the North Belfast Economic Forum is organising a 'North Belfast Economic Summit'.

The Forum will act as a driver for economic regeneration across North Belfast to bring much needed investment and resources into the area across multiple fronts including job creation, inward investment and maximising the effect of local large scale regeneration projects.

Upper Ardoyne/Ballysillan Neighbourhood Partnership Projects

The Neighbourhood Renewal Investment Fund is currently supporting projects in the Upper Ardoyne/Ballysillan Neighbourhood Renewal Area. However the support of the groups provides leverage to access funding from many other sources to provide programmes to meet the needs of the community.

Community Renewal/ Economic Renewal/Social Renewal

1. Ballysillan Community Forum:

The purpose of this project is to act as umbrella organisation for the area and to enable a range of strong community development services through the provision of training, education, health & wellbeing programmes. Advice, housing, personal development and capacity building is also delivered. BCF also targets safety and crime prevention, collaborative working and youth initiatives for all age groups and sectors in the NRA. The organisation is a resource within the community and works closely with statutory agencies and other voluntary and community organisations to promote community development of the NRA. Ballysillan Community Forum also hosts many community events and the bi- monthly Ballysillan Upper Ardoyne Neighbourhood Partnership and Sub Group Chairs' meetings.

Additionally, cross community programmes are provided in conjunction with Ligoniel Village Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership and other local developments and initiatives through partnership with Benview Community Centre.

It addresses the following themes in the Action Plan:

- Economic, Employability & Training
- Education & Youth
- Health & Wellbeing
- Community Safety
- Collaboration, Shared Space & Physical Regeneration

2. Ballysillan Community Forum - North Belfast Advice Partnership – Welfare advice:

The aims and objectives of this project is the delivery of front line welfare and benefit advice services across North Belfast through various advice centers and outreach locations. The service is available throughout North Belfast and customers are offered a choice of advice centers to ensure client confidentiality and support. The advisors are highly trained in welfare rights and have an excellent network of partnerships which link into specific initiatives and programmes in relation to a range of services including

- Training and employment
- Healthy living support services
- Family support services
- Addiction services
- Elderly care teams
- Carers' support
- Suicide support

3. Upper Ardoyne Community Partnership – Education:

The purpose of the project is to provide educational courses and programmes for all ages to tackle the issues facing educational underachievement and long term unemployment. A wide range of programmes are delivered including skills development, business start-up, educational performance, youth opportunities etc. The education programme has been in existence since 2008 and provides a range of courses, certified and non-certified for adults and young people. The project works in partnership with the local primary school to provide support and facilitate courses within the school including literacy, numeracy and after schools programmes.

It addresses the following themes in the Action Plan: Economic,

Employability & Training
Education & Youth
Health & Wellbeing

4. North Belfast Women's Initiative & Support Project:

The purpose of this project is to deliver key services in relation to health and wellbeing. With priority themes of mental health and healthier lifestyles. The key issues which will be addressed are high levels of suicide and self-harm, drug and alcohol abuse, negative coping mechanisms, promotion of healthier lifestyles, sexual health, men's health and nutrition, enhancing quality of life for local senior citizens. It also delivers arrange of OCN accredited courses, hair and beauty treatments and complimentary therapies.

It addresses the following themes in the Action Plan:

- Health & Wellbeing
- Collaboration, Shared Space & Physical Regeneration
- Economic, Employability & Training
- Education & Youth

5. Glenbank Community Association: -

The purpose of this project is to provide services through the provision of quality childcare facilities in the Neighbourhood Renewal Area. The project provides a daily part time playgroup for 16 children aged 3-5. Additionally the project has responsibility for managing the summer scheme during the holiday period.

It addresses the following themes in the Action Plan:

- Economic, Employability & Training
- Education & Youth
- Health

6. Jolly Roger Complex (North City Business Centre)

This project will provide management responsibility for the Jolly Roger Complex. The Jolly Roger Complex will continue to be operated as a community based facility, promoting the use of the building complex for the betterment of the local community in support of implementation and delivery of services and programmes identified as priority actions in both the Upper Ardoyne/Ballsillan Neighbourhood Action Plan and Neighbourhood Action Plans across North Belfast.

Greater Ballysillan Master Plan

A key factor moving forward is the development of the Greater Ballysillan Masterplan launched in September 2014. The Masterplan has been described as a 'road map for the future' that identifies the critical factors and stages to guide and propel planned regeneration across the Greater Ballysillan area. For an area to benefit from an area plan it should be sufficiently coherent in terms of its geographical location and its actions should be readily identifiable. While people living in many of the neighbourhoods in the Greater Ballysillan Masterplan area might not readily describe their home location as Ballysillan, it is clear that this provides a coherent area, with a meaningful focal point. The inclusion of surrounding areas within the Greater Ballysillan Masterplan also accommodates and supports regeneration for these adjacent localities.

The area has suffered significantly as a result of the troubles and the related issues of community segregation, urban decline and economic migration. Many parts of North Belfast have low rates of economic activity, low educational attainment, poor health rates and complex spatial and environmental issues when compared to other parts of the city or the region as a whole. Much of the area suffers from worklessness and its associated problems. While North Belfast is relatively close to centres of employment such as Mallusk, Duncrue and Belfast City centre, there is relatively low participation in work in many of its neighbourhoods. There are few significant employers in the immediate area (other than the schools) and most businesses are small.

The area plan assesses all major social, economic and spatial issues faced by the community, identifying underlying market conditions, barriers to investment and proposed measures to stimulate local economic activity, particularly in the social economy sector. Schemes include new housing, redevelopment of derelict sites, tree planting, improving pavements and neglected buildings, and more. This is a long term visioning project that extends over the next 15 or so years and intends to address some of the physical issues that currently exist as well as creating a vibrant healthy society in the NRA. Specific examples in this reporting period include regeneration of shop fronts at Cavehill and Oldpark Roads and housing at Ballysillan Avenue.



Improvements have been made to shop fronts on Cavehill Road and Oldpark Road. New housing in Ballysillan Avenue and the completion of regenerating the Ballysillan Park/ Ballysillan Road Junction.





One the many examples of public realm works taking place in Ballysillan and Upper Ardoyne

A map of the targeted area within the context of North Belfast is detailed below:



Ardoyne/Ballysillan Neighbourhood Partnership 2015/2016 Expenditure (by Strategic Objective)

The following table details current projects funded via the Neighbourhood Renewal Investment fund.

Programme/Project	CFF Funding Period	CFF Funding Amount (Project allocation)	2015/16 Spend (as at 31/03/15)
COMMUNITY RENEWAL/ SOCIAL RENEWAL			
Ballysillan Community Forum / Benview	01/04/2015 – 31/03/2016	92089.60	91019.12
North Belfast Women's Initiative & Support Group	01/04/2015 – 31/03/2016	33680.48	32113.92
Glenbank Community Association	01/04/2015 – 31/03/2016	17634.71	16657.44
Upper Ardoyne Community Partnership – Education	01/04/2015 – 31/03/2016	39392.40	36132.71
Total Community/Social Renewal Expenditure		182797.19	175923.19
ECONOMIC RENEWAL			
North Belfast Advice Partnership (Lead Partner Vine Centre) Ballysillan Community Forum Portion only	01/04/2014 – 31/3/2015	29,297.80	28971.53
North City Business Centre – Management of the Jolly Roger Complex	01/04/2014 – 31/3/2015	35,000.00	35000.00
Total Economic Renewal Expenditure		64297.80	63958.53
Programme / Project	CFF Funding Period	CFF Funding Amount (project allocation)	2015/16 spend(as at 31/03/2016)
		£247,094.99	£239,894.72

Neighbourhood Renewal Output Measures	Ballysillan Community Forum (Lead Partner) with Benview Community	North Belfast Women's Initiative & Support Project	Glenbank Community Association	North Belfast Advice Partnership BCF portion	Upper Ardoyne Community Partnership	TOTALS
Project→						
Target						
↓						
Community Renewal						
CR1 Number of people receiving training in community development	124	128			67	319
CR2 Number of people volunteering For community development activities	64	52				116
CR3 Number of people employed	12		20		22	54
CR4 Number of people using new Or improved community facilities	0	54				54
CR5 Number of community/ voluntary groups supported	12	18				30

CR7 Number of community relations projects supported	9				14	23
CR8 Number of people participating in community relations projects	13				4	17
CR9 Number of people involved in projects that promote shared space	1					1
CR10 Number of people using existing community facilities	2748				459	3207
CR12 Number of enquiries and clients by category				3573		3573
CR16 Number of direct referrals to other support services				611	66	677
CR17 Value of benefits claimed as a result of advice given				£942684		

Economic Renewal/Worklessness						
Project→ Target ↓	Ballysillan Community Forum (Lead Partner) with Benview Community	North Belfast Women's Initiative & Support Project	Glenbank Community Association	North Belfast Advice Partnership BCF portion	Upper Ardoyne Community Partnership	TOTALS
ER3 Number of people accessing careers advice					51	51
ER4 Number of people receiving Job Specific training		23				23
ER6 – Number of new business start ups	77				75	152
ER7 Number of new existing businesses requiring receiving advice / support	2					2
ER11 Number of social economy enterprises created/ supported		6				6
ER14 Number of people attaining a formal qualification from participation in Adult Education		50			13	63

ER15 – Number of FTE jobs safeguarded	3.6	1.5	1.2	1	1	8.3
---------------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	---	---	-----

Social Renewal

Education

Neighbourhood Renewal Output Measures	Ballysillan Community Forum (Lead Partner) with Benview Community	North Belfast Women's Initiative & Support Project	Glenbank Community Association	North Belfast Advice Partnership BCF portion	Upper Ardoyne Community Partnership	TOTALS
Project→ Target ↓						
SR (ED) 1 Number of child-care/ Nursery school places created/ safeguarded			16			16
SR (ED) 5 Number of pupils directly benefiting from the project		50				50
SR (ED) 6 Number of pupils directly benefiting from the project	65				6	71
SR (ED) 7 Number of pupils whose attainment is measurably enhanced/ improved					6	6

SR (ED) 12 Number of pupils whose attendance is measurably enhanced/ Improved		60				60
SR (ED) 20 Number of children and young people having access to specialist support to enhance their physical and emotional well being					29	29

Social Renewal
Health

Neighbourhood Renewal Output Measures	Ballysillan Community Forum (Lead Partner) with Benview Community	North Belfast Women's Initiative & Support Project	Glenbank Community Association	North Belfast Advice Partnership BCF portion	Upper Ardoyne Community Partnership	TOTALS
Project→ Target ↓						
SR (H) 1 Number of people benefiting from Healthy Educations/ awareness initiatives		140				140
SR (H) 2 Number of people attending health education / awareness initiatives	50	330				380

Physical Renewal

Neighbourhood Renewal Output Measures	Ballysillan Community Forum (Lead Partner) with Benview Community	North Belfast Women's Initiative & Support Project	Glenbank Community Association	North Belfast Advice Partnership BCF portion	Upper Ardoyne Community Partnership	TOTALS
Project→						
Target						
↓						
						0

Upper Ardoyne/Ballysillan Neighbourhood Partnership Conclusion

In the 2015/16 financial year, Ballysillan/Upper Ardoyne Neighbourhood Partnership total overall spend was:

Community Renewal/Social Renewal	£175,923.19
Economic Renewal	£ 63,971.53
TOTAL	£239,894.72



Belfast Regeneration

Directorate

North & Greater Shankill Office

North City Business Centre

2 Duncairn Gardens, Belfast, BT15 2GG