



# Upper Andersonstown Neighbourhood Renewal Area

## Annual Report 2017/18

## ANDERSONSTOWN NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL REPORT 2017/18



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## **Andersonstown Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership ANNUAL REPORT – 2017/18**

### **About Neighbourhood Renewal –**

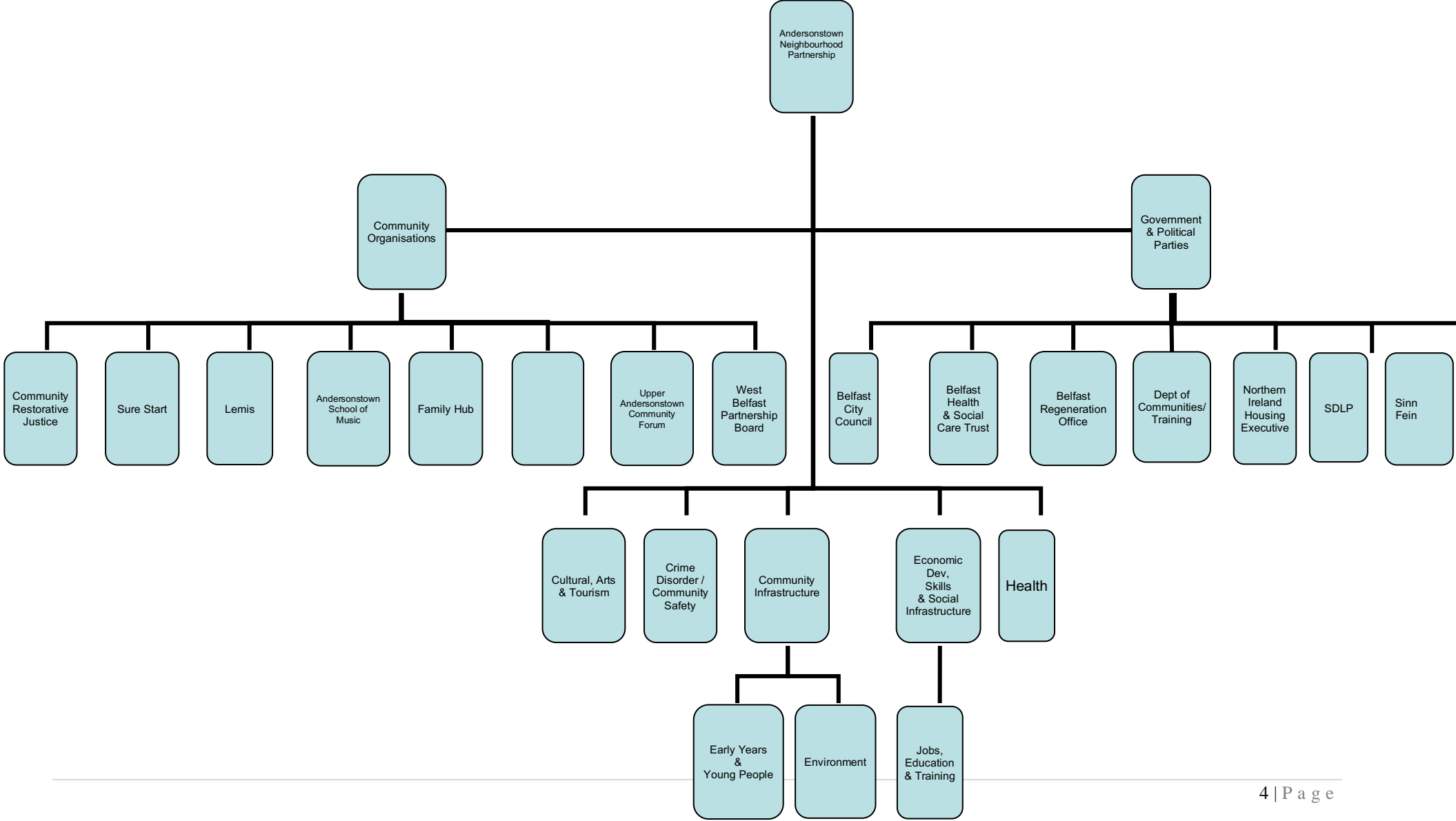
The Neighbourhood Renewal Programme aims to reduce the social and economic inequalities which characterise the most deprived areas. It does so by making a long term commitment to communities to work in partnership with them to identify and prioritise needs and co-ordinate interventions designed to address the underlying causes of poverty. Neighbourhood Renewal Partnerships include members of local communities, Government Departments, Public Sector Agencies, private sector interests and local elected representatives all working together to implement the neighbourhood plan.

### **About Andersonstown Partnership –**

The Partnership currently comprises of 17 members that include representatives from local communities, voluntary organisations, elected representatives, private sector and local statutory organisations.

Name	Organisation	Email address
Tish Holland (CHAIR)	UACF	<a href="mailto:tishuacf@yahoo.com">tishuacf@yahoo.com</a>
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# ANP Structure



**Visions for Andersonstown: *A culturally proud community that is a healthy and enjoyable place to live, learn, work, play and visit.***

**The ANP will be the central vehicle for overseeing the delivery of the vision for the area. Key principles for effective delivery include:**

- An agreed and practical plan of action that can change and respond to needs and opportunities as they arise;
- Clear communications channels developed with and between all stakeholders of the action plan;
- A realistic and genuine approach to the skewing of resources and expenditure by Departments and Agencies working in the Andersonstown area to meet the locally expressed need;
- The ANP as a driving force for making decisions and taking actions forward;
- Positive and timely monitoring of progress in relation to the actions, and appropriate action where necessary.
- On-going engagement and involvement of the local community in the renewal process.
- The following action plan provides a clear basis for partnership delivery and buy-in from all of the stakeholders needed to deliver positive and long-term change in Andersonstown.
- The ANP will link in with the Neighbourhood Renewal Forum through the West Belfast Partnership Board to ensure the effective delivery of area plans.

The ANP aims to address four the strategic objectives of community renewal, social renewal, economic renewal and physical renewal. These have been transformed into a series of priorities for the Andersonstown area outlined below,

# ANP Local Priorities

1. **Community Development / Infrastructure**
  - Early Years, Children & Young People
  - Environment
2. **Crime Disorder & Community Safety**
3. **Culture Arts & Tourism**
4. **Economic Development, Skills & Social Infrastructure**
  - Jobs, Education & Training
5. **Health**

**It should be noted that Andersonstown 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.**

## NP Action Plan Themes & Priorities

### Community Development: Early Years, Children & Young People

Priority:-	Establish Early Intervention services through addressing the following:-	Expand Early Year Childcare services through provision of:-	Expand Services for Children	Young People
<p>Children and Young People's Strategy: ANP to collectively work with statutory, voluntary, community agencies and across sectors to implement integrated planning in accordance with the Children and Young Peoples' Plan, aimed at improving wellbeing and the rights of children in relation to the 6 outcomes for children:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Being healthy</li> <li>2. Enjoying, learning and achieving;</li> <li>3. Living in safety and with stability;</li> <li>4. Experiencing economic and environmental wellbeing;</li> <li>5. Contributing positively to community and society; and</li> <li>6. Living in a society which respects their rights.</li> </ol>	<p>Extend</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parental &amp; community and statutory involvement for children 0-4.</li> <li>• Social Need – tackling child and family poverty</li> <li>• Social inclusion and equality for children and parents</li> <li>• Family support and respite for children, young people and parents.</li> <li>• Training linked to childcare</li> <li>• Development of highly skilled workforce linked to childcare</li> <li>• Positive impact on health and well being</li> <li>• Developing infant mental health support structures</li> <li>• Promoting resilience and coping skills</li> <li>• Bright Start</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High quality child centred facilities in areas of need.</li> <li>• Provision to enable parent's access to training opportunities, enhancing employability.</li> <li>• Provision to facilitate work/life balance.</li> <li>• Provision to give children a 'head start' enhancing development improving educational attainment.</li> <li>• Provision to support families in crisis.</li> <li>• Provision to support community development and regeneration linked to childcare.</li> <li>• Collective implementation of Surestart programme</li> <li>• Continual delivery Surestart programme for 2yr olds</li> </ul>	<p>Continue afterschool's project providing a high quality service and will offer varied activities and educational / homework / including Gaeilge language support. Encourage children to develop socially, emotionally, intellectually, physically and spiritually. To enable Children to have the opportunity to extend the knowledge and appreciation of the environment and gain mathematical, scientific and technological experiences in a community and youth facility. To encourage good communication skills and enhance their self- esteem and confidence by providing a range of spontaneous and planned activities appropriate to the age, physical and emotional development of the children. To give children the opportunity to participate for the first time in activities that will help their personal development, enable them to understand diversity, explore other cultures and traditions. To expand play opportunities for Children &amp; develop play facilities. Delivery of Surestart 0-3</p>	<p>ANP to collectively support Children and Young People by targeting those at risk of engaging in criminal behaviour, those disengaging from education and young people classed as NEETS.. To expand services which will engage those who do not use current provision To ensure young people have the necessary support structures to help them make informed decisions about the transitions in their lives and achieve their full potential. To Deliver Early Intervention strategy SIF To operate as core member of Family Support Hub Youth Intervention Programme (ACI) offering pathways for young people. (12-21) To assist new comers to our communities to settle in. To offer Youth Intervention pathways for young people 12-21</p>



## Community Development: Environment

Priority:-	Work in partnership with the relevant community, voluntary and statutory agencies who have identified key sites:	Expand services through provision of:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to create a sustainable and improving environment within the Neighbourhood</li> <li>• To ensure the ANP and the wider community are consulted and included in the development process of key sites <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Working collaboratively with the relevant agencies to improve arterial routes, address road congestion, parking and promote the usage of public transport</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Visteon Development, Casement Development and (Glassmullan Consultations Completed.) Rapid Transport System.</li> <li>• Housing improvements to continue as a priority, that the ongoing new build and future lifetime homes programme address the homelessness and the waiting list within our neighbourhood area. The securing and renovating of vacant sites/derelict buildings.</li> <li>• Roads and public transport infrastructure to be improved to allow better access to all parts of the city. Serious thought be given to address the ever growing problem of car parking in the Andersonstown area. The upgrading of the street lighting.</li> <li>• To ensure our streets, roads and green areas are kept clean. More street litter bins are provided, dog owners are educated and awareness raised of the many hazards of dog fouling. Support a programme of community clean ups which ensures the proper appearance of our areas at all times. An active campaign against fly tipping.</li> <li>• Alley gating for certain areas. (Completed)</li> </ul>	<p>Support the development of the economic appraisal for the Andersonstown Sporting and Cultural Hub on the Rossa site</p> <p>Suitable premises-Work with Outer West Sure Start to create space and an environment for 0-4 year olds.</p> <p>Casement Park,-ongoing discussions. Ongoing discussions with Fold Visteon site. Glassmullan Consultation Completed</p> <p>Rapid Transit System-Consultation ongoing discussions initiated by DRD to local transport providers and businesses. Work nearing completion on new bus lanes.</p> <p>B.C.C. Delivery of programme to youth and childcare to raise awareness of littering and its affects.</p> <p>Bring concerns/ideas to West Belfast Cleansing sub group.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alley gating</li> <li>• Making the general appearance of the area appealing – community clean-ups</li> <li>• Address anti-social / community behaviour</li> <li>• Enhancing green areas</li> <li>• More community facilities – capital build</li> <li>• Family support – clinics benefits debt management resources</li> <li>• More bins / smoking bins (education)</li> <li>• Dog fouling – raise awareness</li> <li>• Good transport</li> <li>• Homelessness</li> <li>• Living accommodation – access to services to enable this to happen</li> <li>• Awareness of litter louts – educate</li> <li>• Good street lighting</li> <li>• Signage on speed limits</li> <li>• Better road structures</li> <li>• Car parking</li> <li>• Vacant sites / derelict sites to be secured or renovated.</li> <li>• Shared spaces</li> <li>• Addressing fly tipping</li> </ul>

## Culture, Arts & Tourism (CAT)

Priority:-	Work in partnership with the relevant community, voluntary and statutory agencies who will,	Expand services through provision of:
<p><b>Andersonstown School of Music Lead on CAT</b> A baseline to use in identifying strengths and weaknesses opportunities and threats. Monitor progress against baseline Increase awareness that Andersonstown people have of their own culture and the culture of others</p> <p><b>Cultural heritage and diversity programme</b> Programme of cultural diversity encompassing: Irish language; Local Gaeltacht; Music (traditional and contemporary); Traveller Community; existing ethnic minorities; and 'new neighbours' (e.g. recent economic migrant arrivals)</p> <p><b>Tourism infra-structure is very limited</b> Infrastructure in place to attract tourists and give them the option of staying and supporting the local economy. Tourism (and arts and culture) has potential to be a significant income generator</p> <p><b>Public art</b> Community involvement in production of high quality public art. Assist in the campaign to deliver the Andersonstown Sporting and cultural hub plan. Develop a specific music project (song circle) for senior citizens. Develop activities for Feile 30 Celebrations</p>	<p>-Maintain services offered by Andersonstown School of Music Promotion of GAA as a community activity and as a tourism feature A programme of co-ordinated community cultural and multi-cultural events organised per annum Outreach facilitated from cultural groups to various communities (e.g. ethnic minorities, young people) Programme of mutual cultural events to introduce the local community (including minority groups e.g. ethnic minorities, people with disabilities) to indigenous culture in all its forms Programme of activity to assist development of tourism infrastructure: promote training programme for tour guides promote welcome hosts initiative maximise links with WB Festival identify potential sites for new tourist accommodation -encourage programme of traditional entertainment in the area - link into projects with cultural tourism potential in the wider West Belfast area (e.g. Duchas – an oral and digital archive of the experience of the conflict in West Belfast) Identify locations for public art projects. E.g Barracks, Oasis Project Incorporate work already done in the area of public art strategy, to generate community involvement. Explore potential for commemoration of local people through public art</p> <p>The song circle will be a collaboration between UACF, the Utopia Project and Andersonstown School of Music and will deliver the project at various sites including Clanmil Housing Hub.</p> <p>Work with Health and Well being professionals to deliver programmes to help alleviate social isolation and use music and songs to aid memory.</p> <p>Working in partnership with Feile 30 and representatives from various groups in the area to design and deliver various events, activities for Feile in all areas.</p>	<p>Map the current activity within the A'town area, noting organisations that feature CAT directly and indirectly.</p> <p>Production of findings (e.g. using a map or leaflet) to communicate to community stakeholders.</p> <p>Undertake SWOT analysis to assess where gaps exist and where improvements can be made.</p> <p>Identify what makes A'town distinctive with regard to CAT and use this in the marketing material (both in and outside the area) Programme to improve knowledge, interest and awareness of local culture:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- open sessions to generate ideas</li> <li>- Use of map /leaflet to promote CAT features of A'town</li> </ul> <p>The Partnership is currently working with Bunscoil Phobal Feirste, Upper A'town Community forum and the Rossa GAA to deliver the plan for a sporting and cultural hub within the area.</p> <p>Andersonstown School of Music to deliver the Song Circle project Expand collaboration with Feile Office to develop further opportunities to participate in cultural events both local and across the city.</p>

## Crime & Disorder / Community Safety

Priority:-	Work in partnership with the relevant community, voluntary and statutory agencies who have identified key sites:	Expand services through provision of:
<p>Reduce incidents of Anti Community Behaviour associated with hotspots in WB            Improve response to emergency / high risk Anti Community Behaviour – greater co-ordination and communication            Support and engage local communities            Develop and sustain pride / respect in local area            Develop a strategic approach to supporting young people – lobby, promote &amp; facilitate greater coordination between stakeholders            Reduce public &amp; underage drinking            Provide Off-Sales Training            Pre-plan key dates            Increase people’s feelings of safety within West Belfast            Increase confidence in reporting of crime            Reduce violent crime            Encourage reporting of incidents of:            domestic violence            sexual abuse            hate crime            Facilitate access to support services for victims of crime and at risk individuals            Improve inter-action with judicial system</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A more coordinated and collaborative approach between Stat, Vol &amp; Comm sectors on Community Safety &amp; Housing issues</li> <li>• Community Safety Education – Early support around prevention &amp; intervention. Better information sharing within the local community &amp; WB wide</li> <li>• Work in collaboration with Stat, Vol &amp; Comm sectors to address anti-social behaviour – Alcohol/Drug Abuse</li> <li>• Increase the communities’ confidence in reporting crime and dealing with the fear of crime. Build local confidence in the criminal justice system and the Police</li> <li>• Active Communities Network Intervention/Diversions Project</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community safety wardens</li> <li>• Need education – early support services- intervention / prevention</li> <li>• Multi agency approach of community safety forum</li> <li>• CRJ 1</li> <li>• Continuous needs to address:- Street drinking / Alcohol fuelled disorder / Drug abuse</li> <li>• Local hotspots</li> <li>• Streamlining of stat agency approach to community safety</li> <li>• Continual feedback / into council / stat agencies by those community workers on the ground</li> <li>• Better empower and information in our communities</li> <li>• Outreach services</li> <li>• Policy consultations – all have a voice</li> <li>• PR – good news stories – recognition given</li> <li>• Support for victims of domestic violence</li> <li>• Accountability-political stability – more co-ordinated approach within local community organizations</li> <li>• Tackling poverty disadvantage</li> <li>• Human Rights Equality</li> <li>• Social Justice</li> <li>• Local Decision Making</li> <li>• Building opportunities for informal learning</li> <li>• Collective Action</li> <li>• Tackling barriers to Social Inclusion</li> <li>• Capacity Building</li> <li>• Design programmes to alleviate anti-social activities</li> <li>• Offering training and education, intervention activities ie. Midnight soccer, fishing, residents and the development of a Social Impact project</li> </ul>

## Economic Development / Skills / Social Infrastructure Jobs, Education & Training

Priority:-	Work in partnership with the relevant community, voluntary and statutory agencies who will,	Expand services through provision of:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that education and lifelong learning development plans of local organisations integrate with an overall education &amp; learning strategy for the local area which focuses on needs of children, young people and adult learners</li> <li>• Collaborative working to identify skills required by employers for current and future jobs</li> <li>• Target the long term unemployed and economically inactive. Identify training, education, volunteering &amp; employment opportunities that tackle unemployment</li> <li>• Maintain a Social Economy Childcare Business</li> <li>• Enhanced support for business growth / social enterprise / entrepreneurship in schools</li> <li>• Offer a flexible accredited Essential Skills programme, literacy, numeracy, ICT, complementing school's curriculum.</li> <li>• Deliver creche and afterschool's support for people in training.</li> <li>• Quality programmes and opportunities for young people to gain knowledge, peer support, skills and experience, to reach their full potential and be valued as individuals.</li> <li>• Networking with other agencies to ensure best quality deliverable services.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote employability, careers advice, self - employment/business start-up culture within the post-primary, training providers, further education and the wider community. Develop social economy projects that address and identify gaps in services</li> <li>• Access to appropriate &amp; adequate training services that address skills gaps within local economy/ Deliver core employability skills enhancement / Job Assist</li> <li>• Strengthen the economic infrastructure by developing collaborative networks within West Belfast</li> <li>• Promote and strengthen access to education and lifelong learning opportunities in order to raise attainment levels</li> <li>• Develop education and training programmes to tackle barriers to achievement, in particular relating to young people classed as NEETS and long term unemployed</li> <li>• Support children, young people and parents during key educational transition periods</li> <li>• Enhance links with local community organisations and schools so that resources and expertise may be shared and services may be improved</li> <li>• Maintain both formal and informal community based education and learning</li> <li>• Enhanced support for business growth / social enterprise / entrepreneurship in schools</li> <li>• A strategy to utilise the Arts and culture /to improve employment opportunities within the area.</li> </ul>	<p>Essential Skills programme In literacy, numeracy and ICT/ Initial and diagnostic assessment process, level1-3 Increasing self-esteem,/ Confidence building Reaching Objectives/ Formative assessment Provision of accessible, affordable, local training and lifelong learning in ICT particularly amongst those usually most excluded: namely those economically inactive due to age and/or disabilities and/or chronic illnesses. Provision of local public access to the internet and computing facilities. Support in Schools to increase attainment levels of young people in Numeracy/Literacy</p> <p><b>Accredited Courses</b> OCR Entry Level 3 for Beginners OCR CLAIT Certificate ECDL Essential / Extra / Advanced</p> <p><b>Delivery of Active Community Initiatives Training</b> OCN level 1/2, Diploma, Sports Leadership, Youthwork Level 1/2, Mechanics, Bricklaying, Joinery</p> <p><b>Non-Accredited Sessions to 50+age group:</b> Taster Sessions in ICT, Internet, Email / Skype Digital Photography / Imaging/ Storytelling Supervised drop-In internet and computer sessions Lemis /CVs and carry out job search research. Family History Workshops Community based Afterschool's Provision Family Support/Youth Provision Support for parents and children with AEN – links to BELB and SENAC GSCE Support Programmes Access employment and training opportunities for local people through collaboration with the SIF Programme. Enhance opportunities to gain life skills, self-esteem, personal development, mentoring, coping skills for young people</p>

## Health

Priority Services:-	Work in partnership with the relevant community, voluntary and statutory agencies who will,	Expand services through provision of:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mortality &amp; Health, Cancer, Circulatory &amp; Heart</li> <li>• Mental Health, Building Resilience, Reducing Suicide</li> <li>• Early Years/Children's Health</li> <li>• Young People's Health / teenage pregnancy</li> <li>• Senior Citizens Health</li> <li>• Beechall Health &amp; Wellbeing / Low levels of Health Awareness</li> <li>• Health programme before and after pregnancy</li> <li>• The Health and Development of Early years, Children &amp; Young People</li> <li>• Drug Alcohol Abuse</li> <li>• Older People / Isolation / Loneliness/Needs of people with Disabilities/Needs of Carers</li> <li>• Feed into consultation on transforming your care</li> <li>• Healthy Eating for Life</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work on suicide community response plan</li> <li>• UACF Youth Health Promotion</li> <li>• Infant Mental health, T/more/Healthy Babies</li> <li>• Network with local health org's to bring info &amp; services to the area</li> <li>• Membership on WBPB Health Sub Group</li> <li>• A range of activities, classes &amp; workshops to improve physical &amp; mental health of senior citizens, using arts/culture/music activities to improve health</li> <li>• Working on the establishment of the complex conditions initiative</li> <li>• Develop links with Primary Care Partnerships</li> <li>• Work with local mental health hub</li> <li>• Working as a core member of the local family hub</li> <li>• Working with WBPB on the development of an area health strategy.</li> <li>• Working with Health and Well being Co ordinator</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PCP - (GP's) mental health / drugs and alcohol / suicide</li> <li>• Cardiovascular prog – potential for resources and programme development Work with family support hub to improve health outcomes for families. Develop links with</li> <li>• Action cancer</li> <li>• Help the Aged</li> <li>• Link into other community providers</li> <li>• Link to leisure centres / schools / clubs</li> <li>• Arts (eg art reach programme)–</li> <li>• combat isolation with utopia project</li> <li>• Support local Walking groups</li> <li>• Links with mental health, employment eg young men</li> <li>• Develop provision of coping skills for modern living</li> <li>• Focus on support for people with disabilities</li> <li>• Increase opportunity for physical exercise</li> <li>• Promoting cooking classes</li> <li>• Stress Mgt classes</li> <li>• Art/music therapy</li> <li>• Teenage Pregnancy</li> <li>• Personal Dev, Suicide Awareness, Mind your Mate</li> <li>• Physical Activities</li> <li>• Facilitate Parkinson's Group</li> <li>• Health Days</li> <li>• Defibrillator training</li> <li>• Cook It Programme</li> <li>• Ur City 2</li> <li>• UTOPIA Project</li> </ul>

## **Development Officer's Report**

The Andersonstown Neighbourhood Partnership continues to work in a climate of uncertainty in relation to the future direction of the Neighbourhood Renewal Programme. Consultations with representatives from Department for Communities (DFC) and chairs of Neighbourhood Partnerships across Belfast have continued. There is a great deal of concern that the policy of austerity coming from Government in London is undermining the achievements of Neighbourhood Renewal over the last decade. The situation is complicated further by the current political stalemate and the absence of a functioning local assembly to provide policy direction and guidance. The continued uncertainty is affecting the level of moral at a community level and there is strong sense that the achievements of Neighbourhood Renewal are in danger of being lost or stalled. The announcement of cuts between 4 and 17% has had a direct impact on Neighbourhood Renewal and it is envisaged that these cuts will continue for the foreseeable future. As funding decreases essential community services will have to be reduced or closed. The impact of this will be felt most by those communities in areas of deprivation. Cuts to Training and Education, for example, eliminate opportunities available to the long term unemployed preventing them moving into the employment market. Any short term gain as the result of the cut is lost by the long term cost of the person remaining unemployed. Despite these difficulties, the Neighbourhood Partnership has achieved significant successes across our main thematic areas. The Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership will continue to work with DfC to identify solutions to the current issues and problems facing the programme.

### **ANP Local Priorities**

#### **2. Community Development / Infrastructure**

- Early Years, Children & Young People
- Environment

#### **5. Crime Disorder & Community Safety**

#### **6. Culture Arts & Tourism**

#### **7. Economic Development, Skills & Social Infrastructure**

- Jobs, Education & Training

#### **6. Health**

We will be producing a newsletter for delivery in September but unfortunately it will have reduced opportunities for the local area due to financial constraints.

## **ANP Activities 2017/18**

- West Belfast Partnership Board Meetings
- Clanmil Collaboration: To develop and deliver a comprehensive training package aimed at increasing employability for the tenants of Clanmill Housing. This includes Driving Theory, Diploma in Beauty and GCSE Hairdressing.
- Feile 30 Celebrations: Attending meetings for the development and delivery of events across the city for Feile 30 Celebrations. Seek funding for programmes for the Upper Andersonstown Area.
- Engage with the Health and Wellbeing Co ordinator to seek and offer support for those in our area who may be experiencing social isolation.
- Work with the Andersonstown School of Music and UTOPIA project to deliver a 'Song Circle' project aimed at senior citizens to promote memory and develop friendships.
- Couch to 5K
- ANP Meetings (Monthly)
- UACF Open Day
- Health Day events
- Neighbourhood Renewal Forum
- Community Safety Forum
- West Belfast Cleansing Advisory Forum (Quarterly meetings held in various Council premises)
- Ur City 2
- Primary School After-school club
- Bridging the Gap Primary schools project
- Tullymore Walking Group
- Access NI Umbrella Body
- Delivery of Anger Management and Personal Development in schools
- Promoting Parkinson's Group, Andersonstown News Publicity, Affiliating Group.
- The 2017 summer scheme was a huge success with 200+ young people taking part in a number of activities during the 4 week programme
- Sports Leadership Programme – A sports coaching project aimed at providing 14 young adults with the experience and knowledge to become community sports coaches within West Belfast.
- Working on Community Response Plan to suicide with Trust and Community Hub
- Working for and Supporting the proposed plan for an Andersonstown Sporting and Cultural Hub
- UTOPIA project keeping senior citizens connected to their community.
- Comprehensive childcare provision through Tullymore Childcare and Surestart.
- A range of Community Safety Initiatives through CRJ and Active Community Initiatives
- Continued collaboration with local schools to improve area educational outcomes in ICT and Essential skills
- Active Communities Diversionary/Intervention Project
- Meetings re: Funding
- Take 5 Launch [www.makinglifebettertogether.com](http://www.makinglifebettertogether.com)



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## **Active Community Initiative (SIF)**

### **Target Group for the Active Community Intervention Project**

The Project is now coming to an end and to date the Upper Andersonstown Community Forum (Zone 4) has worked with 30 young people on Project A and 120 young people on Project B.

The target group for the project was young people aged 12 – 21 within the following:

- Young offenders – young people that are causing anti-social behaviour, low level criminality and not involved in any positive support interventions (PROJECT A)
- Young people that are deemed at risk or those most in need of early intervention but have not entered the criminal justice system

These young people received intensive support (6-12 month period) over the duration of the project and were a mixture of self-referrals, Outreach workers identifying groups/individuals at risk and referrals through the Family Hub, Job and Benefits office and CRJI.

The objectives of the project was to achieve a reduction in ongoing and daily incidents of anti-social behaviour by at least 10% in each of the six target areas identified for the project and deliver a range of targeted youth engagement interventions with prolific young offenders in each of the six areas. These young people have taken part in various Residentials designed to develop the confidence, resilience, independence and health and wellbeing of the young people engaged in each of the six areas

The young people on the project have availed of training, both accredited and non-accredited, and various activities:

These include:

- Level 1 Personal Development
- Driving Theory Level 1
- Interpersonal skills for the individual
- Upstyles Hair Craft Level 1
- Make up Applications Level 2
- Football Coaching level1
- DJing Skills
- Fishing
- Go Karting
- Residentials



- Sexual Health
- Mind your Head
- Level 2 Bricklaying
- Level 2 Joinery
- Level 1 Mechanics.
- MMA Training
- Fitness with Gym membership
- Quad Biking

The young people are now working on a video to highlight the work and achievements of those who participated on the Project which will culminate in a formal presentation at City Hall in June.



## The YEP Youth Empowerment Project



The YEP Youth Empowerment Project focuses on 3 broad age ranges delivering activities designed to support young people face the challenges in their social, educational and working lives enabling them to overcome the barriers they face. The project offers a range of skills building activities, educational support, resilience and confidence building courses matched to the appropriate age range and ability. Experience from previous projects has identified an increasing number of young people who are young carers or have disabilities and others with learning difficulties that require focused additional support.

Our YEP Project will be delivered through outreach in the local schools, detached youth work and intervention programmes engaging and identifying young people in need or at risk.

### ➤ Outreach with the local primary and Secondary schools:

We have been working with 202 children and young people delivering programmes in the following secondary schools St Marys, CBS, St Genevieve and St Gerard's Resource Centre to 11-16 age group including health and well-being, stress management, healthy lifestyles, personal development, Resilience, Social skills and physical activities and fitness. We have been delivering programmes to 8-11 years in the following primary schools St Teresa's, Holy Child, St John the Baptist, St Oliver Plunkett and Bunscoil. The programmes which are delivered Sports coaching, football skills, Cook it programme, Couch to 5k and life skills.



### ➤ Intervention Youth Work:

We have been engaging with 87 young people through detached youth work identifying young people at risk from anti-social behaviour. These services are delivered on Thursday nights and Saturday morning providing alternative services which focus on small groups. We have been delivering a multi-faceted programmes for 14-25 age group that improves their confidence, self-esteem and equips them with essential skills and other employability skills. Individual learning plans will be created tailored to each young person supporting the transition from education to employability addressing low educational attainment and identifying barriers.



## Afterschool's Chill Zone

We have 30 children attending our afterschool's programme and deliver our Afterschool's 5 days per week to young people in need, they are referred with educational issues, low attainment or social isolation. We deliver support sessions on Monday and Thursday for children who are falling behind in literacy and numeracy. These sessions are delivered by qualified teachers and are funded through the Partnership Board for 40 weeks. We complement this programme through supporting children with homework support and one to one support when needed. The Afterschool's programme are for 8-11 age range which build confidence, increase resilience, coping skills and tackle barriers in transition periods from primary to post primary through the continuation of our Afterschool project.



## ➤ Youth Intervention evening services

Youth services have a membership of 197 children and young people attending. We deliver our Youth Club services 3 nights per week each Monday, Tuesday & Friday evenings from 6-10.30pm. Delivering additional support to children and young people from 8-11year and 11-18 years with multiple barriers or from families in distress in cooperation with local schools and the family Hub. Delivering programmes and training to young people that will support and enhance opportunities during youth club setting. We deliver a range of programmes and activities including Sports, personal and Art development. Our Youth Network has been chosen by our young people to represent them and they give us feedback about programmes and activities and help to plan throughout the year.



### ➤ Tullymore Youth Network

We have a youth committee of 12 young people that are on our youth committee. They meet once a month and are actively involved in planning, designing and implementing programmes and activities for young people which are innovative. We provide opportunities for young people to be elected on to the youth Network to represent the youth giving them a forum to have their voices heard and giving input into the project. We also provide peer mentoring and volunteering opportunities for young people to progress and develop their skills through training and development.

### ➤ Detached & intervention youth work

We have engaged with 87 young people through outreach & detached youth work the project engages with young people on the streets through detached Youth work and we establish tailored programmes and activities to their needs and abilities when they are most at risk during Thursday & Friday nights and Saturday Afternoons. We engage with them and deliver programme of interest for example MMA fitness, Self-defence, sports Competitions and Empowerment programmes



### ➤ Out-reach services with local groups

We have been working closely in partnership to develop programmes that aren't usually available to them in the course of their daily lives.

We are currently working with Andersonstown School of Music and the young people are learning to play the guitar.

We have established links with the Boys and Girls Club of Northern Ireland and have been engaging in cross community events. Our young boy's took part in a Cross Border Football competition and won the competition for under 12's and have gained a place in the Finals in Manchester this June.

Colin Glen trust youth team and ourselves have teamed up to establish Youth Cross community diversionary programme on Friday night through sport. We attend cross community football each Friday night to 11pm. These events allow the young people to meet young people from all sections of the community playing sport and making new friends.

We are also working on an intergenerational programme with & UPTOPA Project and delivered programmes at Christmas through art and shared experiences.

We are working with WBPB supporting young people during GCSE and our essential skills department for young people not achieving. We also work together with our afterschool children delivering support session 2 days per week in literacy and numeracy.

We work with Active Communities engaging young people at risk and providing support and training.

We are providing services for St Gerard's Resource Centre and Kids together delivering programmes for children and young people with special needs and learning difficulties.

We delivered a six week summer scheme programme 5 days per week from 10am to 4pm and 2 residential programmes during the summer with 209 children & young people attending these programmes were very successful and provided much needed services during the summer period.

We have also been working with Clanmil Housing association and developed links delivering programmes to children and young people. We receive referrals for children and young people who are at risk or socially isolated.

We have working closely with West Belfast Family Hub and receive regular referrals for young people to receive support from our services.



The Youth Network has taken the lead on the delivery of this multifaceted project with the support of UACF. The project will also have a fun element enabling young people within the three age bands to enjoy their childhood. This component of the project will offer a range of fun activities as identified by the young people in our consultation. 197 young people will be primary benefit along with their families, teachers and the wider community.

Programmes and activities to equip young people with confidence, self-esteem, social skills to get involved in education, employment and training are also being offered.. Learning support opportunities that address low educational attainment and facilitate the transition from education to employability, essential skills, Youth Work & ICT, Sports Leadership Award and specific support in career mapping for young people who face challenges in education, training and work. Health and Physical Activity Programme, Afterschool, Youth leadership and management Courses, Volunteer training, Arts, Personal development, resilience and mental health programmes. Specialist Additional support programme focused on children with disabilities, learning difficulties or young carers.



The problems faced by young people include low educational attainment, lack of skills for employment, low family income, mental health issues, Drug and Alcohol issues, Sexual health issues and anti-social activity.

Working with the schools we have accepted referrals to support children with additional needs including parental suicide, children on autism spectrum and immigrant children. We are also aware of the increasing number of young people who are carers.



Our project adds to the support infrastructure within the area helping young people build the skills necessary to successfully progress in education, work and training. Our experience has indicated the importance of continuity of delivery in raising the aspirations and confidence of young people to avail of new opportunities.

We provide support mechanisms for children and young people to develop confidence and resilience to cope with these challenges. We want to improve the quality of life, the educational and health outcomes for our young people and build on what we have learned from our current youth project. What we have learned from our consultation is that our young people have great enthusiasm that is often not matched by the opportunities that are available. We want this project to match their enthusiasm to the opportunities they identified in our consultation including better educational support, employability skills, and consideration of learning styles, lifestyle programmes, training and education and fun activities. We want to support the increasing number of young carers, children with disabilities and learning difficulties and to extend our outreach service to meet need in a new social housing estate.

The Youth Network as a voice for young people articulating the need for the project through our recent youth consultation is evidence. The youth network conducted a consultation with young people that identified the content for this project, it also raised gaps in provision related to young carers.

The schools outreach focus on a need for Essential Skills support for young people who were failing at GCSE level. Health and wellbeing programmes and stress management in the lives of young people. Our community based style of learning has supported young people and schools improve attendance, behaviour and performance evidenced by letters of support from local schools, parents and evaluations from the young people.

We work with local schools responding to young people struggling in school by offering community based support programmes with additional support for children with disabilities and young carers. Requests and input from local parents and data supplied by West Belfast Partnership board informs are response.



At the core of our approach is the community development principle of participation and inclusiveness facilitating input into the project from all the stakeholders. The Youth Network is the main mechanism to ensure young people have continuous input into the running of the project.

We continue providing a structured youth provision. We have learned that reliability and continuity are important in the lives of young people. Dedicated committed staff with, knowledge and experience of the area and the challenges facing young people are key to achieving project outcomes. Committed reliable volunteers are also important providing positive role models for the young people and offering a pathway to gaining experience, training and social skills for those young people that become volunteers.

Our YEP Project is funded by Big Lottery and Children in Need and we follow there Outcomes and Indicators to ensuring that we are developing and delivering the best project for our young people.

## Outcome

- Young people, their support networks and communities are involved in the planning and delivery of the project.
- More children and young people will improve their confidence, self-esteem, communication, motivational skills enabling them to build resilience to cope with challenges.
- More young people are ready to take challenges in education, work and training and increase their skills
- More children, young people who are carers / have learning disabilities have improved health, wellbeing, resilience and increased connections with their community

## Indicator

- Increasing involvement of young people of different age ranges in support network, wider community planning, design and delivery.
- Number of young people having increased confidence, understanding of options, abilities and skills to cope with challenges in their daily lives.
- Increased numbers of young people accessed services gaining transferable skills through participation in outreach/ in house, programmes / activities.
- \increased referral from other agencies, increased community involvement. Additional tailored programmes for young carers and more focused sessions.



We have learned to tap into the enthusiasm of our young people and too sustain and developing by equipping them with the social skills necessary to meet the challenges they face. The project has learned to build aspiration in place of demoralisation by providing social, fun, learning and skills building opportunities with both an individual and collective focus. On an individual level we tailor our response to the particular need or issue facing the young person giving extra targeted support while group work activities allow the young people to work collectively on issues that impact on them collectively or on the community. The focused support we offer has identified a range of issues young people face including being carers, issues in school and disability challenges and we know that we need to improve how we respond to these. Experience has taught us to link the project into as many initiatives as possible to ensure the creation of multiple pathways of opportunity for the young people. This is important in relation to education, skills building and employability and is why we will continue to work with schools, statutory bodies and training organisations creating pathways into additional opportunities.



## **OUTREACH PROGRAMME**

### **April 18 – June 18**

Two Primary Seven classes from Bunscoil are taking part in Mindfulness sessions. They are being taught a range of methods and coping strategies to help control stress, worry, anxiety or if they felt under pressure in any aspect of their lives. This includes the transition from Primary Seven to First year in Secondary Education. Some of the skills being delivered are self-massage, self-meditation, breathing techniques, safe ways to help control anger and be mindful of the environment and things around them. These methods are being presented in such a way that they are easily understood which in turn will allow them to show them to their peers as well as practice them on themselves.

### **June 18**

Over the month of June four Primary Seven classes from St. John the Baptist and Bunscoil will come to Tullymore Community Centre to take part in a range of activities to highlight what's on offer. By providing this opportunity we hope to encourage them to engage with our Youth Services and avail of this if they feel they ever need support, have any issues need someone to talk to or they just want somewhere safe to come and hang out with their friends.

### **January 18 – March 18**

Couch to 5K was undertaken with a Primary 7 classes from Buncoil. Two coaches from Jog Belfast developed a tough 10 week training programme preparing them for the 5k run in Falls Park.

In all, 36 young people completed the 5k run. Nicola Conlon, Aaron Maxwell and Patrick Wilson from Tullymore Youth Empowerment Team, Paula Hewitt and Stuart Kennedy from Jog Belfast also completed supporting the young people along the way. We held a Graduation on Wednesday 28th March consisting of an award ceremony in The Falls Park Bowling Green. The young people were all presented with a medal and a certificate for completing the programme, followed by light refreshments.

### **November 17 – June 18**



All together 308 young people from 4 local primary schools (Bunscoil, St Teresa's, St, John the Baptist and Holy Child) took part in the Cook It programme. This entailed the young people learning about healthy eating/living, preparing healthy snacks themselves which would enable them to prepare same at home and taking part in physical activity. The programme has been running for a few years now and yearly the schools express interest in running it again to engage with more children. This fits in well with the Curriculum.

### **December 17**

Inter-generational Christmas Party organised by two Big Lottery funded Projects, The YEP (Youth Empowerment Project) and the Utopia Project in Tullymore Community Centre. Primary 5 and 6 from St. John the Baptist School sang Christmas songs and the Utopia Project senior citizens joined Christmas readings and poems. They also enjoyed a party together.

### **September 17 – June 18**

St. Gerard's Resource Centre's P7s and year 10 took part in arrange of different programmes. Team building, sports, cooking and mindfulness. The programme was planned, delivered and evaluated based on the needs of the group.

### **September 17 - June 18**



Tullymore Afterschools was renamed by the young people as Tullymore ChillZone. During this time the young people have taking part in Computer programmes, Creative Writing, Road Safety, Baking, Art and Craft, Sports. Team Building, science experiments, and other exciting activities were also on offer. Every year in June, there is a certificate presentation to celebrate the young people's achievements,

with their families and friends.

### **September 17 – April 18**

On Saturday mornings for 8 weeks, young people are taking part in a range of fitness activities which include MMA and Circuits. This is encouraging the young people to consider keeping fit and healthy while promoting Healthy Body, Healthy Mind.

### **April 18 – July 18**

Tullymore Youth Club opens on a Sunday night as a drop in for young people who take part in outreach service. The age range is 11+

### **November 17 –July 18**

Thursday's operate for group work sessions as part of the outreach services. Programmes that have taking place are; Personal Development, Drug and alcohol, Self-awareness, Relationships, Gender and Drug Awareness.

### **September 17 – June 18**

Football sessions have been running in St. Oliver Plunkett Primary school to highlight the importance of team work and good sportsmanship. The young people are encouraged to take part in an activity that is fun and promotes fitness and health. An art programme was also delivered allowing children to express themselves through being creative.

### **April 18 – June 18**

Personal Development took placed within the Now Project. The young people have learning disabilities. Activities were plan based on need and ability.

### **September 17 – December 18**

Tag rugby was delivered as a new activity within St. Teresa's Primary School. The children enjoyed this new game and the school may adopt this into the P.E programme.

**TULLYMORE CHILDCARE AND AFTERSCHOOL PROJECT** is a fun filled service where children grow and flourish. We are a high quality provision in the heart of the community, delivering a wide range of services and the highest standards of care for children and their families.



UACF Social Economy Daycare services are based in a community facility in the heart of a large housing estate accessible for families locally. The Childcare project provides direct services for 100+ children some of which have additional needs.

The childcare service enables us to address inequalities particularly in the area of additional needs and social differences. Our children's services follow the early year's curriculum to help support the care, learning and development of the children within our facility and exceed the minimum standards. Each child learns through play and we support children to reach their full potential by developing, socially, emotionally, intellectually, physically and spiritually.

## **SOCIAL ECONOMY**

The UACF operate a social economy model which creates quality employment and training in an area designated statistically as an SOA based on Income Deprivation Affecting Children. Re-investment of generated income continues to develop our services, combining affordability, accessibility, partnerships & competitiveness.

The Childcare services have primarily an ethos of social values and are committed and dedicated to re-investment in this social economy and embrace the ethos of "Not for Profit Enterprise" where local families will have the opportunity to avail of childcare linked to training, education, respite and employment.

## **Grant Funding**

Grant Funding received from Brightstart and pathways, has enabled us to maintain and extend accessible, affordable, flexible provision through provision of quality early years education and learning. It will address educational and social disadvantage through providing continuity of care and support between home and setting and to optimise the early years of children's lives enabling children and their families to achieve full potential and ensure future success.



## INSPECTION

The minimum standards and inspection process has been developed to provide higher standards and assurance of a consistent level of quality in childcare services.

Our last inspection report took place on the 11/7/17. Relating to the Quality Area of Staffing, Management and Leadership. This was an excellent report with no recommendations for improvement.

UACF continues to ensure that children and their families are supported to overcome the effects of abuse and neglect and improve their mental health and emotional wellbeing in that we will provide a quality childcare facility, highly qualified staff and effective programme planning to ensure that children at risk have a healthy and safe environment to develop and have the same opportunities as their peers.

The project addresses barriers faced by, children with additional needs, families in need, women, children 0-4 age range, single parents and factors such as multiple social problems, poverty, abuse, health, housing, inequality and new austerity measures means people are effectively excluded from the social and economic life of the community.

Our Childcare service intervention attempts to address other barriers which include lack of affordable Childcare, low income, lack of training and lack of advice and information for families.

To continue to improve our services we will strengthen our partnerships with local statutory and community services to address assessed needs early. The earlier the support is provided the more effective this intervention will be, protecting the welfare of our children.

Effective early help relies upon local agencies working together to:

- Identify children and families who would benefit from early help
- Target the service that will help
- Significantly Improve the outcomes for children and their families

**An Overview of Project Highlights**

**Celebration of World Book Day**

The UTOPIA Project commenced its 6<sup>th</sup> year by hosting a celebratory event at Tullymore Community Centre for World Book Day. This was a joint collaborating between Verbal Arts Centre and the UTOPIA Shared Reading Room Group. We were joined by European Erasmus guests, Heads of School from, Hungary, Spain, Slovakia and Lithuania. Mary Fitzpatrick, our volunteer Reader from Verbal Arts Centre, read "Her Dog" a short story by Tobias Wolff, followed by a poem by American poet Billy Collins - A thought provoking poem which made us



think about how we project human emotions and actions onto our pets and also about what our pets really think of us. We finished up our discussion with comparisons between the penalties for animal cruelty in Ireland and Hungary. Verdict from all - a great session!

**UTOPIA 5<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration Event**

May 12<sup>th</sup> 2017 marked the 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the setting up of the UTOPIA Project and project participants were keen to celebrate all the achievements of the five years, which had been made possible by five years of Big Lottery Fund NI funding. Everyone took part in the Afternoon Tea Dance and enjoyed a great afternoon of lovely food, and great conversations. Everyone appreciated the fantastic music provided by Joe Connolly, helped along by our lovely UTOPIA singers. Special guest Paul Maskey MP dropped in and his presence and kind words of support were much appreciated.



## Fundraising

With the ending of funding from the Big Lottery NI, naturally there was anxiety being expressed by the participants as to what the future held as they give their views on the importance of the project continuing.

*"All the activities I go to are a very big part of my life. I could never be able to pay for them. Hope we can all help to keep them going. Life will be a sad place again without them. You don't miss things till they are gone."* (Geraldine)



*"Would love to see it ongoing in the future, not just for myself when I see the all the other people who need it."* (George, Member of the Computer Group)

*"The UTOPIA Project is a wonderful concept and if it was more widespread locally could benefit more pensioners, particularly improving their quality of life."* "Art class participant"



*"I'm worried about when it ends"* "Craft class participant"

*"Hope it carries on - it is a lifeline."* "Art class participant"

*"It would be devastating if the activities were dropped - enjoyed by everyone who participates."* Marie, Chair based activities



Throughout the year, many of the participants helped in organising and attending Fundraiser events with Coffee mornings, cake Sales, Book Sale, Bring and Buy Sales and ballots raising almost £3000. All monies raised go directly towards providing extra social group activities. During the summer, the UTOPIA Project was nominated for and voted as the top community project in the LIDL Community Works 2017 Award. Winning the top award provided the Project with much needed recognition and funding of £4000.

A successful application to The Tudor Trust further secured the Project for a further year, allowing the continuation of all of the Project activities, reaching over 110 older people in our community.

As continuing austerity and cuts lead to valuable resources being considerably reduced, it is becoming increasingly more important for the community to find ways to encourage older people to feel better about themselves, keep active, and remain valued and connected in their local community. In terms of financial sustainability, it is difficult to envisage how a project such as this could be sustainable in the business sense of the word - that is generating enough of its own income not to require the support of funding bodies or government departments. Given in particular the very positive feedback the project has generated, it is of vital importance to find ways in which it can continue.

## **The Education and Training Project 2017/18**

The Education and Training at UACF is designed to help people, of all ages, to achieve their potential. It can be broken into three broad areas: A) Education courses such as English, Maths etc.; B) Job related such as Interview Skills, Driving Theory and C) A Mental Health element consisting of Stress Management courses, Counselling and other related courses.

A major aspect of the Education Project is outreach. We teach in schools, outpatient centres, different Community Education Centres and Sure Start. Our client group include refugees as well as their children, people with disabilities and secondary school children.

### **Health**

The courses related to Mental Health include: Stress Management, Anger Management, Confidence Building, Self Esteem (for adults and young people) and the delivery of a course which teaches parents and grandparents methods to instil self-esteem in their children or grandchildren. These courses have been popular and the feedback from them has been very positive over the years.

We also do counselling on a one to one basis. Again the feedback from this has been very encouraging.

English and Maths are delivered on Tuesdays and Thursdays in Beech Hall. This client group have physical and learning difficulties. The attendance has been steady over the last five years and continues to grow.

### **Outreach in schools**

The project has been assessing and teaching students up to level two in both Essential Skills Numeracy and Literacy. The results have been very good.

Refugees and their children have benefitted from the delivery of English as a second language and we have delivered these in several centres including Sure Start in Black's Road. The feedback has been very good and all have made steady progress.

### **Job Related Skills**

Interview skills, CV skills and Driving Theory are some of the Job related training we deliver. . This training can directly impact on an individual's chance of gaining Employment. These are usually taught as a structured course but are adaptable in the event that a participant needs fast tracked to avail of a job opportunity. We have had a high level of successes with the Driving Theory in particular. We intend to continue on with present work and to increase the number of schools, students and organisations we in the UACF work with.

## ICT PROJECT

The ICT project is funded by the Department of Communities and is open to those in the community who want to improve their Computer skills and knowledge. We offer a range of introductory courses with accreditation and these are linked into the Forum's essential skills programme.

We have established links with Clanmil Housing Association to offer computer classes at their new site on the Glen Road. The idea is to build the sense of community on the new site by providing classes for the residents and to link them into the Forum education and training programme.

We endeavour to make all our programmes as accessible as possible to the community offering "roll on roll off" access to many of the courses.

We are currently reviewing the higher level qualifications in order to determine what the community needs and we hope to restructure what we offer in the coming year.

A key role for the ICT project is to link in with essential skills programme and offer a set of qualifications designed to improve employability of those most removed from the labour market.

We hope over the coming year to offer a range of new ICT qualifications that will contribute to improving the skills base within our community.



## SURESTART

Outerwest Surestart offers free services and programmes to families who are antenatal, or have children 0-4, who reside in the Glen Road, Ladybrook, Glencolin and Andersonstown ward areas. The project works within the Upper Andersonstown Neighbourhood Partnership area and delivers programmes in collaboration with a number of organisations to increase access to services and support to local families.

### The high level objectives of Surestart are to:

- Improve the ability to learn by encouraging stimulating play, improving language skills and the early identification and support of children with learning difficulties.
- Improve health by supporting parents in caring for children and promoting children's health and development.
- Improved social development by supporting the development of early relationships between parents and children, good parenting skills, family functioning and early identification and support of children with emotional, learning or behavioural difficulties.



To this end Outerwest Surestart offers daily stay and play sessions for parents/grandparents/carers and their children. A weekly song and rhyme session takes place in the local library and a monthly Dad's Saturday stay and play session is well attended in the Surestart Bungalow. The Surestart Speech & Language Therapist supports families where speech delay has been identified and offers programmes to parents to raise awareness around their children's speech, language and communication development.

Health events and workshops are a feature of the Surestart programme, Welcome New Baby, Feeding in the First Year and Bump to Baby are just a few of these. In addition to this the Surestart Health Visitor, Speech Therapist and Midwife will offer workshops in a number of the play programmes both Surestart run and to our community, early years partners. Weekly Baby Clinic and Breast Feeding Support group offers support to new breastfeeding mums.



Parenting programmes feature largely in the Surestart programme; Nurturing, Parenting Puzzle, Paediatric First Aid, Managing Challenging Behaviour and Cook-it are popular with the Surestart parents.



Physical activity programmes for parents and children, such as Baby & Toddler Swim, Runnerbeans and Walking Groups not only promote healthy lifestyles and physical activities but give parents a chance to meet up with other parents and children.

We facilitate three, 2-3 Year old programmes across the ward areas, two of which are delivered by our community partners. The Department of Education's Programme for 2-3 Year Olds is a developmental programme designed to support children in their pre, pre-school year. It helps encourage independence, supports the transition of children into nursery and pre-school settings as well as encouraging parental participation in the child's development.

## **Andersonstown Traditional & Contemporary Music School**

### **Activity Report**

#### **The main activities undertaken:**

The focus of the programme was to provide affordable and accessible opportunities for those living within disadvantaged areas of Belfast to engage and participate in music activities. This was achieved through the provision of a rolling programme of Irish traditional and contemporary music classes, workshops, performances and examinations. The location for the delivery of classes included CBS, west Belfast (tues & thurs) / Survivors of Trauma and Holy Family PS, north Belfast (mon & wed) and An Droichead, south Belfast (sat).

#### **Music Classes:**

During the year, a total of 1,834 music classes were delivered, equating to an average of 68 classes per week. Using schools, community centres and youth clubs; all classes were conducted in disadvantaged areas of Belfast. A total of 917 individual participants engaged in these classes that were tailored to suit the needs of the young people involved.

#### **Workshops:**

We delivered 15 Workshops that were held in schools, youth and community centres where young people had the opportunity to try out various instruments and meet the musicians. These were designed to inspire young people's interest in Arts and Culture and to encourage participation; workshops were provided 'free of charge'. A total of 165 participants attended the workshops and these were delivered by 26 accomplished musicians.

#### **Performances:**

A total of 59 Performances were delivered during the period that included – End of Term Concerts, an Annual Showcase, numerous performances at community, public and civic events, such as – Féile, Music on the Metro, Tall Ships Festival, Community Events and various Conferences. From an educational perspective, in preparation for these performances, participants develop many essential skills in terms of mastering musicianship and performance skills, and personal development.

#### **Examinations:**

Through the school's programme of activities, the 'Advancement of Education' is addressed via the provision of music classes, which are structured to follow the progressive syllabuses of a variety of examination boards. During the year, 59 of our young participants engaged in examinations that were assessed and accredited via the London College of Music, RGT and Trinity Boards. All participants achieved success, with marks consisting of 6 pass, 34 merits and 19 distinctions.

#### **Projects / New Initiatives:**

**Song Circle Project** – Targeted at people aged 50+, within SOA areas of West Belfast, who are or at risk of feeling Isolated, Depressed, in stages of Dementia, or finding it hard to maintain social networks; this project delivered 15 'Song Circle' sessions to 49 older people enabling them to expand their social network, establish new friendships and discover new abilities.

**UR City 2** – in partnership with UACF, the school delivered a series of Guitar Classes for 8 – 12 young people engaged in Tullymore Community Centre's after school club.

## Monitoring Feedback – Testimonials

### Pupil Feedback:

"My name is Kelan. I started at Andersonstown Traditional and Contemporary Music School (ATCMS) when I was about 8 years old. From the first moment I'd heard a Green Day song I wanted to play the guitar and ever since then my love for music has grown from a small seed into a ravishing rose bush. You'd guess that there were challenges in my way; however, for me it was an easy and extremely enjoyable road to take. I was a very shy child but Tom's guitar class in Holy Family was very welcoming and it didn't take me long to settle in and begin my musical journey. Starting off was harder than I had imagined, but with some work and a lot of patience from Tom progress was made. After about 2 terms I had begun to get the grips of playing guitar, I was then moved up to a higher level taken by Conor Kerr. I really enjoyed this class as Conor was able to teach me many Green Day pieces which I'd always loved. My brother Jai was learning piano at that time with Mary Ellen, so I thought I'd try my hand at this as well. With Mary Ellen as my teacher I quickly progressed through the grades of piano and am now about to do my grade 4. As I said I was always quite shy but I believe through learning music with ATCMS I have become much more confident and sure of myself!"

### Pupil Feedback:

"Music is a journey. I have been on that journey since I was a young girl of eight years old and I took a test in my school to see if I was eligible to learn to play a musical instrument. I passed the first test but not the second. In my opinion no child/person should be told they can't learn an instrument. Music should be a door, open wide for all, young or old. So naturally, I didn't give up and now I can proudly say I play the Cello. Now, I am preparing for my grade 5 and I won't lie when I say it is a challenge. It's hard work but I know I can do it. I've got this far. Whilst still in primary school, the opportunity arose to learn the tin whistle and in my childlike eagerness I jumped at the chance. Flash forward to today and I'm preparing for my grade 6 with 4 grades under my belt. But back in primary school I still wasn't satisfied. You see, I had always wanted to play the Fiddle. I don't know why, I can't describe it, but it was just something I had to learn to play. This leads me to Andersonstown School of Music. My mum discovered the school in a leaflet and I'm so thankful that she did. She bought me a fiddle and then I was away. I signed myself up for Tuesday night classes and I haven't looked back. Now I'm preparing to undertake my grade 4. Music has helped me gain so many qualifications which otherwise I wouldn't have and I feel they are invaluable to me. Last year, I even began to learn a new instrument. I began to learn guitar at the school's Thursday night classes. I can't say I'm very good at it yet but I'm trying and that's all that matters, isn't it? I mean, you should see the look on people's faces when I tell them I play 4 instruments. I love to see it, but I also want people to know that anyone can learn to play any instrument if they want to, if they have the determination and make the time. For beginners, it is vital to remember that practise makes perfect and not to give up. Since joining the music school I have performed in a variety of concerts which has increased my confidence but ultimately has been great fun. I always feel so excited to step out on stage and share my music with the community and oddly don't seem to get nervous at all! I was even shortlisted for an Inspirational musician award last year and got runner up which I still find hard to believe! Music is such a valuable part of my life and as I said at the start it is a journey, a never-ending journey full of excitement and fun.

**Parental Feedback:**

We are the parents of two children that have had the opportunity to learn and enjoy playing music at the school. This school has provided an excellent resource to provide easily accessible music lessons for young people of all ages. Lessons are taught in groups so encouraging social interaction and engagement in a time where computer games rule and I feel this is essential for children.

Learning music in this way gives the children an enjoyable experience and a skill that they will carry throughout their lives. It helps with their confidence, communication and listening skills as they learn to play along with others.

Without the music school, the children would miss out on this experience. Since joining the music school, my daughter has progressed through the fiddle grades and is now teaching at the school. This is something that she hopes to continue and has influenced her decision go into teaching after university.



## Inspire NI Youth Club

We have been running youth club for four weeks now with great success. Children are settled well to the environment, staff and each other. Youth club was set up as I worked with children with special needs and noticed how limited facilities to meet these children's very individual needs. Children attending youth club are aged 5-15 years. Youth club provides another social outlet giving children an opportunity to build their independence, make friends and have fun in an environment where they feel they can be themselves. Youth club also gives parents a few hours to themselves or to spend with their other children. Reviews even at this early stage from parents say that they have enjoyed a lunch date, spent some quality time over a cup of tea or had a trip out with other children.

The children have grown massively in confidence coming to youth club with no issues and running into youth club leaving their parents at the door and not looking back. We hope to continue this early success allowing these friendships to grow and the children to continue to progress.

Gemma Reynolds (Head Coach)



## **NORTH AND WEST BELFAST PARKINSON'S SUPPORT GROUP.**

The Parkinson's Group is a self-help Group that provides support and advice to people living with Parkinson's and their families. In February 2018 the Group celebrated five years of offering the above support to people in our local area. We have seen an increase locally in awareness of Parkinson's and the number of people coming forward seeking help and support. We currently have sixteen members registered with the group, the ages range from mid-fifties to early-seventies.

The symptoms of Parkinson's can be different in each person from mild symptoms to more severe disabilities in others, the one common factor is the feeling of isolation and uncertainty experienced by those living with the condition and their Carer/Family members.

We are currently running a programme in partnership with Michael Cooper, the Pharmacist Manager of Coopers Chemist through "The Building the Community-Pharmacy Partnership" (BCPP) Project with the aim of achieving the reduction of isolation and the sharing of knowledge and experience, an improved interaction with our local Pharmacist and recognizing other support available in the local area to improve Health and Wellbeing.

The programme is focusing on the following areas:-

- Mental Health and Wellbeing awareness
- Increased Mobility in Parkinson's
- General Health and Parkinson's related issues
- Activities that can provide stimulus to people living with Parkinson's

It is the intention to run the Programme for 18 months, the programme includes 12 sessions with the Pharmacist over a period of 12 months covering topics identified by the group, potentially Pain Management, Heart Health, and use of medicines, also deliver 6 additional sessions to include Citizen Advice Bureau; Aware Defeat Depression; Physiotherapy Team who will focus on Prevention of Falls and Improving Balance; also the contact with other Statutory Agencies.

The Parkinson's Support Group meet on the third Tuesday of each month in Tullymore Community Centre.

More information about the Parkinson's Support group can be had by contacting Fionnuala McCaughley by email: [fionnuala.mccaughley@sky.com](mailto:fionnuala.mccaughley@sky.com) or phone/text Mob: 07512 606 486



## **Community Restorative Justice Ireland – Andersonstown Report 2018**

**Community Restorative Justice Ireland works alongside Greater Andersonstown and other local providers to agree priority actions and to develop programmes to deliver against these. These Programmes include collaborative partnerships.**

The CRJI Greater Andersonstown project supports the delivery of services identified as thematic priorities identified within the Community Safety Social Environment Crime Theme of Andersonstown Neighbourhood Partnership, and will work with other agencies to deliver programmes to address these themes and priorities.

These are:

- The Upper Falls Community Safety Forum illustrates the coordinated and collaborative approach between statutory, voluntary and community sectors on Community Safety issues
- Early support around presentation and intervention
- Better information sharing between community, community Groups and Statutory agencies;
- Work with all agencies to address anti-community behaviour;
- Increase community confidence in reporting crime and dealing with fear of crime, and build local peoples' confidence in the Criminal justice System;
- Support and work with victims and offenders of crime, ensuring that direct implementation of restorative practices are used to address issues and ensure all those involved have their voices heard;
- To use CRJ process in neighbourhood disputes which ensures issues raised are dealt with in an holistic and inclusive process.

In this period our office dealt with 200 new cases, helping over 2,500 people, relevant agencies where involved and referred to ensuring the promotion of restorative practices. Community Restorative Justice Ireland offers various support projects, namely; Travellers' Support Team; Aspire Youth Project; Macs Housing Project and we are Lead Body for the Outer West Family Support Hub.



CRJI Greater Andersonstown works collaboratively with Belfast City Council, PSNI, Northern Ireland Housing Executive, Housing Associations, members DPCSP, West Belfast PCSP, Northern Ireland Alternatives, Suffolk and Lenadoon Interface Group, Social Services, Falls Community Council, Safer Neighbourhood Partnership, Falls Woman's Centre, Residents Associations, GAA, local counsellors and MLA's. CRJI is keen to promote better working relationships between ours and other agencies, focus resources, increase confidence in community relations, and together develop and instigate strategies and action plans.

CRJI engaged with the above agencies to address community issues. We will continue to work with other agencies in a multi-agency approach on community safety issues and ensure that this agrees with the framework developed for the Andersonstown Neighbourhood Partnership Priorities for Community Safety. Our project will identify need and address issues as detailed and agreed as our objectives and outputs.

**Below is the Strategic Objectives/Outcomes and Priority Measures that the CRJI Greater Andersonstown project worked to in the period April 2017 to March 2018**

<b>Strategic Objective</b>	<b>Desired Outcome</b>	<b>Priority Met</b>
<b>SR(C) 1: Number of people receiving advice on crime prevention in Greater Andersonstown</b>	361	362 – We have exceeded our target outcomes
<b>SR(C) 2: Number of community Safety initiatives implemented in Greater Andersonstown</b>	27	27 – We have met our target outcomes
<b>SR(C) 4: Number of crime prevention initiatives implemented in Greater Andersonstown</b>	23	23 – We have met our target outcomes
<b>SR(C) 6: Number of young people benefiting from youth inclusion/diversionary projects in Greater Andersonstown</b>	33	33 – We have met our target outcomes
<b>SR(C) 7: Number of victims of crime supported in Greater Andersonstown</b>	350	350 - We have met our target outcomes
<b>SR(C) 8: Number of homes with increased security in Greater Andersonstown</b>	50	50 – We have met our target outcomes
<b>SR(C) 9: Number of neighbourhood wardens supported</b>	4	4 – We have met our target outcomes
<b>SR(C) 10: Number of people involved in dealing with the impact of interface issues in Greater Andersonstown</b>	6	6 - We have met our target outcomes



CRJI Greater Andersonstown launching the drugs initiative with PSNI and Rapid Bins at the Kennedy Centre



CRJI Coordinator Paula Kerr at a cross community gardening workshop



RJI Greater Andersonstown launching the 2017 Firework Safety Initiative, co working with NIFRS, BCC, PSNI and Arder Carson



CRJI / Aspire Youth Worker Andrea McAuley and Paula Kerr at De La Salle Mental Health Event



CRJI working with our young people, using local resources at Colin Glen Trust



CRJI staff sharing ideas on community safety and justice in communities in Ireland and abroad



CRJI co working with local traveller families, Extern, An Munia Tober and Healthy Living Centre to launch the Travellers' Support Team initiative



CRJI are the lead body for Outer West Family Support Hub



PSNI and CRJI working together to build relationships in our communities and confidence in reporting crime



Paula Kerr and local resident at St Gall's GAC Community Safety Event

Local residents at CRJI Community Safety Event in St Gall's GAC



## What is Belfast Rapid Transit – Glider

Belfast Rapid Transit - Glider (BRT - Glider) is an innovative and ambitious project that will create a new and dynamic public transport system for Belfast. This project is part-funded by the European Regional Development Fund through the Investment for Growth and Jobs Programme for Northern Ireland 2014-2020.

BRT - Glider will offer a high quality service providing people with better access to jobs, hospitals, shops, schools, colleges, and entertainment.

The BRT system will use high quality Glider vehicles which will provide a modern, comfortable environment for passengers in terms of space, security and on-board information. The BRT system will also incorporate high quality halts with easy access to vehicles, real time information systems for easier journey planning and off-vehicle ticketing to speed up the boarding process. The speed, reliability and comfort of the Glider services will provide an attractive alternative to private car use.

BRT - Glider is scheduled to become operational in September 2018.

### **BRT - network**

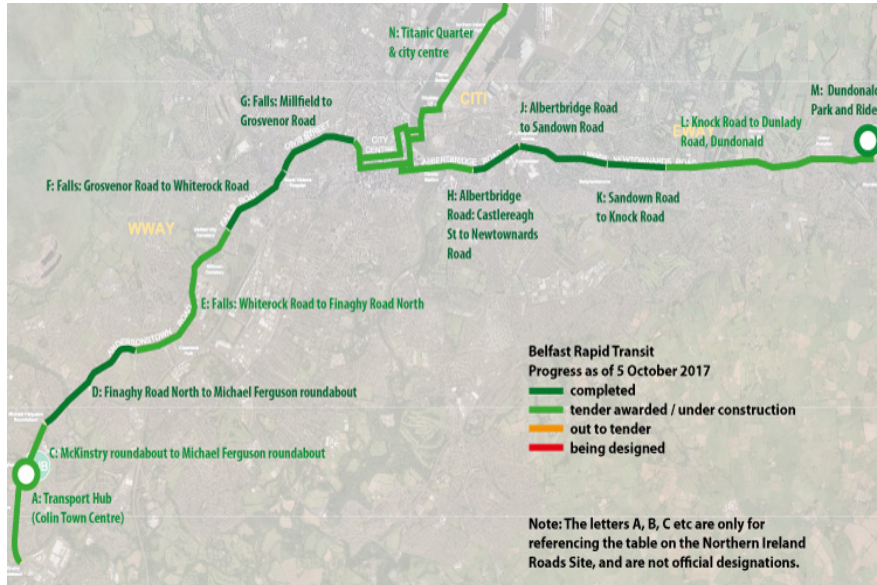
The first phase of the BRT network, which is currently being implemented, will link East Belfast, West Belfast and Titanic Quarter via the city centre. It is the intention to extend the BRT network to other areas of Belfast, subject to the success of phase 1 and the availability of funding. The Department is already engaging with those responsible for proposed developments on potential routes outside the current network to ensure as far as possible that the future provision of BRT to key areas is not prejudiced.

### **Characteristics of BRT - Glider**

There are a number of key principles underlying the development of the characteristics of BRT - Glider:

- a strong brand image that delivers a clear identity for the system
- high quality in all aspects of the system, including the fixed infrastructure, vehicles, operations and customer services
- high standards of reliability with punctual service operation and predictable journey times
- integration with other modes of sustainable transport
- delivery of a complete system

## Glider Services



Glider will provide fast and reliable services connecting East and West Belfast, Titanic Quarter and key locations of economic and social activity in the city centre and along the BRT corridors.

Subject to demand, Glider services will operate between 5:00 am and 12:00 midnight on weekdays. At the weekend, services will start slightly later in the morning and potentially operate later at night. Services will operate at 7-8 minute intervals throughout the working day. Early morning and late evening services will operate at intervals of around 20 minutes. Services will be tailored to meet times of peak demand such as major sporting or entertainment events.

Glider services will replace most of the current Metro services on the routes that it serves: Metro 4 in East Belfast and Metro 10 in West Belfast. Some Metro services, which serve destinations off the

routes, will continue to use parts of the BRT routes and therefore benefit from the increased bus priority.

When BRT - Glider comes into operation in September 2018 feeder and/or complementary services will be provided with appropriate interchange facilities and co-ordinated timetables. The interchange facilities will be provided at Dundonald Park & Ride in the East and at Colin Town Centre Transport Hub in the West.

Ulsterbus services will continue to operate on the BRT corridors. They will benefit from the increased bus priority on the routes and therefore experience shorter, more reliable journey times.





## Choice Housing

Building work has commenced on the Glen Road after the £10 million pound project ground to a halt over two years ago after the Company, contracted to do the work, went into administration. There are 92 new homes being built on the land, significantly fewer than originally planned due to planning issues. Choice Housing has said that work is expected to reach completion by early 2020. This development will go some way towards alleviating the waiting list for social housing in the area and bring employment opportunities for the local people.



## 17/18 Expenditure (by Strategic Objective)

The following table details current projects funded via the Neighbourhood Renewal Investment fund. The total expenditure in the Andersonstown Neighbourhood Renewal Area.

Programme/Project	CFF Funding Period	CFF Funding Amount (Project allocation)	17/18 Spend (as at 31/03/18)
<b>COMMUNITY RENEWAL</b>			
Community Infrastructure Project	2017/18	£110,692.84	£108,605.00
<b>Total Community Renewal Expenditure</b>			<b>£108,605.00</b>
<b>SOCIAL RENEWAL – EDUCATION</b>			
Education Priorities Project	2017/18	£61,804.20	£61,738.86
<b>Total Social Renewal Ed Expenditure</b>			<b>£61,738.86</b>

In the 2017/18 financial year, Andersonstown total overall spend was **£170,343.86**.

**This does not include services delivered on a West Belfast wide basis and across the Greater Belfast area. These services received £1,037,453.63 in 2017/18 from Neighbourhood Renewal funding.**

## ACHIEVEMENTS OF NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL FUNDING IN 17/18 YEAR

### Community Renewal Output Measures 2017/18

<b>PROJECT</b>	<b>CR3</b> - number of people volunteering for community development activities	<b>CR7</b> - Number of community/voluntary groups supported	<b>CR10</b> – Number of people using new or improved community facilities
UACF - Community Infrastructure	<b>80</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>700</b>

**Economic Renewal/Worklessness Output Measures 2017/18**

<b>PROJECT</b>	<b>ER1 - Number of FTE created</b>	<b>ER2 - Number of residents going into employment</b>	<b>ER4 - Number of people receiving job specific training</b>	<b>ER13 – Number of new/existing childcare places supported to facilitate training and or employment</b>
<b>UACF – Community Infrastructure</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>12</b>

### Social Renewal - Education Output Measures 2017/18

<b>PROJECT</b>	<b>SR(Ed) 1</b> - Number of childcare/nursery school places created/safeguarded	<b>SR(Ed)2</b> - Number of pupils whose attendance is measurably enhanced/improved	<b>SR(Ed) 6</b> - Number of pupils directly benefiting from the project	<b>SR(Ed)24</b> - Number of residents in an area who obtain a (ICT-related) qualification on completion of formal training	<b>SR(Ed)28</b> - Number of people undertaking accredited courses and qualifications complete	<b>SR(Ed)30</b> – Number of school partnerships delivering shared curriculum
UACF - Education		<b>100</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>7</b>
UACF – Community Infrastructure	<b>192</b>					

**SR(ED)1** – Early Years

**SR(ED)2-5** – Tackling Barriers to Learning

**SR(ED)6-7** – Improving attainment in Literacy and Numeracy

**Social Renewal - Health Output Measures 2017/18**

PROJECT	SR(H)1 - Number of people benefiting from Healthy Lifestyle Projects	SR(H)2 - Number of people attending Health Education/Awareness initiatives	SR(H)6 - Number of people participating in suicide prevention projects
UCAF – Community Infrastructure	252	156	40

### Social Renewal – Crime Output Measures 2017/18

PROJECT	SR (C) 6 – Number of young people benefitting from youth inclusion/diversionary projects
UACF – Community Infrastructure	100