

Upper Ardoyne Ballysillan Neighbourhood Renewal Area Annual Report 2017/18







Ballysillan/Upper Ardoyne Neighbourhood Renewal Area Annual Report 2017/18



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Introduction

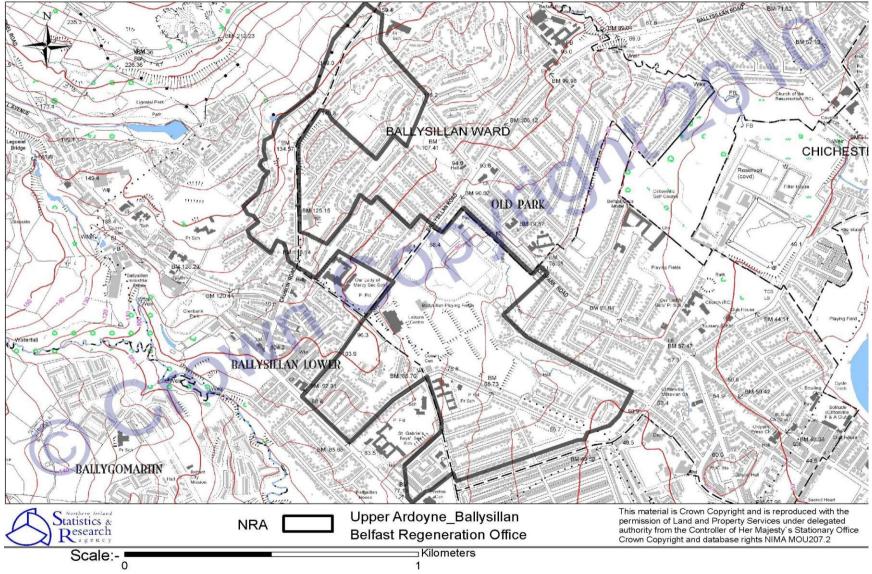
This year has been another very busy one for the Ballysillan Upper Ardoyne Neighbourhood Partnership and the Neighbourhood Renewal area. The Neighbourhood Partnership bade a fond farewell to previous Chairperson Wilson Lambe and he is thanked for his many years of service to this community. Dale Harrison, (Manager of Ballysillan Community Forum), took up the role of Acting Chair after Mr Lambe's retirement.

We have seen regeneration continue and are working to improve facilities and services amid staffing changes and other challenges.

The Neighbourhood Partnership has been at the forefront of promoting and supporting plans for the redevelopment of Ballysillan Playing Fields and Park, working with other organisations to increase use of Carr's Glen Linear Park and Lyons Park as well as the regeneration of the Crumlin Road /Ligoniel Road junction and the entrance to Belfast City at the Crumlin Road/ Ballysillan Park junction. These major schemes have met with many challenges but have been progressing steadily with consultations held, designs drawn up and displayed in the Willowgrove Centre on the Crumlin Road.

There has been an increase in collaboration with community organisations working closely to provide the best possible opportunities for residents of the Ballysillan Upper / Ardoyne Neighbourhood renewal area.

Section 2 BALLYSILLAN/UPPER ARDOYNE NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL AREA



Ballysillan/ Upper Ardoyne 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 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 Ballysillan/ Upper Ardoyne 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 Ballysillan/ Upper Ardoyne 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 19 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.

Section 3

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

Dale Harrison (Acting Chairperson) Ronnie Black (Acting Vice Chair) Ulrike Letzner Gareth McKee Julie-Ann Corr Johnston Gary Kelly **Kelly Harrison** Marcella McNeill Gabi Mornhinweg Laura McAuley Joan Totten Alex Crosslev Michael Cosby William Seaton Vivien Davidson Ashley Neill Wilson Lambe Lydia Miskimmin Con. Karl Quinne

Community Representative

Community Representative Statutory Representative Councillor Councillor **Community Representative Community Representative** Statutory Representative Statutory Representative Statutory Representative **Community Representative Community Representative** Statutory Representative

Ballysillan Community Forum

Upper Ardoyne Community Partnership **Belfast City Council Belfast City Councillor Belfast City Councillor** Upper Ardoyne Community Partnership **Benview Community Centre Department for Communities** Belfast Health & Social Care Trust Northern Ireland Housing Executive Good Morning North Belfast North Belfast Women's Initiative Support Project Upper Ardoyne community Partnership Upper Ardovne Community Partnership Upper Ardoyne Community Partnership. Good Morning North Belfast Independent **Glenbank Community Centre**

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. These are the Health and Wellbeing working group, the Community Vision working group, the Children and Young People's working Group and the Education working group. They also assist local community organisations to coordinate actions that are beneficial for all communities living in the Ballysillan/ Upper Ardoyne Neighbourhood Renewal Area (NRA). This year the Sub group chairs meetings were reconfigured into 'Community Partners' meetings to allow the 12 community members from Ballysillan and Upper Ardoyne to be more proactive in identifying needs and in addressing them.

The **BUANP** met on 17/5/17, 20/9/17. 15/11/17, 17/1/18, and 21/3/18 with the **Community Partners** meetings held on 21/6/17, 1/11/17 and 14/2/18 making a combined total of eight meetings.

The *sub groups* met a total of 13 times to ensure the NR Action Plan was being implemented during development and delivery of programmes. There were also two *joint forum* meetings between the Ballysillan /Upper Ardoyne Neighbourhood Partnership and the neighbouring Ligoniel Partnership.

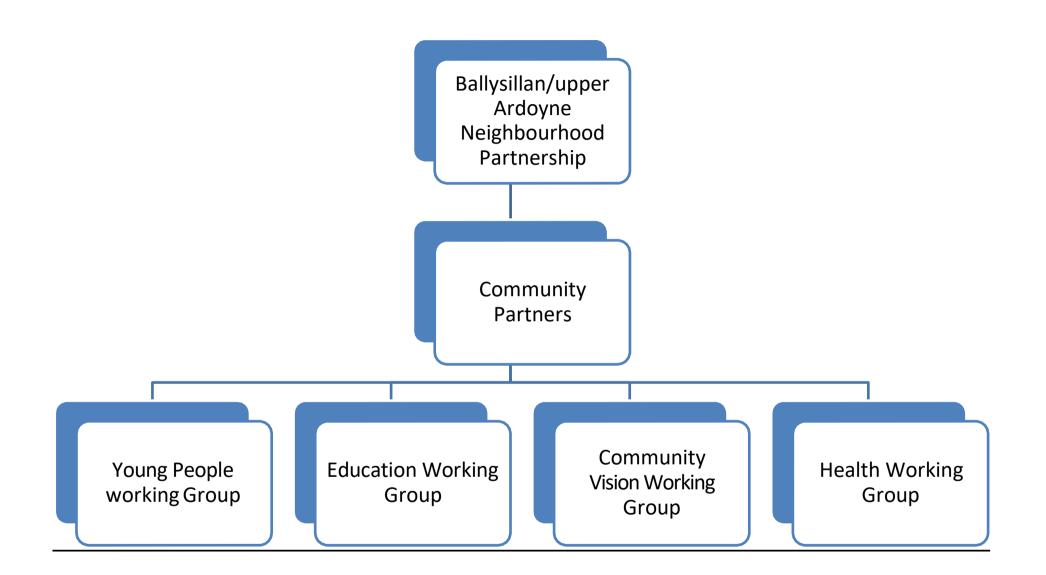
With the development of the first Neighbourhood Action Plan in 2007, all groups involved in delivering neighbourhood renewal priorities had a seat at the main Partnership Committee. After the review of the implementation plan in 2009 it was agreed that the Partnership would move towards a smaller more 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 continue 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 Ballysillan/ Upper Ardoyne 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 Belfast
Ashley Neil	Good Morning North
Marcella McNeill	Dept. for Communities
Ulrike Letzner	Belfast City Council
Joanne Clokey	N.B. Women's Initiative & Support Project
Lydia Miskimmin	Glenbank Community Centre

Education Working Group

Vivien Davidson, Chair	Upper Ardoyne community Partnership
Kelly Gill	North Belfast Alternatives
Kelly Harrison	Benview Community Centre
Vivien Davidson	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 Association
Marcella McNeill	Dept. for Communities

Youth Working Group

Kelly Harrison, Chair	Benview Community Centre
Mabel McClelland	Concorde Community Centre
Ronnie Black	Upper Ardoyne Community Partnership
Marcella McNeill	Dept. for Communities
Peter Thompson	Youth for Christ, Blue Houses
Carly Rogers	NB Alternatives
David Mcllwraith	Youth for Christ Blue Houses
Lydia Miskimmin	Glenbank Com. Association

Community Vision Working Group

Dale Harrison, Chair	Ballysillan Community Forum
Marcella McNeill	Dept. for Communities
Laura McAuley	NIHE
Joan Totten	Good Morning North Belfast
Gary Kelly	Upper Ardoyne Comm. Partnership
Ronnie Black	Upper Ardoyne Community Partnership
Lydia Miskimmin	Glenbank Community Association
Wilson Lambe	Joanmount Methodist
Karl Quinne	PSNI
Vivien Davidson	Upper Ardoyne Community Partnership
Alex Crossley	NBWISP
Joanne Clokey	NBWISP

Section 4

North Belfast Neighbourhood Partnership Chairs Forum

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

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

The five North Belfast Neighbourhood Partnership Chairs meet to co-ordinate the work of Neighbourhood Renewal across North Belfast's most disadvantaged communities. The Chairs Forum 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 to consultations, policy issues and potential collaborative funding opportunities.

Ballysillan/ Upper Ardoyne Neighbourhood Partnership Projects

The Neighbourhood Renewal Investment Fund is currently supporting projects in the Ballysillan/Upper Ardoyne 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

The highlight of the year was a three- day jobs and skills event called 'the Working Week'. This consisted of training organisations such as Workforce, Lemus, Princes Trust, Shankill Women's Centre and Bryson Future Skills, among others, highlighting their programmes to local community organisations held in the Jolly Roger, a Jobs fair run by BCC Economic Development Unit and a Skills Fair with afore mentioned training organisations showcasing work to the public in Ballysillan Community Forum.

Ten participants from Benview Community Centre women's group completed training in suicide awareness and are now equipped to better deal with those presenting with mental health problems or suicidal thoughts and to notice changes in the behaviour of family members and friends and thus signpost them to the appropriate services.

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 centres and outreach locations. The service is available throughout North Belfast and customers are offered a choice of advice centres 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

In this reporting period 692 clients where assisted with 3002 overall inquiries and benefits totalling approx. £950,000 were received thus aiding the local economy enormously.

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

The daily mile programme was well received by local primary schools as well as the reading partners programmes with pilots in Carr's Glen and Wheatfield respectively with other schools asking for the programmes to be delivered there also.

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

This year saw a roll out of the community garden coordination scheme in local primary schools and a 'meet the neighbours' event held in the Everton Complex among the highlights of the year.

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

As well as seeing many examples of progress in the youth programme, the Christmas Fair is well received and is always seen as a stand out event in the festive season.

6. North City Business Centre

Responsible for the management of premises in the NRA including the Jolly Roger building and the delivery of services and programmes identified as priority actions in both the Ballysillan/Upper Ardoyne Neighbourhood Action Plan and Neighbourhood Action Plans across North Belfast.

Community events and sub group focus

Working Week events

The Community Vision Sub group ran a job, training and skills fair over three days from 21st-24th November 2017 entitled the 'Working Week'. This comprised of an information session from training providers to organisations, a training fair for the general public and a jobs fair held in Ballysillan Community Forum. Twelve training providers including Bryson Future Skills, Ashton Community Trust, Princes Trust, Workforce, and Active Communities, among others, gave presentations to community groups regarding the array of programmes available with all providers manning stalls to promote their programmes to residents and the local community on the open days.

Youth sub group

Along with the on -going work of young people's personal development, the working group has realised the need for a greater support for workers and has been working closely with local community and statutory organisations to support and assist workers and volunteers amid an increasingly more stressful environment that has seen an increase of children and young people presenting with challenging needs and behaviours.

UR City 2 – the youth sub group was able to secure £5000 funding from Belfast City Council's UR city 2 programme which was used to deliver various programmes through numerous youth and community organisations across the NRA including assisting NB Alternatives - Youth Safety Partnership, YFC Blue Houses -'Be the Best' programme and summer inclusion work in Benview CC among others.

Health Sub group

The members of the health sub group continued to deliver road shows and programmes that are aimed at the improvement of the health of residents of the NRA. This is especially relevant in regard to increasing issues of mental health. The members have also been working on community gardens in community groups and in schools across the area as means of creating healthy lifestyle choices for residents from an early age.

Community Vision Sub group

Dereliction and vacancy continue to be the focus for this group with area 'tours' taken with community and statutory agencies to pinpoint areas that need particular attention. This has culminated in the creation of an area 'Environmental Toolkit' in order to track progress.

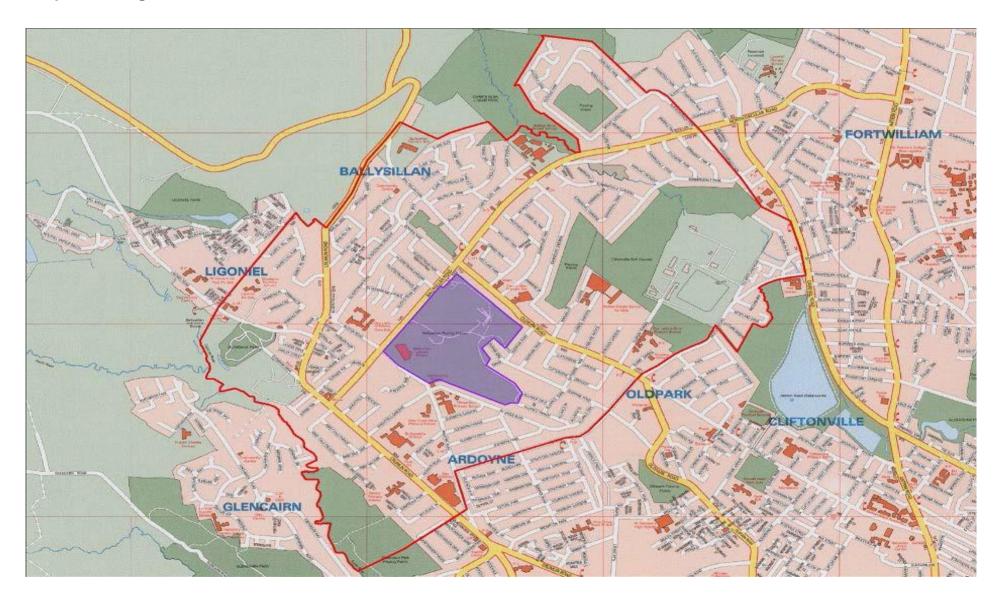
Greater Ballysillan Master Plan

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.

The majority of the Phase one actions have now been completed and the Neighbourhood Partnership has identified new areas of focus and development. These include the regeneration of important intersections and public spaces. Moving forward, the Ballysillan/ Upper Ardoyne Neighbourhood Partnership continues to be the key driver in identifying sections within the Master Plan that can be addressed and delivered. We are working closely with local organisations, statutory agencies and government departments to lobby for further elements of the plan to be completed.

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 with vacant shop premises of varying sizes ready to accommodate investment, business expansion and new businesses and an ample amount of job seekers.

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 included working on the Development of Ballysillan Playing fields and park, regeneration of junctions at Crumlin road/Ligoniel Road and Crumlin Road /Ballysillan Park.



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

Ardoyne/Ballysillan Neighbourhood Partnership 2017/2018 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)	2017/18 Spend (as at 31/03/18)
COMMUNITY RENEWAL/ SOCIAL RENEWA	AL		
Ballysillan Community Forum / Benview	01/04/2017 - 31/03/2018	94,083.00	91,585.51
North Belfast Women's Initiative & Support Group	01/04/2017 - 3103/2018	38,736.88	38,278.84
Glenbank Community Association	01/04/2017 - 31/03/2018	17,663.36	16,309.58
Upper Ardoyne Community Partnership - Education	01/04/2017 - 31/03/2018	50,669.08	47,066.95
Total Community/Social Renewal Expenditure		201,152.32	193,240.88
ECONOMIC RENEWAL			
North Belfast Advice Partnership (Lead Partner Vine Centre) Ballysillan Community Forum Portion only	01/04/2017 – 31/3/2018	29,297.00	29,067.46
North City Business Centre – Management of the Jolly Roger Complex	01/04/2017 – 31/3/2018	35,000.00	35,000.00
Total Economic Renewal Expenditure		64,297.00	64,067.46
Programme / Project	CFF Funding Period	CFF Funding Amount (project allocation)	2014/15 spend(as at 31/03/2018)

ACHIEVEMENTS OF NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL FUNDING IN 2017/18 YEAR

	579	141	55	475	13		10	3061
TOTAL			20	115	15		10	114
Upper Ardoyne Community Partnership - Education		35	26	475	13		10	142
North Belfast Advice Partnership – BCF portion		1						
Glenbank Community Association	1		29					
North Belfast Women's Initiative & Support Project		98						2810
Ballysillan Community Forum (Lead Partner) with Benview Community Association	578	7						109
	CR1 - Number of people receiving training in community development skills	CR2 – Number of people volunteering for community development activities	CR3 - number of people employed directly in voluntary work	CR4 - Number of people using new or improved community facilities	CR5 - Number of Community / voluntary groups supported	CR6 - Number of projects improving community facilities	CR7 - Number of community relations projects supported	CR8 - Number of people participating in community relations projects

Community Renewal Output Measures

BCF portion Upper Ardoyne Community Partnership - Education		95	167		7	4
Glenbank Community Association North Belfast Advice Partnership –	16		15		1	
North Belfast Women's Initiative & Support Project		41				
Ballysillan Community Forum (Lead Partner) with Benview Community Association						14
PROJECT	SR1 - Number of childcare/nursery school places created/safeguarded	SR2 – Number of people attending parenting skills development	SR3 - Number of pupils benefiting from projects designed to improve attainment (primary)	SR4 – Number of pupils benefiting from projects designed to improve attainment	SR5 –Number of adults obtaining qualification through NR projects (accredited)	SR6 – Number of adults obtaining qualification through NR projects (non- accredited)

Social Renewal Education Output Measures

Social Renewal - Health Output Measures

PROJECT	SR7 – Number of people benefiting from healthy lifestyle projects	SR8 – Number of people benefiting from new or improved health faciliites	SR9 – Number of new or improved health facilities	SR10 – Number of people benefiting from suicide prevention proiects	SR11 – Number of new/improved sports facilites provided	SR12 – Number of people using new sports facilities
Ballysillan Community Forum (Lead Partner) with Benview Community Association	266					
North Belfast Women's Initiative & Support Project	3384					
Glenbank Community Association						
North Belfast Advice Partnership – BCF portion						
Upper Ardoyne Community Partnership –Education	16					
TOTAL	3666					

Social Renewal – Crime Output Measures

PROJECT	SR13 – Numbers receiving advice on crime prevention	SR14 – Number of community safety initiatives implemented	SR15 – Number of people particpating/ attending community safety initiatives	SR16 – Number of crime prevention initiatives implemented	SR17 – Number of young people benefiting from youth inclusion/ diversionary projects	SR18 – Number of victims of crime supported	SR19 – Number of homes with increased security	SR20 – Number of businesses with increased security	SR21 – Number of neighbourhood wards supported
Ballysillan Community Forum (Lead Partner) with Benview Community Association		3			165				
North Belfast Women's Initiative & Support Project				16	1204				
Glenbank Community Association									
North Belfast Advice Partnership – BCF portion									
Upper Ardoyne Community Partnership - Education									
TOTAL									
		3		16	1369				

Economic Renewal Output Measures

PROJECT	ER1- Number of FTE jobs safeguarded/create	ER2 - Number of NR residents going into employment	ER3 - Number of people accessing careers advice	ER4 - Number of people receiving job specific training	ER5 - Number of weeks (per participant) of job specific training provided	ERG - Number of new business start ups	ER7- Number of new/existing businesses requiring/receiving advice/support	ER8 - Number of people becoming self employed	ER9 – Social Economy Indicator	ER10 – Number of enquiries for advice
Ballysillan Community Forum (Lead Partner) with Benview Community Association	3.6	65		21			2			
North Belfast Women's Initiative & Support Project	1.6			31*			11			
Glenbank Community Association	1.2									
North Belfast Advice Partnership – BCF portion	1									3234
Upper Ardoyne Community Partnership - Education	1	4	15							
TOTAL	8.4	69	15	53			13			3234

Physical Renewal Output Measures

PROJECT	PR1 - Area of land improved or reclaimed for open space	PR2 - Area of land reclaimed and made ready for development	PR3 – Number of buildings improved	PR4 – Number of traffic calming schemes	PR5 – number of trees planted
Ballysillan Community Forum (Lead Partner) with Benview Community Association	2				
North Belfast Women's Initiative & Support Project					
Glenbank Community Association					
North Belfast Advice Partnership – BCF portion					
Upper Ardoyne Community Partnership –Education					
TOTAL	2				

Upper Ardoyne/Ballysillan Neighbourhood Partnership Conclusion

In the 2017/18 financial year, Ballysillan/Upper Ardoyne Neighbourhood Partnership total overall spend was:

Community Renewal/Social Renewal	£193,240.88
Economic Renewal	£64,067.46
TOTAL	£257,308.34



Community Empowerment Division

North & Greater Shankill

Office North City Business

Centre

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