



Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Area

Annual Report 2017/18



Northern Ireland
Statistics and Research Agency



DfC

Department
for Communities

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Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Area Annual Report 2017/18 year



Derry City & Strabane District Council

Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership ANNUAL REPORT – 2017/18 year

Neighbourhood Renewal (NR)

In June 2003 the Department launched the Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy 'People and Place. This long term strategy seeks to target those communities throughout Northern Ireland who are suffering from higher than average rates of unemployment, ill health and crime, lower levels of educational attainment and higher rates of income deprivation. 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 and close the gap between the quality of life for people living in the most deprived neighbourhoods in Northern Ireland and the rest of society. The Neighbourhood Renewal Programme aims to reduce the social and economic inequalities which characterise these areas of deprivation and decline.

The Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy has four interlinking strategic objectives under the following themes:

Community Renewal – *to develop confident communities that are able and committed to improving the quality of life in their areas.*

Economic Renewal – *to develop economic activity in the most deprived neighbourhoods and connect them to the wider urban economy.*

Social Renewal – *to improve social conditions for the people who live in the most deprived neighbourhoods through better co-ordinated public services and the creation of safer environments.*

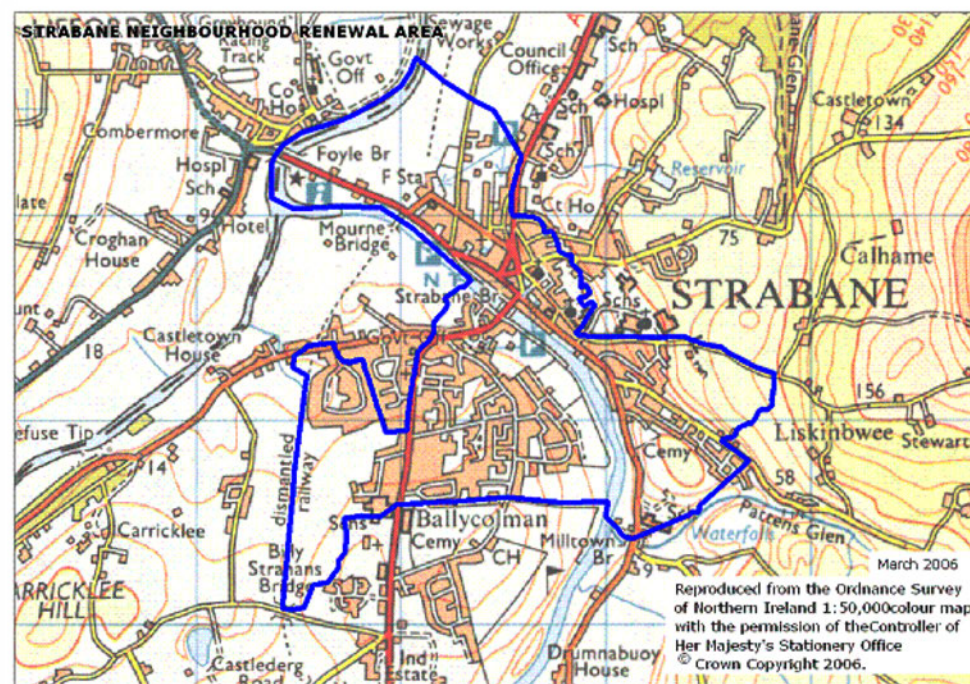
Physical Renewal – *to help create attractive, safe and sustainable environments in the most deprived neighbourhoods.*

North West Development Office (NWDO) is responsible for the delivery of the Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy in Londonderry and the neighbouring towns of Limavady and Strabane. It produced an implementation plan which set out the Department's approach to the selection of the Neighbourhood Renewal areas and the establishment of delivery structures in the City and neighbouring towns. The Neighbourhood Renewal Areas were identified as those within the top 10% most deprived areas according to the Noble Multiple Deprivation Measures. Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership Boards were set up in each Neighbourhood Renewal Area i.e. 4 across

Londonderry, and one each in Strabane and Limavady to manage the delivery of the Neighbourhood Renewal Programme. The Neighbourhood Partnership Boards took the lead in the process of drawing up the Neighbourhood Vision Framework and Neighbourhood Action Plans for their Neighbourhood Renewal areas. Following a local consultation process Neighbourhood Action Plans were developed which identified priority issues and actions required meeting the specific needs of local neighbourhoods and achieving the Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership Board's vision for their respective area.

Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Area

The Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Area broadly covers the main housing estates of Ballycolman, Carlton Drive, Lisnafin Park, Barrack Street, Springhill Park, Fountain Street, Innisfree Gardens, Drumrallagh and the town centre. A map of the Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Area (NRA) is shown below.



At the last Census (2011) there were 2,430 households and 5,583 people living within the boundaries of the Neighbourhood Renewal Area. There were 6% of residents who identified themselves as having a 'Protestant and Other Christian (including Christian related) community background', while approximately 93% identify themselves as having a Catholic community background. Approximately 64% of the population is of working age.

This Neighbourhood suffers high levels of unemployment since the decline of the textile and agricultural industries. There is multiple deprivation with higher levels of crime, anti-social behaviour, benefit dependency and lower levels of educational attainment. Benefit uptake in Strabane NRA is currently considerably higher than Non NRAs and also has among the highest percentage of benefit claimants among all other NRAs. Although there has been positive change in Strabane NRA for the percentage achieving 5 or more GCSEs, (where the percentage has almost doubled since 2004/05), the rate for Strabane NRA remains lower than Non NRAs.

The town centre has seen a reduction in footfall and economic activity as a result of shop closures and retailers moving out of the town centre to edge of town retail parks. There are a number of vacant and derelict properties that have also diminished the town's place quality and economic and social character. Historically there are community divisions within the Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Area.

Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership

Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership was established in 2005 to take forward the Neighbourhood Renewal Programme and oversee the development and delivery of the Neighbourhood Renewal Action Plan, with the vision that '*Strabane will be physically attractive and economically prosperous, with strong, well-led communities that work together for lasting change. Public services will be accessible and responsive to need. Local neighbourhoods will be safe, attractive places where people want to live. Opportunities will be available to build a healthier community and a positive future for our children and young people*'. The Partnership is defined as non-constituted entity acting in an advisory role to the Department for Neighbourhood Renewal issues in the designated Neighbourhood Renewal area. Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership currently comprises of 23 members who include representatives from local voluntary and community organisations, elected representatives, other government departments and local statutory organisations. It currently meets on a six weekly basis. A Neighbourhood Renewal Officer and Part-time Administrator provide the administrative services to the Partnership.

Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership has established 4 Action Teams and a number of sub/working groups to assist it in the identification, development and where appropriate the delivery of projects which aim to address the Programmes four strategic objectives of community renewal, social renewal, economic renewal and physical renewal. The Partnership and Subgroup members have all signed up to and abide by the Neighbourhood Renewal Code of Practice and Guiding Principles and subsequent Subgroup Terms of Reference.

Composition of Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership

Statutory Sector	Representation
Mr Declan Graham	Northern Ireland Housing Executive
Mr Mark Hagan	Jobs & Benefits Office
Sgt David McIlwaine	Police Service for Northern Ireland
Ms Sonia Montgomery	Western Health & Social Care Trust
Mr Declan Maguire	Extended Schools Cluster (Melmount)
Mrs Bridget Wilders	Extended Schools Cluster (Strabane)
Ms Teresa Bradley	Derry City & Strabane District Council
Mrs Anne McMurray	Department for Communities
Community & Voluntary Sector	
Mr Ivan Barr	Community & Voluntary Sector
Mr Damien Gavigan	Community & Voluntary Sector
Miss Kamini Rao	Community & Voluntary Sector
Mr Aodhan Harkin (Chairperson)	Community & Voluntary Sector
Mr Gerard Harkin	Community & Voluntary Sector

Mrs Liz Kavanagh	Community & Voluntary Sector
Ms Teresa Stewart (Vice Chairperson)	Community & Voluntary Sector
Mr Jarlath McNulty	Community & Voluntary Sector
Ms Mary Deery	Community & Voluntary Sector
Mr Tony McLaughlin	Community & Voluntary Sector
Other	
Mr Paul Gallagher	
Mr Jay McCauley	
Political Representatives	
Cllr Brian Mc Mahon	Derry City & Strabane District Council
Cllr Karina Carlin	Derry City & Strabane District Council
Cllr Gus Hastings	Derry City & Strabane District Council

Roles and Responsibilities

Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Objectives

The objectives of the Partnership are to manage, develop and oversee the regeneration of Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Area to:

- Ensure that people living in the Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Area have access to the best possible services and to opportunities which make for a better quality of life, better prospects and the creation of a safer environment for themselves and their families.
- Develop economic activity in the Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Area and connect the community to the wider economy of Strabane and Northern Ireland.

- Develop confident communities that are able and committed to improving the quality of life in the Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Area.
- Improve the environment and image of the Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Area so that it becomes an attractive place to live and invest in.

The Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership is responsible for:

- Analysing and prioritising the needs of the Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Area.
- Engaging with and consulting local communities to drive and implement Neighbourhood Renewal.
- Leading the process in the preparation of the Neighbourhood Renewal Action Plan
- Overseeing the implementation of the Neighbourhood Renewal Action Plan.
- Reviewing the Action plan annually to ensure that it reflects the priority needs in the area.
- Monitoring and evaluating progress against the priorities in the action plan quarterly.
- Publicising and building awareness of Neighbourhood Renewal by informing and updating local communities of progress made on a regular basis.
- Facilitating and securing agreement between local service providers on integrated working in the Neighbourhood Renewal Area.
- Taking decisions on individual projects and activities to be undertaken in the Neighbourhood Renewal Area.
- Establishing systems to monitor the overall progress and impact of Neighbourhood Renewal in the area and providing monitoring reports to the Department.

The Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership has established 4 Sub/Working Groups to address the priorities under the themes Community Renewal, Social Renewal – Crime & Anti-Social Behaviour, Education, Health, Economic Renewal – Worklessness, Social Economy and Physical Renewal.

Composition of Social Renewal Action Team

Statutory Sector	Representation
Mrs Anne McMurray	Department for Communities
Sgt David Mc Ilwaine	Police Service for Northern Ireland
Ms Sonia Montgomery	Western Health & Social Care Trust
Community & Voluntary Sector	
Mr Ivan Barr	Melmount East Bank Community Association Forum
Ms Ursula Doherty	Strabane Community Project
Mr Damien Gavigan	Lisnafin Ardnalee Trust Cross Community Community Development Association
Mr Aodhan Harkin	Strabane Sigersons GAA
Ms Wenda Graham	Koram Centre
Ms Wendy McGlinchey	Strabane & District Caring Services/NHIP
Mr Gerard Harkin	Strabane & District Caring Services
Ms Marirose Cunningham	North West Volunteer Centre
Ms Liz Kavanagh	Barnardo's NI
Ms Sharon Hasson	Strabane Surestart
Ms Teresa Stewart	Strabane AYE
Mrs Gina Devine	Strabane Social Supermarket
Ms Mary Deery	Fountain St Community Development Association

Ms Perpetula Foley	Strabane Community Unemployed Group
Mr Jarlath Mc Nulty	Strabane Health Improvement Project
Mr Tony Mc Laughlin	Springhill Park Residents & Community Association
Local Schools	
Ms Maire Ni Dhocartaigh	Gaelscoil Ui Dhocartaigh
Mrs Bridget Wilders	St Catherine's Primary School
Mrs Sandra O'Doherty	St Mary's Primary School
Ms Grainne Dunne	Knockavoe Resource Centre
Mr Declan Maguire	Extended Schools Cluster (Melmount)
Ms Claire Doherty	Holy Cross College

Education Steering Group

This group was established to develop programmes/initiatives that help to improve children's educational/life outcomes. A central element to this work has been increased involvement and collaboration with parents and families, community organisations and other support services. The Group brings together the community and voluntary sector, school principals, and Strabane Surestart. The sub-group has been very successful at helping to increase collaboration between schools, community groups and other support services.

During 2017/18 the Education Steering Group focused its efforts on researching and reviewing resilience programmes to help deal with the growing problem of child mental health distress. The partner organisations have agreed to design and deliver a bespoke resilience programme to the parents of children attending local nursery schools. The programme will be based on the 'Schools for Hope' (SfH) model and will also incorporate the best elements of other programmes run by Surestart and schools. SfH is a mental health and well-being awareness programme based on research that suggests hope is a teachable skill. It aims to equip children and young people, their educators and parents with the tools they need to find and maintain hope even during the most trying of times.



Schools for Hope Workshop, March 2018

The programme has been successfully piloted in primary and secondary schools in the Derry/Strabane area including Holy Cross College, Strabane. A one day SfH community facilitator training workshop, organised by Strabane AYE and Holy Cross College, was held for local community organisations in March 2018.

Schools and local groups also contributed to a scoping exercise for the 'Pioneer Community' (PC) pilot project that captured community & voluntary early years development services in Strabane. The PC project is being developed by the Western Health & Social Care Trust and WAVE Trust (a London based charity). PC aims to prevent adverse childhood experiences and pro-actively improve children's lives. The project will involve a series of support programmes for local parents and children, aimed at ensuring that every child's brain develops healthily during their first 1,001 days of life, from conception to age 2 and will be trialled for 5 years in an area of c.50,000 population spread across Derry and Strabane. This includes the Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Area.

Neighbourhood Health Improvement Sub Group

This Group also functions as part of the Social Renewal Action Team and is primarily responsible for the implementation of the Neighbourhood Health Improvement Project (NHIP).

In 2017/18, almost six hundred residents from Strabane NRA participated in NHIP programmes designed to help people:

- Become more physically active
- Lose weight and maintain an overall healthy diet
- Reduce the risk of cancer
- Promote good mental health.



Strabane Health Needs Analysis

During 2017/18, the NR Partnership completed a Health Needs Analysis (HNA) for Strabane. The HNA will be used to help the NR health sub-group evolve from its single project focus i.e. NHIP into a body (a Health Improvement Hub) that is more strategic and better able to pursue new opportunities to help deliver improved health outcomes in Strabane.

When all sources of primary and secondary information were looked at in the round, the main priority health issues in Strabane were found to be:

- Emotional, psychological or mental health issues;
- Heart and respiratory conditions;
- Obesity;
- Diabetes;
- Smoking;
- Alcohol/drug misuse
- Ageing population

The HNA also found that a purely deficit based approach, targeted on the needs of the 'worst', has noticeably failed to reduce health inequalities. While a focus on 'needs' is inevitable, it is only one part of an effective strategy to improve health and well-being and reduce health inequalities. It is also important to build on local strengths to achieve a better balance between a needs approach based on relative inequalities and deficits and an approach based on community assets and strength of local networks. This is necessary if we are to build a more informed picture of health inequalities and engage local communities in transforming their health and well-being. This emphasis on assets starts with what is working and what makes us feel well instead of starting with problems.

STRABANE HEALTH NEEDS ANALYSIS: SUMMARY

Preferred option:

*A community-led Health Improvement Hub
(building/shared space)*



Our Vision

Strabane Healthy Living Centre is a place where people can find greater physical, mental and emotional well-being.



Our Mission

Our mission is to make it easier for people to live a healthy life and to make changes (even small changes) that can have a lasting impact.



Our Approach



*Our approach is focused on the 'more than medicine' approach of **social prescribing** and by delivering programmes that will support people to make meaningful lifestyle changes towards better health.*

Health & Well-being Hub

Utilising European Union INTERREG VA grant funding, the Co-operation and Working Together (CAWT) Partnership, the 'CoH Sync' (Community Health Sync) Project has appointed Bogside & Brandywell Health Forum, (supported by partners including Strabane groups who deliver the NHIP project) to establish a Derry/Strabane Community Health and Well-being Hub in the Castlederg, Strabane, Triax and Waterside areas. In Strabane, there will be a part-time worker (based at Strabane Health Improvement Project) and programme delivery up to December 2021.

Once established, the Health and Well-being Hub will seek to optimise the potential of communities to become more active in improving their own health and well-being and will adopt a community development approach using existing resources within the community. The Hub will support people in improving their health and well-being, particularly around the areas of physical activity, nutrition, smoking cessation, alcohol misuse and mental health.

Composition of Physical Renewal Action Team

Statutory Sector	Representation
Mrs Anne McMurray	Department for Communities
Mr Declan Graham	Northern Ireland Housing Executive
Community & Voluntary Sector	
Mr Ivan Barr	Melmount Community Forum
Mr Damien Gavigan	Lisnafin Ardnalee Trust Cross Community Community Development Association
Mr Aodhan Harkin	Strabane Sigersons GAA
Mr Jarlath McNulty	Strabane Health Improvement Project
Mrs Mary Deery	Fountain St Community Development Association
Mr Tony McLaughlin	Springhill Park Residents & Community Association

Physical Renewal Working Group

The Physical Renewal Action Team is made up of representatives from the Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE), Department for Communities (DfC), and the Community & Voluntary Sector. During the 2017/18 year the Action Team liaised with Transport NI, DfC and DCSDC to bring forward a number of physical renewal projects including:

- A multi-sports 3g Synthetic Playing Surface at Melvin Sports Complex;
- Environmental improvement works to roadways, footpaths and street lighting in Magirr Park.

Composition of Economic Renewal Action Team

Statutory Sector	Representation
Mrs Anne McMurray	Department for Communities
Mrs Louise Breslin	Derry City & Strabane District Council
Mr Mark Haggan	Jobs & Benefits Office
Community & Voluntary Sector	
Mr Niall Allen	Job Directions Ltd
Mr Gerard Harkin	Strabane & District Caring Services
Mr Jarlath McNulty	Strabane Health Improvement Project
Mrs Christina Mullen	Strabane Enterprise Agency
Ms Perpetula Foley	Strabane Community Unemployed Group
Mr Damien Gavigan	Lisnafin Ardnalee Trust CCDA
Ms Ursula Doherty	Strabane Community Project

Michelle Mc Clafferty	Derry Youth & Community Workshop
Mr Brian O'Neill	Enterprise North West
Other Public Bodies	
Mrs Angela McConnell	North West Regional College
Mrs Monica Langan	South West College

The Economic Renewal Action Team's main priorities have been to help improve access to skills and employment and to foster bottom up economic growth through the promotion and development of the Social Economy. The South West College's *Going Places* Programme and Strabane Community Unemployed Group were the two key Neighbourhood Renewal 'employability' interventions during 2017/18. The NR Social Economy Working Group has focused its efforts on developing a pilot social enterprise project involving the use of Community Asset Transfer and social clauses in public procurement contracts. In this regard, Strabane District Caring Services, Strabane Community Project and Strabane Health Improvement Project are working to establish a jointly owned social enterprise. The partners are in the process of commissioning a scoping study to assess the market for and viability of the joint venture social economy business.

Composition of Community Renewal Action Team

Statutory Sector	Representation
Mrs Anne McMurray	Department for Communities
Ms Amanda Biega	Derry City & Strabane District Council
Community & Voluntary Sector	
Mr Tony Mc Laughlin	Springhill Park Residents & Community Association
Mr Gerard Harkin	Strabane & District Caring Services
Mr Jarlaith McNulty	Strabane Health Improvement Project

Mr Ivan Barr	Melmount East Bank Community Association Forum
Ms Marirose Cunningham	North West Volunteer Centre
Ms Ursula Doherty	Strabane Community Project
Mr Aodhan Harkin	Strabane Sigersons GAA
Miss Kamini Rao	Strabane Ethnic Community Association
Ms Teresa Stewart	Strabane AYE (Access Youth Engagement)
Mr Damien Gavigan	Lisnafin Ardnalee Trust Cross Community Development Association
Ms Mary Deery	Fountain St Community Dev. Assoc.
Ms Nuala Kildunne	Supporting Communities NI

The key actions sought under Community Renewal aim to involve local communities in improving local services by providing for effective consultation, representation and partnership working; improving the capacity of community groups to identify and meet community needs; supporting more people to get involved in community activity and promoting equality and good relations.

Community Planning

During 2017/18, Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership (NRP) continued to liaise with Derry City and Strabane District Council about the production of a Local Growth (Community) Plan for Strabane Town and the proposed governance/implementation arrangements for delivery of the plan. Subject to further consultation with Strabane NR Partnership and Department for Communities, it is anticipated that governance of the local community planning process will build on existing NR structures and that Strabane NR Partnership will be asked to take on a dual mandate role to deliver the action plan for Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Area and the community plan for Strabane Town.

Events Management Sub-group

This group was established to bring forward a community led programme of Christmas events involving local community groups, Derry City & Strabane District Council and private sector bodies such as Strabane Chamber of Commerce and Strabane BID (Business Improvement District) Co. The key purpose of 'Strabane Christmas Fayre' was to help build closer working relationships between the local community/ private sectors and Council, bring a strong sense of celebration and community spirit to Strabane and provide an outlet for local production and crafts and opportunities for local entrepreneurs/businesses. An estimated three thousand people attended the event on 1st December 2017.

Well people of Strabane take a bow. The Christmas fayre in town today was fantastic. So well planned with plenty of variety. It was great to see the streets full of families in great spirits enjoying all the delights on offer. We have so many talented artists and crafters in our town and it was a great opportunity for them to show off their wares. All of which were keenly priced. Well done.

My own child was in awe of the lights, music and getting to hug santa on his walkabout. The polar express bus was magical and the characters from the local drama group were outstanding and really added to the atmosphere on our wee jaunt around the town. All in all we had a great day and particularly enjoyed the balloon release and dancing to The David Oliver band who were fantastic.

Huge **congratulations** to all involved in organising this today and the volunteers who were on hand to help out.

I was at the Belfast market on friday and I have to say our own wee market today was every bit as impressive !!!



A Massive thanks to all the organisers, volunteers, stall owners/ workers and musicians, who contributed to a fantastic and very successful Christmas Fayre in Strabane yesterday.

This great innovation highlighted the talent across the district and shone a very positive light on Strabane, which will always get the big thumbs up from me!



Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership Projects

A snap shot of the ongoing work of the projects in the Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Area as follows:-

Community Renewal

1. Strabane Ethnic Community Association – Ethnic Community Development Worker’s Salary and Running Costs

Strabane Ethnic Community Association works directly with ethnic minority and local residents in activity and learning programmes surrounding cultural awareness and to assist ethnic minority groups to integrate into communities. They provide the following:

- English Language and Polish classes, anti-racism & diversity training, Food Hygiene, Child Protection, First Aid
- Cultural events - Diwali Festival, Polish Night, Bollywood dancing, Multi-cultural food
- Community Cultural (Digital) Hub
- Health Awareness Initiatives, Breast Cancer, Bowel Cancer, Action Hearing loss, Women’s Health
- Local Primary Schools Project – Diwali Story presentation
- Youth Intervention Project – Youth club, Summer Scheme, Cricket tournaments, Football, Cross Community activities
- Signpost to local statutory bodies - Housing issues, Education, Employment, Social security benefits etc.



Diwali at the Alley Theatre



Multi-cultural Food Night



Henna Art Temporary Tattoos

2. Lisnafin/Ardnalee Trust Cross Community Development Association – Project Co-ordinator’s Salary/ENIC and Running Costs

Lisnafin Ardnalee Trust Cross Community Development Association delivers a comprehensive package of services, interventions, training etc. that address education, worklessness, health, crime and anti-social behaviour. In addition to the above, the Project delivers social and recreational activities from the local community centre. Some of the activities are as follows:

- Sign Language, Emergency First Aid at work, Level 2 Child Protection and Safeguarding
- Play and Stay (0-4 years), Jo Jingles
- Citizens Advice Outreach Service
- Community Cultural (Digital) Hub
- Over 50’s Fitness Classes, Box – fit, Irish Dancing
- Puppy training and micro-chip
- Summer Scheme – Gaelic training, soccer training, and multi-sports, away days.
- Arts & Crafts, Ceramic Art, Paverpol, Sewing
- Birthday Parties, Charitable events, Senior Citizens Summer Day Trip, Xmas Dinner Dance
- Health initiatives – Bowel Cancer, Drink Wise, Age well, Cook-it



Summer Scheme



Over 50’s Art & Craft Classes



Sign Language Course

3. Fountain Street Community Development Association – Head of the Town Rejuvenation Project

This project delivers services, interventions and programmes that address the issues of crime and anti-social behaviour, underage drinking, vandalism, graffiti, drugs and alcohol, unemployment, poor health, low education attainment etc. for residents of all age groups living in the Fountain Street area and neighbouring areas.

- Department of Education – Surestart Programme
- Junior and senior youth club, Volleyball, Circuit training, Music Sessions, Karate Club
- Adult Education, SIA Training, React 8 Personal Development,
- Citizens Advice Outreach Service
- Women’s Craft Group, Autism Group, Child minder’s Group
- Men’s Health, Mindful Men, Adult Football, Walking Group
- Fountain of Fun – Face Painting, Hire of Mascots, Birthday Parties,/New 2U Charity Shop, Furniture, Bric-a-Brac
- Community Cultural (Digital) Hub
- Social and recreational activities such as bingo, local community fun days, senior citizen’s lunch, Xmas winter wonderland



New to U Charity Shop



Halloween Burn Walk



Santa's Grotto

4. Melmount East Bank Estates Community Association Forum

Melmount East Bank Estates Community Associations Forum represents a number of community groups with unpaid staff based in the Ballycolman Estate and surrounding area. The Forum works closely with other organisations to help residents to access services and facilities such as the Community Allotment Project, Flexi-care and community safety initiatives. The Forum, with other community organisations, takes a lead role in the delivery of Strabane St. Patrick's Day Festival and Strabane Christmas Fayre. The organisation delivers a number of programmes as follows:

- Drop in Facility – Form filling, Photocopying, Meetings, Housing issues, Home safety
- Adult Education/Training – Maths, First Aid & Defibrillator, Stewarding, Kayaking
- Community Safety Initiatives – Feel Safe in the Home, Help at Hand, Winter Packs, Water awareness and safety training,
- Social and Recreational – Flower arranging, Paverpol, Senior Citizens Xmas party
- Good Relations Trips – Peace Lines Belfast, Boyne Visitors Centre, Apprentice Boys Museum, Derry Walls, Kilmainham Gaol, Ulster Rugby
- Health Initiatives – Drugs and Alcohol awareness, Our time Women's Health & Well-being Group
- Youth Diversionary Initiatives – Away days
- Environmental Enhancement Project involving graffiti removal, tree and shrub planting, community garden, public art projects



**Cross Community Good Relations trip to
Kilmainham Gaol**



Good Relations Trip to Ulster Rugby



Melmount Forum's Women's Group

5. Strabane Community Project – Project Co-ordinator and Part-time Finance/Admin Officer Salaries

Strabane Community Project provides a range of services for older people, in particular those who are vulnerable and suffer from isolation as follows:

- Meals on Wheels Service
- Luncheon Club, Breakfast Club
- Good Morning Listening Ear Telephone Alert Service
- Respite Care for Carers, Befriending
- Transport, Handyvan service
- Sign posting to other services
- Health initiatives – Arm Chair aerobics, Drugs and Alcohol, Health & Well-being plans
- Fuel Stamp Savings Scheme
- Information and Advice sessions – Social Security Benefit checks
- Social & Recreational Activities – Social Dance, Music events, Day trips
- Health & Safety initiatives, Community Safety initiatives
- Grass Roots Café & Social Supermarket



Grass Roots Cafe



Social Supermarket

Economic Renewal

6. South West College – Going Places Programme – Learning Mentor & Programme Costs

The project involves a targeted training programme for the unemployed and young people who are no longer in education. The Mentor led programme tailored to meet individual need provides an agreed individual plan, one-to-one and group support for participants both during and after their training. During 2017/18 forty participants took part in the programme, fourteen of whom moved into employment. The Programme is delivered in three phases annually.

Phase 1

Engages participants in accredited training; participants are unemployed and not participating in education, training or employment at point of entry.

Phase 2

Provides progression from Phase 1 and offers an opportunity for 24 participants to obtain a driving licence via access to 18 driving lessons and two funded attempts at the driving test. Participants are also provided with directed training in preparation to sit the Driving Theory Test; the Programme provides for two attempts at theory test. All participants have access to accredited employability training in the Health & Social Care and Customer Services sectors, Basic First Aid and Manual Handling, during this phase. A four-week work placement is completed by participants at the conclusion of phase 2.

Phase 3

Phase 3 provides participants who have fully engaged with the programme during Phases 1 and 2 the opportunity to undertake specialist employability training (confidence and Motivational) or training including:

- Specialist Driving (LGV, HGV, PSV and Fork Lift Truck)
- SIA (Security Industry Authority) Licence



7. North West Citizen's Advice – Neighbourhood Renewal Benefit Uptake & Generalist Advice Project

DfC Neighbourhood Renewal funding is awarded to Derry City & Strabane District Council which has a service level agreement with North West Citizen's Advice to deliver advice services within the Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Area. This project specifically targets local residents in receipt of social security benefits to ensure they are encouraged and supported to take up their full entitlement and that the process of seeking advice on a wide range of benefit and other issues is made more accessible. The Generalist Adviser provides advice and support as follows:

- Provides individual assessment of Social Security benefits to ensure that individuals living in Neighbourhood Renewal areas receive maximum income
- Advice on passport benefits – road tax, free school meals, prescriptions, blue and white badges, medical treatment
- Advice on consumer rights, employment, housing issues
- Outreach centre based in housing estates
- Debt management
- Ongoing changes to Welfare Reform (Universal Credit) and Tribunal Advocacy



CAB Office, Strabane



Generalist Adviser

8. Strabane Community Unemployed Group – Centre Co-ordinator

This project provides funding toward the employment of a Project Co-ordinator to work within communities to help people who are unemployed, in particular long term unemployed and people suffering from long term health problems, to overcome barriers to learning that prevent them moving into employment. Through partnership working with the North West Regional College, the organisation delivers a number of formal education courses from the Unemployed Centre.

- Essential Skills, Numeracy, Literacy and ICT
- Level 3 Emergency First Aid at Work, Food Hygiene, IPAD training for Beginners, Job Search, Stay and Learn for children and parents
- Social and Recreational - Arts and Crafts, Knitting, Crocheting, indoor bowling, social outings – away days, lunch
- Good Relation Trip – Falls and Shankill Road Belfast



Strabane Christmas Fayre 2017



Stay & Learn Class for Children and Parents



Craft Classes

Social Renewal - Health

9. Western Health & Social Services Board – Neighbourhood Health Improvement Project

The aim of the project is to develop an integrated and collaborative approach to addressing health improvement. The project is instrumental in addressing health related issues identified in the Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Area. Some of the programmes delivered are as follows:

- Weight Management – Couch to 5k programme
- Yoga
- Healthy Eating Cookery Classes
- Grow Your Own
- Ladies/Men's Health & Well-being
- Mental Health – HOPE Programme, Resilience, Seeds of Hope
- Stay Young Club
- Teenage Outreach Programme
- Families – Coping with Addiction
- Winter Health Programme – Help at Hand



Darkness into Light Walk, 2018



Launch of 2018 St Patrick's Day 5 K Run

10. HURT (Have your Tomorrows) – Support and Treatment Programmes for those Marginalised through Drugs and Alcohol

HURT is a drug and alcohol family support group that provides opportunities for those individuals and their family members, marginalised as a result of alcohol and drug use, to help them reintegrate within home, community and employment life. HURT provides holistic services through a tailored care plan designed to meet the needs of the individual. It offers the following services:

- Operates an open referral system and works closely with relevant Statutory Body and Community and Voluntary Sector
- Following initial assessment provides a tailored care plan that meets individual needs
- Provides counselling, a range of complementary therapies to individuals and family members affected by addiction.
- Delivers Drugs and Alcohol Workshops and Programmes to Youth Groups, Local Schools and Communities.



11. Strabane Sigerson's GAA – Project Co-ordinator delivering for a better Ballycolman

Strabane Sigersons GAA designs and facilitates the delivery of social, health and education programmes addressing the inequalities in health and improving the health and well-being of local people along with the delivery of appropriate programmes and courses aimed at empowering local people and extending the impact throughout the community. They deliver a number of programmes to provide opportunities for people of all age groups to improve health and well-being through the medium of sport as follows:

- Gaelic football – Children, Young people and Adults
- Banter across the Bridges, Darkness into Light Walk, Over 35yrs recreational training
- Youth Tournaments – local schools
- Use of Flood Light Football Pitch, Youth Football Pitch
- Health Education/Awareness initiatives – Cancer Care, Bowel Cancer, Breast Cancer, First Aid & Defibrillator training, Samaritans Information Session
- Coaching courses
- Easter & Summer Coaching Camps



Banter around the Bridges



Cancer Care in the Sun



Darkness into Light Walk

12. Koram Centre - Provision of counselling, psychotherapy and psycho-social support to beneficiaries of the Strabane NRA

This project provides funding towards a Manager/Cognitive Behavioural Therapist/Researcher, Part-time Clerical Officer with Counselling Function, running and programme costs to deliver a professional counselling and psychotherapy service.

The Koram Centre offers therapeutic interventions that include individual treatment plans for depression, anxiety, suicidal ideation, agoraphobia, trauma – physical and sexual, obsessive compulsive disorder, and bereavement, anger and relationship difficulties. It provides couples therapy, family therapy, learning disability counselling and child counselling. Clients can also avail of complimentary therapies.

The Centre delivers training courses i.e. resilience, mediation, suicide prevention. Clients can also avail of the allotment site. A Bereaved by Suicide Group meets regularly at the centre.

The Koram Centre works closely with the Western Health & Social Care Trust (WHSCT) – Public Health Agency and receives self-referrals, referrals through the local health centre and social services.



Counselling Rooms at the Koram Centre



Koram Centre's allotment site at Tulacorr, Strabane

Social Renewal – Education

13. Holy Cross College – Strabane Educational Support Programme

Holy Cross College, in partnership with Strabane Academy delivers this programme that targets pupils who are disengaged from the current education system providing academic and pastoral support. A Learning Mentor works with pupils on an individual basis and assists them to remain engaged with mainstream education. Pupils are offered a tailored education support and personal development plan to meet individual needs. The Learning Mentor supports each young person in academic and vocational courses that are not available at local schools. Some of the initiatives delivered includes Literacy & Reading Support, one-to-one mentoring, learning together programme, amazing brains workshop, after schools student support, parent support, peer pressure/bullying initiative, bereavement & loss support group, summer scheme etc. The programme aims to help students improve their opportunities for further/higher education, training or employment.



Schools for Hope Programme



Summer Scheme



Social Renewal – Education

14. Education Authority – Strabane Community Support Programme

This Youth Led Programme was developed in response to an identified need for youth intervention programmes to tackle issues of low educational attainment, underage drinking, anti-social behaviour and lack of facilities for young people living in the Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal area who are disengaged from the current education and youth services.

The programme provides leadership training and peer mentoring which includes pathways to qualifications/accreditation leaving a lasting legacy of new community leaders across the Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal area. The key drivers of the programme are the Neighbourhood Renewal Youth Forum made up of 18 young people aged 16-25 years. Two Drop in Centres have been established within Community Centres in Ballycolman and Lisnafin estates to engage young people on a weekly basis in various activities i.e. Arts and Crafts, Sports and Recreation, Group work, Social Skills, residential weekends. Alongside these activities young people can avail of accredited and non-accredited courses i.e. OCN Leadership, Youth Support Worker qualifications, Child Protection, Health & Safety, Health & Well-being, Good Relations with support from an area youth worker. During the summer months young people engage in the Summer Youth Intervention Programme during periods of social unrest/heightened tensions to reduce incidents of anti-social behaviour. Young people are involved in a number of programmes that address community relations, health issues, promote active citizenship and volunteering to build community capacity and cohesion within local neighbourhoods.



OCN Qualification in Design & Printing



Drop in at Lisnafin

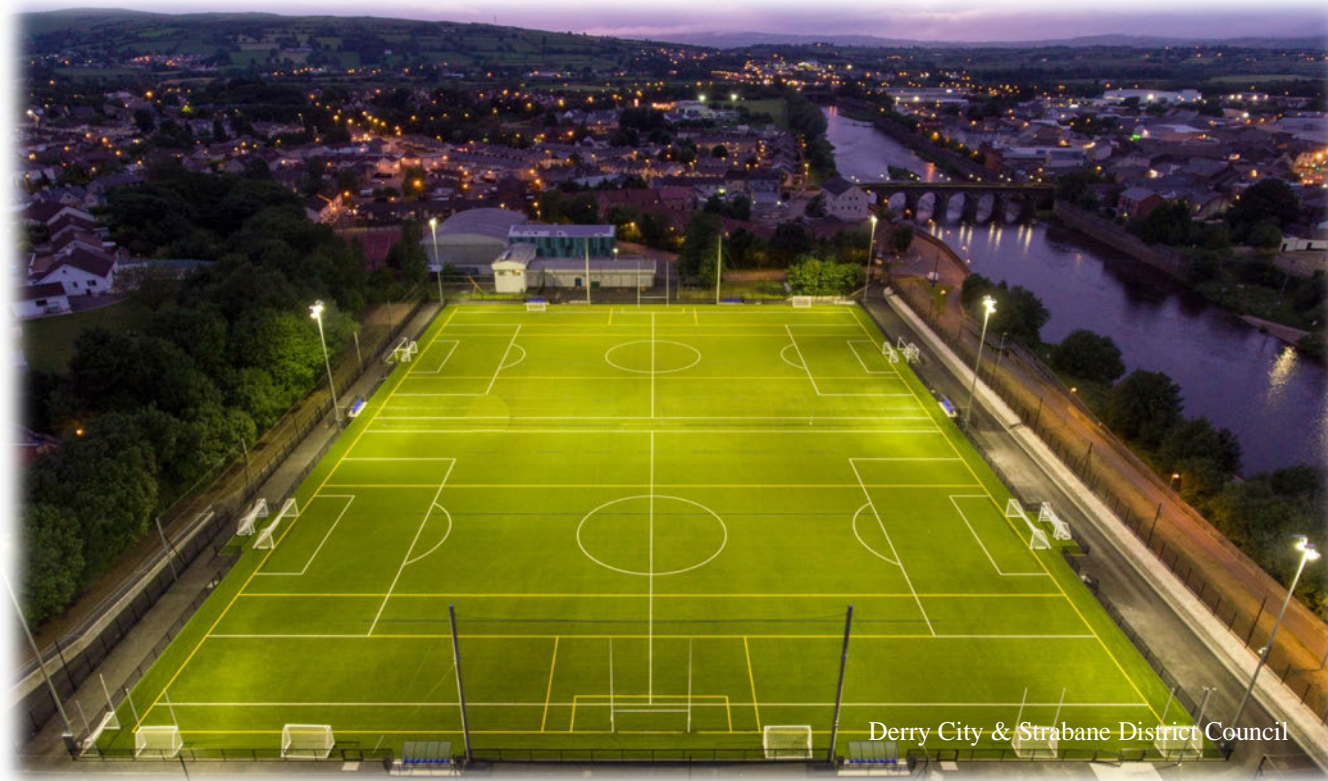


OCN Level 1 Digital Fabrication

Physical Renewal

15. Derry City & Strabane District Council – New 3G Multi Sports Pitch at Melvin Sports Complex

The new £1.1m 3G multi sports facility at Melvin Sports Complex is complete and operational. The Neighbourhood Renewal Investment Fund invested £590,200 in this new facility. The 3G pitch will be a hub for physical and sporting activities and the promotion of healthier lifestyles. The new facility replaces the previous sand based synthetic pitch and grass playing areas and will primarily cater for Football, Rugby and Gaelic sport.



Derry City & Strabane District Council

Physical Renewal

16. Transport NI – Ongoing Environmental Improvements in the following areas:



Lisnafin Park, Distributor Road



Magirr Park (completion of previous Magirr Park scheme)

Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership 2017/18 year Expenditure (by Strategic Objective)

The following table details current projects funded via the Neighbourhood Renewal Investment fund. It also details the 2017/18 year individual spend for each project, the total amount of expenditure by strategic objective and the overall 2017/18 year total expenditure in the Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Area.

Programme/Project	Contract for Funding (CFF) Funding Period	CFF Funding Amount (Project allocation)	2017/18 Spend (as at 31/03/18)
COMMUNITY RENEWAL			
Fountain Street Community Development Association Ltd – Project Co-ordinator’s Salary/ENIC and Running Costs	1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018	£40,131.71	£40,131.71
Lisnafin Ardnalee Trust Cross Community Development Association – Project Co-ordinator’s Salary/ENIC & Running Costs	1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018	£29,923.11	£29,923.11
Melmount East Bank Estates Community Association Forum – Full Time Project Co-ordinator and Part Time Finance Administrator	1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018	£41,965.72	£41,965.72
Strabane Community Project – Salary Costs – Full Time Project Co-ordinator and Part Time Finance Administrator	1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018	£29,918.95	£29,918.95

Strabane Ethnic Community Association – Ethnic Community Development Project Co-ordinator, Part time Administrator Salaries, Running and Programme Costs	1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018	£49,479.09	£49,479.09
Derry City & Strabane District Council – Technical Assistance to Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership (Strategy Manager and Part Time Administrator	1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018	£34,401.20	£34,401.20
Total Community Renewal Expenditure		£225,819.78	£225,819.78
SOCIAL RENEWAL – HEALTH			
HURT (Have your Tomorrows) – Support and Treatment Programmes for those marginalised through Drugs and Alcohol	1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018	£9,694.08	£9,694.08
Strabane Sigersons Gaelic Athletic Association – Project Co-ordinator delivering for a better Ballycolman	1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018	£29,669.36	£29,669.36
The Koram Centre– The Provision of Counselling, Psychotherapy and Psychosocial Support to Beneficiaries of the Strabane NRA - Manager, Part Time Admin, Running Costs and Programme costs	1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018	£70,167.76	£70,167.76

Western Health & Social Care Trust – Neighbourhood Health Improvement Project (spend allocated on a population pro-rata basis)	1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018	£22,309.95	£22,309.95
Derry City & Strabane District Council – Neighbourhood Renewal Active Citizenship through Sport	1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018	£11,081.20	£11,081.20
Total Social Renewal – Health Expenditure		£142,922.35	£142,922.35
SOCIAL RENEWAL – EDUCATION			
Holy Cross College – Strabane Educational Support Programme Learning Mentor, Running Costs and Programme costs	1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018	£33,510.04	£33,510.04
Education Authority - Strabane Community Support Project Full Time Coordinator, Running Costs and Programme costs	1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018	£30,325.20	£30,325.20
Total Social Renewal – Education Expenditure		£63,835.24	£63,835.24
ECONOMIC RENEWAL			
South West College - Going Places Programme in the Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Area	1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018	£77,975.30	£77,975.30

Strabane Community Unemployed Group - Salary Costs – Full time Centre Co-ordinator	1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018	£20,490.12	£20,490.12
Total Economic Renewal Expenditure		£98,465.42	£98,465.42
PHYSICAL RENEWAL			
Department for Infrastructure (Transport NI) – Upgrade of footpaths, streets and lighting in Magirr Park within the Strabane NRA	1 January 2018 to 31 March 2018	£76,488	£76,488
Derry City & Strabane District Council – Melvin Sports Complex Multi-Sports 3G Pitch	1 July 2017 to 31 March 2018	£590,200	£590,200
Total Physical Renewal Expenditure		£666,688.00	£666,688.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		£1,197,730.79	£1,197,730.79

ACHIEVEMENTS OF NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL FUNDING IN 2017/18 YEAR

Community Renewal Output Measures

PROJECT (STRABANE)	CR 1 – Number of people participating in community relations projects.	CR 2 – Number of people participating in community bonding projects.	CR 3 – Number of people volunteering for community development activities.	CR 4 – Number of engaged/involved in unpaid voluntary work.	CR 5 – Number of people receiving training in community development skills/capacity building.	CR 6 – Number of people using new or improved community facilities.	CR 7 – Number of community/voluntary groups supported.	CR 10 – Number of people using existing community facilities.
Fountain Street Community Development Association Ltd – Project Co-ordinator’s Salary/ENIC and Running Costs		1,028		46				1,773
Lisnafin Ardnalee Trust Cross Community Development Association – Project Co-ordinator’s Salary/ENIC & Running Costs		206	28					2,104
Melmount East Bank Estates Community Association Forum – Uniting Neighbourhood Renewal Communities		342		69			11	440
Strabane Community Project – Salary Costs – Full Time Project Co-ordinator and Part Time Finance Administrator		402		89				
Strabane Ethnic Community Association – Ethnic Community Development Project Co-	631			83				209

ordinator, Part time Administrator Salaries, Running and Programme Costs								
HURT (Have your Tomorrows) – Support and Treatment Programmes for those marginalised through Drugs and Alcohol				4			13	
Strabane Sigersons Gaelic Athletic Association – Project Co-ordinator delivering for a better Ballycolman			120			669		
The Koram Centre, Counselling, Psychotherapy and Psycho Social Support Ltd – The Provision of Counselling, Psychotherapy and Psychosocial Support to Beneficiaries of the Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Area				66				
Holy Cross College – Strabane Educational Support Programme							2	
Strabane Community Unemployed Group - Salary Costs – Full time Centre Co-ordinator		46		17				
Education Authority - Strabane Community Support Project			14		14			
South West College - Going Places Programme in the Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Area				24				

Economic Renewal Output Measures

	ER 1 – Number of FTE jobs created.	ER 3 – Number of people accessing careers advice.	ER 4 – Number of people receiving job specific training.	ER 6 – Number of people receiving non job specific training	ER 14 – Number of people attaining a formal qualification from participation in Adult Education.	ER 15 – Number of FTE jobs safeguarded.
PROJECT (STRABANE)						
Fountain Street Community Development Association Ltd – Project Co-ordinator’s Salary/ENIC and Running Costs				20	7	1
Lisnafin Ardnalee Trust Cross Community Development Association – Project Co-ordinator’s Salary/ENIC & Running Costs				33		1
Melmount East Bank Estates Community Association Forum – Uniting Neighbourhood Renewal Communities				50		2
Strabane Community Project – Salary Costs – Full Time Project Co-ordinator and Part Time Finance Administrator				44		1.5
Strabane Ethnic Community Association – Ethnic Community Development Project Co-ordinator, Part time Administrator Salaries, Running and Programme Costs				23		1.6
Strabane Sigersons Gaelic Athletic Association – Project Co-ordinator delivering for a better Ballycolman				55		1

The Koram Centre, Counselling, Psychotherapy and Psycho Social Support Ltd – The Provision of Counselling, Psychotherapy and Psychosocial Support to Beneficiaries of the Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Area						1.5
Holy Cross College – Strabane Educational Support Programme						1
Strabane Community Unemployed Group - Salary Costs – Full time Centre Co-ordinator				77	16	1
South West College - Going Places Programme in the Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Area	14	37	36	24	19	1
Education Authority - Strabane Community Support Project			14			1
HURT (Have your Tomorrows) – Support and Treatment Programmes for those marginalised through Drugs and Alcohol						0.10

Social Renewal (Education) Output Measures

PROJECT (STRABANE)	SR(ED) 2 – number of pupils whose attendance is measurably enhanced/improved	SR(ED) 3 – Number of pupils whose attainment is measurably enhanced/improved	SR(ED) 4 – Number of pupils whose behaviour is measurably enhanced/improved	SR (ED) 5 – Number of people engaged in parenting skills/development programmes.	SR(ED) 8 – Number of pupils directly benefitting from the project (Closing the performance gap)	SR (ED) 14 – Number of young people directly benefitting from the project.
Holy Cross College – Strabane Educational Support Programme	169	163	128	140	562	
Education Authority - Strabane Community Support Project						120

Social Renewal (Health) Output Measures

PROJECT (STRABANE)	SR (H) 1 – Number of people benefiting from Healthy Lifestyle Projects.	SR (H) 2 – Number of people attending Health Education/Awareness Initiatives.	SR (H) 3 – Number of people assessing intervention/treatment services.	SR (H) 4 – Number of health education/awareness initiatives provided/delivered.	SR (H) 6 – Number of people participating in suicide prevention projects.
Fountain Street Community Development Association Ltd – Project Co-ordinator’s Salary/ENIC and Running Costs	185				
Lisnafin Ardnalee Trust Cross Community Development Association – Project Co-ordinator’s Salary/ENIC & Running Costs	48			5	
Strabane Community Project – Salary Costs – Full Time Project Co-ordinator and Part Time Finance Administrator	269			6	
Strabane Ethnic Community Association – Ethnic Community Development Project Co-ordinator, Part time Administrator Salaries, Running and Programme Costs		23		1	
HURT (Have your Tomorrows) – Support and Treatment Programmes for those marginalised through Drugs and Alcohol		322	35	12	
Strabane Sigersons Gaelic Athletic Association – Project Co-ordinator delivering for a better Ballycolman	553			13	

The Koram Centre, Counselling, Psychotherapy and Psycho Social Support Ltd – The Provision of Counselling, Psychotherapy and Psychosocial Support to Beneficiaries of the Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Area	192		473		245
Education Authority - Strabane Community Support Project		40			

Social Renewal (Crime) Output Measures

PROJECT (STRABANE)	SR (C) 2 – Number of community safety initiatives implemented.	SR (C) 3 – Number of people participating/attending community safety initiatives.	SR (C) 4 – Number of crime prevention initiatives implemented.	SR (C) 5 – Number of people participating/ attending crime prevention initiatives.	SR (C) 6 – Number of young people benefiting from youth inclusion/diversionary projects.	SR (C) 8 – Number of homes with increased security.
Fountain Street Community Development Association Ltd – Project Co-ordinator’s Salary/ENIC and Running Costs		35			52	
Lisnafin Ardnalee Trust Cross Community Development Association – Project Co-ordinator’s Salary/ENIC & Running Costs	5				170	
Melmount East Bank Estates Community Association Forum – Uniting Neighbourhood Renewal Communities	7	554	2	30		56
Strabane Community Project – Salary Costs – Full Time Project Co-ordinator and Part Time Finance Administrator	7	1,663				
Strabane Ethnic Community Association – Ethnic Community Development Project Co-ordinator, Part time Administrator Salaries, Running and Programme Costs			2	51		
Strabane Sigersons Gaelic Athletic Association – Project Co-ordinator delivering for a better Ballycolman					219	

Education Authority - Strabane Community Support Project					15	
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ACHIEVEMENT OF NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL FUNDING CITYWIDE IN 17/18 YEAR

The Projects below are Citywide Projects covering Triax~Cityside, Outer North, Outer West, and Waterside NRAs

The Projects are reflective of the whole of the Citywide area (with the following exceptions):

Community Restorative Justice - Neighbourhood Renewal Community Mediation Service covers Triax~Cityside, Outer North and Outer West NRAs only

Derry City & Strabane District Council – Generalist Voluntary Advice Services Support Programme 2017-2018 includes Strabane

Derry City & Strabane District Council - Active Citizenship Through Sport Programme includes Strabane

Western Health and Social Care Trust – Neighbourhood Health Improvement Project includes Strabane and Limavady

Community Renewal Output Measures

PROJECT (CITYWIDE)	CR 4 – Number of people engaged/involved in unpaid voluntary work.
Derry City & Strabane District Council - Active Citizenship Through Sport Programme	153
Derry City & Strabane District Council – Generalist Voluntary Advice Services Support Programme 2017-18	10

Community Renewal – Advice Projects Output Measures

	CR 12 – Number of enquiries and clients by category.	CR 13 – Total number of beneficiaries (including family members).	CR 14 – Waiting list times and numbers.
PROJECT (CITYWIDE) Derry City & Strabane District Council – Generalist Voluntary Advice Services Support Programme	34,654	58,805	95%

Economic Renewal Output Measures

PROJECT (CITYWIDE)	ER 4 – Number of people receiving job specific training.	ER 10 – Number of people becoming self-employed.	ER 14 – Number of people attaining a formal qualification from participation in Adult Education.	ER 15 – Number of FTE jobs safeguarded.
Derry City & Strabane District Council - Active Citizenship Through Sport Programme		71	303	
Derry City & Strabane District Council - Generalist Voluntary Advice Services Support Programme	75			
Western Health & Social Care Trust - Neighbourhood Health Improvement Project				4

Social Renewal (Health) Output Measures

PROJECT (CITYWIDE)	SR (H) 1 – Number of people benefiting from Healthy Lifestyle Projects.	SR (H) 2 – Number of people attending Health Education/Awareness Initiatives.	SR (H) 4 – Number of Health Education/ Awareness Initiatives provided/delivered.
Derry City & Strabane District Council - Active Citizenship Through Sport Programme	2,620		
Western Health & Social Care Trust - Neighbourhood Health Improvement Project		5,471	111

Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership Conclusion

In the 2017/18 financial year, Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership total overall spend was £1,197,730.79

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

Community Renewal	£225,819.78
Social Renewal	£206,757.59
Economic Renewal	£98,465.42
Physical Renewal	£666,688.00

The total value of funding invested in Strabane Neighbourhood Renewal projects during the year 2017/18 was £1,197,730.79. The programmes/services supported by the Neighbourhood Renewal Investment Fund ranged from locally based community services through to physical renewal and neighbourhood health improvement programmes. Neighbourhood Renewal funding addressed a number of key priorities identified in the Strabane Neighbourhood Action Plan.

Community Renewal

The key actions sought under Community Renewal aim to build the area's social capital by improving the capacity of community groups to identify and meet community needs; support more people to get involved in community activity and to promote equality and good relations between people of different nationalities, race, gender, sexuality, religion and political opinion.

During 2017/18, local community groups and other stakeholders continued to plan, organize and deliver a wide range of services to residents from Strabane NRA. A total of fifteen projects were funded through the Neighbourhood Renewal Programme to deliver a range of services in support of:

- Community Development,
- Counselling/psychotherapy treatment,
- Education,
- Employability/vocational training,
- Drug & alcohol support & treatment,
- Health improvement,
- Physical renewal works,
- Welfare advice,
- Technical assistance (Neighbourhood Partnership).
- Youth Intervention

Economic Renewal

In 2017/18, Strabane Neighbourhood Partnership continued to focus on fostering 'bottom up' economic development through supporting the development of social economy enterprises and helping to raise the skills levels of NRA residents to take advantage of emerging job opportunities. This was done by working alongside Enterprise North West, local Social Enterprises, Department for Communities, Derry City & Strabane District Council and by working with the North West Regional College, South West College and Strabane Unemployed Resource Centre in support of various employability programmes.

Social Renewal

The priority actions sought under Social Renewal broadly focus on improving early child development and educational attainment; reducing inequalities in health; supporting low income households and preventing crime and reducing anti-social behaviour. The Social Renewal Action Team represents a wide range of stakeholders with interests in health, education, early years, welfare advice, the arts and sports & leisure.

The Partnership's Health Sub Group continues to direct and oversee the delivery of the Neighbourhood Health Improvement Project in Strabane. In the past year, the project reached over almost six hundred people through the delivery of programmes and events designed to help people become more physically active, maintain an overall healthy diet, reduce and promote positive mental health.

The various Barnardo's Surestart programmes continue to be delivered on an ongoing basis. The services delivered by Surestart range from baby massage and baby yoga classes through to speech and language and school readiness programmes. In 2017/18, 289 children from the NRA registered with Surestart.

The Education Steering Committee continued to facilitate schools based and community based initiatives that help to improve children's educational/life outcomes. A central element to this work has been increased involvement and collaboration with schools, parents and families, community organisations and other support services. During 2017/18 the Education Steering Group focused its efforts on researching and reviewing resilience programmes to help deal with the growing problem of child mental health distress. The partner organisations have agreed to design and deliver a bespoke resilience programme to the parents of children attending local nursery schools. The programme will be based on the 'Schools for Hope' (SfH) model and will also incorporate the best elements of other programmes run by Surestart and schools. SfH is a mental health and well-being awareness programme based on research that suggests hope is a teachable skill. It aims to equip children and young people, their educators and parents with the tools they need to find and maintain hope even during the most trying of times.

The PSNI Neighbourhood Policing Team and community representatives continue to build working relationships with NRA residents to identify and tackle local priorities; Strabane Community Project, on behalf of Derry City & Strabane District PCSP, delivered crime prevention/home safety support schemes for older or vulnerable residents in the Strabane District area.

Physical Renewal

The Physical Renewal Action Team has worked on the following priority actions during 2017/18.

Improvements to Estates

- Liaise with Department for Infrastructure Roads and DfC to implement environmental improvements in Magirr Park Strabane.

Sport, Leisure and Recreation Facilities

- Support Derry City & Strabane District Council (DCSDC) to deliver a new 3G playing surface at Melvin Sports Complex;
- Assist Strabane Health Improvement Project to bring forward a new community health building to be delivered in the Autumn 2018.



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