



# Downpatrick Neighbourhood Renewal Area

Annual Report  
2018/19

# Downpatrick Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership

ANNUAL REPORT – 2018/2019

## Neighbourhood Renewal

The Neighbourhood Renewal policy “People & Place” aims to reduce the social and economic inequalities which characterise the most deprived areas. The Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy ‘People and Place’ was published in June 2003 to close the gap between the quality of life for people in the most deprived neighbourhoods and the rest of society. 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. The Strategy has four interlinking strategic objectives:

- **Community Renewal** – to develop confident communities 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.

### Downpatrick Neighbourhood Renewal Area

The Downpatrick Neighbourhood Renewal area comprises the housing areas within Downpatrick (Flying Horse, Model Farm and new Model Farm estates, Kennedy Square, Meadowlands, and Marian Park) and a substantial part of the town centre including the Bridge Street / Mount Crescent area. By July 2015, it had a population of approximately 6,113.

## Downpatrick Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership

The Downpatrick Neighbourhood Partnership was established in March 2006 to take forward the local delivery of the Neighbourhood Renewal strategy. It comprises 26 members from the community/voluntary, private and statutory sectors. The Partnership is defined as a non-constituted entity acting in an advisory role to the Department for Communities on Neighbourhood Renewal issues in the designated Neighbourhood Renewal area. It currently meets on a 6 weekly basis and its administration services are provided by Newry, Mourne and Down District Council.



The Department for Communities provides the associated costs for administrating the Partnership under technical assistance arrangements.

The Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership's sub groups are transient and short term, set up to undertake specific tasks to assist it in the identification, development and, where appropriate, delivery of projects.

The 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.

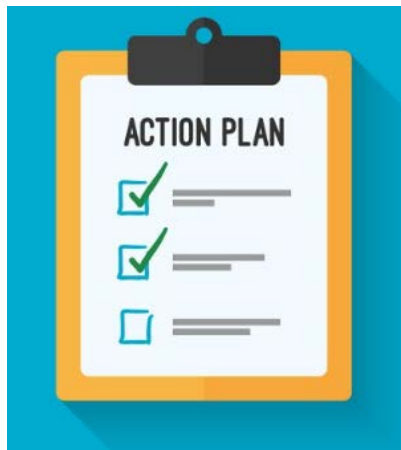
## The Downpatrick Vision and Action Plan

The Downpatrick Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership set its 10 year vision for the area back in 2006. It states that:

*“Local neighbourhoods in Downpatrick will be safe, attractive places where people want to live, work and play. Communities will be healthier and prosperous, working together to create a positive future for our children and young people”.*



## Neighbourhood Renewal Action Plans



The Downpatrick Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership has a 3 year Action Plan in place. It is reviewed each year in line with the Department for Social Development guidance. The Plan sets out those revenue (service delivery type) projects that are currently being funded by the Department, together with any new revenue projects that are in development. It also sets out the capital development schemes that the Partnership has identified for delivery. This Annual Report document reports on delivery of the Neighbourhood Renewal Action Plan for the 2018/19 financial year.

## Downpatrick Neighbourhood Renewal Projects

The Neighbourhood Renewal Investment Fund has supported five Downpatrick Neighbourhood Renewal Action Plan revenue projects during the 2018/2019 financial year and one major capital project as follows:-

### Community Renewal

#### 1. Newry, Mourne and Down District Council - Neighbourhood Partnership Technical Assistance

This project provides Council with funding to deliver the Neighbourhood Renewal secretariat support function without which the Partnership could not effectively operate. This includes the co-ordination of Partnership meetings, planning events and other initiatives, the production of Neighbourhood Renewal Action plans and contribution to the monitoring and evaluation process. This service is seen as vital to the smooth functioning of Neighbourhood Renewal in Downpatrick.



**Partnership Meeting**

## Social Renewal

### 2. Downpatrick Public Health Agency – Health & Community Engagement Programme

This project, which is being managed by the Public Health Agency, has been running since 2013. It involves the employment of a Community Development Health Worker to deliver a range of targeted Health and Wellbeing and community initiatives within the Downpatrick Neighbourhood Renewal area.

The service delivery has been outsourced by the Public Health Agency to a community sector organisation - County Down Rural Community Network, under Service Level Agreement arrangements.

This project has delivered a range of activities including health programmes, identifying and developing new volunteers for community groups and delivering greater engagement and networking between and within groups.

This has helped develop the skills and confidence of the local community to enable them to participate in the health and community related activities.

**Health & Community Engagement – Men's shed bee keeping initiative**



## Economic Renewal

### 3. Driving to Success

This project provides additional support in education and training for neighbourhood renewal residents. It includes a bespoke programme of vocational skills and personal development training to assist young people to seek and secure employment / better employment, through participation in a training programme leading to the achievement of a nationally recognised qualification and the chance to obtain a driving licence. The project has been in place since 2012 and has continued to meet its targets.

#### 2018/2019 participants receiving their certificates





## Social Renewal – Education

### 4. South Eastern Education and Library Boards - Parents – Speech & Language Therapy

The main aim of the project is to raise standards in language and literacy by providing early identification and support for children at risk of underachieving. All children involved in the service have a comprehensive assessment of their speech, language and communication skills carried out by the Speech and Language Therapist (SLT). The SLT then carry out observations focusing on children on the SLT caseload. Time is spent supporting identified children either in a group or one to one basis as directed by the SLT. In addition the SLT consults with parents and teachers to explain the process and provide advice on how best to support the child at home and in the classroom. Parents are invited to attend some of the sessions and are set home learning tasks to complete with the child. Parent training sessions are also offered to give parents advice on strategies and activities to carry out at home to support their child's language development.

### Talk Boost Programme



## Social Renewal - Health

### 5. Downpatrick Family Health & Wellbeing

Downpatrick '**Family Health & Wellbeing**' project is facilitated through a joint approach linking the EA, South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust, Downpatrick Sure Start, Bryson Charitable Group, Action for Children, Home Start and County Down Rural Community Network. Started in 2011, the project provides a coordinated network of health and family support services to neighbourhood renewal residents through a new Parent Visitor Programme; a Family Support Home Visiting Service; and a Mobile Crèche provision. The project continued to meet its objectives.

#### New mum and baby class



## Physical Renewal

### 6. Downpatrick Meadowlands Play Park

Meadowlands Play Park was a project that was worked up with the local community, the NR Partnership and Newry Mourne & Down District Council. The aim of the project was to provide a new play park facility within an unused area of grassland in the Meadowlands Estate in Downpatrick for use by the local community and the wider general population. Provision of the playpark provided alternatives to crime and anti-social behaviour for the young people in the area and improved the quality of the environment for social, economic, cultural and leisure activities including enhancement of community space.

#### Official Sod cutting event



### Downpatrick Partnership 2018/2019 expenditure (by Strategic Objective)

The following table details current projects funded via the Neighbourhood Renewal Investment fund. It also details the 2018/2019 individual spend for each project, the total amount of expenditure by strategic objective and the overall 2018/2019 total expenditure in the Downpatrick Neighbourhood Renewal Area.

Programme/Project	CFF Funding Period	CFF/LOV Funding Amount (Project allocation)	2018/2019 Spend
<b>COMMUNITY RENEWAL</b>			
Newry Mourne and Down District Council Neighbourhood Renewal Technical Assistance	01/04/2018 to 31/03/2019	£16,900.00	£15,801.65
Public Health Agency - Public Health & Community Engagement Programme	01/04/2018 to 31/03/2019	£25,000.00	£25,000.00
<b>Total Community Renewal Expenditure</b>		<b>£41,900.00</b>	<b>£40,801.65</b>

Programme/Project	CFF Funding Period	CFF/LOV Funding Amount (Project allocation)	2018/2019 Spend
<b>SOCIAL RENEWAL – EDUCATION</b>			
Speech & Language Therapy	01/04/2018 to 31/03/2019	£48,112.00	£48,112.00
<b>Total Social Renewal Education Expenditure</b>		<b>£48,112.00</b>	<b>£48,112.00</b>

Programme/Project	CFF Funding Period	CFF/LOV Funding Amount (Project allocation)	2018/2019 Spend
<b>SOCIAL RENEWAL – HEALTH</b>			
Downpatrick Family Health & Wellbeing	01/04/2018 to 31/03/2019	£63,600.60	£51,197.71
<b>Total Social Renewal Health Expenditure</b>		<b>£63,600.60</b>	<b>£51,197.71</b>
<b>Total Combined <u>Education &amp; Health</u> Social Renewal</b>			<b>£99,309.71</b>

Programme/Project	CFF Funding Period	CFF/LOV Funding Amount (Project allocation)	2018/2019 Spend
<b>ECONOMIC RENEWAL</b>			
South Eastern Regional College - Driving to Success	01/04/2018 to 31/03/2019	£65,146.89	£63,468.18
<b>Total Economic Renewal Expenditure</b>		<b>£65,146.89</b>	<b>£63,468.18</b>

Programme/Project	CFF Funding Period	CFF/LOV Funding Amount (Project allocation)	2018/2019 Spend
<b>PHYSICAL RENEWAL</b>			
Meadowlands Play Park	13/12/2018 to 31/03/2019	£224,562.83	£224,562.83
<b>Total Physical Renewal Expenditure</b>		<b>£224,562.83</b>	<b>£224,562.83</b>
<b>GRAND OVERALL NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL TOTAL</b>		<b>£443,322.32</b>	<b>£428,142.37</b>

## ACHIEVEMENTS OF NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL FUNDING IN 2018/2019 YEAR

### Community/Other Output Measures

PROJECT	CR4 - Number of people engaged/involved in unpaid volunteer work.	CR5 – Number of people receiving training in community development/capacity building.	CR7 – Number of community/voluntary groups supported.
DDC NP Technical Assistance			<b>6</b>
PHA Health & Community Engagement programme	<b>49</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>8</b>

### Social (Education) Output Measures

PROJECT	SR(Ed) 3 – Number of pupils whose attainment is measurably enhance/improved.	SR(Ed) 5 – Number of people engaged in parenting/skills development programmes
Downpatrick – SH&SCT – Speech & Language Therapy	<b>68</b>	<b>65</b>

### Social (Health) Output Measures

<b>PROJECT</b>	<b>SR(H)1</b> – Number of people benefiting from healthy lifestyle projects	<b>SR(H) 2</b> – Number of people attending Education/ Awareness initiatives	<b>SR(H) 3</b> – Number of people accessing intervention/ treatment services	<b>SR(H) 4</b> – Number of health/education awareness initiatives provided/delivered
Downpatrick Family Health & Wellbeing		<b>175</b>	<b>20 Families 43 Children</b>	<b>113</b>
PHA Health & Community Engagement programme	<b>106</b>			

### Economic Output Measures

<b>PROJECT</b>	<b>ER 6</b> – Number of people receiving non-job specific training.	<b>ER 14</b> – Number of people attaining a formal qualification from participation in adult education.
Driving to Success 2	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>

### Physical Output Measures

<b>PROJECT</b>	<b>PR(1):</b> Area of land improved for open space
Meadowlands Play Park	<b>1</b>



## **Downpatrick Partnership Conclusion**

In the 2018/2019 financial year, Downpatrick Partnership total overall spend at June 2019 was **£428,142.37**. This can be further broken down into Strategic Objective spend as follows:-

✓ Community Renewal	£ 40,801.65
✓ Social Renewal	£ 99,309.71
✓ Economic Renewal	£ 63,468.18
✓ Physical Renewal	£224,562.83

### **Breakdown of actual achievements for total expenditure**

Having previously focused on the delivery of the large £4.1M Ballymote Multifunctional and Healthy Living Sports facility which provided an additional 80 jobs for the area, the Partnership's new priority is to concentrate on educational, health and economic projects. Speech & Language Therapy is benefiting pupils and parents, improving reading skills and reducing waiting lists. Driving to Success continues to engage with people to improve their employability. Family Health & Well-being has had an instrumental role in keeping families together and teaching parental skills to new parents. Community Engagement has helped many organisations develop their volunteer base and crucially, their governance arrangements. Finally, the building of a new play park in Meadowlands has been the result of years of lobbying and will bring significant benefits to the area.



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