

# Greater Falls

## Neighbourhood Renewal Area

Annual Report  
2018/19



**DfC**

Department  
for Communities

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# Greater Falls Neighbourhood Partnership Annual Report for 2018-19



**Mórcheantar na bhFál**  
Comhpháirtíocht Comharsanachta



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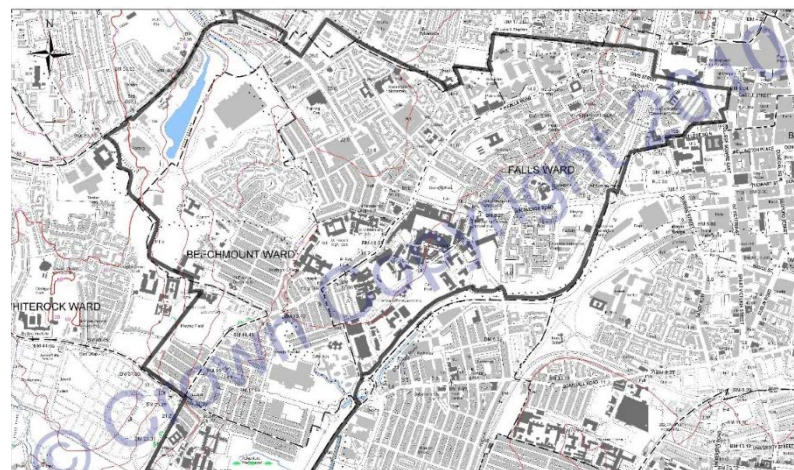
**The Greater Falls Neighbourhood Renewal Area** covers from the bottom of Whiterock to Castle Street, it takes in three full electoral wards which are the Falls, Clonard and Beechmount. It also has part of the Whiterock and Falls Park electoral wards (*we have not included these parts in the figures below under the new MDM measures*)

The area takes in 7,193 households with a population size of just over 17,000 (NISRA has 16,693 but there are quirks in defining the NRA with a few additional streets missing in their calculations).

The area is characterised by interfaces starting at Millfield and continuing right across its geographical spread. There are also several physical barriers which reach across the neighbourhood partnership area. The 'Peace-line' then abounds the area from Townsend Street, Finn/Fingals, Percy Street, Northumberland Street, North Howard Street, Conway Street, St Gall's Avenue to Bombay Street and Cupar Street. It continues along the Springfield through Lanark Way up to Workman Avenue and the Innovation Centre. The West Circular Roundabout area would also be considered an interface. While on the other side of the partnership area the interface stretches from the vicinity of Broadway roundabout down the length of the Westlink towards Roden and Distillery Streets.

Clearly as can be seen by the tables below (detailing all the SOA's that make up the Greater Falls area) there is room for some cautious optimism on deprivation statistics released in 2017, as they indicate a marginal change of improvement although it could be argued from the baseline we were at it still presents significant challenges for us all and the area continues to suffer from serious deprivation issues and problems.

As an example, under the banner of health inequalities it is clear that whilst the life expectancy of the general populace (for both males and females) has increased the gap between those in areas of those area of greatest need and those better off areas has increased, the inequality gap has widened. We know from the Department of Health inequality report from 2018 that:



**Greater Falls Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership Area**

- health outcomes are generally worse in the most deprived areas.
- Large differences (health inequality gaps) continue to exist for many different health measures

Deprivation related inequality was most prominent in indicators relating to alcohol and drugs, self-harm, smoking in pregnancy and teenage births, which were among the five largest inequality gaps for the majority of Trusts and LGDs.

- Large inequality gaps relating to suicide and respiratory mortality among under 75s were also seen in many of the LGD and Trust areas. Under 75 respiratory mortality was among the five largest inequality gaps for Belfast Trust and Belfast LGDs.
- Drug related mortality was the largest inequality gap within the Belfast Trust (113%)
- Drug related mortality was also the largest inequality gap seen in six of the eleven LGDs, where rates in the most deprived LGD areas were between two and three times the LGD average rates. In Belfast LGD the largest gap was seen with drug related admissions (99%).

Increasingly many partners have pointed out that whilst life expectancy is an important indicator of inequalities but that we also need to focus on the quality of life as an indicator of success or failures of our collective efforts, this however is much more difficult to gauge and not a lot of work has been done around indicators in this regard and translating these to local planning processes. There are several attempts to measure wellbeing through the ONS (office of national statistics) and through all 11 community plans who all have wellbeing at their heart, this is being aided by a pilot programme run through the Carnegie Trust developing well being set of indicators specific to the region. On top of this there is a regional outcomes delivery plan developed by the Executive Office for 18-19 reflecting all outcomes contained in the draft PfG ( this was published in June 2018 - <https://www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/execoffice/outcomes-delivery-plan-2018-19.pdf>)

Comparative data on deprivation in local Partnership areas.

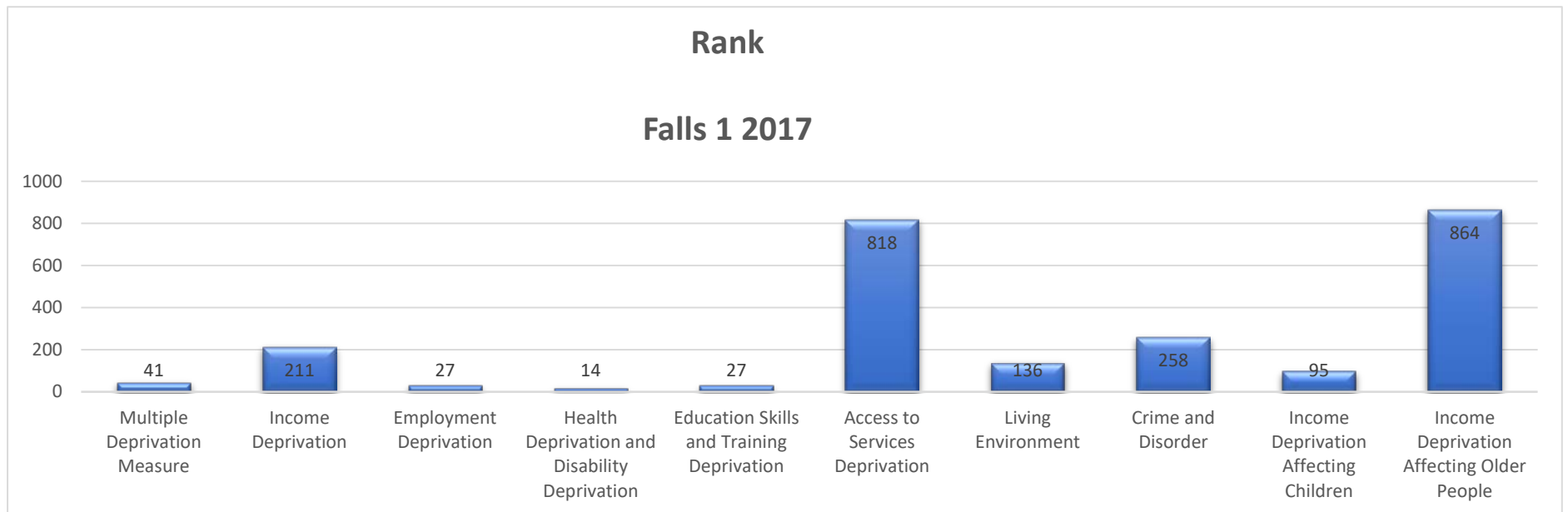
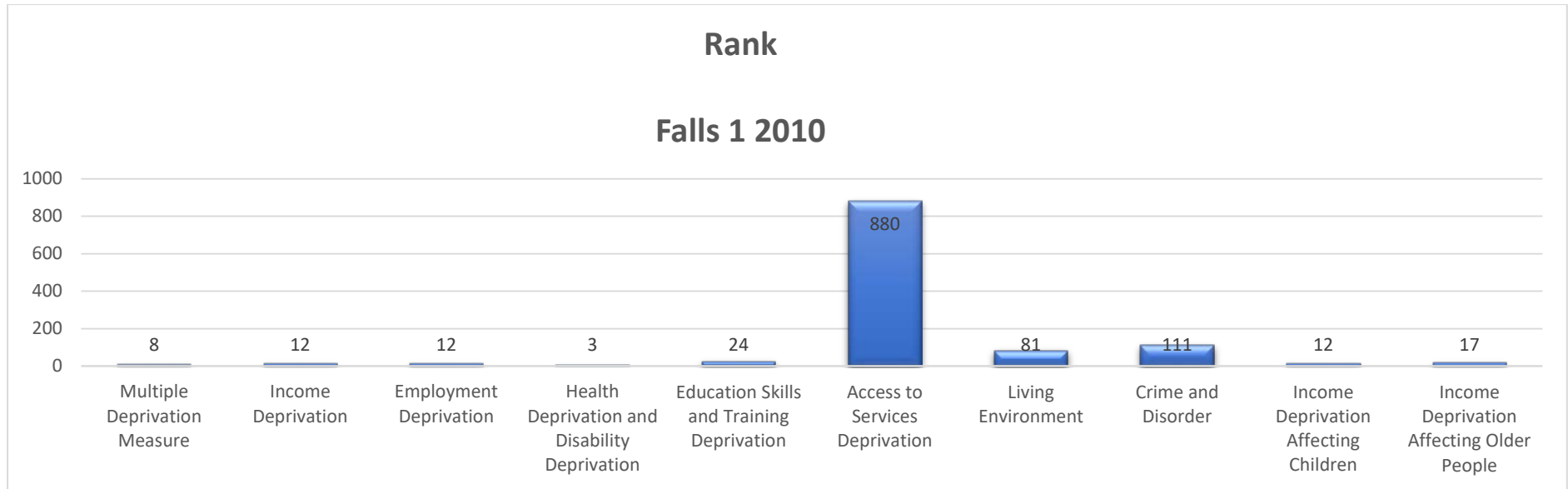
SOA	Deprivation Rank 2017	Deprivation Rank 2010
Falls 1	41	8
Falls 2	30	3
Falls 3	29	4
Clonard 1	50	13
Clonard 2	55	2
Beechmount 1	121	105
Beechmount 2	66	56
Beechmount 3	181	109

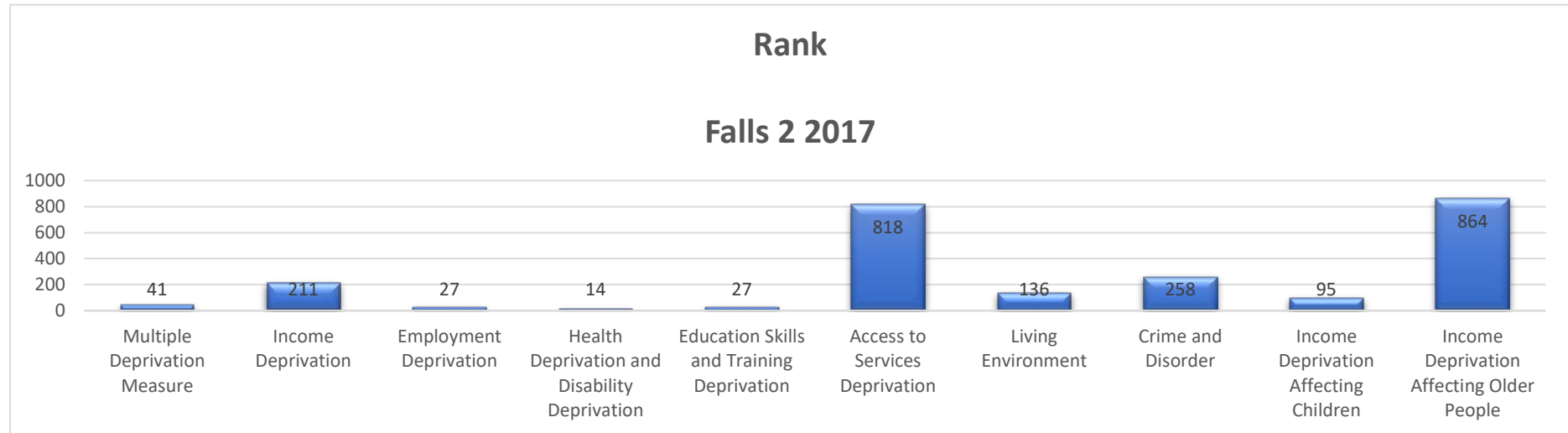
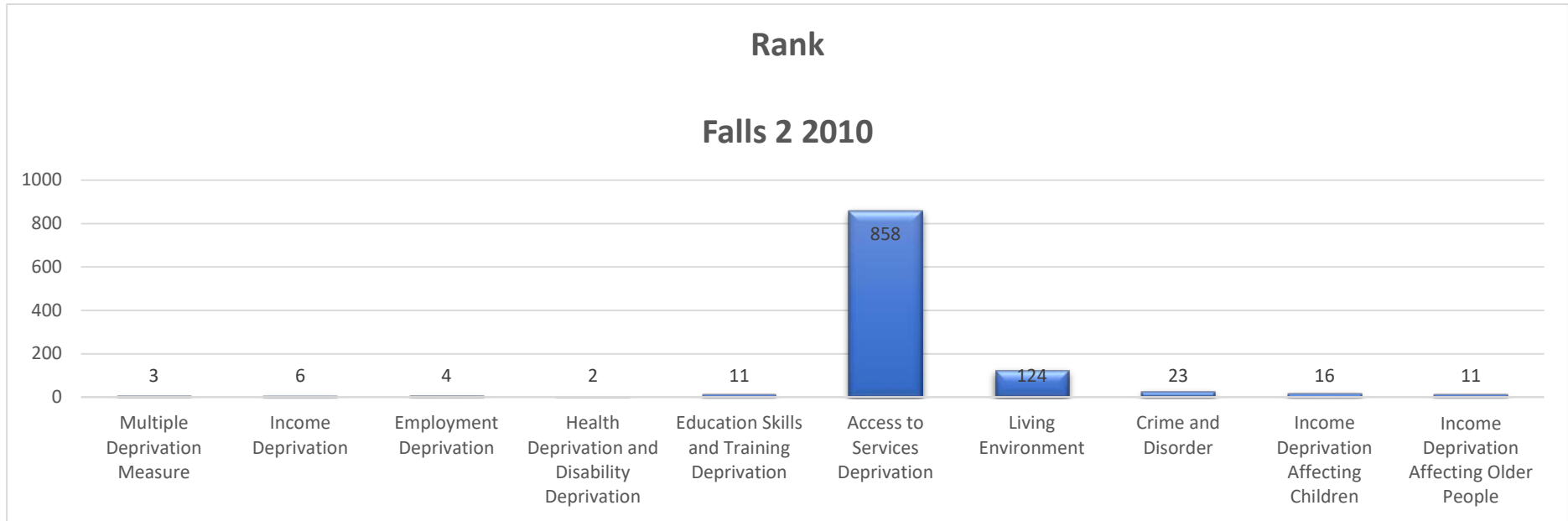
Across significant indicators (see graph below, NISRA 2011 census figures) the Greater Falls area continues to require significant co-ordinated input from all relevant stakeholders.

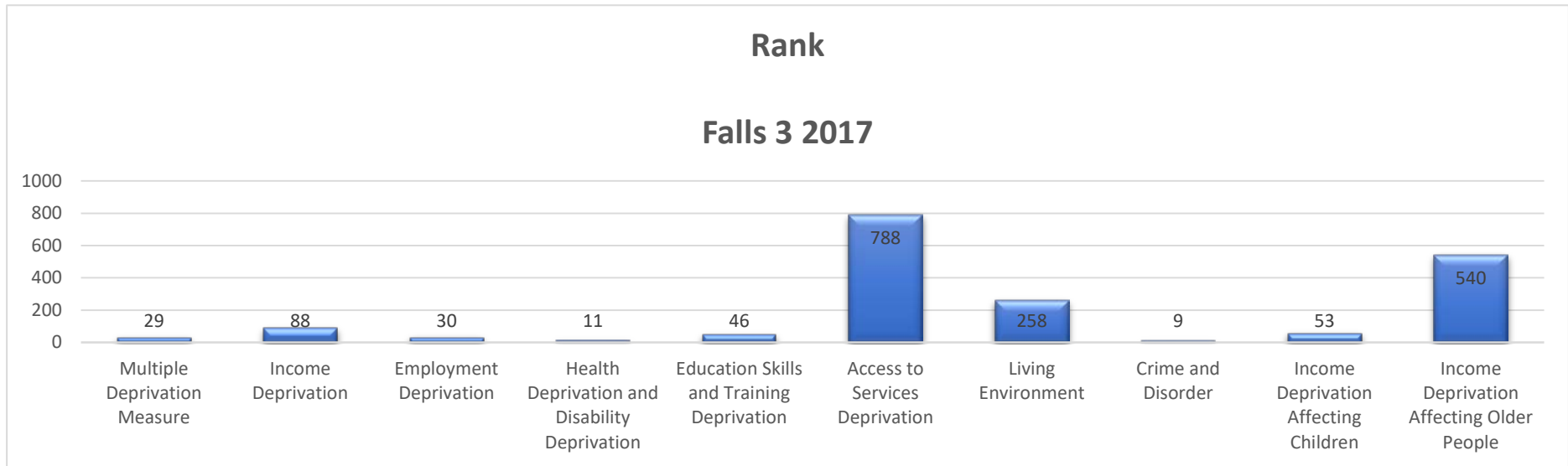
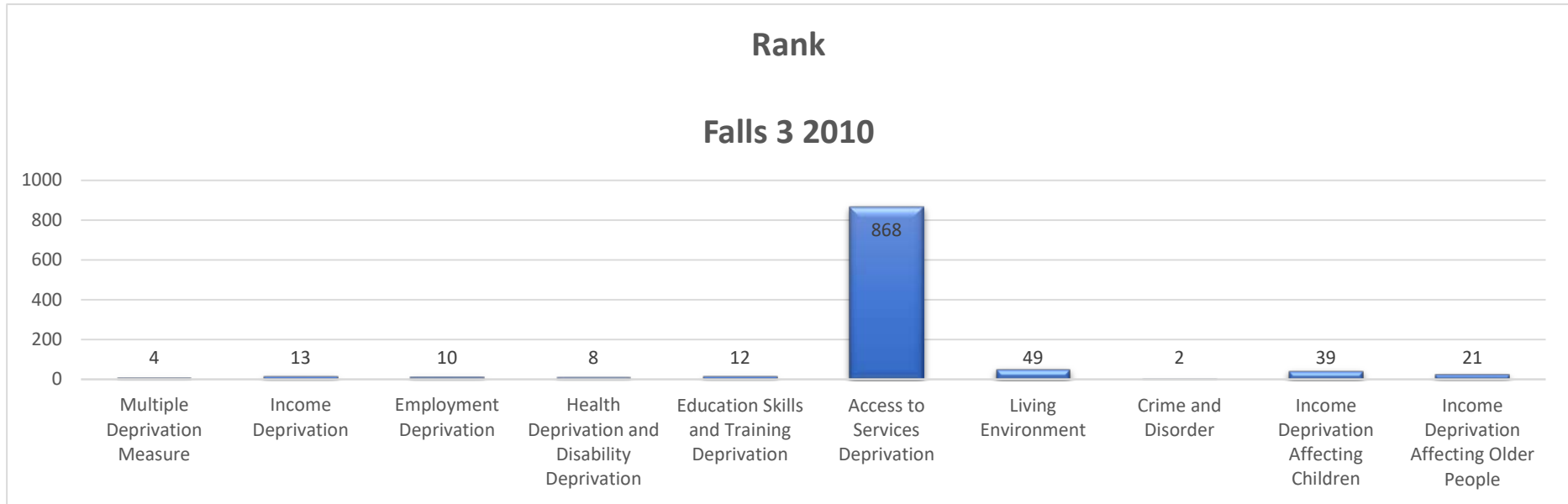
Key facts	Economically inactive %	No or low qualifications %	Long term limiting illness %
Falls	51.74	63.50	33.80
Clonard	45.94	56.05	29.09
Beechmount	42.21	53.32	26.87

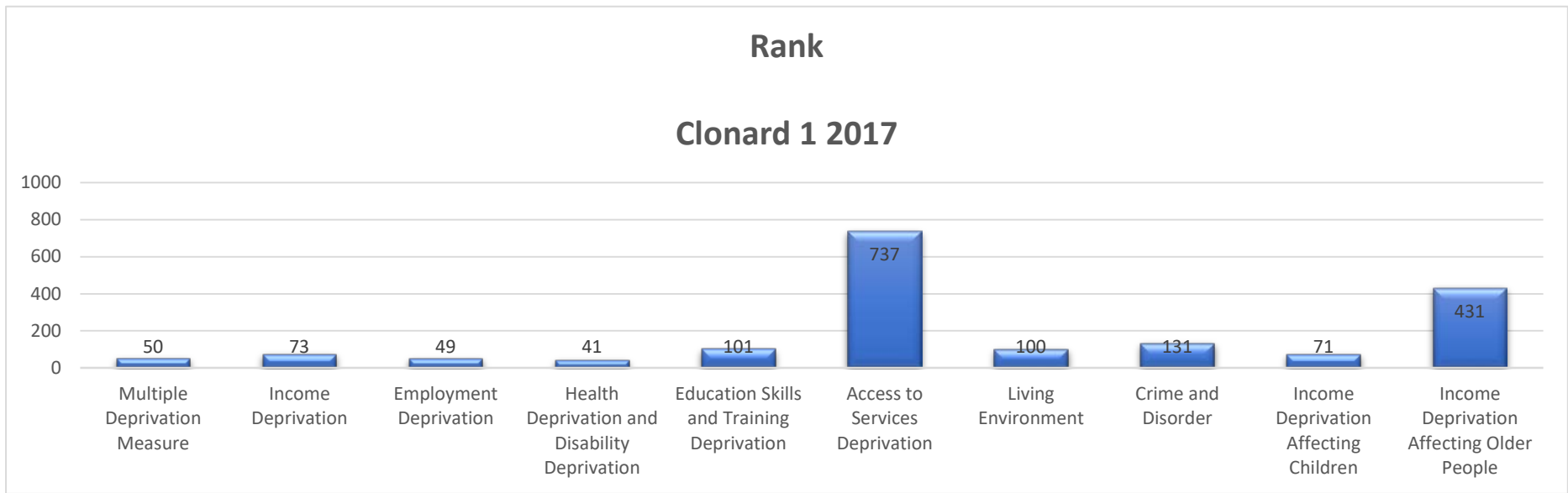
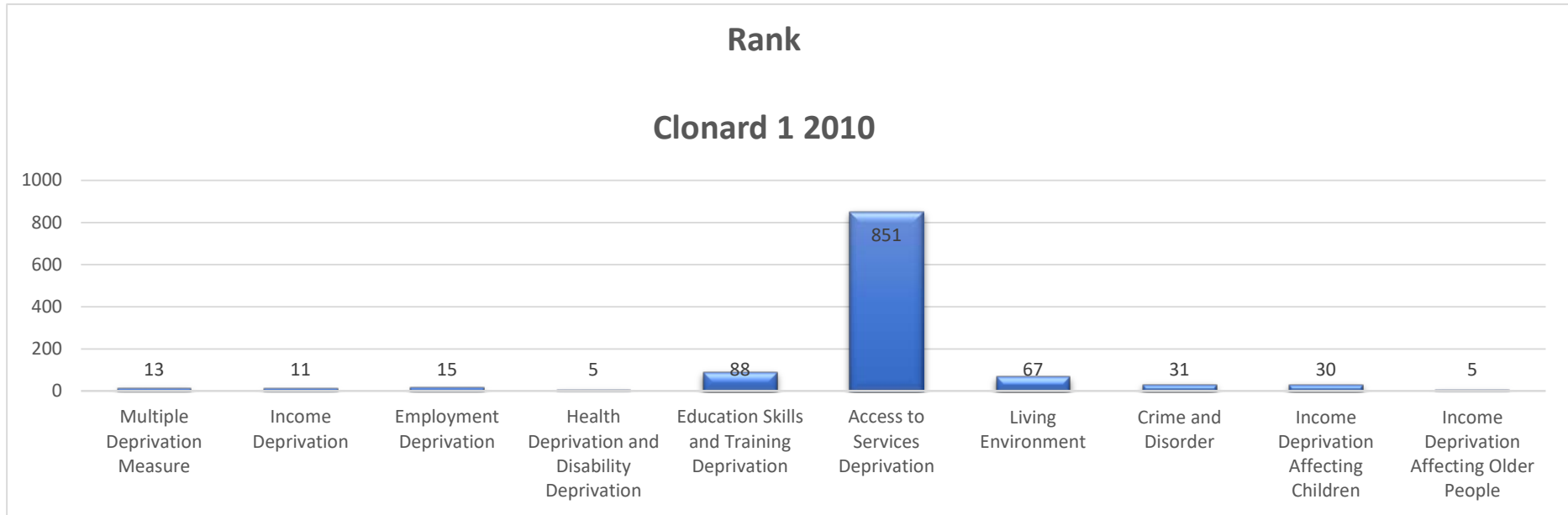
To continue to enhance the Neighbourhood Renewal Programme, the Greater Falls Partnership oversees the development and delivery of the local Neighbourhood Renewal Action planning. The Partnership currently comprises members which include representative's communities, elected representatives and locally based statutory organisations, although this is a difficult task with challenges to maintain attendance.

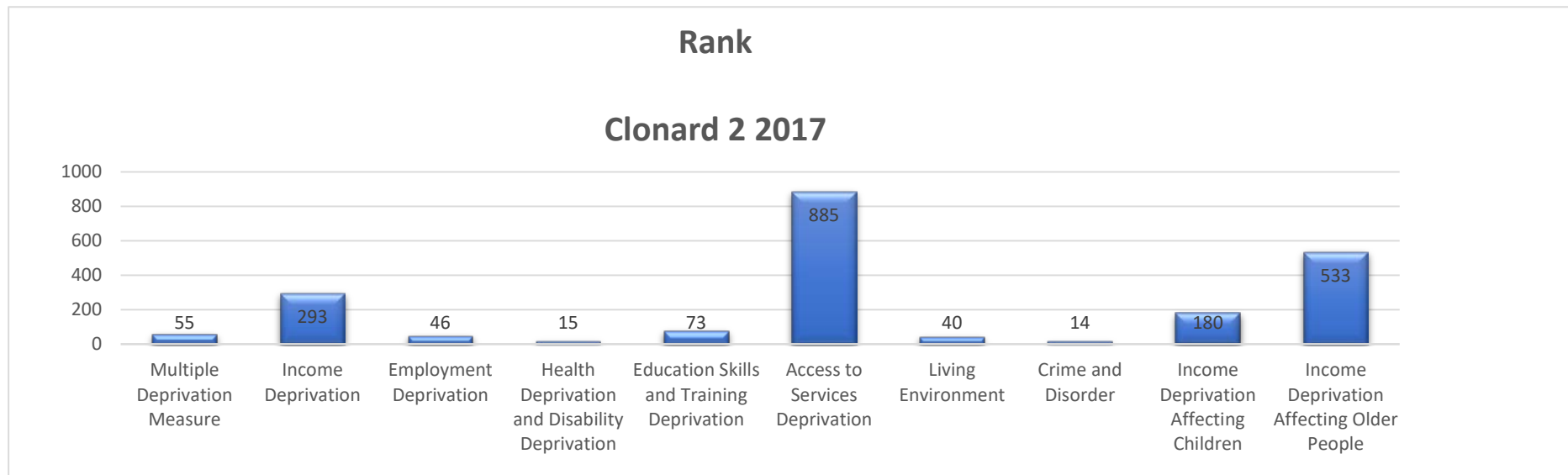
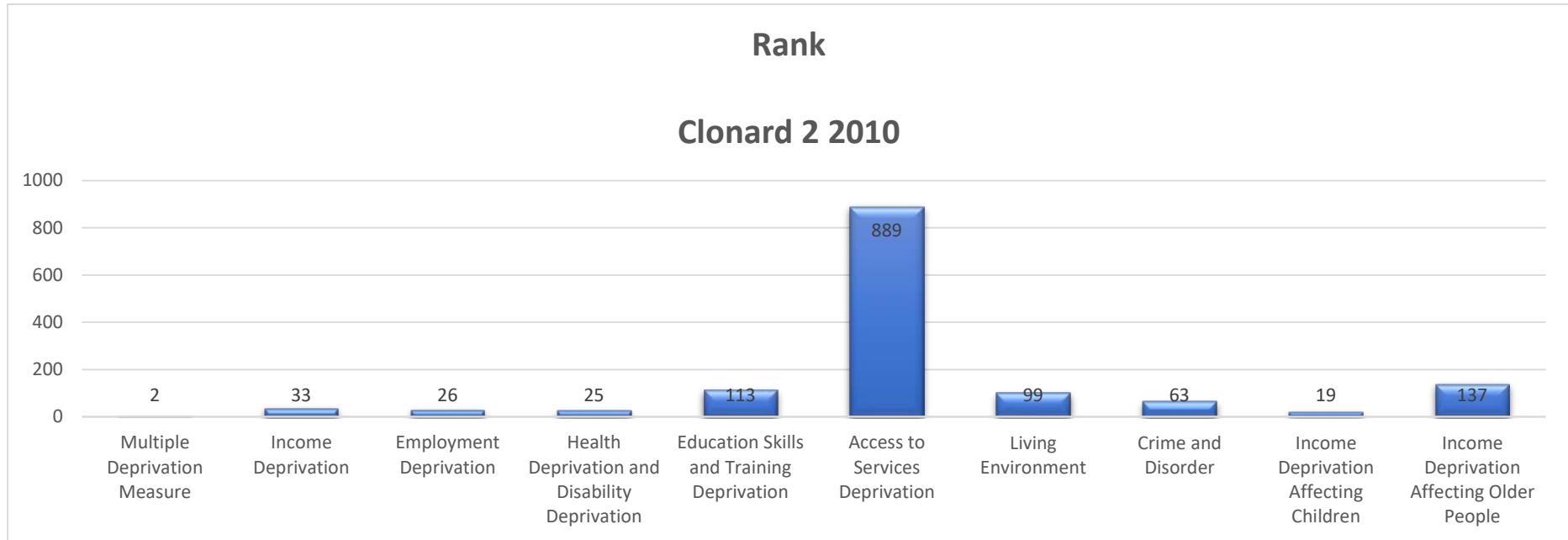


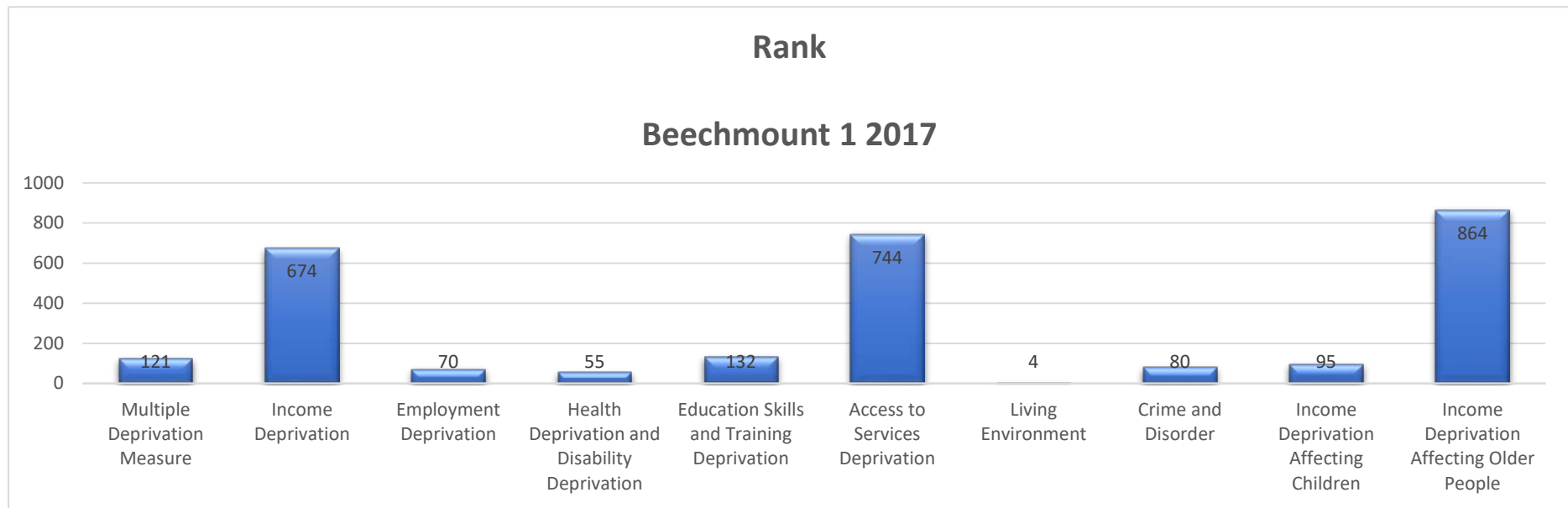
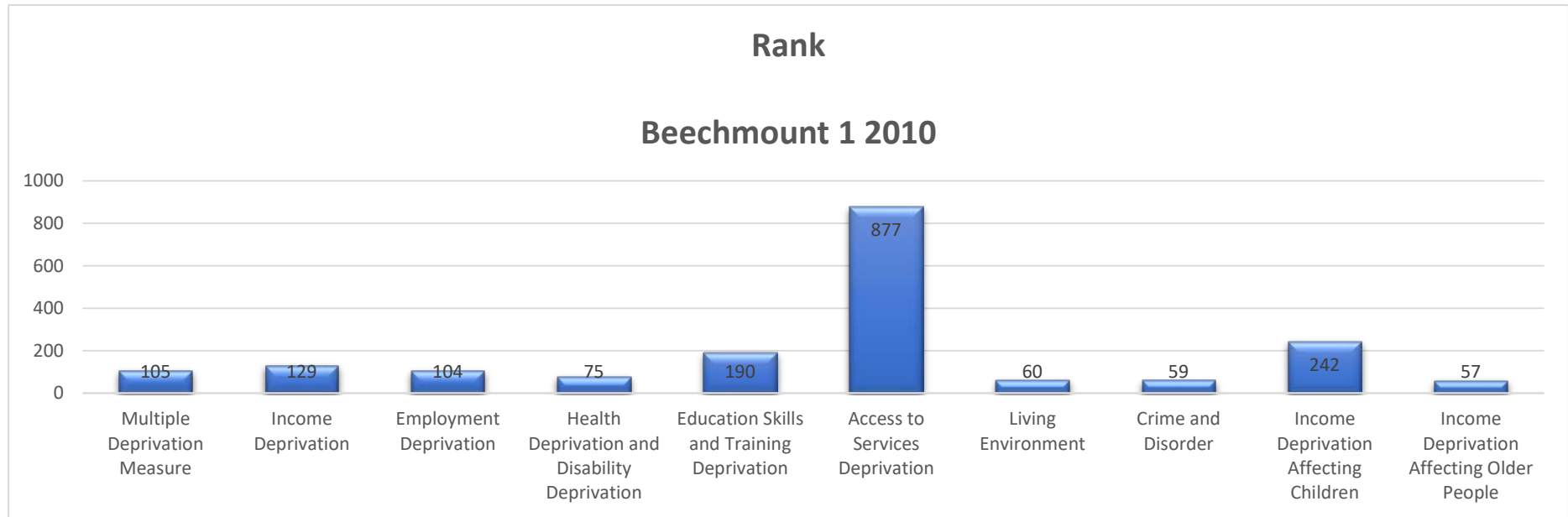


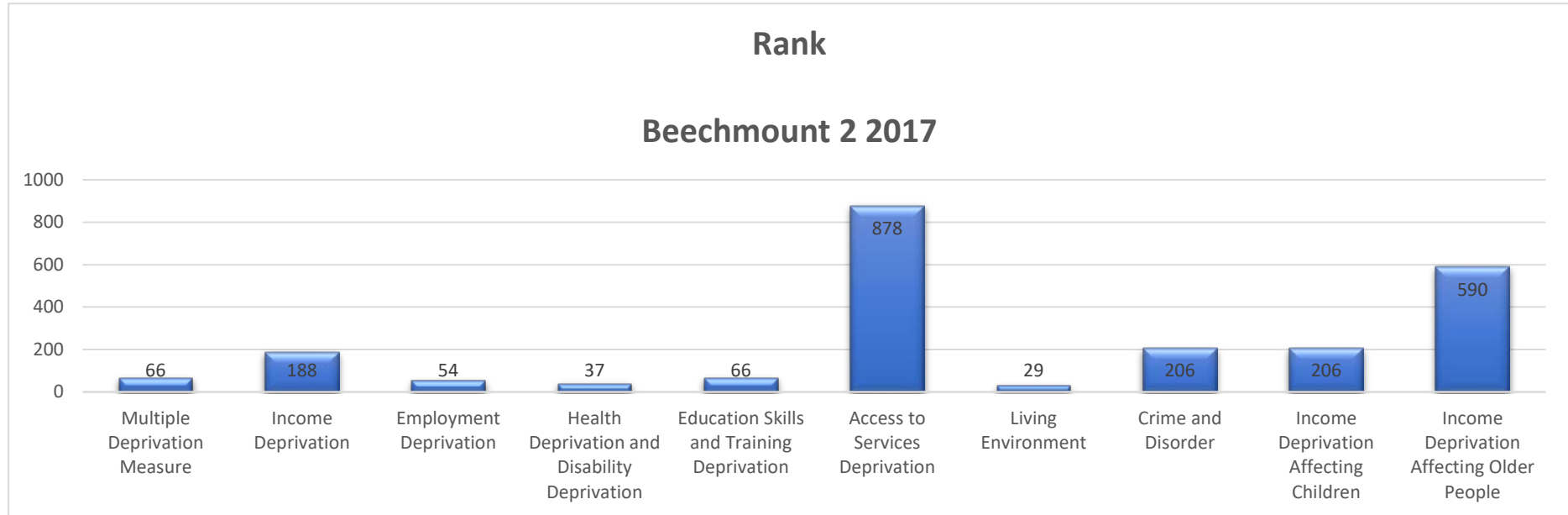
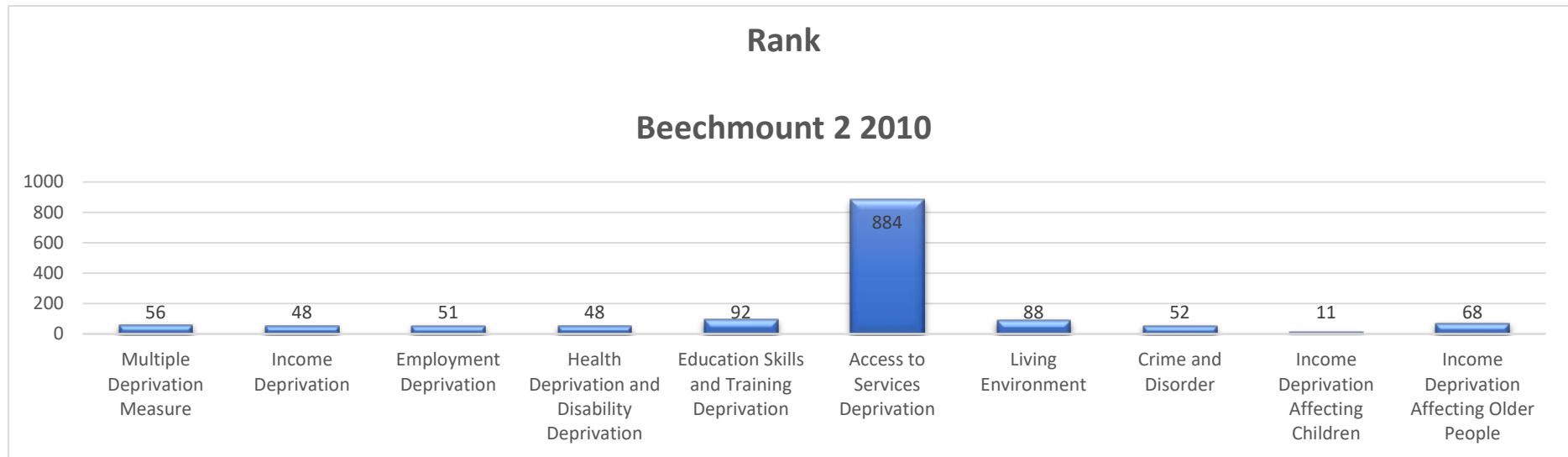


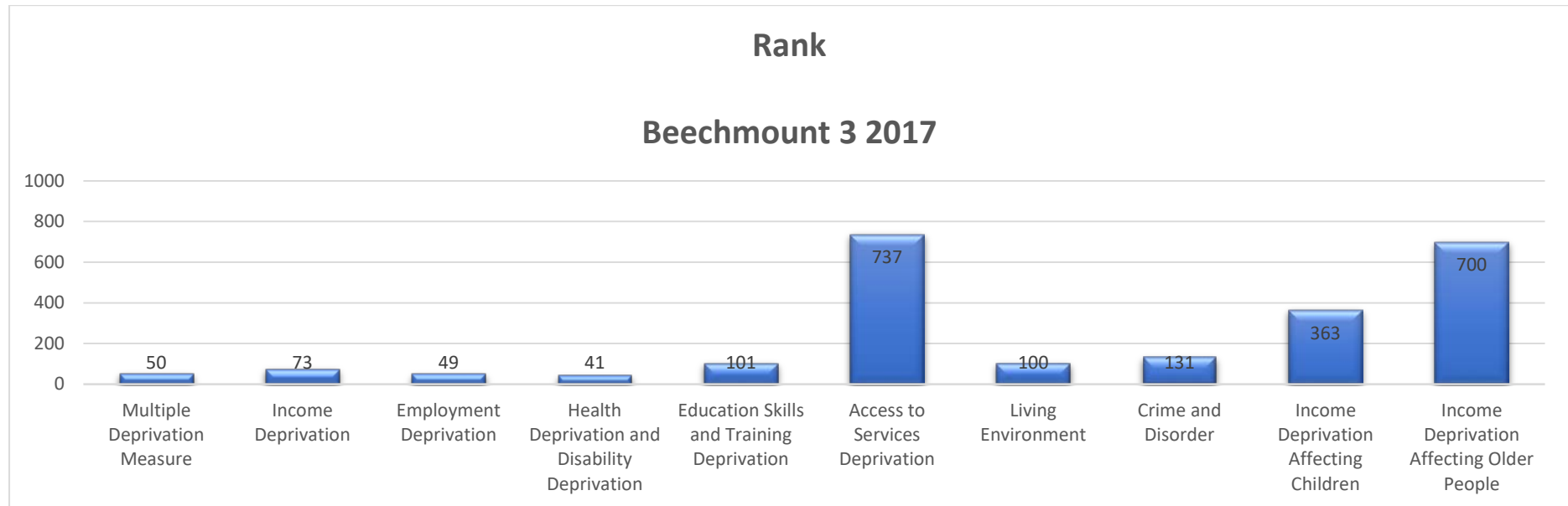
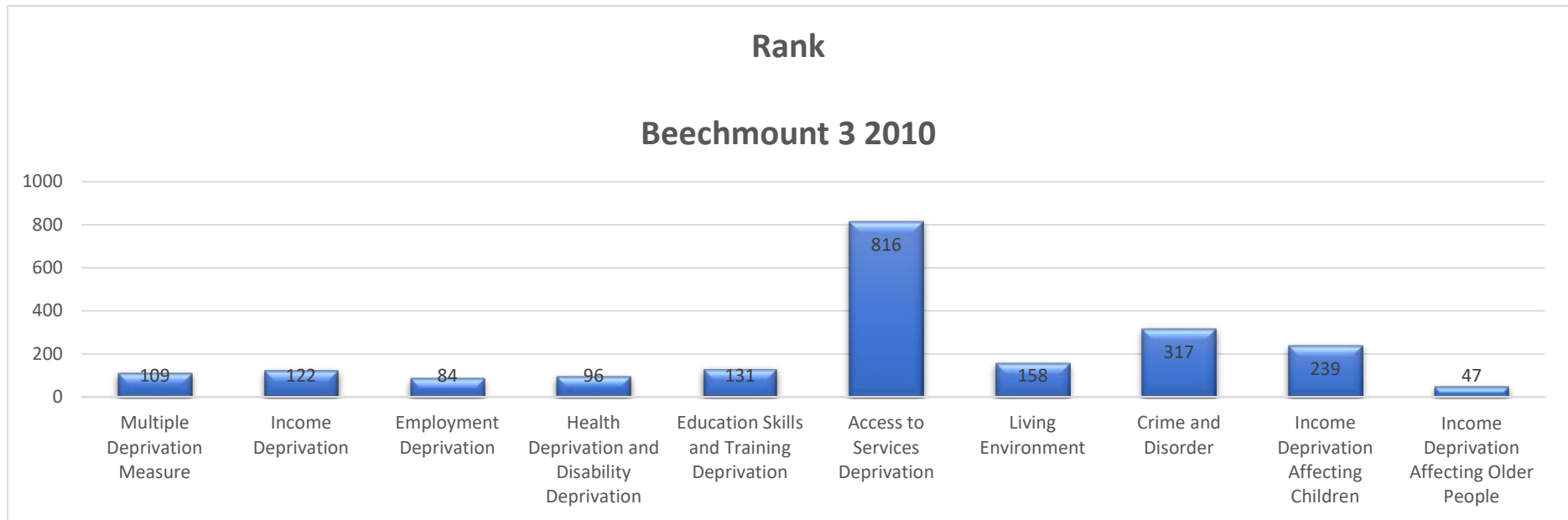














## Key messages from the statistics.

Deprivation figures across the Greater Falls Neighbourhood Partnership areas continue to make steady progress in significant parts. The collaborative working of the groups across the partnership has affected and contributed to significant health and wellbeing to local communities. However the upturn in figures must be carefully nurtured by statutory partners in securing longterm strategies for tackling deprivation.

Continued cuts to funding and uncertainty around policy and planning development are not conducive to the change & impact that is needed to the continued growth of communities that are currently suffering from deprivation. The cross boundary nature of deprivation can not be left to one government department to solve, in that context clear unequivocal direction on the future direction of the Neighbourhood Renewal policy to tackle deprivation, the development of the Belfast Agenda and a localised reflection of the NI Executive led 'Outomes Delivery Plan' is crucial to meeting local growth needs.

The impact of Neighbourhood renewal as seen in the figures has the potential to be maximised and the upward trend improved through cross departmental working and significant investment within communities, this was acknowledged in a Deparment for Communities review/ series of workshops in November 2018 but the outcome of that has yet to be made public.

## Policy Environment

There have been many considerations made in determining our future path including a review of the following documents;

- NI Assembly constituency report for West Belfast (updated September 2017)
- Greater Falls 'Key Issues and Priorities' October 2015



In addition, we have looked at a range of Departmental policies and we believe that our focussed approach within our organisation and across our range of partners offers the most realistic chances of success and best practice delivery, these include:

#### **Dept of Health**

- Health and Wellbeing 2026 - Delivering Together (published October 2016)
- Making Life Better – A whole system framework for public health (2013-23)
- Systems Not Structures - Bengoa Report (published October 2016)
- Protect Life 2 – Suicide Prevention Strategy (consultation document issued September 2016)
- Autism Strategy (2013 – 2020)
- Bamford Review of Mental Health and Learning Disability

#### **Dept. of Education**

- Every School a Good School
- Education Works
- Delivering Social Change Through Childcare - A Ten Year Strategy for Affordable and Integrated Childcare 2015-2025
- Special Educational Needs and Disability Act (Northern Ireland) 2016
- Children and Young People's Strategy 2017-2027 (consultation document published in December 2016)

#### **Department for Communities**

- Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy – Review workshops (November 2018)
- Urban regeneration community development (URCD) policy framework
- 'Active Ageing Strategy 2015 - 2021' (indicator consultation published by OFMDFM in February 2016)

## **The Executive Office**

- Delivering Social Change
- Delivering Social Change - The Executive's Child Poverty Strategy (published in March 2016)

## **Belfast City Council**

- Belfast Agenda (Belfast's Community Plan 2035, published November 2017)
- Belfast City Local Development Plan (LDP) 2035
- Draft Employability and Skills framework 2015-2025

## **Draft Programme for Government**

Draft Programme for Government Framework (2016-2021) - 14 high level strategic outcomes supported by 48 indicators which are clear statements for change. Outcomes which we considered specifically relevant to the Greater Falls area.

- We have a more equal society
- We enjoy long, healthy, active lives
- We have a safe community where we respect the law, and each other
- We care for others and we help those in need
- We have high quality public services
- We connect people and opportunities through our infrastructure
- We give our children and young people the best start in life

The outcomes are as stated linked to a series of indicators relevant to the work of the Neighbourhood Renewal partnership organisations, some of these include:

- Prevalence rate (% of the population who were victims of any NI Crime Survey crime)
- Healthy life expectancy at birth
- Preventable mortality
- % of population with GHQ12 scores  $\geq 4$  (signifying possible mental health problem)
- The proportion of babies born at a low birth weight
- Number of households in housing stress
- Number of adults receiving social care services at home or self-directed support for social care as a % of the total number of adults needing care
- % care leavers who, aged 19, were in education, training or employment
- % school leavers achieving at level 2 or above including English and Maths
- Gap between % of non-FSME school leavers and % of FSME school leavers achieving at level 2 or above including English and Maths
- % children at appropriate stage of development in their immediate pre-school year
- % population living in absolute and relative poverty (before housing costs)
- % of all journeys which are made by walking/cycling/public transport
- % engaging in arts/cultural activities
- Confidence (as measured by self-efficacy)
- Employment rate of 16-64-year olds by deprivation quintile
- Reoffending rate
- Average life satisfaction score of people with disabilities
- Gap between the number of houses we need, and the number of available

**Greater Falls Neighbourhood Partnership (GFNP) has developed 5 cross cutting thematic areas of work involving the following partners;**

- Divis Joint Development Committee (DJDC)
- Blackie River Community Group (BRCG)
- Roden Street Community Development Group (RSDCG)
- Clonard Neighbourhood Development Partnership (CNDP)
- Ionad Uíbh Eachach
- Neighbourhood Development Association (NDA)
- Springfield Charitable Association (SCA)



It remains difficult to motivate GFNP partners to meet (beyond their own specific delivery initiatives) and by extension to work strategically with the continued uncertainty not just around funding but political stability and the future of the NR approach, no information has been forthcoming from Belfast City Council regards the input to the Belfast Agenda/ community planning, discussion around this area has been distant and vague and continues to the retraction of collaborative efforts.

That said it is clear the levels of cooperation across the Greater Falls area remain good, despite the difficulties but the area needs to promote the good work being done in a much more proactive manner, this will be a focus of the GFNP partnership as a whole but specifically the work of the GFNP coordinator.

The GFNP, as will be demonstrated again throughout this report in this report have been active partners who stretch across the neighbourhood renewal area and across the city in terms of influence to enhance and improve local services. All partners actively look for opportunities to collaborate to share best practise and to maximise the most efficient of resources.

As can be seen the work of the individual groups who benefit from Neighbourhood Renewal support from DfC produces results, however the broader impact of NR cannot be underestimated and many of the partners who don't receive direct financial support from DfC are part of the NR process and developments, their work is not directly reflected in any detail in this report, however it may be referenced by many of the GFNP partners listed above as part of their community development approach.



We also demonstrate the value in increased financial investment by others with DfC core financial input acting as leverage and the unpaid input of local volunteers attached to all our partners contained in this report.

This year focussed on the collective efforts of the GFNP and capturing the value of the work we all do, and this continues to the focus of our efforts across the GFNP with the coordinator focussing on publicising the work of the GFNP across the year. Additionally, both organisations (and indeed all the local partners) have agreed to focus on publicising the work of neighbourhood renewal and the support from the GFNP.

Through DfC support we have been able to secure, as a Partnership, support for community development organisations across the Greater Falls. Many of the issues are raised and addressed in both past and hopefully future reports across the other 4 themes of work outlined by the GFNP.

Many of the organisations have access to physical resources which have acted as catalysts for community development activity and delivery of services ranging from local discussions to planning the delivery of services.

**A number of examples of our working partnership are;**

**Capacity Building Programme;**

- GFNP continues to implement specific capacity building initiatives with a number of resident's groups across the Greater Falls area.
- The GFNP continues to build the capacity of local groups in terms of governance & their capacity to work with statutory agencies
- The GFNP coordinator continues to work closely with local resident's groups on a number of capacity building and development project

**Negotiation/ Lobbying**

GFNP members as throughout this report are prominent in many aspects of development across the city and are actively contributing to the redesign and reshaping of services across Departmental lines

This year this included input to;

- The development of the Transport Hub led by Roden Street Community Development Group.
- A health planning group for West Belfast.
- The continuing development of the family support hub in the Greater Falls area led by Blackie River Community Association.
- Dementia Friendly West Belfast (including support for Cullingtree Meadows, a supported living complex for people with a dementia diagnosis opened in April 2018 in the GFNP partnership area)

**Social Clauses**

Continue to lobby across Departmental lines around the potential benefit of a new Social Value Act for the North of Ireland. Locally this has also involved some examination of the Belfast Agendas inclusive growth strategy.

## Civic role

Our members continue to fulfil civic duties in the decision-making processes which determine how services are developed across the city including key inputs to Policy developments;

### 1. Implementation of the Belfast Agenda and the Local Development Plan (Belfast's Spatial Plan)

The GFNP partners and members continue to actively contribute to discussions and development around the plan, making several inputs to consultations across the city in health, education, employment/ employability and of course social development. Additional key discussions have been held within the local communities around the value and outworking of the Belfast Agenda (community planning and local government reform).

### 2. Building Successful Communities

The GFNP continues to input to this forum and shape discussions around where investment should be made and this year it appears, we may finally have movement around key local schemes with work due to commence later this year.

The GFNP lead on local consultation with local groups liaise with the Building Successful Communities project team.

### 3. Belfast Strategic Partnership

Our partners have been heavily involved in the outworking of this city-wide Partnership and across the 5 thematic areas identified by the BSP including the launch of a city-wide framework for Lifelong Learning and the establishment of 'Belfast a Learning City'. There are some challenges to this approach as community planning develops as many areas overlap and interlink, conversations as to what this means in terms of governance reform of the BSP are ongoing but there are perturbing signs that key statutory partners are intent on





making the decision on their own as opposed to a collective partnership approach. This is a worrying development which will affect partnership developments across the city.

## Physical Improvements

Key partners have been involved in a range of negotiations/ discussions for physical improvements to community facilities throughout the area including;

- Blackie River Community Association was a key partner working to develop Michael Davitt GAC's new pitch on the Corpus Christie school site which opened in February 2019.
- For several years the GFNP has highlighted and supported Falls Community Council in their campaign/ programme to revitalise the former St Comgalls school site, which looks likely now to happen with support from the Social Investment Fund and Belfast City Council.



## Cullingtree Meadows

- The GFNP continues lead on the discussions and engagement on the new supported living apartment complex that is situated on Cullingtree Road on the old Grovetree site. The dementia friendly group has been set up by the GFNP to engage local residents on the design of the building. The group has also initiated a number of awareness workshops with local school children to develop a better understanding of the issues of dementia and age-related illness and to name the new facility. The facilities began to be occupied in April of 2018.



## **Community Cohesion programmes**

- The GFNP continues to build social cohesion working with groups throughout the Greater Falls area to improve and enhance people's lives. By building social cohesion we believe we are building a strong social capital base and foundation for future community regeneration.

## **Lobbying and advocacy role**

- The GFNP continues to lobby and advocate on behalf of the Partnership area to improve outcomes for people living there.
- Raising awareness of mental health issues facing communities and its association and linkages to drug misuse.

## **Distillery Street Housing task group**

The GFNP continue to support the proposal for houses on the Distillery street site. We have met elected representatives and housing provider and sit on the Distillery Street Housing tasking group. The group has organised on site meetings with relevant agencies and developed proposals for the site. Credit has to be given to the Roden Street Community Development Group who despite the challenges of the lack of housing potential on the site have engaged with the local population for appropriate usage and now have a plan to work to, bringing the site to life.

## **Maureen Sheehan Centre Regeneration**

We continue to play a vital role in the environment plan around the Maureen Sheehan Healthy Living Centre which will see a car park added to the centre and with some restructuring of pathways and derelict sites another 2 local homes added. We have liaised with planners and the trust as well as convening consultation sessions with local people in the surrounding areas.

## Cullingtrees Road Back Path Regeneration

The GFNP continues to lead on the engagement with Building successful communities on the proposed regeneration of the derelict land at the back of Cullingtrees Road. The discussions and planning stage have moved on dramatically over the past number of months and GFNP have organised the consultation and feedback on the preferred options. GFNP continue to meet with developers and there is hope it will be onsite in September 2019.

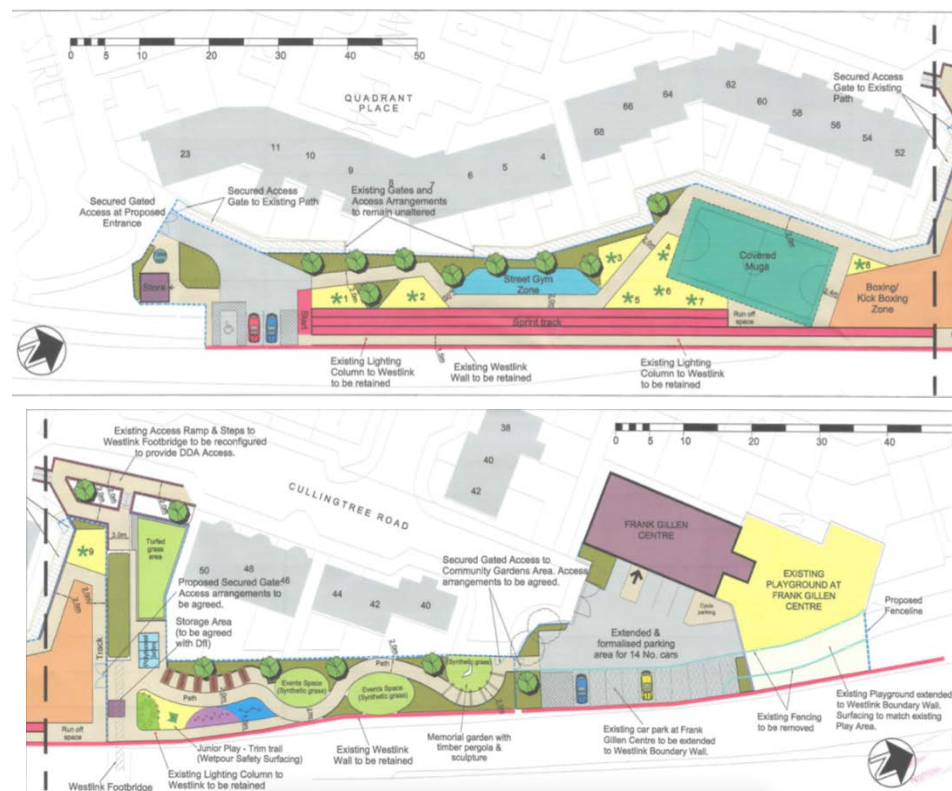
## Communications strategy & Social media presence

The GFNP continue to work to a communications strategy to promote the work of the partnership and widen its reach and potential. The strategy involves increasing the online presence to promote the work of local groups and the partnerships identity. Further work will continue to develop a GFNP brand to market online.



## Weavers Cross Transport Hub

GFNP have been actively involved in raising issues of local concern and interest including employment opportunities offered through the proposed Belfast Transport Hub, including employment opportunities for local people through Belfast City Councils employment academies, this is being led through Roden Street Community Development Group and the Greater Falls NR coordinator.



## **Ross Street Flats**

We continue to campaign for the demolition of Ross Street Flats & the regeneration of housing on the site. Members of the GFNP as well as local political reps meet with Housing executive officials on a regular basis to push for final decision on demolition, Radius Housing is the preferred housing provider on the Building Successful Communities scheme and for this new proposal.



## Introduction to Divis Joint Development Committee:

Over the past year our focus has remained on the continuing development of the Falls Partnership Initiative (FPI) and the Greater Falls Neighbourhood Partnership (GFNP) as the 2 vehicles for strategic and operational development of area wide initiatives whilst providing our own very direct input in the delivery of services.

We are:

- Involved in the development of the GFNP priorities for the coming number of years, the development of community planning via the Belfast Agenda and its impact on the local community.
- Continue to co-ordinate the Falls Partnership Initiative's development of locality planning and integrated working.

A key focus remains around the core priorities of the GFNP and many issues have been raised, day to day support takes place across the area with a range of smaller local organisations which do not have staff or physical resources, we have been working with many of these groups to determine their needs and develop appropriate responses and plans to help them achieve their goals.

At all levels of our organisation there are attempts to fully involve local people in the processes by which decisions are made, however there are continuing discussions that need to be held with key statutory agencies as to how and when local communities should be involved in the design and potential delivery of services and despite new language of co-production appearing across many Departmental lines this remains largely elusive.



Concerns remain that there are still no visible efforts between Department for Communities (DfC) and Belfast City Council (BCC) around responsibilities and budget transfers for the current platform occupied by Neighbourhood Renewal funded groups and organisations and whilst community planning and the publication of the Belfast Agenda last year (in 2017 - Belfast's first community plan) does offer some opportunity to make long term change and establish lasting impact but discussions have not yet progressed to make that an inclusive planning process. The Department for Communities have a responsibility for tackling deprivation, but it is not clear in the short to medium term what the planning process for that will look like leaving many local structures in an uncertain position regarding future planning of the services and programmes that they offer.



## Introduction to Blackie River Community Group:

Blackie River Community Group has been established for 24 years and has evolved over this time. When the group was first established, it came together to look at housing needs within the Beechmount area and from that point it has developed to meet the physical, social, economic and environmental needs of residents.

The Board of directors for Blackie River Community Group understood from a very early stage that the main way to improve the Beechmount area is to empower residents to take ownership of the area and to build the capacity of local people to lobby for resources, which would have a positive impact on the area.

Blackie River Community Group has expanded over the last 23 years to meet the needs of the local area. The needs, identified, are:

- Family Learning
- Supporting Parents
- Supporting Children and Young People to reach their full potential
- The legacy of the conflict
- Under investment of government for generations
- Raising Educational achievement
- Tackling Health inequalities
- Tacking Mental health
- Physical regeneration of the local area
- Improving employment opportunities
- Family Support Hub
- Supporting Community Infrastructure



**Our Vision Statement - A prosperous, safe and & equal society.**

### **Mission Statement**

**Blackie River Community Group: Aims to empower residents of the Greater Beechmount area by facilitating Community Development activities that enable residents to celebrate their creativity and culture. We will assist residents to enhance their self-esteem and skills, by promoting their full and equal participation in society and helping to secure the social and economic regeneration of the area.**

## Introduction to Roden Street Community Development Group:



Grosvenor Community Centre has had a productive year in terms of programming, uptake, footfall and outcomes. The year was characterised by growth around new trends which mirror local and global need, including an increased environmental programme.



**Grosvenor Grow Your Own Project**

As well as this the organisation changed some core services in year to reflect area lifestyles. Changes included extension of the out of school hours programme and hourly change, altered summer provision including earlier restart for Playgroup services and targeted youth provision including mentoring and issue led work. The centre also determined to bring the area together physically more in year with 2 major area environmental drives, walk arounds, baselining of homes and shared spaces, events and Summer schools. As always Grosvenor Community Centre wish to thank all user groups and peoples for their active contribution to the vitality, diversity and capacity of the area and to the overall dynamism of wider Belfast. The organisation is proud to be considered a 'home' to such a rich tapestry of cultural and community backgrounds and to be a practical example of contemporary Belfast society.



**The Big Grosvenor Clean 2019 - area wide litter pick, weed removal & skip lift**

### **The Year in Focus....**

**Failure to change where there is demand to do so results in stagnancy**, as such RSCDG undertook deeper level monitoring and feedback in years 2017 to 2018 which indicated weekly family demands and growth in certain centre provision which required changed weekly



International Sports and Health Day, The Belle

**February 2019 – Tree Planting at Distillery**



**October 2018 – South Indian Festival of Flowers**

schedules. In response, Grosvenor Community Centre changed out of school hour provision hours, extended family support programmes into August to include Playgroup earlier restart, extended provision for non-traditional sports, increased capacity of environmental programmes on site and in the wider area and activated greater participation of residents in longer term area renewal including at Distillery Street Back fields and attached to Weavers Cross. RSCDG also held a Summer school in conjunction with QUB and widened capacity of children and families to interlink with learning providers across the City with confidence.

The organisation ran an annual schedule of *wider events* in the period including, Black Memorial Cup, Local History and Photography Exhibition, South Indian Festival of Flowers, Barrio Fiesta, 11 Family Fun Days, Environmental Day, Light up the Grosvenor, MEC Rights Event, Fabulous Female Sports Fair and Filipino Christmas Celebration.

**Community Management Model in 2018 – 2019**

The organisation continued to manage Grosvenor Community Centre, 3G Playing field at Grosvenor, garden and allotment site, playpark and grounds representing a direct provider of community management. Assistance was provided to other service delivery and programme focused groups in the period related to following similar operational procedures, including citation in **Developing Trust NI guidance as ‘a model of good practice’**.

Organisations worked with in the period related to sharing of good practice of community management, included, Plough Men’s Shed, RB Community Group, Sally Gardens Community Group, Willowbank, Fire Blades, Pinoy Community Association and Spa Club.

Grosvenor Community Centre assist groups with a shared ethos related to community



development, with submissions and strategic visioning documents including business case compilation, grant submission, reporting and operational provision. The organisation recognises the scale of facilities at the site and are committed to ensuring the entire facility can be maximised in usage, diversity and impact terms.

### **Social Value**

It can be a hard to meet the operational opening needs of Grosvenor Community Centre (related to 7 day opening, week nights, levels of health and safety and cleanliness), due to a small staffing team. The organisation overcomes this to some extent via a strong volunteer



**The High Vis Volunteers at Grosvenor  
2019**

programme reliance and a flexible staff unit. The staff team realise that provision of the facility and programmes, for the benefit of the community, must mean flexibility in job roles and attitudinal approach. However, this is an area which the organisation would like to realistically assess in the period 2019 to 2021 and has identified a need for some part time/flexi roles related to issues such as cleaning and risk assessment. We would hope to be able to link this to apprenticeship schemes in an effort to generate employment of those who are NEET.

The organisation through 2019 has sought to sustain professionalism but not to the detriment of local access. Grosvenor Community Centre has continued to be a dual vehicle of professional community management matched with an accessible, flexible, diverse and welcoming facility. Grosvenor Community Centre will never lose sight of the bedrock of the organisation, the community.



**Youth Mentors Learn their Trade 2018**

### **Outcome Based Measurement in 2018/2019**

OBA Approach has and will continue to be a founding feature of organisation work, in period RSCDG undertook outreach related to walkarounds, door to doors and home visits for individual/family problems. As well as in-depth research within individual projects including out of school hours, Grosvenor learning together and Summer School. This has begun to generate a body of work which indicates key area issues and the changes needed within the organisation as a evolutionary unit to meet such changes. This has also indicated a need to alter organisational approach in terms of staffing levels to enable programme leaders to not have as a high a responsibility for facilities whilst also running a programme.

The addition of other part time roles related to core opening responsibilities, (such as domestic duties and room risk assessment), is now deemed essential moving into 2020 based on the growth of programmes in number, hours and participants and the associated growth in responsibility for monitoring. We will make this an output for 2020 and 2021. In wider area terms the key issues in order are housing, environmental concerns such as parking, weeds, vandalism, infrastructure concerns, area design, fears over increased needle finds, lighting, road safety, mental and physical health.

Obviously influencing community change and redressing years of deprivation necessitates a long-term focus and a strongly held vision of what the future could be. However, small steps, which are well measured and open to change, can combine to make long term attitudinal change. Grosvenor Community Centre visions the Grosvenor area as a *vibrant place to live, work and visit where future generations have the means and access to higher level aspirations.*

The area still faces substantial deprivation; however, measurable impact has been achieved on figures in Falls 1 specifically related to significantly lower levels of crime and improved academic results. Measuring on a street to street and family to family basis has shown positive progress particularly in the Grosvenor, Roden Street and Distillery Street areas, Falls 1 is now 41 MDM (as oppose to 2).

# 8.0 Local Opinion & SWOT Analysis

## 8.1 Grosvenor Kid's Views on the 'Back Fields'

WHAT DO YOU THINK IS ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WALL IN THE 'BACK FIELDS'?

Word cloud for 'Back Fields' side of wall: don't know, bridge, protestants, bushes, trees, grass, motorway.

HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE THE 'BACK FIELDS'?

Word cloud for 'Back Fields' description: horrible, houses, noisy, dangerous, boring, nervous, scary, grassy, old, bad, fire, road, big, cars, muddy, long, bonfires.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE MOST ABOUT OUR AREA?

Word cloud for 'Like about area': playing, fun, football pitch, it's safe, the club, summer schen, community cen, friends, family.

WHAT DO YOU NOT LIKE ABOUT OUR AREA?

Word cloud for 'Not like about area': not a lot to do, people throwing rubbish, some of the people, nothing, back fields, stolen cars, not being in the centre, getting into fights, bonfires, shop, bullies, bad boys, people fighting.

WHAT WOULD YOU WANT TO SEE OR HAVE IN THE 'BACK FIELDS' OR THE AREA?

Word cloud for 'Want to see/have': fun, colouring area, party, park, art, houses, gym, basketball, music, activities, chairs.

The above answers were taken from open ended questions from 30 children aged between 5 and 12 from the Grosvenor Road Community Centre during the annual Summer Scheme. Answers have fully been taken into account and ultimately influenced the overall decisions and design rationale of the upcoming proposals.



## 8.2 SWOT Analysis

### STRENGTHS

- ◆ Prime location adjacent to city centre
- ◆ Large and diverse area
- ◆ No commuter traffic
- ◆ Adjacent to High density housing estate, near to major community centre, adjacent to local business units and parallel to the RVH, regional hospital

### WEAKNESSES

- ◆ Anti-social behaviour (current bonfire site)
- ◆ Site A not viable for housing due to underground services
- ◆ Segregated from the rest of the area-poor connectivity
- ◆ Mental & physical barriers (ie current walls, railings, large stones)
- ◆ On street parking from RVH & city centre users

### OPPORTUNITIES

- ◆ Environmental benefits
- ◆ Potential benefit from new developments- Cullingtree Meadows (supported housing for people living with dementia) & Transport Hub and Royal Hospital for Sick Children
- ◆ Civic pride within local community
- ◆ Learning hub for local schools

### THREATS

- ◆ Lack of usage
- ◆ Further attraction of anti social behaviour
- ◆ Further segregation from the city
- ◆ Reluctance to open up the space to other communities/ city centre
- ◆ Physical constraints- Westlink, underground services, land zoning



## The Year in Highlights 2018 – 2019

✚ Summer School – the organisation held a Summer School for 9 years and up immediately following the core Summer Scheme programme. The Summer School looked to issues of the future for concern and sought to redress historical failings of the past in the field of place and space making. The Summer School will be an annual event, engaged 25 young people, culminated in a presentation at QUB to international visiting students and wider Belfast tours.

✚ **Grosvenor Safe Together** – throughout Summer 2018, the organisation ran an additional Summer Support Service for parents, this included time to participate in parents only trips, positive trips together, rebuilding of some relationships, workshops on the issues facing the back fields and wider considerations around parenting. The programme was a massive success particularly around mental health and wellbeing and this was felt across the family unit. The programme engaged 15 parents per session, sessions included off site activities, workshops and 2 family days. The overall beneficiary number being 30.





**Grosvenor Safe Together – Parents Sport Day and Excursions**

✚ **Grosvenor Learning Together** ran through the year including Monday teacher sessions for children at Grosvenor Community Centre, Tuesday evening Homework club for families, Wednesday and Thursday with student teachers and weekend learning and development support in partnership with West Belfast Partnership Board CEIP. GLT in its entirety assisted 75 families with children and young people's engagement. The programme opened links with partner primary schools, assisted new tracking figures and 97% of parents reported improved homework and attitudes to learning in the home setting.



✚ **Awards....** The organisation were delighted to win An Environmental Award from Translink via the West Belfast Partnership Board – Environmental Endeavour Aware for Best Community Garden in 2018.



✚ **Area Vision...** Grosvenor Community Centre played a contributing role along with GFNP in planning for upcoming developments impacting Belfast City Centre and wider West Belfast. Including Belfast Transport Hub, Social Housing Review, Building Successful Communities, West Belfast Drugs Panel, Dunville Park Steering Group.

✚ **Health at Grosvenor....** The organisation is heartened to announce continued growth in Health programming in the period related to Grosvenor Women's Wellness, Eastern



European women's provision and health activities for Filipinas and women of African descent. Programming was extensively promoted in the period via the Fabulous Female Sports Fair, International Women's Event and branding. The largest success resides in high user numbers and measurable impact on positive health determinants including improved lifestyle choices, physical and mental wellbeing and engagement in non-traditional sports by young girls. Fire Blades were awarded team of the year and we feel this has really shone a light on the vitality of the programme at Grosvenor, what working together can achieve.



✚ **'Growth' at Community Garden....** The Men's Shed in the period have increased programming at the site including planning for entering Belfast in Bloom, basket preparation and training, men's development programme and a new sing a long session with the Golden Girls.



## Introduction to Ionad Uíbh Eachach

### **Pobal Ghaeilge Slán Sabháilte a thógáil thart ar ár bpáistí**

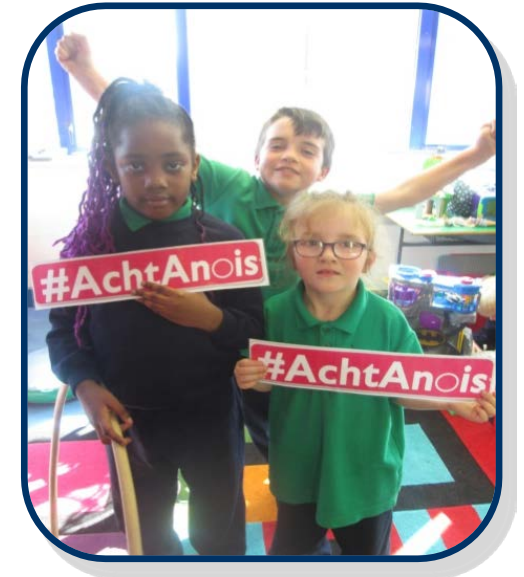
*Building a Safe and Healthy Irish Language  
Community around our children*

### **An Ghaeilge a oscailt do chách**

*Making the Irish Language Accessible to all*



**Ionad Uíbh Eachach - IUE**  
**Ionad Teaghlaigh Pobal Gaeilge**  
**Irish Language Community &**  
**Family Centre**



### **CULTÚR & TEANGA /LANGUAGE & CULTURE**

**Ag tacú le hathnuachán pobail trí chultúr & teanga/ Supporting community regeneration and renewal through language & culture**

Language/culture - classes, festivals & events – inclusive, welcoming & cross community – supporting an Ceathrú Gaeltachta.

### **CÚRAM & OIDEACHAS/CARE & EDUCATION**

**Pobal Gaeilge don aois úr a chothú/Building tomorrow's Irish Language community**

High quality, inclusive, child centred, early years, preschool & afterschool care /education through Irish. Involve/ support parents as key educators.

### **POBAL & TUISMITHEOIRÍ/ PARENTS & COMMUNITY**

**An Ghaeilge a oscailt do chách, ag tógáil pobal athléimneach /Opening the Irish language to all and building community resilience**

Inclusive, effective early intervention, family support and play support. Working in partnership with the local community

### **FIONTAR SÓISIALTA & FORBAIRT EACNAMAÍOCHTA/SOCIAL ECONOMY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

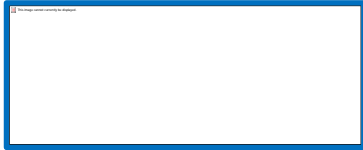
**Cúram lae Gaeilge d'ardchaighdeán bunaithe sa phobal a fhorbairt/Developing high quality daycare through Irish in the community**

Community based social economy provision, supporting local economic development, employment & training

### **IUE A FHORBAIRT MAR IONAD GAEILGE BARR FHEABHAIS /DEVELOPING IUE AS AN IRISH LANGUAGE CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE**

An eagraíocht a neartú don todhchaí/Build an organization fit for the future – highly skilled staff & management, community input, robust governance





# Pobal Gaeilge don Aois Nua

## Building tomorrow's community through Irish

Over the last year Ionad Uíbh Eachach services have been operating at capacity - from the high demand for baby & toddler units, tremendous participation in parenting & family events, increase in numbers accessing family & play support, to the enthusiastic students of all ages attending Irish classes at all levels. There were successes, highlights and challenges - including external & funding challenges, as faced by many community groups, which create uncertainty every year about core funding and potential cutbacks. The need for realistic long term investment in community services remains and Ionad worked closely with our community partners in the GFNP to lobby for this.



### Language & Cultural Services -

Despite funding pressures which included cutbacks in both staff and programme funding for language & cultural services Ionad continued to provide a wide range of Irish language classes –from beginners and free taster sessions to accredited courses including GCSE and ‘A’ level Irish. 20 people achieved between ‘C’ and ‘A\*’ grades in GCSE & ‘AS’ Level last year with 11 achieving A or A\* grades. This programme was delivered in partnership with QUB & Gaelchúrsaí and our dedicated team of tutors. As well as the success of the May ‘Léargas’ and August ‘Bí Dána’ festivals, Ionad was able to organise – as part of its celebration of 2018 ‘Bliain na Gaeilge’ - a successful event for Culture Night 2018 supported by parents & children, Lynette Fay BBC & JJ O’Doherty, musician. In addition over 100 children took part in the Spraoi project – learning Irish as fun – in St Claire’s primary school

### Cúram & Oideachas - Care & Education through Irish

Quality early care & education through Irish integrates Irish language acquisition in a play environment with development of children’s learning, social, creative and physical skills—delivering high level outcomes for children. **Ionad Uíbh Eachach** has continued to provide accessible, affordable, inclusive and flexible services including:

- **Gaelspraoi immersion playgroup**, preparing 26 children for Gaelscoil nursery (now supported by the Pathway Fund)
- **Tús Maith, Programme for 2 Year Olds**, in partnership with Beechmount Sure Start
- **IUE Cumann Iarscoile**, term time & year-round **school aged childcare for over 60 children** (supported by Bright Start)
- **Gaelchúram**, combining **quality daycare** for children aged 0-4 yrs with early learning opportunities through Irish for 80 children
- **IUE Scéim Samhraidh**, community summer scheme for over 70 children.



# Pobal Gaeilge don Aois Nua

Building tomorrow's community through Irish



## Pobal & Tuismitheoirí- Parents & Community

Last year saw significant investment in Irish Language community infrastructure in the Ceathrú Gaeltachta with a number of key developments moving forward - new Raidió Fáilte premises in Divis Street and building started on the new 'Nasc' building at the top of Broadway. Ionad sits on the Ceathrú Gaeltachta Board and works closely with both Irish language & community partners to positively promote the Irish language & culture as our common heritage. Ionad is active on community partnerships & Boards including Beechmount Sure Start, Greater Falls Neighbourhood Partnership, Greater Falls Family Support Hub, Altram and the Belfast Childcare Partnership (Co-Ordinator is Vice Chair).

## Supporting Parents as key educators –

**The Health & Well Being Group**, funded by BBC Children in Need, met weekly with crèche provision. Activities included parenting skill classes, a 10 week Solihull Parenting programme, relaxation sessions, cooking & budgeting, arts & crafts & Céili dancing! Parental engagement programmes included family trips, stay & play, parent & toddler & family fun days. **Welfare Reform - Employers for Childcare** - Parents asked for help/support with the impact of Welfare Reform /Universal Credit and Employers for Childcare came twice & followed up with one to one advice sessions.



**Supporting children & families facing challenges-** Home visiting & play support was provided to over 30 children and parents in partnership with Greater Falls Family Support Hub and this valuable service, funded by Belfast Outcomes Group, worked to capacity with a waiting list all year. Míle buíochas to Fiona Lovely, play support worker, for her endless energy & creativity. **SHINE– Parents Support Group for Children with Autism** which offers support & training to address the social isolation of children with autism and peer support to parents, met fortnightly in the Ionad which provided childcare sessions and hosted the peer support group and their annual activities.

## Social economy & economic development – quality daycare & early learning opportunities through Irish

Gaelchúram, Ionad's social economy childcare project, continued to grow, providing childcare for over 100 children daily thus supporting parents to access work & training. Gaelchúram & the school aged childcare service (school closures/holidays 60 children), despite a very difficult financial climate, generated enough income to help fund 40+ posts, creating training & employment opportunities for young Irish speakers in the Gaeltacht quarter. Ionad attended local employment fairs and hosted visits from St Marys College and local secondary schools including Coláiste Feirste.



## Introduction to Neighbourhood Development Association (NDA)

NDA has been working in our community for 29 years now since opening our doors back in April 1990. We primarily work in the areas of community development and advice provision.

Our Mission Statement is and always has been '**Working together for the future**' and under our Neighbourhood Renewal programme our work is aimed at promoting social inclusion, building community capacity and empowering local people to play an active role in the regeneration of their neighbourhoods.

Since our inception we have been involved in the demolition of the former Divis Flats, establishing the Maureen Sheehan Centre, re-establishing the St. Vincent de Paul Conference in St. Peter's to help people in need and we also founded the Welcome Organisation based in the St. Peter's area of Falls and Divis which continues to grow and thrive at its Townsend Street location. We also helped establish through constructive meetings and proactive representation, the NIHE community framework which has now grown regionally into the Housing Community Network and continues to be a strategic investment and development area of the NIHE.

We have helped develop services and projects in partnership with public service bodies, community organisations and communities resulting in many successful ventures. Our work is targeted and dedicated in this area of community development in the most deprived neighbourhoods and with the most marginalised citizens. We have risen to many challenges and in our advice work have assisted in establishing a successful consortium partnership involving the 8 main Council approved independent advice offices across West Belfast, including at the Spectrum Centre in Shankill. This partnership is one we continue to Chair and is now a formal consortium known now as the West Belfast Advice

Partnership which promotes shared working through formalised frameworks, sharing agreed resources such as training, money advisers and welfare reform staff in areas where it is cost effective and efficient to do so.

In all of these examples we strive to complement and not duplicate the work of others and will always seek to reduce duplication of services yet meet identified gaps in provision in these challenging times.

NDA continues to seek to empower local people, particularly those economically inactive, to play a positive role in the redevelopment and growth of their own communities.



## Introduction to Springfield Charitable Association (SCA Ltd)

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### *Vision*

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'To build and sustain an informed, healthy, happier, connected and prosperous community'

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### *Mission*

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'ensuring people are supported and cared for through the delivery of quality services and activities by utilising all available resources'

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### *Values*

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The following values will inspire all aspects of SCA's work:

Inclusive  
Innovative  
Creative  
Commitment  
Leadership  
Empowerment  
Supportive  
Integrity  
Quality  
Go the extra mile  
Community led  
Needs led



## The Big Move

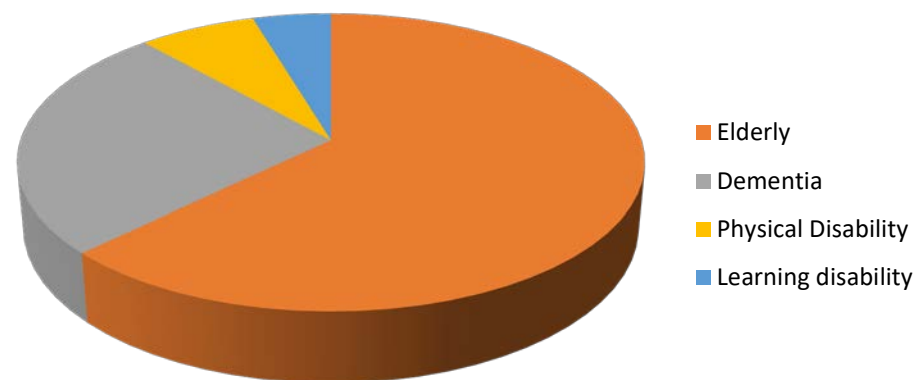
After several years of anticipation, staff and service users are excited, delighted and impatient to move to our new centre, scheduled for Monday, 1 April 2019 away from our Fallswater Street premises to our brand-new bespoke centre in Clonard Crescent. The new centre includes an advice centre, day centre, gym and our crowning glory, a hydrotherapy pool.

## Our Staff Team

We have an excellent team of highly skilled, professional and well-trained care staff. Each member of staff completes mandatory training and all care staff are registered with NISCC and have undertaken Level III in Health and Social care; our cook completed Level II in Health and Social Care last year. We also encourage staff to train outside the mandatory training and currently two members of staff are doing an Essential Skills English course which was sourced and paid for by the organisation. Several members of staff have been with the organisation many years and we were recently awarded a Gold Level Standard from Investors in People which only 5% of organisations ever achieve.

## Client Group

Our Service Users age from 68 to 96, however, we can take in service users who may be as young as 55 and lately have had enquiries from several potential clients in that age range. The day centre continues to provide much needed care and support, both physical, social and emotional for older people of west Belfast but now in a much more modern, bespoke environment.



the reasons our service users attend the centre

Our philosophy of care is that all are clients, regardless of disability, age, sex, race or religion are respected, protected and treated with the dignity that they all deserve. What we do in the centre changes lives and we have the living proof to show this, proof like Anne (not her real name).

### **Anne's Story**

Anne was living at home on her own after her husband passed away. She was depressed, socially isolated and lonely. Her family had also noticed that her memory was deteriorating badly and her GP referred Anne to the memory clinic. On her first visit Anne was asked a series of 30 questions and got all 30 questions wrong. After the intervention of the team for older people at Beech Hall Anne was referred to the Montague day centre, starting at one day a week to eventually three days a week. Two years after starting the Montague, Anne revisited the memory clinic and was asked a series of 30 questions; this time, much to the surprise of the consultant and her family, Anne got all 30 questions correct! The consultant asked Anne what she had done during the past two years to make such a difference and she told them that she had joined the Montague day centre and that this had led to her depression going, she had something to get out of bed and dressed for, friends she could meet up with three days a week, craic she could have, activities she could do and reported that this give her happiness, love a new lease of life!

Anne is one of 37 service users we currently have on our books, each one with their own story of what life was like before attending the Montague Day Centre and what it is like now.

### **A day in the life**

Service users are usually picked up from their homes in the morning around 10.00 – 10.30. On arrival they have a light breakfast of tea and toast followed by an activity in the activity rooms – we have three activity rooms and a quiet room for readers. This is followed by a two-course meal cooked from scratch by our very own cook, Maura. After dinner service users enjoy another cup of tea and a biscuit followed by a game of bingo!

### **Activities**

We have engaged with a lot of different groups in order to get a wide variety of activities for our service users. For example, we have worked for several years with Disability Sports NI who this year piloted a brand-new programme in the centre developed by the British Gymnastics Foundation called Love to Move. This is a chair-based age and dementia friendly gymnastics exercise programme specially designed to get older people moving and functioning better. This programme has been shown to improve cognitive function, help reduce depression, improve balance and improve the ability of participants to undertake activities for daily living. We have also worked with the Crescent Arts Centre, Women in Sport and Physical Activity, the Irish Bowls Federation, Volunteer Now and Belfast Community Sports Development Network to name but a few. Activities are planned in advance; a calendar of activities is displayed in the Activity Room for all to see and every day is different.

## Service User Involvement

The Montague day centre maintains a very person-centred approach and our service users are actively encouraged to engage in all aspects of the running of the centre with their views being sourced by monthly client committee meetings, yearly Reviews with the Belfast Health and Social Care Trust and yearly client surveys. This ongoing involvement has helped us plan our service provision as we strive to ensure that our activities, for example, are structured not only to meet the needs of each individual but are stimulating worthwhile and outcome based. The cook speaks to service users on a monthly basis about their views on the menu and how/if it could be improved. We firmly believe that our new day centre should not just be seen as a centre for older people to play bingo and are proud that we push the boundaries of what older people can do and can achieve and there is no better way of doing this than to ask our service users what they want themselves so our Youth Club for Older People will go from strength to strength.



## Divis Joint Development Committee – Lead Community Infrastructure Partner

The Frank Gillen Centre's physical resource has acted as a catalyst for community development activity and delivery of services ranging from local discussions to planning the delivery of services.

### **This includes:**

#### **Early years and After Schools Programme (reviewed annually)**

Children's emotional, social and educational development (via Play Development, 2-3-year-old programme and an After Schools project)

- Play Development continues to operate daily, morning and afternoon for up to 8 children per session (Monday to Friday with 2 sessions per day, except on Friday afternoon)
- 2-3-year-old programme for 12 children each day
- After-schools programme currently due to staff restrictions 24



**Youth Development** (at present we operate both an in-house youth programme and an outreach project) covers key elements of personal development and life skills, employment support, skills development and capacity building.

- Our Youth programme operates on a nightly basis with some weekend activity both on and off-site, other activity also included; football coaching, community relations & cultural awareness activity, study support, digital technology, magazine production & dance classes. Young people periodically complete structured training and skills building including peer mentoring and AQA's in a variety of topics mental health e.g. suicide and self-harm



- Homework & Study support is now provided on a Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings with help from volunteer students from QUB.
- Additionally, GCSE study support (Maths and English) is provided on a one to one basis for up to 32 young people in the year, we reorganised this operationally during the past year to ensure better recruitment and feedback to/ from students/ schools and the project with better feedback and evaluation.
- WBPB via the SIF education strand of work started to work within us at the tail end of the last financial year and this focusses on improving literacy and numeracy of children within a certain age band complementing our existing efforts but distinct to avoid duplication of effort.

**Family Support Services.** We deliver an SLA for Clan Mor Surestart, a programme for 6 months - 4-year olds and a family support input.

- Through Clan Mor support we provide, child protection and paediatric first aid training to a range of local staff and volunteers at the FGC.
- Our own direct funded Family Support Worker provide direct one to one support in the form of home visiting and liaises with the Greater Falls Family Support Hub both receiving and signposting referrals.

This service (our own family support service) has changed significantly this year with more emphasis on direct home visits and the follow up required because of changes in the funding criteria and as a result less focus on facilitated programmes and school age support.

**Employment support service** we, with the continued support of DfC, operate our own education and training programme.

- DJDC's continues to be involved in city wide discussions around the issues pertaining to Life Long Learning (LLL) through the Belfast Strategic Partnership (BSP) and continue to hold the position of chairperson on this thematic area. A strong strategic base for the initiative and activity has as previously reported centred on developing an LLL strategy, including a binding charter which can highlight the value of BSP partners working together and collectively make a greater impact on reducing life inequalities across the city.

Additionally, the Belfast City Council's employability and skills strategy now includes an initiative around a 'Local Works' initiative first identified in the Learning Charter which our group were involved in drafting.

We have formally been included in the membership of UNESCO's Global Network of Learning Cities and the task remains to develop a Learning City Plan. Key of work is to develop the theme of 'Learning City Neighbourhoods' and we have linked with Cork and Limerick who are developing a similar approach, signs from Derry/Strabane, Bristol and Swansea are that they are also interested in our approach.

**Partnerships/ Networking.** We continue to play an active role in many local networks including;

- Clan Mor Surestart, a programme for 0-4-year olds and family support.
- The Heart project - healthy living centre initiative based in a community health complex, the Maureen Sheehan Centre delivering health education and direct condition management support.
- Falls Partnership Initiative [FPI] a local partnership operating throughout the Falls electoral ward area, brought together to promote and develop and implement an area wide growth process.
- Greater Falls Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership; we continue to work at all levels of the Partnership to implement the key issues and priorities outlined in guiding strategic document. It remains as we reported previously becoming increasingly difficult for many reasons; political instability, funding uncertainty and the lack of a clear future for our work and where it is likely to be located e.g. under community planning or within DfC or even recognised at all.
- Healthy Living Centre Regional Alliance; as part of the sustainability, development and quality assurance of the local Healthy Living Centre we continue to play an active role in this organisation



- A programme continues under the title of ‘Strengthening Commonalities’ to continue to develop common approaches and programming across a network of what is now 21 HLC’s.
- A business case was successful under the Big Lottery programme to develop and deliver a social prescribing model to be rolled out between health initiatives here and in Scotland. We were part of a steering group looking after the development of this initiative together with GP Federations
- We are continuing working with GP Federations to develop a more formal relationship that supports our local community where HLC’s are based across the network. This has in the last period included being part of discussions on the DoH’s ideas around multi-disciplinary teams to be attached to GP practices and with meetings with key GP’s and reps from the GP Federation covering West Belfast. West Belfast has been placed on a reserve list for the next rollout area of this initiative
- As part of the Connected Care Hub which has been drawn together and the team recruited across the city focussing on non-medical interventions at a community level, this was launched in January 2018. This follows on from our previous efforts under the Healthy Hearts programme and we have been centrally involved, 4 key link workers are employed throughout the city, the West contact is based at the Maureen Sheehan Centre



and this connects to the dementia navigators and the BHSCT reablement team as well as a range of community deliverers and service providers.

- As part of the Belfast Strategic Partnership (Public Health Agency, Belfast City Council, Belfast Health Trust, DfC and others key agencies) we play a full civic role both locally and citywide and are currently part of the development of this citywide framework which will shape both city and local development across 5 key areas; Mental Health, Learning, Early Intervention, Drugs and Alcohol and Regeneration & Place. We believe all these key



areas compliment the GFNP's and the Divis Joint Development Committee's programmes of work. BSP has carried out a review of its approach and structure particularly in the light of the implementation of community planning and the public health strategy 'Making Life Better' and we are working as party of our membership of the Belfast Strategic Partnership to its align with community planning and the challenges that are contained in that.

- DJDC's key worker continues to be involved in city wide discussions around the issues pertaining to Life Long Learning (LLL) through the Belfast Strategic Partnership and the development of a Belfast a Learning City, this period has focussed on the design of an engagement process to identify key indicators relating to learning and tackling inequalities.
- West Belfast Partnership Board of behalf of the Neighbourhood Partnership and a chairing their health sub-group which is developing an outcome-based approach to their efforts



### Initiatives Supported



- Examples include, encouraging local groups to participate in **Belfast's 4th Festival of Learning**.
- Supporting and preparing local groups for completion of an ISO 9001 'quality management award' process, a slow but useful process of improving governance and quality assurances across local organisations
- Participating in the development of a '**Dementia Friendly Communities**' initiative across West Belfast.
- Opportunities at particularly busy periods of Halloween and Xmas, with a focus on the work and efforts of young people working to support the older population breaking down isolation and providing practical

support to meet their needs e.g. hampers and winter warm advice, this year for example 2 local schools participated in a carol singing and older peoples event at the centre.

- Continue to support Maureen Sheehan Healthy Living Centre in their delivery of health programmes and sustainability for their initiatives.

**Policy responses:** Discussions were held covering a range of our key priorities including;

- West Belfast Partnership Board and development of an Older People's plan
- Belfast City Council Neighbourhood Services
- Clan Mor Surestart (re: Business Planning)
- Healthy Living Centre Alliance (re: sustainability of Maureen Sheehan Centre).
- 
- Transformation Implementation Group (Dept. Health, Belfast HSC Trust and GP Federation Business Support Unit) re: Healthy Living Centre/ Community engagement in development of a multi-disciplinary team in West Belfast.
- Belfast a Learning City
  - development of an All-Ireland network of learning cities
  - a visit by the Mayor of Cork to local schools
  - Ulster University involvement in the Learning city planning
- Department for Communities (re: Neighbourhood Renewal review)
- Business planning for Spring Social Prescribing Programme (implementation of a business case for successful Big Lottery UK bid)
- Development of a GP referral system for people with chronic conditions and support for community assets via Connected Community Care Hub across the city



- Weavers Transport Hub
- With NIHE regarding Ross Street flats demolition/ redevelopment
- Suicide Prevention (Protect Life 2)
- Belfast Community Planning team.

**We engaged** with the following agencies/ organisations:

- Belfast HSC Trust (Connected Care Hubs, Cullingtree Meadows ‘Dementia Friendly - Supported Living’ scheme)
- Belfast Local Commissioning Group (population planning and public involvement)
- Belfast City Council (community planning and community interventions including community safety initiatives and programmes)
- Belfast Strategic Partnership (health inequalities and lifelong learning)
- HSCB (re: MDT’s and Community Planning)
- GP Federations (connected community care hub, community planning and community engagement)
- QUB Careers development

**DJDC is the lead body for the Greater Falls Neighbourhood Partnership and as such employs the GFNP coordinator:**

**This has improved connectivity in several ways including involvement in:**

**‘Building Successful Communities’** programmes; Inputting to the ongoing consultation on regeneration sites within the area

- Maureen Sheehan site
- Westlink backpath
- Ross Street flats

## Blackie River Community Group – Community Infrastructure Partner

Over the last year, Blackie River Community Group has been working with other partners and stakeholders to continue to address the needs of residents. Here is a snapshot of our work.

### Early Years and after school services



The Blackie River Community Group continues to run very successful early year's programmes for children from the ages of 0 – 12 years old. This includes full time Day-care services for children aged 6 weeks – 4 years, Crèche, Afterschool, Autism developmental programme running twice every Saturday for 42 weeks of the year. We have increased the provision for ASD children due to the demand from the Greater Falls Family Support Hub. We have worked to ensure that we have surpassed the current minimum day-care standards and have ensured that all our staff are up to date with their professional development and techniques for supporting children. We use the Nursery Pal App to communicate with parents; this allows parents to have the security and the comfort of checking in on their children via video, photos and regular updates. We like to believe this gives parents extra confidence and less anxiety when registering and bringing their children to us. It is their responsibility of the key worker to update the child's profile on a daily basis.

We provide individual educational plans for children working with each child having a key worker to develop children's' holistic development. Completing observations, planning for and communicating with other professionals and parents to improve children's' early years' experiences.



There has been a large demand this year for our baby room, and new parents wanting to register their children in from a young age, which means we are now running close to full capacity. We always encourage parents to register as room capacity's change monthly and we are always keen to welcome new faces.

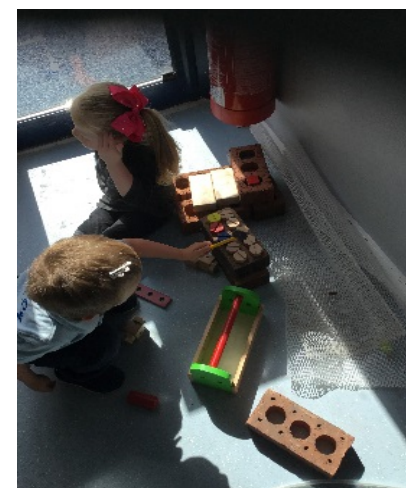
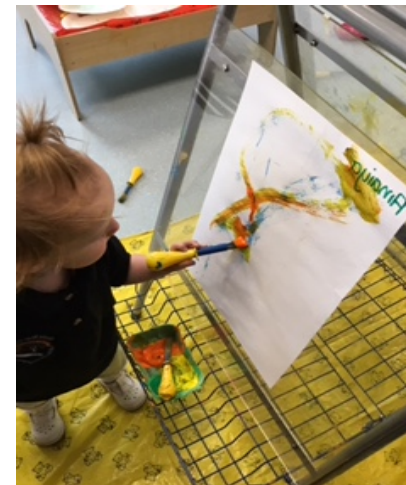
Our children continue to benefit from the uplift of our outdoor space, including the new garden, planting area and park area at the back and side of our building, this has been a great success, with children really enjoying the outdoor routine.



Along with the **day-care services** we also promote one to one support services for children who require additional support during their day in the day-care. A full time designated person plans individual learning and support programmes for these children. Referrals for this service can be made via the Family Support Hub or through our sponsored day care contract; or can be identified by staff for children who are already attending the day-care.

We aim to respond to current identified needs within the area, and because of numerous requests, we designed a homework support club for children who do not have English as a first language. This ran alongside our after-school services.

We used this service to work with the local schools to help develop the children's language and numeracy skills. We frequently used translator methods to communicate with parents, who gave great feedback about the programme and who were extremely grateful. The children involved developed their English language skills and by the end of the programme could communicate in English.





**Beechmount Surestart:** Blackie River continue to be the lead and accountable body for Beechmount Surestart which provides a range of early years and family support services.

**Family Support Hub:** BRCCG is the lead accountable body for the Family Support Hub in the Greater Falls Area. The Family Support Hub is a network of organisations that can provide a variety of services for/with families who may benefit from some early intervention services; across the Greater Falls area. Using the knowledge of local service providers and the Family Support Database, the Family Support Hub can signpost/refer families to services that they feel are appropriate to their needs.



The Family Support Hub has 28 core members and 27 associate members, and since its inception in September 2015 the Hub has processed 699 referrals, (300 families in the past year)

**Partnerships/ Networking.** We will continue to play an active role in several local networks including;

- **PlayBoard NI Cluster Group**

Our Childcare Co-ordinator is member of the PlayBoard NI Cluster Group, this is a group that comes together to look at best practice and developments in the childcare provision 4-12 year olds.

- **Early Years Strategic Alliance**

We sit on this alliance to look at best practice to sit with government officials to improve the quality of services to children from disadvantaged areas.

- **Greater Falls Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership;** we work at all levels of the Partnership to implement the key issues and priorities outlined in their most recent document





- **West Belfast Neighbourhood Renewal Forum** – We currently sit on this forum to help coordinate programmes from across West Belfast
- **Children and Young People Strategic Partnership**  
BRCG feel that it is vital that we engage in childcare networks/partnerships as they provide us with information that can lead to an improvement in practice, and in the development of policies. It is also affords us an opportunity to network and promote our own best practice methods.
- **Working with Children with Autism**  
BRCG runs a daily session with children with Autism in conjunction with Sure Start and Kids Together after the Family Support Hub had identified the growing need.

## Roden Street Community Development Group – Community Infrastructure Partner



The Roden Street Community Development Group, (RSCDG) is an organisation which can be categorised in both a strategic and practical sense as led by and for the community. The organisation has sustained the core aim of realistically and achievably improving quality of life socially, economically, environmentally and culturally. In tandem with this navigating the sphere of long-term impact outcome focused programming and sustainability. As such RSCDG has continued to more strategically target provision in the period, the organisation operates on a for money basis, with a relatively small staffing team, identified need reflective programmes and analysis of impact as key. RSCDG has continued learning in the period 2018 related to the next

decades monitoring, evaluation and impact assessment tools for the community. RSCDG has continued to pursue a strategy of direct need reflection through the community management model, innovation and provision of wider geographically focused capacity support. In the period, the organisation also worked with other organisations/partnerships in furtherance of the application of the community management model.

Grosvenor Community Centre has had a productive year in terms of programming, uptake, footfall and outcomes. The year was characterised by growth around new trends which mirror local and global need, including an increased environmental programme. As well as this the organisation changed some core services in year to reflect area lifestyles.

Changes included extension of the out of school hours programme and hourly change, altered summer provision including earlier restart for Playgroup services and targeted youth provision including mentoring and issue led work. The centre also determined to bring the area together physically more in year with 2 major area environmental drives, walk arounds, baselining of homes and shared spaces, events and Summer schools. As

*Creating a vibrant place to live, work and visit where current and future generations have the confidence, skills and access to higher level goals, genuinely improving quality of life economically, socially, culturally and environmentally.*

always Grosvenor Community Centre wish to thank all user groups and peoples for their active contribution to the vitality, diversity and capacity of the area and to the overall dynamism of wider Belfast. The organisation is proud to be considered a 'home' to such a rich tapestry of cultural and community backgrounds and to be a practical example of contemporary Belfast society.

Grosvenor Community Centre is a key and pivotal contributor to community infrastructure. For instance:

- ✚ Grosvenor Community Centre is considered a 'home' community centre to 5 different cultural backgrounds and is used as such operationally.
- ✚ The organisation provides funding submission support and development plans to a range of sports and smaller groups in furtherance of capacity.
- ✚ The space is viewed as a place to go for help around issues such as housing, anti-community activity, family and area disputes and when someone just needs that little bit of help. Therein lies the fabric of what a 'community' should feel like.
- ✚ Grosvenor Community Centre have provided information to a number of other groups/organisations in the period related to community management.
- ✚ The organisation has adopted a more visionary approach over the past five years and has dared to think on a larger scale, becoming involved in developments such as Weavers Cross.
- ✚ The organisation is committed to working with City Centre development approaches to lever benefits up the Grosvenor Road.
- ✚ The centre was used by a range and diversity of peoples with differing focuses from sports, to health, family support to gardening. This mix helps community capacity via visibility and sharing of resources.
- ✚ Grosvenor Community Centre has pro-actively tried to identify problems and has written extensively to agencies such DFI and Highway Maintenance around parking and litter with some apparent achievements, such as lines at Genoa Street.
- ✚ The organisation has increased partnerships with schools in the period adopting a stance that the children and families supported are the same and the best way to target services is by sharing knowledge.
- ✚ The plans for 2019 and onwards are extended shared bids across different settings in partnership with GFNP.

- ✚ Grosvenor Community Centre provided training in 2018 and 19 which included CSR (x 2), First Aid, Fire Warden Training, Child Protection, Nutrition Awareness, Disability Sports, Multi Sport and Parenting.
- ✚ The organisation has one on the future and has diversified the managing structures with younger individuals.
- ✚ Grosvenor Garden will further aid the physical regeneration of the Grosvenor Road and the organisation hopes to fully join this to the development at weavers cross.

Direct management in Action:

RSCDG lease, (from Belfast City Council), and manage Grosvenor Community Centre, (formerly Grosvenor Recreation Centre), the accompanying 3G Playing field, community garden, facilities and play park. The site is a substantial venue and facility, housing a wide spectrum of projects, programmes and operational terms, this means that ALL voices are relevant and are used to define, schedule and plan services. We abide by the view that anything is possible and achievable with the right vision pathway driven in a shared capacity by communities. The organic historical development, developed in 1984 and launching with 'We Want Heat Not Cold Fee', of the organisation means that the climate at Grosvenor Community Centre is embedded in community management, responsiveness, flexibility, innovation and pro-active inclusion. Grosvenor Community Centre has become one of the hubs in the area for community activity, community sports, physical activity, environmental programming, capacity building, engagement, family support, youth participation and good relations. Grosvenor Community Centre is viewed as an open, welcoming and feasible arena in which to meet, network, develop and grow, particularly in relation to good relations programme at the local level. RSCDG is both a local provider of a plethora of services and programmes, matched with occupying an active role in terms of area wide development, partnership, shared programming and lobbying. The focus at Grosvenor Community Centre is fixed on the wider determinants of community, social, economic and cultural development as well as in redressing the wider impacts of disadvantage. *What is our Vision? Belfast Deserves to Achieve Greatness and Its Peoples Must Benefit from that process, happy, prosperous and healthy.*



**The Future is Bright.... The Future = People**

## Clonard Neighbourhood Development Partnership - Community Infrastructure Partner

**We continue to offer support, information and advice to all our associate organisations which include:**

- Surestart
- Clonard Residents Association
- Tar Anall
- Community Restorative Justice Ireland
- Clonard Monastery Youth Centre
- Springfield Residents Action Group
- Belfast Reconciliation Network
- Forthspring Intercommunity Group
- Workforce Training
- Springvale Learning
- Job Assist
- Clonard Women's Group
- Clonard House



**We continue to sit on the Greater Falls Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership and feed into the area action planning.**

**We sit on the Springfield Multi Agency Group (SMAG) steering group which was established to develop relationships between the new E3 Campus on Springfield Road and the local communities of Clonard and Shankill.**

**We are represented on the board of Interaction Belfast that looks at interface issues along the Springfield Road.**

**We co-Chair the Clonard Mid Shankill Initiative which aims to work together to improve relationships across the interface and in so doing create a better future for our respective communities.**

**We host the area's Surestart programme and work closely with providers.**

**We've secured funding for a cross-community women's fitness programme which has been running on Lanark Way for the past two years.**

**We organised and secured funding for a number of cross-community events on Lanark Way including a family fun-day, a Health Day for young people and, for the second year running, a Christmas Market.**

**We sit on the West Belfast Roundtable group and liaise with our partners on that project in terms of BME and New Arrival families.**

**We remain actively involved in volunteer recruitment for a range of our programmes and have been very successful in recruiting new members during 2018-19 period,**

**We continue to support an advice worker who is based in our office every Wednesday.**

**We have organised a range of training programmes for our volunteers to build their capacity, training included:**

- Drug Awareness Training
- Committee skills
- Child Protection / Keeping Safe Training
- Access NI Checks
- Suicide Awareness



**We continue to work with local youth providers and sporting organisations to develop youth engagement programmes throughout the year along with intervention programmes at seasonal times such as July and August. We also worked with Clonard Residents Association, Forthspring Intercommunity Group and Workforce Training Services to devise and implement a diversionary youth training programme in response to an upsurge in disruptive behaviour among some young people in the area. We have organised:**

- Summer Cohesion & Intervention Programme
- A Summerscheme
- Youth Training Programme

## Neighbourhood Development Association (NDA) – Community Infrastructure Partner

Last year (2018/19, via our NDA office advice facility and our advice line, we dealt with almost 10,000 issues (averaging around 200 per week) from 2,817 clients and were successful in clawing back over £206,000 worth of unclaimed Social Security benefits.



Our well-established client base built up over 29 years has expanded recently to include BT17 clients due to the outworking of RPA whom have come to rely heavily on our services particularly as we are located in the most deprived Wards Falls SOA's 1,2&3 (Source: NISRA).



NDA continues to proactively engage with & support the Neighbourhood Partnership and associated partners and cross cutting themes in the delivery of the neighbourhood action plan.

1.8 FTE permanent jobs safeguarded under Neighbourhood Renewal and a further 3 previously funded posts continue to be core funded outside of NR.



### **NDA Community Development Officer ..... An Example Week in the Life Of:**

- Visit Tenants/Resident Group representatives to update/flag issues/communicate to locals
- Attend an evening Tenants/Residents Group meeting
- Follow up actions from night before/assist drafting letters/push campaigns on etc.
- Visit to Healthy Living Centre to agree upcoming programmes for promotion/marketing/referrals
- Meet NIHE for updates to external cyclical maintenance schemes
- Report any new graffiti and help organise removal
- Organise and agree next stages of upcoming event/s
- Monitoring and Reporting data to collate and report on for Funders and Management Committee ,including: Uptake and Feedback of Projects, Partnerships and numbers at planned events
- Participate in meetings around progression of issues in relation to NR programme
- Contribute to advice centre rota duty and take appointments/provide telephone advice
- Visit Home Management Support attendees mid programme.

### **P/T Administrative Support.... An Example Week in the Life Of**

- Open Office daily and confirm work plans and appointments to staff
- Telephony duties daily/Log Calls/Run weekly IT Reports req'd
- Meet/Greet clients/visitors; log same
- Make and diarise appointments; manage office bookings and customer flow;
- Contact clients engaging in services for the week to confirm arrangements and communicate issues as required to relevant staff
- Update Personal and Group Development Plans related to weekly targets and goal achievements
- Update all monitoring and evaluation including surveys completion, individual development packs

## Springfield Charitable Association (SCA Ltd) – Community Infrastructure Partner

### Working with others

Since October 2017 we have been working closely with the West Belfast Partnership Board, BCM, local pharmacists and West Belfast Taxi Association on a collaborative venture called 'The Winter Volunteer Programme'. This entailed recruiting dozens of volunteers, putting through the Access NI process and identifying 100 of the most vulnerable older people in West/East Belfast to ensure that, during the winter months if/when we experience adverse weather conditions, those identified would not be cold, hungry or forgotten.

We have also been collaborating with St Dominic's Grammar School for several years who very kindly donated generous Christmas hampers to each of our service users and will be



doing so again this Christmas. Future plans are that we will work with St Dominic's in a more collaborative way, through intergenerational work, for example.

Belfast Homeless Charity gifted each of our service users a shoe box last year and have agreed to do so again.

We look forward with excitement and anticipation to the next year and hope to expand our ideas on using the centre for the benefit of not only our service users, but for the good of the local community as they have been so supportive of SCA through the long process that has got us to this point.



## Retail and Volunteering

### Second Time Around

SCA's retail outlet is the foundation on which the organisation was built and a very important source of revenue supporting the organization as a whole. Our continued success in selling high quality used clothes and furniture at very competitive prices is testament to the important service we provide to the community and the professionalism and commitment of our management and retail team.

Relying on the support and generosity of the community we gladly accept goods left at our outlet @ 77B/C Springfield Road, or our retail team can collect re-sellable clothes and furniture items from your home if requested. If you have goods you wish to donate in support of SCA and the vital work we do, please contact us on 02890237160 and we will arrange a collection time suitable to you.



### Volunteering

Get involved!

What's it like to be a volunteer in SCA? We have volunteers covering all age ranges, from many different backgrounds and with a huge variety of skills. What they have in common is their desire to spend their spare time helping to make a difference in their local community.

To find out more about volunteering with SCA contact us by phone on [02890329085](tel:02890329085) of course you can pop into one of our sites for any further info☺

Some volunteers expressed why they like to get out into the community to help, ranging from mental health issues such as depression, loneliness or other anxieties, or Just the wish to gain skills in the hope to get back into the working world.

Each individual receives on-site training to perform their role and aid in customer care, further training is pursued for anyone requesting to improve their skills, confidence and job prospects.

Here's what some volunteers had to say about their experiences volunteering in our shops:

***“Volunteering is rewarding in itself, especially as we donate our time to our own community.”***

**Annette McCartney**

***“I enjoy volunteering, meeting new people, sharing stories and seeing people leave with a smile on their face and a bargain in their bag!”***

**Anne Lawless**

## **Advice Centre**



The Advice Centre's team of highly skilled and committed advisors continue providing high quality, free, independent advice and representation services to the public providing a much-needed safety net for those facing hardship. The team has had a busy year striving always to ensure the best possible outcomes for those that use the service.

We continue to provide assistance to those in our community who are unable to make it into the Advice centre due to disability, lack of mobility or mental health issues. Home visits or telephone advice is available to support this group.

Our service benefits from working in partnership with other advice agencies and funders aimed at delivering a professional and supportive engagement for those seeking assistance. The Advice Centre has secured the new Advice Quality standard and are members of Advice ni, the Housing Rights service and the Law Centre.

**Below is a dip sample of some of the work carried out last year of behalf of our clients.**

### **Benefits**

**Client A and B are family.** A mother and her son who live together in the same house. They are two separate cases.

#### **Client A**

Client A came to our office. Previously he had been awarded Disability Living Allowance at high care and low mobility due to his disabilities. At the changeover to Personal Independence Payment the Assessor gave him 0 points.

At the Mandatory Reconsideration the decision remained the same. **Advisor** took the case to appeal. He wrote a submission using client's medical evidence and represented Client A at his tribunal. The Appeal was successful and client A was awarded Personal Independence Payment enhanced award of care at £85.60 per week at £4450.20 per year and standard mobility £22.65 per week £1778.80 per year.

#### **Client B**

When Client B's son lost his Personal Independence Payment this impacted on his mum Client B. She had been getting Employment and Support Allowance for herself and had also lost her Carers allowance /premium for caring for him. Additionally, she had been in receipt of Disability Living Allowance low care and high mobility. At the changeover to Personal Independence Payment her benefit increased, and she was awarded standard care and enhanced mobility.



Adviser did a benefit check. He discovered that although she had been getting her Personal Independence Payment award for over a year, she had not been paid a Severe Disability Premium. He contacted the department to explain.

Client was awarded £4713.80 from 27 October 2017 to the present added to her ESA for Severe Disability Premium.

She also got a lump sum of £2112.45 which increased her Employment and Support Allowance equivalent to the Carers Premium.

Family increase son £4450.20 + £1778.80 = £6229.00

Family increase mum £4713.80 + £2112.45 = £6826.25

Family increase = £13,055.25

### **Insurance claim**

#### **Client C**

Called to the office and spoke to Adviser with regard to assistance he needed with regard to his AXA car insurance. He had been in an accident previously which he had agreed had been his fault. He had been happy to pay himself as there was very little damage to both cars. They both exchanged insurance details. The other driver and his two passengers had decided to claim due to significant structural damage to both the car and for personal injuries. When asked why he was not suing also, client advised that he only had a few scratches to the car. A photo of his car was sent to the insurance company who promised that they would give client back his no claims bonus and keep his insurance to the same level if he would go to court. He went to court saving the insurance company over £15,000. While the case was deemed fraudulent and thrown out of court. The company reneged on their promise to give him back his no claims bonus and allow his insurance to remain at the same cost as before. Client called in with AXA's final response letter. Adviser assisted Client C with a complaint to the Financial Ombudsman Service. After investigation by the Financial Ombudsman Service, Client complaint was upheld. He received a payment of £4800 and got his no claims bonus back again. He was delighted.

## **Client D**

Client was assisted with a Personal Independence Payment application form by Advisor. Client is married and lives with her husband in rented accommodation. She has four grown up children.

Client needs help with all of her daily living activities. Client explained that has no feeling in two of her fingers of her left hand and her mobility is poor. She has pain throughout her joints and suffers from dizziness. She also advised that she depended significantly on convenience foods. She could not mix/socialize due to depression and attended for counselling/therapy because of this. Her mobility was impacted due to painful joints, dizziness and shortness of breath because she suffers from Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

Advisor also explained the application process, including assessment procedure, mandatory reconsideration and appeals process including representation by Citywide Tribunal Services. Also, Supplementary Payments.

Client D attended for her assessment in town and was awarded Enhanced Mobility at £59.75 per week and Standard Care £57.30 per week. Totalling £6,086.60 per year.

Client had previously been awarded Middle care and Low Mobility Disability Living Allowance. This totalling £4,157.40 per year.

She has had an increase in benefits of £1929.20 per year since her award of Personal Independence Allowance.

**#donate #change #activism #non-profit #dogood #charity**

## Blackie River Community Group – Lead Education Partner

### Promotion of Life Long Learning

The education programmes have been both accredited and non-accredited courses. We adopt a person-centred ethos to guarantee each student gets the most out of their education experience to help ensure they move forward to reach their full potential.

We are currently teaching and assessing the following courses:

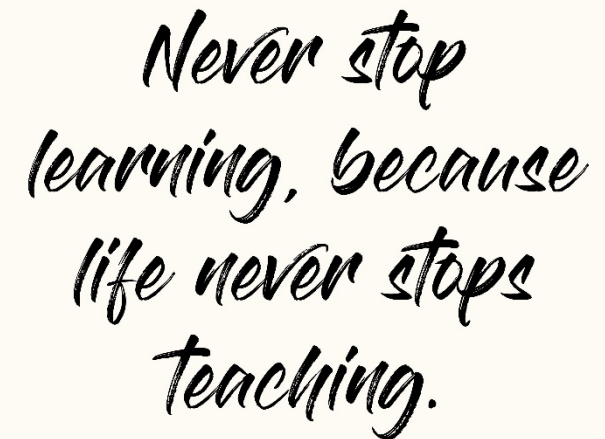
- ESOL – this is a beginner’s class, introducing Basic English to newcomer families.
- Health and Social Care Level 3 – Family Support
- [CCLD Level 2](#) – 1 evening a week
- CCLD Level 3 – 1 evening a week
- [CACHE Level 3 Certificate Understanding Autism](#) - 20-week programme
- CCLD Diploma Leadership and Management – Two Level 5 – 1 day each per week

Each student is allocated a personal tutor and a personal assessor so that the learning experiences for them are extremely personal and meet their individual needs. Tutors and assessors are practicing professionals in their field, so we believe students are getting first class education and learning directly from in practice experience.

### Youth Development

We have developed a Mentoring programme to offer support to young people on a one to one basis; Mentors have provided support with homework, personal development, mental health awareness, and physical activities programmes and have developed an engagement process with young people who are disengaged from the community. Each young person is allocated their own mentor, who strives to build a relationship with each young person and aims to help them through any struggles they may face.

We are currently working with the West Belfast Partnership Board and their SIF program to assist our school age children with their educational attainment.



Never stop  
learning, because  
life never stops  
teaching.

© LIN PERNILLE



## Divis Joint Development Committee – Education Partner

DJDC has considered educational programming in its widest sense. In the period 2018/2019 the organisation has provided a range of services to support the development of children, young people and adults.

### Education support service

**We provide our own education and support programme. This includes;**

- ICT classes on a Monday and Tuesday mornings between 10am-12noon and from Tuesday 12 noon to 2pm, each class has a maximum of 10 people and aimed at the 50+ age range.

- In partnership with Clan Mor Surestart we provide, child protection and paediatric first aid training to a range of local staff and volunteers at the FGC.



**QUEEN'S  
UNIVERSITY  
BELFAST**

- Study support provided on a Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings with help from students from QUB.

- Additionally, GCSE study support (Maths and English,) provided on a one to one basis for up to 32 young people across the year through support provided from

the Department for Communities,

- DJDC's continues to engage in city wide discussions around the issues pertaining to Life Long Learning (LLL) and the ongoing development of 'Belfast a Learning City' through the Belfast Strategic Partnership (BSP) and hold the position of chairperson on this thematic area.

### ICT training and development provision;



- Our ICT suite continues to be used in a variety of other ways e.g. study support and IT training for both women and men and job centre online. It is increasingly difficult however to get anyone interested in looking at formal training and much of what we offer is a practical tool for people rather than an educational boost.

**This year our list of training and programme activity provision included;**

- ICT provision for older men and women (inc. social media and skype usage),
- GCSE study support in Maths and English
- A homework club for primary and post primary aged children/ young people (including additional support for literacy and numeracy).
- OCN in Youth Leadership
- Personal Development and Lifeskills programme
- Anti-bullying programmes
- Cultural Awareness and Diversity inc. Anti-Racism and Anti-Sectarianism
- AQA in Mental Health Awareness

## Roden Street Community Development Group - Education Partner

Grosvenor Community Centre is dedicated to raising aspiration levels with meaningful pathways to achieve goals. In the period the organisation has forged more practical links with local primary and post primary providers. This has included a representative role on the board of governors of one local primary school, engagement on the board of community sports providers and undertaking the chair role on the Afterschool Providers Forum as well as a continued role on the Afterschool Forum . More so than this the organisation has worked towards real programming with tangible outcomes which can be measured across sites.

### Roden Street Playgroup

Roden Street Playgroup accommodates up to 24 children from the disadvantaged Falls ward area.

The service is exceptionally high quality, receiving excellent inspection reports. The service is ordinarily multi-cultural in nature enabling children to develop high levels of cross cultural interaction from a young age. The service also operates the Media Initiative Scheme. Roden Street Playgroup places a strong focus on engagement of parents and as such is accompanied by a Parental Sub Group.





### Grosvenor Out of School Hours Services

The Afterschool's accommodates 48 children each day and encompasses both social, fun, recreational and sporting activities and a homework club. The Afterschool's Service has initiated longer term development activities centred around, Community Safety, Nutrition and Education.



### Grosvenor Summer Programming

6-week packed schedule of area events, morning, afternoon and evening diversionary activities, youth outreach, onsite community sports and play development and excursions. The Summer programme altered age range boundaries in the period to enable P7 to join the night programme or stay in the day programme and to enable greater transition planning. The Summer programme also included an opportunity to provide local employment for young peer leaders enabling valuable on the job learning.



### Grosvenor Future Youth

Future Youth aimed to increase access to youth services in an interface area of disadvantage through additional and innovative inclusive youth provision. Programming will target young people and by association families facing *exclusion, isolation, poverty and barriers to learning and employment*. Future Youth encompassed *youth hours, late night opening, day support and non-term time provision*. We want to sustain a key focus of the yearly programme to be on realistic and relevant skill accreditation. As well as providing avenues for participation of the wider

community and intergenerational engagement of those facing negative community stereotyping. Future Youth has been nominated for the inspiration Youth of West and has enabled a working youth management committee who participated in area visioning, clear training pathways to employment, Friday night late night sessions, weekend support and awareness tailored to the contemporary needs of a young person today.

### Snapshot of the Year 2018/2019

- ✚ On site teaching and tutor support for afterschool and youth age children to compliment and reflect the curriculum.
- ✚ Changed operational hours to suit Family Needs.
- ✚ Held Grosvenor Summer School to engage children with QUB Planning in site analysis.
- ✚ Outside curriculum learning including excursions to sites which are studied in school.
- ✚ Needs analysis forms developed and shared across Grosvenor Community Centre and partner primary schools.
- ✚ Shared events for children and young people from the area with education and awareness as a key focus such as Wellbeing day.
- ✚ The volume of programming in 2018 attached to Early Intervention encompassed growth focused on assisting young people vulnerable to engagement in anti-community activity or negative lifestyle choices to be equipped with the confidence to make informed decisions and meaningful opportunities for aspiration. A snapshot of weekly activities in the period included Training, employment and on the job scheme with local employers, Friday night late night Soccer and Sport Fest, the Sunday 'Sesh' for support and volunteering programme in Summer led by young people.





- ✚ Teacher support on site – this programme helped to more fully coordinate and communicate the activities in community-based Afterschool's and youth provision with formal educational providers.
- ✚ Learning Through play, particularly in relation to Outdoor Play at the Grosvenor Community Garden and the 'World Around Us'.
- ✚ Learning outside of term time, particularly in relation to Summer off site programming with visits to compliment the curriculum.

**Volunteering & Vision Pathways** – The volunteering and placement programme in operation at Grosvenor Community Centre incorporates parents, young people and children. This is substantiated by a training and skill development programme.

## Ionad Uibh Eachach – Education Partner



### ***Timpeallacht Slán, Fáilteach, Foscailte - Safe, Welcoming, Open Environment***

The creation of a safe, caring child-centred environment is the key to quality provision through Irish. Ionad early year's provision supports parents and children in an area of need combining care and learning with language and cultural experiences at an early age. High quality early years immersion supports a child's development and learning and prepares them for their future education. Parents are partners on this journey with their children and Ionad provides specific programmes and resources for parents which we hope to extend and develop over the next year. There are significant waiting lists for childcare places.

### **Early Care & Education:**

- Gaelspraoi Irish immersion playgroup
- Surestart Programme for 2 Year Old's
- Summer scheme 60 + children
- Inclusion Targeted support respite places



### **Gaelchúram Quality Daycare through Irish - High quality, care & early learning**

- Open 8.00 - 6.00
- Dedicated baby & toddler units
- Wrap around preschool childcare
- Targeted support & respite places
- Flexible bookings – affordable prices
- Child-centred service
- Family environment/home cooking
- Highly skilled experienced staff



## Gaelchúram Uachtar Chluanaí - Quality Daycare through Irish

- New social economy daycare unit opened in Upper Springfield.
- Providing quality daycare & respite places through Irish for local parents
- Supported by Pathway Fund & social economy income - employment & training opportunities

## Cumann Iarscoile/After-School - Building children's confidence & self-esteem in partnership with parent

- Summer/school closure service
- Child-centred stimulating programme
- Respite for vulnerable children
- Children's Committee
- Community Clean ups and Park activities
- BCC Black Mountain trip & art project – workshops & display

### Art projects and displays include:

- Multicultural cooking,
- Chinese New Year/Diwali
- Friendship, disability & anti-racist themes
- Black Mountain trip
- Recycling & planting projects



## Oideachas do Dhaoine Fásta - Adult Education – partnership with QUB & Gaelchúrsaí 16 classes per week with 160 students weekly, beginners to GCSE and 'A' Level'

The Ionad Teanga & Cultúr / Language & Culture programme has continued to grow providing a wide range of affordable and flexible courses. Ionad is one of the largest providers of community language classes, accredited and non-accredited, with clear progression routes and support available. 60 students took exams, 20 people achieved between 'C' and 'A\*' grades in GCSE & 'AS' Level last year with 11 achieving A or A\* grades. This programme was delivered in partnership with QUB & Gaelchúrsaí and our dedicated team of tutors. Gaelchúrsaí also provided mandatory training through Irish including First Aid, Food Safety & Hygiene & NVQ Levels 2, 3 & CCLD to 20+ staff.



based Irish



### Adult education opportunities:

- New access courses supported a new wave of beginners in Ionad and Falls Library.
- Courses for Irish medium parents were run in Ionad and Gaelscoil an Lonnáin.
- Specialist courses for parents, senior citizens, Fáinne courses and grammar
- 'Irish for Parents' delivered twice a year for local parents
- All day crash courses twice a year, March/November, supporting over 100 students
- June: Féile 'Léargas' daytime and evening week long course, all levels
- August: Week long crash course in partnership with Féile an Phobail
- Yearlong Irish language programme aimed at children, 7-11, in English medium primary schools
- 'Summer Mondays' - daytime and evening provision over the summer

### Outreach Language work

- 'Spraoi' Irish course in St Claire's (100+ children)
- **Ceardlanna** - Cultural workshops on St Brigid's cross organised in 7 local schools (200+ children)
- 'Irish for Parents' 2 courses organised in Gaelscoil an Lonnáin and Ionad.

### Cultural & Language Festivals & Events

- **Culture Night** with JJ O Doherty, Gaelscoil na bhFal choir & Lynette Fay – celebrating Bliain na Gaeilge
- **Chinese New Year & St Brigid's workshops** - St Brigid's cross workshops in 7 local schools (200+ children)
- **Seachtain na Gaeilge Ceardlanna** – multicultural storytelling & céilí with local storyteller & Wilson Magwere
- 'Léargas' – **May summer festival** – walks, talks, classes & trips – 200 participants.
- 'Bí Dana' – August culture & language festival in partnership with West Belfast Festival



# Bí Dana -Bí Linn!



## Roden Street Community Development Group – Lead Health Partner

Meaningful impact on local families and communities must be relevant, engaging and outcome focused.... Grosvenor Community Centre is a space and place which provides a menu of services of a quality nature, designed to meet specific demand.

The stark fact remains that people who face disadvantage are more likely to have health challenges or a lower mortality age. In the modern-day world this situation is unacceptable. Grosvenor Community Centre is managed as a facility to meet community health needs, from 7-day week participation, community sports to long term outcome focused programming. The organisation attempts to achieve small gains each day, impacting on the individual, the group and later onto wider society.

### New in Year Growth.....

**Grosvenor Women's Wellness** extended operational hours to focus on small group work as well as wider circuit classes. GWW is now a firmly established fixture on the health scene of West Belfast. The programme includes physical health and movement as well as mindfulness and nutrition. This is

underpinned by social interaction, friendship formation and confidence generation in women who previously did not participate in any type of group activity.

**Fire Blades** strength continued to grow in year including extension of volleyball programming at Grosvenor Community Centre, including winning Team of the Year and engaging young girls in volleyball and physical activity. This sport, health and cultural programme has generated innovation in sporting participation for women, young girls and with the new men's initiative.



**Grosvenor Children's Health....** Due to popular demand the circuit programme, nutritional course and mindfulness were extended to the primary school age group. The sessions form part of a programme designed to help children embed healthy lifestyle choices as a natural mechanism of decision making. The programme focus is on positive self-image, confidence to succeed and the ability to make decisions under a longer term judgement. The programme operates in group, small group and 2 to 2 sessions, enabling for differing types of personalities.



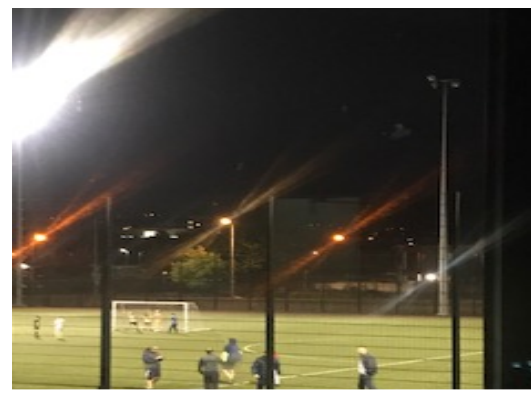
**Men's Health Programme:** In response to acute need the Health Officer implemented programmes for young men and adult males focused on mindfulness, resiliency, sharing and physical activity. The sessions operate a 1 to 1 or 1 to 2 basis and include mentoring hours, beneficiaries are those who have faced high levels of exclusion in some instances resulting in choices which had a major family impact. The programme has been applauded by the Parental Sub Group as having 'changed the lives of some families by helping dad to become dad again'.



**Dads League Finals**



**Plough Men**



**Summer Midnight Soccer**

## Snapshots of Year 2018 .....

- ✦ The Rising Stars and Pinoy Community Association enjoyed another year of events including sports, health, capacity and seasonal celebrations.
- ✦ The physical building benefitted from substantial investment in the period which has aided our capacity potential in terms of sporting events, level of competitive participation and variety of content.
- ✦ The 3g Playing field and targeting of internal facilities, enabled substantial growth in physical activity and sports engagement centred around extracurricular access to sports, competitive sports, school sports, training, youth engagement and area wide physical activity events.
- ✦ Grosvenor Women's Wellness continued to grow the weekly sessions. The service targets effectively those women/young women who have not participated in a sustained physical activity programming historically. The unique selling point of the service is the degree to which the programme corresponds to other projects on site enabling accessibility and willingness to participate.
- ✦ The organisation sustained 7-day week opening and facilitation of sports/youth teams.
- ✦ RSCDG continued in the period to facilitate physical activity provision at another site via ongoing operational support including payroll support.
- ✦ The organisation assisted 2 other groups and health related programmes to complete funding submissions for health programming in the Greater Falls area.
- ✦ Multi-cultural programming has been sustained in the period particularly related to basketball provision and volleyball, with an annual international sports event held in February and in August.
- ✦ Outcome focused health promotion through learning is embedded across projects related to nutritional, positive and healthy lifestyle choices and risk-taking behaviours.
- ✦ RSCDG were able in this period to work with a wider number of sports, youth and physical activity teams, minority ethnic community groups and individuals, particularly in relation to strategic development and increased engagement of women in physical activity. As such community sports, physical activity, cultural engagement health and well-being programming have increased at Grosvenor

Community Centre. The 3g Playing field enabled substantial growth in physical activity and sports engagement centred around extracurricular access to sports, competitive sports, school sports, training, youth engagement and area wide physical activity events.

- ✚ The organisation has successfully sustained and increased a massive Health Programme for the whole family unit.
- ✚ The gardening and environmental programme developed in year to facilitate additional groups, including winning a coveted award for Environmental Endeavour.
- ✚ Support increased internally of the Golden Girls, a group supporting those with hearing difficulties.
- ✚ Health programming across services increased in the period, including services for children and young people, such as Rowing for Life, Eating Well Nutritional Awareness and World Around Us – Understanding the environmental impact of food transportation.
- ✚ Non-traditional sports and physical activity provision increased in the year including rowing, street games, creative dance.
- ✚ RSCDG has engaged in a board capacity on a community sports provider organisation.
- ✚ RSCDG has facilitated local primary and post primary providers in facility and programme provision.



**Belle Black Summer Cup**

### **Redressing Access to Healthy Lifestyle Opportunities:**

Continued work towards redressing gender participation in sports in the period with support secured for 2 x partner organisations to run programmes, Fire Blades and Grosvenor Women. The sports and health landscape at Grosvenor Community Centre is divers ranging from Eastern European Ladies to Filipino young people and added to in the period with Sunday Syrian Soccer Support Group.

## The Number Crunching

School Sports Day

14 Facilitated in  
Year

Funding  
submissions for  
other Groups to  
grow = 18

Junior League  
Support 49 weeks  
per year Senior  
League Support  
49 weeks per  
year

Area Events for  
Health and Sports

30 Held in Year

Sporting and Physical  
Activity Types

Volleyball, Basketball,  
Football, Strength  
Training, Tennis, Boules,  
Dance, Yoga, Pilates

7 day week opening  
including Late Nights

Support for non-term  
time use for schools

Coaching provision

Health Programmes,  
Grosvenor Women's Wellness  
– 76 Women now engage in  
regularised physical activity,  
Children's Circuit and  
Wellbeing Programme – 48  
children engage in 3 x weekly  
sessions, 39 Young people  
engage in Youth Health  
Programme, 24 Adult Males  
engage in Health Mentor  
Programme....

## Blackie River Community Group - Health Partner



BRCG have worked with a variety of stakeholders over the past year to develop health initiatives, which are targeted at local people to identify their needs. We use this information to work with other agencies/organisations to put in place initiatives and programmes to promote health and well-being.

- We continue to work with young people throughout the last year to look at raising awareness of the issues of suicide and self-harm. This piece of work has resulted young people being more aware around coping mechanisms to deal with stress leading to poor mental health.
  - We have delivered a variety of older people's programmes which was aimed at combating social isolation. The programme is part of our 'Young at Hearts' group who use the centre regularly to discuss issues which affect them and to plan activities throughout the year.
- We work in partnership with Belfast Health and Social Care Trust (Social Services) to offer places within our childcare facility to families who need additional support.
  - Within our childcare setting we have a healthy eating policy which mean all the children receive food and snacks which are good for them and promote healthy living from an early age.

Blackie River Community Groups is the leading accountable body for **Beechmount Surestart**.

Surestart is a government initiative, which is a partnership between the local community, voluntary and statutory sectors. Surestart aims to provide support and guidance to families to ensure children can flourish at home during their early years. SureStart works with antenatal parents and families with children under the age of 4 years of age. The SureStart team plan for home and community visits, including many parenting and child centred programmes, which they deliver in the local area and in the Blackie centre on a weekly basis. These include Ante Natal classes, Baby Massage and Reflexology, Behaviour Management, Cook-It and Baby Play Programmes.





SureStart also provides respite day-care places on an 8-week rotational basis for up to 10 children at any one time.

We deliver a Sure Star Developmental Programme for 2 to 3 Years Olds that runs on a term time basis.

This programme provides high quality experiences of care and education for children between the ages of 2-3 years of age. We work in partnership with parents and relevant professionals to provide children with environments, which are safe, challenging, stimulating, and incorporate a holistic approach to learning. Our qualified, committed and enthusiastic Early Years Team apply the principals of early learning, identifying and building on children's strengths, interests and abilities. The approach invites children to be actively involved in play throughout the session. Staff have all received specific Programme for 2-Year Old training, which has specific aims and guidelines. This includes the fact that staff must attend relevant training and cluster groups throughout the year, and parents must attend one 'stay and play' session each month.

This year we have been running to full capacity, with 12 children attending throughout the year. Please see below a selected few photos of children enjoying the SureStart Developmental Programme for 2-3 Year Olds, please note how the programme focuses on using natural and real materials to help develop children's skills and interests:

- Blackie River Community Group representative sits on the Children and Young People Strategic Partnership and Belfast Outcomes Group to give a view from the community sector about the issues that children and young people are facing.
- We have supported direct delivery services for people with disabilities to support their clients who live in the local area.
- We have run a number of health days throughout the year to give local people better access to information and the support services that they require to develop their own self-care approaches.





## Divis Joint Development Committee – Health Partner

Seeking wherever possible to promote the values (and active input) of the local community infrastructure to health and social care developments across the Greater Falls area.

- Continue to support Maureen Sheehan Healthy Living Centre in their delivery of health programmes and sustainability for their initiatives. Additionally, a lot of time and effort in preparing a (successful) significant business case around social prescribing (i.e. non-medical alternatives for GP's to offer and delivered by local groups).



- As part of the Belfast Strategic Partnership outworking of their core thematic areas and overarching areas of interest.
- Through the West Belfast Partnership Board of behalf of the Neighbourhood Partnership and as chairperson of their health sub-group, implementing a strategic health approach, which envisages a local reflection of wider health strategies.

Through our core activities e.g.

### Divis Youth Project



Frank Gillen Centre

- Divis Youth Project we have provided a range of opportunities to highlight issues affecting the health of young people in this area.
- Our core Early Years and School Age programming
- Through our family support programme and through our contact and development work with a local Women's Group

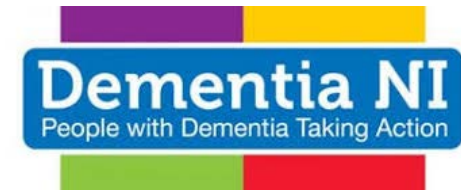
Programming this year included;

- Sports and physical activity programmes for younger people including with Immaculata Junior Football Teams (across 6 age bands)
- Healthy eating with our homework and study support groups
- Mental Health Awareness
- Increased use of the Arts e.g. dance, drama and creative arts (as a therapeutic approach to behavioural and anger management, stress and anxiety issues).
- Basketball development (with Peace Players and part of a broader Community Relations programme)
- Young people have continued their work on a 'Dementia Friendly' programme to raise awareness of the issues involved last year, they have now begun discussions on creating and **producing a 'dementia' information/ awareness dvd** and have been working getting ideas right for an application to Big Lottery's Awards for All grants programme.



**Support and discussions held with;**

- GP Federation regarding West Belfast multi-disciplinary team
- Maureen Sheehan Healthy Living Centre re: health needs of area
- Healthy Living Centre Alliance re: sustainability and effectiveness of HLC's
- Clan Mor Surestart regarding health needs of children and local families
- With the Immaculata Junior Football Club highlighting the health needs of young people.



Ionad Uibh Eachach – Health Partner



### Childcare & Respite support

Ionad Uíbh Eachach works in partnership with Beechmount Sure Start – Tús Maith Ard na bhFeá – to provide a Programme for 2 Year Old's for local families through the medium of Irish and also offers respite places funded by Beechmount Sure Start and Belfast Health & Social Care Trust Sponsored daycare project. These projects make a significant contribution to improving the health & wellbeing of the families who we work with.

### Health & Well Being Group

The Health & Well Being Group, funded by BBC Children in Need, meet every Tuesday and a crèche is provided. The group facilitated - undertook a range of activities including parenting skill classes, relaxation sessions, cooking on a budget arts & crafts, Ceili dancing and a range of other events. Mental health and the importance of the Take 5 approach was a key theme with relaxation sessions, and the opportunity to share experiences and get one to one helped. Parents benefited from the delivery of the Solihull Parenting Course, family trips and activities were also organised. **Health workshops** were also organized around Cancer awareness including Bronagh from Pretty in Pink, Belfast Breast Cancer charity with a Park Centre shop, gave a lively and informative talk to parents about the Breast Awareness 5-point code. Leaflets & information were made available in centre. Be cancer aware - support Pretty in Pink!

**Play Support** Ionad Home Visiting packages have supported parents & children provided to over 30 children in the last year, including children on the autism spectrum, in partnership with the Greater Falls Family Support Hub. Thanks to Fiona Lovely for her unstoppable energy & enthusiasm!



### SHINE– Parents Support Group for Children with Autism

SHINE gives support & training to local parents to address the social isolation of their children. Ionad welcomes the opportunity to support this dynamic group by providing childcare sessions and hosting peer support sessions. The group has a vibrant facebook page and a growing number of families have been able to access help & advice.

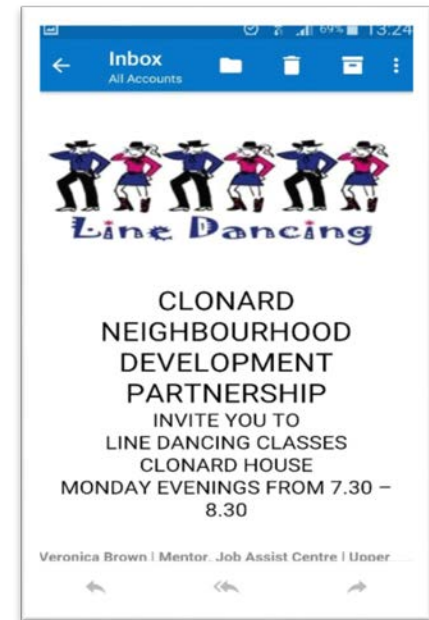
**Supporting our local foodbank** – staff and parents donated to our local foodbank at Christmas.

## Clonard Neighbourhood Development Partnership – Health Partner

- We organise an annual health day in the local community which brings together a range of health professionals such as Healthy Living Centre, Falls Leisure Centre, Falls Community Councils Drug Awareness Programme to offer information and advice to the local community.
- With Clonard Women’s Group we have organised a series of get active circuit programmes in Clonard House which aims to get people actively involved in fitness training again.
- We have organised Yoga Classes for the Women’s Group and weekly line dancing classes for the older members of the Women’s Group



- We organised a Health Day for young people in Mayo Link Mission Hall.
- We organised, managed and secured funding for the Lanark Way Women’s Fitness Group which does a fitness class two evenings per week.



## Neighbourhood Development Association – Health Partner



NDA is involved in a range of activity across all 5 GFNP thematic areas and for example in health we have supported and delivered the following;

- 90 people benefiting from healthy lifestyle projects
- 139 people accessing and engaged in new/improved health facilities because of direct referrals from our Project services.



## Roden Street Community Development Group – Social Environment Partner

### Focusing on People and Equal Roles...

Grosvenor Community Centre programmes and activities would be irrelevant without the support, participation and leadership provided by the people of the community. In particular, the families of this community have continued to represent a guiding light in terms of the organisation.

Grosvenor Community Centre can legitimately be described as 'vibrant' this is entirely due to the range, regularity, diversity and enthusiasm of individual beneficiaries and beneficiary groups.

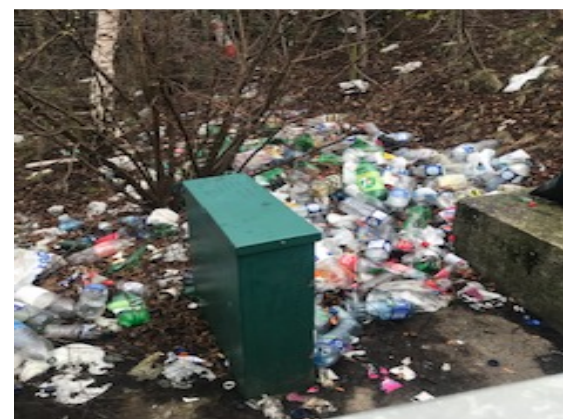
RSCDG is indebted to people for continuing to choose to play a role in community management and in sustaining a cohesive community infrastructure. This type of participation requires a willingness to want to come together and a vision as to where the area and its inhabitants could be in the next twenty years. Grosvenor Community Centre would like to thank the wider community and area for continuing to support, use and participate in services and activities at the facility. This area as a locality will thrive if we work together over the next 20 years with a common vision of empowerment and aspiration.

### ***Focus for 2019 - 2020***

***'Creating a vibrant place to live, work and visit where current and future generations have the confidence, skills and access to higher level goals, genuinely improving quality of life economically, socially, culturally and environmentally'***



**Before and after....  
What a little community effort can  
achieve**



## The How....

### Environmental Programming:

- ✚ Grosvenor Garden is fully embedded as part of the environmental landscape of the area and now houses a Men's Shed. Activities in the period helped to showcase the benefits of environmental programming, such as Hanging Basket planting and training, demonstrations as to planting and nature hunts for children aged 4 to 11 years.
- ✚ Gardening and environmental programme at Grosvenor Community Garden increased in the period enabling new beneficiaries and 1 x new group to engage in the centre and at the site and 14 additional beneficiaries engaged in horticultural programme Wednesday 12 noon to 2pm.
- ✚ Increase environmental awareness programmes across all core projects including recycling awareness.
- ✚ Plough Men's Shed wish to formally establish a unit on site for year-round training programmes in the form of a multipurpose developed 'man shed'.



**Our Garden Room Vision**

### Social and Cultural Growth:

- ✚ Grosvenor Community Centre has continued to represent an engaging direct facility related to good relations work, particularly engaging the Filipino community and Eastern European community through facilities, programmes and capacity support provision.
- ✚ Grosvenor Community Centre significantly increased the amount of surveying undertaken in the period both online, workshop focused and during events. This will be reflected in the December 2017 report to take the organisation through to the 2021.
- ✚ The organisation is committed to good relations at the local level and in the period has continued to facilitate and foster shared cultural working at the visible local level in a sustained year-round capacity. This activity has quite simply become part of the 'community infrastructure' and micro community which exists in Grosvenor Community Centre.

- ✦ RSCDG engaged in Building Successful Communities and Dunville Park Steering Group, Distillery Street Steering Group.
- ✦ RSCDG compiles and disseminates a Monthly Community news sheet to 450 dwellings in the immediate area outlining key area issues, community news, events, services, training opportunities and schedules.
- ✦ The organisation has significantly increased the number of surveys and data gathering methods in the period.
- ✦ The organisation partnered in a submission business case for renovation and improvement at two sites, this has culminated in a substantial improvement to the physical infrastructure at Grosvenor Community Centre, enabling capacity growth of teams in the area, continued diversity in usage and 'future proof'.



**Future Savers of the Planet at Grosvenor  
Environmental**



## Blackie River Community Group - Social Environment Partner



Blackie River Community Group has been working with residents and other community groups to create a better environment for the Greater Falls area.

### Community engagement

- We continue to work with Residents to help them develop and to build on their capacity.
  - We continue to work with Clonard boxing club to secure a safe parking place in a effort to relieve the parking stress in the area.
  - We continue to work with council and the Davits GAA club to complete their new facilities.
  - We continue to work with residents and St Mary's, to have the Beechmount Avenue wall project completed and new railings erected to improve the local environment.
- We continued to engage with residents about their needs and are reviewing our strategic plan to ensure we deliver for local people.
  - We have also responded to a variety of consultations with the support of local people around issues, which affect the Beechmount and Greater Falls Area. We have been working with Beechmount Residents Association and Davitt's GAA to tackle the issue of bonfires within the local community. We have engaged with local people to ascertain their views on bonfires and then we have reflected this to statutory agencies.
  - We have engaged with local young people in partnership with SIF – Youth Intervention Programme. This engagement was a way to find out the needs of the local young people and to challenge the behaviour which they are demonstrating within the area. This is an ongoing piece of work but has the potential to help young people achieve their full potential.



- We also work with Belfast City Council and NIHE around local people's needs such as bin collections, graffiti, block up houses and safety issues.

### **Older People's Programme**

We have worked with our Young at Hearts group to put in place a yearlong programme which was designed to tackle social isolation and to build the confidence of older people to make them feel safe within their area and to allow them to play a full and active role in community life. The group meets every Tuesday, and throughout the year they have many planned activities and visits.



## Divis Joint Development Committee – Social Environment Partner

DJDC through its member groups has facilitated or directly provided a range of programmes and measures to support the GFNP's social environment key issues and priorities including;

- Specific tailored programmes aimed at minimising negative behaviour in relation to the July 11<sup>th</sup> night and the run up to the August bonfire were also run over the whole GFNP area. DJDC through its very active member group the Divis Youth Project were part of a series of summer schemes organised collectively under the banner of the Falls Youth Providers, and in our early year's/ youth summer schemes directly within the Frank Gillen Centre.
- A Halloween Festival week, working in collaboration with Divis Community Centre and Falls Residents Association.
- A Christmas programme of events was compiled in partnership with Divis Community Centre and the Falls Residents Association including inter-generational activity.
- A dementia friendly dvd working in partnership with Dementia NI and Kids in Control was devised and compiled as part of a broad programme of awareness raising on the issue, this included and intergeneration event in Dunville Park.
- We ran Xmas dinners for service users and members in a stronger partnership development with Divis Community Centre and the Falls Residents Association.
- DJDC where directly involved in the planning of St Patrick's Day celebrations which were preceded by a range of workshops exploring cultural diversity involved the visual expression through artistic display of key themes.
- Ongoing programme of environmental awareness programme including community clean ups throughout the year and in conjunction with the Falls Residents Association and Belfast City Council.
- We have young people involved in a range of initiatives and activities including personal development programmes including anti-bullying, anti-car crime, drug/ alcohol awareness and good relations.



- Work with the Peace Players continues (a basketball based diversionary, good relations programme)
- We play a full role in the development and programme around the Falls Youth Providers and the FYP use the Frank Gillen Centre on a regular basis, DJDC continues to provide operational, strategic and administration support to the Falls Youth Providers wherever required.
- Our youth programming continues to be involved in activity which spans several communities.
- A volunteer group of young people continue to design, produce and distribute '**Cool Reads**' a youth magazine (each quarter) throughout the Falls area through Divis Youth Project.

We have a regular group of volunteers who work between an average of 4-10 hours per week on a variety of projects across children, young people and adult programmes.

## Ionad Uibh Eachach –Social Environment Partner

### Buaicphointí na Bliana - Highlights of the Year 'Léargas' & 'Bí Dána'

This year with funding from Belfast City Council Ionad was able to organize two festivals which included intensive language courses, talks, walks, music, trips, drama and a Céilí! Over 140 attended these festivals and events.



'Léargas' (Insight) in June gave a unique insight into the vitality of the language and culture in Belfast and included

- Dinner, keynote speech and an evening of music & céilí dancing ,
- Music and Storytelling Workshop with "Beirt Phóibairí, Beirt Scéalaithe"- "Two Pipers, Two Storytellers - Cormac "Buzz" Ó Briain agus Aodán "Jaff" Mac Séafraidh,
- Guided tour in search of the history, native Writers and Artists of Belfast city & bus trip to the Hill of The Ó Néill, Tullahoge, Crieve Lough and Ardboe with Dr Malachy Ó Néill
- Irish language intensive course at all levels, morning & evening



'Bí Dána' (Be Bold!) organized as part of Féile an Phobail in August celebrated Irish literature, language and culture with an intensive Irish course, talks on English language writers and Irish, music and dance workshops and a film show. Each language class looked at a piece of Irish literature and feedback was very positive. **Thanks to our fantastic team of tutors and all who participated in the festivals!**

### Lá na dTéidí & Bronnadh Gaelspraoi/Tús Maith –

#### Teddy Bear's Picnic and Gaelspraoi & Programme for 2-Year-Old Graduation

Children parents and staff enjoyed the fun day, sponsored walk and Teddy's Bears picnic in the sunshine in June 2018 accompanied as ever by Pudsey!! Children enjoyed the bouncy castle and walk before being presented with certificates for completing their pre-school programme preparing them for nursery. A fun time was had by all. 40 children graduated to move on to nursery provision.



**Go n-éirí an t-ádh leo! - Good luck to them all!**



**Parents as key partners - Ionad Parental Engagement** supported by BBC Children in Need & BHSCT

**Tachráin & Tuistí/Parent & Toddler:** sensory play, music & movement, arts and crafts, storytelling

**Gaelspraoi/Stay & Play:** Cookery, storytelling, arts/crafts & gardening. World Book Day: Parents & Children reading together

**Turasanna Teaghlaigh/Family Trips:** Ulster Museum & Carnfunnock

**Informing & involving** - Keeping parent's informed- curriculum handouts, regular report

**Tús Maith Ard na bhFeá/ Beechmount Sure Start activities** 'Stay and Play' workshops & trips, 'Song and Rhyme Time'

**Parenting programmes:** Solihull Parenting, First Aid, 'Food for the Soul', Art therapy, Baby Clinic, Makaton

**Family Support Programme** - Supported by BHSCT & Greater Falls Family Support Hub

**Health & Well Being Group** -relaxation, parenting support, Take 5 'Mental Health Project', Cancer Awareness & wellbeing workshops

**Advice and support** for parents and children facing additional challenges

**One to one play support & Home Visiting & Family support**

**Signposting** for benefits, employment & housing advice support.

**SHINE Autism group**

**Open Days & Family Events:**

At the beginning of the year an Open Day was held for parents with a fun day for children.

Employers for Childcare offered advice/support to parents re benefits, Childcare Vouchers and Working

Family Tax Credit

**Páirtíocht:** Ionad works with Fóram na nGael, Conradh na Gaeilge and Glór na nGael

**Lá Dearg** organised by parents, children & local residents around the Ceathrú Gaeltachta

**Environmental & Zero Waste Day** –gardening & zero waste in one fun day!



## Clonard Neighbourhood Development Partnership – Social Environment Partner



- We continue to work with Belfast City Council on the bonfire reduction programme which aims to reduce the number of potential bonfires over the August period. We have developed a full intervention programme targeting young people who would often become involved in building bonfires which often lead to ASB and criminal activity.
  - We continue to work with BCRC around interface issues in the local area and, through the Clonard Mid Shankill Initiative are building ever closer links with residents from the Greater Shankill.
  - We are involved in the E3 forum (SMAG) which involves BMC, PSNI, BCC, DOJ, elected representatives and community representatives from both the Clonard and Shankill areas which looks at interface issues along the Springfield Road.
- 
- We work with Springfield Residents Action Group on the issue of contentious parades along the Springfield Road which takes place every June and July. In recent years we have organised intervention programmes at times of heightened tension throughout the summer months which aim to offer young people an alternative to tension and violence.
  - We continue to develop a local community festival every August which aims to replace the issue of negative behaviour at this time of year
  - We continue to monitor any planning applications within the local community to ensure they fit with the character of the area and that there is no over development. As and when is required, we facilitate engagement meetings with local residents and the developers.
  - We continue to work with CRJI around ASB and criminal activity that takes place and we also engage with the PSNI when required on these issues.



## Neighbourhood Development Association – Social Environment Partner

### The NDA over the past year has had;

- 43 people/volunteers involved in advice service, physical development and/or environmental improvement projects during the year
- 128 people benefiting from projects to promote personal & social development
- 41 volunteers created/sustained

### Additionally we;

- Work with the NIHE, via the District & Area Community Housing Networks to gather information about proposed developments and redevelopments and schemes in the NRA;
- Held 2 community outreach information sessions to provide important information and advice on Welfare Reform changes and Universal Credit.
- Worked with 5 other community groups to help support their work and develop their capacity during 2018/19.





## Springfield Charitable Association (SCA Ltd.) – Social Environment Partner

### **Aims for 2019-2022**

#### **Utilise the ‘Youth Club for Older People’ centre to its fullest**

Aim 1: Build the capacity and allocate appropriate resources to senior management team to enable the maximisation of Cupar Street.

#### **Develop an Intergenerational Programme and source appropriate funding**

Aim 2: Identify new opportunities in exploring the benefits of creating an intergenerational centre of excellence within Cupar Street and subsequently resource appropriately. See programme summary enclosed

#### **Ensure Advice Provision is developed, and standards of excellence maintained**

Aim 3: Sustain the work of the Advice Services, ensuring that the service is resourced, and adequate support is allocated to enable it to continually meet all the sector requirements yet develops advice services for older people.

#### **Develop the ‘Tile Project’**

Aim 4: Resource the development of the SCA’s Tile Project. See programme summary enclosed.

#### **Underpin all future programmes and projects within context of Organisational Strategy and visioning framework(s)**

Aim 5: Ensure that visioning framework is not a passive document but a dynamic attempt to manage change within the organisation

#### **Develop Cupar Street as an example of Best Practice in the provision of Older People Services**

Aim 6: Resource the development of a wider community development programme focussing on Older People’s Services. An antecedent of the Triage Programme. Bringing outreach into Cupar Street.



## Manage Human Resources

Aim 7: Ensure SCA has staff and appropriate personnel required to achieve its aims and objectives and they are effectively supported and managed.

Aim 8: Reward staff and place appropriate industry standard salaries commensurate with their positions and experience

Aim 9: Ensure that SCA allocates appropriate resources in an effective and efficient manner to fulfil its aims

## Creation of a number of Social Enterprises

Aim 10: Created a Hydrotherapy Social Enterprise

Aim 11: Create an Extra Care Social Enterprise

Aim 12: Lease rentable space and maximise the possible return

Aim 13: Replenish assets that were liquidated to address long-term sustainability

Aim 14: Develop all Social Enterprises to maximise return on investment

## Promote good governance and sustainability

Aim 15: Ensure SCA demonstrates best practice in its governance.

Aim 16: Close loss-making projects and ensure financial accountability becomes a mainstay within every project



Aim 17: Liquidate in the short-term suitable assets to provide a financial buffer for SCA to achieve its aims

### **Recruit and select Board Members**

Aim 18: Support the development of the organisation by recruiting Board Members into SCA in a more professional and strategic manner

Aim 19: Increase Lobbying on Older People's issues to ensure that SCA are connected into the wider policy framework in west Belfast.

### **Maximise the Marketing Potential of Cupar Street and its constituent parts**

Aim 20: Develop a robust Marketing Strategy that identifies appropriate media to maximise the impact that SCA currently has on the community, such as:

- Social Media Presence
- Professional Brochures highlighting the services SCA has on offer
- Social Return Monitoring
- Advertising through Healthcare Professionals



Ionad Uibh Eachach –

Lead Development & Regeneration Partner Partner



**Development & Regeneration in the Ceathrú Gaeltachta-** Last year saw significant investment in Irish Language community infrastructure in the Ceathrú Gaeltachta with a number of key developments moving forward - new Raidió Fáilte premises in Divis Street and building started on the new 'Nasc' building at the top of Broadway. Ionad sits on the Ceathrú Gaeltachta Board and works closely with both Irish language & community partners to positively promote the Irish language & culture as our common heritage.

**Developing & Sustaining IUE as a Centre of Excellence Fit for the Future.** Sustaining and improving services that are accessible and affordable for the local community depends on both grant and social economy income. While social economy income has risen steadily over the last 5 years this year saw a decrease in reserves. This reflected the impact of funding cuts at the same time as rising staff costs and Ionad investment in staff development.

**Gaelchúram – Social economy & economic development – supporting parents to access work & training opportunities quality daycare & early learning opportunities through Irish.** Gaelchúram, continued to grow, providing childcare for over 100 children daily thus supporting parents to access work & training. Gaelchúram & the school aged childcare service (school closures/holidays 60 children), despite a very difficult financial climate, generated enough income to help fund 40+ posts, creating training & employment opportunities for young Irish speakers in the Gaeltacht quarter. Ionad attended local employment fairs and hosted visits from St Marys College and local secondary schools including Coláiste Feirste. **Gaelchúram Uachtar Chluanaí: new employment & training opportunities** – an Irish Language Childcare Service in the Upper Springfield area has been sustained employing 5 members of staff and supporting over 30 local children. It was officially opened in June 2018 by the Chief Executive of Foras na Gaeilge.

**Expansion of Family Support Services:** Ionad provides family support & parental engagement services with project grants. Despite not accessing funding for a dedicated worker programmes have continued successfully. Thanks to Judith and Fiona Lovely (Play Support Worker) for their enthusiasm and hard work.

**Quality Development:** Maintaining quality provision requires constant review, reflection and improvement & Early Years Management continue to develop quality systems for childcare & education services. Ionad is now working on quality assurance for the whole organisation through ISO, which has been facilitated by the Falls Partnership Initiative and the Ashton Centre.

**Working in partnership** – strong local partnership is the key to effective development & regeneration.



Ní neart go cur le chéile – unity is strength



## Roden Street Community Development Group – Development Regeneration Partner

### Physical Regeneration:

- ✚ It is time for Grosvenor Road to reach its full potential we will lobby for LED lighting, paving and regeneration linked to the Transport hub.
- ✚ Grosvenor Community Centre worked in partnership with GFNP related to Building Successful Communities including in Belfast Bikes, arterial routes clean up.
- ✚ RSCDG is lobbying for Distillery Street to be considered for SUDS programme with associated improvements.
- ✚ The organisation is working with Social Housing Providers around repairs and maintenance priorities.
- ✚ Grosvenor Community Centre lobbied for new parking measures in and around Grosvenor estate including double yellows at Distillery Street top end and down Genoa Street into Grosvenor Community Centre.
- ✚ Secured installation of new refuse provision at Grosvenor Road.
- ✚ Secured clean up from Highway Maintenance at Westlink/Grosvenor Road which is undertaken periodically.
- ✚ Installed new signage to represent the shared history of the area (BSC).
- ✚ Worked with NIHE in weed removal and related to area repairs.
- ✚ Housing support provided with NIHE related to tenancy.
- ✚ Submitted a response to Fundamental Review of Social Housing.



**Summer Togetherness**



- ✚ Submitted key findings as to social housing in West Belfast Drugs Report.
- ✚ Secured new art works internally at Grosvenor Community Centre.
- ✚ Developed plans for new sculpture garden in Grosvenor Community Garden.
- ✚ Working with Distillery Street Steering Committee related to vacant land at site A.
- ✚ Networked with South City to ensure Roden Street (Village and Grosvenor) participated in visioning for Distillery Street.
- ✚ Periodic clean ups of Grosvenor Community Complex.

**Upcoming challenges – Road safety in the area**

Grosvenor Community Centre has continued to lobby for key needs in the area related to physical development, this work has included meeting statutory agencies and liaising with Belfast City Council and DFC.

The local demands are related to: Lighting (poor lighting on Grosvenor Road and a need for this to be renewed to LED), poor lighting in and around estates, paving in and around the area, parking issues, (due to high levels of student and commuter parking), home repairs and upgrades needs such as related to insulation/windows, the layout of the estate (alleys where responsibility is unassigned and results in excessive weeds/litter), anti-community activities in period included increased needle finds (not emanating from the area), and burnt out cars in both Roden and Distillery Street.

Through 2018 to 2019 RSCDG has played a key representative role related to lobbying for developments in and around Grosvenor estate, Grosvenor Road and into City Centre Belfast. Such activities included assistance in completion of a Feasibility Study for Distillery Street and surrounding sites and Roden Street with Building Successful Communities and participation as steering committee member on Belfast Transport Hub (Weavers Cross), a major new capital development to be located on Grosvenor Road and venue for Glengall street travel centre relocation. This work will be ongoing over the next five years and we hope to see the realisation of key organisational and community goals related to physical regeneration and social renewal benefits to compliment the development.



**Ensuring Local knowledge of the Changing City**

## **Transport Hub**

The organisation has hosted several consultation exercises in the period related to the Belfast Transport Hub, now known as Weavers Cross. This Translink Development is a flagship element in the Belfast City Council - Belfast City Centre Regeneration Strategy. The site will be located on Grosvenor Road and Sandy Row and will see the relocation of the existing Travel centre to new premises. The project will represent a major drive to decrease congestion in the City Centre and promote public transport. Grosvenor Community Centre have worked with the Transport Hub Steering Group in terms of consultative events, attendance at employment seminars and are currently planning to act as an Employment Academy site for stage 1 job opportunities in build terms and stage 2 job opportunities on site completion.

## **Physical Redevelopment in Grosvenor Road Community:**

Grosvenor Community Centre led two major clean ups, including skip provision and week removal in estate central. As of the now the organisation is lobbying for the Distillery Street site to be considered as part of the SUDS programme, helping water infrastructure in Belfast and improving the physical space with usability and physical appearance. This will be a long process but one which the community is behind. Grosvenor Community Centre is working towards improvements up to and including Grosvenor cross roads by demonstrating high footfall levels along the road as a key arterial route to the regional hospital and City Centre.

## **West Belfast Drugs Panel and Focus on Increased Needle Finds:**

Grosvenor Community Centre has engaged in the West Belfast Drugs Panel, a task and finish group established in September 2017 and launched on 27<sup>th</sup> October 2017. The group have undertaken extensive desk-based research accompanied by qualitative visit-based information gathering. This piece of codesign action research has begun to delve into an issue plaguing contemporary inner-city communities, particularly where high levels of deprivation are faced. The report has reviewed issues attached to prescription and



illegal drugs and will represent a starkly honest account of the contemporary challenges faced, opinions of statutory agencies and views of those who live and reside in West Belfast with some practical recommendations. Following on from the work of the Drugs Panel the organisation has highlighted an emerging crisis in the City which has spread into city surrounding communities. In 2018 the organisation found

extensive drug paraphernalia on Grosvenor Road and adjacent to playing field, including used syringes and associated debris. As such a key focus has been on monitoring the increase, sites, collection processes and the reviewing what the contextual change has been around this issue. This will be an objective into 2020 in avoidance of the problems felt in other quickly growing Cities.

### **Family Capacity and Development and Extended Extra Curricular Learning:**

In year Grosvenor Community Centre developed a proposal for a local primary school related to physical upgrades, has undertaken a shared programme with same school and cross community initiative, as well as agreeing a new forum specifically focused on SEN. This has included representation on a board of governor's primary school. The hub enables targeted support at various settings where it is most relevant and proven to be effectual.

### **Community Safety**

The landscape has changed across the community right across the Greater Falls, with clearly identifiable spike times for social safety problems, issues around prescription and dark web drugs and decisions made whilst under the influence of such items and an influx of needle use on the streets and needle finds but not emanating from the areas. Seasonal issues arose throughout the period related to Summer and new housing developments and theft of regional hospital property. RSCDG contacted the regional hospital around shared issues and is aiming to commence meetings as part of GFNP, the organisation undertook sustained summer programming for children, young people and parents. Community safety elements were included in all programmes, such as meeting with neighbourhood team, improved reporting structures and meeting with other youth outreach teams around needle finds, a report of key issues has been completed and an associated action plan for year 2020 – 2021.



## **Inclusion**

Grosvenor Community Centre is regarded as a welcoming inclusive and 'multi owned' space. The centre is home for Pinoy Community Association, Fire Blades Eastern European Women's Group, Syrian Sports Support and Rising Stars Filipino Youth Initiative and South Indian Community. Multi-cultural inclusion at Grosvenor Community Centre is simply part of the organisation ethos and operation. The organisation supports growth of initiatives, weekly operational provision, events and publicity capacity. In the year the Fire Blades Friday programme launched new sessions, engaging local young women and girls in volleyball and the Pinoy Dad's League supported Filipino dads working shift hours with weekday morning and Saturday sessions. However, the true value of such engagement resides in visibility. This is genuine and sustained multicultural activity at a local setting, this programming is now so embedded it is regarded as a cornerstone of what Grosvenor Community Centre 'is'. The programming is not viewed as something 'different' but a part of the fabric of work and people engaged at the site. In year programming was supplemented with events to showcase, integrate and link pathways.

## **Community Development:**

To state what makes a 'good' community is difficult, for RSCDG this equates to a community where people know one another, where there is a sense of support, a willingness to engage for the better of others, strong, skilled and confident participants. As such a handful of examples of how we work towards such goals are outlined for the relevant period:



***South Indian Festival of Flowers and Launch  
of Dads Filipino League***

Most Importantly Grosvenor  
Community Centre is Open  
and Welcoming.....

Community Development isn't  
a technical term it is about  
how people Treat One  
Another, how valued a person  
feels and how much they can  
influence THEIR LIVES

Snapshot: Active local walkarounds undertaken in year to outline problem areas, meet on the door, identify areas of improvement, request maps of responsibility and act locally - such as family led clean ups, visioning and neighbour support

Snapshot: A good community is a safe community, that means knowing where to turn to in the dead of night..... Grosvenor Community Centre contact numbers are diverted out of hours (after 10pm weeknights) to ring for anti social activity, area concerns or just a voice

Snapshot: RSCDG employed a team of local young people over the Summer and seasonal periods following onsite training, providing sound work experience and on the job temporary experience

Snapshot: Support was provided to new and emerging issues in the area, particularly related to environmental programming, including additional sessions, investment and participant drives

## Divis Joint Development Committee – Development & Regeneration Partner

Throughout the year we have represented the views of the Falls community at many events and facilitated discussion on a range of topics locally including with/ to:

- Cullingtree Meadows Supported Living Complex and the development of Dementia Friendly Communities throughout West Belfast.
- Supported partners SCA Ltd successful capital proposal for Lawther Buildings
- Tension reduction initiatives during the summer
- Completed an ISO 9001 quality management award
- Work with Healthy Living Centres across the region (including our local centre) around sustainability.
- Work with WBPB around strategic health planning
- Inputted to BCC's discussion around community planning
- Locality Planning discussions with Public Health Agency
- Belfast a Learning City (UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities and development of Learning City plan)
- Building Successful Communities key proposals for Westlink backpath, Ross Street flats demolition/ redevelopment, Maureen Sheehan Centre environment improvements and carpark
- Work with Falls Residents Association including the Housing Executives community cohesion unit
- Discussions with newly formed GP Federations about links with local community sector, development of the 'connected care hubs' and the future development of multi-disciplinary teams
- Transformation Implementation Group (Dept. Health) re: Healthy Living Centres and broader Community engagement
- Completion of a successful business plan for HLC's Social Prescribing business case (Big Lottery UK bid with 10 organisations in Scotland)
- Education support for young people with the West Belfast Partnership Board

- Ongoing development of the Belfast Transport Hub
- Suicide Prevention (involvement in Protect Life 2 discussions)
- Belfast HSC Trust (re: Connected Care Hub and Cullingtree Meadows 'Dementia Friendly' - Supported Living' Complex)
- Belfast Local Commissioning Group (population planning and public involvement)
- Belfast Strategic Partnership (health inequalities and lifelong learning)
- HSCB (re: Community Planning)
- GP Federations (connected care hub, community planning and community engagement)
- QUB Careers development
- Department for Communities and their Neighbourhood Renewal investments and reviews process.
- Clan Mor Surestart re: Business Planning

DJDC continue through a variety of fora have also been involved in a range of conversations about tendering and procurement possibilities which we hope will benefit local people in expanding the range of services on offer to the community but also continue to help shape the commissioning specifications, outcomes and design of future tenders including currently on family support, tackling health inequalities, healthy living and potentially areas based youth programming. This remains a significant challenge to community cohesion.

Much work has taken place around the core priorities of the GFNP and many of these issues have been raised there, day to day support takes place across the area with a range of smaller local organisations which do not have staff or physical resources, we have been working with many of these groups to determine their needs and develop appropriate responses and plans to help them.

DJDC continues through its base at the Frank Gillen Centre and through its active involvement in the Falls Partnership Initiative and its member groups dealing with early years, youth development and adult training initiatives provide practical support and mentoring daily across a range of issues from life skills to employment support.

DJDC provides practical and direct administrative support to the Falls Residents Association, Falls Youth Providers and Immaculata Junior Football Club'.

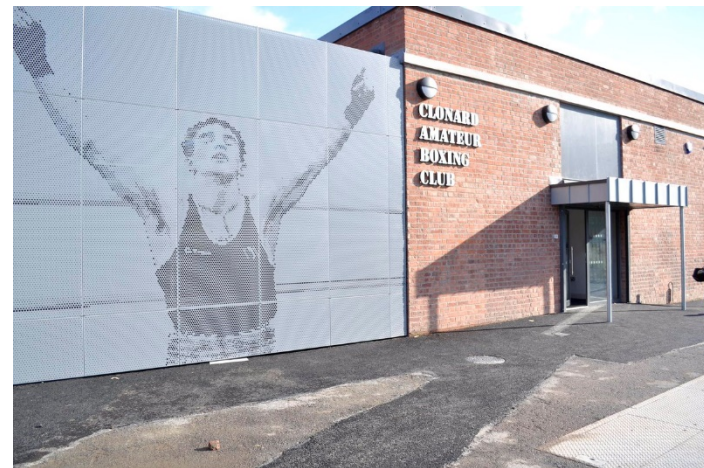
These meetings and levels of support all reflect key areas identified within the core strategic document of the Greater Falls Neighbourhood Partnership.

Through DfC support we have been able to secure, as a Partnership, support for 7 community development organisations across the Greater Falls.

## Clonard Neighbourhood Development Partnership – Development and Regeneration Partner



- We have secured funding through Belfast City Council for the development of a MUGA (Multi Use Games Area) beside the play park in Springfield Avenue.
- We are engaging with Belfast City Council around the Invest NI/Mackie's Site. BCC has already built a £11m Innovation Centre on this site and we are working with them to look at the community benefits for both the Springfield and Shankill areas and also the potential regenerative effects on the entire site.
- We worked with a number of local groups and support them to continue with their services including Clonard Boxing Club and Clonard Residents Association



## Springfield Charitable Association (SCA Ltd.) – Development Regeneration Partner



### New Cupar Street Development

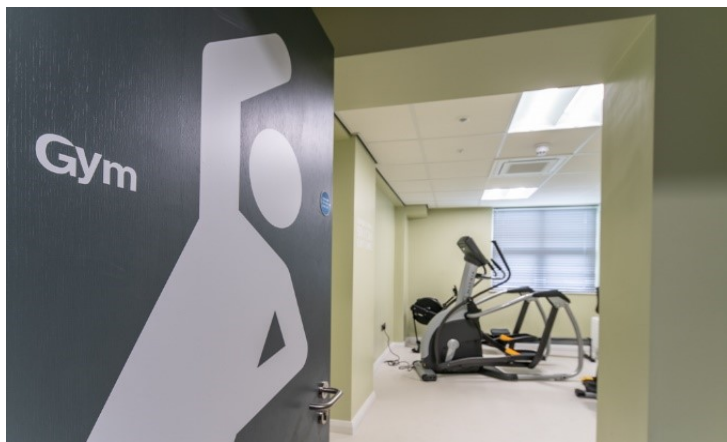
Completed in early 2019 West Belfast's 'Youth Club for Older People' represented a massive £1.6 million investment.

Simply put, this would not have been achieved with the assistance of our funders, the community workers who helped us and the support from our older people. Specifically, I wish to thank our funders: Space and Place, Department for Communities, The Alpha Programme and the Wolfson Foundation

These new premises, present our future vision of older people's care, called a '**Youth Club for Older People**' our ambition is to change the conversation from reactive care to a more preventative method of care.

This Youth Club for Older People addresses a significant problem that as we get older, we face namely loneliness and social isolation and by bringing people together to work in a collegiate manner to share information, memories, heritage and histories and become involved in hobbies and physical activities, can only result in improved health and wellbeing. This centre also highlights the importance of the other social determinants which decide health and wellbeing and cannot be delivered by the illness service on which we depend. The emphasis on communities and society as a whole is an effective tool in health promotion and disease prevention. SCA has also established a number of social enterprises to contribute towards the aspiration of full cost recovery: a second-hand shop, a hydrotherapy pool and conference facilities.





**What the new centre looks like**



## ACHIEVEMENTS OF NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL FUNDING IN 2017/18 YEAR

### Community Development

Project	Target	Total
<b>Ionad Uibh Eachach Community Development</b>		
	ER 15 - No of FT posts safeguarded -30	<b>30</b>
	ER 4 - No of people receiving job specific training - 20	<b>20</b>
	ER 11 - No of social enterprises supported - 1	<b>1</b>
	ER 13 - No of new/existing childcare places supported to facilitate training and/or employment - 100	<b>100</b>
	CR 1 - No of people participating in community relations projects - 20	<b>20</b>
	CR 4 - No of people engaged/involved in unpaid voluntary work - 12	<b>13</b>
	CR 10 - No of people using existing community facilities - 150	<b>160</b>
	CR 16 - No of direct referrals to other support services -15	<b>18</b>
	SR (H) 1 - No of people benefitting from healthy lifestyle projects - 50	<b>51</b>
<b>Neighbourhood Development Association Community Development</b>		
	ER 15 - No of FT posts safeguarded - 1.8	<b>1.8</b>
	ER 4 - No of people receiving job specific training - 36	<b>37</b>
	CR 1 - No of people participating in community relations projects - 107	<b>110</b>
	CR 4 - No of people engaged/involved in unpaid voluntary work -42	<b>43</b>
	CR 7 - No of community/voluntary groups supported - 5	<b>5</b>
	CR 16 - No of direct referrals to other support services -114	<b>139</b>
	SR (H) 1 - No of people benefitting from healthy lifestyle projects -89	<b>90</b>
	PR (9) - No of projects improving community facilities - 4	<b>2</b>

## Health

Project	Target	Total
<b>Roden Street Community Development Group - Health</b>		
	SR (H) 1 - No of people benefitting from healthy lifestyle projects - 1535	<b>1551</b>
	SR (H) 3 - No of people accessing intervention /treatment services - 400	<b>402</b>
	SR (H) 10 - No of people using existing sports facilities - 2050	<b>2090</b>
<b>Blackie River Community Groups - Health</b>		
	SR (H) 1 - No of people benefitting from healthy lifestyle projects - 450	<b>450</b>
	SR (H) 10 - No of people using existing sports facilities - 100	<b>100</b>

## Education

Project	Target	Achieved
<b>Blackie River Community Groups - Education</b>		
	SR (Ed) 1 - No of childcare/nursery places created/safeguarded - 98	<b>98</b>
	SR (Ed) 7 - No of pupils whose attainment is measurably enhanced/improved - 22	<b>22</b>
	SR (Ed) 19 -No of pupils whose attainment is measurably enhanced/improved against baseline position- 40	<b>40</b>
<b>Ionad Uibh Eachach - Education</b>		
	SR (Ed) 1 - No of childcare/nursery places created/safeguarded - 100	<b>100</b>
	SR (Ed) 7 - No of pupils whose attainment is measurably enhanced/improved- 90	<b>90</b>
	SR (Ed) 19 -No of pupils whose attainment is measurably enhanced/improved against baseline position- 20	<b>20</b>
	SR (Ed) 27 - No of people engaged in parenting skills/development programmes - 50	<b>50</b>
	SR (Ed) 28 - No of people undertaking accredited courses and qualifications completed - 100	<b>100</b>
<b>Divis Joint Development Committee - Education</b>		
	SR (Ed) 7 - No of pupils whose attainment is measurably enhanced/improved - 32	<b>32</b>
	SR (Ed) 28 - No of people undertaking accredited courses and qualifications completed - 40	<b>40</b>

## Community Infrastructure

Project	Target	Total
<b>Divis Joint Development Committee - Community Infrastructure</b>		
	ER 15 - No of FT posts safeguarded - 3.5	<b>3.5</b>
	SR[C] 6 - No of young people benefitting from youth inclusion/diversionary projects - 27	<b>69</b>
	CR 4 - No of people engaged/involved in unpaid voluntary work - 7	<b>7</b>
	CR 7 - No of community/voluntary groups supported - 3	<b>3</b>
	Use of NR Action Plan at Partnership Meetings - 4	<b>4</b>
	To facilitate 10 NRP meetings per year and issue minutes of same to NRP at least 5 working days in advance of next scheduled meeting in the period - 10	<b>10</b>
	Establish (and develop existing) local partnerships within the Greater Falls Area	
	Engagement with NR Partnership and other local providers	
<b>Blackie River Community Groups - Community Infrastructure</b>		
	ER 15 - No of FT posts safeguarded - 5	<b>5</b>
	CR 4 - No of people engaged/involved in unpaid voluntary work - 4	<b>4</b>
	CR 7 - No of community/voluntary groups supported - 1	<b>1</b>

## Social Environment

Project	Target	Total
<b>Springfield Charitable Association - Social Environment</b>		
	CR 4 - No of people engaged/involved in unpaid voluntary work - 20	<b>24</b>
	CR 12 - No of enquiries and clients by category - 1500	<b>1532</b>
<b>Clonard Neighbourhood Development Partnership - Social Environment</b>		
	CR 4 - No of people engaged/involved in unpaid voluntary work - 42	<b>15</b>
	CR 12 - No of enquiries and clients by category - 400	<b>100</b>
	SR [C] 3 - No of people participating/attending community safety initiatives - 60	<b>15</b>

## Greater Falls Neighbourhood Partnership 2018/2019 Expenditure (by Strategic Objective)

The following table details current projects funded via the Neighbourhood Renewal Investment fund. It also details the 2017/18 individual spend for each project, the total amount of expenditure by strategic objective and the overall 2017/2018 total expenditure in the Greater Falls Neighbourhood Renewal Area.

Programme/Project	CFF Funding Period	CFF Funding Amount (Project allocation)	15/16 Spend (as at 31/03/18)
<b>SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT</b>			
Social Environment Theme	01/04/18- 31/03/19	£72,197.69	£70,841.33
<b>Total Social Environment Expenditure</b>		<b>£72,197.69</b>	<b>£70,841.33</b>
<b>COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT &amp; REGENERATION</b>			
Community Development & Regeneration Theme	01/04/18- 31/03/19	£85,867.40	£85,646.46
<b>Total Community Development &amp; Regeneration Expenditure</b>		<b>£85,867.40</b>	<b>£85,646.46</b>

<b>COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE</b>			
Community Infrastructure Theme	01/04/18- 31/03/19	£127,175.97	£129,173.37
<b>Total Community Development &amp; Regeneration Expenditure</b>		<b>£129,175.97</b>	<b>£129,173.37</b>
<b>EDUCATION</b>			
Education Theme	01/04/18- 31/03/19	£105,886.62	£102,620.63
<b>Total Education Expenditure</b>		<b>£105,886.62</b>	<b>£102,620.63</b>
<b>HEALTH</b>			
Health Theme	01/04/18- 31/03/19	£99,903.84	£99,902.18
<b>Total Education Expenditure</b>		<b>£99,903.84</b>	<b>£99,902.18</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>£493,031.52</b>	<b>£488,183.97</b>

## Greater Falls Neighbourhood Partnership

In the 2018/19 financial year, Greater Falls Neighbourhood Partnership total overall spend was **£493,031.52\***.

**\*This does not include services delivered on a west Belfast wide basis and across the Greater Belfast area. These services received £1,199,449.87 in 2018/19 from Neighbourhood Renewal funding.**

This was paid out to projects operating under the following themes;

Education, Health, Community Development & Economic Regeneration, Social Renewal, Disability Services and Good Morning Services



**For further information regarding the Greater Falls Neighbourhood Partnership please contact:**

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