Corporate Plan 2020 - 24

2023 – 24 Delivery Plan

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Belfast City Council

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fast City Council Corporate Plan 2019-202

Introduction

Following the local government elections in May 2019, Councillors and officers worked collectively to develop a new ambitious 2020-24 Corporate Plan. This Annual Delivery Plan 2023-24 sets out the areas of focus this year that steers the city towards reaching its long-term outcomes articulated through the Belfast Agenda. The plan is structured as follows:

- Our services
- Inclusive economic recovery
- Community recovery
- Environmental recovery
- Strategic planning frameworks; and
- Organisational foundations.

Our Services

Key 2023/24 deliverables for each priority Each priority within the corporate plan has been planned and resourced with in-year milestones to assure delivery is on track.	
Strategic Priority Frontline service delivery	Deliverables (in-year)Delivering high quality and responsive services to residents across Belfast is the heart of what we do. Throughout 2023-24 we will work to enhance our delivery across a range of areas. Focused attention will be given to:Resources & Fleet technology procurementDevelopment of specification for replacement system for City Services (regulatory services).Reviewing recommendations from the new Digital Strategy around the approach to Service Design and system implementations.Continuing to provide high quality responsive services across the city in relation to Open Spaces, Street Cleansing, Waste Collection, City Services, Community & Neighbourhood Services.Continuing to support our communities to recover from Covid, and now the impact of the ongoing Cost of Living Crisis through the provision of funding and community support, education, and awareness programmes.Continuing to provide support to our Community Voluntary Sector and progress our pilot Community Infrastructure programme.Updating the Planning Service Improvement Plan including a review of PAD/PPA processes and charges and S76 and Enforcement
	 Finalising the implementation of the replacement Building Control IT system, integration with other BCC systems and 'go live.' Continuing to embed the revised Dual Language Street Sign policy. Continuing to ensure new IT system aligns with Customer Hub and customer team requirements including engagement with
	Customer consultant to ensure linkages with corporate approach.

Port Health	In 2023-24 we will:
Senior Responsible Officer:	 Continue to work with key partners including DAERA, DEFRA and FSA to finalise planning for new Point of Entry inspection facility
Siobhan Toland	at Belfast port.
Reporting Committee:	 Assess the impact on Council services of any new Windsor Framework requirements due to come into effect from 1st October 2023 and prepare for implementation.
SP&R Committee	
SF & Committee	 Advocate the need for a more secure and sustainable resourcing model (finances and staff) for the longer term. Continue to deliver Dort Health convices for imported feed, infectious disease control and sublic health relating to use the deliver.
Board:	 Continue to deliver Port Health services for imported food, infectious disease control and public health relating to vessels and premises within Belfast Port.
Port Health Board	premises within Benast Port.
The circular economy and	In 2023-24 we will:
urban waste	 Complete a procurement exercise and operationalize solution for waste collections.
	 Bring revised options paper on Kerbside Recycling through Council Governance for consideration / approval.
Senior Responsible Officer:	 Glass collection provision to be considered in estimating process for 2023/24 budgets.
Cathy Matthews	 Pilot on 'reuse of paint' to be considered.
	 Ongoing exploration to seek opportunities to fund the conversion of the fleet to alternative non fossil fuels (electric).
Reporting Committee:	
People & Communities	
Committee	
Board:	
Waste Board	

Inclusive Economic Recovery

Key 2023/24 deliverables for each priority

Strategic Priority	Deliverables (in year)
Belfast Region City Deal	In 2023-24 we will:
Senior Responsible Officer: Damien Martin/ Sharon McNicholl	 Implement the Phase 3 Governance & Assurance Framework Work with government departments to implement actions arising from City / Growth Deals Stocktake Oversee Business case development and approval Agree Contracts for Funding and Funding Agreements for projects with business case approval
Reporting Committee: SP&R Committee	 Formally monitor and report on projects as per Contracts for Funding Produce an Annual Report and partake in the first Annual Conversation Deliver the Accountable Body role in receiving and distributing funding
Board: BRCD Board	 Develop and implement a Strategic Communications and Engagement Plan Develop approach to Benefits Realisation for the BRCD Complete BRCD Skills Assessments
	 Complete a BRCD programme level Gateway Review Oversee further development of proposals & capability under the Digital pillar Oversee BRCD project delivery
Cultural Strategy	In 2023-24 we will:
Senior Responsible Officer: John Greer	 Progress the 'A City Imagining Plan' and: Deliver year 4 of cultural multi-annual funding programme to deliver an annual programme of activities
Reporting Committee: City Growth & Regeneration Committee	 Provide grant support to organisations through 8 different grant streams Deliver a programme of sectoral development and strategic partnerships to develop the sector Develop a heritage audit and roadmap for development

Board:	 Progress cultural animations activities including Belfast Canvass, City as a Gallery, and city centre spaces.
P&E DMT	 Design and deliver wraparound support programmes including leading sector forums for festivals, visual arts and sustainability
	 Design launch and deliver a range of capacity building initiatives for the sector including initiatives designed to increase accessibility and cultural participation
	 Complete strategic review of artist studios and maker-spaces in Belfast and provide support to these organisations
	 Develop report on the impact of culture and cultural participation
	Implementation of "Music Matters" Music Strategy and:
	 Deliver the UNESCO City of Music actions
	 Deliver actions within the Music Strategy 4 strands:
	Theme 1: Place artists at the heart
	Theme 2: Nurture the Sector
	Theme 3: Ignite the IRL experience
	Theme 4: Unlock the unifying power of UN
	Belfast 2024 Year of Cultural Celebration for Belfast
	 To continue to develop and deliver this ambitious programme the Belfast 2024 team will:
	Launch and deliver the Governance Model
	Commission and contract Anchor Signature Partners
	 Finalise Open Call Design Contest and commission up to 30 local projects.
	Deliver Engagement Plan
	Develop and Deliver Evaluation Plan
	Support 10 Artists through the competitive bursary programme
Inclusive Growth Strategy	In 2023-24 we will:
	Embedding Inclusive Growth
Senior Responsible Officer:	
John Tully	 Develop a monitoring framework/approach for the delivery of the Inclusive Growth Strategy (aligned to the Belfast Agenda

Reporting Committee:	 Finalise the Inclusive Growth Toolkit and identify capacity building needs
SP&R Committee	 Agree an Inclusive Growth Index to track and report progress at a city level
Board:	Belfast Business Promise
Social Policy Working Group	 Carry out the pilot phase of the Belfast Business Promise to refine the charter and delivery model
	 Develop the Belfast Business Promise Network, working with 20 Supporters in the pilot phase
	 Secure resources for the sustainable delivery of the Belfast Business Promise
	Align corporate social responsibility and inclusive growth
	 Develop a corporate social responsibility proposition for the city that will support our inclusive growth ambitions and help to alleviate the impacts of poverty
	Community Wealth Building
	 Refresh the Anchors Procurement & Commissioning Working Group to develop a collaborative action plan
	 Continue to progress and develop community wealth building pillars of work to deliver on inclusive growth
	<u>Poverty</u>
	 Work with city partners to explore the establishment of a Belfast Poverty Commission
	 Develop a support framework to help alleviate the impact of the cost-of-living and poverty within the city
	 Update the cost-of-living guide to sign-post people to advice and support services to help deal with the rising cost of living
	 Develop approaches to address food security in the city, encompassing the wider social and economic benefits
	 Lobby central government to accelerate the regional anti-poverty strategy
Social Policy	In 2023-24 we will:
Senior Responsible Officer:	 Carry out a review of the implementation of the Social Value Procurement Policy after one year's operation
John Tully	 Continue to oversee the creation of a robust and ambitious approach for the integration of social value through the Council's
Reporting Committee: SP&R Committee	procurement processes, with consideration given to financial affordability, legal implications and the maximisation of impact. The new policy seeks to implement social value considerations within our procurement processes
Board:	
Social Policy Working Group	

Future City Centre	In 2023-24 we will:
Programme and Belfast City Centre Regeneration &	Continue to progress the delivery of the Future City Centre Programme and priority areas under the Belfast City Centre Regeneration & Investment Strategy including:
Investment Strategy	 Partnership working and engagement with city stakeholders across the public, private and third sectors to include the Community Planning Partnership: City Development Board, Future City Centre Leadership Group, UU Community Campus Regeneration Forum the High Street Task Force and relevant developer led for a
Senior Responsible Officer: Cathy Reynolds Reporting Committee: SP&R Committee	 Oversee the delivery of the Future City Centre (FCC) Programme six pillars: Regeneration and connectivity - including City centre living, Bolder Vision; maximising major developments reimagining public realm connectivity and active travel; tactical regeneration etc and continue to deliver physical regeneration and environmental improvements e.g. the Entries Programme, Cathedral Gardens redevelopment and others. Progress the city centre Vacant to Vibrant Capital Grant pilot to address vacancies
Board: City Centre Taskforce	 Business and Investment City Centre Vibrancy Position the city to compete
	 Digital & Innovation; and Clean, green, inclusive and safe Undertake a refresh of the overall FCC programme based on ongoing work across the pillars to ensure that the programme takes account of changing local and global situations. Considering the vision, objectives of the programme and pillars,
	 Belfast City Centre Regeneration & Investment Strategy (BCCRIS) Continue to progress (with partners) projects and interventions identified within BCCRIS and undertake a review of the
	 Regeneration Projects Lead the Joint Regeneration Group and prioritise and co-delivery partners key regeneration initiatives Strategic input, as appropriate, into private and public sector developments via Regeneration Project Reference Groups Delivery of the 'Tactical Regeneration Programme' including Grey to Green, Active Travel Enablers, 5C's Revitalisation Programme and Entries Phase 2 programme.

	 Lead the Community Planning Partnership and City Development Board on the identified priorities of housing led regeneration; connectivity, active and sustainable travel; Future City Centre; and City-wide regeneration & investment. Continue to develop the Cathedral Gardens physical project by creating a multi-use civic space in the city centre and Deliver Phase 2 of the Belfast Entries project comprising environmental enhancements in the city centre. <u>Developer Contributions</u> Monitor and analyse valid planning applications to bring forward projects and infrastructure proposals utilising developer contributions.
Increase tourism spend	In 2023-24 we will:
through sustainable tourism products	Delivery year 2 of the 10-year Tourism recovery plan "Make Yourself at Home" including:
Senior Responsible Officer: John Greer	 Experience Belfast Neighbourhood Tourism Investment Programme Developing Council Assets Accessible Tourism
Reporting Committee:	 Food Tourism
City Growth & Regeneration	 Visitor Pass
Committee	Research and development Audit of Visitor Signage, Wayfinding, Street Dressing
Board:	 Develop a prioritised plan for enhancing the visitor experience
P&E DMT	 Positioning Belfast Business Tourism - Conference Subvention. Positioning of Belfast in national and international Markets and Gateway role of Belfast for Visitors with partners. Strategic Oversight / Implementation Group. Encouraging Sustainable Tourism Global Destination Sustainability Index & Actions for Sustainable Tourism work including certification. Working with the supply chain to incentivise change programmes, raise awareness and pilot projects. Encouraging Sustainability Index & Actions for Sustainable Tourism work including certification. Global Destination Sustainability Index & Actions for Sustainable Tourism work including certification. Working with the supply chain to incentivise change programmes, raise awareness and pilot projects.

	Delivering the Annual Events programme
	 Building on the developmental work which started with Christmas 2021/2022 & St Patrick's 2022.
	 Maritime / Made in Belfast
	 Lord Mayors Day
	 International Events - working with partners to plan & develop bids.
	Small Grants
	 Continuing to provide grants for community-based sporting events.
Encourage business start-ups	In 2023-24 we will:
& support indigenous	Describe (Charting a Desire of any issue have
business growth	Provide 'Starting a Business' services by:
	 Delivering the 'Go For It' programme to support new businesses, social enterprises and cooperatives across the city then; bit of the subscription of the support new businesses, social enterprises and cooperatives across the city then;
	• Working with the other councils to lead the new £12m regional Entrepreneurship Support Service (ESS) in September 2023.
Senior Responsible Officer:	Support social enterprises and co-operatives by:
John Greer	 Finalising the refresh of our social economy action plan based on research and engagement with sector partners such as
	SENI, Cooperative Alternatives and Trademark.
Reporting Committee:	
City Growth & Regeneration	 Introducing a new financial incentive (with Community Finance Ireland CFI) to improve the financial management skills of
Committee	new and growing social enterprises.
Board:	 Provide a range of additional support interventions including mentoring, workshops and event.
P&E DMT	Provide 'Growing a Business' services by:
	 Using the previously mentioned new Entrepreneurship Support Service to also help existing businesses.
	 Pending the introduction of the new service, continuing to provide mentoring and guidance support to Belfast based businesses.
	 Delivering a series of workshops and events on issues such as Website and SEO basics, E-commerce essentials, Sales and Marketing, Investment Readiness, Writing a Winning bid, Strategy and Business Planning and Introduction to Innovation.
	 Providing a range of support services to advice small businesses on critical issues such as environmental sustainability and cyber awareness.
	 Working with InterTrade Ireland and Invest NI to increase the number of businesses engaging in export activity.

	Scaling Support and Innovation by:
	 Focusing on the priority sectors as identified in the Economic Strategy (Fintech and Financia Services, Creative and Digital,
	Life and Health Sciences, and Advanced Manufacturing, and opportunities through green transition and a drive for more sustainable investment).
	 Working with the City Innovation Team to build capacity among local businesses, with a particular focus on helping them to
	access challenge funds and alternative funding sources, including those coming from the Belfast Region City Deal.
	 Supporting delivery of City Deal by driving diffusion with a range of key partners including Digital Catapult, Ulster University,
	Queen's University, Catalyst and Invest NI to increase the number of innovation driven enterprises and scaling businesses.
Promote and market the city	In 2023-24 we will:
internationally	Position the City to Compete, by:
	 Playing a lead role in the Renewed Ambition Programme public/private partnership, participating in a programme of events,
Senior Responsible Officer:	active engagement and advocacy to promote inclusive real estate development and investment and addressing barriers to
Cathy Reynolds	investment.
	 Facilitating investment and development related visits aimed at positioning the city to compete and promote inclusive
Reporting Committee:	growth and development for the city.
City Growth & Regeneration	 Implementation of the Building Impact Report, which examines the role the built environment /real estate plays in delivering
Committee	Social, Economic and Environmental benefits to Belfast and the wider Belfast City Region, including the development of a
	targeted action plan.
Board:	 Collating and monitoring the City Development Tracker and market intelligence.
P&E DMT	 Maintaining and developing the Invest in Belfast website.
	 Ongoing management of the CRM system to manage the database of investment and development contacts.
Maximising international	In 2023-24 we will:
opportunities	
Senior Responsible Officer:	 Work with partners to maximise opportunities for Belfast in the areas of Foreign Direct Investment, Trade and Education.
John Greer	
Demosting Committees	
Reporting Committee:	
CG&R Committee	
Board: P&E DMT	

Belfast Dublin Economic	In 2023-24 we will:
Corridor Senior Responsible Officer: John Greer Reporting Committee: CG&R Committee	 Support the delivery of key interventions within the strategy and plan. Support the completion of the feasibility studies on innovation and circular economy that have been funded through the Shared Island Unit. Proactively explore and identify potential funding opportunities to support implementation
Board: P&E DMT	
City Development & Investment Senior Responsible Officer:	 In 2023-24 we will: Take forward the Regeneration Framework for the prioritised city project business cases to attract necessary investment to enable the delivery of the city's regeneration and development priorities.
Cathy Reynolds Reporting Committee:	 Take forward the recommendations within the Lobby paper seeking to secure Belfast's additional investment and funding to realise the city and Region's growth ambitions.
CG&R Committee	 Undertake a review and purpose of the City Centre Investment Fund to align with delivery of city development aspirations.
Board: P&E DMT City Regeneration and	 Continue to progress the Expression of Interest process to attract an institutional investor / development partner to bring forward investment at scale for the delivery of housing led placemaking regeneration, including the inclusion of identified Council property assets – "seed sites".
Development Programme	 Provide Council input and strategic direction to major regeneration and development projects.
Board CPP - City Development Board	 Continue to progress citywide strategic opportunities relating to the strategic use of BCC assets including housing led regeneration.
	 Progress the future use options for 2 Royal Avenue in line with objectives of the Future City Centre Programme. Promote the Sixth investment & development opportunity.
	 Management of the Regeneration Assets in line with the objectives of the City Centre Investment Fund.
	 Chair and drive forward the transitioning of the Ulster University Community Campus Regeneration Forum.
	 Take a civic lead on A Bolder Vision for Belfast aimed at a significant transformation of the city centre streets and places, including leading on supporting governance strands, identifying BCC led projects and scoping innovative funding mechanisms.

City Infrastructure	In 2023-24 we will:
Senior Responsible Officer: Cathy Reynolds Reporting Committee: CG&R Committee Board: City Regeneration and Development Programme Board	 Continue to champion the Council's preferred position for major infrastructure projects. Continue to represent Council and play a key role on city wide boards facilitating, enabling and influencing major infrastructure development and investment including: York Street Interchange Belfast Rapid Transit Phase 2 Belfast Streets Ahead; and Weaver's Cross
Belfast Hills and North Foreshore Senior Responsible Officer: C. Reynolds / S. Grimes Reporting Committee: CG&R Committee Board: City Regeneration and	 In 2023-24 we will: <u>Belfast Hills</u> Complete the development of a new Lion/Big Cat Enclosure at Belfast Zoo; Progress options for the existing Zoo site, Belfast Castle and the old Zoo site; and Continue work on the delivery plan associated with the Access to the Hills feasibility study. <u>North Foreshore</u> Continue to progress agreed developments on the North Foreshore site including the £45m major extension to the existing Film Studios working closely with Belfast Harbour Commission and the £180m leisure led development with Belfast Giants
Development Programme Board	 Park Leisure Limited ensuring that the regeneration opportunities from these projects are maximised for the city. Continue to explore other options for the remaining sites.
Access, Connectivity, Active and Sustainable Travel Senior Responsible Officer: Cathy Reynolds	 In 2023-24 we will: <u>Active Travel and Connectivity</u> Develop an overarching programme, including feasibility stages to coordinate our approach to access, active and sustainable travel and connectivity aligned to corporate priorities across policy, project delivery, programming and partnership working (including the Belfast Agenda City Development Board) and the Bolder Vision for Belfast, development of greenways, Access

Reporting Committee:	
CG&R Committee	A Bolder Vision for Belfast
	 Finalisation of strategy, SEA consultation and Action plan
Board:	• Focused work with partners in terms of mitigating the risk around alignment on the Vision for the Civic Spine within the
CRD Board	Client / Translink Team – outworking of the BMTP and Climate Risk Action Plan
	 Belfast Urban Greenway (BUG): Complete the BUG study, ensuring engagement with internal and external stakeholders to
	agree the next steps around feasibility and delivery.
	 Support the delivery / integration of the joint working approach with DfC/DfI for delivering key projects.
	 Identifying priority projects to bring to business case and identify funding opportunities including a focus on Embracing the
	River and connecting to the Civic Spine.
	 Work with delivery partners to develop and deliver Bolder Visions projects.
	Horizon Europe Urban Planning 2030
	Lead Horizon Europe UP2030 including research, training and policy development to create framework for a net zero district
	Waterfront Proposition – Belfast Waterfront Promenade
	 Progressing the Belfast Waterfront Promenade Proposition in conjunction with the Waterfront Task Group
	Belfast – Cork Harbour Cities
	 Support on the feasibility around a joint bid for investment with Cork City Council under the Shared Island fund focused on
	Waterfront area aligned to A Bolder Vision "Embrace the River"
	Sustainable Travel Initiatives
	 Continue to implement the various active travel projects currently underway and further pending award of funding
	Car Parking Strategy
	 Continue to monitor and review the implementation of the city centre Car Parking Strategy in conjunction with Dfl and other
	stakeholders.
	Access to the Hills/ Connectivity Programme
	 Access to the Hills – Develop a plan for enhanced access to the Hills including exploring the creation of further access points
	into the Hills and
	Continue to create a more connected city by using existing and new greenways, urban greenways and existing and enhanced
	green spaces connecting the North, South, East and West of the city as well as the city centre.

Educational	In 2023-24 we will:
underachievement	
	 Continue to deliver our GCSE support programme.
Senior Responsible Officer:	 Deliver the Youth Support programme for those most at risk of disengaging from formal education.
John Greer	 Work with the Partnership Boards and the Education Inequalities sub-group to secure longer-term options to support young people and address educational underachievement challenges.
Reporting Committee:	
CG&R Committee	
Board:	
P&E DMT	
Access to employment	In 2023-24 we will:
	Deliver Employment academies in areas such as:
Senior Responsible Officer:	 Practical sectors such as logistics, construction, utilities, fibre.
John Greer	 Professional services such as administration, business and tech.
	 Care and education sectors including classroom assistants, health and social care, childcare and playwork.
Reporting Committee:	 Customer service sectors such as leisure and tourism.
CG&R Committee	
Board:	Improving demand side support by:
P&E DMT	 Working with public sector bodies and key employers in priority sectors to increase the use of academies to match jobs opportunities with people
Upskilling opportunities	In 2023-24 we will:
Senior Responsible Officer:	Dreament the Delfect Lebeur Merlet Derteenship (LMD)
John Greer	Progress the Belfast Labour Market Partnership (LMP)
	 Gateway to Choices to support 1200 individuals to move into training or employment.
Reporting Committee:	 Development work to be undertaken to progress the Labour Market Observatory.
CG&R Committee	 Extension of the Digital Badging initiative to an additional 20 organisations/employers.
Board: P&E DMT	 Bridges to Progression to support 180 young people engaging on Training for Success/Skills for Life & Work.

City Recovery, reopening the	In 2023-24 we will:
city and support for	
businesses	Revitalisation Fund: Physical interventions
	 Deliver the remaining projects under the DfC Covid Recovery Revitalisation Programme.
Senior Responsible Officer:	 Deliver ongoing support for the business and community sectors via projects under:
Cathy Reynolds	- the Sustaining Vibrant Business Destinations,
	- Vacant to Vibrant Pilot Capital Grant Scheme,
Reporting Committee:	- Future City Centre Programme,
CG&R Committee	- Belfast City Centre Regeneration and Investment Strategy
	- City Development and Investment, including facilitation of the City Recovery Stakeholder Group and
Board: P&E DMT	- Positioning the City for Investment
Support City Markets	In 2023-24 we will:
Senior Responsible Officer:	Enhance St George's Market by:
John Greer	 Undertaking a development and investment plan to support the sustainability of the market in the future – this will include
	additional activities such as Twilight Markets and externally-organised events in order to drive additional revenue to support
Reporting Committee	investment in new equipment and facilities. We will also invest in additional visitor insights in order to improve the customer
CG&R Committee	experience at the market.
Coak committee	
Board: P&E DMT	Deliver Continental Market by:
	 Supporting the delivery of the annual Christmas Continental Market at City Hall and will explore opportunities for additional
	markets, with a particular focus on alignment with other events and activities taking place in the city.
	Support external markets by:
	 Continuing to encourage and support other markets taking place across the city, particularly where these align with and
	support wider cultural, animation and tourism activity.
Belfast Stories	In 2023-24 we will:
	 Complete the abandonment of adopted alleyway at the site.
Senior Responsible Officer:	 Appointment of the professional services teams (Integrated Design Team (IDT), Interpretative Planning and Exhibition Design
Wendy Langham	Team (IPEDT) and Project Management and Design Assurance Team PMDAT).
	 Complete Belfast Stories Audit.
Reporting Committee:	

CG&R Committee	 Deliver Stories collection trial project.
	 Draft RIBA 2 design and commence RIBA 2 design consultation.
Board: BRCD Board	 Deliver 2023/24 Engagement and Communications Plan, including further stakeholder and community consultation.
	 Complete Consumer testing of RIBA 2 design proposals.
	 Draft OBC 2 / RIBA 2 agreed by BCC for approval.
Smart Belfast urban	In 2023-24 we will:
innovation programme	
Senior Responsible Officer:	 Launch the Augment the City immersive challenge competition which will provide over £550,000 to SMEs to develop innovation immersive technology prototypes to enhance major new visitor attractions.
Sharon McNicholl	 Launch a year-long immersive experience within the Belfast City Hall visitor exhibition that will contribute to the aims of Belfast 2024.
Reporting Committee: SP&R Committee	 Lead a local consortium to develop a £5 million funding bid to DSIT to establish a Belfast Region Wireless Innovation Hub for SMEs, industry and public bodies.
Board: CMT	 Deliver a £100,000 Hub-In Maritime Mile challenge competition for local creative digital SMEs to work with communities in the area to co-create innovative prototypes.
	 Contribute significantly to the design of the Innovation Challenge Fund within the Belfast Region City Deal
	 Design and deliver an inclusive innovation programme to maximise opportunities for local communities at Weaver's Cross.
	 Work with Ulster University to design and deliver a health innovation hub for communities and industry within the Belfast Smart District.

Community Recovery

Key 2023/24 deliverables for each priority

Strategic Priority	Deliverables (in year)
Good Relations	In 2023-24 we will:
Senior Responsible Officer: David Sales Reporting Committee:	 Continue to deliver our Good Relations Action plan through our Shared City Partnership. Continued delivery of the PEACE IV Local Action Plan: and Develop and agree organisational priorities under Peace Plus and through community planning partners identify city opportunities under the Peace Plus programme and opportunities for collaboration.
SP&R Committee	Peace IV
Board: Shared City Partnership	 Continue delivery of the Forth Meadow Community Greenway; and Continue acting as delivery partner for capital projects at Shankill Women's Centre and Blackmountain Shared space.
	 <u>PeacePlus</u> Development of PeacePlus Local Action Plan and commence implementation.
	 <u>Urban Villages initiative</u> Complete physical projects including and Colin Valley Football Club. Continue to work in partnership across C&NS and with Physical Programmes and The Executive Office, including leading project boards, for park redevelopment focused Urban Villages projects including Marrowbone Millennium Park, Ballysillan Playing Fields and Pitt Park. On completion and handover, take on the management and maintenance of Marrowbone Millennium Park.

Neighbourhood	In 2023-24 we will:
Regeneration	Neighbourhood Regeneration Fund
Senior Responsible Officer: David Sales / Sinead Grimes Reporting Committee: People & Communities Committee	 Implement the £10m Neighbourhood Regeneration Fund for capital projects under the themes of social economy, environmental sustainability, and neighbourhood tourism Continue to work with groups at 'Stage 2 – Development' to develop their projects; Work with groups selected to proceed to 'Stage 3 – Delivery' to commence implementation of their projects.
Board: Living Here Board	 Continue to work across C&NS with Physical Programmes Dept. on delivery of Alleygates programme. Complete the £17 million restoration and extension of Templemore Baths. Continue work on Leisure Phase 4 which covers those centres not currently included in the Leisure Transformation Programme. Continue implementation of Local Investment Fund and Belfast Investment Fund programmes in neighbourhoods across the city. Under PIP 2023-24, undertake refurbishment works at Loughside Park, Northlink and New Lodge playgrounds. Continue development of Urban Villages and Peace IV projects. Continue development of greenways across the city. Continue to implement Open Spaces and Streetscene vision and embed a culture of continuous improvement to improve and develop our parks, open spaces, and public realm across the city Development of the Belfast Open Spaces Strategy (BOSS) delivery plans subject to resources being put in place. Complete delivery of Entries Phase 2 including opening of Sugarhouse Entry.

Community capacity	In 2023-24 we will:
Senior Responsible Officer: David Sales	 Continue to provide funding support to our Community Voluntary Sector and progress our pilot Community Infrastructure programme.
Reporting Committee: People & Communities	 Continue to support the Police and Community Safety Partnership and District Partnerships as well as established community organisations to identify key issues and deliver programmes based on community needs; and
Committee Board: CNS DMT	 Continue to provide support to deliver community-based programmes and develop relationships with key stakeholders.
Leisure transformation	In 2023-24 we will:
	Leisure Phase 2b
Senior Responsible Officer:	 Complete the £17m restoration of Templemore Baths.
Sinead Grimes	Leisure Phase 3
Reporting Committee:	 Continue to progress plans for a new leisure facility at Girdwood in partnership with DfC.
SP&R Committee	Leisure Phase 4
	 Continue to work on the development Phase 4 of the Leisure Transformation Programme.
Board: Finance & Oversight Board	Sports development
Finance & Oversight Board	 Continue to deliver Boxing Strategy Action Plan and Stadia Community Benefits Initiative. (SRO David Sales)
	GLL/ Active Belfast Ltd
	• With the agreed dissolution of Active Belfast Ltd in 22/23, continue to report regularly to Committee on the performance of GLL in delivery of leisure services to Council as per the terms of their contract. (SRO David Sales)
Maximising housing	In 2023-24 we will:
development and	BCC Housing Led Regeneration Programme
regeneration opportunities	 Continue to bring forward regeneration, and development options for BCC assets in conjunction with wider public and private sectors, to include the ongoing strategic site assessment of BCC lands for regeneration purposes including housing.
Senior Responsible Officer: Cathy Reynolds	 Work with city wide partners to maximise residential development opportunities jointly working to overcome obstacles to increasing residential development including city centre living.
	 Identify and progress as appropriate potential external funding opportunities to help facilitate housing led regeneration schemes.

Reporting Committee:	
	Citywide strategic opportunities
City Growth & Regeneration Committee	 Continue to work through the Community Planning Partnership Housing Led Regeneration Group to collate public sector land data and undertaking an analysis of public sector lands utilising the LDP Urban Capacity Study and Housing Monitor to identify public sector land opportunities for housing.
Board: CPP City Development Board	 Progress next steps for development of each of the identified sites, including Member engagement planning and site appraisals, feasibility and progress development options as appropriate for identified BCC sites.
	 Continue working with relevant public and private sector bodies to identify wider potential housing development opportunities and identify and help unblock challenges to delivery via Housing Led Regeneration.
	Strategic City Centre Cluster Sites
	 Manage the Development Brief marketing and development process for the INW Northern Cluster
	• Continue to progress development options for each of the cluster sites (inc placemaking concept plans, planning etc) at:
	- INW (Southern)
	- Exchange St/Corporation Street
	- Ormeau Avenue
	- Dunbar
	- Gloucester Street; and
	- Ravenhill.
	 Progress next steps, following the launch of the EOI process for an Institutional investor / development partner, including potential delivery vehicle opportunities for the identified housing led and mixed-use regeneration sites.
	City Centre Living Vision
	 Alignment of finalised Vision with the implementation of the LDP, including next steps / recommendations / engagement / Outward document and comms.

Physical Programme	In 2023-24 we will:
Senior Responsible Officer:	 Continue to work on major projects including New Crematorium, Belfast Stories, North Foreshore, Council waste projects, the upgrade of Cathedral Gardens and the Strand Arts Centre.
Sinead Grimes Reporting Committee:	 Continue delivery of the Forth Meadow Community Greenway connecting North and West Belfast into the city centre, the Shankill Shared Women's centre and Black Mountain Shared Spaces project which are being funded under Peace IV;
SP&R Committee	 Continue planning for capital projects under Peace Plus including LGBTQIA+ Hub, Reconnected Belfast project at Waterworks and Alexandra Park, as well as submissions to the Local Action Plan.
Board: Finance & Oversight Board	 Continue implementation of the £10m Neighbourhood Regeneration Fund for capital projects under the themes of social economy, environmental sustainability, and neighbourhood tourism. This will include continuing to work with groups at 'Stage 2 – Development' to develop their projects and to work with groups selected to proceed to 'Stage 3 – Delivery' to commence delivery of their projects. Deliver new facilities under our £28m Belfast Investment Fund including completion of Marrowbone Park, Bredagh GAC, Greater
	 Shankill Community Council and further development of Phase 2 of the Lagan Gateway project. Continue delivery of capital projects under the £9.2m Local Investment Fund programme including Star Neighbourhood Centre, upgrades to St. Joseph's Church Sailortown, Holylands Area improvements, Cregagh Sports Club and Berlin Swifts FC.
	 Continue the delivery of capital projects under the £4m Social Outcomes Fund, supporting local tourism projects including the Roddy McCorley Heritage Museum and EastSide Visitor Centre.
	 Continue to deliver numerous projects on behalf of the other agencies.
	 Urban Villages Initiative which includes completion of major projects at Marrowbone Millennium Park and Pitt Park as well as work commencing on a number of projects including Ballysillan Playing Fields, Healthy Living Centre, and Coffee Culture.
	 Working with the Department for Communities to enhance existing physical projects.
	 Continue working with Dfl to deliver with the Living with Water Programme.
	Continue to liaise with external partners to explore additional funding opportunities which will support current programmes,
	 Continue development of the city hall grounds programme including new statues and stained-glass windows including the installation of statues celebrating the lives of Mary Ann McCracken and Winifred Carney.

Environmental Recovery

Key 2023/24 deliverables for each priority

Strategic Priority	Deliverables (in year)
BCC Climate Adaption &	In 2023-24 we will:
Mitigation	 Finalise the Climate Risk assessment and Climate Action Plan and develop a Climate Investment Framework.
Senior Responsible Officer:	 Agree a net zero target, including carbon budget and emissions reduction pathway, for Council.
John Tully / Debbie Caldwell Reporting Committee:	 Use the Climate Fund to support the delivery of the key priorities set out in the Climate Action Plan and costed in the Climate Investment Framework. Complete ongoing pilots from 2022-3 and close out in line with the operational framework with learning captured in the Completion reports.
Climate Committee	 Establish a Sustainable Procurement Working Group to agree and progress actions to reduce Council's supply chain emissions and develop a Sustainable Procurement Policy.
Board:	• Complete an Active Travel Staff Survey and agree next steps, working in partnership with the Active Travel Working Group.
Resilience & Sustainability	 Complete energy audits for four Council buildings that are large consumers of energy – City Hall, Cecil Ward, Adelaide and Duncrue to identify the most cost-effective interventions to reduce energy use.
	 Complete the feasibility study for Beechvale Farm and develop and agree next steps.
	 Scope a climate data platform with Digital Services to support embedding Climate Action Plan priorities and climate considerations across Council service areas with key metrics and KPIs identified to improve sustainability performance.
	 Continue engagement with DAERA via the Green growth Forum, workshops, and consultation process alongside a readiness assessment to ensure Council is adequately prepared for the forthcoming mandatory emission reporting for Council.
	 Complete the annual submission to the NI Benchmarking Survey.
	 Undertake a capacity needs assessment and develop and implement a capacity development plan alongside an internal Climate Communications Plan to enable the mainstreaming of climate considerations into every aspect of council.

City Wide Climate Adaption	In 2023-24 we will:
& Mitigation	
Soniar Despansible Officer	 Complete the Local Area Energy Plan (LAEP) as a framework intended to support investment to decarbonise the City with oversight from the Resilience and Sustainability Board.
Senior Responsible Officer: John Tully / Debbie Caldwell	 Deliver a feasibility study (with Phase 1 funding secured from Innovate UK) to tackle non-technical barriers to the uptake and scale out of the hydrogen economy in partnership with the Energy Systems Catapult, ICB, Catagen and Artemis technologies.
Reporting Committee: Climate Committee	Prepare a Phase 2 funding application for a £5m project. Continue to work with ICB on the concept of a Net Zero Park in the innovation District.
Board:	 Finalise and launch the Belfast EV Strategy, form a Belfast EV group, install at least 6 EV Chargers at BCC Leisure Centres for public use, and submit a bid to the ORCS fund for the installation of EV Chargers at 15 BCC car parks for public use.
Resilience & Sustainability Board	 Continue evidence gathering under the Retrofit Hub and develop a synthesis paper and a programme of work to catalyse retrofit activity across the city with support from Leeds University.
	 Continue to deliver the UP2030 Net Zero neighbourhood in the Linen Quarter with funding secured from Horizon Europe working closely with the City Development team. Complete an area baseline report, compile workshop reports and agree vision by Oct 23.
	 Continue to develop a circular economy project with Dublin using Phase 1 funding secured from the Shared Island development fund working closely with the Economy and Waste Depts. MCO will produce a Connected Circular Economy business case by September 23.
	 Deliver Solar PV report by Vu City and separate report from survey of Council buildings and continue to develop a Solar PV project working closely with the Physical Programmes Dept. Develop a phase 2 bid with Cork for solar PV on one building in Belfast, one in Cork (to be submitted July 23).
	 Conduct a feasibility study for a docklands regeneration project with Cork using Phase 1 funding secured from the Shared Island development fund (report by September 23) working closely with the City Development and regeneration Dept.
	• Complete a funding application through the Cork Community Climate Action Fund to be submitted July 23.
	 Conduct market engagement on the development of a heat network, develop and agree a delivery model in discussion with key stakeholders including Meridiam, UKIB and UKMBA) and continue engaging potential off-takers via the Resilience and
	Sustainability Board. Continue engaging UKIB, UKMBA and Meridiam in exploring new financial models for a heat network, the Net Zero Park, a 5G network and decarbonizing the BCC fleet.
	• Complete the scoping work with 5 other Councils on a NI Carbon Offset fund and agree next steps with partner councils.

	 Undertake a City-wide Climate Risks and Opportunities Assessment to identify the risks and opportunities posed by climate change to the end of this century and highlight areas where more action is needed in the next five years. This report will support the development of a climate plan for the city.
	 Continue delivering the 1MT project with tree planting, nursery development to increase tree supply in the city, tree planting 12 schools, woodland restoration and volunteer programmes across the city in partnership with the Woodlands Trust, TCV and the Belfast Hills Partnership. Secure funding for phase 2.
	 Through the UPSURGE project complete the construction of a demonstrator site testing different nature-based Solutions in partnership with Queens University, co-designed with local stakeholders.
	 Establish the governance structures for the Belfast Sustainable Food Partnership, complete the renewal of the SFP Bronze Award and strengthen policy around sustainable and commence the development of a sustainable food strategy.
	 Complete annual submission to the Carbon Disclosure Project and input into Visit Belfast submission to the GDS Index
	 Develop an Annual Review of projects being delivered under the Resilience and Sustainability Board to support delivery of the Resilience Strategy.
Improve urban air quality	In 2023-24 we will:
Senior Responsible Officer:	 Manage the Belfast City Air Quality Action Plan 2021-2026, to include continued partnership working with Belfast Air Quality Steering Group Members.
Siobhan Toland	 Deliver air quality projects under the Local Air Quality Management regime, to include continued ambient air quality monitoring and the preparation of an Updating and Screening Assessment Report by 30th June 2024.
Reporting Committee: People & Communities Committee	 Subject to DAERA funding via the LAQM grant scheme, develop, and implement a monitoring regime for ambient air quality in the vicinity of schools, in conjunction with continued delivery of the vehicle anti-idling educational programme.
Board:	 Manage ambient air quality matters associated with city developments through the provision of air quality internal advice to the Belfast Planning Service where appropriate.
CNS DMT/ CMT	 Further to consideration of the recommendations of the Detailed Assessment project and the conclusions of the 2023 Progress Report, consider options for consideration by members as to potential for the revocation of the Ormeau Road and Upper Newtownards Road AQMAs.
	• Continue administration of the industrial Pollution, Prevention and Control regime for Belfast with additional work on Medium Combustion Plant. Continue engagement with DAERA on the Regulatory Transformation Programme for PPC.
	Continue education initiatives and management within our Smoke Control Areas; and Continue and a second state of a Clean Air Strategy for Nextherm Index descented and
	Continue engagement with DAERA concerning development of a Clean Air Strategy for Northern Ireland.

Strategic Planning Frameworks

Key 2023/24 deliverables for each priority

Strategic Priority	Deliverables (in year)
Local Development Plan	In 2023-24 we will:
Senior Responsible Officer: Kate Bentley	 Develop new Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) and review previously adopted SPG where appropriate. Establish a timetable and project plan for the Local Policies Plan (LPP)
Reporting Committee: Planning Committee Board: P&E DMT	
Belfast Agenda	In 2023-24 we will:
Senior Responsible Officer: John Tully	 Publish the draft refreshed Belfast Agenda for public consultation Refresh governance arrangements of the Community Planning Partnership to ensure the partnership arrangements
Reporting Committee: SP&R Committee	 are maximised to deliver the refreshed Belfast Agenda Review the VCSE Panel to build on the first four years of its creation and ensure the voluntary, community and social enterprise sectors have a strong voice in community planning
Board: Community Planning Partnership	 Develop a co-design framework to ensure the right people are involved in community planning Implement the refreshed Belfast Agenda
	 Renew the membership of the Voluntary, Community, Social Enterprise (VCSE) Advisory Panel Development of performance management framework for overseeing the delivery and impact of the Belfast Agenda

Organisational Foundations

Key 2023/24 deliverables for each priority

Strategic Priority	Deliverables (in year)
Customer Focus Programme	In 2023-24 we will:
Senior Responsible Officer: John Tully Reporting Committee:	 Develop and provide on boarded services with measurement of Customer Satisfaction of service delivery Develop Customer and onboarded operational service performance information through a data analytics platform Provide onboarded services with self-service Data Analytics and training Develop and roll out a Channel shift strategy
SP&R Committee	 Onboard the next service to the Customer Hub
Board: Customer Focus Board	 Provide Front Line Customer Care training to other front-line services Develop a business case for an Omni Channel approach including the use of Webchat or Chat Bots to further enhance our out of hours offering
Our People	In 2023-24 we will:
Senior Responsible Officer: Christine Sheridan Reporting Committee: SP&R Committee	 People Strategy Communicate key objectives of the People Strategy Provide opportunities for employees to develop & progress within the organisation Develop and implement an approach to workforce planning that supports our change ambitions Embed inclusive growth into our approach to recruitment and apprenticeships
Board: CMT	

	Health & Wellbeing Strategy
	 Refresh the Health & Wellbeing Strategy
	 Develop and implement a 3-year action plan which increases employee engagement/motivation, supports employee
	retention, improves our employees physical and mental health & reduces absenteeism.
	Senior Leadership Development Programme - next phase
	 Develop and implement the next phase of the Leadership Development Programme
	Further embed our CMT and Tier 3 appraisal process
	Return to office
	 Implement a pilot work styles policy for office-based staff
	Review the Pilot Workstyles Policy, on a six-monthly basis throughout the duration of the 18-month pilot and make
	recommendations on future operating model.
	Diversity Action Plans
	Deliver our Diversity Action plans including the development of a Race Equality Action Plan to ensure BCC is more
	reflective of the communities we serve
Data Strategy	In 2023-24 we will:
	 Implement the recommendations of the new Digital Strategy – information as an Asset - focusing on:
Senior Responsible Officer:	- Information Governance
Sharon McNicholl	- Corporate Data Model
Reporting Committee:	- Analytics capabilities
SP&R Committee	
Business Support Review	In 2023-24 we will:
Senior Responsible Officer:	• Complete work on Business Support Manager posts to provide support for the new CMT structure and departments.
John Tully	• Support the wider business support model for Place and Economy, ensuring this is done within the IR Framework.
	• Conduct a "profiling" activity for all business support posts to provide the baseline to inform the next steps for
Reporting Committee:	Business Support and the wider Change Programme.
SP&R Committee	

Continuous Improvement	In 2023-24 we will:
Programme	
Senior Responsible Officer: John Tully Reporting Committee: SP&R Committee	 Focus on the AGRS audit actions which include: Establishment of the CI Portfolio of Services, Processes and Programme of Work by March 2024 Develop the CI Business Plan for 2024/25, with continued focus on agreed priorities for the change programme and organisational reviews. Completion the CI Review by March 2024 to ensure fit-for-purpose roles and structure are in place to support the
Board: CMT	continuous improvement of the organisation.
Planning & Performance	In 2023-24 we will:
Management Framework	
Senior Responsible Officer: John Tully	 Develop and agree new corporate plan 2024-28 and supporting committee and departmental plans Undertake a review of the performance management framework and implement the new framework in line with the new corporate plan.
Reporting Committee: SP&R Committee Board: CMT	
Asset Management	In 2023-24 we will:
Senior Responsible Officer: Sinead Grimes Reporting Committee: SP&R Committee	 Continue to develop the Asset Management Strategy and Plan Work with other Departments to enhance implementation of the Asset Management System Incorporate findings from baseline assessment on Council assets and review of current maintenance arrangements
Board: CMT	 Continue to proactively manage over 275 leases across the city including the major industrial estates at the Gasworks, Boucher and Duncrue which bring in an annual rental roll of circa £7m per annum.
Medium Term Financial Strategy	 In 2023-24 we will: Identify New Member Priorities for new Council Term alongside corporate planning process Alignment of financial plan to corporate priorities

Senior Responsible Officer:	Identify areas for inefficiencies:
Trevor Wallace	- Budget Lines
	- Contracts
Reporting Committee:	- Fees & Charges
SP&R Committee	- Income Generation Opportunities
Board: F&R DMT	
Member Development	In 2023-24 we will:
Senior Responsible Officer:	 Design and deliver an induction and continuing development programme for new and returning elected members;
Christine Sheridan	including an enhanced focus on standards and the promotion of the 12 Principles of Conduct in public life, including the Local Government Code of Conduct for Councillors and any associated training identified by the Committee; and
Reporting Committee:	 Continue to align our member development activities to the requirements of the Elected Member Development
SP&R Committee	Charter framework; and
Board: CMT	Retain accreditation of the Elected Member Development Charter
Political Governance	In 2023-24 we will:
Arrangements	Standards and Business Committee
	 Review the Standards and Business Committee workplan to continue to promote, sustain and safeguard the conduct
Senior Responsible Officer:	of Councillors within the Council; promote a collaborative working relationship between senior officers and Members;
Nora Largey	ensure the probity of all the Council's proceedings; and review and improve processes in relation to bringing business
	before the Council, including any review of Standing Orders; and
Reporting Committee:	 Commission a suitable provider for the training in a political environment module in 2023
SP&R Committee	 Provide further training to Members on the Code of Conduct and Standards, including on the Registration and Declaration of Interests
Board: CMT	Remote and Hybrid Meetings
	Continue to provide remote meetings as and when required according to Executive guidance; and to provide a hybrid
	model of remote and in-person committee and council meetings as required.
	Democratic Services – service review
	 Finalise and implement the service review for Democratic Services

Equality, Diversity and	In 2023-24 we will:
Inclusion	 Language Strategy To develop an updated action plan for each strand of the Language Strategy including the development of language-
Senior Responsible Officer:	related policies and protocols to be considered within the Council's existing budgetary constraints; and
Nora Largey	Equality
Reporting Committee: SP&R Committee	 Continue the implementation of the new five-year Equality Scheme.
SPar committee	 Disability Implementation of Year 1 of the new Disability Action Plan including the completion of an annual report.
Board: Equality & Diversity Network	 EDU service review Finalise and implement the service review for EDU
IT Security	In 2023-24 we will prioritise:
Senior Responsible Officer: Sharon McNicholl	 Review unapproved Cloud usage and governance processes for approved cloud applications Implement rolling programme of Mobile phone management through adoption of Microsoft Intune
Reporting Committee: SP&R Committee	 Continued review of Incident Response plan Develop Ransomware Runbook for BCC following Microsoft Security Crisis & Response Exercise Identity Management improvements – Azure AD review; Admin account management
Board:	 Review backup and recovery architecture
Corporate Services DMT	

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