

APPENDIX 1



Community Support Plan 2008 - 2010

Draft final

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1. Introduction

Background

Community support plans have their origins in the review of the Community Services Programme 'Beyond the Centre' undertaken by the Department for Social Development (DSD) in January 2000¹. Beyond the Centre reaffirms that councils are a pivotal part in the support of local communities. The review concluded that each local council should prepare a new Community Support Plan in full consultation with the local community.

DSD's role is to promote a partnership approach with the community and voluntary sector in order to add value to what government currently does. Through its community support programme it part funds all local authorities in Northern Ireland through the implementation of their community support plans. In 2007/08 DSD has a budget of £16.74 million to deliver to local authorities. Belfast City Council is eligible for £1.34 million of this.

The aim of the DSD Community Support Programme is:

"To strengthen local communities, increase community participation and promote social inclusion through the stimulation and support of community groups, community activity and local advice services."

Beyond the Centre proposes that the Programme should result in:

- An active and organised community;
- An influential community;
- An informed community; and
- A sustainable community.

Environmental changes

The context of community development has changed considerably over the last number of years – from communities being reactively involved in the creation of government programmes to them becoming active partners in governance. Although the support for community development has increased over the last 10 years, Northern Ireland still lacks a proper strategic framework for community development. The absence of a wider strategic framework places significant pressures on the council to develop a framework for its own activities which will take into account the roles of all other partners in community development.

In addition Belfast City Council is currently going through a period of reorganisation and efficiency improvements in preparation for the changes which RPA will bring. As a result of this, the Community Services Unit joined with the Development department during April 2007. This occurred in order to allow council to address the needs of future community development in a wider city development context. This has placed a greater emphasis within council on using community development approaches to gain a wider, strategic focus for its service delivery.

Belfast City Council is also moving towards area based service delivery and recently initiated the Strategic Neighbourhood Action Programme (SNAP). This will develop

¹ Department for Social Development, (2000), Beyond the Centre

the tools, procedures and policies that the council will need to use to work at smaller, well defined, geographical levels across Belfast. Rather than delivering exactly the same services in the same way across the city, the council wants to be able to adapt its services to fit the particular needs of the citizen and the area in which they live. This also means that the council will respond more effectively to the local area initiatives of other organisations (such as the Government's Neighbourhood Renewal Partnerships or the Community Safety partnerships). As part of SNAP we have identified 21 'City Places' across the entire city, which are small, manageable units against which we can gather information; engage properly with the people who live there, and, where possible, reshape the services we deliver there. Once implemented SNAP will give the council a better understanding of local areas and allow each of our services to more easily adapt their plans to fit the needs of local areas.

It is therefore obvious that Belfast City Council's Community Support Plan is being developed in a period of substantive environmental change both internally within council and externally within the community and voluntary sector. In this regard it would be inappropriate to review the council's strategy to community support at this time as further in depth research and improvements are needed before the council would be in a position to make such strategic decisions and adopt the emerging policies that are around the notion of sustainable communities. This Community Support Plan has therefore been developed for the period 2008–2010 with the view to identify a clear current role for Belfast City Council during this change period, while also productively using this time to gather evidence and best practice to inform our future approach and support of the sector and those living in neighbourhoods across Belfast.

Methodology for developing the Community Support Plan

The process for developing the Community Support Plan has included the following key elements:

- Workshop with Area Managers;
- Consultation and pre consultation with:
 - Community Services staff
 - Other council departments
 - Community and voluntary organisations
 - Other statutory organisations
 - Community centre committee members;
 - Councillors.
- Internal data collection and analysis;
- Review of external policies/strategies;
- Review of internal council policies/services;
- Assessment of area needs;
- Development of the priorities and associated actions;
- Development of performance indicators; and
- Party briefings

The plan has been structured in the following sections:

Section 2 – What is the strategic environment within which community services operates?

Section 3 – What are the key messages from the research?

Section 4 – What should we be doing?

Section 5 – What we will do.

Section 6 – How will we know how well we are doing?

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2. What is the strategic environment within which community services operates?

2.1 Theoretical basis of the plan

Community development

The council identified community development as the most important concept which will direct activities of the Community services Unit in the following years. Although there are many existing definitions of community development, we have adopted the definition by the Community Development Foundation which states:

“Community development is work with people in neighbourhoods and communities to increase levels of self-help, support and collective action. It aims to give people greater control over their individual situations and their communities.”

Community development incorporates a set of values, which are:

- Social justice
- Self determination
- Working and learning together
- Sustainable communities
- Participation and
- Reflective practice.

Together these values are embodied in an occupation (i.e. community development workers) who use certain skills and techniques to achieve particular outcomes (i.e. reduce deprivation) or provide an approach (i.e. methods of intervention) used in other services.

Community development has some specific roles such as:

- Develop working relationships with communities and organisations;
- Encourage people to work with and learn from each other;
- Work with people in communities to plan for change and take collective action;
- Work with people in communities to develop and use frameworks for evaluation;
- Develop community organisations; and
- Reflect on and develop own practice and role².

Considering the breadth of community development, the council will need to decide which model and methods of intervention it will apply in its community development process.

Social capital

One of the most essential aspects of community development is nurturing and building social capital. Social capital is the capacity of people in society to come together voluntarily to create a community and prosperity and to address concerns in their community. The Community Development Foundation describes social capital as ‘increasing the confidence and capacity of individuals and small groups to get

² Community Empowerment Division, Communities and Local Government, ‘The Community Development Challenge’, 2006

involved in activities and build mutually supportive networks that hold communities together’.

Social capital could be described as the connectivity in society. It describes the pattern and intensity of networks among people and the shared values which arise from those networks. While definitions of social capital vary, the main aspects are:

- Citizenship;
- Neighbourliness;
- Trust and shared values;
- Community involvement;
- Volunteering;
- Social networks; and
- Civic participation.

The term is used by the World Bank with regard to economic and societal development and also by management experts as a way of thinking about organisational development.

There are three main types of social capital:

- **Bonding** – relates to common identity which ties similar people together. It also relates to participation within communities;
- **Bridging** - relates to diversity - links between people of different backgrounds. This also describes participation across communities and dialogue between groups with different interests; and
- **Linking** - underlines the power capacity of groups and their ability to influence authority. It relates to participation between communities and organisations with structures outside communities. Linking describes the access to power institutions and decision making.

It is widely agreed that social capital facilitates mutually beneficial collective action. This interaction enables people to build communities, to commit themselves to each other and to knit the social fabric.

Sustainable communities

The council wishes to build the mechanisms and capacity in order to strengthen the social capital of Belfast’s communities and residents. To do so, the council will need to focus its strengths towards the sustainability of communities in Belfast. The Egan Review, published by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister in 2004³, coined the definition of sustainable communities – ‘communities that embody the principles of sustainable development at the local level’. The report set down a definition of what is meant by a 'sustainable community' and supported this with a set of components which, together, constitute the common goal that all central and local government officers, service providers, communities, and the private and voluntary sectors should be working towards.

Most people want to live in a place where they know their neighbours and feel safe. A place with good homes, local shops, lots of jobs and opportunities for young people

³ Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (2004), The Egan Review

to get a good education. Securing the Future, the UK Government Sustainable Development strategy builds on the recommendations of the Egan Review and defines Sustainable Communities as

“Places where people want to live and work now and in the future”.

This means:

- Balancing and integrating social, economic and environmental components of their community;
- Meeting the needs of existing and future generations;
- Recognising the cross cutting nature of issues affecting communities;
- Working in a coordinated way with a wide range of interests and organisations;
- Respecting the needs of other communities in the wider region or internationally; and
- Recognising that sustainable communities are diverse and reflect their local circumstances. There is no standard template to fit them all.

The integrated nature of the sustainable communities approach is set out below in Figure 1.1 and this shows the relevance of the concept to the development of statutory community plans under the Review of Public Administration (RPA). The eight components form the basis of sustainability guidance for service planning and policy development.

Figure 2.1: Sustainable communities model



Source: Academy for Sustainable Communities

In the long run, the council wishes to develop mechanisms and resources to build sustainable communities in Belfast with an emphasis on strong social capital. This Community Support plan provides the basis from which to do this.

2.2 Review of external policies and strategies which impact on Community Services

There are a number of ways in which external policies and programmes impact on the Community Support Plan. We have set out in this section how the plan will complement, reinforce and deliver actions in a more joined up ways. We work with partners in our mainstream community development and good relations duties and we have developed strong strategic and operational links with these organisations in our work. In this section we identify how and where policies and programmes relevant to the delivery of sustainable communities impact on our work. For the purposes of this analysis we take this to mean places that are:

- **Well run** – Supporting communities to develop capacities that allow them to take control over the development of their own area is a key aim of community development in general and our Community Support Plan in particular. There needs to be a strong connection between the Positive Steps Modernisation Fund and the management of the council's community estate, especially in maximising the use of community centres. Also, it is important for the council to be aligned with the Partners for Change Strategy which is designed to promote the role of the voluntary and community sector in delivering services and to give some clarity around the range of activities that Government undertakes in partnership with the sector. In addition, it is vital for community support to dovetail and reinforce Local Community Fund (2003, DSD) and CFNI and to nurture and build social capital. This plan offers the opportunity to help prepare communities by giving them training and mentoring to allow them to effectively face the opportunities and challenges that will result from the RPA and Community Planning.
- **Well connected** - Connectivity within and between cities is important for communities to be sustainable. There is an important role for community groups opening access to employment, training and entertainment across the city. Connectivity can also imply a softer meaning such as bridging, bonding and linking of communities - building social capital and forming city wide networks. The Belfast Metropolitan Transport Plan and the related strategies of Translink, such as the quality bus initiative have emphasised the importance of public rather than private transport in developing a sustainable transport infrastructure in Belfast. DRD's Accessibility Strategy for NI (2005) also highlighted the need to respond to particular groups such as disabled people and older people who face specific transport obstacles. Here it is important that community groups dealing with mobility issues, especially in disadvantaged areas, and hard to reach groups are supported at a strategic and local level.
- **Well served** – It is important that services to communities are delivered effectively. People and Place, the government's strategy for neighbourhood renewal was launched in 2003 and a total of £56m will be invested in its delivery between 2005 and 2008. We are committed to complementing area based regeneration initiatives in the city whilst also preparing communities to ensure that neighbourhood action plans are implemented effectively. The Renewing Communities strategy was formulated by government in response to the perceived weaknesses in working class communities. The development of areas where capacity and skills are weak will be underpinned by the support plan. All public services need to have a coordinated approach to maximise access to services in the communities. It is therefore important to have strong links with other public agencies who engage with communities, particular Northern Ireland

Housing Executive (NIHE), Police Service NI (PSNI) and Belfast Education and Library Board (BELB).

- **Environmentally sensitive** – The NI Sustainable Development Strategy highlighted the importance of environmentalism, climate change and carbon management for local communities. There is a strong tradition of community led regeneration and environmental sustainability initiatives, especially in recycling. It is important that these experiences are developed and shared, especially in helping groups to diversify their income streams and sustain their activities.
- **Economically thriving** – The DETI Economic Vision for Northern Ireland places a greater emphasis on innovation and skills which are relevant for neighbourhood level skills and programmes such as intermediate labour markets. The vision also emphasises the importance of the welfare to work agenda and the aim of reducing economic inactivity levels. The Bridge to Employment initiative has provided customised training to equip long-term unemployed people in particular with the skills to access secure work. It is critical that education programmes and the school curriculum addresses skills shortages and remove barriers to unemployment, especially in disadvantaged communities.
- **Well designed and built** – The Belfast Metropolitan Area Plan (BMAP) will have significant impact on the spatial economy, brownfield development and urban densification. It is important that communities have access to the skills and support to engage. The Housing Executives' Housing Market Review, area housing strategies and the Belfast District Housing Plan have all identified affordability as a critical issue confronting local communities. The Semple Review makes a number of recommendations where the community sector has an active role to play in promoting low cost and social housing in their areas.
- **Fair for everyone** – In November 2006 OFMDFM launched the Government's Anti-Poverty and Social Inclusion Strategy for NI. It makes important connections with delivery programmes relevant to the Community Support Plan, including for instance, tackling alienated young people in danger of self harm and suicide. It is important that the general concept of community support is aimed at tackling social exclusion.
- **Active, inclusive and safe** – The Shared Future Strategy (2005) promotes good relations and challenges segregation. It highlights the need to build cross community relations within and between segregated places. The Community Safety Strategy of OFMDFM also highlighted the need to create safe environments where communities and specific groups, such as older people, can feel safe.

Emerging policy themes

The review of policies impacting on community support has highlighted important connections between community development and a range of policies and programmes concerned with local development, social renewal and planning. The analysis identifies a number of issues that need to be considered in developing the Community Support Plan as follows:

- Community support workers provide important resources to animate community development processes in a way that will help local people to engage with a range of programmes that impact on their area;

- The link between community development and good relations needs to be articulated clearly in the work of community workers and the projects that are supported via the support plan;
- The community and voluntary sector is faced with important challenges, especially at neighbourhood level. It is important that the support plan works over time to help sustain organisations that make a difference to people's lives;
- There is a demand for clearer and more specific technical skills within the sector, especially in dealing with land use planning, the development of the social economy and promoting affordable housing and mixed communities;
- Accessibility and connectivity between disadvantaged communities and new employment and entertainment sites emerging elsewhere in the city emphasises the need for community support to look at city wide as well as the internal vitality of local areas;
- There is a need to develop governance structures in local areas in complementary and supportive ways. The council will ensure that its approach underpins the work of neighbourhood partnerships and sectoral coordinating arrangements across Belfast; and
- The RPA will produce new arrangements and relationships between central and local government and it is important that the Support Plan helps to prepare groups and people ready for community planning in the future.
- Since there is no shared community development strategy for Belfast, Belfast City Council needs to take a leadership role and ensure that all the key stakeholders work together for the benefit of communities in Belfast.

2.3 Review of internal policies and strategies which impact on community services

Belfast City Council Corporate Strategy

Belfast City Council is the largest of the 26 councils in Northern Ireland and serves approximately 277,000 people within an urban environment. The council is responsible for delivering key services such as refuse collection and disposal, street cleansing, building control, environmental health, community development, indoor and outdoor leisure, parks and recreational facilities and support for the arts, tourism and economic development. The council has taken a proactive approach in developing the city in partnership with other key stakeholders to improve the quality of life for people in Belfast.

To undertake the tasks allocated to it, council spends approximately £140m each year and employs more than 2,600 people at over 100 sites across the city. The vision of Belfast City Council is:

'To take a lead role in improving quality of life now and for future generations for the people of Belfast by making it a better place to live in, work in and visit.'

To make this vision a reality the council has identified six main strategic themes and objectives:

- **Better leadership** – strong, fair, together
- **Better opportunities for success across the city**
- **Better for care for Belfast’s environment** – a clean, green city now and for the future
- **Better support for people and communities**
- **Better services** – listening and delivering
- **Better value for money** – a can-do, accountable, efficient council

The Community Support Plan forms a key element in allowing the council to deliver on these strategic objectives, in particular, ‘Better support for people and communities’ element which will meet the needs of local people.

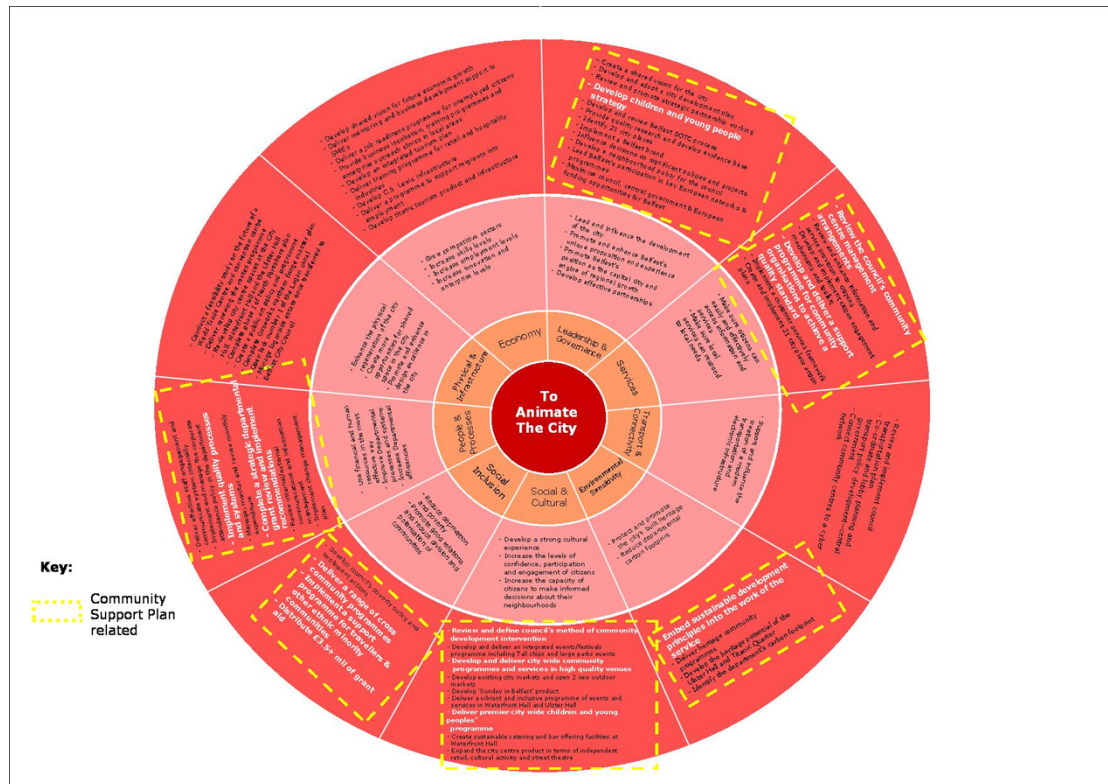
Capital City III Strategy

The Community Services Unit sits within the Development Department of council. The department is in the process of reviewing its Capital City Strategy to reflect the recent organisational changes that have happened within the department and to be aligned with the new council’s Corporate plan. The mission of the department is :

“We will deliver change, to make Belfast a successful and sustainable place in partnership with members, colleagues, stakeholders and citizens.”

This mission will be delivered through implementation of the departmental strategy. This has been based on the sustainable communities model (described in section 2.1) and reflects the integrated nature of the work undertaken by the department. Each element of the wheel includes strategic objectives and actions.

Figure 2.2 Departmental Strategy Wheel



The key role for the Community Services Unit within this strategy is in: Leadership and governance, Services, Social and Cultural and Social Inclusion strategic themes. It can also significantly contribute to Environmental sensitivity themes and to a lesser extent the Economy theme.

Council strategies and activities at neighbourhood level

Belfast City Council delivers a wide range of activities at a neighbourhood level. In this section we have summarised the internal activities that the seven departments of the council deliver in order to find possible linkages that could be enhanced to maximise the impact of the Community Support Plan. Key activities within the council include:

- **Brighter Belfast** – This involves a wide range of initiatives aimed at making the city more attractive and cleaner. It includes actions such as improved street cleansing, fly poster and chewing gum removal and community clean-ups. This initiative could serve as a mechanism to address specific area needs in terms of physical improvement.
- **Culture and Arts** – One of the aims of the initiative is to enhance good relations through culture and to increase opportunities for cultural engagement. The Integrated Cultural Strategy for Belfast sets out a framework for joined-up working until 2010 to maximise cultural development and sustainability in the city. Culture and Arts could provide a platform for increased community participation.
- **Funding provision** – Besides community support grants there are various additional funding provision streams in the council including Culture and Arts, Good Relations and Neighbourhood Economic Development Programme.

Greater synergies could be created between our funding streams in order to maximise the impact council funding has on local communities.

- **Community Safety initiative and District Policing Partnership** – Community safety represents one of the key issues in Belfast. A multi sectoral community safety partnership in the city aims to address crime, fear of crime and anti social behaviour (ASB). It is important that the work of the Community Support Unit complements the objectives and activities of this strategy.
- **Community Tourism Programme** – This programme is delivered in conjunction with area partnership boards and aims to improve community based tourism products. These have the potential to result in greater participation of communities.
- **Citystats** – This system is a comprehensive data repository at an area level. It will help monitor the vitality of different areas in Belfast by storing and maintaining key socio-economic data. This will provide us with important evidence based information that will allow us to make future policy decisions.
- **Environmental Health Strategy 2005-2008** - Health is one of the most important aspects of community wellbeing. This strategy identifies the need for community based health projects in order to improve the wellbeing of the city.
- **Good Relations Plan** – This plan is the council's framework for tackling community relations issues across the city. One of its main aims is to promote good relations and celebrate cultural diversity. There is an opportunity for greater integration of objectives and activities – specifically linking with good relations events.
- **Leisure Centres** – The council manages 11 leisure centres across the city. There is a good opportunity for the Community Support Plan to further promote joint community and leisure centre projects as they are both front facing with communities. Some of the existing centres run joint summer schemes, training and employment initiatives.
- **Parks** – There are nine council owned open space areas across the city including the Zoo, Malone House and Belfast Castle. The council manages over 40 parks in the city. There is a strong link between addressing community safety and anti-social behaviour and parks. Parks also represent great places for holding community events and can be used to enhance participation of children and young people.
- **Sports Development and Physical Activity Strategy** – The main priorities of this strategy are creating partnerships through effective coordination of sports development, building capacity of volunteers and coaches; enhancing the role of schools in sport development; raising the profile of sport and recreation in the city and supporting leisure centres in becoming development and community focused. This can be a valuable mechanism for engagement of children and young people and generally in improving quality of life of residents.
- **Local Economic Development Plan** – The current plan aims to deliver a strong competitiveness agenda through encouraging entrepreneurs, adopting the skills of a well trained workforce and ensuring that local communities have the capacity and opportunities to be fully involved. Economic inclusion is an overall priority of

the council. Enhancing skills and employability will serve as an important vehicle for community support.

- **Strategy for Open Spaces** – This provides a framework for improving individual open spaces. It aims to create a best practice approach to open air spaces and encourage the use of parks for educational purposes.
- **Strategic Neighbourhood Action Programme (SNAP)** - SNAP will provide a framework for the council to deliver services at an area basis. It will significantly influence council's overall service delivery and how the community support function will be delivered on an area basis. As part of SNAP we have identified 21 'City Places' across the entire city, which are small, manageable units against which we can gather information; engage properly with the people who live there; and, where possible, reshape the services we deliver there. The Community Services Unit will play a key role in supporting neighbourhood delivery.
- **Waste Management Plan** - This Plan determines how the Council will deal with household and other wastes until 2020. It sets out both the range of treatment and disposal facilities we need and the collection and other facilities the Council will provide for recycling and composting. The Council supports implementation of the Plan with an intensive programme of education, promotion and community engagement.

2.4 Key findings from the internal review of strategies and activities

The review of policies within the council impacting on community support has highlighted the wide range of activities that council undertakes at a neighbourhood level. There are important connections between these and community development which must be exploited to maximise the impact council has on supporting and energising communities. The review has highlighted a number of key findings –

- The council needs to have a coherent approach to community support and development as it delivers a wide range of services on a local level; and
- It is important that services delivered at a local level are integrated in order to maximise their impact and increase opportunities for local communities. It is likely that SNAP will provide the framework for doing this.

3. What are the key messages from the research?

Socio-economic profiles

3.1 Belfast context

Belfast is the capital of Northern Ireland. The city and its wider metropolitan area is the largest settlement in the region and the second largest city on the island of Ireland. It lies at the head of Belfast Lough in the lower reaches of the Lagan valley. The Belfast District Council area sits in the heart of the growing population of the wider Belfast metropolitan area, which also comprises the surrounding district council areas of Castlereagh, Lisburn, North Down, Newtownabbey and Carrickfergus. The city has experienced unprecedented regeneration, sustained economic growth and has reduced unemployment to historically low levels. However the city still has some way to go to close the gap on comparable places. A socio economic profile of the city is given below:



Demography⁴

- Belfast has 267,374 residents, **15.4% of NI's population**;
- Belfast has quite a **young population** with more than 19% of residents being under the age of 16 - a **young city** compared to the rest of the UK - only Birmingham has a younger age profile⁵; and
- 20% of all migrants in Northern Ireland live in Belfast.

Crime⁶

- The highest recorded crimes in 2007/08 were theft (27%) followed by criminal damage (26%); and
- Reported **racist incidents** have **increased by more than** 36% from 255 in 2005/06 to 348 in 2007/08.

Deprivation⁷

- **48%** of the Belfast population **live in the most deprived** Super Output Areas (SOAs) in NI;
- Belfast is ranked 4 out of 26 in the average SOA rank measure; and
- **Income support levels are quite high** – 15.4%, higher than in any other comparator core city⁴.

Economic activity⁸

- The percentage of economically active (56.9%) and inactive (43.1%) residents is in line with the NI average; and
- Employment rates in Belfast are low, with less than two thirds of working age residents in employment (the UK average figure is 74.3%)⁴;

⁴ NISRA 2006 population estimates

⁵ Parkinson, Prof Michael (2007), Where is Belfast Going?

⁶ PSNI

⁷ Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure 2005

⁸ Census 2001, Census of Employment 2005, School Leavers Survey 2004/05

- **Unemployment** levels have gone down (from 9.3% ten years ago to 3.8% in 2005). A large proportion of those registered as unemployed have been out of work for more than one year (22.9%). Compared to the rest of the UK only Liverpool and Birmingham have higher levels of long term unemployed⁴ ;
- Belfast has one of the most dependant populations of the core cities with smaller numbers in the workforce⁴ ; and
- Low incomes and poor social mobility has led to a state of dependency and a reliance on state intervention and support. Median gross **weekly earnings** in Belfast is **£324.70**.

Health⁹

- Belfast has relatively high levels of ill health with almost a quarter of residents experiencing long-term illness with a percentage of 24.2% - second highest of the comparator cities; and
- 11.8% of population provided unpaid care to family, friends, neighbours or others compared to 11% in NI.

Housing¹⁰

- 53.7% of houses are owner occupied; and
- A large number of households are lone pensioners (15.8%) occupied.

Community and voluntary sector in Belfast

The community sector in Northern Ireland is complex and diverse with around 4,500 organisations employing approximately 29,000 people or 4.4% of the total workforce in the region. NICVA's SectorNet database indicates that approximately 1,200 of the organisations are based in Belfast. This research goes on to indicate that the primary funder of the sector continues to be central government and that one in five of the organisations depend on over 75% of their income from government sources.

The increasingly competitive funding climate and a drive to modernisation have created an environment where organisations in the sector must consider their sustainability. Resourcing the Voluntary and Community Sector: Infrastructure Working Group Paper to the taskforce Colin Knox (2003) has described the sector as suffering from 'organisational messiness' suggesting there is evidence to support overlap, duplication and overcrowding, juxtaposed with gaps in infrastructure provision and variable service quality.

Despite more than a decade of investment via the PEACE programmes, skills and core competencies in some areas are still weak. The sustainable arm of the sector, its trading capacity and social economy is also comparatively weak. The community sector can be highly territorial and therefore can tend to reinforce segregation rather than challenge it.

However the community sector has demonstrated it can be a major force for change. Unquestionably Belfast and Northern Ireland has benefited from a strong, diverse and committed sector and the case for support is clear but the method of intervention is less certain. In developing the Community Support Plan as an instrument to grow the sector some of the limits of community development need to be acknowledged.

⁹ Census 2001

¹⁰ Census 2001

One of the important changing contexts for community development is the restructuring of the spatial economy within the city. A twin-speed economy has emerged with those able to connect with growth sectors in the new economy populating the south and east of the city, while those left out of the regeneration of the city are increasingly isolated in north and west Belfast. This dual city holds important dangers for a *one city* management and clearly needs to become a focus of local and community development initiatives.

3.2 Area based analysis

In order to reflect the geographical differences across the city we have undertaken an area based approach to analysing the socio economic characteristics of the city based on the four parliamentary constituencies:

East Belfast

General context

The East Belfast area has experienced rapid social and economic change over recent decades; witnessing the gradual disintegration of large industries, but also an upturn of regeneration and investment. However, the distinct characteristic of the area is the division between the more deprived Inner East and wealthier Outer East.



The culture of community development in East Belfast differs to other areas in the city, in particular North or West Belfast. There is a culture of individuals belonging to an organisation, as opposed to a community. There is more of a tradition of voluntary organisations existing as opposed to community groups and community capacity is weaker than in other areas. The bonding aspect of social capital is also weak. An important aspect in east Belfast is the role of churches. It provides opportunities for social networks and increasingly is becoming involved in social issues by way of forming community groups or businesses. Those with higher social need are hidden within established family households e.g. young and old dependents.

Socio economic profile

Demography¹¹

- East Belfast counts around 77,749¹² residents. There is an aging population in East Belfast with a **significant** number of residents **over the age of 60**, 24% of the population (Belfast average 19.9%); and
- East Belfast is home to 16.5% of Belfast migrants (787 people), of which Chinese represent 41%.

Crime¹³

¹¹ Census 2001

¹² NISRA 2006 population estimates

¹³ PSNI and Community Safety Partnership Audit

- The highest recorded crimes in 2007/08 were criminal damage (29.4%) followed by offences against the person (27.4%);
- **The number of reported racist incidents have increased by 9% from 74 in 2005/06 to 81 in 2007/08;** and
- Community Safety Partnership Audit in 2005 revealed that drug, substance and alcohol abuse are the most problematic issues in the area.

Deprivation¹⁴

- East Belfast is the third most deprived parliamentary constituency in Belfast with 23% of population living in the most deprived SOAs in NI;
- **Ballymacarrett** is the most deprived ward which ranks 8 and falls in the top 20% most deprived wards in Belfast;
- Inner East continues to feature as an area of high social need and is very slow to improve, despite the large number of resources targeted; and
- Outer East is made up of less defined communities but with increased education achievement and higher income levels. There are also some isolated neighbourhoods in Outer East (Ardcarn, Clarawood and Knocknagoney).

Economic Activity¹⁵

- The percentage of economically active (62.2%) and inactive (37.8%) residents is in line with Belfast average;
- The **unemployment** level is 3.8%, **lower than** the Belfast average of 5.4%;
- There is slightly **lower educational attainment** in the area with 58.2% of school leavers who gained 5 or more GCSEs in 2004/05 (NI average is 63.1%); and
- Low incomes and poor social mobility has led to a state of dependency and a reliance on state intervention and support. Median gross **weekly earnings** in East Belfast are the **lowest** of all areas in Belfast at £330.50

Health¹⁶

- Health is an issue in the area with 23% of people with **long-term illness** – the Belfast average is 24.2%; and
- East Belfast has the highest percentage of people providing **unpaid care** to family or friends - around 12.9% of people (the Belfast average is 11.8%).

Housing¹⁷

- In East Belfast 67.3% of houses are owner occupied, much higher than the Belfast total of 56.1%; and
- A large number of households are **lone pensioners** (17.7%) occupied – the Belfast average is 15.8%.

¹⁴ Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure 2005

¹⁵ Census 2001, Census of Employment 2005, School Leavers Survey 2004/05

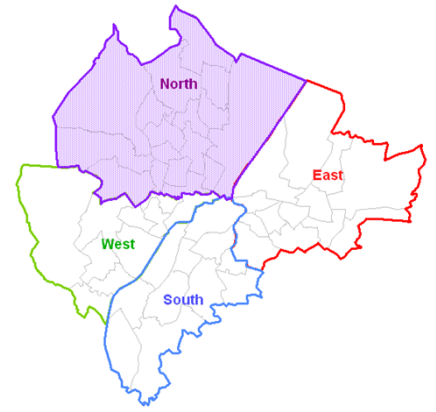
¹⁶ Census 2001

¹⁷ Census 2001

North Belfast

General context

North Belfast is an area significantly divided by culture, religion and political opinion. Tension between the communities has unfortunately often been the public image of North Belfast. The area also experiences high levels of unemployment, deprivation, housing, ill health, and crime.



A distinct characteristic of the area is the high number of **interfaces** and subsequent interface communities. The experience of those residents living in proximity to interfaces can be generally characterised as:

- **Territoriality** - a restriction in terms of where you can go and where you feel safe. This experience is in direct opposition to that of connectivity and impacts severely on the level of deprivation by restricting access to jobs, facilities and services;
- **Contested Space** - this creates instability and results in lack of investment contributing to higher levels of deprivation; and
- **Violence** - manifested as intimidation, anti-social behaviour, and destruction of property.

Due to these characteristics there are a high number of neighbourhoods and subsequent community organisations within the area. The new immigrant population moving into the area brings new community development needs and youth exclusion is a key issue for many community organisations.

Socio-economic profile

Demography¹⁸

- There are 81,944¹⁹ people residing in North Belfast. There is a **young population** with 21.5% under the age of 16 and also a high proportion of **older people** (over 60) at 22.1%;
- North Belfast is home to 12% of the migrants living in Belfast. The Chinese and mixed migrant communities are the most prevalent; and
- Overall there is a growing young nationalist and elderly unionist population.

Crime²⁰

- **Offences against person** (26.7%) and **criminal damage** (28.8%) were the highest recorded crimes in 2007/08. Four of the wards in North Belfast (Duncairn, New Lodge, Chichester Park and Waterworks) have a higher rate for all crime than the Belfast average (167 crimes per 1000 people);
- **Racist incidents** have increased by 30% over the last three years from 62 in 2005/06 to 81 in 2007/08; however, the number is still lower than in other parts of Belfast; and
- Community Safety Partnership Audit in 2005 has revealed that car crime and **anti-social behaviour** are considered the most problematic issues.

¹⁸ Census 2001

¹⁹ NISRA 2006 population estimates

²⁰ PSNI and Community Safety Partnership Audit

Deprivation²¹

- North Belfast is the second most deprived parliamentary constituency in Belfast. Around **60% of the population** in North Belfast live in the most deprived SOAs in NI;
- In terms of the Noble Multiple Deprivation Measure, four wards from North Belfast are found in the top 20% most deprived wards in Belfast, Crumlin (ranked 4), New Lodge (ranked 5), Ardoyne (ranked 6) and Duncairn (ranked 9); and
- Crumlin is the most deprived ward.

Economic activity²²

- The percentage of residents who are economically active (53.3%) is lower than the average for Belfast, 62.3%;
- The **unemployment rate is much higher** at 6% in North Belfast compared to the Belfast average at 3.8%. Crumlin has the highest rate of unemployment at 9%;
- The percentage of residents in North Belfast who claimed income support (21.4%) and incapacity benefit (16.2%) in 2004 is much higher than Belfast average (10.8% and 10.7%); and
- North Belfast has **lower educational attainment** (52.3% gained 5 or more GCSEs) than Belfast average – 63.1%.

Health²³

- Health is an issue in North Belfast with the highest percentage of people with **long-term illness** (27.5%) in Belfast (with average of 24.2%); and
- The levels of people who stated their health was good was 61.8% (lower than Belfast average of 65.8%).

Housing²⁴

- Only slightly more than half of the houses in the area (51.7%) are owner-occupied, which is lower than the percentage owner-occupied in Belfast (56.1%);
- 48.3% of housing is **rented accommodation** - much higher than the percentage for Belfast at 43.9%; and
- A large percentage of households are occupied by **lone pensioners** (17.8%) –the Belfast average is 15.8%.

²¹ Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure 2005

²² Census 2001, Census of Employment 2005, School Leavers Survey 2004/05

²³ Census 2001

²⁴ Census 2001

South Belfast

General context

The South Belfast area is exceptionally diverse containing affluent areas, the academic quarter and a growing young professional population. This area is also characterised by growing number of rental properties; a high proportion of which are Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) properties; particularly due to the increasing student population. The area contains pockets of deprivation within relatively affluent neighbourhoods and has inter-community tension at a small number of interfaces. Importantly South Belfast also contains the largest commercial and entertainment areas within the city.



There is an increasing multi cultural population around the university area due to the number of international students and the availability of rental accommodation.

There may be an issue of social isolation amongst the aging given the concentration of commercial and entertainment activity. This may have an impact on the high level of crime in the area including racially motivated attacks. There is also a tension between established and incoming communities which leads to increases in racial crime.

Socio-economic profile

Demography²⁵

- The population of South Belfast is around 92,236²⁶, the largest parliamentary constituency in Belfast. Of the population, 16.4% are under **16 years old** – this is the **lowest percentage** of all constituencies in Belfast. However there is a significant proportion of transient students whose numbers are usually not captured by Census;
- South Belfast also has a lower than average percentage of residents over 60 (18.3%, compared to Belfast average of 19.9%); and
- A distinct feature of South Belfast is the number of immigrants, 2,513 which represents 57% of all migrants in Belfast. The majority of migrants in South Belfast are the Chinese population (44.1%).

Crime²⁷

- Quite a significant percent of all crime in South Belfast is theft (34.8%), the highest of all areas in Belfast (Belfast average is 27%) ;
- **Racial incidents** are at their highest in South Belfast and account for over 40% of Belfast's overall total. There has been an increase of 40% in the last three years from 106 in 2005/06 to 149 in 2007/08 ; and
- The Community Safety Partnership Audit in 2005 has revealed that **anti-social behaviour** is the most problematic issue for the residents of South Belfast. This is linked to South Belfast being the largest entertainment area in the city with the highest student population;

Deprivation²⁸

²⁵ Census 2001

²⁶ NISRA 2006 population estimates

²⁷ PSNI and Community Safety Partnership Audit

²⁸ Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure 2005

- South Belfast is the least deprived ward ranking 7 out of 18 parliamentary constituencies in NI. The area has the lowest number of people living in most deprived SOAs -19%. However, there are **pockets of deprivation** that are often masked by aggregate figures as parts of South Belfast are extremely wealthy; and
- Shaftesbury is the most deprived ward with a rank of 23 in Northern Ireland. It is in the top 20 most deprived wards in Belfast.

Economic Activity²⁹

- 63.3% of residents are economically active (the Belfast average is 56.9%);
- The unemployment rate is lowest out of all four areas in Belfast at 3.4% and it has the lowest number of people on various benefits. There are only 8% of residents on income support (the Belfast average is 10.8%); and
- A high percentage of school leavers gained five or more GCSEs (69%) which is the highest out of all areas in Belfast.

Health³⁰

- The percentage of people with long-term illness (18.4%) is lower than the Belfast average of 24.2%; and
- South Belfast has the highest percentage of people who stated their health was good at 72.1% - the Belfast average is 65.8%.

Housing³¹

- There is a high percentage of owner occupied houses – 60.4% of all houses in the area, which is higher than the Belfast average of 56.1%; and
- A high proportion of houses in the area are rented (39.6%), however, it is lower than in North or West Belfast.

²⁹ Census of Employment 2005, School Leavers Survey 2004/05

³⁰ Census 2001

³¹ Census 2001

West Belfast

General context

West Belfast is an area characterised by a vibrant community infrastructure, a strong sense of identity and economic growth. It is also an area which has very high levels of deprivation in some of its wards that have among the highest levels of deprivation in Northern Ireland. West Belfast has experienced significant unrest due to the Northern Ireland conflict and this tends to impact on issues such as policing, crime, health, politics and community relations.



Poverty is an issue as evidenced by levels of household income, unemployment, poor health, poor educational attainment, child poverty, social housing demand and poor social environment.

Generally, the community culture in West Belfast is different to other parts of the city. Community organisations tend to be more connected and would work together for a shared interest.

Socio-economic profile

Demography³²

- The population of West Belfast is around 84,679³³;
- West Belfast has the **youngest population** in Belfast with 24.8% of residents below 16 years of age (the Belfast average is 19.9%), whereas the percentage of older residents (60 plus) is the lowest in Belfast at 16.6% (the Belfast average is 19.8%); and
- West Belfast is home to 15% of Belfast migrants (639 people) of which the highest percentage represent travellers (28.8%).

Crime³⁴

- The significant percentage of all crime in 2007/08 was offences against the person (24.3) and criminal damage (33.1%);
- Racist incidents have increased from 13 in 2005/06 to 20 in 2007/08, but remain the lowest in Belfast – this may be related to the lower percentage of migrant population; and
- The Community Safety Partnership Audit has revealed that **anti-social behaviour** is the most problematic issue for residents in West Belfast.

Deprivation³⁵

- West Belfast is the most deprived area in Belfast – 79% of residents live in the most deprived SOAs. Almost half of residents in West Belfast experience income deprivation (47%); and
- Four wards within West Belfast are within the top 20% most deprived wards in Belfast - Shankill (1), Falls (2), Whiterock (3) and Upper Springfield (7)

³² Census 2001

³³ NISRA 2006 population estimates

³⁴ PSNI and Community Safety Partnership Audit

³⁵ Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure 2005

Economic Activity³⁶

- A high percentage of West Belfast's population are economically inactive (49.3% compared to 43.1% of the Belfast average);
- West Belfast residents experience the highest unemployment levels of 7.8% (the Belfast average is 3.8%). Long-term unemployment represents a significant problem with 46.6% of unemployed being long-term unemployed (the highest in Belfast);
- The level of people on income support is also the highest in Belfast at 28% (Belfast average is 10.8%); and
- Educational attainment is an issue with the lowest percentage of school leavers who gained 5 or more GCSEs at grade C and above in Belfast at 40.7%

Health³⁷

- Health is an issue in West Belfast with the highest percentage of people with long-term illness at 26.8% (the Belfast average is 24.2%); and
- Also there is 12.3% of people who provide unpaid care to family and friends (the Belfast average is 11.8%).

Housing³⁸

- Housing represents a problem in West Belfast because of low numbers of owner-occupied homes and high numbers of rented houses. Only half of all the houses in the area (50.3%) are owner-occupied, which is the lowest in Belfast - much lower than the NI average;
- West Belfast has the highest percentage of houses that are rented (49.7%) – the Belfast average is 43.9%; and
- A significant percentage of households contain a person with long-term illness (55.4%).

³⁶ Census 2001, Census of Employment 2005, School Leavers Survey 2004/05

³⁷ Census 2001

³⁸ Census 2001

3.3 Key findings from the socio-economic analysis

The socio-economic analysis has highlighted a range of needs and differences across the city. These can be summarised as follows:

Demographics

- Belfast has a young population;
- North and West Belfast have the highest percentage of young people (under 16) ;
- East and North Belfast have significant percentages of older residents; and
- South Belfast is home to the highest number of migrants.

Crime

- Racial incidents are increasing in all areas (except South), however the highest number of incidents are in South Belfast; and
- Anti-social behaviour is the main problematic issue for residents in all areas.

Deprivation

- Deprivation is an issue in all of Belfast; while North and West are the most deprived, both East and South Belfast have pockets of deprivation.

Economic activity

- Both North and West Belfast have high unemployment and low economic activity levels; and
- North and West Belfast have lower levels of educational attainment.

Health

- North Belfast has the highest percentage of people with limiting long-term illness; and
- East and West Belfast have the highest percentage of people providing unpaid care to family and friends.

Housing

- East and North Belfast have the largest percentage of households with lone pensioners; and
- North and West Belfast have the highest percentage of rented houses.

3.4 Consultation

As part of the process of developing this Community Support Plan we undertook a number of pre consultation and consultation activities with the following stakeholders:

- Councillors;
- Community services staff;
- Other internal council departments;
- Community centre management committee members;
- Other statutory organisations; and
- Community and voluntary sector organisations.

The consultation highlighted a range of factors and changes that have been incorporated in this final version of Community Support Plan. More detailed feedback is included in Appendix 1 and can be summarised as follows:

- There is general lack of awareness both internally in the council and externally of what the Community Services Unit does;
- Community centres need to be used more effectively and the role of committees clarified;
- There is a general feeling that the Community Services Unit should be the change agents and conduit and link to communities;
- Community Services Unit needs to take lead role through coordination of council departments and projects which fall under community development concept;
- There is a need for the council to take a lead role in community development in Belfast with the council adopting a longer term vision and engaging with the key external partners to deliver the vision;
- The programme of activities delivered by the Community Support Unit should be less focused on community centres and include more outreach activities; and
- Community Services Unit needs to support the groups on the ground through capacity building, providing access to information, helping them plan for change and helping groups to cooperate with each other.

3.5. Analysis of what community services currently do

The following is a summary of current activities and performance of the Community Services Unit. A detailed overview can be found in Appendix 2:

- There is currently a wide variety of activities provided within the 22 community centres;
- The average yearly usage of the community centres across the city is 50%. Opportunities therefore exist to further develop the use of these assets;
- Within the Belfast context low usage numbers are recorded within the 0-4 age profile, 11-25 age profile and senior citizens;
- 70% of all the community centres run by Belfast City Council are located within 50% of the most deprived wards in Belfast;
- The after school provision in the play centres was attended by 356 children and 1,550 children attended the summer schemes in directly managed community and play centres*;
- Around 1,800 children attended central events in summer 2007;
- Whilst grants are generally being awarded to reflect the Multiple Deprivation Measure (MDM) 2005, some of the wards ranked within the top 10% most deprived wards have received a small percentage of the grants;
- Volunteers are an important resource in the effective delivery of community services work by the council. However the council does not have a volunteering policy;
- Delivered over £2 million of Grant Aid;
- Developed a partnership with An Munia Tober (Traveller Support Organisation) in the preparation and delivery of Traveller Awareness / Anti racism training; and
- Continued to engage young people in decision-making through council's run youth forum.

* Our summer scheme grant support to the sector resources a further 6000 children to attend schemes run by voluntary and community organisations.

Draft final

4. What should we be doing?

Belfast City Council is preparing this Community Support Plan in a time of hope and uncertainty. The region is facing a period of unprecedented change within local government and within the community and voluntary sector. Any impending transfer of functions to local government as part of the Review of Public Administration (RPA) will lead to a changed relationship between council and the local community and voluntary sector.

This plan must therefore identify a clear current role for the council during this change period, while also productively using this time to gather evidence and best practice to inform our future approach and support of the sector. In preparing the plan we undertook a wide range of research activities which identified a variety of issues that we as a council needed to address. These various strands of need have been transformed into our two main priorities:

- Community Development; and
- Service Delivery;

Community development

There is no overall, clear, coordinated, strategic framework for community development to match the growing requirements for community engagement in governance and public services in Northern Ireland – rather it is supported via a variety of initiatives. Belfast has benefited from a strong, diverse and committed sector and the case for support is clear but the method of intervention is less certain.

Community development poses a number of challenges for the council and other organisations, such as:

- A city wide community development framework needs to be developed which can be implemented to meet the needs of each local area;
- The funding should be adequate to achieve and maintain a major step change in the level of community strengths and empowerment;
- Community development should be managed and delivered to the highest standards;
- Community development work should be promoted as a nationally recognised occupation with a clear basis in values, methods and outcomes;
- High-quality training should be available at all levels and in different ways to suit the needs of both new and experienced practitioners; and
- Supporting the highly complex and diverse community and voluntary sector in this era of diminishing funding streams.

The council must therefore develop a framework for its own activities which will take into account the roles of all other partners engaged in community development in the city.

Service delivery

We need to work in partnership with key stakeholders to provide accessible and well co-ordinated services to people in their local neighbourhoods. In order to achieve this we must:

- Gather and share objective information about citizens and community needs;
- Share responsibility across different organisations on the actions needed to meet the needs of the local population; and
- Be transparent and accountable to the local population for service delivery and continuously improve services to work better for citizens.

The problems people in Belfast face will rarely fall solely into the structure of the council alone or those of other agencies. We must work harder and more effectively to 'join-up' our service delivery both internally within council and externally with other key providers

As part of the community development and service delivery priority there are a number of cross-cutting themes which will shape the delivery of the Community Support Plan, such as:

▪ Community inclusion

In order to build a shared future towards a stable, safe, tolerant and pluralist city, we must work at community level to encourage outward-looking and outward reaching development rather than inward looking competitive communities. We must integrate into our communities the new immigrant population which is moving into areas of our city.

We need to continue to improve community safety and promote a multicultural environment. We also need to challenge the legacy of interfaces by working with communities to address the issues which cause division and exclusion in their neighbourhoods and by supporting projects which celebrate our cultural diversity.

▪ Children and young people

Improving services to children and young people has been one of the council's key priorities over the last few years. The need for this has been further evidenced through the research we completed in preparing this plan. Our work in this area is underpinned by a firm belief in the rights of children and young people to better outcomes. Traditionally the work we have done in Community Services included play services³⁹, youth forum, pilot youth projects and community centre programmes.

In this coming period, we need to evaluate the work of all these elements. This would allow us to refocus, link and align our work, both within the service and across the whole council, in order to achieve a more coordinated impact on the lives of

³⁹ Play service includes Play centres, Seasonal play schemes, central events, support for the V&C sector and play development.

children and young people and their families. At a policy level Belfast City Council has a key role to play in facilitating and contributing to the development of a multi-agency action plan linked to the Northern Ireland 10 year Strategy for Children and Young People.

- **Volunteering**

Volunteers are the backbone of our work across neighbourhoods in the city with almost 62,500 hours of time and energy undertaken freely and without financial gain during 2006. The promotion of good practice to support both the ethos and the effort of volunteers in the city is a key priority for us. We must record good practice and adopt quality standards in order to achieve excellence in our volunteer management.

As part of our ongoing work with children and young people we need to explore ways to sustain and develop volunteering by young people in the city. We also need to consider how to overcome barriers to volunteering such as the payment of legitimate expenses and the protection of children and vulnerable adults.

- **Older people**

Belfast has a significant percentage of people over 60 years of age, in particular lone pensioners. In line with the Northern Ireland Ageing in an Inclusive Society strategy, the council, as the civic leader, needs to provide the right opportunities and support for this age group. Social inclusion will be used as the main mechanism for improving the quality of life of older residents in Belfast.

- **Poverty and deprivation**

In 2006 OFMDFM produced 'Lifetime Opportunities' – Government's Anti-poverty and Social Inclusion Strategy for Northern Ireland which set out central government's agenda to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to benefit from the increase in prosperity that the region has enjoyed in recent years.

The council wish to contribute to this policy objective and will actively consider what actions and policies they must put in place in order to eliminate poverty and tackle inequality across the city.

Community Services Unit will incorporate these themes in its plan of activities for 2008-2010.

4.4 Conclusions

Through our evidence gathering and pre-consultations, Belfast City Council has identified a number of issues affecting local people living and working in neighbourhoods across the city. This Community Support Plan sets out how council will use its resources to set priorities and related actions to address the issues.

This Community Support Plan forms the basis from which business plans will be developed and these will help to determine local service provision.

Draft final

5. What we will do

The **purpose** of the Community Services Unit is:

To support and energise communities to become stronger and more confident in order to develop an active, inclusive, safe, and welcoming city now and for future generations.

What this means is that we wish Belfast to be:

- a vibrant and dynamic community with lots to do;
- a rich tapestry of local community life, where people can be involved;
- a sustainable community looking to long term needs; and
- the community you want to belong to.

To be vibrant, dynamic and active, a city requires not just economic capital, but social capital. Social capital is the capacity of people in society to come together voluntarily to take leading and effective roles in the development and regeneration of their communities. Belfast City Council will work with community groups, organisations and citizens to build community capacity and to develop and sustain this vision of our community.

Our role

In order to deliver this vision we will take a number of roles which shape our approach to community support and development. We will:

Know the strengths and concerns of our community
Provide venues for people to gather, meet, participate, share information and celebrate
Support community networking
Provide human and other resources
Create opportunities for participation
Enable opportunities for action

Communities in Belfast continue to face many challenges. Council wants to continue to support these communities and help to develop and regenerate our neighbourhoods. To do this the Community Services Unit will act on 2 levels:

1) Take a lead role through:

- A partnership approach;

- Coordination of council departments and projects which are community focused
- Development of a partnership based community development strategy for Belfast
- Evidence based policy responses.

2) Support groups and citizens through:

- Providing assistance to local groups to access grants and practical help;
- Helping local groups to cooperate with each other;
- Signposting residents and local groups to sources of support where it is available;
- Support for neighbourhood planning;
- Ensuring effective communication within the sector; and
- Ensuring access to facilities such as community centres

We will do this so that the value of neighbourhoods is clear and prioritised, so that people can live quality lives in a modern and vibrant city and so that our lessons and the lessons of others can lead to future success.

The council has also adopted a set of values that underpin our community development work.

Core values	What this means for Community Services
Open and accountable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are open and honest in our communications, working co-operatively, ensuring both team and individual accountability for our actions and delivering sustainable results.
Inclusive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We ensure accessibility to council owned community activities and facilities for all. We will make sure that others' opinions and needs are reflected in all that we do. • We demonstrate trust, respect and sensitivity in all that we do. • We encourage and enable staff to work to their full potential.
Innovative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will be forward looking and creative in how we develop and deliver our policies and programmes and will continually find new ways to improve. We will be inspirational and progressive.
Action oriented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are civic leaders of our community, we value positive attitudes and actions that drive and deliver results.

Core values	What this means for Community Services
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will deliver on our commitments.
Collaborative working	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are committed to sharing responsibility with each other demonstrating trust, respect and sensitivity in our relationships. • We will work closely with partners to make sure that our objectives are achieved.

We will deliver the vision under the Departmental strategic wheel (as described in section 2.3). There are a number of departmental themes to which Community Services will directly contribute:

- Leadership and Governance;
- Services;
- Social and Cultural;
- Social Inclusion;
- Environmental Sensitivity;
- Economy; and
- People and Processes.

Under each of these themes are a number of objectives which the Community Services Unit will deliver on from 2008 -10. We have therefore reflected the actions we will undertake against each of these in the attached 'community support plan wheel' .

See attached 'wheel'

The actions will be delivered over a two-year period from 2008 to 2010. The table in Appendix 2 outlines the action plan for achieving this Community Support Plan with a timeframe stipulated for each of the activities. To ensure we focus our efforts where we are best placed to add value, the action plan also clearly articulates the role of the unit, that is, to lead; lobby; facilitate or deliver.

6. How we will know how well we are doing?

6.1 Monitoring arrangements

The Community Services Unit has the responsibility of coordinating, monitoring, reviewing, appraising and evaluating the future Community Support Plan against the vision, strategic themes and sub objectives to be achieved in 2008 - 2010.

The Community Services Unit reports regularly on the progress of all objectives and key performance indicators, using the information gathered to feedback into service delivery and policy decisions.

Monitoring and evaluation of the Community Support Plan will be carried out using the following channels:

- **Annual business plans** –The Community Support Plan will be implemented through a series of annual service operational plans. The service and its units will develop plans by the March of each year which detail their programme of activities. These will feed into the department’s overall annual plan. The performance of the support plan will be measured against the targets and performance indicators specified within the support plan. The results of this will be reported to Development Committee in line with the council’s performance management policy;
- **Progress reports and Annual returns to Department for Social Development** – Community Services Unit will be monitoring progress made against the output measures on a quarterly basis and will produce returns and yearly reports to DSD. Yearly reports will chart progress made on plan including the identification of any proposed changes.
- **Annual Review** - Each year the department will provide the Development Committee with an annual report which will highlight the key achievements and progress made to date with the support plan; and
- **Ongoing Review** - The Development Department Management Team will review performance on implementation of the plan on a quarterly basis with necessary improvements implemented using the traffic light flagging system. The Community Services Management Team will meet fortnightly to discuss strategic and operational elements of the Community Support Plan. Progress will be monitored and reviewed against sub objectives during these meetings.

6.2 Key monitoring measures and targets

The council is currently devising a new performance management framework which will also influence the performance management system for the Development Department and the Community Services Unit. In the absence of the new performance management framework, we have identified a number of monitoring measures and targets within the Community Support Plan to track performance towards the achievement of objectives and the overall vision of the Community Services Unit. These are outlined in the following table and performance against these targets will be monitored by the community services and departmental management teams using the monitoring arrangements detailed above.

Table 6.1: Targets for achievement of our aims

	Measurement	2006/07 Performance	2010 Target
Theme – Leadership and Governance			
Lead and influence the development of the city	Build social capital - Map the current levels of social capital in neighbourhoods across Belfast	TBC	TBC
A city strategy for Community Development	Agreed multi-stakeholder strategy	0	1
A Council strategy for Children & Young People	Agreed Council strategy	0	1
Theme – Social Inclusion			
Reduce deprivation and poverty	Number of advice enquiries addressed	134,936	150,000
	Amount of additional benefit entitlement successfully claimed	n/a	TBC
Promote good relations and reduce division and polarisation of communities	% people who believe people from different backgrounds get on well together in their local area	TBC	TBC
	Grant aid customer overall satisfaction level	n/a	85%
	Amount (& total proportion of total grants) of community support grants to organisations in the top 20% deprived wards or other local identified areas of need	n/a	80%
Theme - Services			
Make sure citizens can easily access information and services	% of services that Community Services provide that residents in all areas of Belfast are aware of	n/a	60%
Make sure local services can respond to local needs	% of service users satisfied with the services provided by Community Services	n/a	80%
Theme - Social and Cultural			
Increase the levels of confidence, participation, involvement and capacity of citizens	% increase in community throughput at centres, events and programmes organised by Community Services	Baseline number in 06/07 of 456,487	20%
	% average usage of centres	50%	75%
	Number of volunteer hours	Baseline no. in 06/07 of 62,205	70,000
Increase the capacity of citizens to make informed decisions about their neighbourhoods	Build social capital	TBC	Pilot 4 new initiatives to test support
	Measurement	2006/07	2010

		Performance	Target
Theme - Social and Cultural			
Increase the capacity of citizens to make informed decisions about their neighbourhoods	% people who feel they can influence decisions in their locality	TBC	TBC
Increase the capacity of citizens to make informed decisions about their neighbourhoods	Build social capital	TBC	Pilot 4 new initiatives to test support
	% people who feel they can influence decisions in their locality	TBC	TBC
Develop a strong cultural experience	Customer Satisfaction Levels	n/a	80%
Theme – People and Processes			
Use financial & human resources in the most effective way	Sickness absence levels for service	13.05	12.3
Improve unit processes and systems	% overall staff satisfaction with their current job in Community Services	83%	90%

In addition to these we will measure and provide the following information to DSD on an annual basis.

- Amount (and proportion of total grants) of community support grants to organisations in the most deprived wards or other locally identified areas of need;
- Number of volunteers and volunteer hours in organisations funded through community support grant aid;
- Yearly profile and usage of community centres per 1,000 population;
- List of community organisations represented on council led forums and support networks with which council engage;
- Number of advice enquiries addressed through funded advice and information agencies (by type of enquiry) and the amount of additional benefit entitlement successfully claimed;
- Private, community and other public sector resources levered by community support funding; and
- Per capita spending on actual provision of community support (including and excluding community centres).

6.3 Future Community Services budgets

A budget will be approved each year for the Community Services Unit so that it can implement its responsibilities. It is estimated that for the year 2007/08 the net expenditure for Community Services Unit will be £6,776,921 and £6,268,451 in 2008/09. However the council has yet to approve the net expenditure for 2009/10, within the duration of Community Support Plan.

Tables 6.2a and 6.2b outline the breakdown of the net expenditure for 2007/08 and 2008/09.

Table 6.2a: Net expenditure for 2007/08

	Gross Expenditure	Income	Net expenditure
Community Services management	£1,019,841	£106,888	£912,953
Community centres	£3,906,732	£59,415	£3,847,317
Travellers	£54,887	0	£54,887
Community grants	£2,311,589	£1,186,864	£1,124,725
Play centres	£535,827	£10,000	£525,827
Community Policy Unit	£166,882	0	£166,882
Children and young people	£144,330	0	£144,330
Total	£8,140,088	£1,363,167	£6,776,921

Table 6.2b: Net expenditure for 2008/09

	Gross Expenditure	Income	Net expenditure
Community Services management	£748,019	£110,034	£637,985
Community centres	£3,736,748	£61,500	£3,675,248
Travellers	£63,684	0	£63,684
Community grants	£2,366,865	£1,206,364	£1,160,501
Play centres	£599,611	£10,000	£589,611
Children and young people	£141,422	0	£141,422
Total	£7,656,349	£1,387,898	£6,268,451

Source: Development department budget estimates

7. APPENDICES

Appendix 1. Consultation with key stakeholders to date

A1.1 Key findings from consultation

As part of the process of developing the Community Support Plan we undertook a number of pre consultation and consultation activities with the following stakeholders:

- Councillors;
- Community services staff;
- Other internal council departments;
- Community centre management committee members;
- Other statutory organisations; and
- Community and voluntary sector organisations

External consultation was undertaken by Williamson Consulting on behalf of Belfast City Council, and the internal consultation was led by the Development Department in the council.

The public consultation period lasted from 14th January 2008 to 7th March 2008. In summary:

- 19 events were held;
- 2001 questionnaires were distributed to householders, 114 returned at 5.7% response rate;
- 52 online responses were received; and
- 8 written responses from:
 - Belfast community sports development network
 - VSB
 - Belfast area partnerships
 - East Belfast community development agency
 - Health Action Zone
 - NI Volunteer Development Agency
 - West Belfast Partnership Board
 - Rainbow Project.

A1.2 General Comments

The majority of commentators felt that while the draft Community Support Plan (CSP) was very comprehensive, it is too ambitious for the Council to deliver alone. It was suggested that the final CSP should therefore highlight the specific role that the council's community services unit will take in delivering the actions and meeting the needs and concerns of the sector.

Council's response and actions

Council are committed to working in partnership to delivery the targeted outcomes. We also recognise the need for further clarity on the role of the community services unit and have included a new section 'Our role' in Chapter 5 (page XX).

Based on the consultation feedback, we have decided to focus the work of Community Services Unit at two levels:

1) Take a lead role through:

- A partnership approach;*
- Coordination of council departments and projects which are community focused*
- Development of a partnership based community development strategy for Belfast*
- Evidence based policy responses.*

2) Support groups and citizens through:

- Providing assistance to local groups to access grants and practical help;*
- Helping local groups to cooperate with each other;*
- Signposting residents and local groups to sources of support where it is available;*
- Support for neighbourhood planning;*
- Ensuring effective communication within the sector; and*
- Ensuring access to facilities such as community centres*

A1.3 Priorities and strategic themes

A common view expressed by consultees was that it might be too ambitious to tackle all of the identified priorities in this plan period. Also, given the nature of the needs identified, respondents noted that a cohesive and holistic approach will be required to address the themes involving more than just the council.

It was indicated that the council needs to ensure it has the capacity to deliver on the themes and priorities identified; and at the same time the council needs to work on building capacity in the community.

Council's response

The council agrees that the extent of identified priorities is perhaps too ambitious and has therefore refined the priorities for this period. Given the needs analysis and the results of the consultation, we have decided to focus on:

- ***Development of a Community Development Strategy for Belfast***

Council is committed to working in partnership to agree a strategic framework for community development in the city. We intend to identify and invite key players to jointly agree a process and associated action plan with a view to launching an

agreed strategy by 2010. Council do not underestimate the challenge involved given the complex nature of the sector and the current context of change; however we are committed to leading an inclusive process and facilitating a partnership approach with related resources.

- **Improve grass roots participation**

The engagement of local people is an essential ingredient of good community development practice. We intend to exploit the asset of our locally based staff network to improve the opportunities, avenues, methods and capacity for community engagement. The CSU and the SNAP team will work closely with the sector to support local area working within both the current arrangements and to identify sustainable mechanisms in light of the Review of Public administration.

- **Improve citizen access to Council services**

A new business planning framework and restructuring of the service will contribute to our key objective of improving access to our council owned facilities. We will also endeavour to work with other stakeholders, including DSD and the sector, to assess local needs against current neighbourhood provision in order to support holistic planning of service provision for local communities.

- **Business Improvement**

We are committed to a continuous improvement agenda with particular focus on improvements to our customer focus, evidence based decision making, performance framework, grant support, internal and external communications and asset management.

The council is committed to working in partnership with all stakeholders and endorses the views expressed in the consultation that success can only be achieved through holistic and joined up endeavours by all stakeholders. Council agrees that a partnership approach with clearly defined roles and responsibilities is critical to the success of the CSP which is why we have indicated more explicitly in the action plan which actions we will:

- *Lead;*
- *Lobby;*
- *Facilitate; or*
- *Deliver*

The revised action plan is in Appendix 2.

A1.5 Objectives and actions

The consultees felt that the list of objectives was quite comprehensive, however the view was that some of the objectives are the remit of some other organisations, and thus the council should only support these.

For example:

- Governance and quality standards issues is provided through organisations such as NICVA, DSD., VDA., Atlantic Philanthropy.
- VSB and VDA are leaders in promotion, development and capacity of volunteers;

Council's response and actions

Based on these views the council will not develop quality standards for community organisations as a strategic action, but rather we will work to support NICVA, DSD, VDA and other organisations in this field..

Volunteering is a critical issue for the council. A key priority action is the development of a Council volunteering policy; in this process we will seek advice from organisations who specialise in the development of volunteers.

A 1.6 Some other specific comments

Consultees had some suggestions on either what needs to be more highlighted, improved, or added to the final version of CSP, such as:

- It is crucial that the grant programme is outcome focused;
- Community development strategy is a priority but on a city wide level;
- To work on inclusion of immigrants;
- Include business improvement and investing as separate objectives; and
- Set up more children and young people projects;

Council's response and actions

Some of these suggestions reinforce the current objectives in the CSP. We will focus our efforts on community development strategy and have already embarked on a review exercise to ensure that our grants programme is outcome focused. Also we are planning to develop a Children and Young People Strategy for the council which will result in increased efforts to target children and young people and address their needs. We have also included a more specific objective in relation to immigrants and a section on 'people and processes' which explains how we will invest in our staff and improve our service delivery.

Appendix 2 Table A2.1: Community support plan actions

Strategic Objectives	Associated actions	08/09	09/10	Stage
Strategic Theme: Leadership & Governance				
Objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lead and influence the development of the city 	Develop children and young people strategy for the council			Deliver
	Develop community development strategy for the city			Lead
	Provision of capacity building & practical skills support to community sector organisations			Facilitate
	Work with relevant stakeholders to ensure efficient transfer of responsibilities related to RPA			Lobby
	Lead the review of Council Child Protection Policy and Procedures and make recommended changes			Deliver
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop effective partnerships 	Develop network support within and between communities			Facilitate
	Support Neighbourhood Renewal Partnerships			Facilitate
	Support internal and external partnerships and initiatives			Facilitate
Strategic Theme: Services				
Objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make sure citizens can easily access information and services 	Develop standards of service delivery			Deliver
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make sure local services can respond to local needs 	Review the council's community centre management arrangements			Deliver
	Develop community centre practice framework to respond to local needs			Deliver
Strategic Theme: Environmental Sensitivity				
Objectives : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Help to reduce the city's 	Support environmental projects at neighbourhood level such as recycling, park murals, community clean ups and waste week activities			Deliver

Strategic Objectives	Associated actions	08/09	09/10	Stage
carbon footprint				
Strategic Theme: Economy				
Objectives:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase skills levels 	Develop programmes to enhance the skills and knowledge of communities in order to improve employment opportunities			Facilitate
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase employment levels 	Support an enterprise outreach programme for business start up support via community centres			Deliver
Strategic Theme: Social & Cultural				
Objectives:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a strong cultural experience 	Provide a high quality, accessible play service and development role			Deliver
	Deliver a premier city wide children and young people's programme			Facilitate
	Develop and deliver city wide programmes and services in high quality venues			Deliver
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the levels of confidence, participation and involvement of citizens 	Continue to improve consultation and involvement with youth via our Youth Forum			Deliver
	Develop and implement a BCC volunteering policy			Deliver
Strategic Theme: Social Inclusion				
Objectives:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce deprivation and poverty 	Distribute £2.3 million of grant aid per annum			Deliver
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote good relations and reduce division and polarisation of communities 	Deliver a range of cross community programmes			Facilitate
	Deliver a support programme for travellers and other ethnic minority communities			Facilitate
Strategic Theme: People & Processes				
Objective				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use financial and human resources in the most effective 	Agree and implement a new structure for the Unit			Deliver
	Deliver effective staff engagement and communications system internally			Deliver
	Review information and data collection systems			Deliver

Strategic Objectives	Associated actions	08/09	09/10	Stage
way	Develop a skills strategy for community services staff			Deliver
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve unit's processes and systems 	Realign grant support in accordance with departmental strategic themes			Deliver
	Develop an assets management plan for all CS buildings			Deliver
	Develop a Service marketing strategy associated communications plan			Deliver
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase unit's efficiencies 	Develop a resource allocation policy			Deliver

Appendix 3. What are we currently doing?

A3.1 General Introduction

The Community Services Unit within Belfast City Council works with community groups, organisations and citizens to build community capacity and to offer front line services and advice to the community sector. It sits within the development department of council and reports to the development committee.

The Community Services Unit is led by a Community Services Manager who is supported by four Community Services area managers for East, North, South and West Belfast and a Play Development Officer. The current establishment figure for the unit is approximately 163.5 employees.

The net expenditure for the Community Services Unit during the 2006/07 period was £8,449,796, which was 6% of the council's total expenditure. This expenditure also includes the contribution from the Department of Social Development (DSD) of £1,296,533. The breakdown of the actual expenditure is detailed in Table A2.1:

Table A3.1: Net expenditure breakdown of the Community Services Unit 2006/07

Breakdown of net expenditure 2006/07	£	%
Community centres (includes capital charges - £1,078,368, staff, maintenance, operating costs and contributions to community run centres)	£4,926,280	58%
Community development (includes staff and operating costs)	£932,615	11%
Community grants (allocation of 6 grants, includes £1,296,583 DSD contribution)	£1,953,474	23%
Play centres and play development (includes capital charges - £166,270, staff, maintenance and operating costs)	£637,427	8%
TOTAL	£8,449,796	100%

Source: Development department budget estimates

The highest amount of expenditure was allocated to managing community centres.

The unit has three main resources which it uses to achieve its objectives namely:

1) Estate

- Provision of 22 community centres and one neighbourhood office across the city;
- Provision of support to 6 independent community run centres across the city;
- Provision of 6 play centres and play development across the city; and
- Provision of an outreach support office for the Traveller community and support for an independent centre managed by the Traveller support organisation.

2) Grants

- Provision of grants and funding.

3) People

- Provision of community development staff and community networks;
- Support of Neighbourhood Renewal Partnerships;
- Delivery of community projects;
- Youth Forum; and
- Volunteers.

In the following sections a summary is provided on how the unit use these resources. The figures are based on the 2006/07 year as this provides a full year of activity from which to analyse. The figures for 2007/08 are not yet available.

A2.2 Estate

Belfast City Council directly manages 22 community centres and the East Belfast Neighbourhood Office. The 22 community centres run by the council are located across the four parliamentary constituencies in the city (East, North, South and West). Community centres provide a broad range of community development programmes and activities based on local need. Programme activities range from regular user groups of senior citizens, parent and toddlers and residents, to specific theme based projects of community safety, good relations and the environment. Each centre offers opportunities for involvement for all age groups. Centres also act as a base for partnership working with statutory and voluntary organisations. For example, The Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE), Belfast Education & Library Board (BELB), Sure Start and Barnardo's. Centre opening hours are Monday – Friday morning, afternoon and evening, and community development usage is normally free.

The broad range of programmes and activities provided by centres is detailed on Figure A3.2 below.

Figure A3.2: Community centre activities



An annual summer scheme is also run at each community centre offering children and young people 5-16 years the chance to take part in a wide range of activities e.g. arts and crafts, day trips, and workshops.

The Neighbourhood Office is located in the east of the city and was established to help address the lack of community development presence in the Pottinger electoral area. It is staffed by a Community Development Worker who gives advice and direction to local groups. The office also acts as an information point for other Belfast City Council services.

Community centre net expenditure

The highest amount of expenditure in 2006/07 went to the provision of 22 community centres across the city. The breakdown of community centre net expenditure for each of the areas is outlined below:

- East Belfast £730,834;
- North Belfast £1,212,392;
- South Belfast £1,436,617; and
- West Belfast £1,546,443.

The variation in funding reflects the number of centres in each area.

Community centre usage

Community centres had a total throughput of 456,489 people in 2006/07. The average yearly usage of the centres across the city was 50% (based on 2006/07 figures). Usage of community centres is calculated as the proportion of time the

centre is in use during opening hours. The average usage varies between centres as illustrated in Table A3.3

Table A3.3 Percentage usage of community centres 2006/07

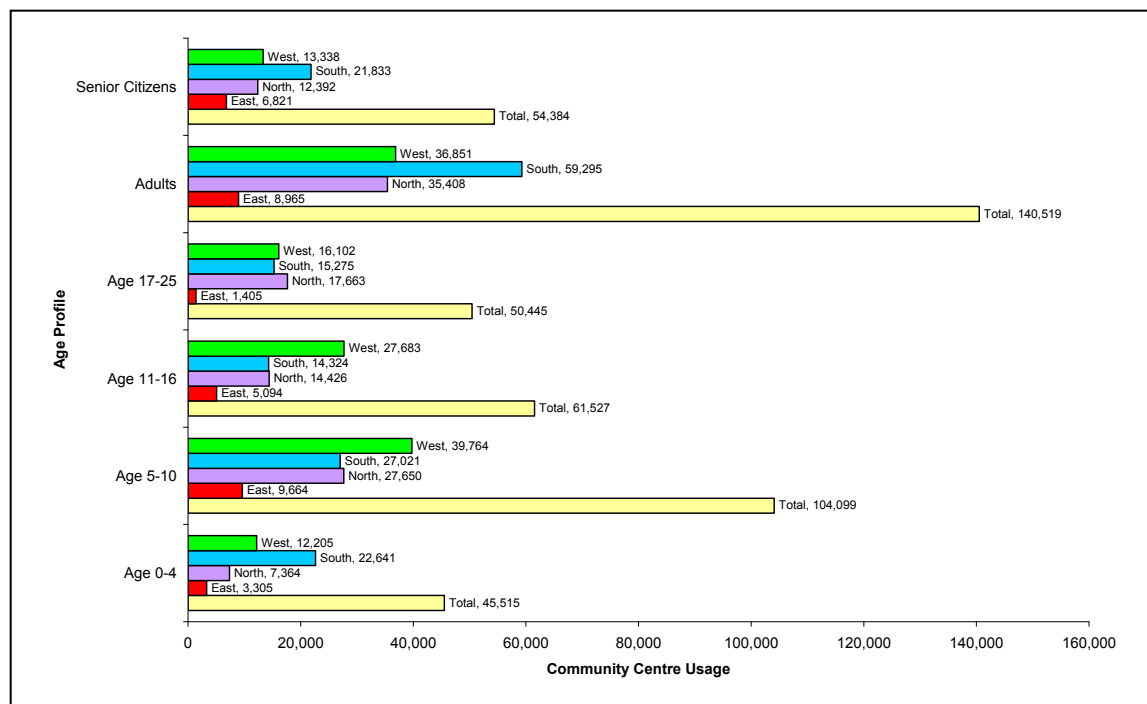
No. of community centres	% Usage
11	30 - 49%
10	50 – 69%
1	70 - 89%

It is clear from Table A3.3 that 50% of all community centres have percentage usage figures between 50 – 89%.

Belfast City Council’s community centre users’ age profile

Our community centres are used by all ages of citizens as illustrated in Figure A3.4.

Figure A3.4: Comparison of age profile and community centre usage 2006/07



Based on the Belfast usage totals, adults use the community centres the most with a total of 140,519 users*. The 0-4 age profile uses community centres least with 45,515 users. This is closely followed by the 17-25 age profile with 50,445 users and senior citizens with 54,384.

*NOTE: Users is based on footfall.

Mapping of the 22 community centres and the East Belfast Neighbourhood Office against the Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure 2005 (NIMDM 2005)

One of the main elements of the Community Support Plan is to map the location of the council's direct run community centres and the East Belfast Neighbourhood Office against the NIMDM 2005. This exercise identifies how well the Community Support Unit is targeting its facilities and services at areas of greatest social need (See table A3.18 for a summary of the NIMDM 2005 ranking of all wards in Belfast).

As outlined in Table A3.5, four community centres are located in the top 10% most deprived wards in Belfast, seven community centres are located in the top 20% most deprived wards in Belfast and 70% of all community centres are located within 50% of the most deprived wards in Belfast.

Table A3.5: Location of 22 community centres and East Belfast Neighbourhood Office and rank of ward NIMDM 2005

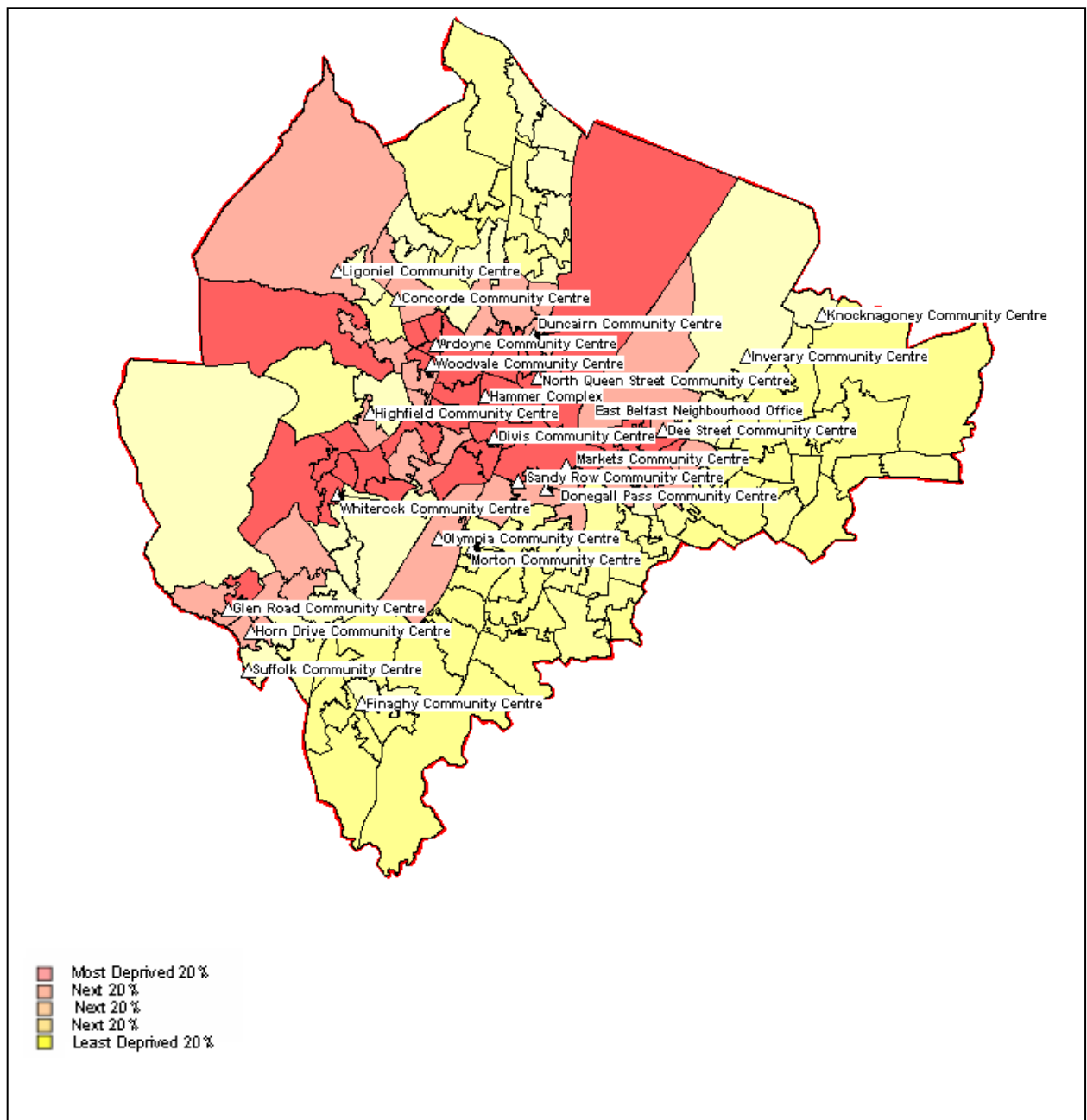
Community centre areas	Community centres/ Neighbourhood office	Ward	Rank of Ward Multiple Deprivation
East Belfast community centres	Dee Street	Island	18
	Inverary	Sydenham	31
	Knocknagoney	Belmont	39
	East Belfast Neighbourhood Office	Bloomfield	30
North Belfast community centres	Ardoyne	Ardoyne	6
	Concorde	Cliftonville	24
	Duncairn	Duncairn	9
	ligoniel	Ligoniel	22
	North Queen Street	New Lodge	5
	Woodvale	Woodvale	10
South Belfast community centres	Donegal Pass	Shaftesbury	14
	Finaghy	Finaghy	48
	Markets	Shaftesbury	14
	Morton	Windsor	38
	Olympia	Blackstaff	16
	Sandy Row	Shaftesbury	14
	Suffolk	Ladybrook	27
West Belfast community centres	Divis	Falls	2
	Glen Rd	Glen Colin	20
	Hammer	Crumlin	4
	Highfield	Highfield	23
	Horn Drive	Ladybrook	27
	Whiterock	Whiterock	3

Source: Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure 2005, NISRA

Note: Ranks in **red** fall within the top 10% most deprived wards in Belfast
Ranks in **amber** fall within the top 20% most deprived wards in Belfast
Ranks in **green** fall within the top 50% most deprived wards in Belfast
Ranks in **black** are outside of the top 50% most deprived wards in Belfast

Figure A3.6 on the following page visualises ward deprivation within Belfast and the location of community centres. It is evident that a majority of the community centres are located within the 'darker coloured' areas – which represent the most deprived wards in Belfast.

Figure A3.6: Belfast City Council community centres and NIMDM 2005



Provision of indirect support to six independent community centres across the city

Belfast City Council indirectly supports six other independent community run centres: Ballymacarrett, Grosvenor, Shaftesbury, Carrick Hill, Denmark Street and Percy Street by providing grants, payment of capital charges and maintenance costs.

Net expenditure of independent community centres

Table A3.7 illustrates that a total of £288,170 was allocated to support the six independent community centres (Shaftesbury, Grosvenor, Percy Street, Denmark Street, Ballymacarrett and Carrick Hill*).

Table A2.7 Net expenditure on independent community centres in 2006/07

Independent community centre areas	Net expenditure 2006/07
South	£50,000
West	£65,000
East	£50,000
North	£30,000

Mapping of the six independent community centres against NIMDM 2005

Belfast City Council offers indirect support to four independent community run centres that fall within the top 10% most deprived wards in Belfast, one which falls within the top 20% most deprived wards in Belfast and one within the top 40% most deprived wards in Belfast. This is summarised in the table below.

Table A3.8: Location of the 6 independent community centres and rank of ward NIMDM 2005

Independent community centre areas	Independent community centre	Ward	Rank of Ward Multiple Deprivation
South	Shaftesbury	Shaftesbury	14
West	Grosvenor	Falls	2
	Percy Street	Shankill	1
	Denmark Street	Shankill	1
East	Ballymacarrett	Ballymacarrett	8
North	Carrick Hill	New Lodge	5

Source: Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure 2005, NISRA

Note: Ranks in **red** fall within the top 10% most deprived wards in Belfast
Ranks in **amber** fall within the top 20% most deprived wards in Belfast
Ranks in **green** fall within the top 40% most deprived wards in Belfast

Belfast city council also offer 3 portable buildings for the Traveller community, which help to provide an outreach office, after-schools & youth work. These portable buildings are located on the Glen Road which falls within the top 20% most deprived wards in Belfast with a rank of 17 in terms of Multiple Deprivation.

Provision of 6 Play Centres and play development across the city

The council runs six playcentres which are managed by on-site play development staff. The centres provide a wide range of play activities for children aged between three and 11 through pre-school playgroups, after-schools clubs and seasonal

playschemes. These include arts and crafts, themed projects, games, outdoor play and trips.

Play development support is provided centrally by the Play Development Officer through the provision of training, advice, events and resources to ensure quality support of the play sector. Locally play development support is available through the community and play centres.

The play services and developmental support represents a significant part of the work of the Community Services Unit and is important to meet the developmental needs of children.

Play centres net expenditure

Table A3.9 below outlines the net expenditure of the six play centres across the different areas of Belfast (Avoniel, Loop River, Ballysillan, North Queen Street, Olympia, Whiterock). In 2007/08 play centres spent £682,131 of the Community Services Unit budget.

Table A2.9: Play centre net expenditure 2006/07

Play centre areas	Net expenditure (£)	% Total
East Belfast	£278,772	44%
North Belfast	£148,267	23%
South Belfast	£136,032	21%
West Belfast	£74,369	12%

Play centre usage

After school provision was attended by 356 children and 354 were provided with summer scheme opportunities. This is evident from Table A3.10.

Table A3.10: No. of registered children within the play centres

Play centre areas	Play centres	No. of registered children			
		Playgroups (3-4 yrs)	After school clubs (4-11 yrs)	Summer schemes (4-11 yrs)	Total places
East Belfast	Avoniel	16	60	93	169
	Loop River	0	67	72	139
North Belfast	Ballysillan	16	53	42	111
	North Queen Street	0	104	69	173
South Belfast	Olympia	16	48	48	112

West Belfast	Whiterock	0	24	30	54
Belfast Total		48	356	354	758

The play centres are registered for sixteen places for the playgroup and after school clubs. For the playgroup, the same children attend all five mornings. With the exception of Whiterock, the after school clubs in the centres offer split sessions for the different age groups enabling more children to attend. In Whiterock, the children attend the whole afternoon session.

Pre-school playgroups only run in three of the six play centres as due to demographic changes and the availability of funding for nursery places, the remaining three playgroups were closed due to lack of numbers. In those services that are open, two-thirds of the children attending are in their pre-school year.

Some of the play centres are registered for less children than accepted but they offer split sessions. For example, Ballysillan and Loop River are both registered for 16 at a time, they accept more children by having them in split sessions. East Belfast has the highest usage with two centres.

Mapping of the six play centres against the NIMDM 2005

It is evident from Table A3.11 below that two of the play centres are located within the top 10% most deprived wards and two fall within the top 50% most deprived wards in Belfast.

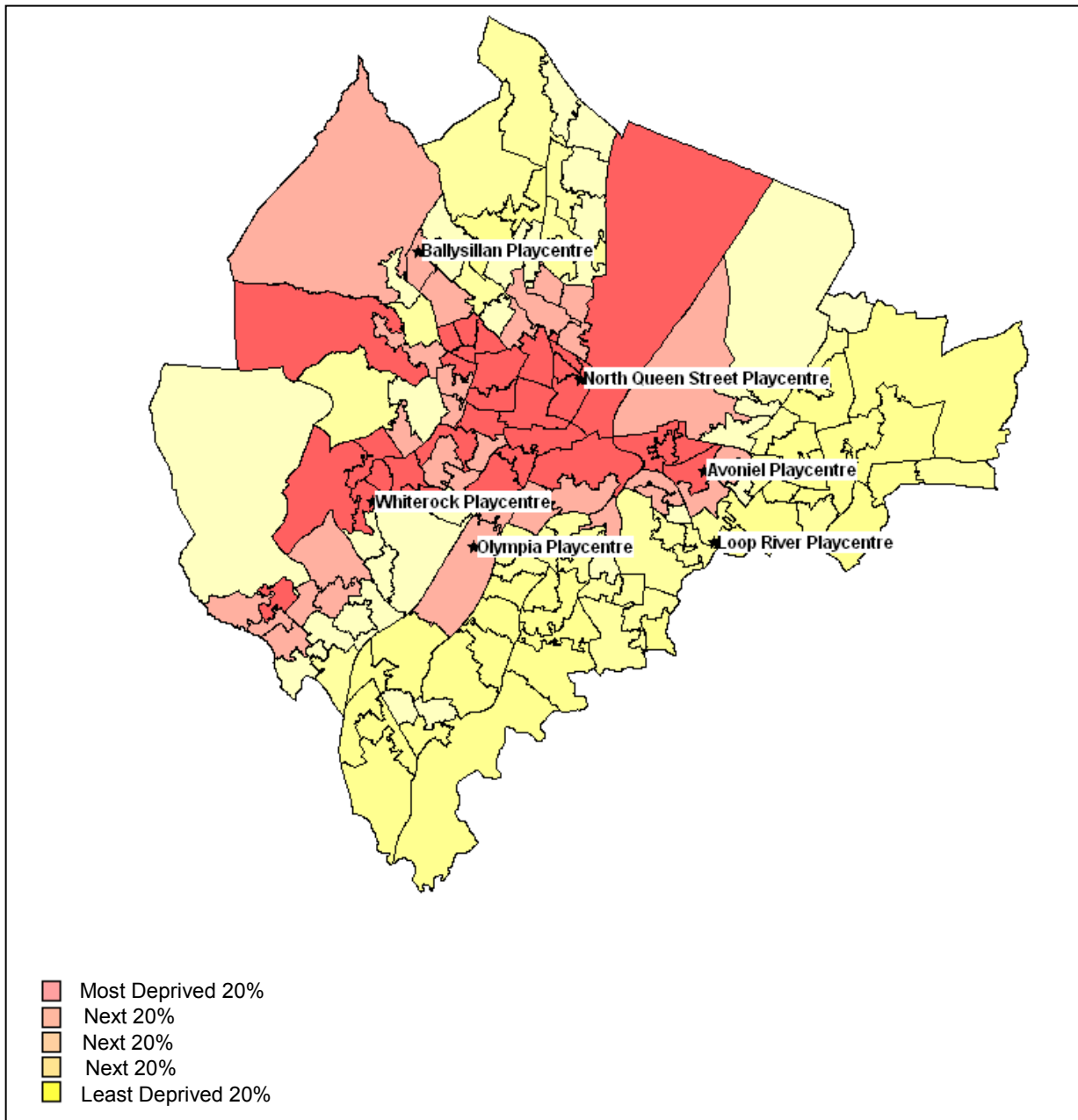
Table A2.11: Location of six play centres and rank of ward multiple deprivation

Play centre areas	Play centres	Ward	Rank of Ward Multiple Deprivation
East Belfast	Avoniel	The Mount	11
	Loop River	Orangefield	43
North Belfast	Ballysillan	Ballysillan	28
	North Queen Street	New Lodge	5
South Belfast	Olympia	Blackstaff	16
West Belfast	Whiterock	Whiterock	3

Source: Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure 2005, NISRA

Note: Ranks in **red** fall within the top 10% most deprived wards in Belfast
Ranks in **amber** fall within the top 20% most deprived wards in Belfast
Ranks in **green** fall within the top 40% most deprived wards in Belfast
Ranks in **black** are outside of the top 50% most deprived wards in Belfast

Figure A3.12: Belfast City Council play centres and Multiple Deprivation Measure



5.3 Grants

There are six main grant types administered through the Community Services Unit. These include the following grants: advice services, capacity building, revenue, community development projects, play schemes and the community chest.

- **Advice services**

The purpose of advice services grants is to provide overall advice to residents in Belfast through a consortium based approach to the North, South, East, West, and city centre. There are two grant types:

- i) Core funding to cover revenue and other operating costs; and
- ii) Supplementary funding with DSD for advice outreach costs.

Advice and resource centres are located across wards in Belfast based on the consortium approach and then allocated to a wide range of beneficiaries across various wards in Belfast, this is illustrated in Table A3.16.

- **Capacity building**

The capacity building grant aims to provide financial support to community organisations to undertake capacity building work on a city wide basis in Belfast. Capacity building is defined as development work that is delivered to membership community groups within the designated area to strengthen those groups ability to build their structures, systems, people and skills. Table A3 in appendix 3 shows the location of the organisations and groups in receipt of the grants and the multiple range of wards in Belfast who benefit from these grants.

- **Revenue**

The Community Services Unit provides financial support towards running costs of community buildings. Community groups that can demonstrate a broad based programme are given a priority. Eligible running costs include: heat and light, insurance, stationary and office consumables, cleaning materials, health and safety equipment, telephone and postage.

- **Community development projects**

The Community Development Projects grants provide financial support to small scale community projects that strengthen local efforts to enhance and improve the quality of life in local neighbourhoods.

- **Grants for Play schemes**

This grant offers financial support to community based summer play schemes. These programmes offer a wide range of social, recreational & educational activities appropriate for children & young people aged 5-14 years.

- **Community chest grant**

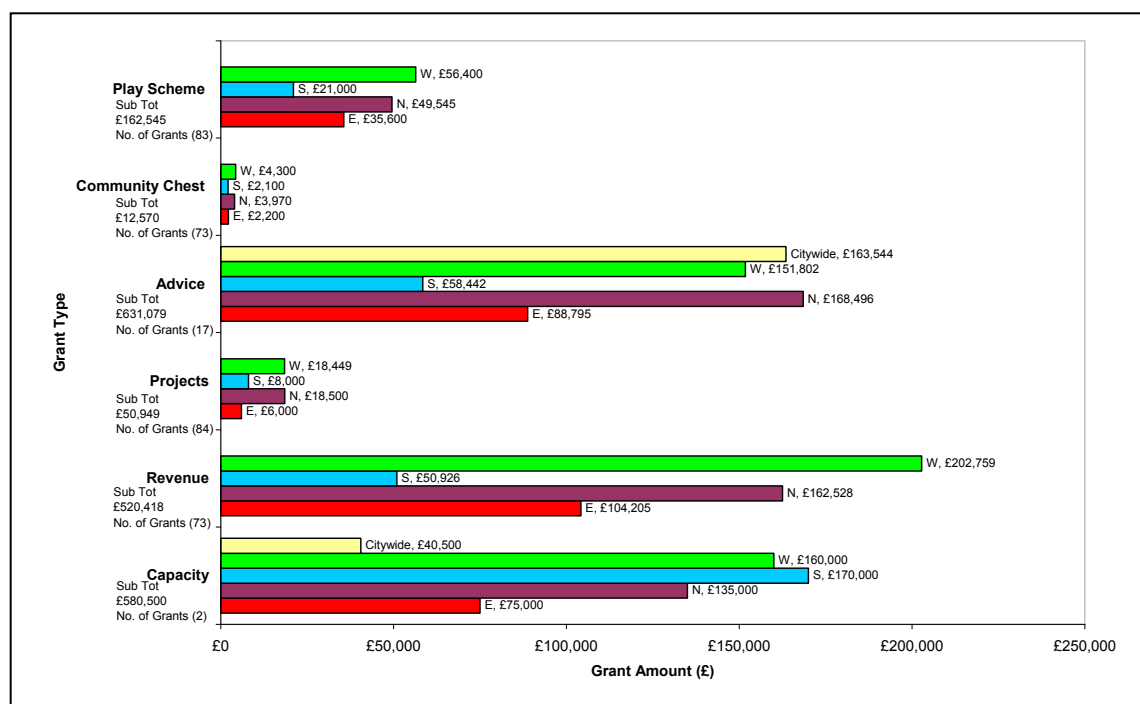
The Community chest grant provides financial support to community activities which promote a sense of community spirit and community involvement, such as the organisation of Halloween or Christmas parties.

Grants and funding breakdown

A total of 348 grants at a value of £2,366,865 was allocated in 2007/08, which includes a contribution from DSD of £1,206,364. Figure A3.13 provides a summary of the grants and funding allocated by Belfast City Council.

Overall advice grants were the highest percentage of the total amount funded in 2006/07 (32%) allocating £631,079 to 17 groups across the city. This is closely followed by capacity grants receiving 30% of the total grants and funding allocation.

Figure A3.13 Summary of grant and funding breakdown



Mapping of grants and funding against the NIMDM 2005

Advice grants and capacity grants

Tables A32.16 and A3.17 (at the end of the chapter) clearly map the location of advice centres and organisations in receipt of capacity grants against the NIMDM 2005, but it is difficult to directly map the beneficiaries in receipt of advice and capacity grants against the NIMDM 2005 as a multitude of wards across the city benefit from these grants (this is evident from tables A3.16 and A3.17).

However table A3.16 shows that nearly all the advice centres, apart from three within the south of the city, are located within the top 50% most deprived wards in Belfast. Table A3.17 outlines that nearly all the organisations in receipt of capacity grants, apart from those located within the south of the city are located within the top 20% most deprived wards in Belfast.

It is evident that a multitude of wards benefit from these grants right across Belfast.

Revenue grants, community development projects grants, grants for play schemes and the community chest grants

The four remaining grants were analysed on an area basis i.e. North, South, East and West against the NIMDM 2005. Table A3.18 (at the end of the chapter) shows that there is a fair distribution of grants and funding across all areas and wards in Belfast, with West Belfast receiving the highest percentage of grants and funding (40%), closely followed by North Belfast receiving (30%) of total grants and funding. South Belfast was allocated the least funding overall, receiving only 8% of total

grants and funding. It is evident that most funding is allocated to the most deprived areas of Belfast (West and North).

Whilst this is generally the case, table A3.18 also highlights that the pockets of deprivation that exist within the Blackstaff and Shaftesbury wards in South Belfast received higher percentages of grants and funding, even though South Belfast is considered to be a more affluent area. However a more detailed ward analysis in table A3.18 of grants allocated illustrates that some wards which fall within the top 10% most deprived wards in Belfast, received limited grant funding from the council.

Table A3.14 Area based total of revenue grants, community development projects grants, grants for play schemes and the community chest grants and as a % of total grants/ funding

Area	Grants/funding	Area % of Grants/funding
East	£162,229	22%
North	£226,615	30%
South	£61,121	8%
West	£296,517	40%
Total	£746,518	100.00%

2.4 People

Community development staff and community networks

The community development staff at Belfast City Council provide different services to local communities in order to help build capacity at a local level. Staff regularly take the role of facilitator, pathfinder, advocate and catalyst within local community groups. Community development staff are available at no charge to assist community groups with:

- Information and Advice;
- Effective meetings;
- Strategic planning;
- Group facilitation;
- Community cohesion;
- Establishing a new group;
- Facilities management;
- Training;
- Linking resources;
- Business planning;
- Networking and liaison;
- Project development;
- Sourcing and applying for funding.

Community development staff are involved in facilitating community networks. Community networks provide a forum for community groups and community focused people to meet, exchange information and discuss community issues. Community advisors coordinate, facilitate and offer support for these networks. Each network is shaped to address the needs of members and assist in sharing information, finding solutions to certain common problems or promoting some community events.

Support of Neighbourhood Renewal Partnerships

The council has representation on 11 of the 12 Neighbourhood renewal areas and partnerships in Belfast. The council has been actively involved in neighbourhood renewal area work by participating in the development of community plans and/or having representatives on different Neighbourhood Renewal Partnerships.

The Council has representatives on:

- Inner North;
- Ligoniel;
- Ballysillan/Upper Ardoyne;
- Crumlin/Ardoyne;
- Lenadoon;
- Andersonstown;
- Upper Springfield;
- Greater Falls; and
- Inner East Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership.
- South West Belfast
- Inner South

There is only one Neighbourhood Renewal Partnerships (Greater Shankill) without Council's representation; however this is likely to change in the future.

Delivery of community projects

The council has been involved in the delivery of a number of community based projects in partnership with central government, local service providers and community workers. Some of the community based projects are detailed below as five exemplar case studies.

Case Study 1: Shared History Project – South Belfast

Aim and objectives of the project

A Community Development Worker developed a Shared History Project for the Donegall Pass Community Centre and South Belfast Round table on Racism. The purpose of this project was "To raise awareness of anti racist principles, foster community relations through participation and provide anti-racist/cultural awareness training".

Target beneficiaries

The project involved members from the local community of Donegall Pass, including the indigenous population as well as the Chinese and Polish communities. The concept centred on the stories of how residents from the three cultures settled in Donegall Pass. The main ethos of the project was to focus on what united people as opposed to what divided them.

Outputs and results

The project succeeded in delivering its objectives of engaging with members of the ethnic minority community as well as the indigenous community of Donegall Pass. It explored the cultural and historical backgrounds of the various groups thereby promoting positive dialogue leading to a recognition and greater understanding of other traditions. The project also developed a touring exhibition which was launched at Belfast City Hall.

Case Study 2: Digital Communities Project – East and West Belfast

Aims and objectives of the project

The Digital Communities project is part of Hewlett-Packard's Global Philanthropy Programme. It is an exciting and dynamic project involving four community centres across East and West Belfast. Belfast City Council became host to two of the community centres, namely Dee Street and Hammer. The voluntary sector is represented by Short Strand and Tullymore Community Centres.

The aim of the project is to provide an opportunity for the relevant communities to have access to IT equipment, acquire computer skills and thereby aid education, skill development and boost employment opportunities. It also aims to help build confidence and trust within and between communities and to foster greater cross-community co-operation.

Target beneficiaries

The project provides equipment that marginalised communities can use to provide programmes and activities focusing on tackling and bridging the digital divide.

Outputs and results

The project is not just about community training, but also community development. As well as providing certificated courses such as CLAIT 2006 and ECDL, the project has provided other courses including;

- Protecting Kids On-line: awareness training for parents, grandparents and adults concerned about the dangers of internet and e mail;
- Driving Theory course practice: run in conjunction with the PSNI and Lower Shankill Community Association;
- Silver Surfers courses: beginner and internet/email courses for the over 50s. These courses have been run in conjunction with Help the Aged and the Workers Educational Association (WEA).

The Project has encouraged the four community centres to work together, which resulted in the production of a Digital Communities calendar for 2007, featuring images taken by the communities themselves. The four centres also worked together on a Claymation project for 14 -18 year olds. Each community centre had the opportunity to work with a facilitator to produce a two minute clay animation film on the theme "My Community". The young people from each centre gave their views on what it's like to be young and living in these communities.

Case Study 3: The 'Keep It Safe!' event – North Belfast

Aims and objectives of the project

The aim of the 'Keep It Safe' event was to provide opportunities for young people from the North Belfast area, between the ages of 14-18 years, to explore community safety issues that affect them such as drugs, alcohol, smoking, internet and mobile phone misuse, health, anti-social behaviour, racism, sectarianism, graffiti and policing through a multi agency approach. The event encouraged the promotion of good relations as the diversity of the youth groups invited crossed over many of the social, economic, religious and cultural divides that exist within North Belfast.

Key partners involved

A total of 140 participants attended. The event was planned and implemented by the Upper Ardoyne Youth Forum in partnership with Concorde Community Centre and Upper Ardoyne Community Partnership staff based at Concorde Community Centre and took place at Belfast Castle on 21 March 2007.

Outputs & results

The actual needs of young people rather than perceived needs were addressed. Workshops and information stands were chosen via an in-depth audit carried out by Upper Ardoyne Youth Forum members who were involved fully throughout the planning and development process. They also won a £1,000 prize awarded by Belfast Community Safety Partnership, Belfast City Council Youth Forum and the Thomas Devlin Trust.

Feedback received from participants who attended the event was very positive with all participants (100%) indicating that they had improved their learning in relation to

Case Study 4: Ardcarne Community Association Development – East Belfast

Aims and objectives of the project

Ardcarne estate comprises of a mix of Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE) accommodation. It lies at the very edge of Belfast and borders the Castlereagh areas of Dundonald and Tullycarnett. It has many social needs which are often hidden by its proximity to Stormont and Cherryvalley. Historically there has been little community development activity and until recently no community services input into the area. This changed in the last five years, in the summer of 2002 a small summer programme based around a mobile play van was organized. This proved a great success and acted as a catalyst for local people to become more active within the community.

Key partners involved

With support from both local councillors and Community Services staff a Residents Association was formed. Meetings initially took place within residents' own homes, however it became clear that a more permanent base was required. NIHE was approached and a small flat was made available for use. A full and inclusive programme of activities has been undertaken with many external organisations being able to feed into the estate through the group. These include Social Services, PSNI, NIHE, Probation and BELB youth service.

Outputs and results

Cross community and cross border links have been established and maintained. As well as social and educational projects, links with proposed housing developments in the area have taken place. This has led to the potential expansion of the group and the possibility of a new purpose built community centre being secured.

The Community Services Unit provided all necessary support to enable this local community development project to develop, grow and be effective.

Case Study 5: Play for All project

Aims and objectives of the project

To enable the participation of children with disabilities within their local play projects and summer schemes based in community, play and leisure centres.

Key partners involved

The project works in partnership with Barnardo's, Down District Council and the Eastern Childcare Partnership. Through the partnership, a Play Development Worker is employed through Barnardo's to work in the Belfast and Down District Council areas to support inclusion through liaising with and providing support to families, centres and relevant agencies.

Target beneficiaries

The main beneficiaries are children with disabilities who are now able to access provision in their local communities. The project primarily supports inclusion in the summer schemes as children with disabilities attend schools outside their areas and are not often home in time to access after school provision. To develop inclusion throughout the year a Saturday club has been piloted in one play and one community centre and provides play opportunities for local children of all abilities.

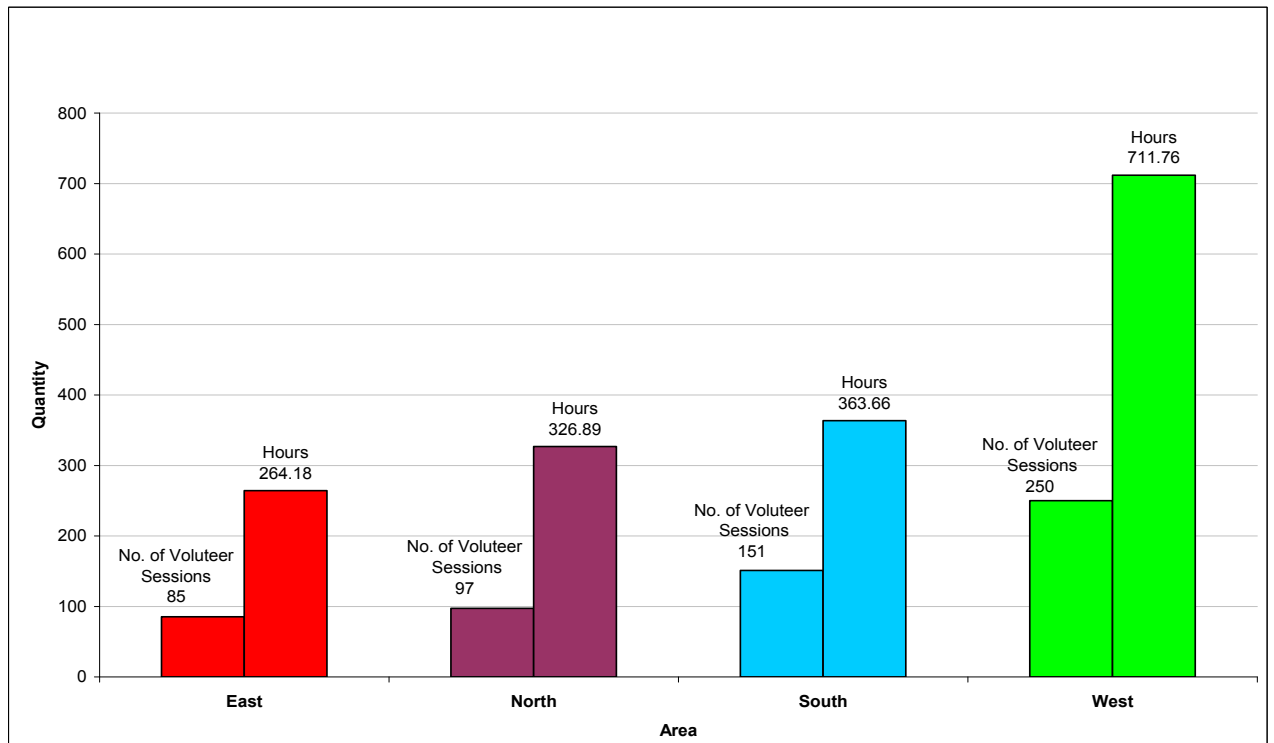
Outputs and results

The project has been running for nine years. In 2006, seventy six children with disabilities attended summer schemes in community and play centres. Support staff has been provided where necessary. As centres have been involved in the project, their knowledge and experience has increased depending less on the need for an additional worker. In 2007, two play staff will be taking over the role from Barnardo's to enable Belfast City Council to provide support from within. This will be undertaken with the support of Barnardo's.

Engaging volunteers

Volunteering is very important for delivering community services. In 2006/07 more than 22,000 volunteer sessions supported community centre activities. Their overall time amounted to 62,205 hours, which equates to 7,776 days (9-5 working hours). Volunteer numbers and hours are presented in Figure A3.15.

Figure A3.15: No. of volunteers and hours worked in 2006/07



It is evident from Figure A3.15 that West Belfast has the highest number of volunteers and volunteer hours. East Belfast has the lowest number of volunteers and volunteer hours.

Volunteering is a core resource to community development and an invaluable resource to the council's community centres. However the council does not have a policy for recruitment and development. Volunteers are needed however to run many of the programmes and activities held in community centres.

More detailed tables

Table A3.16 Ward location of advice centres

East Belfast Advice Consortium			
Name of Advice Centre	Advice Centre Ward	Rank of Advice Centre Ward Multiple Deprivation	Ward location / Rank of multiple deprivation of beneficiary of Advice grants
East Belfast Independent Advice Centre	The Mount	11	Ballymacarret (8), The Mount (11), Woodstock (21), Bloomfield (30), Orangefield (43), Ravenhill (40), Bloomfield (30)
CAB (East Belfast)	Island	18	Ballyhackamore (42), Island (18), Knock (45), Sydenham (31), Ballymacarret (8), Bloomfield (30), The Mount (11)
North Belfast Advice Consortium			
Name of Advice Centre	Advice Centre Ward	Rank of Advice Centre Ward Multiple Deprivation	Ward location / Rank of multiple deprivation of beneficiary of Advice grants
Vine Centre	Crumlin	4	Ligoniel (22), Ballysillan (28), Cliftonville (24), Ardoyne (6), Waterworks (12), New Lodge (5), Ligoniel (22), Cavehill (47), Bellevue (32), Castlevue (33), Duncairn (9)
Tar Isteach	New Lodge	5	Bellevue (32), Cavehill (47), Castlevue (33), Duncairn (9), Fortwilliam (35), Ligoniel (22), Ballysillan (28), Chichester Park (29), Cliftonville (24), Glencairn (15), Ardoyne (6), Waterworks (12), Highfield (23), Woodvale (10), Crumlin (4), New Lodge (5)

North Belfast Advice Consortium			
CAB (Antrim Road)	New Lodge	5	New Lodge (5), Duncairn (9), Ardoyne (6), Fortwilliam (35), Waterworks (12), Cavehill (47), Woodvale (10), Ballysillan (28), Castlevue (33), Chichester (29), Crumlin (4), Cliftonville (24), Ligoniel (22)
Ardoyne Association	Ardoyne	6	Ardoyne (6), Ballysillan (28), Ligoniel (22), Cavehill (47), Bellevue (32), Castlevue (33), Duncairn (9)
Lower North Belfast Community Council	Duncairn	9	Bellevue (32), Cavehill (47), Castlevue (33), Duncairn (9), Fortwilliam (35), Ligoniel (22), Ballysillan (28), Chichester Park (29), Cliftonville (24), Ardoyne (6), Waterworks (12), New Lodge (5)
Ligoniel Improvement Association	Ligoniel	22	Ligoniel (22), Ballysillan (28), Cavehill (47), Bellevue(32), Castlevue (33), Duncairn (9)
Ballysillan Community Forum	Ligoniel	22	Ballysillan (28), Ligoniel (22), Cavehill (47), Bellevue (32), Castlevue (33), Duncairn (9)
South Belfast Advice Consortium			
Name of Advice Centre	Advice Centre Ward	Rank of Advice Centre Ward Multiple Deprivation	Ward location / Rank of multiple deprivation of beneficiary of Advice grants
South City Resource and Development Centre	Blackstaff	16	Blackstaff (16), Shaftesbury (14), Malone (51), Windsor (38), Musgrave (41), Finaghy (48)
Suffolk and Andersonstown CAB	Andersonstown	26	Finaghy (48), Musgrave (41), Upper Malone (37)
Ballynafeigh Community Development Association	Ballynafeigh,	34	Ballynafeigh (34), Rosetta (44), Shaftesbury (14), Botanic (36), Ravenhill (40), Stranmillis (50)
Windsor Women's Centre	Windsor	38	Shaftesbury (14), Botanic (36)

West Belfast Advice			
Name of Advice Centre	Advice Centre Ward	Rank of Advice Centre Ward Multiple Deprivation	Ward location / Rank of multiple deprivation of beneficiary of Advice grants
Shankill CAB	Shankill	1	Woodvale (10), Upper Springfield (7), Shankill (1), Highfield (23), Glencairn (15), Falls (2), Falls Park (25), Clonard (13), Whiterock (3), Woodstock (21)
Corpus Christi Services	Whiterock	3	Blackstaff (16), Falls Park (25), Upper Springfield (7), Whiterock (3)
Falls Community Council	Whiterock	3	Falls Park (25), Falls (2), Beechmount (19)
Greater Turf Lodge Residents' Association	Upper Springfield	7	Falls Park (25), Upper Springfield (7), Whiterock (3), Glen Road (17)
EPIC	Woodvale	10	Woodvale (10), Shankill (1)
Neighbourhood Development Association	Clonard	13	Clonard (13), Falls (2), Blackstaff (16)
Falls CAB	Clonard	13	Woodvale (10), Whiterock (3), Upper Springfield (7), Shankill (1), Highfield (23), Glencairn (15), Falls (2), Falls Park (25), Clonard (13), Woodstock (21)
SCA Ltd	Beechmount	19	Clonard (13), Falls (2), Beechmount (19), Whiterock (3), Upper Springfield (7), Falls Park (25), Glen Road (17), Andersonstown (26), Ladybrook (27), Glencolin (20)
Falls Women's Centre	Beechmount	19	Clonard (13), Falls (2), Beechmount (19), Whiterock (3), Upper Springfield (7), Falls Park (25), Glen Road (17), Andersonstown (26), Ladybrook (27), Glencolin (20)

Central Advice Consortium			
Name of Advice Centre	Advice Centre Ward	Rank of Advice Centre Ward Multiple Deprivation	Ward location / Rank of multiple deprivation of beneficiary of Advice grants
Belfast Unemployed Resource Centre	Duncairn	9	
CAB	Shaftesbury	14	Blackstaff (16), Shaftesbury (14)

Table A3.17 Ward location and multiple deprivation rank of capacity grant recipients

East Belfast Capacity Grants			
Name of organisation in receipt of grant	Capacity Centre Ward	Rank of Capacity Centre Ward Multiple Deprivation	Ward location / Rank of multiple deprivation
Gae Lairn	Ballymacarrett	8	Ballymacarrett (8), Woodstock (21), Sydenham (31), Knock (45)
Short Strand Comm Forum	Ballymacarrett	8	Ballymacarrett (8)
East Belfast Community Develop	The Mount	11	Ballyhackamore (42), Belmont (39), Cherryvalley (46), Island (18) Knock (45), Stormont (49), Sydendam (31), Ballymacarrett (8), Bloomfield (30), Orangefield (43), Ravenhill (40), The Mount (11), Woodstock (21)
North Belfast Capacity Grants			
Name of organisation in receipt of grant	Capacity Centre Ward	Rank of Capacity Centre Ward Multiple Deprivation	Ward location / Rank of multiple deprivation of beneficiaries
Ashton Community Trust	New Lodge	5	New Lodge (5), Waterworks (12), Cliftonville (24)
Ligoniel Improvement Assoc	Ligoniel	22	Bellevue (32), Duncairn (9), Ardoyne (6), Ieliel (22) New Lodge (5), Waterworks (12), Cliftonville (24),
Lower North Belfast Comm Council	Duncairn	9	Ballysillan (28), Duncairn (9)
Play Resource Warehouse	Duncairn	9	All wards of Belfast

South Belfast Capacity Grants			
Name of organisation in receipt of grant	Capacity Centre Ward	Rank of Capacity Centre Ward Multiple Deprivation	Ward location / Rank of multiple deprivation of beneficiaries
Belfast South Comm Resource	Shaftesbury	14	Windsor (38)
Greater Village Regeneration	Blackstaff	16	Windsor (38)
South City Resource & Development	Blackstaff	16	Blackstaff (16)
Ballynafeigh C D A	Ballynafeigh	34	Ballynafeigh (34)
Taughmonagh Community Forum	Upper Malone	37	Finaghy (48)
Engage With Age	Ravenhill	40	Blackstaff (16) ,Finaghy (48), Malone (51), Musgrave (41), Upper Malone (37), Windsor (38), Ballynafeigh (34), Botanic (36), Rosetta (44), Shafterbury (14), Stranmillis (50), Ballymacarrett (8), Bloomfield (30), Orangefield (43), Ravenhill (40), The Mount (11), Woodstock (21), Ballyhackamore (42), Belmont (39), Cherryvalley (46), Island (18), Knock (45), Stormont (49), Sydendam (31)
West Belfast Capacity Grants			
Name of organisation in receipt of grant	Capacity Centre Ward	Rank of Capacity Centre Ward Multiple Deprivation	Ward location / Rank of multiple deprivation of beneficiaries
Greater Shankill Community Cou	Shankill	1	Ardoyne (6), Ballysillian (28), Shankill (1) Woodvale (10), Glencairn (15), Highfield (23)
Divis Joint Development Commit	Falls	2	Falls (2),Beechmount (19), Clonard (13)
Roden St Community Development	Falls	2	Falls (2), Beechmount (19), Clonard (13)
Falls Community Council	Whiterock	3	Andersonstown (26), Falls Park (25) Glencolin (20), Glen Road (17), Ladybrook (27), Beechmount (19), Clonard (13), Upper Springfield (7), Whiterock (3)

Upper Springfield Development	Whiterock	3	Upper Springfield (7), Whiterock (3)
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Table A3.18 Funding allocation based on multiple deprivation of wards

Area	Ward	Rank of Ward Multiple Deprivation in Belfast	Total Ward Funding	% of Total Funding
East	Ballyhackamore	42	£0.00	0.00%
	Ballymacarett	8	£15,671.08	2.10%
	Belmont	39	£0.00	0.00%
	Bloomfield	30	£34,107.42	4.57%
	Cherryvalley	46	£6,217.48	0.83%
	Island	18	£23,816.72	3.19%
	Knock	45	£10,817.21	1.45%
	Orangefield	43	£4,187.75	0.56%
	Stormont	49	£8,434.96	1.13%
	Sydenham	31	£3,594.88	0.48%
	The Mount	11	£51,331.30	6.88%
	Woodstock	21	£4,050.00	0.54%
Total			£162,228.80	21.73%
North	Ardoyne	6	£2,250.00	0.30%
	Ballysillan	28	£26,525.06	3.55%
	Bellevue	32	£16,097.45	2.16%
	Castleview	33	£21,416.57	2.87%
	Chicester Park	29	£12,158.03	1.63%
	Cliftonville	24	£31,908.03	4.27%
	Crumlin	4	£26,459.68	3.54%
	Duncairn	9	£11,794.88	1.58%
	Fortwilliam	35	£5,694.88	0.76%
	Ieliel	22	£10,076.30	1.35%
	New Lodge	5	£51,346.30	6.88%
	Waterworks	12	£8,302.54	1.11%
	Woodvale	10	£2,585.00	0.35%
	Total			£226,614.72
South	Ballynafeigh	34	£3,350.00	0.45%
	Blackstaff	16	£25,951.83	3.48%
	Botanic	36	£14,084.56	1.89%
	Finaghy	48	£1,000.00	0.13%
	Malone	51	£0.00	0.00%
	Musgrave	41	£0.00	0.00%
	Ravenhill	40	£0.00	0.00%
	Rosetta	44	£0.00	0.00%
	Shaftesbury	14	£14,634.64	1.96%
	Stranmillis	50	£1,000.00	0.13%
	Upper Malone	37	£1,100.00	0.15%
	Windsor	38	£0.00	0.00%
	Total			£61,121.03
West	Andersontown	26	£11,111.00	1.49%
	Beechmount	19	£60,640.00	8.12%
	Clonard	13	£30,611.00	4.10%
	Falls	2	£15,226.00	2.04%
	Falls Park	25	£8,194.00	1.10%
	Glen Road	17	£23,164.00	3.10%
	Gencairn	15	£5,827.00	0.78%
	Glencolin	20	£2,450.00	0.33%
	Highfield	23	£12,188.00	1.63%
	Ladybrook	27	£20,324.00	2.72%
	Shankill	1	£49,629.80	6.65%
	Upper Springfield	7	£37,144.40	4.98%
	Whiterock	3	£17,423.00	2.33%
	Woodvale	10	£2,585.00	0.35%
Total			£296,517.20	39.72%
Overall Total Funding			£746,481.75	

Source: Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure 2005, NISRA

Note: Ranks in **red** fall within the top 10% most deprived wards in Belfast
Ranks in **amber** fall within the top 20% most deprived wards in Belfast
Ranks in **green** fall within the top 50% most deprived wards in Belfast
Ranks in **black** are outside of the top 50% most deprived wards in Belfast