



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Development Committee
Subject:	SNAP Update
Date:	13 August 2008
Reporting Officer:	Marie-Thérèse McGivern, Director of Development ext 3470
Contact Officer:	Siobhan Watson, SNAP Manager ext. 3579

Relevant Background Information

The Strategic Neighbourhood Action Programme was established in April 2007 to develop the necessary policies and procedures to enable BCC to more accurately target its service delivery within well-defined geographical areas across the city, in other words, 'City Places'.

Over the past 16 months the SNAP team has undertaken work to design and develop a Local Area Working Framework for the Council. Key achievements include the following:

- Neighbourhood Geography designed and approved by Council. 21 City Places have been created as a basis for Local Area Working activity.
- Public Consultation held to gain views on Council's plans for Local Area Working, The over-arching conclusion from this consultation was that the local area working approach generally makes sense as issues/needs vary across the city and that it fits in with community planning. Copy of Consultation Feedback contained in **Appendix 2**.
- Information and Research undertaken to build up local knowledge at smaller geographical areas e.g. development of Citystats, area profiles, neighbourhood services knowledge base, internal service delivery audit.
- Undertook significant awareness raising amongst staff and external organisations
- Neighbourhood Renewal Co-ordination for Council which includes approval for 11 out of 12 Action Plans for the areas through the Council process, examination of implications for BCC, co-ordinating Officer participation and providing a support framework to address issues.
- Developed a corporate local area working framework model which is underpinned by the Academy for Sustainable Communities Wheel.
- Embedded the need to implement Local Area Working within the Council's Corporate Plan which highlights the Council priorities for 2008-2011.

A full analysis of work carried out by the SNAP team over the course of the last 16 months is contained within **Appendix 1**.

Key Issues

The SNAP team has been in operation for 16 months and there are a number of key activities that will need to be undertaken in the coming months in order to progress further. These include:-

- Examination of the organisational implications for the implementation of local area working including the wider strategic context and recognition of the future neighbourhood convening role of the council after the RPA.
- Incorporate key recommendations from the public consultation on Local Area Working.
- Completion of 21 Area profiles
- Development of Citizen Engagement Toolkit and consideration of future engagement mechanisms.
- Development of Citystats as the Council's Neighbourhood Information Service.
- Identification and development of internal structures and mechanisms to support Local Area Working within the Council
- Identification of a number Cityplaces across the city that could be used to pilot Local Area Working.
- Development and implementation of Neighbourhood Renewal Actions pertaining to Belfast City Council.

Reports on progress against these areas will be provided to Members in due course.

Resource Implications

Human Resources

Co-ordinated by the SNAP team

Recommendations

- To note the report and the key conclusions arising from the consultation process

Documents Attached

Appendix 1 - SNAP Update paper

Appendix 2 – SNAP Consultation feedback