



## Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Development Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Neighbourhood Renewal
<b>Date:</b>	10 December 2008
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Marie-Thérèse McGivern Director of Development (ext.3470)
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### Relevant Background Information

Members will be aware that in June 2003, the DSD published 'People and Place A Strategy for Neighbourhood Renewal' a document which aims to tackle deprivation within the most disadvantaged urban neighbourhoods in Northern Ireland. A total of 12 Neighbourhood Renewal Partnerships (NRP) are currently in operation within the BCC area. These are:

- Inner East
- South West Belfast
- Greater Falls
- Upper Springfield
- Inner North
- Ligoniel Village
- Inner South
- Greater Shankill
- Lenadoon
- Crumlin / Ardoyne
- Andersonstown
- Upper Ardoyne / Ballysillan

In 2007, the SNAP team took on the co-ordination of Neighbourhood Renewal for BCC. To date the following support has been provided:

- Officer representation secured on all 12 NRPs (provided by Community Services).
- Considered responses prepared to each of the 12 NR Action Plans.
- Internal Neighbourhood Renewal working group established comprising BCC's NR representatives and staff from other departments.
- Formal presentations delivered to the NRPs.
- Creation of a Neighbourhood Renewal database detailing all key actions and implications for Council.
- Appointed two Neighbourhood Development Officers to co-ordinate the delivery of actions within the plan.

- Secured a commitment to deliver on NR within the corporate plan
- Provision of SNAP area based intelligence
- Profiling Council service delivery within each NR area
- Development of the Neighbourhood Renewal section of the Council website, creating a central repository for all action plans and responses.
- On-going liaison with BRO regarding NR activity and potential joint approaches to action plan delivery.

### **Key Issues**

To date, co-ordinated responses have been prepared for the 12 NR Action Plans and BCC has been highlighted as having a lead or supporting role in over 500 actions regarding service delivery at a neighbourhood level. There are a number of key service areas that have been identified across many of the actions plans which includes local Economic Development, Community Safety, Community Development, Youth provision, alley-gating, cleansing, good relations, physical renewal, arterial routes, environmental improvement schemes, parks, culture and arts, community engagement, public art, sport and leisure, older people, well-being and the provision of advice services at a local level.

Council alone cannot deliver on all of these actions as other organisations have also been asked to contribute alongside these actions and there is a need to work in partnership with a range of other partner organisations in order to successfully deliver NR.

Over the past number of months discussions have taken place with BRO on a wide range of issues including NR, its synergies with SNAP and the potential to look at a pilot area whereby the two organisations can deliver services in a more integrated way and the lessons learned can be applied for delivery in other areas. To this end, BRO have written to BCC suggesting that the Lenadoon Neighbourhood Renewal Area is considered as a suitable area for the two organisations to consider integrated delivery and to test joined up activities in the short, medium and long term. This area is largely co-terminous with the City Place West 5. Any proposal that would be developed through such a process will be presented to the Committee for consideration in due course.

In parallel to this work being developed with BRO, the SNAP team will continue to work within the Council with all key services to deliver on all of the NR Actions that have been identified within each of the 12 NR Action Plans.

### **Resource Implications**

#### Human Resources

Co-ordinated by the SNAP Manager

**Recommendations**

Members are asked to:

- Note the contents of the report
- Approve the exploration of the Lenadoon NRA as a potential pilot area for joint working.

**Key to Abbreviations**

DSD – Department of Social Development  
NR – Neighbourhood Renewal  
NRP – Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership  
BRO – Belfast Regeneration Office

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