



Between Titanic Quarter Limited & Belfast City Council

To Promote

PARTNERSHIP AND REGENERATION

1. Purpose

Titanic Quarter Limited and Belfast City Council recognise that the Titanic Quarter is a key economic asset and a future catalyst for high quality investment which will support the continued revitalisation of Belfast and Northern Ireland.

There are clearly significant benefits to be realised through a more collaborative approach to taking forward the regeneration of Titanic Quarter. We seek to ensure that everyone within the city has fair access to the opportunities which emerge and that investors have direct access to the human resources and skills base available in Belfast.

This document outlines the declaration, objectives and principles that together form the basis of a mutual partnership agreement between Titanic Quarter Limited and Belfast City Council.

2. Declaration

In signing this Memorandum of Understanding both parties are committed to working in partnership with public, private, voluntary and community sector organisations to create the necessary conditions to **optimize the city and community benefits of the Titanic Quarter development, to demonstrate good corporate citizenship and provide a recognised route for Titanic Quarter Limited's engagement with the city and community.**

3. Objectives

The practical outcomes sought from the execution of the MOU include:

1. To promote Titanic Quarter as a prime employment option for local people and improve the skills of local people in accordance with employers' needs
2. To ensure that appropriate mechanisms are put in place to improve community awareness, engagement and ownership of the Titanic Quarter development
3. To plan and deliver, with support from other relevant bodies, a comprehensive package of regeneration benefits for local people and communities including the adjoining East Belfast.
4. To develop better connectivity/linkages between the Titanic Quarter, the city centre and local communities.
5. To ensure that the Titanic Quarter contributes to enhancing the wider tourism product of the city.
6. To ensure a focus on achieving sustainable outcomes that contribute to the enhancement of environmental, social, cultural and heritage values of the city.
7. To support the establishment of sustainable communities through the adequate provision of affordable and social housing and the provision of necessary social infrastructure.

4. Principles

The following principles will underpin the Memorandum of Understanding and guide the activities of the co-signatories.

- **Leadership:** recognise that successful cities demonstrate a quality of strategic leadership that nurtures a shared commitment to a strong, clear vision of the future
- **Partnership:** recognise that we cannot deliver everything on our own and are committed to working in partnership to ensure co-ordinated solutions are developed in response to the challenges facing the city
- **Engagement:** recognise that effective community involvement and development is essential for successful regeneration. Local people should continue to be at the heart of the process
- **Commitment:** ensure that everyone has fair access to the economic, social, environmental and physical regeneration benefits to emerge from the development of Titanic Quarter
- **Transparency:** ensure greater openness and communication with key stakeholder groups on relevant issues
- **Integration:** ensure that the regeneration of the Titanic Quarter supports and complements the wider regeneration of the city
- **Sustainability:** ensure that the investment decisions and infrastructure we build today leave a lasting legacy for future generations

5. Priority Themes for Action

In order to achieve the objectives set out within the Memorandum of Understanding there are a number of priority areas which need to be taken forward. These include:

- 1) Employment, Education and Skills
- 2) Accessibility and Transport
- 3) Community outreach
- 4) Housing
- 5) Tourism development and promotion
- 6) Quality Open Space and Public Art

6. Process

A suite of six detailed **Thematic Action Plans** will be developed, in partnership with other key stakeholders including the community sector and relevant statutory service providers, for each of the priority themes identified above and will be attached as an addendum to the MOU with its implementation monitored.

Refer to Appendix 1 for initial working drafts of the Thematic Action Plans with indicative actions identified.

7. Management Arrangements

A three tier governance structure comprising of a Strategic Advisory Board, a Co-ordinating Steering Group and Thematic Working Groups, will be established to take forward the development, implementation and monitoring of an overall Implementation Plan and its sub-component action plans.

7.1 Strategic Advisory Board

Comprise of key representatives from the community sector, Government Departments, Belfast City Council and Titanic Quarter Limited

Roles and Responsibilities

- Provide an overall guiding body and a forum for constructive dialogue to discuss and resolve issues/conflicts as they arise.
- Provide strategic guidance and advice.
- Liaise and feedback to the TQL Board, Belfast City Council and NI Executive as required
- Oversee, monitor and scrutinise the agreed outputs in the Implementation Plan

7.2 Co-ordinating Steering Group

Comprise of officials from Titanic Quarter Limited, Belfast City Council and lead representative on behalf of the Belfast Area Partnership Boards.

Roles and Responsibilities

- Drive forward and manage the MOU.
- Monitor progress.
- Review and update Implementation Plan
- Undertake risk assessment to identify barriers and opportunities.
- Identify tasks and delegate to Working Groups
- Evaluate information from the Working Groups
- Resolve issues arising
- Feedback to Strategic Advisory Board and Thematic Working Groups

7.3 Thematic Working Groups

Comprise of representatives from relevant Government Departments, statutory service providers, the community sector, officials from Belfast City Council and Titanic Quarter Limited.

Roles and Responsibilities

- Development of a programme of work and detailed action plan
- Co-ordinate the implementation of the projects and programmes arising from the action plan
- Engage relevant partners and support the integration and alignment of existing mainstream programmes
- Review the work plans periodically and feedback to the Co-ordinating Steering Group on a quarterly basis.

8. Monitoring & Review

To provide further transparency within the process, Belfast City Council will have nominated elected representatives on the proposed Strategic Advisory Board which has responsibility for overseeing, monitoring and scrutinising the agreed outputs in the Implementation Plan and ensure that the benefits underpinning the MOU are realised.

Both Titanic Quarter Limited and Belfast City Council will designate a lead liaison officer who will be the central point of contact between both parties and who will participate on and support the work of the Co-ordinating Steering Group.

9. Legal Status

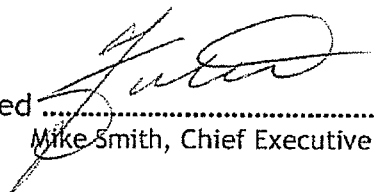
The Memorandum of Understanding will be incorporated as a condition of Belfast City Council's funding as set out within the overall Funding Agreement to be entered into by Titanic Quarter Limited, the Northern Ireland Tourist Board, the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment and Belfast City Council in relation to the Titanic Signature Project.

The MOU shall operate upon signature by both parties and shall remain in effect for a maximum of 5 years. The MOU will be reviewed by the parties annually and may be amended or terminated by written agreement between the parties.

Any disagreement arising from the interpretation of this MOU should be considered within the spirit implicit in the co-operation arrangements. Sensible negotiation of disputes assures continuation of the development and prevents the collapse of the project and consequently the waste of public funding.

Whilst it is intended that the arrangements in this MOU should apply generally, it is recognised that some circumstances will require special handling. Nothing in this MOU prevents the making of arrangements to meet specific exceptional needs.

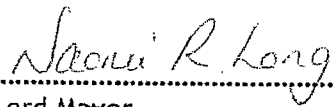


Signed 
Mike Smith, Chief Executive


Date: 9 / June / 2009



Signed for and on behalf of Belfast City Council


Lord Mayor

Date: 25 / June / 2009


Chief Executive

Date: 25 / June / 2009