



**Report to:** Development Committee

**Subject:** Proposed Local Area Regeneration Projects

**Date:** 20 March 2012

**Reporting Officer:** John McGrillen, Director of Development, ext 3470

**Contact Officers:** Gareth Downey, SNAP Officer, ext 3693

<b>1</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
1.1	The purpose of this paper is to seek approval to support the delivery of a number of local area based regeneration projects throughout the city.
1.2	As part of the budgetary process at the beginning of the financial year, the SNAP Unit was allocated a sum of £60k to match-fund up to six pilot projects which were anticipated to come forward from the Neighbourhood Renewal Partnerships via the Department for Social Development's Belfast Regional Office.
1.3	Due to the fact that the Neighbourhood Renewal plans have been subject to review, the pilot projects have not materialised. However as a result of the work which the SNAP team and others in the department have been undertaking, a number of projects have been put forward by community organisations which could be funded from this budget. These projects are outlined in Appendix 1.
1.4	In addition to the projects identified above, DSD has written to the Council regarding a proposal from Walkway Community Association in Finvoy Street, Upper Newtownards Road.
1.5	DSD currently provide the group with Neighbourhood Renewal revenue funding to deliver a range of projects in the Inner East Neighbourhood Renewal Area.
1.6	The Association currently occupies three sites, all of which have issues relating to the lease arrangements. The Association recently requested funding from Neighbourhood Renewal to refurbish it's community centre given its poor state of repair. Due to the land issues and the fact that the building is a prefabricated portacabin, this is unlikely to represent value for money.
1.7	The Department for Regional Development have indicated that they no longer require the lands in question and may be prepared to transfer should a sustainable long term proposal be developed.

1.8	BRO have indicated that they would be keen to work with the Council in assisting the group develop such a project and be prepared to part-fund an appraisal should the Council be willing to do likewise. It is anticipated that the cost to the Council of such an appraisal would not exceed £7500.
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<b>2</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
2.1	The majority of the projects identified are local, small scale projects which will have an immediate impact at a community level.
2.2	Three of the projects i.e. the Ardoyne Crèche Facility Study, the Ligoniel Outdoor Hall Plan and the Walkway Community Centre proposal are initiatives to support future development.
2.3	Members of the Committee will be aware that the Budget & Transformation Panel have been considering how the £5m Local Investment Fund will be allocated and how projects across the city can be prioritised.
2.4	A report on the governance arrangements for the delivery of the Belfast Investment Programme will be considered by the Strategic Policy & Resources Committee on 25 March 2012. It is envisaged that decisions on the further allocation of resources for these three projects would be considered within any framework agreed through the Strategic Policy & Resources Committee.

<b>3</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>																						
3.1	<p>The proposals that have been identified would utilise approximately £36,000 which is available from the SNAP budget. The resources required to deliver the projects are as follows:</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">Proposed Project</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Amount</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Healthy Choices Project</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£3,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Giant's Foot Olympic Art Project</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£1,500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>My Lady's Road Community Art Project</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£6,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dee Street Community Art Project</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£5,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ardoyne Crèche Facility Study</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£3,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ligoniel Outdoor Hall Plan</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£2,500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Alliance Avenue site regeneration project</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£3,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sandy Row Community Art Project</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£3,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fairy Thorn Garden Project</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£1,500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Walkway Community Centre</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£7,500</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>A full description of the above projects can be found in Appendix 1.</p>	Proposed Project	Amount	Healthy Choices Project	£3,000	Giant's Foot Olympic Art Project	£1,500	My Lady's Road Community Art Project	£6,000	Dee Street Community Art Project	£5,000	Ardoyne Crèche Facility Study	£3,000	Ligoniel Outdoor Hall Plan	£2,500	Alliance Avenue site regeneration project	£3,000	Sandy Row Community Art Project	£3,000	Fairy Thorn Garden Project	£1,500	Walkway Community Centre	£7,500
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<b>4</b>	<b>Equality and Good Relations Considerations</b>
4.1	None.

<b>5</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
5.1	It is recommended that the Committee consider and approve all of the proposals set out in Appendix 1 along with the proposal for funding an Economic Appraisal for Walkway Community Centre.

<b>6</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
6.1	A further report will be brought to the Committee regarding the implementation of the above projects in due course.

<b>7</b>	<b>Key to Abbreviations</b>
	DSD – Department for Social Development BRO – Belfast Regional Office

<b>8</b>	<b>Documents attached</b>
	Appendix 1 – List of Proposed Projects