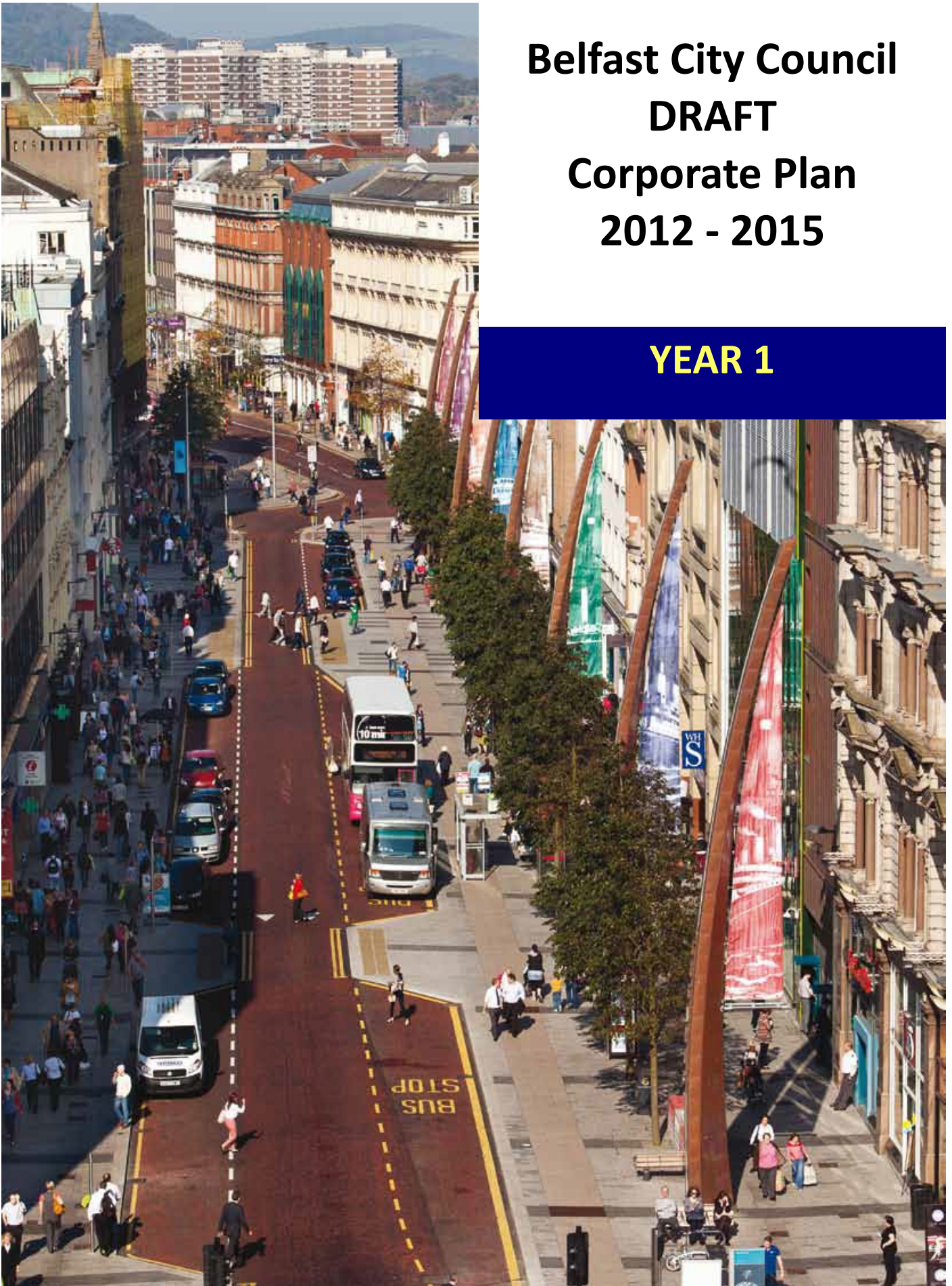


Belfast City Council DRAFT Corporate Plan 2012 - 2015

YEAR 1



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Introduction

From Chair of Strategic and Policy Resources Committee and Party Group Leaders

Welcome to Belfast City Council's Corporate Plan for 2012-2015. This continues to be a challenging time for Belfast with continued uncertainty over the economy and its ongoing effects on communities and businesses across the city. However there is much to be positive about and build upon.

For a city to grow and prosper it needs strong city leadership. In May 2011 a new Council was elected with a clear vision and desire to find a way to work together for the benefit of all of our residents. This desire to make a difference manifested itself in the all party agreement on our £150 million city wide Investment Programme, which contains plans to stimulate the local economy and improve the lives and opportunities of everyone in Belfast.

We know that a modern infrastructure is critical to the future success of Belfast and will help underpin the revitalisation of our economy. Through our Investment Programme, and the establishment of our City Investment Fund for major partnership projects and a Local Investment Fund to provide Members with new ways of engaging and impacting locally, we will continue to invest in our city. Through our City Investment Fund we have already supported a number of key projects including the £97million Titanic Belfast, the £18million Metropolitan Arts Centre and the £18million Lyric. The opening of these new cultural and tourism venues, together with a number of game-changing events including the MTV Awards and the Titanic Belfast Festival, have helped place Belfast on the world stage and cemented its reputation as a leading tourism destination.

Over the coming year we will continue to work with partners and communities across the city to create assets and deliver events which will help communities and the city as a whole prosper, compete and create further opportunities now and for future generations. This includes support for events such as the 2013 World Fire and Police Games; working on ensuring that Belfast becomes a super-connected broadband city by 2015; supporting large scale projects such as the Connswater Community Greenway; and, supporting smaller neighbourhood projects and programmes which will improve local areas and support those smaller businesses and individuals who are struggling most with the effects of the economic downturn.

However cities are more than assets, buildings and events. At the heart of any city are its people. This Plan also outlines the continued importance of the day to day services we provide that are essential to making a thriving, successful and vibrant city. These services include areas such as refuse collection and disposal, street cleansing, building control and environmental health, community development, indoor and outdoor leisure, parks and recreational facilities and support for the arts, tourism and economic development. These are essential services and have a direct impact on people's quality of life and they continue to be priority areas for residents. This Plan reflects our continued focus on improving our organisation to deliver the best services possible and on providing value for money, high quality services to continue to meet the challenges that lie ahead.



We will also continue to prepare for the impact of the Review of Public Administration (RPA) process and the reform of local government this year. The RPA means that by 2015 the Council will be responsible for the provision of a range of new services including local development plan functions, development control and enforcement, regeneration and community development. We are working now to put in place the processes and structures needed to deliver on this reform.

Although this Corporate Plan sets out what we intend to do over the next three years, some of the projects highlighted in this document are longer term and will be developed in the next Council term and beyond. We recognise the importance of being flexible and adapting to new challenges and opportunities. So we will review and update this Plan, along with our Investment Programme, on a regular basis to keep it relevant and focused on the right issues that deliver the best possible benefits for our city and its people.

We want to ensure that Belfast stays on course for a better and successful future, one worthy of the talent, energy and resilience of its people. This will help create the inclusive, vibrant and successful city that our citizens deserve – a city where everyone can benefit from all the opportunities available, where there are high quality and accessible services and where everyone feels proud to say they live in Belfast.

We have set ourselves a challenging agenda but we are confident that by working successfully with our partners we will deliver on our commitments. We want to hear what you think about it and we look forward to working with everyone across the city and beyond to deliver a better future for our city.

Councillor Deirdre Hargey

Chair, Strategic Policy and Resources Committee

Councillor Máire Hendron

Party Leader, Alliance Party (ALL)

Councillor Jim McVeigh

Party Leader, Sinn Féin (SF)

Alderman David Browne

Party Leader, Ulster Unionist Party (UUP)

Alderman William Humphrey

Party Leader, Democratic Unionist Party (DUP)

Alderman Hugh Smyth

Party Leader, Progressive Unionist Party (PUP)

Councillor Tim Attwood

Party Leader, Social, Democratic and Labour Party (SDLP)



Our Vision and Strategic Themes

Our vision is to ensure that ‘The Council, working with communities and stakeholders, takes a lead role in improving quality of life now and for future generations for the people of Belfast by making the city and its neighbourhoods better places to live in, work in, invest in, study in and visit’.

To deliver on this vision our Corporate Plan sets out 5 strategic themes which have been agreed by the Council. We have chosen to focus on a number of specific themes to ensure that our activity is focused on real outcomes which will benefit everyone in the city.

Strategic Theme	What they mean
City leadership	Providing leadership and strategic direction for shaping, developing and managing the city
Environment	Caring for Belfast’s environment and creating a sustainable, clean and healthy living space for all
Economy	Creating a vibrant, sustainable and inclusive economy
People, communities and neighbourhoods	Improving quality of life across all neighbourhoods
Improving our Services	Delivering value for money, customer focused services with the right level of resources to deliver council and ratepayer priorities

The Council will take a lead role in improving the quality of life now and for future generations for the people of Belfast by making the city and its neighbourhoods better places to live in, work in, invest in and visit



The Corporate Plan is the council’s key strategic planning document but it should be read in conjunction with the council’s other relevant planning documents, including the new Investment Programme and the emerging City Masterplan. The Investment Programme sets out the council’s city investment strategy from 2012-2015 and is underpinned by the following principles:

- Good relations and equality
- Balanced investment
- Partnership and integration
- Value for money
- Sustainability

These documents are available on the relevant sections on our website at www.belfastcity.gov.uk. Further information in relation to all the services we provide is available on our website at – www.belfastcity.gov.uk/atoz

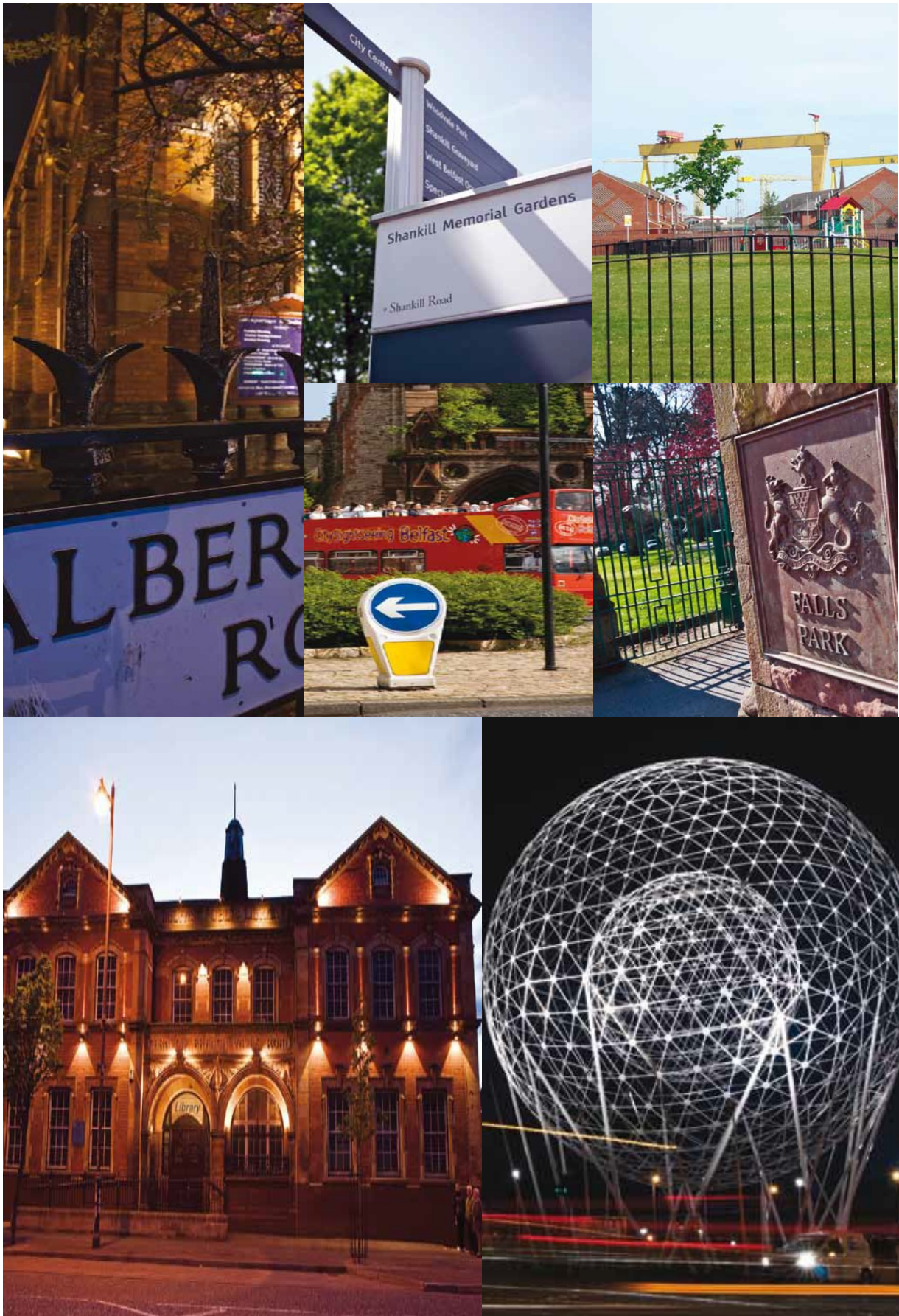
Many of the actions in this plan cannot be delivered by the council alone and we will work with our partners from across public, private, community and voluntary sectors to ensure that a difference is made to for local people on issues such as health improvement, community safety and good relations.

Our Values

Our corporate values are integral to the way in which we work. These values underpin everything that our Councillors and employees do and the way we will deliver our objectives. We will:

- **Focus on the needs of customers, foster a ‘can-do’ attitude and be problem solvers** - providing first class services which are responsive to citizens needs and continuing to ensure that the council is a place where things happen
- **Provide value for money and improve services** –delivering high quality, value for money services at all times and continually improving our services
- **Work together** – working with our partners across Belfast to ensure that our combined efforts contribute to the continued success of our city
- **Respect each other, be fair, promote equality and good relations** – improving access to our services; valuing diversity, ensuring that everyone shares in the city’s success and tackling discrimination in all its forms by treating all communities and people equally
- **Act sustainably** – using our resources effectively and efficiently and promoting the principle of sustainability in all our activities
- **Ensure the highest standards of health and safety** –maintaining the highest possible standards of health and safety at all times to ensure we protect our employees and all those who use our services
- **Value our employees** –continuing to support our employees to help them fulfill their potential





1. City Leadership

Contributing to the leadership and strategic direction for shaping, developing and managing the city

Our priorities

- Investing in our city and maximising our place-shaping role
- Supporting and preparing for the Review of Public Administration and the reform of local government
- Promoting good relations and equality

The projects which we will deliver over the next three years include –

Investing in our city and maximising our place-shaping role

- Lead on the development of an **overarching vision** for the city through the creation of a **Belfast Masterplan** which will help to guide discussion on the future development and investment in the city
- **Invest£75million** providing new facilities and enhancing existing facilities including:
 - £10 million in new pitch provision - New playing pitches and state of the art changing facilities at Cherryvale, Woodlands, Cliftonville playing fields, Falls Park and Ormeau Park. New changing facilities at Ballysillan, Waterworks, Musgrave and upgrades to existing facilities at Dixon and Victoria Parks
 - A £3million upgrade of the Mary Peters Track to provide international standard facilities in time for the 2013 World Fire and Police Games which over 10,000 competitors and 40,000 spectators from across the world will attend
 - Dunville and Woodvale Parks - £4m investment (jointly with the DSD) to refurbish these parks and make them key community assets including new play areas, pitches and space for community events
 - £2million in refurbishing and maintaining our 70 playgrounds across the city
 - Spending £18million on maintaining and enhancing vital community facilities and assets including parks and open spaces
- Invest in our **economic infrastructure**, through support from the ERDF and other funding sources, in projects including
 - an integrated convention and exhibition centre at Belfast Waterfront;
 - a Green Economy Business Park at the North Foreshore;
 - an Innovation Centre at Springvale;
 - a Digital Hub for Belfast; and
 - super-connected broadband status for the city.



- Continue to invest in key partnership projects through our **City Investment Fund** which will help improve our vibrancy, prosperity and sustainability
- Establish and support the work of a **Belfast City Forum** which will develop the Belfast Masterplan and oversee the implementation of the delivery plan for the Investment Programme
- Deliver our £5million **Local Investment Fund** for smaller neighbourhood projects which will transform and regenerate local areas
- Support the newly established **Area Working Groups** and promote **engagement** with local communities
- Continue to work with key partners and lobby for **strategic projects** which will transform the city including the Casement and Windsor Park stadia upgrades, the Rapid Transit scheme and the new University of Ulster campus in the heart of the city
- Developing and implementing an **External Relations Strategy** to promote the work of the Council and the city at a local, national and international level

Supporting and preparing for the Review of Public Administration and the reform of local government

- Continue to provide support to the Council and local government bodies in the ongoing **Review of Public Administration**, including preparation for the transition to a new Council in 2015, the timely and efficient transfer and integration of key place shaping functions such as planning, regeneration and community planning.

Promoting good relations and equality

- Continue to implement the actions in the **Good Relations Plan** to secure shared city space, transform contested space, develop shared cultural space, build shared organisational space, and continue to assess all our activity in terms of its contribution to our equality and good relations objectives.
- Continue to deliver the actions under Phase two of the **Belfast PEACE III Plan** which runs from September 2011 to December 2013 and consists of 10 projects with a combined budget of £4 million

How we will measure our success

- % of residents who agree that the council is best placed to direct the future shape of the city
- % residents who agree that the council is best placed to direct the future shape of the city
- % of residents who agree they can influence decisions that affect their area
- Number of sectarian and racist hate crimes recorded
- Amount of money leveraged from EU and UK funding streams
- Amount of money leveraged through the City Investment Strategy

2. Environment

Caring for Belfast’s environment and helping to create a sustainable, clean and green place to live for everyone

Our priorities

- Making the city cleaner and greener
- Promoting a high quality urban and local environment
- Supporting zero waste direct to landfill

The projects which we will deliver over the next three years include –

Making the city cleaner and greener

- Maintain the **street cleanliness** levels across the city above an index of 72 (an index of 67 or above is deemed clean)
- Implement the **Neighbourhood Improvement Programme** including neighbourhood graffiti teams, community clean ups, Belfast in Bloom schemes and environmental improvements
- Produce an updated **Air Quality Action Plan** for the city
- Refresh the **Your City Your Space** strategy for open spaces
- Apply for **Green Flag** accreditation, a quality award for parks and open spaces that are well kept and have good community links, in 3 additional sites at Lagan Meadows, Grove Playing Fields and Victoria Park and retain it in those parks that currently have it
- Develop a new **Energy Strategy** for the Council and explore funding opportunities for a citywide scheme

Promoting a high quality urban and local environment

- Implement the **Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act** legislation which extends council powers to improve neighbourhood environmental quality through enhanced measures for litter, graffiti, fly-posting, dog control, alley-gating and addressing nuisance
- Develop and implement the **Sustainable Development Plan**

Supporting zero waste direct to landfill

- Implement the **Zero Waste Action Plan** to increase recycling, meet statutory and regional targets for recycling and waste to landfill

How we will measure our success

- Street cleanliness index
- Recycling rate in the city
- Percentage of bins collected on the designated day
- Number of community clean ups facilitated
- Energy usage from council facilities
- Number of parks and green spaces that have attained Green Flag accreditation
- Tonnes of biodegradable waste sent directly to landfill



3. Economy

Creating a vibrant, sustainable and inclusive economy

Our priorities

- Investing in the city’s economic infrastructure
- Supporting employability and skills development
- Encouraging business growth and competitiveness in key sectors
- Supporting local procurement and maximising the potential of our procurement spend
- Promoting and developing tourism, culture and arts and hosting and supporting city events

Over the next three years we will –

Investing in the city’s economic infrastructure

- Work to further develop the **economic infrastructure** in the city to promote growth and inward investment

Supporting employability and skills development

- Create over **400 work placement, internship and apprenticeship opportunities** within the council with a focus on graduates and young long-term unemployed and disabled people; and **200 employment opportunities** at no additional cost to the rate-payer
- Investigate options for **bursary schemes** to help 16-24 year olds and work with partners on implementing the emerging recommendations
- Directly create jobs by working with local partners to deliver targeted **employability initiatives** across the city including HARTE and the Belfast Enterprise Academy.
- Work with partners on the **Belfast Social Clause Delivery Forum**.
- Work with DEL and Belfast Metropolitan College on employment and skills strategies and set up a city-wide **Employability and Skills Steering Group**.

Encouraging business growth and competitiveness in key sectors

- Provide **business support programmes** in targeted sectors including retail, creative industries, financial & business services and connected health. Programmes will include: exploring export opportunities for the first time or growing into new markets, becoming social economy enterprises, supporting the independent retail sector, supporting local technology companies to exploit opportunities in the health sector, business start initiatives for key groups and creative industries.
- Continue to deliver **city markets** at St. George’s and Smithfield and support the creation of new markets in Belfast in the context of the Markets Policy.



Supporting local procurement and maximising the potential of our procurement spend

- Increase the amount of council spend with local suppliers by 10% to 60% by 2015
- Deliver **procurement programmes** including: the Smarter Procurement Programme, the Construction Sales Growth Programme and Procurement fairs and road shows.

Promoting and developing tourism, culture and arts and hosting and supporting city events

- Finalise the **integrated Cultural Strategy**, promote and implement it.
- Continue to deliver Council's contribution to the **World Fire & Police Games 2013**.
- Continue to develop Belfast's tourism product and deliver actions within the **Integrated Tourism Strategy** and action plan.
- Develop culture and arts by investing £2million in cultural and artistic activities including the 'City of Festivals' and Creative Legacies.

How we will measure our success

- Number of city events
- Total number of visitors to Belfast
- Number of business supported by the council
- Added economic benefit from tourism
- Added economic benefit from events.
- Attendance at events in the Waterfront and Ulster Hall



4. People, communities and neighbourhoods

Improving quality of life across all neighbourhoods

Our priorities

- Investing in local neighbourhoods
- Reducing inequalities and tackling disadvantage
- Promoting positive relations and shared space
- Helping people feel safer
- Promoting and supporting engaged and active communities

Over the next three years we will -

Investing in local neighbourhoods

- Develop the work of the Area Working Groups and ensure effective local investment
- Invest a further £1.5 million in delivering the **Renewing the Routes** programme
- Facilitate local regeneration through the delivery of a programme for removal or upgrading of at least **70 derelict or ruinous properties** throughout the city
- Invest in local parks , community gardens and local areas

Reducing inequalities and tackling disadvantage

- Implement the actions under our **Poverty and Social Inequalities Framework**
- Contribute to work of **Belfast Strategic Partnership (BSP)** to address health inequalities by delivering -
 - An Active Belfast programme
 - An age friendly city programme
 - An emotional resilience strategy (addressing suicide and mental health) along with a joint resourcing programme
 - A Belfast wide alcohol misuse reduction programme
 - A life long learning programme
- Deliver £3.5 million of **health and well-being programmes** to tackle health inequalities through the Active Belfast Partnership
- Roll out **Warm Zones project** in 4 areas of the city (400 houses), in conjunction with DSD to deliver an energy efficiency programme for homes and reduce fuel poverty (subject to external funding)
- Agree and implement the **Growing Strategy** with the Belfast Health Development Unit, the Public Health Agency (PHA), Belfast Health Cities and other partners
- Continue to deliver a range of **health and wellbeing programmes** including the Make a Splash swim programme and Healthwise exercise referral scheme



Promoting positive relations and shared space

- Create an **interfaces regeneration strategy** to support and advocate for affected communities to regenerate those neighbourhoods whilst safely and sensitively working towards reducing barriers.
- Continue to deliver the **Cultural Networks Programme** under Peace III.
- Introduce a **Community Support programme** to help address tensions

Helping people feel safer

- Develop and support the new **Belfast Policing and Community Safety Partnership** and 4 District Policing and Community Safety Partnerships
- Develop a new **alley-gating** strategy and commence phase III of the programme to install 148 new gates during 2012-14
- Deliver **Peace III projects** for youth engagement & tension monitoring initiatives aimed at breaking the cycle of youth involvement in violence in 4 interface areas and reducing community tensions throughout the city.
- Develop, with partners, a new model of service delivery for **community safety warden** type services, based on recommendations from the Value For Money review
- Deliver a neighbourhood based **Antisocial Behaviour** programme

Promoting and supporting engaged and active communities

- Support and develop robust **community planning approaches** by further refining the draft Belfast model for community planning
- Deliver the **Community Support Plan** and **Community Development** strategy
- Finalise and implement our **consultation & engagement strategy** and ensure its alignment with community development and community planning
- Implement **grant aid programmes** to support local communities including the provision of advice and support services
- Undertake a **strategic review of our leisure estate**
- Deliver programmes to increase participation in connection with the **2012 Olympics** to maximise the Olympic legacy

How we will measure our success

- % of residents who feel safe in their area
- % of residents who agree there is a strong sense of community in their local area
- Community centre attendance
- Number of volunteer hours in community centres
- No. of people who use our leisure facilities
- Number of people participating in health / outreach programmes
- No. of reported anti-social behaviour (ASB) incidents in our parks
- Number of participants at events held in our parks

5. Improving our services and providing value for money

Our priorities

- Enabling value for money service delivery by ensuring efficient use of resources to achieve Council priorities
- Making best use of technology to deliver services when and where they are needed
- Attracting and developing people who will work together to deliver our services and develop the organisation for the future
- Facilitating the effective planning, management and reporting of Council activities

Over the next three years we will

Enabling value for money service delivery by ensuring efficient use of resources to achieve Council priorities

- Continue to deliver our efficiency programme, reaching £20 million in savings by 2015
- Keep any required rate increase to the level of inflation or below
- Pay 90 per cent of our creditors within 28 days to help improve business cash flow
- Introduce the use of social and community benefit clauses in our contracts
- Sustain and enhance the value of the city's rate base to ensure future investment

Making best use of technology to deliver services when and where they are needed

- Develop a programme to increase e-enabled transactions
- Review the Council's website and improve accessibility for all sections of society.

Attracting and developing people who will work together to deliver our services and develop the organisation for the future

- Continue the development and implementation of the organisational development programme for the Council
- Continue to develop and deliver the capacity building action plan for Members and officers

Facilitating the effective planning, management and reporting of Council activities

- Review and update the Council's governance arrangements
- Undertake a review of information management and create an Information Management Strategy to ensure that the Council holds information robustly and efficiently to ensure it is accessible to the public, Members, partners and officers
- Develop and implement a Council approach to Corporate Social Responsibility
- Complete the implementation of the recommendations in the Asset Management Strategy



How we will measure our success

- % overall satisfaction with council services
- % residents who agree the council is efficient in the delivery of its services
- Number of customer complaints received
- Efficiency savings achieved
- Number of transactional based services that are e-enabled
- Average number of working days per employee lost due to absence
- Number of website visitors
- Average telephone switchboard response time



Our City

People

- 268,000 people live in the city while over 645,536 live in the wider metropolitan area.
- 20% of the population is under 16 and 30% is over the age of 50.
- 63.1% of Belfast's total population is of working age.



Employment



- The number of jobs in Belfast is 196,931.
- Belfast is home to two-thirds of Northern Ireland's largest 50 companies and half of its foreign-owned businesses.
- Belfast has half of Northern Ireland's hi-tech manufacturing jobs, 3 in 5 computer and related service jobs and two-thirds of creative media and arts jobs.
- Northern Ireland is Europe's leading location for financial services software development, attracting more than a third of total projects in the last five years. The majority of these companies are based in Belfast.
- The total number of people claiming unemployment related benefits in Belfast is 11,544 - 6.6% of those eligible to work.
- The construction industry across Northern Ireland has been hit particularly hard by the economic downturn with the total volume of overall construction output in Quarter 3 2011 being 37.5% lower than the peak in Quarter 1 2007.
- 5.4% of 16-59 year olds receive incapacity benefit.
- 12.9% of population aged 16-59 receive income support.

Tourism and Events



- Belfast has established itself as a leading short-break destination. Recently, National Geographic Traveller magazine named it as one of the world's top destinations for 2012.
- In 2010 eight million visitors, including 1.38 million out-of-state overnight visitors, came to Belfast injecting £398 million into the local economy and helping to support over 8,000 full-time jobs.
- The Financial Times has listed Belfast as one of the 'Top 10 places in the world' to hold a conference or major event.

Sources used include:

Northern Ireland Statistical Research Agency (NISRA), the Noble Multiple Deprivation Measures, the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Industry (DETI), the Department of Education (DE), the Department for Employment and Learning (DEL), the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety (DHSS&PS), the Department for Regional Development (DRD), Belfast Tourism Monitor and 2001 Census information.

Education

- There are 161 schools in Belfast (32 nursery, 84 primary, 19 secondary, 16 grammar, 10 special).
- In 2009-10 there were 3,128 school leavers in Belfast.
 - 36% went on to further education,
 - 11% went straight into employment, and
 - 3.8% left school with no GCSEs.
- There are 55,650 undergraduate students and 11,785 postgraduate students in Belfast at Queen's University and the University of Ulster.
- Belfast Metropolitan College is the largest further and higher education college in Northern Ireland with over 40,000 students.



Health and deprivation

- 9 out of the 10 most deprived wards in Northern Ireland, in terms of multiple deprivation, are in Belfast.
- 7 out of the 10 most deprived wards in Northern Ireland, in terms of health deprivation, are in Belfast.
- There are pockets of health inequalities across the city and the gap in life expectancy is not reducing between the most affluent areas and the most deprived.
- The average life expectancy in Belfast is lower than the Northern Ireland average:
 - Males: 74.4 years, compared to NI average of 76.4 years.
 - Females: 80.1 years, compared to the NI average of 81.3 years.



Connectivity



- There are two modern airports within 20 minutes of the city centre with regular flights to national, European and international destinations.
- The Port of Belfast handles 60% of Northern Ireland's seaborne trade.
- Over 40% of households in Belfast do not have access to a private car and therefore rely on public transport.
- There are plans for a £100 million rapid transit infrastructure in the city.
- There has been major upgrades over the past decade in the road network including the £100 million Westlink upgrade.

Our Councillors

Belfast has 51 elected councillors across the nine electoral areas in the city. They play a key role in representing the interests of their constituents and electoral areas and ensuring that the views of the people of Belfast are reflected in the decisions that the council takes and in the way services are delivered. Our 51 councillors also represent the council on a range of other organisations dealing with health, education, housing, policing, community safety, transportation, urban regeneration, tourism and arts issues.

Balmoral Electoral Area (Blackstaff, Finaghy, Malone, Musgrave, Upper Malone, Windsor)

Alderman Tom Ekin	ALL	028 9020 1714
Councillor Claire Hanna	SDLP	07729 208258
Councillor Bernie Kelly	SDLP	07710 931323
Councillor Mairtin Ó Muilleoir	SF	028 9024 3194
Alderman Ruth Patterson	DUP	07810 120553
Alderman Bob Stoker	UUP	07876 358893

Castle Electoral Area (Bellevue, Castlevew, Cavehill, Chichester Park, Duncairn, Fortwilliam)

Alderman David Browne	UUP	028 9077 1757
Councillor Mary Ellen Campbell	SF	028 9074 0817
Councillor Patrick Convery	SDLP	028 9028 9380
Councillor Tierna Cunningham (Deputy Lord Mayor)	SF	028 9074 0817
Councillor Lydia Patterson	DUP	028 9071 7072
Councillor Guy Spence	DUP	028 9032 0202

Court Electoral Area (Crumlin, Glencairn, Highfield, Shankill, Woodvale)

Alderman William Humphrey	DUP	028 9074 4008
Councillor Brian Kingston	DUP	028 9077 4774
Alderman Frank McCoubrey	IND	028 9032 0202
Alderman Hugh Smyth	PUP	028 9032 6233
Councillor Naomi Thompson	DUP	028 9074 4008

Laganbank Electoral Area (Ballynafeigh, Botanic, Rosetta, Shaftesbury, Stranmillis)

Councillor Catherine Curran	ALL	028 9033 0811
Councillor Deirdre Hargey	SF	028 9024 3194
Councillor Pat McCarthy	SDLP	07711 644275
Councillor Kate Mullan	SDLP	07852 150167
Alderman Christopher Stalford	DUP	07791 317310



Lower Falls Electoral Area (Beechmount, Clonard, Falls, Upper Springfield, Whiterock)

Councillor Janice Austin	SF	028 9062 6670
Councillor Steven Corr	SF	028 9062 6670
Councillor Tom Hartley	SF	028 9050 8989
Councillor Colin Keenan	SDLP	028 9080 7808
Councillor Jim McVeigh	SF	028 9050 8989

Oldpark Electoral Area (Ardoyne, Ballysillan, Cliftonville, Ligoniel, New Lodge, Waterworks)

Councillor Danny Lavery	SF	028 9074 0817
Councillor Nichola Mallon	SDLP	028 9032 0202
Councillor Conor Maskey	SF	028 9074 0817
Councillor Gerard McCabe	SF	028 9074 0817
Councillor Gareth McKee	DUP	028 9071 7072
Councillor Lee Reynolds	DUP	028 9071 7072

Pottinger Electoral Area (Ballymacarrett, Bloomfield, Orangefield, Ravenhill, The Mount, Woodstock)

Alderman May Campbell (High Sheriff)	DUP	028 9087 8587
Councillor Maire Hendron	ALL	028 9065 0052
Councillor Dr John Kyle	PUP	07515 409757
Councillor Adam Newton	DUP	028 9045 9500
Councillor Niall Ó Donnghaile	SF	028 9024 3194
Councillor Gavin Robinson (Lord Mayor)	DUP	028 9032 0202

Upper Falls Electoral Area (Andersonstown, Falls Park, Glencolin, Glen Road, Ladybrook)

Councillor Tim Attwood	SDLP	028 9080 7808
Councillor Matt Garrett	SF	028 9080 8404
Councillor Emma Groves	SF	028 9080 8404
Councillor Caoimhín Mac Giolla Mhin	SF	028 9080 8404
Councillor Gerard O'Neill	SF	028 9080 8404

Victoria Electoral Area (Ballyhackamore, Belmont, Cherryvalley, Island, Knock, Stormont, Sydenham)

Councillor Tom Haire	DUP	028 9032 0202
Councillor John Hussey	DUP	028 9032 0202
Councillor Mervyn Jones	ALL	028 9047 3420
Councillor Laura McNamee	ALL	028 9032 0202
Alderman Robin Newton	DUP	028 9045 9500
Alderman Jim Rodgers	UUP	07801 882478
Councillor Andrew Webb	ALL	07976 018801

ALL – Alliance

PUP – Progressive Unionist Party

SF – Sinn Féin

DUP – Democratic Unionist Party

SDLP – Social, Democratic and Labour Party

UUP—Ulster Unionist Party

IND – Independent



Our Council

Belfast City Council is the largest of the 26 councils in Northern Ireland. We are responsible for providing and delivering an extensive range of services which play a key role in improving the quality of life of our citizens by helping to make Belfast a better place to live in, work in, invest in and visit. To meet these responsibilities we spend nearly 170 million a year and employ over 2,300 people at over 100 sites across the city. The Council performs six principal roles within its local area and district:

- a civic leadership role in providing a vision for Belfast and its people, working in partnership with others and investing for the future to ensure a better quality of life for our citizens,
- the direct provision of a number of services and facilities,
- the promotion of the arts, tourism, community and economic development,
- the regulation and licensing of certain activities relating to environmental health, consumer protection, building regulations, and public safety,
- a representative role on a number of bodies and Boards including Education and Health,
- a consultative role in relation to functions conducted by other Government bodies and agencies on issues such as planning, water, roads and housing.

Key facts and figures

Population Served	268,000
Gross Council Expenditure	£168.7m
Net Council Expenditure	£130.5m

Our Operations

No. of Employees	2,300+
No. of Operational Locations	101

Our Political Representatives

Political Composition of Councillors	(51)
Sinn Fein	16
Democratic Unionist Party	15
Social, Democratic and Labour Party	8
Alliance Party	6
Ulster Unionist Party	3
Progressive Unionist Party	2
Independent	1

Our Departments

Chief Executive - Peter McNaney

The Chief Executive is principal policy advisor to the political process in the council, and supports councillors in developing effective relationships and partnerships with other organisations. He has primary responsibility, at officer level, for the development and implementation of the council's corporate policy and strategy, resources and building organisational capacity to deliver the council's plans.

Chief Executive's Department - Assistant Chief Executive and Town Solicitor: Ciaran Quigley

The Chief Executive's Department is also responsible for legal services, good relations and equality, corporate communications and democratic services. In addition, it has responsibility for the registration of births, deaths, marriages and civil partnerships.

Development Department- Director of Development: John McGrillen

The Development Department plays a leading role in the social and economic regeneration of Belfast. It does this by promoting economic development, tourism, culture and arts and major events and supporting physical regeneration projects. It also promotes European affairs and manages major venues like St George's and Smithfield markets, Belfast Waterfront and the Ulster Hall, as well as our 22 community centres and six play centres.

Finance and Resources Department - Director of Finance and Resources: Ronan Cregan

The Finance and Resources Department is responsible for all aspects of corporate financial management, capital financing, treasury management, information technology and strategic information. It is also responsible for audit, governance, assurance, risk management and health and safety.

Health and Environmental Services Department- Director: Suzanne Wylie

The Health and Environmental Services Department is responsible for helping to keep the city clean, safe and healthy. It cleans the streets, collects the bins and disposes of waste. It protects the safety and health of people through Building Control, Entertainment Licensing and Environmental Health services. It is also responsible for increasing our recycling rate, by reducing the amount of waste sent to landfill. The department is also responsible for community safety services and youth outreach programmes and supports the Policing and Community Safety Partnerships.

Parks and Leisure Department - Director of Parks and Leisure: Andrew Hassard

The Parks and Leisure Department is responsible for looking after our 10 leisure centres as well as managing and maintaining over 50 parks, eight playing field sites, 75 playgrounds, four allotment sites and nine cemeteries across the city and the City of Belfast Crematorium. The department is responsible for popular visitor attractions like Belfast Zoo, Malone House and Belfast Castle and also helps to promote health and wellbeing in Belfast through sports development and promoting the use of open space in the city.

Property and Projects Department- Director of Property and Projects: Gerry Millar

The Property and Projects Department looks after capital projects and manages the Gasworks Business Park, the Duncrue and Balmoral Industrial Estates and various other sites in the city. The department is also responsible for the management, security and maintenance of all our properties and vehicles, as well as the procurement of new services and goods for all council departments.



Our Services

In addition to the areas highlighted in this Corporate Plan, our services include:



Operating 10 leisure centres, 22 community centres and managing the City Hall, Waterfront and Ulster Halls, Belfast Castle, Malone House and Belfast Zoo



Operating 4 recycling centres, 2 civic amenity sites and over 40 bring sites across the city and providing a free bulky household waste collection service



Managing and maintaining 2 city parks, 9 district parks, 5 country parks, 36 local parks, 8 playing field sites, 75 playgrounds. 4 allotment sites, 9 cemeteries and the City of Belfast Crematorium and looking after 11,000 trees on streets across the city



Enforcing regulatory and licensing responsibilities, in line with the Government's Enforcement Concordat, in environmental health, building control, public health, pollution, street trading, shop opening hours, tattooing and ear piercing, health and safety at work and public entertainment licensing



Organising major civic and sporting events in the city including Halloween and Christmas, the Titanic Made in Belfast Festival and the Belfast City Marathon



Providing a range of support programmes for businesses in the city and development programmes for communities in the city



Providing public toilets at 13 sites across the city



Registering births, deaths, marriages and civil partnerships



Cleaning over 444,000km of streets every year



Facilitating the Belfast City Council Youth Forum



Managing the Gasworks Business Park, St. George's Market, Smithfield Market, Duncrue and Balmoral Industrial Estates and various other sites in the city



Supporting the new Belfast Policing and Community Safety Partnership and 4 District Policing and Community Safety Partnerships



Providing grant aid to community groups, sports groups and community relations projects across Belfast



Working in partnership with many agencies on joint initiatives including ARC21, Belfast Healthy Cities



Considering planning applications within the city council area and submitting views to the Planning Service



Providing part-funding to the Belfast Visitor and Convention Bureau (BVCB) and Belfast City Centre Management (BCCM) in conjunction with private and public sector partners

Further information on any of our services is available on our website at:
www.belfastcity.gov.uk/atoz





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Please contact us if you require any further information on this document or any of our services.
This document is available in alternative formats on request.
