Investing in Physical Renewal

Residents and visitors alike will have noticed a significant investment in the physical infrastructure of the area over the past few years, all helping to ensure that people living in the Outer North Neighbourhood Renewal Area have access to better facilities, safer amenities and a better quality environment. Neighbourhood Renewal efforts in 2014 and 2015 alone have either directly or indirectly realised investment in the region of **£2.78 million**, with £1.05m of that leveraged from sources other than DSD - sources such as Derry City Council, NIHE, DRD, DENI, WHSCT, PHA, Big Lottery & DCAL.

In the previous 3 years (2011-13) NR related investment was in the region of **£1.5m** (£475k leveraged). The good news continues with local partners securing approximately £1.8million from the Social Investment Fund (OFMDFM) for the Leafair Pavilion and play provision within Ballyarnett Country Park.  

(continued on page 2)
2016 will also see the redevelopment of St. Joseph’s Boxing Club & advancement of both the Shantallow Community Centre refurb and the proposed Galliagh Community Centre - not to mention efforts to progress other physical ambitions continuing apace.

Overall, the efforts of a range of organisations, in tandem with supportive funding bodies, will result in approximately £10 million investment in local community facilities within this decade.

Local Physical Development supported by Neighbourhood Renewal Investment

In the Past 2 Years
- Rainbow CFC Extension
- St. Brigid’s Centre Refurbishment
- Studio 2 Arts Refurbishment
- Leafair [Outdoor] Green Gym
- Unity Sculpture, Galliagh R’about
- Ballyarnett Performance Area
- Skeoge House Redevelopment
- RCD 4 Rs Recycling Workshop
- Na Magha Hurling Clubhouse
- Carnhill Streetlighting & Footpath Resurfacing

N.R. Investment of £ 1.73 million

Also in the Past 5 Years
- Galliagh N’hood Park, Ederowen
- Shantallow MUGA & Playpark
- Leafair 3G Pitch & Playpark
- Playtrail Outdoor Auditorium
- Shantallow Family Centre – SureStart Extension
- Environmental Improvement / Alleygating / Re-imaging schemes
- Window Replacement Schemes
- NIHE (Galliagh & Shantallow)
- Local Allotment Schemes
- DRD Road Resurfacing Schemes
- Galliagh Linear Park Drainage

N.R. Investment of £ 1.05 million
St. Brigid’s Centre, Carnhill Refurbishment

On 25th June RCD celebrated the completion of a £400k refurbishment of the St. Brigid’s Parish Centre, resulting in modern, fit for purpose facilities to support the delivery of a wide range of services including SureStart activities, meals on wheels, counselling, therapy services and older people’s care services.

The investment enabled RCD to not only upgrade the premises, but also to offer flexible space within the Centre for use and hire by a number of other community groups / residents in the area. The overall cost of the renovation was £400k, with DSD N.R. contributing £362,500 and RCD funding the remaining balance.

For more information contact Kenny McAdams, RCD on Tel: 028 7135 2832

4 R’s Recycling Project - Resource Centre Derry

The 4Rs Re-use Workshop is a Social Enterprise opened in April 2013 - a pioneering project run by RCD in conjunction with local Council. Located at the amenities site in Pennyburn Industrial Estate, the aim of the project is to reuse unwanted furniture and electrical goods and to upcycle these goods for retail resale.

The project provides opportunities for local people to develop skills (providing employment and training opportunities to long-term unemployed), as well as working closely with local schools, colleges and the UU Magee, to further explore development opportunities.

The project offers places to trainees interested in woodwork & painting but also training opportunities in administration, sales and customer services. The project also works with local schools to promote the benefits of re-cycling and build relationships with organisations such as the Foyle Down Syndrome Trust by giving placement opportunities for their members.

4Rs brings together 3 elements: Environmental - by prolonging the life of furniture and reducing the amount of waste going to landfill, thereby saving natural resources through renewing these goods and offering them for resale; Economic - helping reduce landfill costs on local ratepayers and producing low cost items available to the public; Social - by creating training opportunities, skills development and wherein all proceeds from sales are reinvested into the 4Rs Reuse Workshop.

For more information contact Joe Brolly on Tel: 028 7136 0453

Newsletter December 2015
Galliagh Social Cohesion Project
Delivered by the Leafair Community Association, this project aims to maximise resident involvement in the development and delivery of a range of renewal projects within Galliagh. Developed in response to increasing concerns regarding capacity and fragmentation within the Galliagh estate, the project co-ordinates and delivers a range of community relations, community safety, community bonding, health & wellbeing and physical / environmental improvement projects. The project works collaboratively with numerous C&V groups and statutory agencies to secure investment that assists residents to tackle for themselves the social & physical decline in the Galliagh estate – including the redevelopment of unsafe / rundown areas, antisocial behaviour hotspots etc… into safe, shared and well used places such as community gardens / allotments, recreational amenities, leisure / play facilities and re-imaged spaces.

For more information contact Peter McDonald on Tel: 7135 3735

TEAMWORKS is a social enterprise working to improve the environment, living conditions and homes within the area - creating attractive, safe and sustainable areas. It provides a neighbourhood based mechanism to improve & better coordinate environmental responses from a range of local agencies (statutory and C&V).

The project supports vulnerable residents to improve the safety, appearance & maintenance of their homes / gardens - increasing self-esteem, satisfaction and pride in the area. It supports residents living close to rundown, unsafe, antisocial behaviour hotspots to come together & transform these areas into safe, welcoming community spaces, thus helping to reduce the fear of crime.

The project also delivers the Policing & Community Safety Partnership’s Foyle Safer Homes Initiative, the provision/ installation of home safety equipment in homes of vulnerable residents (identified & referred by PCSP, PSNI, CRJ, WHSCT, C&V groups and political representatives).

For more information contact Cathal McCauley T. 7128 0250
Good Morning North West

is a phone service established to enable older people & people in need of support to maintain independence in their own homes and to better function within the community. It seeks to prevent clients from becoming more dependent, from falling physically & mentally ill (through depression, loneliness, isolation etc.), reduce the fear of crime, overcome social isolation and enhance health & wellbeing.

GMINW provides a daily call to clients to check on their well-being & also provide signposting advice / information on a wide range of issues inc. welfare rights, health care & housing repairs. A dedicated team of volunteers help to deliver the service - if you would like to volunteer for Good Morning contact Volunteer Coordinator Katrina Browne T: 7135 3694

The Playtrail

The Playtrail is a unique outdoor play & educational facility located within the grounds of Ardnashee College. The facility incorporates a Junior Play Park, Adventure Play Area & Sensory Garden, woodland fairy walk, outdoor auditorium / cinema space, Ecobase (a straw bale house) and community allotment scheme. The Playtrail is ‘animated’ throughout the year with a range of play & educational based activities and programmes. The aim of the project is to promote social inclusion through the creation of innovative opportunities for inclusive play, sporting and recreational activities - a significant element of the work relates to the creation of ‘transition’ opportunities, providing training & employment for young people with a range of learning difficulties.

The project’s strong community focus & established footfall (> 60,000 visitors p.a.) provide the opportunity to deliver a yearlong programme of activities catering for local community, schools, community groups & visitors to the City. It has a particular niche catering for families / children and young people with physical disabilities, sensory impairments and learning difficulties.

www.facebook.com/theplaytrail for further information on programmes and activities or contact Mark Roberts T: 7136 8173
This project is delivered by Shantallow Community Residents Association, providing young people with interactive workshops on health & safety issues and personal development programmes (based on physical / mental health as well as personal safety and community safety issues). Workshops and programmes include drug, alcohol and substance awareness, sexual awareness, anti-bullying, cultural and community relations, mediation and conflict resolution, building intergenerational relationships, hoax calls / attacks on emergency services.

Project activities also include environmental improvement (for eg alternatives to bonfires, community murals etc..) + health & fitness initiatives (eg inclusive games, yoga & midnight street soccer).

The project coordinates / delivers workshops, multi-agency events & programmes across the 4 Derry NRAs, implemented primarily through local Primary Schools & connecting to a range of service providers. It is building awareness, skills and knowledge amongst young people from across the city - having a particular impact on education, community safety & health related priorities identified in each of the respective Neighbourhood Renewal Action Plans.

For more information contact Stella McCauley  T: 7128 0250

Community Restorative Justice - Community Mediation Service.

- focus on creating safer communities by tackling the fear of crime, training and skilling up local residents to resolve issues in partnership with other organisations & statutory agencies (including building confidence in local policing). Restorative Justice Schemes seek a balanced approach to the needs of the victim, the perpetrator and community.

CRJ mediation services help resolve all types of neighbourhood disputes (by employing intervention, preventive & diversionary methods). CRJ helps victims of crime feel securer in their homes through the Lock Out Scheme, provides signposting for people with drug addictions and is involved in a number of initiatives (such as summer festival activity, bonfire alternatives, youth diversionary work, environmental upgrade & specific issues for e.g. attacks on buses, the misuse of quads & fireworks, anti-community activity in local tunnels, winter health etc...)

For more information contact Martin Connolly on Tel: 07749 103581

Y.E.S. - Youth Educated in Safety Project

6  Outer North Neighbourhood Partnership
Families & Schools Together
- is an evidence-based programme supporting local families to help their children succeed in school & live within strengthened families. By establishing early partnerships between families, communities & schools, FAST empowers parents / children by removing obstacles that prevent children learning / succeeding at school. FAST programme offers weekly fun filled, multi-family sessions with hands on learning delivered to families of children aged 3 to 8 yrs - the whole family is invited to attend over the 8 week course. Following the 8 wk cycle, a FASTWORKS group forms - led & owned by the empowered parents, supporting their continued engagement with the primary school. The Co-ordinator has rolled the FAST programme out (including various cycles) in a number of local primary schools, with 120 families participating in the programme in the last year. For more information contact Emmett Lynch  T: 7135 8787

Talking to Our Babies - Greater Shantallow Area Partnership

Talking To Our Babies is a community led, early intervention programme supporting effective communication & language skills which are fundamental building blocks on which subsequent literacy & numeracy is based. Without these skills children run the risk of school failure, low self-esteem & poor social skills.

The project aims to increase the % of children starting nursery school in the Greater Shantallow / Outer North Area who are able to communicate effectively and appropriately for their age. The programme targets parents / carers of children aged 0-3 years old, individuals who work with children aged 0-3 years old and the wider community. It provides awareness raising campaigns, accredited training for parents & individuals working with children aged 0-3 yrs old (Elklan, ICAN, Hanen etc), information / support to establish new language rich environments / activities for children aged 0-3 yrs old throughout the area.

It raises awareness of the importance of communication in the early years, enhancing parents’ / carers’ communication skills & the skills of those working with children aged 0-3 yrs old, helping to influence attitudes and practice within the home, the wider community and within local organisations - such as Surestart Shantallow, Libraries NI, local Parent and Toddler groups etc…

For more information contact Jennifer Griffiths T: 7135 8787
ETHOS (Family Support Hub)

This service is delivered by RCD & GSAP, working in partnership with a range of statutory & community partners, focusing on early intervention measures through engagement & support to families. The project aims to address a gap in provision & intervention at levels 1 & 2 (Hardiker Model), informing a longer term strategy that reduces the likelihood of these cases escalating to levels 3 & 4 which cannot be dealt with at community level but require action from Health, Education and / or other statutory agencies.

Collaborative working has led to the establishment of the ETHOS family support hub (based at Northside Village Centre) that is recognised [within both the Statutory & C&V sectors] as a 1st point of contact for vulnerable families / individuals within the Outer North. The project recognises that families with complex needs require the input of several disciplines in a coordinated approach to their support. The project focuses on the need for an effective and responsive support that targets the whole family with an approach that is both practical & localised. It develops parenting skills around general lifestyle choices and habits, for e.g. coping mechanisms, valuing education, healthy eating, physical activity etc...

For more information contact Angela McIntyre T: 7135 8787

Community Planning

Community Planning is one of the most significant powers of the new Derry City & Strabane District Council, giving people a greater say in how services are delivered in their local area. A range of local organisations, including ONNP, are contributing to the emerging Community Plan & helping to shape the long-term social, economic and environmental regeneration of the Council area.

The Community Plan is focusing on 8 identified priority areas :-

- Community Development;
- Early Intervention;
- Health & Wellbeing;
- Education & Skills;
- Entrepreneurship & Enterprise;
- Tourism, Arts & Culture;
- Physical Regeneration;
- Infrastructure & Transport.

In early 2016 work will begin on 8 Local Area Plans (based on 7 District Electoral Areas within DC&SDC area + Strabane Town) to complement and align with the overarching & strategic Community Plan.

For more information check out http://www.derrystrabane.com/Subsites/Community-Planning

For further information about Neighbourhood Renewal activities in the Outer North area :-

Contact Darren Kirby (Manager), Outer North Neighbourhood Partnership, Northside Village Centre, Glengallagh Rd, Derry, BT48 8NN T. (028) 7135 8787 E. darren@shantallow.net