



SUSTAINING REGENERATION

A Social Plan for Ballymun

Placemaking

Education, Lifelong Learning and Training

Community Safety

Health and Wellbeing

Child Development and Family Support

Arts and Culture

Recreation and Sport



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The Social Plan with links to the lead partners' strategic and operational plans is available on www.brl.ie



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Social regeneration sub-committee of the board of Ballymun Regeneration Limited:

- Chairman: The Lord Mayor of Dublin, Andrew Montague
 Declan Dunne (Ballymun Whitehall Area Partnership)
 Ann Keating (Womens’ Resource Centre, Ballymun)
 Angela Walsh (Health Service Executive)
 Cllr. Steve Wrenn

Other members of the social regeneration sub-committee:

- Mary Taylor (Dublin City Council)
 Ray Yeates (Dublin City Council)
 Fiona Gallagher (Trinity Comprehensive School)

The input and cooperation of the lead partners, the networks and other community partners are also acknowledged.

Sheena McCambley and Trish Flynn’s work in bringing the Social Plan together was significant.

Michele Ryan’s contribution as originator of the Social Plan structure was a key element in its development.

Chronicling the phenomenal achievement that is Ballymun today will be a daunting challenge for future urban historians. It is a regeneration project that has been unique from the outset. In 1998 there were 17,000 people living in the 324 hectare area; a conspicuous and notoriously deprived high-rise estate with its 36 high rise blocks clearly visible from the air. Such was the extent of the task that the masterplanner compared it to open heart surgery.

Regenerating Ballymun and putting in place the necessary social, cultural, economic and environmental infrastructure to create a sustainable future for those who lived and worked there has indeed been a challenging journey. It has been characterised by a shared vision and resolute ambition of Ballymun Regeneration’s board and regeneration team, their colleagues in Dublin City Council and local residents’ working with numerous other stakeholders to deliver the Masterplan for the area.

In many ways, the Masterplan presented to Government in 1998 foretold the Social Plan we have today. It was groundbreaking in its sheer scale and complexity; and the most ambitious initiative of its kind ever undertaken in the history of the state. It provided the framework for a series of integrated physical, social and environmental interventions as well as economic and cultural initiatives, designed to engage with local residents and create a sense of place and of ownership of the new town.

Almost 15 years later, the physical landscape has been transformed. However, it is abundantly clear that in order to be truly sustainable, the regeneration of Ballymun encompasses much, much more. Delivering sustainable regeneration for the area demands an interagency collaborative effort, supported by pro-active inputs from the community and voluntary sector; a robust approach that my Government actively promotes. The Social Plan rightly recognises the imperative to deliver social regeneration across a range of services and activities through a wide range of public, private and community initiatives. Dublin City Council, the Ballymun Partnership, Young Ballymun, the Health Service Executive and the partners in Safer Ballymun have already proved that productive

partnership working is critical to the success of social regeneration. I welcome this model and stress the imperative for agencies, particularly in our current challenging fiscal circumstances, to continue to work together as closely and as holistically as possible.

Putting strong healthcare and family supports in place; enhancing community safety; increasing access to learning and skills development; providing adequate recreational opportunities and maintaining the strong focus on arts and culture outlined in the Social Plan will take time, energy and commitment. The existing networks and partnerships must maintain their integrated inclusive effort if the inspiring objectives and actions documented in ‘Sustaining Regeneration – a Social Plan for Ballymun’ are to be achieved, enabling those living and working in the area to be proud of the place that is Ballymun. I congratulate all who have been involved in the crafting of this plan; I praise the resilience and tenacity of those who have lived and worked in Ballymun throughout the duration of the project and I join you in looking to the future with optimism.



Roisin Shortall

Roisin Shortall TD
Minister of State at the Dept. of Health



MESSAGE FROM THE LORD MAYOR

As Chairman of the social regeneration sub-committee of the board of Ballymun Regeneration Ltd (BRL), it gives me great pleasure to present *Sustaining Regeneration: A Social Plan for Ballymun*. This is one of the final milestones on the journey initiated almost 15 years ago to regenerate Ballymun physically, socially, economically and environmentally.

The Social Plan signals the coordinated commitment to social regeneration by a wide range of public, private and community interests. It creates an integrated framework for inter-agency actions to address the future social development of the area through the delivery of practical interventions. We believe that sustaining the regeneration of Ballymun will require partnership between residents, local businesses, community and voluntary organisations and public service agencies.

Devising the plan has highlighted the need for the lead partners to continue to work together for Ballymun's future. We particularly acknowledge the valuable input of Dublin City Council, the Ballymun Whitehall Area Partnership, the Health Service Executive, all the schools, Young Ballymun, and the partners of Safer Ballymun to the plan. The BRL social regeneration executive team has shown extraordinary dedication in bringing the plan together. We also recognise the vital contribution of local residents and other stakeholders working in the area throughout the public consultation process. Each one of us knows that this is not the end of the regeneration process but really a new beginning. Work on implementing the Social Plan's seven themes will continue to bring the partners together to fulfil the specific actions documented in the implementation plans.

Ballymun Regeneration's logo depicts the hand of the community reaching for a bright new future. This is a future that is now in sight; a future where *Sustaining Regeneration: A Social Plan for Ballymun* will be for the benefit of everybody living and working in Ballymun.



Andrew Montague
The Lord Mayor of Dublin



INTRODUCTION

Ballymun: Framing the context

In March 1997 the regeneration of Ballymun was announced; the largest scale, most ambitious initiative of its kind ever embarked upon in the history of the state. Noting that the project incorporated an integrated strategic plan for the economic and social development of the area, the accompanying press release stated that the re-development of housing in Ballymun aimed to get Ballymun working as a town ‘catering for all local needs, attracting public and private investment, providing employment and securing a better mix of housing in a rejuvenated physical environment’¹. It was also clear that while housing-based policies alone could not fully realise the project’s strategic aim, they could act as the catalyst which would ‘improve Ballymun for the people who live there, and for those who will live and work there in the future’.

The vehicle chosen to plan and implement the realisation of this vision was a targeted company wholly owned by Dublin City Council: Ballymun Regeneration Limited (BRL). The company was incorporated with a board of directors, representing a range of stakeholders from statutory and community and voluntary agencies, the local authority, the community and the private sector; reflecting the holistic view of the regeneration project, and representing the creation of an agent charged with changing the way major projects would be delivered.

The Masterplan: Articulating the vision

In March 1998, following six months intensive consultation with the community and agencies operating in the area, the masterplan for the new Ballymun² was delivered to Government. It provided an integrated framework including interventions of a ‘hard’ and ‘soft’ nature which facilitated

cross-cutting initiatives to address a number of social, cultural, economic and environmental objectives. The ambition was clear. Services and supports were needed and innovative programmes also had to be developed to engage with local residents and to meet their aspirations.

A housing transition course was devised around the housing programme to tackle the issues surrounding the move from high-rise accommodation to more conventional housing. This course was also designed to impact on personal and community development and to assist pathways to employment. At the same time, environmental initiatives responded to the need for ownership of the local area, while cultural and artistic programmes stimulated participation and debate across the community and beyond. Voluntary and community sector services populated and enlivened the built environment in the neighbourhood centres and facilitated their use by local residents. The commitment from the outset to involve the community and consult extensively was groundbreaking - if not without controversy. The multi-faceted nature of regeneration representing all of these interests was abundantly obvious. This could not be achieved by one agency, one sector or a single-focus strategy.

The Masterplan: Charting the progress

Progress on the regeneration project has been well documented over the years in the monitoring reports of the Integrated Area Plan³ but also in a plethora of papers, presentations, evaluations and reflections on both product and process. The publication of a collection of essays⁴ celebrating the 10th anniversary of regeneration captured the breadth and depth of the project’s intent to improve quality of life for local residents and to enhance personal capacity.

1 Government press release. (March 1997).
2 Masterplan for the new Ballymun. BRL (1998).
3 Ballymun Integrated Area Plan under the Urban Renewal Scheme. (1998).
4 *Memories, Milestones and New Horizons*, Reflections on the Regeneration of Ballymun, Aibhlin McCrann (Ed.) Blackstaff Press (2008).



In November 2007, the Comptroller and Auditor General produced a report⁵ on the regeneration of Ballymun which encompassed not only the financial and physical aspects of the project, but also reflected on the social and economic factors. Success was acknowledged across a wide range of agencies.

However, a lack of coordination relating to action in the social field was identified and reaching the ambitious objectives set by the Government and the Masterplan required a longer time frame than that needed to fulfil the re-housing programme.

The completion of the re-housing programme was set out in detail in 2009 by BRL in a Housing Completion Strategy which was accompanied by a suite of additional strategies covering social, environmental, economic development and Neighbourhood Action Plans relating to the physical social infrastructure, the Tenure Diversity Report and Safer Ballymun's award winning Community Safety Strategy. This initiative represented an innovative approach to partnership and interagency action in the context of community policing, while also encompassing the various aspects of design, management and engagement required to deliver a successful neighbourhood.

The Social Plan: The genesis

The genesis of this strategy *Sustaining Regeneration - A Social Plan* for Ballymun is rooted in an interagency approach and represents the unique response of the social regeneration subcommittee of the board of BRL to social regeneration. It addresses the underlying structural and operational issues that could impact negatively on the potential for success of social regeneration in Ballymun. The plan proposes a way to copper-fasten regeneration and hence protect public and private investment. It serves to strengthen the area and the people living and working there. The Plan is particularly apposite at this time, not only because of the recommendations from the Comptroller & Auditor General's report, but also because pressure on the public purse has created an imperative to adopt an integrated approach to service delivery and to optimise the use of the

enhanced facilities provided through regeneration. It also coincides with the winding down of Ballymun Regeneration Ltd and its planned exit in 2014.

While Ballymun was unique in many ways, not least in its concentration of social and economic deprivation, three aspects of the project are equally significant in approaching this Social Plan. They are the scale of the task, re-housing the entire original population in the area, and the multi-stranded scope of the undertaking. Herein is the kernel of the achievements to date and the ongoing challenge.

Sustainable regeneration: What is it?

Sustainable regeneration is about the quality of life that individuals and families living in Ballymun will have in the years ahead. It is about improving community safety, health, education, recreation, arts and cultural services; providing access to community services, and continuing the development of a strong community sector. It includes skills training, access to qualifications and community learning and empowerment. Crucially, sustainable regeneration is about making the place that Ballymun is, and ensuring that it is safe, clean and green. The Social Plan's seven key themes encompass all of these sentiments and reflect not only community needs but also the opportunities that are presented by regeneration initiatives. The order in which the themes appear in the Social Plan reflects common concerns following on from the Placemaking theme; itself a reflection of the masterplan and the interpreted framework flowing from it.

Developing the Social Plan

Interagency planning and working have always been exacting tasks; often stimulating and ultimately fruitful. Crafting a consensual interagency social plan with a number of themes and a focus on delivery rather than strategising alone has presented challenges. At the same time, the breadth and depth of planning, activity and endeavour throughout the Ballymun area in relation to all the Social Plan's

themes present a sound foundation on which to build. There are many examples of cross-cutting initiatives at work in the area - not least those facilitated by the transformed built environment itself - which have lead to dynamic and innovative approaches.

The aim of this document has been to frame a succinct plan with a shared strategic vision, objectives and outcomes relating to each theme. It outlines a mechanism for delivery as well as a means of referencing the detail of supporting plans and actions. In that context, it provides a window to the world of social regeneration and development in Ballymun. The public consultation exercises, its policy proofing against national and local frameworks and statutory imperatives informed and enriched it⁶. The plan is both a legacy document and a roadmap for future action.

Implementing the Social Plan: Key themes, lead partners, and their roadmaps

The achievement of a robust and accountable delivery mechanism for the implementation of *Sustaining Regeneration: A Social Plan for Ballymun* has been through the identification of lead partners who will coordinate the delivery of the plan across each of the chosen seven themes. These lead partners have either statutory responsibility for service delivery or are key strategists / partners in the area; their plans are delivered in line with the policy of the organisations or statutory agencies with which they are aligned.

This does not mean that the lead partners are the sole practitioners in a particular thematic area but rather that their existing plans and strategies, or those within which they operate, include a range of actions that can make the strategic objectives of this strategy a reality. The key plans, strategies and actions of the lead partners are reflected in their implementation plans which are at various stages of development. It is important to recognise the links between the lead partners and the community-based networks and community partners whose action plans will also impact directly on the successful outcomes of social regeneration in Ballymun.

In some cases the lead partner's implementation plans are presented and referenced as a synopsis of a more detailed plan. What they do affirm is a commitment by each lead partner to have an individual action plan specific to the objectives set, and geared towards the achievement of specific outcomes representing real improvements and benefits in peoples' lives. The significance of this framework for delivery is that the key objectives encompass those of the lead partners; they relate directly to their own reporting and monitoring arrangements, and these are thus embedded in the Social Plan. Links to the individual strategies of the lead partners are available on the electronic version of this document at www.brl.ie.

A steering group will be established to oversee the direction, the implementation and review of the Social Plan ensuring that it retains its dynamism and that it can react to changing circumstances and imperatives.

⁵ Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General (2007)

⁶ Appendices 1,3



Theme	Lead Partners	Roadmaps for Implementation
Placemaking	Ballymun Regeneration Limited	Masterplan for the new Ballymun 1998
	Dublin City Council	Regeneration Completion Strategies 2009 <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Housing and Infrastructure- Social- Environment- Economic Tenure Diversity ReportNeighbourhood Action Plans 2000 and 2009BRL Business Plan (2009, updated 2012)Dublin City Development Plan 2011-2017The Dublin City Economic, Social and Cultural strategy, <i>Dublin, a City of Possibilities</i> 2002-2012.Dublin City Council Departmental Business Plans
Education, Lifelong Learning and Training	Ballymun Whitehall Area Partnership (Facilitator)	Department of Education: Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools (DEIS)
	Schools at primary level	City of Dublin VEC Adult Education: Service Local Area Plan 2012
	Schools at second level	DCU in the Community: Strategic Plan 2011
	Providers of further education (FE)	Ballymun Whitehall Area Partnership: Local Community Development Strategic Plan 2011 - 2013
	Providers of higher education (HE)	National Childcare Investment Programme
	Ballymun Job Centre	Dublin City Childcare Committee Strategic Plan
		Action Plan for Jobs 2012

Theme	Lead Partners	Roadmaps for Implementation
Community Safety	Local residents	Ballymun Community Safety Strategy Review 2012-2016
	An Garda Síochána	<i>A Road To Change:</i> Ballymun Community Alcohol Strategy 2010-2016
	Dublin City Council	
	Ballymun Regeneration Ltd	
	Ballymun Local Drugs Task Force	
Health and Wellbeing	Health Service Executive	HSE National Plan (2012) & Dublin North East Regional Plan (2012)
Child Development and Family Support	Health Service Executive	HSE National Plan (2012) & Dublin North East Regional Plan (2012)
	youngballymun	<i>Progress, Partners, Plans</i> youngballymun (2010) & updated
Arts and Culture	axis Arts Centre and Community Resource Centre	Dublin City Council Culture Strategy 2011-2017
Recreation and Sport	Dublin City Council	Dublin City Sport and Active Recreation Strategy 2009-16
		<i>Play here, Play there, Play everywhere</i> Dublin City Play Plan 2012-2016

Networks: Their role

The long-standing success of networks in Ballymun demonstrates how organisations and their actions are increasingly coordinated towards the achievement of common goals. Networks and partnerships have developed to respond to the complex needs of the area; already they seek to ensure that a coordinated approach is achieved and that action is inclusive and strategic. They operate as custodians of the approach to planning and implementation embodied in the Social Plan.

As an agency itself, the Local Drugs Task Force represents a government-sponsored response to the overlapping nature of the issues relating to drug and alcohol misuse, and the need for integrated agency action. The well-established structures of Safer Ballymun and the Principals’ network are mirrored in the developing agency and community fora relating to sports and to health. The successful implementation of the school attendance initiative requires coordinated activity of numerous agencies and services on an ongoing

basis. Groups have also emerged whose objectives reflect a desire for ownership of the physical, social and economic environment by members of the community themselves. They include the Tidy Towns Committee and Ballymun 4 Business. These coordinating structures are examples of how actions of individual organisations are more likely to have an impact and foster the objectives of the plan by working in partnership with each other.

Community Partners

To achieve the ambitious goals that have been set, action is required not only of the lead partners but also of other agencies, the community and voluntary sector, and individuals as citizens and volunteers. Some of these organisations have their own strategic plans which operate as complementary strategies; all are involved in delivering the objectives of this plan at local level. The representation of these groups in the network structure indicates a desire for a partnership



approach. Digests of these groups are held by the networks themselves, the Ballymun Whitehall Area Partnership, Dublin City Council's community development section and in the Neighborhood Action Plans. A comprehensive updated theme-led directory would be an appropriate priority action for the Social Plan's implementation steering group.

Public Consultation⁷

BRL facilitated an extensive public consultation process on social regeneration in Ballymun that enabled members of the public, Ballymun residents, local agencies and organisations to participate and contribute to the development of the Social Plan via a number of different routes, including a door to door public survey, a web-based questionnaire and a public open day. Focus groups were held for young people and a separate consultation process on arts and culture was also carried out.

The findings of the consultation process have been included by all of the lead partners in the development of their implementation plans. Given their importance within the context of future proofing Ballymun, the development of a separate theme for young people was considered. It was agreed that due to the cross-cutting nature of the themes' focus throughout the various life stages, objectives under all the themes would ensure that young people and their priorities would be well addressed.

The level of participation by residents, and the outputs from the various consultation processes indicate the high level of interest that residents have in the social development of their area:

- The emergence of community safety as the primary social priority gives weight to the emphasis that has always been placed on community safety throughout the regeneration process, and it is clear that this needs to be maintained.
- Education and health appear as issues of deep concern; residents young and old recognise them as vital to the development of a successful place.
- The importance and value of family life is also highlighted repeatedly with the welfare of children and young people prioritised.
- The majority of young people already living in Ballymun want to make their homes in Ballymun; further supporting the need to sustain the regeneration of the area for the next generation.
- Residents believed that Ballymun should be a centre for artistic and cultural innovation and that local people should be supported to develop their artistic potential. The presence of axis Arts and Communtiy Resource Centre has raised the status of Ballymun. It fosters excellence and inclusion locally and nationally and that there is a need to protect what it has achieved.

Some of the findings reflected people's satisfaction with initiatives already underway in the area - such as those dealing with community safety and school attendance - indicating an existing responsiveness among agencies and the community to address deep-seated concerns. Other recommendations, including the establishment of a local health forum, and a local sports forum have already been implemented since the consultation process took place. This demonstrates people's collective desire to work together. Full reports and executive summaries of all of the consultation processes are available in the Social Plan on www.brl.ie.

7 Appendices 1



SUSTAINING REGENERATION: A SOCIAL PLAN FOR BALLYMUN

The Vision

Local residents and agencies will lead, collaborate and work in partnership to enhance community and social development in Ballymun, acknowledging everyone's unique contribution and responsibility to create a legacy of wellbeing, and to ensure that social regeneration is sustained.

The seven themes

- 1 Placemaking;
- 2 Education, Life Long Learning and Training;
- 3 Community Safety;
- 4 Health and Wellbeing;
- 5 Child Development and Family Support;
- 6 Arts and Culture;
- 7 Recreation and Sport.

Each theme will be presented in three sections:

- A summary statement presented by the lead partners giving a flavour of the themes, the approach adopted throughout the regeneration process, and the imperatives that the plan addresses;
- The strategic core objectives of the plan are set out along with signposts marking progress towards their realisation;
- The implementation plans of the lead partners are documented containing sub-programmes and projects particular to the needs of people in Ballymun.



PLACEMAKING

1

Placemaking is a way of describing the essence of what the masterplan for the new Ballymun represents. It is not confined to building buildings and homes - important though they are - but rather encompasses the means of creating a successful urban area. Where Ballymun is concerned, placemaking represents the transformation of a shunned area into a place where people wish to live, work, visit and do business.

As with all the themes relating to the Social Plan, it has been necessary to utilise a number of complementary tools to approach the task. These include the spatial planning strands such as urban design; mixed land uses and appropriate density of development. Other tools include initiatives to increase tenure diversity, transformation strategies to foster economic and cultural development, environmental interventions and social programmes.

A variety of initiatives has been taken in tandem with the physical development to enhance consultation and participation across a range of topics from housing design to local environment and community

safety. In this sense, the physical infrastructure provides the building blocks to develop relevant social, recreational and leisure services and activities. The environment and the arts are not only valid and supported for their own sake, but also for the role they play in personal development and job creation as well as providing the bedrock of an engaged civil society; showcasing what is best within the area and ensuring that Ballymun is a destination.

Social programmes supported by the regeneration company have been geared towards filling gaps in existing services and developing partnerships, rather than duplicating existing initiatives. Support is designed to foster new approaches where appropriate, while simultaneously nurturing community-embedded responses which are working across all the themes.

Further implementation of this overall approach must continue to underpin Ballymun's development when the social housing programme is complete.



The Strategy

Theme 1	Goal(s)	Signposts towards achievement
Placemaking	To ensure that Ballymun has become an inclusive, well-resourced urban neighbourhood capable of responding to its own needs and challenges, sustaining itself and contributing to civic life	Ballymun is an integrated community where people choose to live, work and visit
		Ballymun is a place where people are active participants in community life, instilling a sense of common purpose and mutual regard
		Ballymun is a well-balanced place with enhanced opportunities and a diversity of population
		Ballymun is a creative place which responds innovatively to social, environmental and economic development
		Community and statutory partners are supported to realise their strategic plans, and to achieve their operational objectives and targets

The Implementation Plan

Placemaking			
Source: Masterplan for the new Ballymun			
Objectives	Action Plan / Project Description	Milestones	Outcomes
1.1 Create an integrated community where people will choose to live, work and visit	Masterplan for the new Ballymun Regeneration Completion Strategies	Implementation of cross-cutting regeneration strategies Implementation of initiatives in the Tenure Diversity Report resulting in a community with tenure patterns moving towards national norms	Improved quality of life for residents, business people and visitors
1.2 Promote participation in community life and thereby instill a sense of common purpose and mutual regard	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Housing & infrastructureSocialEnvironmentEconomic	The development of appropriate programmes and services within the social infrastructure provided	A cohesive and sustainable community
1.3 Make Ballymun a well-balanced place enhancing opportunities and diversity	Tenure Diversity Strategy Neighbourhood Action Plans BRL Business Plan	Achievement of BRL business plan targets in relation to social, environmental and economic activities	A balanced community socially and economically
1.4 Promote a place which fosters creative innovative responses to social, economic and environmental development	Social Regeneration Completion Strategy Dublin City Development Plan 2011-2017 Fingal County Development Plan 2011-2017 The Dublin City Economic, Social and Cultural strategy, <i>Dublin, a City of Possibilities</i> 2002-2012 Dublin City Council Departmental Business Plan	Preparation and implementation of the Local Area Plan for the Ballymun area	A creative place

Placemaking			
Objectives	Action Plan / Project Description	Milestones	Outcomes
1.5 Support our community and statutory partners in the realisation of their strategic plans, achievement of their operational objectives and targets: <ul style="list-style-type: none">PlacemakingEducation, Lifelong Learning and TrainingCommunity SafetyHealth and WellbeingChild Development and Family SupportArts and CultureRecreation and Sport	Regeneration Completion Strategies BRL Business Plan	Development of embedded relationships and integrated initiatives Support for social services and programmes leading to mainstream provision	A mutually supportive and integrated response to community need Sustainability in social and environmental programmes beyond the life of regeneration



EDUCATION, LIFELONG LEARNING AND TRAINING

2

The regeneration of Ballymun is an ambitious plan to significantly improve the lives of local people. It is transforming their housing and physical environment and improving their life chances. Local families and children face all the challenges of living in a designated disadvantaged area. In the past, they have had high aspirations, but some had much lower expectations of doing very well in school, accessing accredited further and higher level education programmes, and gaining the marketable skills to secure and retain well paid jobs. Education, lifelong learning and training can change all of that. It can give local people routes out of poverty and low incomes by helping them to access the employment and achieve the financial independence that they aspire to for themselves and for their families.

Community spirit in Ballymun is acknowledged near and far. Local people are amazingly creative and resilient. There is an extraordinarily high degree of partnership working among schools and education providers and local people. The School Principals' Network and the Ballymun Partnership Education Working Group have provided effective fora for collaboration for the

good of all local families and children, rather than for the benefit of one school or organisation.

The results are impressive. An independent evaluation of the Ballymun School Attendance Community Action Initiative shows that in two short years Ballymun has almost halved the gap in whole school attendance between Ballymun and the national average. It has also almost halved the number of children with chronic non-attendance. The initiative led by the Ballymun Whitehall Area Partnership is the product of the efforts of children, families, all of the local schools, the National Educational Welfare Board, the school completion programmes and many local organisations.

It is representative of the social regeneration approach to collaborative problem-solving that is the hallmark of Ballymun. But there is still so much more to achieve. No one agency, local organisation or family can achieve these impressive results alone, but together it is possible. The Implementation Plan for education life-long learning and training will replicate this approach to ensure that the objectives we set are achieved.



The Strategy

Theme 2	Goal(s)	Signposts towards achievement
Education, Lifelong Learning and Training	To increase access to and active participation in formal and informal learning, recreational, cultural activities and supports including early childhood education, schools and education centres, further and higher education, adult and community education and training, thereby achieving improvement in lives and life chances	Increased engagement of families with their children's education
		Improved engagement between schools and parents
		Increased use of sport, recreational and artistic activities to promote engagement in education
		Improved attendance at school
		Improvement in participation levels in third level education
		Increased take-up and completion of lifelong learning and training programmes both formal and informal

The Implementation Plan

Education, Lifelong Learning and Training			
<div>Sources: <i>Ballymun Whitehall Area Partnership: Local and Community Development Strategic Plan 2011-2013</i> <i>City of Dublin VEC Adult Education Service Region 1, Local Area Plan 2012</i> <i>Department of Education: Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools (DEIS), 2005</i> <i>DCU in the Community, Strategic Plan 2011</i> <i>National Childcare Investment Programme: Dublin City Childcare Committee Strategic Plan 2007-2010</i> <i>Action Plan for Jobs 2012: Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation</i></div>			
Objectives	Action Plan / Project Description	Milestones	Outcomes
2.1 Increase early childhood education provision	Local childcare services	Enhanced range and quality of childcare services supported by the National Childcare Investment Programme (Department of Children and Youth Affairs) through Dublin City Childcare Committee via Ballymun Whitehall Area Partnership and Dublin Northwest Childcare Resource Service	Increased number and quality of childcare places locally
	Early childhood education funding	Extension of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">– The Community Childcare Subvention Scheme (CCSS)– Free Pre-School Year in Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE)– Childcare Employment and Training Support Scheme (CETS)– Child minders' Grant– Parent & Toddler Funding	More sustainable local childcare services

Education, Lifelong Learning and Training			
Objectives	Action Plan / Project Description	Milestones	Outcomes
2.2 Increase the engagement of families in their children's education	Parental support Family-school connections School attendance	Uptake of specified educational activities supported through the Department of Environment Community and Local Governments (DECLG) Local and Community Development Programme by Ballymun Whitehall Area Partnership	Enhanced understanding of (own) parenting skills Increased ability (of parent) to advocate for self and family members Increased parental and family engagement in children and young people's education Increased school attendance levels per child/school
	After-school and homework activity in eight local primary schools and in Trinity Comprehensive Post Primary School	Continued funding by BRL and administered by BITE Continued by BITE and funded by Ballymun Whitehall Area Partnership	Increased number of young people attending after-school supervised study programme. Improved homework habits and study skills Improvement in educational attainment for young people
2.4 Deliver equality of opportunity in schools (DEIS)	Early childhood education facilities	Support from the Department of Children and Youth Affairs Department of Education staff seconded through the NCIP capital programme	Increased number and quality of early childhood education facilities
	Family literacy Parental and community engagement	A partnership approach at home, community and school levels	Improved engagement between schools and parents Increased use of sport, recreational and artistic activities to promote engagement in education Improved school outcomes for school going children More local people engaging in adult literacy, further and second chance education opportunities
	Education retention, progression and examination attainment	Implementation of initiatives across the curriculum, in extra-curricular activities and with external agencies	Improved retention of students in education system Improved progression to further and higher education from the formal education sector Improved performance in state examinations



Education, Lifelong Learning and Training			
Objectives	Action Plan / Project Description	Milestones	Outcomes
2.4 Deliver equality of opportunity in schools (DEIS) (CONTINUED)	Literacy and numeracy in schools	<p>Initiatives to foster reading, writing and language development at home and in school</p> <p>Use by schools of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">– First Steps reading, writing, speaking & listening programmes– Reading recovery– Synthetic phonics– Paired/shared reading– Writeminded/youngballymun school and teacher support– Literacy integrated across the curriculum– Support teachers– Small group withdrawal– Team teaching, group work <p>Regular assessment and monitoring of the levels of challenge and the timely intervention with appropriate interventions for particular children</p> <p>Use by schools of:1st Steps indicators/Continuum; Micra T, Drumcondra Reading Test, M.I.S.T.; Belfield profiles, speech and language evaluation; teacher observation and feedback; pupil self-assessment <i>thumbs up/ thumbs down</i>; focus on children disimproved by 10th percentile</p>	Improved literacy and numeracy outcomes for pre-school and school-going children through the delivery of a comprehensive range of programmes and strategies

Education, Lifelong Learning and Training			
Objectives	Action Plan / Project Description	Milestones	Outcomes
2.4 Deliver equality of opportunity in schools (DEIS) (CONTINUED)	School attendance	<p>Implementation and independent evaluation of <i>Ballymun Whitehall School Attendance Community Action Initiative</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Use by schools of school attendance software– Maintenance of school attendance promoters in each school– Standardised school attendance policies across schools– Maintenance of attendance care teams in each school– Community-wide promotion of attendance via events– A focus on chronic non-attendance utilising existing structures <p>Regular monitoring and assessment and timely intervention of appropriate interventions for particular children</p> <p>Continued coordination and support by the DECLG LCDP programme by Ballymun Whitehall Area Partnership</p>	Improved school attendance, school participation and education outcomes for school children
	Education through the medium of Irish	Equal opportunity and government provision for children attending and teachers and parents of Naíonraí, and scoileanna lánGhaelacha	<p>Children being educated 'as Gaeilge' from pre-school to third level</p> <p>The Irish language becoming 'a living language' in Ballymun</p>
2.5 Increase coordination and cooperation among schools	The Principals' Network	Continued facilitative, administrative and financial support through the DECLGs Local and Community Development programme by Ballymun Whitehall Area Partnership	An area-based focus among schools on improving attendance, behaviour, literacy, numeracy, progression, and parent and community engagement



Education, Lifelong Learning and Training			
Objectives	Action Plan / Project Description	Milestones	Outcomes
2.6 Increase the engagement of young people in education	School-community connections	Increased number of young people attending youth work and afterschool provision (supported through CDVEC, City of Dublin Youth Services Board, Ballymun Regional Youth Resource, Aisling, Poppintree Youth Services, The Plough Youth Services, BEST and Whitehall School Completion Programmes and Ballymun Women's Resource Service).	Improvement in young people's attitude to school, homework and study Improvement in educational attainment of children and young people in compulsory education
2.7 Encourage young people to progress into third level and further education	After-school and homework activity in eight local primary schools and in partnership with Trinity Comprehensive post primary school	Continued funding by BRL and administered by BITE Continued by BITE and funded by Ballymun Whitehall Area Partnership	Improvement in educational attainment by young people in Ballymun
2.8 Increase engagement of young people in community life	Young Leaders' Development Programme (16-23yrs)	Take up by young people aged 16-23 years engaged in BRYP's Young Leaders' Development Programme	Young leaders will be identified, trained and supported so they become active in the life of their community
2.9 Increase participation levels and promote equality in third level education	Maths programmes in partnership with Trinity Comprehensive School Subject tuition/ revision courses Mechanisms for promoting and communicating formal and informal education opportunities	Continued support by BITE, DCU Maths Learning Centre, Trinity Comprehensive School, Junior Curriculum Support Programme funded by the RDS Science and Technology Committee; JUST and DCU Access (Volunteer Students) DCU in the Community, and St. Patrick's College Uptake of educational activities run by DCU and NCI Increased usage of BITE support services by second and third level students	Improvement in educational attainment and exam performance in Maths and Science Increased awareness of range of college options, college access routes/services, financial supports and support programmes available Increased number of local young people accessing educational programmes Increased progression to third level and further education Increased parental and family engagement in young people's education
2.10 Increase the number of people from Ballymun progressing into higher education	Foundation, access and engagement programmes Formal and informal education opportunities	Increased uptake of specified educational activities delivered and supported by DCU in the Community, BITE, JUST and DCU Access Service DCU in the Community mainstreamed within DCU Expansion of DCU volunteer programme supporting Ballymun students	Increased registration to accredited and non-accredited courses across lifecycle provision Increased certification in accredited education programmes

Education, Lifelong Learning and Training			
Objectives	Action Plan / Project Description	Milestones	Outcomes
2.11 Continue to provide a wide range of adult education programmes both certified and non-certified	Formal and informal education opportunities	Increased uptake on courses provided	Increased involvement in adult education by local community
2.12 Continue to provide a range of education supports to the local community	Community education	Increased contact between CDVEC community education facilitator (CEF) and local organisations providing education and training Extended provision by the CDVEC Adult Education Service of Literacy Awareness Training (LAT) to organisations and groups	Increased awareness of literacy and adult education issues by local community and people working in the community
2.13 Continue to provide a range supports to CDVEC students	Adult Education Guidance Initiative	Students making informed choices about education journey	Education outcomes improved by access to guidance at various points on learning journey
2.14 Continue to be an innovative provider of second chance education	Tutor recruitment, training and support	Provision of regular CPD training for tutors by CDVEC FETAC coordinators and staff regularly updated on accreditation developments	Improved education outcomes for participants in CDVEC adult education classes
2.15 Continue to cooperate with local schools,colleges and community organisations to offer an integrated adult education service	Adult Education Service	CDVEC Adult Education Service represented on various local committees	Continued cooperation and collaboration to provide for effective and comprehensive service delivery



Education, Lifelong Learning and Training			
Objectives	Action Plan / Project Description	Milestones	Outcomes
2.16 Provide skills training which maximises employment opportunities	Local Employment Service	Enhanced range of services/ options open to job seekers by Ballymun Job Centre Increased uptake of support programmes. Continued support by: <ul style="list-style-type: none">– The Department of Social Protection, Local Employment Service/ Ballymun Whitehall Area Partnership– The Ballymun Local Drugs Taskforce– The Mount Street Trust, EU programmes	Increased number of local people accessing quality sustainable employment
	TÚS Community Work Placement Initiative	Delivery of training and short-term working opportunities for unemployed people supported by the Department of Social Protection through Ballymun Whitehall Area Partnership	Acquisition by local people of new work place skills Increased numbers of local people work ready
	Self-employment opportunities	Delivery of pre-start training for individuals wishing to start a business supported by DECLG’s Local and Community Development Programme through Ballymun Whitehall Area Partnership	Increased number of people in self-employment
	Enterprise training and development	Delivery of training to aid local business development supported by DECLGs Local and Community Development Programme through Ballymun Whitehall Area Partnership	Sustainment of local enterprises
	Early childhood education training	Extension of FETAC Level 5 & 6 Childcare Training through Dublin Northwest Childcare Resource Service	Increased numbers of qualified childcare staff and improved quality childcare services
	Child-minding	Continued involvement of Health Service Executive child-minding advisory service	Improved quality of child-minding services locally through direct support and training

Education, Lifelong Learning and Training			
Objectives	Action Plan / Project Description	Milestones	Outcomes
2.17 Upskill adults currently working with young people in Ballymun and surrounding areas in accredited and non-accredited training	Youth Work Training	Extension of youth work training - FETAC Level 5 provided by BRYR	Acquisition of new skills and qualification in youth work Increased competence of youth workers and volunteers Progressions to third level education Greater interagency approach to meet the needs of the learners and tackle unemployment issues
2.18 Increase coordination and co-operation among education and training providers and support organisations	The Ballymun Whitehall Area Partnership Education Working Group	Development and delivery of strategies and actions to increase community engagement in education Responses to opportunities and challenges common to education providers Opportunities to avoid duplication and overlap Coordination of the annual Education Fair Coordination and evaluation of the Ballymun Book Exchange Continued support and coordination through Ballymun Whitehall Area Partnership	An area-based focus among education and training providers on improving individual and family engagement with education



COMMUNITY SAFETY

3

One of the primary requirements of any sustainable community is a safe environment for its people to live their lives. The importance of personal safety to the success of an area is unsurpassed. It is affected by design, management and behaviour, and in turn it affects people's decisions about whether to stay in an area or leave at the first opportunity.

Since its inception in 2005, the Safer Ballymun Community Safety Forum has become an integral part of the social regeneration programme in Ballymun. Preventing crime, solving crime and fostering an environment where crime and anti-social behaviour will be shunned, has been one of the key challenges facing the Ballymun community.

A structured and integrated approach has been taken by policing and local government; the twin agencies with responsibility for creating a safe, clean and green environment. This approach has won several awards for Safer Ballymun, including a Taoiseach's award for Excellence in the Public Service.

The Safer Ballymun partnership acknowledges the interdependent relationships involved in achieving its vision. Action-based problem-solving initiatives to embedding a sense of personal and community safety are contributing to a new way of thinking, making Ballymun a successful, safe and clean place in which to live, work and visit.



The Strategy

Theme 3	Goal(s)	Signposts towards achievement
Community Safety	To engender positive collaborative action by agencies and local people to ensure that Ballymun is a safe environment in which to live, work and visit	There is a coordinated approach taken to ensure community safety in Ballymun, and sufficient resources are in place to enable implementation of a community safety strategy for the local area
		A clean, green local environment is evident and residents are involved in keeping Ballymun clean
		Best practice in housing management is implemented and innovative strategies are initiated to support this
		There is evidence of interagency collaboration to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour, and to promote public order thereby enhancing public confidence
		Community safety is considered an integral factor in the regeneration of Ballymun where the impact of development on individuals and the local environment is managed to maximise community safety and quality of life
		All Safer Ballymun partners are working together to prevent youth crime, to minimise the number of young people entering the criminal justice system, and to increase young people's safety
		Ballymun Local Drugs Task Force is supported in its implementation of the National Substance Misuse Strategy and a Community Alcohol Strategy for Ballymun
		Community safety is considered an integral factor in the regeneration of Ballymun where the impact of development on individuals and the local environment is managed to maximise community safety and quality of life

The Implementation Plan

Community Safety			
Source: Safer Ballymun Community Safety Strategy 2012-2016 An Garda Síochána Corporate Plan 2012 A Road to Change: Ballymun Community Alcohol Strategy			
Objectives	Action Plan / Project Description	Milestones	Outcomes
3.1 Sustain a coordinated approach to community safety and ensure that sufficient administration, coordination, communication and facilitation supports are in place to enable the implementation of the Community Safety Strategy	Safer Ballymun	Residents trained in and involved in Safer Ballymun steering group and initiatives Meetings held in neighbourhood centres Public meetings taking place Meetings held with other community fora in Dublin Strategy implementation reviewed regularly for NWA Joint Policing Committee and City Manager Safer Ballymun week delivered Schools' programme delivered	Local agencies and residents play an active role in creating safe neighbourhoods and a safe local environment Implementation of the Community Safety Strategy
3.2 Achieve a clean, green local environment in Ballymun with active resident involvement in keeping Ballymun clean	Cleaner Ballymun	Zero tolerance of graffiti and street art programme implemented Strategic approach to park management and use of parks in place Vibrant Tidy Town committee in place Residents actively involved in problem-solving initiatives Integrated interagency plan keeps the local Ballymun environment clean	A sense of pride of place amongst local people
3.3 Ensure good practice in housing management and that innovative strategies are implemented	Innovative interventions: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Transition housingMentoring assistanceCase conferencesImproved interagency cooperation	Focused interagency interventions with individuals Housing management issues resolved via Safer Ballymun and focused interventions by DCC Number of exclusion orders applied for and granted	Reduction in localised anti-social behaviour



Community Safety			
Objectives	Action Plan / Project Description	Milestones	Outcomes
3.4 Continue interagency collaboration to reduce crime, and anti-social behaviour and to promote public order and enhanced public confidence	Crime prevention and reduction initiatives	Effective dialogue between Safer Ballymun partners and the local community Improved partners collaboration including interagency walkabouts Implementation of national community policing model at district level including specific operations, increases in arrests, detections and seizures, and excellent victim support Local CCTV reporting and management protocols developed and implemented Effective and consistent enforcement of road traffic legislation	Reduction in crime and anti-social behaviour
3.5 Ensure that public areas, including parks and playgrounds are safe	People Make Parks	Public park's strategy in place Increase in parental participation in their children's use of public parks and play areas Maintenance and cleansing of parks and playgrounds programme fully implemented CCTV cameras installed and working in each park	Public areas including parks and playgrounds are safe and secure
3.6 Support the Ballymun Local Drugs Task Force in its implementation of the National Substance Misuse and Alcohol Strategies	Ballymun Local Drugs Task Force	BLDTF represented on Safer Ballymun steering group Community alcohol research project completed Community Alcohol Strategy implemented	Levels of drug and alcohol consumption and misuse reduced overall in Ballymun

Community Safety			
Objectives	Action Plan / Project Description	Milestones	Outcomes
3.7 Work in partnership to prevent youth crime, to minimise the number of young people entering the criminal justice system, and to increase young people's safety	Youth Diversion initiatives	School-based initiatives implemented including School Watch, Peer Mediation, School Attendance Initiative, positive parenting and anti-bullying initiatives Garda-led initiatives in place including school-based community Garda Garda youth diversion project, case-management system and soccer league in place Anti-social hotspots identified and monitored Easy Street programme implemented	Young people in Ballymun will grow up in a safe and positive environment Reductions in levels of youth crime Decrease in numbers of juveniles from Ballymun entering the criminal justice system
3.8 Ensure that community safety is considered an integral factor in the regeneration of Ballymun	Safety by Design	Reduction in site incidents and complaints Security of residents considered in the design and management of public spaces, the town centre, and residential neighbourhoods Public places restored and maintained	The impact of development on individuals and the local environment is managed to maximise community safety and quality of life



HEALTH AND WELLBEING

4

The Health Service Executive (HSE) aims to enable people to lead healthier and more fulfilled lives. Promoting, protecting and improving health and reducing health inequalities are key priorities for the HSE. There is a clear relationship between socio-economic status and health behaviour: increased educational opportunity for individuals equates with better personal health. Evidence shows that the most effective practices are achieved through approaches which influence the determinants of health and health inequalities. In order to address health inequalities, the HSE works collaboratively with statutory and non-statutory bodies and the community and voluntary sector.

Promoting and protecting health requires many interventions. Primary care is the cornerstone of modern health services. It is a first point of contact that people have with health and personal social services. The Primary Care Team in Ballymun was set up as one of ten national pilot sites in September 2003 and has been used as a model of best practice nationally. It provides an integrated, inter-disciplinary, high quality team-based set of services for the public. Early diagnosis, treatment and care options are available if required. These services are striving to be equitable and are tailored to meet the needs of the local population and provide improvement in access to all disciplines

on the team. The state of the art facility provides a base for the out of hours services DDoc.

The HSE encourages consumer participation in the planning and development of services. In the Ballymun area, statutory, non-statutory and community and voluntary organisations have come together to set up a Community Health Forum. In foster care and mental health services there is increasing input from service users in the planning of these services. The Balance Matters Programme, a strength and balance training and socialisation programme for older people won 2010 HSE Achievement Awards, and a commendation at the 2011 Biomnis HealthCare Innovation Awards.

The HSE is investing in preventing illness; supporting, encouraging and empowering people to pursue independent, healthy and fulfilling lifestyles to reduce the likelihood of illness while striving for the highest level of achievements in all aspects of our work.

Following the local consultation process, the actions for health will focus on working with local groups and communities on a range of issue under care groups such as Primary Care, Mental Health including children's mental health, Older People, Persons with a Disability, Travellers, Homelessness, Addiction, Children and Families and Health Promotion.



The Strategy

Theme 4	Goal(s)	Signposts towards achievement
Health and Wellbeing	To identify and implement elements of the HSE National Plan 2012 and further support the development of the Ballymun Primary Healthcare Centre and team in delivering high quality services which contribute to sustainable health and social development in the local area, while focusing on other aspects deemed a priority for the Dublin NE region	Increased opportunities for service-user involvement in the planning and delivery of service
		Reduction in the incidences of ill health in terms of preventable diseases
		People being provided with the type and quality of care they need, when they need it, in the most appropriate setting, and from the most appropriate health professional or team of health professionals

The Implementation Plan

Health and Wellbeing			
Sources: HSE National Plan (2012) & Dublin North East Region Action Plan (2012)			
Objectives	Action Plan / Project Description	Milestones	Outcomes
4.1 Develop mechanisms for increasing service-user involvement in the planning and delivery of services	Community Health Forum	Achieving nominations from the local community Agreeing terms of reference and developing an action plan for 2012	Increased service-user input into the planning and delivery of services Increased empowerment of the local community to maintain good health through health education, information, promotion and involvement
	Integrated services in primary, community and hospital care	Reconfiguration of services to focus on the complete needs of the service user	A more responsive and accountable service
4.2 Provide people with the type and quality of care they need, when they need it, in the most appropriate setting, and from the most appropriate health professional or team of health professionals	Intra-veinous therapy services in the community	Training of staff to implement Intra-veinous therapy	Preventing unnecessary admission to acute hospital service

Health and Wellbeing			
Objectives	Action Plan / Project Description	Milestones	Outcomes
4.3 Reduce the incidences of ill-health in terms of preventable diseases	National Health Promotion policy	Completion of a needs assessment involving all stakeholders	Development of an action plan
	Immunisation	Training of staff Negotiated access to local secondary schools Introduction of the Human PapillomaVirus programme to cohort of young women as specified in policy	Reduction in the incidence of cancer in women
	Chronic Disease Programme	Plans developed for the management of chronic disease by primary care and Acute Hospital teams Plan developed for falls prevention with all stakeholders Introduction of asthma education programme Continued implementation of Expert Education Programme for people with diabetes	Reduction in fractures and resultant disability Better management by clients of their asthma and diabetes
4.4 Deliver a wide range of services to the local population which include assessment, diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation for urgent and non-urgent illnesses	Tobacco Cessation Programme	Provision of ongoing supports to people who want to quit smoking through GP services and Health Promotion programme	Reduction in the number of people smoking with consequent improvements in health and reduction in risk of life-threatening diseases
	Acute Hospitals and Pre-hospital Emergency Care	Changes in service organisation and delivery implemented	Easier access to services with better health outcomes



Health and Wellbeing			
Objectives	Action Plan / Project Description	Milestones	Outcomes
4.5 Provide strategic direction for a modern mental health care system	A Vision for Change programme	Reconfiguration of in-patient mental health services to community services	Improved and speedier access to services, allowing client to remain at home while accessing appropriate treatment
	Service-user participation	Increased participation (by National Service Users Network and local day services) in planning for and delivering better mental health services	Improved mental health day services for clients
	Suicide Reduction	Engagement with the National Group to develop models and guidelines to achieve reduction	Reduction in suicides and attempted suicides in the local area
4.6 Provide services for people with disabilities in partnership	Disability	Engagement with non-statutory sector service providers, service-users and their families	Action plan for interagency collaboration for the provision of improved services for clients with a disability
4.7 Maintain older people in their own home for as long as possible; where this is not possible, to provide high quality residential care, appropriate intermediate step up/step down, and respite beds	Older Persons	Implementation of Home Help and Home Care National Guidelines	Improved access to community services for older persons
		Model of care developed for maximising community services for older persons	
		Successful recruitment and appointment of Consultant Geriatrician	Avoidance of unnecessary admission to Acute Hospitals
		Elder Abuse Campaign/ awareness days	Increased public awareness of elder abuse
		Training of local health care staff to identify elder abuse	Reduction and prevention of elder abuse

Health and Wellbeing			
Objectives	Action Plan / Project Description	Milestones	Outcomes
4.8 Advance the implementation of the National Cancer Care programme (with the exception of palliative care) in the Ballymun area	National Cancer Care programme	Continued support of National Cancer Care Programme initiatives	Advanced implementation of National Cancer Care programme in local area
4.9 Support the delivery of primary health care by managing the operations of the scheme and providing reimbursement services to primary care contractors	Primary Care reimbursement	Engagement with the local service to modernise into a centralised national system for medical card applications and other schemes	Efficiencies delivered, standardisation of process, and cost savings
4.10 Continue to respond to the diverse needs of the population by the direct provision of services and or through funding of the non-governmental organisation and community and voluntary sector	Social Inclusion	Engagement with funded agencies to provide services to vulnerable people at risk	Continued funding of non-statutory services in the voluntary sector Fair access to services



CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SUPPORT

5

The theme of Child Development and Family Support has been developed with two lead partners: the Health Service Executive (HSE) and youngballymun. Due to the importance attached to youth interests, BRYR (Ballymun Regional Youth Resource) has also been included.

HSE

The National Director for Children and Family Services in the HSE will be implementing a new National Service Delivery model for children and families in 2013. This will be a key priority for the new Child & Family Support Agency which has been established in accordance with the programme for Government. The new model will seek to provide enhanced coordination and integration of services for children. A key focus of children and family services in the Ballymun area will be to ensure the sustainability of this new model through the re-design and re-configuration of existing services funded and provided directly by the HSE, in order to achieve these key objectives and to meet the requirements of the model. The work of the Dublin North City Children Services Committee, which will comprise all key stakeholders, will oversee the implementation of the model, and develop an action plan to ensure the sustainability of the model in the future.

youngballymun

Complex systemic issues like poverty and unemployment, income security, housing, health and education impact significantly on family and community life in disadvantaged communities. Learning and wellbeing are the foundation to our children's understanding of themselves, their ability to communicate and build relationships, and the platform to active and meaningful engagement in shaping society. Ensuring that all children, young people and their families are actively supported to reach their full learning and wellbeing potential is

fundamental to social regeneration and to making a contribution to tackling area-based child poverty.

The Prevention and Early Intervention Programme in Ballymun (youngballymun) is jointly resourced by the Atlantic Philanthropies and the Department for Children and Youth Affairs. It aims to improve learning and wellbeing outcomes for children and young people and to contribute to family and community wellbeing. Statutory and community partners are working together with parents and children in Ballymun to design, deliver and evaluate a sequence of evidence-based, integrated services from pregnancy and birth through adolescence to adulthood, and to embed evidence-based practice in key services and systems.

Parents and family networks are vital and often unsupported resources in activating their children's potential and supporting their development in challenging circumstances. A key element in social regeneration involves working out in dialogue with parents, families and the community, how child development, youth and family support services are best designed and delivered across the life cycle from pregnancy and infancy through adolescence to adulthood. Parental engagement, capacity building and support merits deliberate consideration and proactive engagement strategies across the spectrum of services.

An integrated approach to child development and family support services has been developed drawing on the unique strengths and experience of the Ballymun community. Key to the success of the strategy has been its multidisciplinary, cross-sectoral, cross-community design and delivery, as well as its emphasis on evidence, on training and on capacity building. This evidence-based change strategy, locally owned by a wide spectrum of partners is being progressively mainstreamed locally, and is a working model for area-based initiatives to tackle child poverty.



The Strategy

Theme 5	Goal(s)	Signposts towards achievement
Child Development and Family Support (HSE)	To promote and protect the health and wellbeing of children and families, particularly those who are at risk of abuse and neglect	Successful establishment of multi-stakeholder Child Services Committee and corresponding Action Plan
Child Development and Family Support (youngballymun)	To measurably improve the learning, health and wellbeing of children, young people and families living in Ballymun by supporting the delivery of evidence-based initiatives and informing the development of policy and practice	Evidence of improved wellbeing outcomes for 0-3 years Evidence of improved early childhood learning Evidence of positive social and emotional development in primary-school aged children Evidence of improved language, literacy and learning outcomes for children and young people Evidence of improved mental health and wellbeing outcomes for young people
Child Development and Family Support (BRYR)	To assist young people to achieve the five established developmental needs of adolescents; to provide and advocate for supports and services to young people at risk; and to provide resource support to the local youth sector, young people and volunteers	Improved mental health and wellbeing outcomes for young people

The Implementation Plans

Child Development and Family Support			
Source: HSE National Plan (2011) & Dublin North East Region Action Plan (2011)			
Objectives	Action Plan / Project Description	Milestones	Outcomes
5.1 Promote and protect the health and wellbeing of children and families, particularly those who are at risk of abuse and neglect	Children and Families	Establishment of multi-stakeholder Child Services Committee Action Plan developed by local Child Services Committee	Improved services for families, children and young people in care

Child Development and Family Support			
Source: 'Progress, Partners, Plans' youngballymun (2010) & updated youngballymun LOGIC MODELS (2011)			
Objectives	Action Plan / Project Description	Milestones	Outcomes
5.2 Measurably improve wellbeing outcomes for 0-3s, and inform related policy and practice	The Ready, Steady, Grow (RSG) programme	Delivery and take up of enhanced programme care for pregnancy & early infancy	Positive pregnancy and birth experiences and early infancy experiences
		Delivery of enhanced, evidence-informed baby development clinic and related supports with take up by parents and babies in Ballymun	Children achieve developmental milestones appropriate to their age; are healthy (socially and emotionally); and are preschool ready Parents are engaged with their child's development and use resources to support that development
5.3 Measurably improve early childhood learning and wellbeing outcomes, and to inform the development of early years policy and practice	The 3>4>5 Learning Years programme	Increased capacity of services for infants (0-3) and their families to strengthen and support social and emotional well-being	Skilled professionals are applying infant mental health strategies for supporting infant social and emotional development
		Early years settings implement evidence-based Siolta quality standards	Improved quality of early childhood care and education amongst early years providers Improved school readiness
5.4 Support positive social and emotional development in primary school-aged children, and to inform the development of related policy and practice	The Incredible Years (IY) programme	Early years services implement the evidence-based Highscope curriculum	Enhanced cognitive development Enhanced oral language development and literacy Improved social competence/social skills
		Delivery and take-up of evidence-based IY (child, parent, teacher) programmes	Children are demonstrating improved pro-social behaviour and learning outcomes Parents are demonstrating positive parenting practices and engaging proactively with schools IY teaching approaches are informing and being integrated into local practice
		Successful integration of IY principles into whole-school practice across at least 5 schools	School personnel adopt a coherent, positive approach to behaviour management leading to increased academic competence, school engagement and (secondary) school readiness



Child Development and Family Support			
Objectives	Action Plan / Project Description	Milestones	Outcomes
5.5 Measurably improve language, literacy and learning outcomes for children and young people, and inform the development of associated policy and practice	The Write-Minded programme	Capacity-building with teachers to develop expertise in oral language and literacy development practice	Development of language and literacy attainment of children and young people across subject areas and year groups and associated improvement in wider learning
		Capacity-building with parents and community leaders to increase focus on language and literacy at home and in after school activities	Parents engage in language and literacy activities with children Increased focus in community projects on developing children and young people's language and literacy skills
5.6 Measurably improve mental health and wellbeing outcomes for young people, support reconfiguration of statutory services to be more accessible and youth friendly, and inform the development of related policy and practice	The What's Up programme	Creation of accessible points of entry to youth wellbeing services Training of youth service workers and education providers in youth-centred practice and clinical consultation Delivery of awareness-raising sessions for community practitioners	Improved levels of self-esteem & connectedness amongst young people Increased youth participation in the development of youth wellbeing services Development of a youth ambassador programme Increased capacity of youth services and education providers to promote youth mental health

Child Development and Family Support			
Source: Ballymun Regional Youth Resource (BRYR)			
Objectives	Action Plan / Project Description	Milestones	Outcomes
5.7 Respond to the development needs of young people aged 10-21years who may be deemed at risk	Traditional clubs and groups and activities to engage individual young people who are not already engaged in positive social spaces and activity, in artistic and creative activity and events	Appropriate provision of clubs/groups the age cohorts: 10-12 yrs, 13-15 yrs & 15+ yrs Capacity of staff developed to reach out to young people who are deemed to be at risk Increased access for young people to The Reco and St. Pappins Youth Centre Open Monday, Open Friday Open Saturday, Summer Buzz and other Open Events tailored around school holidays Maximun participation in the following activities: The Reco Fine Arts Clubs & Classes Multimedia Instruction & Production via the CITY Media Studio, Roundabout Youth Theatre, The Reco Music Club, Local Youth Festivals i.e. The Otherworld Halloween Festival and LIFT Easter Festival Ongoing participation by young people in the following activities: Outreach, including street games, street art and social education, park games & introduction to a range of community activities, Outfit Personal Development Programme for Young Adults 17-21 years, and the Easy Street project	Young people will continue to see BRYR as a positive resource in their lives and participation levels will remain strong and healthy Young people will achieve one or more of the developmental needs they seek through their voluntary engagement with BRYR and other youth-related services locally BRYR will meet the needs of young people who are at particular risk of isolation, unsociable activity and uncertain environments, offering them safe spaces, social education and emotional support
5.8 Provide and foster a strong advocacy role on behalf of young people	Strong professional relationships with statutory agents and other community services locally	Full participation by BRYR staff in relevant networks and forums Fulfillment by BRYR staff of advocacy role locally, regionally and nationally	Greater multi-agency cooperation and joint activity locally for the benefit of young people



Child Development and Family Support			
Objectives	Action Plan / Project Description	Milestones	Outcomes
5.9 Provide sector standard training & development where gaps exists	Customised training programmes	Upskilling of volunteers, staff and other professionals currently working with young people in Ballymun and surrounding areas Maximum participation on the following BRYR-Led training programmes: FETAC L5 Youth Work Cert, Child Protection Awareness, Occupational 1st Aid, Health & Safety, ASIST, Development Education, Volunteer Induction Programme (VIP), Young Leaders' Development Programme	Acquisition of minimum requirements, new skills & qualification in youth work, as well as increased competence of youth workers and volunteers, and where possible, progression to Third Level Education Positive relationships built up with other Youth/Community projects
5.10 Provide and respond to opportunities to expose young people to volunteering and exchanges with other cultures	EU programmes and exchanges between BRYR and other European youth organizations for young volunteers	More young people are trained, supported and exposed to volunteering and exchange experiences Facilitatation of Garda Vetting for BRYR volunteers	Increased participation by Ballymun young people in volunteering and exchange opportunities at home and abroad, and vice versa
5.11 Resource and support the Youth sector locally	Provision of high quality services and facilities	Achievement of quality services and provision of Meeting Space, Community Bus and a Youth Café. Provision of professional staff for capacity building, training & development	BRYR is seen as a positive, efficient and quality resource to other Youth-related organisations, clubs, groups and agencies in the area



ARTS AND CULTURE

6

Cultural and arts practice is at the heart of the Ballymun community. It exists in every sphere of local life, schools, youth services, the community and voluntary sector, festivals and active retirement groups. It is exemplified by the fact that the building of an arts and community resource centre was the first community-based development to take place within the regeneration process. It is also marked by the strength of the Irish language movement and the Gaelscoil tradition in the area, as well as by the existence of the Ballymun Inter-Cultural Group; an early response to the emergence of Ireland's new communities in Ballymun.

axis Arts and Community Resource Centre was a response to the pivotal role of culture and the arts in the community. Its work, through its many community, national and international partnerships has facilitated the development of a quality arts engagement and practice locally, while placing Ballymun as a cultural and artistic destination city-wide and nationally.

The development of an arts and culture strategy is defined by the belief that real engagement

between local people and artists and cultural activity in a process of excellence and inclusion, properly facilitated and well managed, produces results beyond all expectations. Participation in cultural activity changes people's lives.

It is this synergy that is crucial to the work; the link between community and arts practices, between local and national involvement. It is shown in the range of existing initiatives; the continued facilitation of arts development for the wider community; the offering of a top class arts and community facility for the area, and the hosting of world class touring theatre together with the development of critically and commercially successful productions that are performed on the national and international stage. axis Arts and Community Resource Centre will continue to provide a home for the wider cultural community, while cultural pursuits are nurtured in the area at local level and in local schools. This facilitative and collaborative model, spearheaded by axis and other actors in the cultural field in Ballymun, will see the area continue to innovate and develop new ways of working, nurturing further artistic and cultural development.



The Strategy

Theme 6	Goal(s)	Signposts towards achievement
Arts and Culture	To support, develop and encourage the creativity and diversity of artistic practice and cultural activity within Ballymun, through programmes and initiatives that develop the area as a centre of excellence and inclusion, and as a unique destination in the city	Arts and cultural activity continue to play a significant role in urban regeneration by strengthening community identity in Ballymun, and by reflecting the identity of Ballymun as part of the city
		Opportunities are created for people to participate in arts and cultural activity as part of their everyday life in Ballymun
		An enhanced and increasing range of supports is available for emerging artists in Ballymun
		axis is supported as both the local infrastructural centre for arts and culture in Ballymun, and as a national and international centre for excellence and inclusion in the arts
		Arts and cultural activity contribute strongly to Ballymun's economic vitality

The Implementation Plan

Arts and Culture			
Source: Dublin City Council Culture Strategy 2011-2017			
Objectives	Action Plan / Project Description	Milestones	Outcomes
6.1 Ensure that art and cultural activity plays a significant role in urban regeneration by strengthening community identity in Ballymun and reflecting the identity of Ballymun as part of the city	axis Community Arts and Resource Centre Strategic plan	Implementation of the axis venue and production programme, arts development programme and Community Resource Centre action plan	Ballymun's community identity is strengthened through arts and culture Ballymun is seen as an integrated cultural neighbourhood within the city Cultural and social networks are developed through axis' work in the North West area of Dublin and in the wider city
6.2 Create opportunities for people to participate in arts and cultural activity as part of everyday life in Ballymun	axis Arts Development Programme	Music, art and drama classes delivered	Artistic practice is recognised and encouraged in Ballymun
		Practice sessions facilitated	Art and cultural activity assists with learning and educational attainment
		Events and projects developed and hosted	Young artists, audiences and participants can express themselves through multiple art forms
		Mechanisms developed for arts to be placed in education settings	Increase in participation across ages in cultural practice
		Collaborations developed between arts and not arts organisations	Practice development opportunities are available locally and nationally
		Youth arts strategy published	
		Residents participate in and develop their cultural lives	

Arts and Culture			
Objectives	Action Plan / Project Description	Milestones	Outcomes
(CONTINUED)	axis Community Resource Centre and Arts Spaces	axis is a community hub providing local facilities including café, bistro, crèche, and conference facilities Arts in a childcare setting is developed 'Friends of axis' scheme is developed	The potential of the arts is harnessed in assisting community development and anti-poverty strategies An innovative and collaborative approach is taken between arts and community development where each sector becomes a resource for the other and adds value
6.3 Support established and emerging artists in Ballymun	Support/mentoring programmes axis as a space for arts practice Technological resources developed	Opportunities provided for professionals and community members to develop artistically Internships and residencies available Exploration and enhancement of artistic experiences of visiting and resident artists	axis facilitates the production, performance and presentation of art Career pathways developed for local developing artists
6.4 Support axis as the local infrastructural centre for arts and culture in Ballymun	Development and maintenance of axis as a vibrant hub for local, cultural and community activity	Programme of maintenance and development in place	axis remains part of Dublin's network of community cultural facilities
6.5 Ensure that axis is recognised as a national and international centre for excellence and inclusion in the arts	National and international touring and productions Visiting productions	Collaborations in place with independent, civic and international artists and arts organisations Touring /development work carried out	axis is an established national and international centre for the arts Local potential is realised internationally Ballymun is promoted as a destination for national and international touring exhibitions and performances
	axis as venue and production company	Productions, comedy, gigs, Irish language club and film screenings hosted	Original and seminal work is commissioned that is relevant to the locality, history and constituency of Ballymun
6.6 Recognise that arts and cultural activity is essential to Ballymun's economic vitality	Marketing and sales strategy	Integrated marketing and sales strategy developed Increase in attendance and participation in arts and cultural activities	Recognition of the cultural role of axis in contributing to Ballymun's economic development



RECREATION AND SPORT

7

While the importance of active recreation and sporting activity to the social, physical and personal wellbeing of people is widely recognised, changes in modern lifestyles have contributed to declining levels of involvement of people of all ages in physical activity. Participation in sport and active recreation has numerous community benefits. It assists with crime reduction through diversionary activities. It aids civic pride and it also promotes social inclusion.

In order to encourage participation in sports and recreation in Ballymun, there has been a significant investment throughout the regeneration programme in the provision of new sports and recreation facilities to promote healthy lifestyles and to ensure that a wide variety of diverse sports and recreation interests are addressed. The leisure centre on Main Street is a top-class facility, and Poppintree Sports Centre also provides excellent facilities for

local residents. Playing fields and pitches, parks and playgrounds support a wide variety of outdoor sports and recreation venues. Numerous sports and recreation programmes have been introduced to Ballymun to ensure that the use of the new facilities is optimised and that they are sustainable. These include team sports such as hurling, camogie, gaelic football, football, rugby, badminton, basketball, volleyball, hockey, bowls and futsal. Provision has also been made for individual sports such as tennis, swimming, golf, pool, boxing, dancing, kick boxing and martial arts, as well as other recreational activities like exercise and fitness classes, boot camps, walking, ultimate frisbee and yoga.

The goal for Ballymun is to create a town where people of all ages regularly take part in a wide variety of healthy activities, and where built facilities and parks and playgrounds are accessed and enjoyed.



The Strategy

Theme 7	Goal(s)	Signposts towards achievement
Recreation and Sport	To ensure that sport and active recreation is prioritised within the diverse and vibrant cultural life of Ballymun through the development and delivery of high quality facilities, programmes and services, and through supporting local and national partners to co-ordinate their programmes for the people living visiting and working in the area	New and additional opportunities available for local people to become more physically active through recreation and sports activities
		Increase in numbers from non-participating target groups in recreation and sporting activities across a broad age range
		Optimal use of existing facilities developed.
		The capacity of local sports clubs and organisations is improved with the support of national sporting organisation
		Mechanisms are developed to prioritise sport and active recreation in Ballymun

The Implementation Plan

Recreation and Sport			
Source: Dublin City Sport and Active Recreation Strategy 2009-2016			
Objectives	Action Plan / Project Description	Milestones	Outcomes
7.1 Develop design and implement programmes and projects to encourage local people to improve their physical and mental health and well-being by being more physically active	Parks, pitches and playgrounds	Friends of the Parks programme developed and implemented in all parks in Ballymun Programmes further developed in regional and local parks, pitches and playgrounds	Better mental and physical health achieved through physical activity in parks
	Sports recreation and play development programmes	Young people are more physically active through participation in positive and structured sport and leisure activities	Better mental and physical health achieved for young people through structured sports activities
		School playground improvement programme implemented in all Ballymun schools	Better mental and physical health achieved for young people during school hours through improved facilities
7.2 Develop mechanisms for increasing the participation of a broad range of target groups from the local community in a wide variety of active recreation and sports activities	Target groups: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Women, older peoplePeople with DisabilitiesTravellers, teenagersChildren under tenImmigrant communities	Improved promotion of activities to target groups Active recreation activities are tailored to meet the needs of target groups	Increase in numbers of people participating from particular target groups in active recreation and sports activities

Recreation and Sport			
Objectives	Action Plan / Project Description	Milestones	Outcomes
7.3 Develop the optimal use, accessibility and sustainability of local active recreation and sports facilities, services and open spaces in Ballymun	Marketing and promotion of existing built facilities	Increase in numbers of people using facilities, services and local spaces	Existing active recreation and sports facilities and services in Ballymun are fully utilised, fully accessible and sustainably managed
7.4 Develop strong local bases in Ballymun for a variety of national sports clubs and organisations	National sports clubs and organisations	National sports clubs and organisations are established locally and developed in Ballymun New minority sports are introduced to Ballymun	Ballymun is a place with a wide choice of sports clubs and organisations providing a wide variety of sports activities for the constituent population
7.5 Prioritise sport and active recreation within the civic and cultural life of Ballymun	Parental participation	Increase in numbers of parents involved in play sports and recreation activities with their children	More parents are actively involved in community life in Ballymun via volunteerism and participation
	Community participation	Local groups received advice, training, and governance support Facilities are made available to deliver neighbourhood-based recreation and sports programmes	Community life is enriched through neighbourhood based participation in sports and active recreation programmes
	Ballymun Sports Forum	Local resources are shared and pooled to maximise community benefits	Local sports and active recreation organisations are integrated and coordinated
	Special events	Increase in number of people coming to Ballymun to attend special events Regional and national events held in Ballymun	Ballymun is positively promoted as a sports and active recreation destination within the city



FUTURE-PROOFING BALLYMUN

Measuring the success of neighbourhood renewal and regeneration initiatives is challenging. The essential elements that make regeneration and renewal effective are qualitative - pertaining to complex dynamic social systems unique to neighbourhoods, and demanding active community engagement in the process - whether at the level of individuals, groups or networks. While physical construction and demolition is relatively easy to track, agreeing key indicators and targets for social regeneration is more difficult.

It is proposed to establish an implementation steering group for the Social Plan, building upon existing partnership and networking structures. This umbrella body will comprise the lead partners and other key actors in the area of social regeneration in Ballymun. The group will have overall responsibility for monitoring the implementation of the Social Plan and the achievement of key outcomes identified for each of the themes in the plan. It will further develop approaches for interagency action in line with national and local policy and enable the plan to retain its dynamism. Coordination will be at a strategic level where major policy and resource allocation decisions are made, through to the detailed development and implementation of individual programmes and projects.

The multi-agency nature of the group will require agreement not only on indicators and targets but also on how to obtain, share and analyse information. Targets and proposed indicators will ideally be based on regional and national figures for areas like education, employment and tenure, and seek to move Ballymun towards societal norms.

Following the completion of the housing programme in Ballymun, the long term sustainability of the area will be influenced by how well the risks from a continuing concentration of deprivation in the area are managed, how well the development and delivery of essential social services and programmes are handled, and how quality of life is achieved across the community in a holistic manner. The establishment of a formal strategy implementation steering group will enable the future managers of the area to achieve the outcomes articulated in *Sustaining Regeneration: A Social Plan for Ballymun*.



APPENDICES

1 PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Public consultation day

This public day of consultation included participants from the general public, residents, young people, the business community, statutory agencies and voluntary organisations. Over 100 people attended a series of workshops and 26 round table discussions were held. A synopsis of the qualitative feedback from the round table discussions was edited to reflect the comments and observations made by individual participants on the various themes, as well as reflecting proposed actions from the round table discussions.

Placemaking

- Residents wanted to see more jobs available locally, happier and friendlier young people and better shopping facilities in their town.
- Two thirds of young people are mostly proud to live in Ballymun.
- One third of young people said that they would prefer to be living elsewhere. Of this latter group of young people, one third of them said they would leave Ireland altogether given the chance, as the prospects for them are not good, and the future has no opportunities for them.
- The continued development of a strong sense of community pride in Ballymun is seen as a high priority for residents.
- Fostering integration between different communities in Ballymun is seen as important.

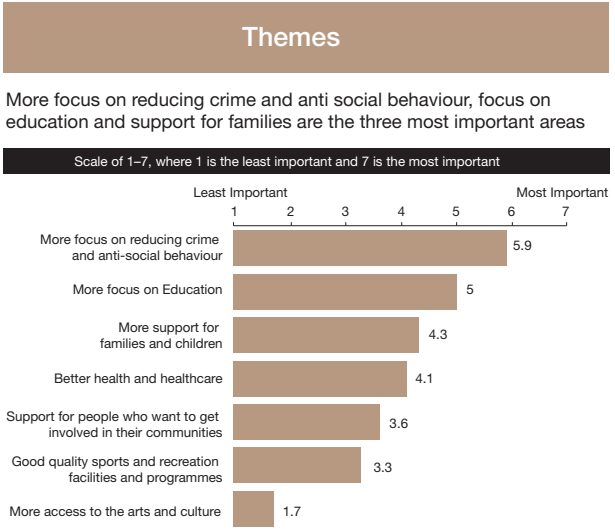
Improvements between businesses and the community via the use of creative media is supported.

Residents’ survey

The Community and Family Training Agency (CAFTA) surveyed 500 individuals on what they perceived to be the most important areas to focus in a Social Plan. The survey format was primarily a prescribed

multiple-choice questionnaire requesting a response in order of priority i.e. top three. This community survey was received well and completed by 500 residents and 30 students from Trinity Comprehensive School. The survey gives a very comprehensive view of the public priorities in terms of social development in Ballymun over the coming years.

The Findings



The most important priority emerging from the residents’ survey is that a stronger focus on reducing crime and anti-social behaviour in Ballymun is required. A greater focus on education was also requested, including access to apprenticeships for young people, improved school attendance and third level education support, along with enhanced support for families, parents/guardians, and children. Help for people with mental health problems, drug problems and disabilities was highlighted in terms of Health and Wellbeing, and the availability of local jobs, clean public spaces, and good shopping facilities were prioritised in terms of Placemaking. axis Arts and Community Resource centre, the local cultural venue, is seen, by the majority of Ballymun residents as the most important arts and culture priority in Ballymun, as well as the provision of support for children and other people to develop their artistic potential.



Education, Training and Lifelong learning

- Literacy and numeracy issues at primary and second level education are seen as high priorities. Improved school attendance and improvements in transition between primary and secondary and third level education were also prioritised, as was increased involvement by parents in the school curriculum.
- Improved engagement by the Department of Education with the regeneration of Ballymun is seen as vital to the future development of Ballymun.
- Access to additional training opportunities for school leavers needs to be improved.
- Teaching children how to communicate better with their peers and how to improve their self-confidence is seen as important in terms of helping them to integrate positively within their community.
- Residents want to see better school attendance, more young people going on to college and more variety in school subjects.

Community Safety

- Many people feel that holding parents responsible for their children's wrong-doing could be useful in combating anti-social behaviour.
- It is widely recognised that vandalism is as big a problem as drug dealing in Ballymun.
- People felt that there was a need to work to communicate better with families in the community and identify their needs around community safety issues.

Health and Wellbeing

- There was widespread concern amongst residents and professionals about the high rate of mental ill-health in Ballymun in people of all ages with particular concern for the health of children and young people.
- Drug addiction and alcohol addiction were top concerns for the majority of people and there was a good deal of support for the development of ways to help the local population to understand the impact of alcohol and drugs on their mental health, and the changes they can make in their lives to improve their mental health.
- People in Ballymun are less aware of the

implications of physical ill-health. However people said that they want better services for people with disabilities.

- There is widespread support for a local health forum that can influence the development of support services for local people to improve Health and Wellbeing.
- There is strong support for encouraging unemployed people to become volunteers, and to attend work placements outside of Ballymun, in order to help them to gain experience and confidence, to improve their CV and to access free training.

Child Development and Family Support

- The idea of helping parents to improve their parenting skills so that they could communicate better with their children when their children are younger was supported widely.
- Hyperactivity, ADHD and anger management are seen as some of the most common behaviours causing difficulties for parents of children and young people in Ballymun. It was widely agreed that it is a good thing for parents to be more involved in their child's development from an early stage.
- Healthy pregnancies and support for pregnant women emerged as the least important priority of residents in the public survey.
- It was agreed that there is a gap in services regarding programmes for 0-3 year olds.
- The high number of grandparents providing childcare for their grandchildren is very high in Ballymun, and grandparents require additional support.
- There was a lot of support for the development of a local play strategy for local children.
- The provision of a universal support system for every family in Ballymun was widely thought to be a good idea.

Arts and Culture

- Support for arts was an important priority for respondents in the residents' survey. The presence of the venue allows aspiration from a local level to get to the theatre floor to 'show off' in the theatre space.

- The presence of the theatre has raised the status of Ballymun. It fosters excellence and inclusion and it needs to protect what it has achieved.
- Arts & culture is seen as being an approachable environment and a safe space. Arts & culture can help to reduce anti-social behavior. There is a role for arts & culture to play within community safety.
- It would be beneficial to bring arts & culture and health services sector together.
- Residents believed that Ballymun should be a centre for artistic innovation and that people should be supported to develop their artistic potential.
- There is a positive progression of arts & culture activity through children and this is now having a positive impact on parents. Literacy development courses are a perfect example of this; the young people are excited and this excitement is being brought home and communicated to parents.

Recreation and Sport

- Organisations need to promote recreational facilities and events more widely, including those in the parks.
- There is widespread support for setting up a sports forum of local organisations to publicise, promote, and organise activities.
- People agreed that holding regular quarterly sporting events in various different facilities in Ballymun would broaden local people's knowledge of what is available to them.
- People agreed that the onus is on the community as well as on the authorities to make facilities sustainable.
- Encouraging parents and children to get involved in sport and recreation was seen as important for health.
- Using sport to break down barriers and to include new communities was also seen as important.
- It was agreed that security in the parks is an issue of concern for the majority of people in Ballymun.

Youth Focus Groups

In order to capture a greater understanding of the perceptions of young people about the future of Ballymun, a series of focus groups with a range of young people between the ages of 10 and 23 years was carried out. Each focus group was presented with the basic adapted survey, and results were captured through a range of methods including digital camera and video recordings, and written and other creative documentation. Additional focus groups were carried out at the request of the social regeneration sub-committee to ensure that the resulting depth and breadth of youth participation was achieved.

The Findings

Education, Training and Life Long Learning

- Requests for more support with reading, writing and mathematics from the mid - older teens gives a composite indicator of the work that needs to be done much earlier on in their schooling.
- Young people also want training for young people to help other young people. They see the need for better communication between parents and children and improvements in the provision of support for parents when their children get into trouble.
- Their friends' presence in class was seen as important in the social and emotional life of the school environment.

Community Safety

- The vast majority of young people in Ballymun see community safety as the most important priority for social regeneration, citing less drug dealing on the streets, help for young people when they get into trouble, a reduction in vandalism, graffiti and dumping and a more visible presence of An Garda Síochána on the streets.

Health and Wellbeing

- Young people want people to receive assistance to stop smoking, help for drug problems and for homeless young people.



Child Development and Family Support

- Young people would like more training in how to assist other young people at risk. More support for parents struggling to cope at home is needed as well as better communication between parents & children.

Arts & Culture

- Young people would most like to see more funds for local organisations to provide arts & cultural activity
- Young people would like to see more support locally for encouraging artistic & cultural potential
- Young people felt that help to take up arts & cultural activity/training would be beneficial
- They would like more emphasis on how their creativity can be used to bring about a better Ballymun.

Recreation and Sport

- For recreational purposes, young people use the Reco, parks and playgrounds and axis, Arts and Community Resource Centre, as well as the gym, swimming pool and various sports pitches. The local Centra shop was also mentioned as a hang-out space.

All findings from the Public Consultation day are available on www.brl.ie.

2 NETWORKS

Links/contact email addresses are available in the Social Plan on www.brl.ie

Placemaking
Ballymun Community Facilities Forum
Tidy Towns Committee
Ballymun4Business
Education, Lifelong Learning and Training
Education Working Group
School Principals' Network
Ballymun Trainers' Network
Ballymun School Attendance Community Action Initiative
Community Safety
Safer Ballymun
Ballymun Local Drugs Task Force
Health and Wellbeing
Health Forum
Child Development and Family Support
Childcare Working Group
Dublin North West Childcare Resource Centre
Ballymun Network for Assisting Children and Young People
Strengthening Families Network
Equal Youth Interagency Network
Arts and Culture
Forum for the Arts in Ballymun
Ballymun Inter-Cultural Group
Recreation and Sport
Sports Forum
Cross-cutting
Ballymun Community Organisations' Network (BCON)
Young Ballymun Implementation Teams



3 NATIONAL AND LOCAL POLICY AND GUIDANCE

Planning for society and building healthy communities is at the core of the national and regional planning process and resultant policy. There are a number of strategic national policy documents that are relevant to the continued sustainable development of Ballymun. The partners in the Social Plan have looked to these policy and guidance documents in order to ensure they continue to develop the regeneration area in a consistent and sustainable manner.

An overview of the key relevant national guidelines and strategies is outlined under each of the seven themes of the Social Plan. As Ballymun is located within Dublin City Council's administrative area, those relevant Dublin City Council policy documents are also referenced.

Additionally, much research and many roadmaps for best practice have been utilised by the plan-makers in identifying relevant objectives and actions.

Theme	Policy Documents & Guidelines
Placemaking	<div>Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government, <i>Delivering Homes, Sustaining Communities</i>: Statement on Housing Policy. (2007).</div> <div>Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government, <i>Quality Housing for Sustainable Communities</i>. (2007).</div> <div>Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government, <i>Guidelines for Planning Authorities on Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas</i>. (2009).</div> <div>Dublin City Council, <i>Dublin City Development Plan</i>. (2011-2017).</div> <div>Fingal Co. Council, <i>Fingal Development Plan</i>. (2011-2017).</div> <div>Dublin City Council, The Dublin City Economic, Social and Cultural strategy, <i>Dublin, a City of Possibilities</i>, 2002-2012.</div> <div>Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government, <i>A Framework for Sustainable Development for Ireland</i>. (Draft) (2011).</div> <div>Ballymun Regeneration Ltd. <i>Masterplan for a new Ballymun</i>. (1998).</div> <div>Ballymun Regeneration Ltd. <i>Regeneration Completion Strategies</i>. (2009).</div> <div><div><div>Housing and Infrastructure</div><div>Social</div><div>Environment</div><div>Economic</div></div></div> <div>Ballymun Regeneration Ltd. <i>Tenure Diversity Report</i>.</div> <div>Ballymun Regeneration Ltd. <i>Neighbourhood Action Plans</i> 2000 and 2009.</div> <div>Ballymun Regeneration Ltd. <i>Business Plan</i>. (2009, updated 2012).</div> <div>The Dublin City Economic, Social and Cultural Strategy, <i>Dublin, a City of Possibilities</i> 2002-2012.</div> <div>Dublin City Council <i>Departmental Business Plans</i>.</div>

Theme	Policy Documents & Guidelines
Education, Lifelong Learning and Training	<div>OECD. PISA <i>What Students Know and Can Do</i>: Student Performance in Reading, Mathematics and Science. (Volume I). (2009).</div> <div>Department of Education and Science. <i>National Strategy for Higher Education to 2030</i> - Report of the Strategy Group. (2011).</div> <div>Department of Education and Science. <i>Better Literacy and Numeracy Development for Children and Young People</i>. A Draft National Plan to Improve Literacy and Numeracy in Schools. (2010).</div> <div>Department of Education and Science. <i>Every Child Counts</i>, National Educational Welfare Board Strategic Plan, 2010-2011. (2009).</div> <div>Department of Education and Science DEIS <i>Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools</i>, An Action Plan for Social Inclusion. (2005).</div> <div>City of Dublin Vocational Education Committee. <i>Education Plan, 2006 - 2011</i>. (2005).</div> <div>National Employment Action Plan. (NEAP) (2004).</div> <div>City of Dublin Vocational Education Committee, Adult Education Service. <i>Local Area Plan 2012</i>.</div> <div>Dublin City University. <i>DCU in the Community</i> Strategic Plan 2011.</div> <div>Ballymun Whitehall Area Partnership: <i>Local Community Development Strategic Plan 2011-2013</i>.</div> <div>Department of Children and Youth Affairs. <i>National Childcare Investment Programme 2006-2013</i>.</div> <div>Dublin City Council. Dublin City Childcare Committee, <i>Childcare in Dublin A Strategic Plan 2006-2010</i>.</div> <div>Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Employment. <i>Action Plan for Jobs</i> (2012).</div>
Community Safety	<div>Department of the Taoiseach. <i>Towards 2016: Ten - Year Framework Social Partnership Agreement</i>, 2006 - 2015.</div> <div>Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government. <i>Delivering Homes Sustaining Communities</i>: Statement on Housing Policy. (2007).</div> <div>Dublin City Council. <i>Corporate Plan, 2010-2014</i>.</div> <div>Dublin City Council. <i>Anti - Social Behaviour Strategy, 2010-2015</i>.</div> <div>Dublin City Council. <i>Waste Management Plan, 2005-2010</i>.</div> <div>Dublin City Council. <i>Youth Affairs Strategy and Action Plan</i>. (2006).</div> <div>An Garda Síochána Act. (2005).</div> <div>An Garda Síochána. <i>Annual Report of An Garda Síochána, 2010</i>.</div> <div>An Garda Síochána, <i>Policing Plan, 2011</i>.</div> <div>An Garda Síochána, <i>Working with our Communities, 2010-2012</i>.</div> <div>Ballymun Local Drugs Task Force and Safer Ballymun. <i>A Road to Change</i>, Community Alcohol Strategy (2011).</div> <div>Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government and Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform <i>Joint Policing Committees</i>. (2006).</div> <div>Safer Ballymun <i>Community Safety Strategy 2012-2016</i>. (2012).</div>



Theme	Policy Documents & Guidelines
Health and Wellbeing	Department of Health and Children. <i>Quality and fairness, a Health System for You.</i> (2001).
	Department of Health and Children. <i>Primary Care - A New Direction.</i> (2001).
	Tithe an Oireachtais. <i>Health Act.</i> (2004).
	Department of Health and Children. National Strategy for Service User Involvement in the Irish Health Services. (2008).
	Health Services Executive. <i>Health Promoting Health - 2011 Service Framework.</i>
	Department of Health and Children. <i>A Vision for Change, Report of the Expert Group on Mental Health Policy.</i> (2006).
	Health Services Executive. <i>Transformation Programme, 2007 - 2010.</i>
	Health Services Executive <i>National Plan</i> (2011) & <i>Dublin North East Regional Plan</i> (2011).
Child Development and Family Support	Department of Children and Youth Affairs. <i>Prevention and Early Intervention Programme.</i> (2006).
	Programme for Government 2011-2016: <i>An integrated, area - based approach to tackling child poverty.</i> (2011).
	Department of Education and Skills. <i>The National Strategy to Improve Literacy and Numeracy among Children and Young People, Literacy and Numeracy for Learning and Life: 2011-2020.</i> (2011).
	<i>A Vision for Change.</i> Report of the Expert Group on Mental Health Policy. (2006).
	Siolta. <i>The National Quality Framework for Early Childhood Education.</i> (2006).
	Aistear. <i>Early Childhood Curriculum Framework.</i> (2009).
	Health Services Executive. <i>Primary Care: A New Direction, Quality and Fairness - A Health System for You.</i> (2001).
	Health Services Executive. <i>Transformation Programme, 2007-2010</i>
	Family Support Agency Strategy including Family Resource Centres and emerging policy on Family Support Networks. (2012)
	Health Services Executive. <i>National Service Plan.</i> (2011).
	Health Services Executive, Dublin North East. <i>Regional Service Plan.</i> (2011).
	youngballymun. <i>Progress, Partners, Plans.</i> (2010) & updated.
Arts and Culture	The Arts Council, An Chomhairle Ealaíon. <i>Developing the Arts in Ireland: A Strategic overview, 2011-2013.</i> (2010).
	Dublin City Council. <i>Culture Strategy, 2010-2017.</i>
	Dublin City Council. <i>Dublin, a City of Possibilities, 2002-2012.</i>

Theme	Policy Documents & Guidelines
Recreation and Sport	Irish Sports Council <i>Building Sport for Life, 2012-2014.</i>
	The National Taskforce on Obesity. <i>Get Ireland Active.</i> (2011).
	Department of Children and Youth Affairs. <i>Teenspace, A National Recreation Strategy for Young People.</i> (2007).
	National Plan for Social Inclusion 2007-2016.
	National Development Plan 2007-2013.
	Dublin City Council. Sport and Active Recreation Strategy 2009-16.
	Dublin City Development Board. <i>Play here, Play there, Play everywhere. Dublin City Play Plan.</i> (2012).
	Dublin City Council. <i>Youth Affairs Strategy and Action Plan.</i> (2006).
	Dublin City Council. <i>Sport and Active Recreation Strategy</i> 2009-16.



**Ballymun Primary and
Post-Primary Schools**

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