



Turning the Curve on **Poverty and Deprivation**

Crumlin Ardoyne Neighbourhood
Renewal Partnership Action Plan

2020-2030

Foreword

By Deirdre Hargey, MLA

Minister for Communities

I am delighted to have been asked to contribute to the Crumlin Ardoyne Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership's Action Plan for 2020 to 2030.

I really value the impact made on a daily basis by the dedicated people and community organisations that make up the Partnership, representing local communities and delivering high quality community based services, working together to improve outcomes for all the citizens in the Crumlin Ardoyne area.

I am committed to working to address the ongoing impact of poverty on our society. As Minister with lead responsibility for delivering the Executive's Anti-Poverty Strategy, I recognise the importance of taking a joined up approach to alleviating the impact of poverty on families and individuals, and tackling the root causes of disadvantage, inequality and deprivation. It is my ambition that the new Anti-Poverty Strategy, which will be progressed in conjunction with people who have first-hand knowledge of the pressures and effects of deprivation and disadvantage, will take us further forward in our journey towards a more equal society.

While COVID-19 will continue to play a dominant role in everything we will do for some time, we also can't lose sight of our New Decade, New Approach commitments or the Programme for Government. That is where the Department's strategy 'Building Inclusive Communities 2020-2025' plays a key role. This Strategy provides a clear roadmap of the work that we need to do to tackle many complex and long-standing issues that are impacting on the lives of people, our communities and the places around us. Issues that I know

you are also working to address. I am committed to building on the work that we are already doing together, and the principles of co-design, co-delivery and meaningful engagement with you are fundamental to how my Department will deliver this Strategy. It is important that you are able to help influence our policy development and service design, and that your voice, and the voices of those you represent, are heard.

Also critical to this is 'An Inclusive Social Recovery' which is my Department's plan for social and economic recovery which will help us to focus on a joined up approach to policies and interventions. It is important that you are able to help influence our policy development and service design. I want to ensure that our policies and services are designed to deliver my core mission which is to empower communities, help to eradicate poverty and deprivation, and ultimately improve people's lives.

The key outcomes identified by the Partnership align closely to Executive's Programme for Government and the Department's Building Inclusive Communities strategy, and this challenging and positive action plan helps identify key grass roots priorities that will help direct services and investment as we continue supporting people, building communities and shaping places.

Through the People and Place strategy, my Department has been supporting Neighbourhood Renewal projects in Crumlin Ardoyne for nearly 20 years, most recently providing £835k of direct Neighbourhood Renewal funding in 2020/21 to help support community based projects in the area, working to support communities, improve health

outcomes, increase community cohesion, promote economic regeneration and of course supporting people, especially the vulnerable, the young and the elderly.

I will continue to support Crumlin Ardoyne Neighbourhood Partnership as it strives to improve the lives of citizens and communities through the priorities in this action plan, as we work together to tackle deprivation and inequality.

March 2021

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Turning the Curve on Poverty and Deprivation

MORE than 15,000 people live in the Crumlin Ardoyne Neighbourhood Renewal Area. This includes the communities of Ardoyne, Cliftonville, Lower Oldpark, Marrowbone and Westland.

These are some of the most deprived communities in Northern Ireland. They are areas heavily affected by 30 years of conflict and physical barriers/peace walls continue to divide communities.

The area is made up of the Waterworks and Ardoyne wards and parts of the Crumlin and Cliftonville wards. Waterworks is the No. 1 most deprived and Ardoyne is No.3 most deprived out of 462 wards. This means the area is in the top 1% most deprived across Northern Ireland.

Nearly two-thirds of the children in the area live in child poverty. The median age of death in Crumlin Ardoyne is 72, more than 8 years below the NI average.

Over the next few pages we present our Action Plan. This is linked to the NI government's Programme for Government and the Anti-Poverty Strategy.

We're not naive enough to think we can turn the tide of poverty and disadvantage in the short term. This requires long term and substantial investment and community wealth building.

An area of England with a similar population to Crumlin Ardoyne area received £50 million investment over a ten year period. That would allow us to pull in additional investment and begin to turn the curve on poverty and deprivation.

Our five Outcomes

Community groups have come together and outlined some of the key issues in the area.

These included poor health, low level of skills and education attainment, poverty, high unemployment, few opportunities for our young people, interfaces and poor community relations.

From this we agreed five key outcomes for the area:

- 1. Residents play an active part in economic life**
- 2. We live longer, healthier, active lives**
- 3. We are a shared community that respects diversity**
- 4. We give our children and young people the best start in life**
- 5. We live in a safe community**

Outcomes are the key to our plan. Outcomes tell us what differences we want for our communities. All our work is then targeted at achieving our outcomes.





Priorities

Our Priorities

1. Enterprise centre at **Cliftonpark Avenue**
2. Soft play area at the **Manor Street interface**
3. ABC Health and **Leisure Trust Development**
4. Plan for **LOCA's new centre** on Cliftonpark Avenue

These are capital projects which we believe will contribute to several of our Outcomes. Each priority links to the performance measures outlined on pages 7, 9, 11, 13 and 15. These are not the only activities or priorities of the Neighbourhood Partnership. There will be numerous projects and activities which will all contribute to the performance measures below.

These are the key priorities in the next 1-3 years that are needed to achieve our Outcomes

Structure of the Action Plan

1. **What are the quality of life conditions we want for the children, adults and families who live in our community? These are our outcomes.**
2. **What would these conditions look like if we could see them? How do people in our communities experience these conditions? This is the story behind the curve.**
3. **How can we measure these conditions? These are population indicators.**
4. **How are we doing on the most important of these measures? These are performance measures.**
5. **Who are the partners that have a role to play in doing better?**
6. **What works to do better, including low-cost and no cost ideas?**
7. **What do we propose to do? This is our Action Plan.**

We've included little notes to help explain some of the points in our plan

In the following pages we follow this structure.

In order to show what difference we are making we will provide scorecards based on our work. These are real scorecards reflecting the work of specific organisations that make up the neighbourhood partnership. These are provided on pages 16-20. These scorecards will provide performance measurements which answer three simple questions: 1. How much did we do? 2. How well did we do it? and 3. Is anyone better off?

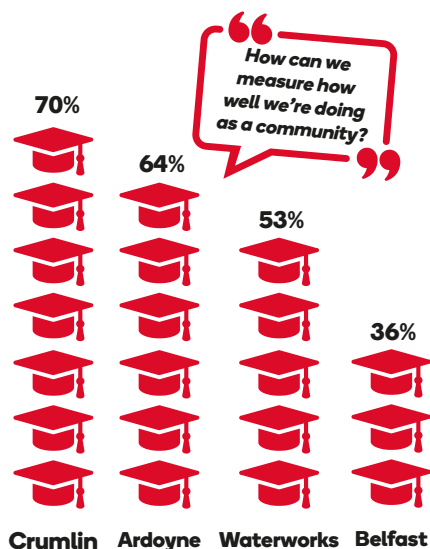


“This is the quality of life condition we want for the people who live in the Crumlin Ardoyne area”

Residents play an active part in economic life

Indicator

% of population with **No or Low Qualifications**



% of working population **Economically inactive**



Story behind the data

The Crumlin Ardoyne Area contains some of the most deprived wards in Northern Ireland.

The Waterworks ward is the No.1 most deprived ward and Ardoyne is the No. 3 most deprived ward out of 462 wards (NISRA, 2018).

Two out of three children live in poverty (57%). Only 23% of the working age population are economically active in full time employment.

The area contains a high number of interfaces. These areas have been identified as areas of persistent poverty.

“What are the causes and forces at work behind these problems?”

9 Super Output Areas (SOAs) in Crumlin Ardoyne are in the top 100 most deprived SOAs in Northern Ireland. There has been very limited capital or long term economic investment into this area for more than 20 years. There are no large scale private sector employers in the area.



What Works & Strategy

Barriers to employment and enterprise for residents living in disadvantaged communities are numerous.

Through research carried out in the area local residents flagged up three key barriers — a lack of skills and knowledge, a lack of childcare and a lack of confidence.

The neighbourhood partnership works to provide training and employability support to local residents. Community child care providers operate as social enterprises within the area, to address barriers to employment.

“What would it take to succeed? What works to do better, including low cost and no cost ideas?”

They provide employment for local residents and child care enables local residents to access employment and training. We are working to develop community enterprises which will support training, incubation businesses and micro-enterprises with the aim of getting more local people into work.





Key Priorities

The following are Key Priorities to help us achieve our outcomes:

1. Enterprise centre at Cliftonpark Avenue
2. ABC Health & Leisure Trust Development
3. Ionad Teaghlaigh Bheann Mhadagáin (Bheann Mhadagáin Family Centre)

Key Priorities and Actions for the next 1-3 years

Performance measures should answer the key question: Is anyone better off?

Performance Measures

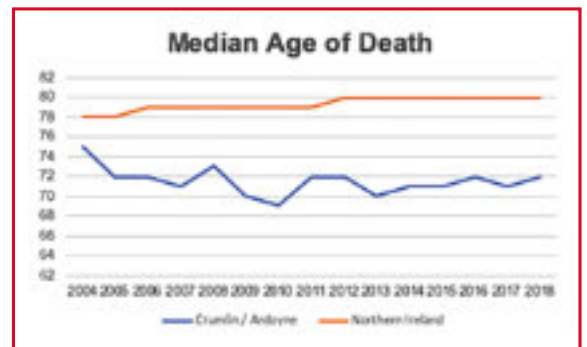
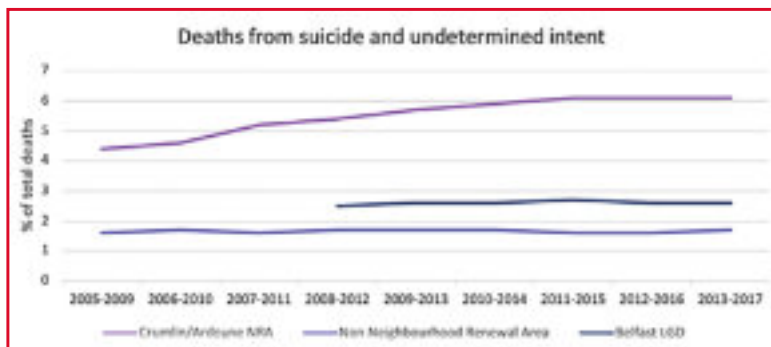
Training & Employability		Childcare and Social Economy Provision		Advice & Maximising Household Income	
How much did we do?	How well did we do it?	How much did we do?	How well did we do it?	How much did we do?	How well did we do it?
# of employment related training courses # of participants on employment related training # of residents receiving employment related advice and support (CV, Interviews, etc)	% of participants who completed training courses (retention)	# of social enterprises created # of child care places created # of new social enterprises being developed	% of parents who rate childcare as 'good/very good' % occupancy rate of childcare facility	# of advice enquiries dealt with by services. # of clients who access service.	% of clients who say that they were 'very satisfied' with the service they received. % of clients who say that they would 'certainly recommend' our service to someone else.
Is anyone better off?		Is anyone better off?		Is anyone better off?	
#/% of participants gaining a qualification #/% of participants who achieve a minimum Level 2 qualification #/% of participants who feel more confident as a result of training/employability support	#/% of participants who progressed to further training/education #/% of participants securing employment through training/employability support	#/% of jobs created/sustained through social enterprises #/% of working parents supported by child care provision.	#/% of NRA residents employed through local social enterprises	£ value of additional benefit entitlement secured for clients. # of household beneficiaries of advice.	% of clients who say that the outcome of their enquiry was 'better than expected'.

We live longer, healthier, active lives

This is the quality of life condition we want for the people who live in the Crumlin Ardoyne area

Indicator

How can we measure how well we're doing as a community?



Story behind the data

People in the Crumlin Ardoyne area die on average 8 years before people in the rest of Northern Ireland.

The median age of death in NI is 80. In two of the wards that make up the Crumlin Ardoyne Neighbourhood Renewal area it is 71 (for the Waterworks ward) and 72 for the Ardoyne ward (NISRA, CareZone Health profile).

The link between health and poverty is well documented. Poor health can impact on educational attainment which limits job opportunities and potential earnings.

People on low incomes are more likely to engage in behaviours which have a negative, long term impact on their health.

Six of the 20 most deprived Super Output Areas in Northern Ireland, in terms of health and disability, are located in the Crumlin/Ardoyne Area.

89% of people say that health is the thing that matters most to their sense of wellbeing. Yet while 5% of the NI population report poor or very poor health the rates in the Crumlin Ardoyne area are between 12-15%.

What are the causes and forces at work behind these problems?

Other health issues in the Crumlin Ardoyne area include:

- **Higher than average incidence of cancer registrations, as recorded by the Northern Ireland Cancer Registry**
- **Higher than average levels of emergency admissions**
- **High levels of mental health issues**

What Works & Strategy

Partnership working is key to avoid duplication. Often other providers are brought in to deliver their specialist services.

This allows members to make connections and links to a wide range of other sources of support outside of community health provision.

Volunteer led peer support is key to the success of the project. Local cancer patients, for example, who help to manage the Cancer Lifeline centre have a presence at key times to offer support and encouragement and a listening ear to those present.

What would it take to succeed? What works to do better, including low cost and no cost ideas?





Key Priorities

The following are Key Priorities to help us achieve our outcomes:

1. Complete the building work at Cancer Lifeline and the set up of support services in the new premises
2. Delivery of Cancer Lifeline new "Caring Connections" project
3. Research into the digital poverty levels among users and plan future programmes both in-house and remotely

Key Priorities and Actions for the next 1-3 years

Performance measures should answer the key question: Is anyone better off?

Performance Measures

Health Awareness & Promotion	
How much did we do?	How well did we do it?
# of health awareness, promotion programmes, events # of participants	% of participants satisfied % of participants completing the programmes
Is anyone better off?	
% of participants reporting an increased awareness/knowledge of healthier life-style factors	% of participants reporting they have taken positive steps to improve their health and well being

Mental Health	
How much did we do?	How well did we do it?
# of mental health programmes/activities # of participants	% of participants satisfied % of participants completing the programmes
Is anyone better off?	
#/% of participants reporting improved mental health and wellbeing #/% of participants reporting improved emotional resilience #/% of participants reporting reduced levels of stress/anxiety	#/% of participants showing clinical/reliable change #/% of participants reporting reduced isolation

Physical & Active Health	
How much did we do?	How well did we do it?
# of physical and active health programmes # of participants	% of participants satisfied % of participants completing the activities
Is anyone better off?	
#/% of people reporting taking part in regular physical activity	#/% of participants reporting improved health and well-being because of being more active

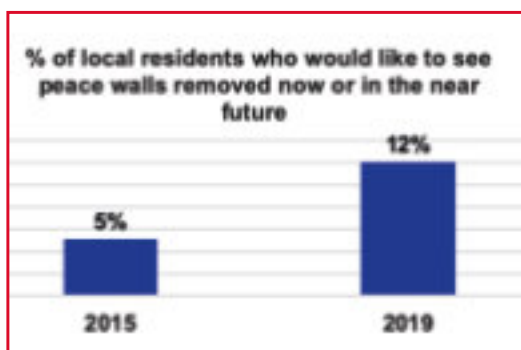
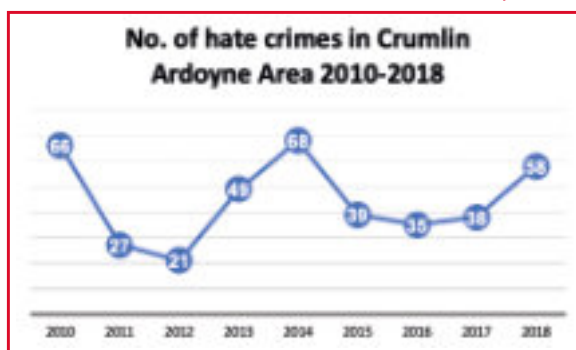
Life Limiting Illness	
How much did we do?	How well did we do it?
# of support programmes/interventions # of participants	% of participants reporting they were treated with respect % of participants reporting services were easily accessible % of participants satisfied
Is anyone better off?	
#/% of participants reporting feeling supported #/% of participants reporting improved quality of life.	#/% of participants reporting improved coping skills to deal with their illness and symptom management

“This is the quality of life condition we want for the people who live in the Crumlin Ardoyne area”

We are a shared community that respects diversity

Indicator

“How can we measure how well we're doing as a community?”



Story behind the data

The Crumlin Ardoyne Neighbourhood Renewal Area was adversely affected by decades of conflict.

Two wards in the area are in the top 10 most affected by the conflict in terms of the number of local residents killed (Ardoyne and Waterworks). The area contains 7 peace walls and remains a highly divided community.

The area was also affected by the Holy Cross Dispute in 2001-2002 and parading and protesting issues.

The rate of hate crime over the past 10 years in Crumlin Ardoyne is running at 4 times the average in Northern Ireland.

The establishment of the Executive in 2007 involving the DUP and Sinn Féin did see an improvement in relationships across the two communities. However, many issues remain unresolved.

Nevertheless, there are very active peace building and good relations programmes across the

“What are the causes and forces at work behind these problems?”

neighbourhood renewal area. This has led to significant improvements in good relations including a lot of relationships built across the sectarian divide.

It has also become very clear that the link between the peace walls and poverty needs to be addressed through the regeneration of the affected communities.

What Works & Strategy

Peace building and good relations work is long term, painstaking work. It needs to develop relationships, understanding and respect amongst the participants and the community organisations involved.

A wide range of approaches can work and good relations and peace building work across the neighbourhood renewal area is very diverse involving

children and young people, women's groups, shared spaces such as Girdwood Community Hub. Some of this work looks at the physical peace walls and alternatives to them.

This work also needs to be relevant to the day-to-day lives of the people involved. Peace building and good relations cannot be separated from the issues local people face in these communities; poverty,

“What would it take to succeed? What works to do better, including low cost and no cost ideas?”

lack of education attainment, poor health and mental health, homelessness or poor housing.



Key Priorities

The following are Key Priorities to help us achieve our outcomes:

- 1. Soft play social enterprise facility at the Cliftonpark Avenue interface**
- 2. Community Management of Girdwood Youth Space**
- 3. Continued support for capital build projects supported by Urban Villages (e.g. Marrowbone Hub, GRACE)**

“Key Priorities and Actions for the next 1-3 years”

Performance Measures

“Performance measures should answer the key question: Is anyone better off?”

Our Children & Young People	
How much did we do?	How well did we do it?
# of young people participating in community relations projects/shared space projects # of community relations projects/shared space projects (e.g. shared youth drop-in) # of people participating in good relations training # of people involved in dealing with the impact of interface issues	% of young people moving from unstructured to structured session (e.g. drop-in to training) % of participants who successfully completed training courses % of participants from PUL/CNR communities
Is anyone better off?	
#/% of participants who feel comfortable socialising in a shared space or space they would not traditionally visit. #/% of people who consider the area they live as welcoming to all	#/% of participants who are more favourable towards people from a different religious background.

Our Shared Community	
How much did we do?	How well did we do it?
# of participants of community relations projects/shared space projects # of community relations/shared space projects # of people volunteering in good relations projects # of people participating in good relations training	% of participants enjoying good relations events % of participants who successfully completed training courses % of participants from PUL/CNR communities % of participants from ethnic minorities
Is anyone better off?	
#/% of people who think that relations between Protestants and Catholics are better now than 5 years ago. #/% of participants who feel comfortable visiting a culturally different community	#/% of people who want to see the peace wall removed now or in the near future. #/% of people who say that they have made friendships from the other community as a result of participating in a good relations programme

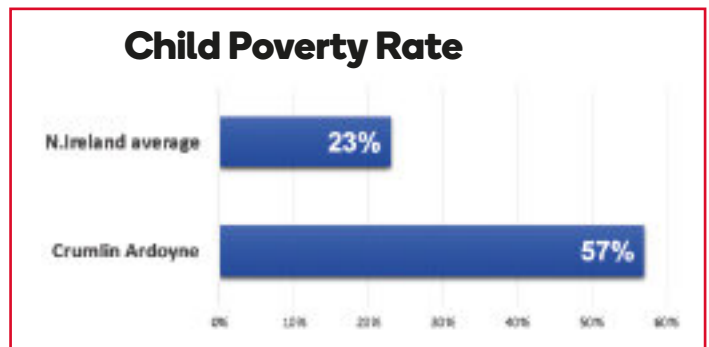
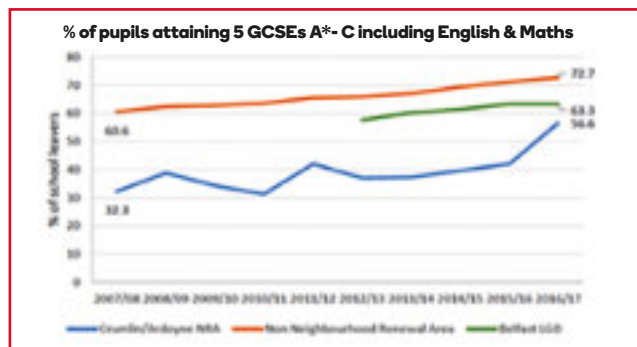
Outcome 4

This is the quality of life condition we want for the people who live in the Crumlin Ardoyne area

Our children and young people have the best start in life

Indicator

How can we measure how well we're doing as a community?



Story behind the data

What are the causes and forces at work behind these problems?

Children and young people in the Crumlin Ardoyne area really have the worst start in life in Northern Ireland.

Child poverty in the area is running at 57%. That's two of every three children in this area are brought up in poverty. Too many of our children and young people are brought up in families where poverty, poor health, mental health and homelessness is a problem.

According to the Northern Ireland Commissioner for Children & Young People (NICCY) children in poverty are twice as likely to leave school without 5 good GCSEs. They are also more likely to suffer poor mental health and have fewer years of good physical health.

While there has been progress the number of young people attaining the baseline of 5 GCSEs has gone from 32% to 56%. However, this

means that we still have 44% of our young people falling below this baseline.

Without skills or qualifications some can be attracted to profitable and criminal alternatives. Some young people can earn more selling drugs at the corner of the street rather than working in a decent job. Much, much more needs to be done for our children and young people.



What Works & Strategy

Youth work is child and youth centred. It starts where children and young people are at in terms of their own development and their location.

The relationship between the young people and the youth worker is voluntary and it only works if the young people have this choice.

Youth work ranges from detached/ street work meeting young people where they want to be, this can lead to youth drop-in and youth clubs and then developmental work which can include personal and social development and training in a range of skills. Youth work also needs to be fun and the young people can engage in sports, drama

What would it take to succeed? What works to do better, including low cost and no cost ideas?

and a range of other activities that enable them to explore their identity, increase their confidence, develop their skills and think through the consequences of their actions.



Key Priorities

The following are Key Priorities to help us achieve our outcomes:

1. New build youth facility in Ardoyne/Crumlin Road
2. Extend existing community youth services across Crumlin Ardoyne

**Key Priorities
and Actions for
the next 1-3 years**

Performance Measures

Performance measures should answer the key question: Is anyone better off?

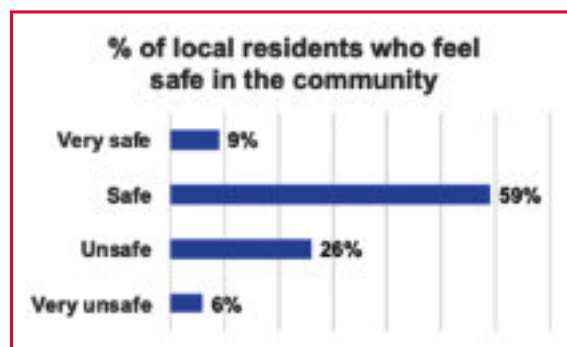
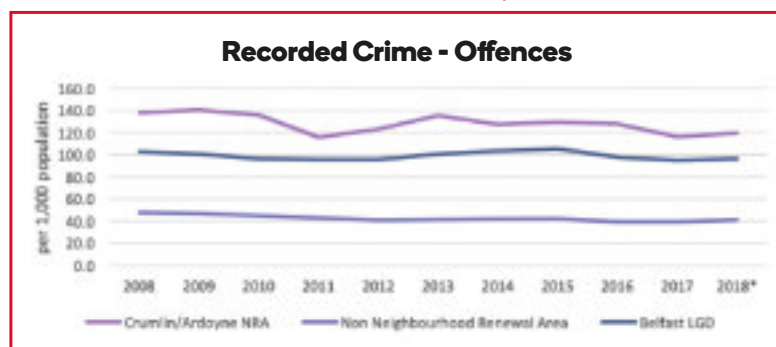
Our Children & Young People	
How much did we do?	How well did we do it?
# of young people met on detached youth work sessions # of detached youth work sessions # of young people attending youth drop-in/youth clubs # of youth clubs/drop-in sessions # of young people involved in development work/training # of child care/nursery places created/ safeguarded # of pupils directly benefitting from the programme # of young people benefitting from youth inclusion/diversionary projects	% of young people participating on the programme living in the neighbourhood renewal area % of youth workers time spent directly with young people % of young people who say they enjoy the activity or programme - Ratio of young people to youth work staff
Is anyone better off?	
#/% of young people on the programme who are confident #/% of young people showing improved behaviour #/% of young people on the programme taking part in regular physical activity	#/% of young people reporting positive mental health #/% of children and young people who increased their skills/ knowledge #/% of young people on the programme achieving a formal qualification #/% of young people ready for work

We live in a Safe Community

This is the quality of life condition we want for the people who live in the Crumlin Ardoyne area

Indicator

How can we measure how well we're doing as a community?



Story behind the data

The Crumlin Ardoyne area has some of the highest levels of anti-social behaviour and crime in NI. We have three times the level of crime that exists in the more affluent neighbourhoods. Why should residents of disadvantaged areas have to put up with this?

In a door to door survey carried out in 2019 one-third of the population felt very unsafe or unsafe – with one in three people saying they were victims of crime or anti-social behaviour. It is believed that official

figures for crime and anti-social behaviour are significantly underestimated with more than 40% of residents saying they do not report crime or anti-social behaviour.

Crumlin-Ardoyne's multi-levelled deprivation exacerbates this issue while paramilitarism and marginalisation can hinder attempts to make residents safer.

The main community safety priorities that we have worked to address are:

What are the causes and forces at work behind these problems?

- Recorded Crime
- ASB
- Violence/ Robbery/ Sexual Offending
- Burglary
- Criminal Damage
- Domestic Abuse

What Works & Strategy

A majority of community groups in the Crumlin Ardoyne area are active in addressing anti-social behaviour and crime. Community Restorative Justice Ireland (CRJI) plays a leading role in tackling this issue and groups also work with North Belfast Alternatives.

Community Restorative Justice co-ordinates meetings between statutory bodies, including the PSNI,

political representatives and community groups to create a safer community.

The North Belfast Safer Homes project was a particular success in getting alarm packs and advice to where it was most needed. This shows the advantage of local workers with specialized local expertise and information.

What would it take to succeed? What works to do better, including low cost and no cost ideas?

We perhaps underestimate the level of the fear crime generates in a community. A single crime (e.g. burglary) can negatively impact a whole wider family or street.



Key Priorities

The following are Key Priorities to help us achieve our outcomes:

1. **Sustain and develop our multi-agency response to local crime and anti-social behaviour involving residents, the community sector, statutory agencies and politicians.**

“Key Priorities and Actions for the next 1-3 years”

Performance Measures

“Performance measures should answer the key question: Is anyone better off?”

Safe Community	
How much did we do?	How well did we do it?
# of community safety initiatives # of crime prevention initiatives # of participants # of victims supported # of young people involved in youth diversionary activities # of organisations and businesses signed up to the 'Safe Place' charter # of homes secured # of Multi-Agency meetings organised/attended	% of residents who take crime prevention measures % of participants satisfied
Is anyone better off?	
#/% of residents who feel safer #/% of residents who feel more aware/better informed of community safety	#/% of residents who take active steps to improve their safety #/% of residents reporting crime and anti-social behaviour

ECONOMIC

Project: Vine Centre Advice Service

How much funding: £98,092

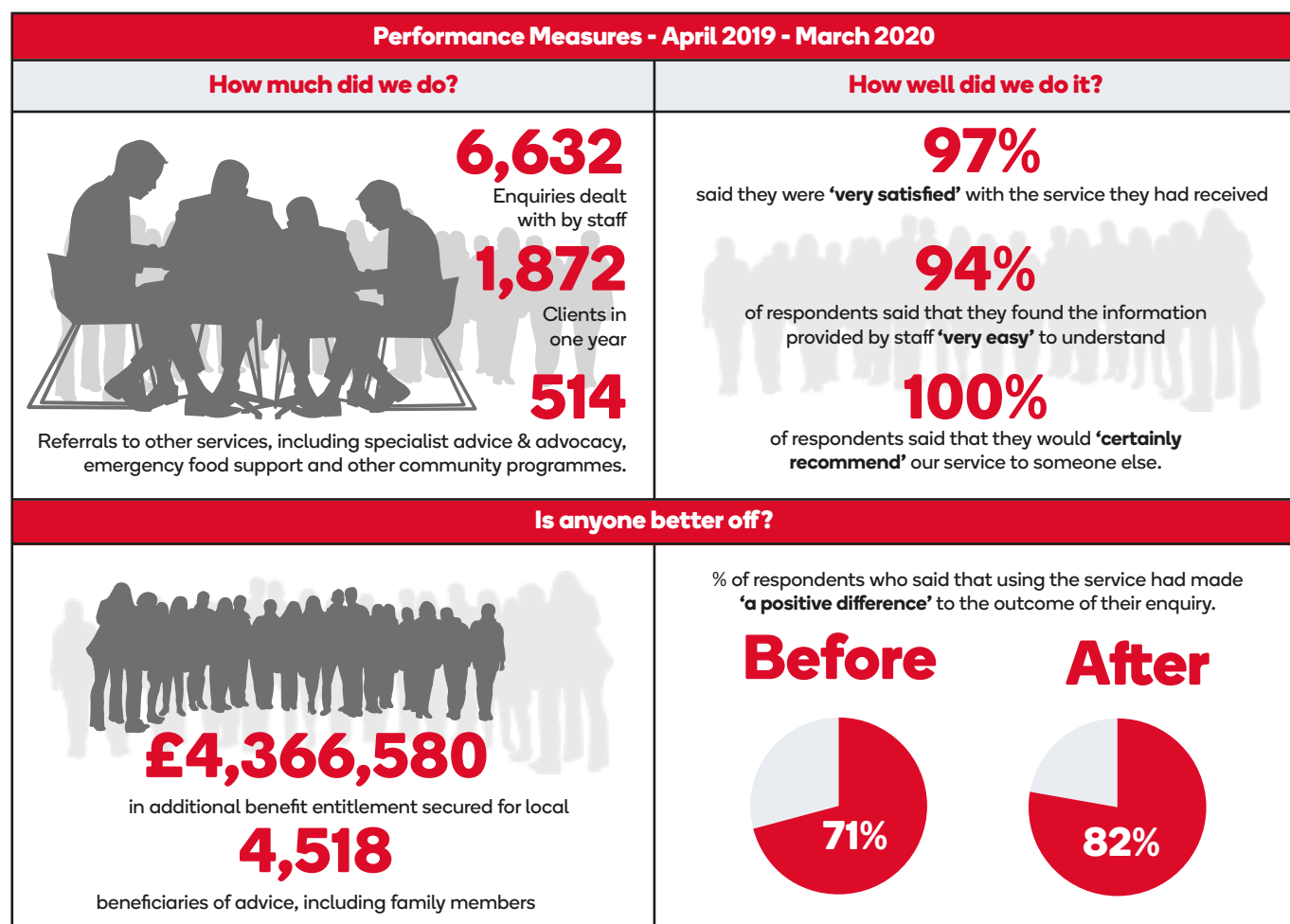
What the programme involved?

Our advice service covers issues such as benefit entitlement, consumer rights, housing and employment issues. The vast majority of enquiries dealt with by staff are benefit related.

This high level of benefit related work is due to the significant concentration of low income households within our catchment area. 7 of the 10 Super Output Areas

in Belfast with the highest percentage of households in relative poverty (where equivalized household income is 60% or less of the Northern Ireland average) can be found clustered around the Crumlin Road. Low income households are generally more dependent on benefits for part of their weekly household income, and therefore more exposed to ongoing changes to the benefits system

under Welfare Reform. A significant proportion of our clients have long term physical and mental health problems, with some struggling with the long term consequences of addiction. In these circumstances, assisting with claims and maximizing benefit entitlement remains the key piece of work advisors undertake on behalf of clients.



Our generalist advice service is offered at the Vine Centre and 8 outreach locations across North Belfast and the Shankill, funded by Belfast City Council and the Department for Communities.

HEALTH

Project: Community Support Services

How much funding: £73,560

What the programme involved?



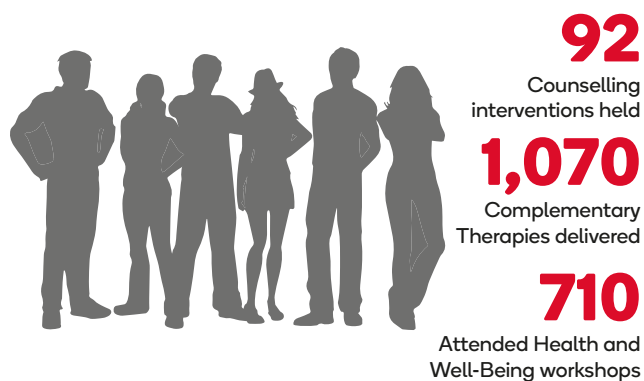
Provision of support services to cancer patients and their families/ carers in North Belfast, helping them to cope better physically, emotionally and mentally with their illness.

This involves one to one counselling and complementary therapy, therapeutic support and group

health and wellbeing programmes e.g. nutrition, fatigue management, physical activity programmes and stress management. Being diagnosed with cancer can be overwhelming. High quality psychological and emotional support is critical to help improve the quality of life for those affected by cancer.

Performance Measures - April 2019 - March 2020

How much did we do?



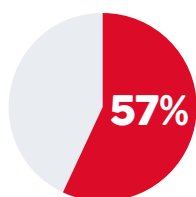
How well did we do it?



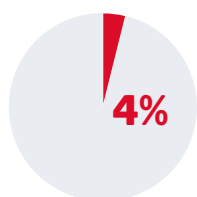
Is anyone better off?

% who rated their wellbeing as extremely poor or poor before and after participating on the project.

Before

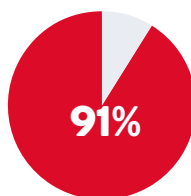


After



% who rated their levels of stress, anxiety or fear as extremely poor/poor before and after participating on the project.

Before



After



This programme is part of Cancer Lifeline's overall health and wellbeing support services. The support programmes are delivered from the project base in Alliance Avenue. The management committee are all local cancer patients from North Belfast. Key funding support comes from the DFC, PHA and the BHSCT in addition to other Trust Funds.

GOOD RELATIONS

Project: **Girdwood Shared Space**

How much funding: £59,399

What the programme involved?

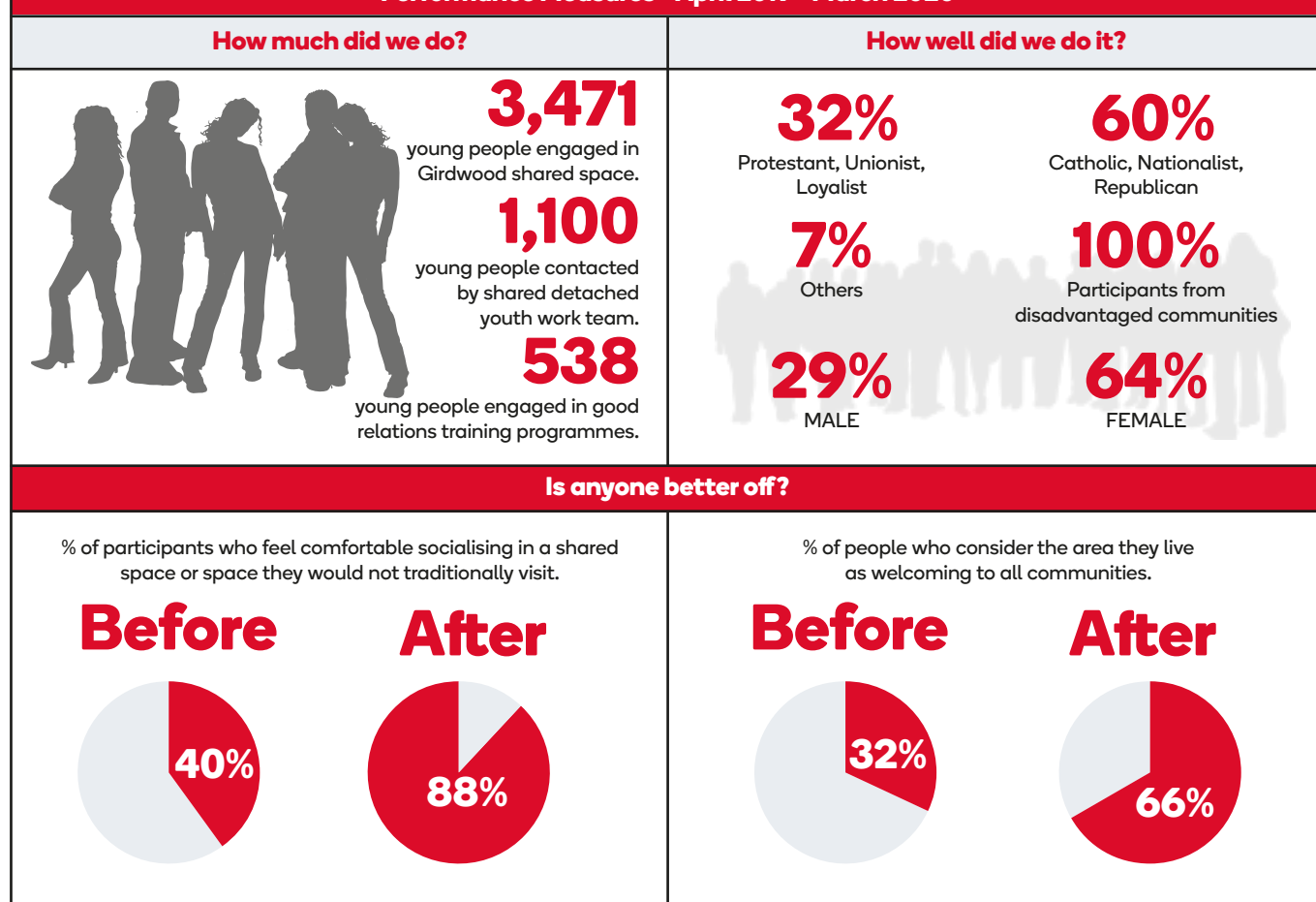


The aim of the programme is to support young people to develop relationships, understanding and respect across the interface.

This is achieved through detached/street youth work; planned youth drop-in 3 nights per week, good relations development/training programmes including team

building, personal development, culture, history and peace walls. The key is building relationships and understanding of their community background and identity.

Performance Measures - April 2019 - March 2020



The Girdwood Shared Space Project is part of the North Belfast Strategic Good Relations Programme funded by The Executive Office (TEO) and managed by the Community Relations Council. This project was delivered by Cliftonville Community Regeneration Forum and community partners.

YOUNG PEOPLE

Project: Ardoyne Youth Leadership

How much funding: **£79,999**

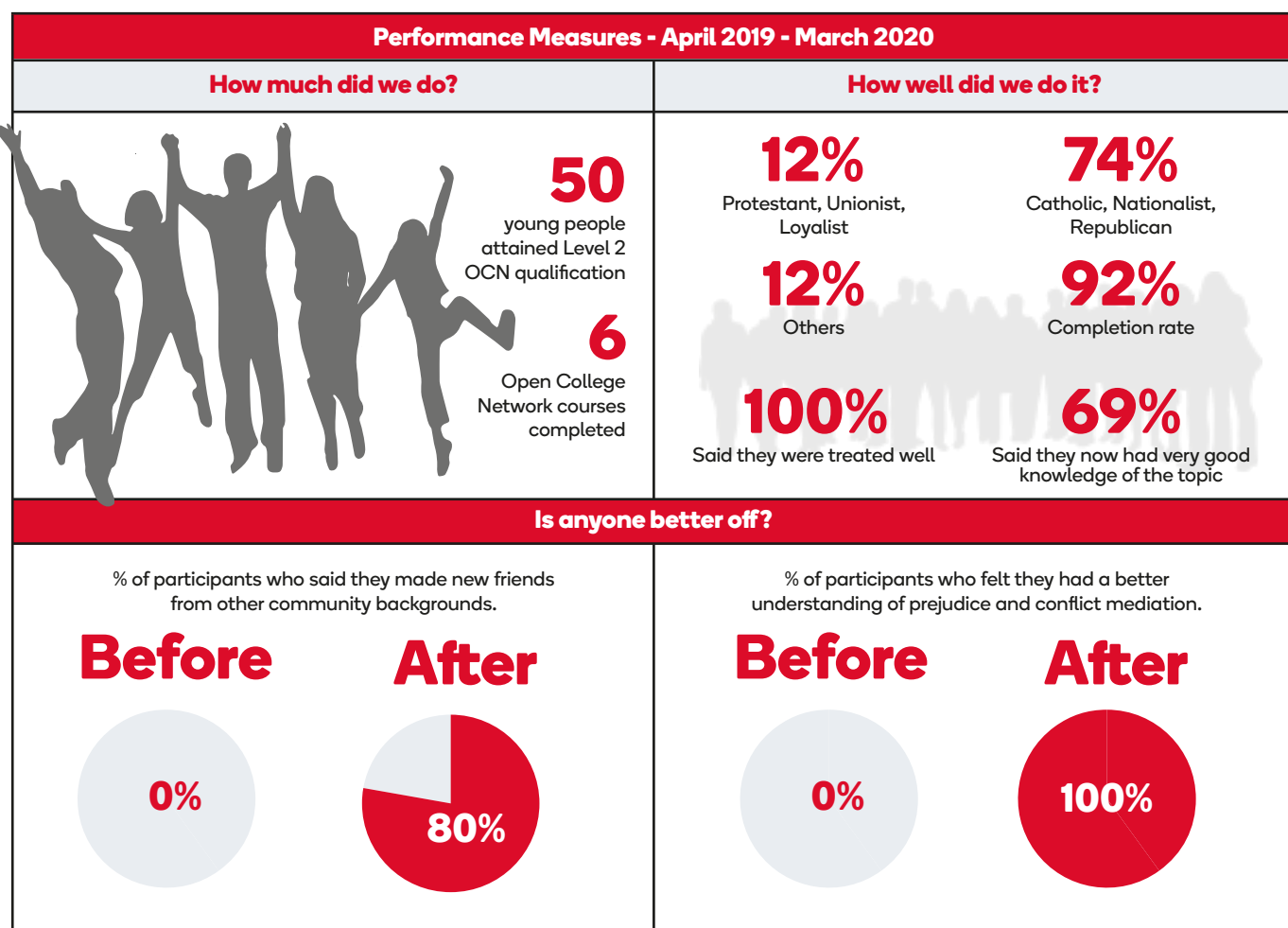
What the programme involved?



The Ardoyne Youth Leadership and Development Programme provides young people from divided and disadvantaged communities high quality personal development and training opportunities in leadership.

Mentoring skills, peer mentoring, mental health awareness and youth work practice.

Participants come from both communities and the training equips young people to better understand diversity, equality, prejudice and conflict mediation.



The Ardoyne Youth Leadership and Development Programme is part of the North Belfast Strategic Good Relations Programme funded by The Executive Office (TEO) and managed by the Community Relations Council. This project was delivered by Ardoyne Youth Enterprises and community partners.

SAFE COMMUNITY

Project: Upper North Multi-Agency Meetings

How much funding: £0,00

What the programme involved?

While this project receives no funding it is supported by neighbourhood renewal funded organisations who have donated stationery, staff and premises.

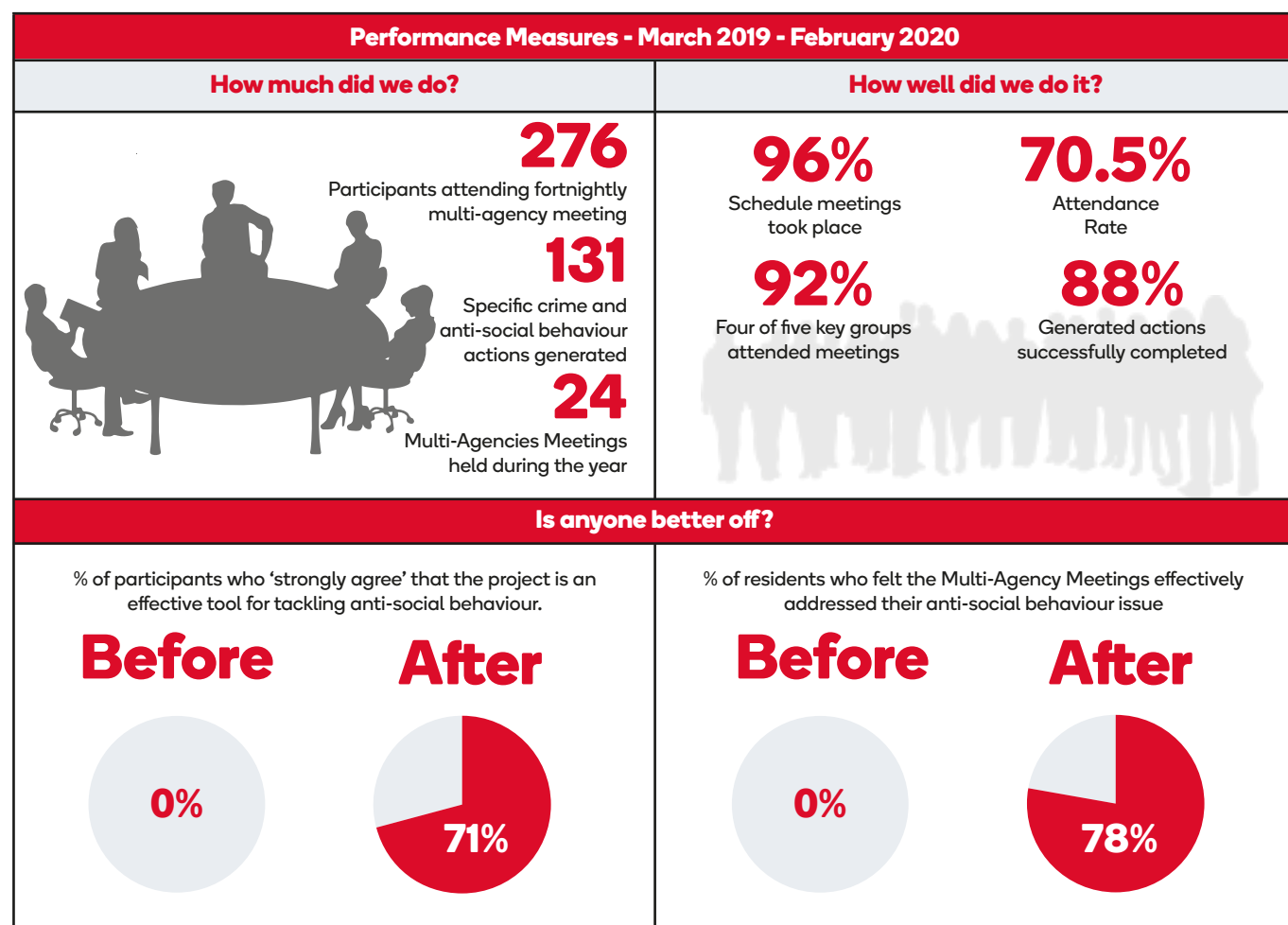
The Safe Community Survey (2019) found only 42.7% of residents felt safe in their community. To counter this fear the project provides an

open forum in an area of high deprivation and paramilitary activity for community safety & residents' issues to be raised and resolved. Issues are addressed through a multi-agency, collective approach involving all relevant attendees.

To ensure a multi-agency response the project prioritises the

attendance and active participation of five key groups:

- 1) **Belfast City Council**
- 2) **NIHE and local housing associations**
- 3) **Police**
- 4) **Political representatives**
- 5) **Community workers & residents**



The Upper North Belfast Multi-Agency meetings are facilitated by Community Restorative Justice Ireland. The meetings take place fortnightly and are attended by Belfast City Council; Northern Ireland Housing Executive and local housing associations; the Police Service of NI; political representatives; community workers & residents.

Crumlin Ardoyne Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership Membership



Ardoyne Youth Enterprise was founded in 1996. We are a strategic platform for 30+ local youth provider organisations to share information and resources and to develop long-term solutions to the problems affecting young people and youth development locally.



Cliftonville Community Regeneration Forum works for the social, economic and physical regeneration of disadvantaged and divided communities. The Forum has three strategic priorities – i) regeneration and community enterprise, ii) peace-building and good relations work, and iii) youth development.



Ardoyne Association are based in Etna Drive. Their motto is 'to assist with and promote the social and economic uplift of the community'. Ardoyne Association have a large volunteer support base who contribute hugely to the community development of the area. Ardoyne Association house benefit advice workers and others.



Community Restorative Justice (North Belfast) works directly with the local communities to address issues of conflict through mediation. It will also work collaboratively with and through all statutory agencies and community and voluntary organisations on developing responsive community safety initiatives.



Cancer Lifeline provides support and information services to cancer patients and their families, helping them emotionally, physically and mentally through their cancer journey and treatment regimens. Cancer Lifeline is managed by cancer survivors, they understand the fear and anxiety families face. The homely project base provides opportunities to meet, share and connect with others living with cancer.



Grace Women's Development Limited now have a home of their own! Grace Family Centre finally opened it's doors on the 9 December 2020, costing a total £2.162 million. The new state of the art facility includes childcare for up to 60 children, a multi-functional training suite, a café, meeting rooms and office space.



Cliftonville Community Centre is based on the Manor Street Interface in North Belfast. We provide services for the local area such as: carer and tots groups, after school's groups, youth groups, on-the-job training, adult training and general advice.



Lower Oldpark Community Association provides a wide range of services to the people of the community which include: 1) physical housing regeneration, 2) early years provision, 3) peace building and good relations, 4) community intervention and advice service.

Profile



Marrowbone Community Association

promotes the benefits of the Marrowbone area and is committed to community development within the area. We have a newly built facility which will house a dance studio, allotment beds and a gym as well as various different community projects.



North Belfast Senior Citizens Forum (NBSCF)

represents the interests of around 25 member groups and individual older people throughout North Belfast. We run an outreach benefits advice service targeting isolated older people. We are also a lobbying and advocacy group.



New Life Counselling offer high quality counselling services to meet the needs of children, young people, adults and families. Referrals are made for the following issues; those affected by stress, anxiety, depression, relationship breakdown, and drug/ alcohol issues, bullying, self-harm and suicidal ideation. One to one counselling is offered.



The Vine Centre was established in 1970, by members of local Protestant churches, to address the challenges facing communities living along the lower Crumlin Road. Five decades later, the Centre offers advice, childcare, education & employability support, family support, pastoral support and health initiatives for older people and those struggling with addictions.



Westland Community Group are based in the Westland Estate. We are a committed group of volunteers who run baby groups, bingo and fundraising events. We connect in to Ardoyne Youth Enterprises and Marrowbone Community Hub to help develop our voluntary board. The volunteers are committed to helping those within Westland facing poverty or addiction issues.



Wishing Well family centre was founded 30 years ago in one of the more fractious interfaces across Northern Ireland. The organisation has become a thriving social enterprise offering cross community interaction and development through the provision of high-quality services for children, young people, families, and the wider community within North Belfast.

Statutory partners



Belfast
City Council



Department for
Communities

An Roinn
Pobal

Department for
Communities

www.communities-ni.gov.uk

**Housing
Executive**



Belfast Health and
Social Care Trust

caring supporting improving together

Contact details:

If you would like to get in contact with the
Crumlin Ardoyne Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership

Manus Maguire

Chairperson

manus@ccrf.org.uk

Mob: 07557 525249

Gayle Dalton

Neighbourhood Renewal Co-ordinator

gayle@ccrf.org.uk

Crumlin Ardoyne Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership

185 Cliftonpark Avenue,
Belfast BT14 6DT

Tel: 028 9074 9147

FUNDERS

