Dublin North East Inner City

Creating a Brighter Future

The Social and Economic Regeneration of Dublin's North East Inner City

Dublin: North East Inner City

"Creating a Brighter Future"

An Outline Plan for the Social and Economic Regeneration of Dublin's North East Inner City

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Foreword

The area under consideration in the Outline Plan - "Creating a Brighter Future" - is an important part of the infrastructure of our Capital City, Dublin, and comprises at its core a population of about 18,000 people.

During my many visits to the community I have met politicians - both national and local councillors - school principals, community leaders and activists, development officers and representatives of various statutory and voluntary organisations, representatives of many Government Departments and their Agencies, the North Inner City Community Coalition, individual political parties, the Dublin Docklands Association, and business fora/organisations.

Many of the above bodies have made written and oral presentations to me in the course of the various meetings I have had in the North East Inner City and to the dedicated facility created in the Department of the Taoiseach for this purpose.

I have met many people who are just trying to get on with their day to day lives, as parents, senior citizens, students, workers and whose priority is to have a safe community in which to live and decent opportunities to improve their lives, the lives of their children and to have a better standard of living. These are the basic rights and normal expectations of citizens and residents in this Republic.

I would like to thank them all sincerely for their time and commitment to this consultative process and for the energy and honesty of their interaction with me over the last number of months. It was informative, instructive and at times, given the issues under discussion, emotive, harrowing and difficult. The involvement and cooperation of the community itself is central if we are to succeed in making it into a community proud to say that this is our home, we have pride in where we live and we are part of an inclusive Irish society.

I hope this Report will assist in creating a new start and developing a new approach for the betterment of their community and will contribute and assist towards resolving the particular and difficult challenges which they face on a daily basis.

I would also like to express my thanks for the invaluable support and assistance which I have received from An Taoiseach Enda Kenny T.D. and from the officials of his Department, Tony McGovern, Denis Breen and Liz Canavan.

Kieran Mulvey

February 2017

Part 1 - Context Findings & Analysis

- Introduction
- Terms of Reference
- The Community and Delivery Structures
- About the North East Inner City
- Current Community Assets
- Observations and Findings
- What the Evidence Tells Us

Section 1 : Terms of Reference

Introduction

This Report was initiated in response to the series of gangland murders in the North East Inner City and beyond arising from the ongoing feud between certain criminal gangs and which are related largely to the drug trade and other related criminal activities within Ireland and abroad.

Terms of Reference

I was requested by the Taoiseach, Mr Enda Kenny T.D., on behalf of the Government, to report to the Ministerial Taskforce by end November 2016 on the profound challenges facing the communities of North East Inner City Dublin, and to recommend specific measures which would support the long-term economic and social regeneration of the area.

Terms of Reference for North East Inner City Report

i. to oversee implementation of short-term responses to the recent and ongoing challenges facing the community in the area

ii. to review existing structures and programmes for economic and social development within the North East Inner City, both statutory and non-statutory

iii. to engage with and involve local community and public representatives throughout the process; this should include a collaborative review process involving children, young people, parents, professionals and other stakeholders

iv. to take account of experience and good practice in other projects\areas, as well as national policy developments such as the review of the National Drugs Strategy

v. to recommend specific measures which would support the long-term economic and social regeneration of the area, with a ten year timeframe, including in the areas of

- community safety and policing
- early intervention programmes for children
- education and training
- employment opportunities

Terms of Reference for North East Inner City Report (contd)

- improving the physical environment
- housing
- tacking the impact of drugs
- community development including family, youth and recreation activity

vi. to recommend structures\procedures to ensure better co-ordination of statutory and non-statutory programmes in the area

vii. to identify some indicators of economic and social development which can be used to track progress over a ten-year period.

and to submit a Report to the Ministerial Taskforce by end-November 2016.

Approach to the Task

Over the past four months I have walked through the area of the North East Inner City, visited and spent time with many projects, community groups and residents, hearing and learning at firsthand the challenges they face and their views on what action is required. I have also met with many of the Government Departments and statutory services and with representatives of the business community to better understand the contribution all the above currently make and might continue to make into the future for the betterment of the area and its diverse community.

These meetings included also briefings from An Garda Síochána and the Garda Inspectorate in relation to community policing and crime related matters. Two extensive briefing and information sessions were held with the Dublin Docklands Stakeholder Forum and NAMA on developments in the Strategic Development Zone(SDZ) and with interested and active agencies associated with the DDDA and related projects.

My work has been informed also through meeting a number of individuals connected to similar regeneration and related projects in the past involving research on related issues and including an input from the Secretariat of the National Economic and Social Council and its associated research.

I have received also some 50 organisational/individual submissions highlighting issues, identifying needs and experiences and making recommendations on a truly wide range of

issues in the community. While it is not possible to deal specifically with the many issues raised and especially those seeking funding (a continuation or enhancement of funding) for individual services, they have informed my thinking on the Recommendations / Actions in this Report.

The ongoing identification of funding/staffing and the centres/organisations involved, including the integration of such interventions, supporting programmes, their evaluation and delivery is a matter which requires additional consideration in the overall Implementation phase.

Section II : The Community and Delivery Structures

About the North East Inner City

The area collectively referred to as the North East Inner City is not just a physical entity. It is a vibrant community encompassing several specific local communities each with its own identity e.g. Summerhill, Sean MacDermott Street, Buckingham Street, Railway Street, Sherriff Street, Seville Place, Portland Row, Killarney Street, Ballybough, Gardiner Street, Mountjoy Square, North Great George's Street, Foley Street, Rutland Street, James Joyce Street and other smaller streets /estates.

Heritage

The area is steeped in history from the Gardiner Estates Development starting in the 18th century, the legacy of the Wide Streets Commission, the building of Mountjoy Square and the construction of the North Custom House in 1781 and Aldborough House. The reclamation of land know as "the Docklands" made it one of the most affluent and respectable areas of the city which abounded with all kinds of artisan, craft and skilled trades.

The heart of the North Inner City is a place full of history and adventure, it has all the character that Dublin is so renowned for. It is the heart of James Joyce's Night Town chapter from Ulysses and its streets have seen the birth of the nation from all points of view. NIC Folklore Project

After the breaking up of the Gardiner Estate through an Act of Parliament (1846) and the effects of the Famine (1846-1849) leading to a large influx of the rural poor into the city, this once

opulent area of the city became one of the then largest slum areas reflected by poverty, bad housing, and the collapse of local industry. In modern times the demise of the Docks and its service industries arising from the containerisation of port traffic throughout the 1970s has led to high unemployment in the community.

This part of the Capital city is also rich in the history of the 1913 Lockout, the 1916 Revolution, and the subsequent War of Independence. It has a wealth of literary connections with Joyce, O'Casey and Behan. The Abbey Theatre, the James Joyce Cultural Centre, the Dublin Writers Museum, the National GAA Museum of Gaelic Sports and the EPIC Ireland Museum are located in or in close proximity to the area.

People and Census Profile

The North East Inner City (NEIC) is a "RAPID" designated area of Dublin City and extends from Busaras/Connolly Station to Croke Park, bordering parts of Dorset St, O'Connell St on the west over to the edge of the East Wall. It incorporates all or parts of 74 small areas as defined by the CSO which had a combined population of 17,580 in 2011 spread across 6,788 households.

Provisional results from the 2016 Census do not extend to small areas but the bigger electoral districts (EDs) show slight changes (up and down) to population trends across the electoral districts in this area except for Mountjoy B (+44.7%), Rotunda A (+20%) and Ballybough B (+11%).

Previous Trutz Haase research profiles for the area, based on 2011 Census figures, highlight the complexities of such areas of populations which have seen the emergence of significant clusters of high deprivation alongside affluent population. The 74 small areas linked to this RAPID area range from as small as a population of 82 persons to as big as 771 with most having somewhere between 100 and 300 persons resident in such areas.

In terms of deprivation levels, over a third (26) of the small areas in the NEIC can be described as disadvantaged or very disadvantaged with a further 19 just marginally below average. This measures deprivation based on a range of measures including age dependency, education levels, household composition and employment status.

The use of legal and illegal substances poses a daily challenge for young people and adults in the area. Alcohol abuse results in major problems for young people causing them to miss days from schools and training centres regularly. For many young people regular use of hash is considered "normal". There is also a general ambivalence towards the recreational use of prescription tablets which can be easily sourced on the black market. "LYCS"

At the extreme end there are small areas of the NEIC containing 80% lone parent households, where up to half of the population have

attained primary education only and less than 5% with third level education This contrasts starkly with some other small areas in the NEIC with very low levels of lone parent households and where third level attainment is over double the national average of 31%. This creates a certain distinct imbalance in overall population profile in the geographical community. The area is also bordered by very evident areas of strong affluent business, enterprises and residential developments. This differentiation of population in profiles will be further accentuated with planned developments in the Dockland SDZ over the coming years.

The 2011 unemployment levels for males in these areas were double and triple the national average including high dependency on the State for housing at over 90% in some cases. The lack of any clear improvement in the very disadvantaged small areas suggests the problem is endemic and requires a significant change in approach.

The area is also home to clusters of a growing non-Irish population from other EU countries and non-EU countries some of whom are the victims of economic, social and human rights issues. The 2011 Census data also highlights significantly higher rates of non-Irish nationals living in the NEIC compared to the national average of 12% ranging from 18% to as high as 52% across the five core electoral districts in the area.

Despite this narrative, this Community also has a proud history of residents serving in State services, currently and in the past, including the Army, public transport, education and social services. It has yielded its fair share of sporting heroes too.

Existing Planning, Oversight and Co-ordinating Structures

A profusion of planning, oversight and co-ordination structures services the area including those set out below. There is a clear and evident need for a more cohesive and integrated approach in relation to these structures and related overlapping and diversified funding mechanisms.

Dublin City Local Community Development Committee: established on a statutory basis to bring a more co-ordinated approach to community development to DCC area including oversight of Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme.

Dublin Central JPC Sub Committee: Operating under the Dublin City Joint Policing Committee it aims to develop greater consultation, cooperation and synergy on policing and crime issues between An Garda Síochána, Local Authorities and elected local representatives.

Dublin City North Children and Young Person's Service Committee: Operating under the direction of the Department of Children and Youth Affairs and Tusla, this is a forum for joint planning to plan and coordinate services for children, young people and their families in

their own area to improve outcomes. Membership includes senior managers from the major statutory, community and voluntary providers of relevant services.

Dublin City Childcare Committee: Operating under the direction of the Department of Children and Youth Affairs and Pobal, its main focus is to encourage the development of childcare locally. Programmes include the Early Childhood Care and Education Programme, the Community Childcare Subvention Programme and Training and Employment Childcare. DCCC is made up of representatives from private sector and community agencies with interest in the childcare sector.

North Inner City Drug & Alcohol Task Force: Established in 1997 to develop community responses to the drugs problem in the local area. It comprises 20 representatives from the community, voluntary and statutory sectors, who meet monthly to discuss matters relevant to drug use in the community. NICDTF supports a number of cross-sectoral networks in the local area, aligned under the pillars of the National Drugs Strategy.

North Inner City Local Policing Forum: Established in each Local Drug Task Force Area it provides a mechanism through which the community, the Gardaí, and the Local Authority and other stakeholders as required come together to improve communication, share appropriate information and identify issues of concern in relation to policing, anti-social behaviour and estate management.

North Inner City Community Coalition: Established in 2016 as an inclusive, active forum for community stakeholders across the North Inner City. Membership is open to representatives from community and voluntary groups and networks, residents/tenants associations and groups, political representatives, and interested individuals resident in the area who share the objectives of the coalition and who are prepared to work pro-actively and collectively to deliver on those objectives. I would place significant hope that this most welcome initiative will lead to a strong community wide representation in the future and establish the basis upon which existing service providers will work closely together to ensure an integrated approach to service provision in the NEIC.

Section III : Current Community Assets

I believe that it would be helpful for future provision purposes to outline the level and scope of services being provided within the community. A considerable range of both statutory and voluntary services and facilities are currently being provided to the area.

These services are broadly grouped under the following categories:

1. Education and Training
2. Social Protection – Training, Job Seeker Supports
3. Health Services (including Mental Health and Drug Services)
4. Child and Parent Services
5. Youth Recreation and Play
6. Local Authority Community Supports
7. Justice and Policing
8. Corporate Social Responsibility

There is a strong statutory presence in the area but it is also the case that there is a rich community and voluntary history within the community. Notably there is substantial community development, family support, youth services, drugs supports and youth justice funding being channelled into the area under a range of local community focused schemes. These service expenditures amount to several million euro.

A detailed list of the services including funding in relation to all these is contained in Appendix 1.

The Terms of Reference include the requirement to recommend structures/procedures to ensure better co-ordination of statutory and non-statutory programmes in the area. While this is dealt with in Part 2 of the Report, it is important that any new structures/procedures

- work in the context of the existing landscape;
- provide a focal point and engine room for delivery of the actions and recommendations in this Report; and
- support active engagement of the community in owning both the challenges and the solutions to implement this Report.

This requires a changed approach from all stakeholders and it requires a free flow of inputs and information across all of the service providers in the area.

Section IV : Observations and Findings

Impressions

On a personal basis I have had the opportunity of meeting and having discussions with various voluntary social, educational, residents, State Agencies and Departments all of whom are providing a broad range of community-wide services within the North East Inner City.

What are my impressions?

1. An urban landscape with great potential but with too many derelict sites, devoid of trees, greenery, proper lighting and open spaces. It has great thoroughfares where their potential are not being maximised for the community and for the attraction of businesses.

2. A great sense of community solidarity with active and engaged senior citizens and a community highly focused on its children and young people but with an inter-generational legacy drug addiction and related mental health problems.

3. Great community leaders and individuals who want a safe home, safe streets and shopping/leisure areas free from petty crime and the open display of the multilayered drug business and its unfortunate human and family impacts.

4. A strong and deep sense of being “left behind” during the Celtic Tiger period in relation to the IFSC / Docklands developments and the “false promises” given and a real and genuine concern that this will be repeated again in the new Docklands Developments. A general sense of the possibility of further ghettoisation in the area between centres of affluence along the Quays and the ‘legacy’ areas of urban / community neglect and deprivation. The contrast could not be greater with iconic buildings, modern architecture and world leading businesses and high worth residences within hundreds of metres of a large concentration of social housing with little or no business activity within the community.

5. A significant level of State funding over a long period from a multiplicity of Government Departments and Agencies directed towards various community based projects. These funded projects require greater coordination and cohesion and some realignment to ensure targeted outcomes to their programmes

6. Sports, Arts, Heritage activity gives a vibrancy, pride and identity to communities. The North East Inner City has a proud and long tradition and history that encompasses all three distinct activities. It has Ireland's largest stadium "Croke Park", with its

employment and supports to the community from the GAA. While sports facilities have been and are being provided there is a need to diversify the sports played/offered in the community. There are limited outdoor playing spaces for team sports which limits the ability to attract other sports and encourage female participation in sports, dance and the creative arts.

7. The Arts and its artistic history and activities in the area needs to be recognised and encouraged. The potential for heritage and tourism trails by creating a "whole city" approach to what our capital offers in this area – a literary tradition, history, architecture, the Port and its waterways, the remaining features of Georgian Dublin as well as its important role in the social and political struggles of the earlier quarter of the 20th Century. A considerable level of archival material exists locally to justify the creation of a permanent centralised exhibition space for this material of the history of the area.

8. The Community are clearly of the view that whatever plan emerges that it be delivered with clear and firm commitments, irrespective of what may occur economically in national budgetary terms. They do not want “false promises”, delayed timelines, or a pick and choose approach in the regeneration project. The only way to meet this commitment is by creating an implementation timeline with clearly established targets and funding and which apart from the relevant statutory agencies includes representation of the local community to contribute to its development and oversee its implementation.

In Summary:

A COMMUNITY RICH IN ASSETS WHICH IS NOT REACHING ITS POTENTIAL

Opportunities and Challenges to Delivering A Brighter Future

Arising from my extensive engagement and meetings with a broad coalition of interests in the area I am conscious primarily of a number of factors:

People Assets

1. Long time residents who live in the area and their families and who want and demand a better and safe environment in which to live, work and socialise.
2. A great sense of community loyalty which should be harnessed and protected and channelled toward clamping out the drug menace and associated criminal activity.
3. Organisations, projects and their personnel who have long experience in “on the ground” activity and who can mitigate and reverse some of the negative outcomes from the period of recession and before.
4. "Senior Citizens" who continue to live in and make an active contribution to the community.

“Place” Assets

5. DCC owns a considerable land bank in the area which is available for development, recreation, business and housing purposes.
6. New housing units have been completed in recent years and further significant developments are planned for the Docklands SDZ. The refurbishment of Ballybough House and St Mary’s Mansions would be a major improvement in public housing.
7. Nama's work underway in Dublin’s Docklands involves a major investment of €1.9 billion to fund the construction of the 2,000 residential units and 3.8 million square feet of commercial space (twice the size of Dublin’s IFSC). The developments will be carried out on 15 sites on both sides of the river Liffey. This represents an opportunity in terms of economic activity and physical works that might be used to leverage further investment to continue the modernisation past the SDZ through the older existing areas within the NEIC to encourage and provide new housing, business and local economic activity.

The NEIC is also the centre of financial services, commercial enterprise and some local and national government institutions. These worlds are, at times, steps from disadvantaged inner city communities but are not connected to them. In disadvantaged communities there is a real sense of a divided city, those who have and those who have not, and not just have wealth, but also access to power, goods and services."Community Co-op"

8. The existing DCC managed recreational centres including the swimming pool facilities with a further 12 Multi- Use Games Areas as well as Ireland's largest stadium in Croke Park are already significant assets but further developments can be part of a renewed landscape for the area.
9. It has reasonable transport interconnectivity with Luas and Dart stations with a LUAS hub planned in the North Docklands. A transport review of the NEIC area requires to be undertaken as part of the Implementation Plan.

Services Assets

10. The community has a wide network of social services and community projects positioned in various locations across the community. Specific projects include those aimed at mothers, early education, addiction / alcohol counselling and rehabilitation; family/individual counselling and post school/evening pupil/student activities and planned services for senior citizens. These projects do invaluable and difficult work and should be encouraged and funded based on a structured and evaluative approach on a multi-annual basis.
11. Schools, their Principals and teachers who do excellent work to maintain and sustain a wide ranging educational service for their pupils and students and to provide a positive learning environment amongst difficult physical and family circumstances.
12. A strong history and commitment to youth work across the area.
13. On the employment training and education areas, there exists a broad suite and sweep of social provision for families, single parents, unemployment and adult education initiatives, including community schemes, which are designed both to provide a safety net and create educational opportunities and intervention services where required.

Business and Employment Assets

14. In addition to the supports above, there is a thriving City Centre and Docklands/IFSC business community with the potential for business networks for SME's, self starters, local enterprise, job creation and local employment within the community.
15. A degree of Corporate Social Responsibility from businesses adjacent to the Community exists but the potential and impact of having such a wide range of small and large business enterprises is not currently sufficiently co-ordinated to make major impacts both on adult unemployment and school leaver employment opportunities. This needs to change by providing a new "Business Forum" for NEIC employment opportunities.

Challenges for the Community

16. The on-going level of drugs and violent crime in the community is an extraordinary burden on the community in terms of overall public safety and impacts on the residents' daily lives. Despite the Garda response and some of its successes in co-ordinating the response to violent crime, this remains a significant factor in trying to develop normal community life and to leverage the assets (both people and place) within the

community. Additional policing measures on a number of fronts are necessary to minimise the drug culture in the area, the levels of intimidation, including those around drug debts, and its appalling and attendant outcomes on the population in the area.

17. High deprivation levels, including low educational attainment coupled with additional factors such as high incidences of addiction and one parent families, present very clear challenges for parts of the community in terms of breaking the cycle of deprivation through securing long-term employment.
    Another challenge in this area relates to the limited scope of current legislation to expunge criminal records incurred by young people aged over 18 who are now older and want to move on with their lives and have difficulty securing employment with a permanent criminal record.
18. There is a multiplicity of State Departments and Agencies providing funding and expertise to address the issues presented in the area / community and to ensure a level of continuity of service provision and specific funded projects. However, this multiplicity means that some services are not integrated or well co-ordinated; the ad hoc growth of some services and the myriad of funding streams going into single services distracts from provision and does not give a clear line of sight to funding providers or clients as to what is on offer.
19. There still exist significant challenges and legal impediments for the Dublin City Council to effectively address good estate management including the use of tenancy warnings, repossessions and tenancy terminations and the weighting of soft local information on criminality in addition to Garda information for use in decisions on allocations and terminations.

> *There is also a need to be cognisant of the range and level of difficulties affecting disadvantaged communities; they are often facing multiple issues that are interacting, such as unemployment, educational disadvantage, poor quality accommodation, poor health status, addiction, social exclusion and marginalisation. It is the concentration and combination of the factors that has the most impact. "NICCC"*

Understanding NEIC and Learning from Lessons Elsewhere

The current initiative was precipitated by drug-related violent crime in the area and yet, there is no doubt, that the North East Inner City has a range of legacy problems which underlie or, at least allow crime and drug-related crime to be so prevalent in the area. While it has its own unique aspects, the area shares many characteristics with other disadvantaged areas.

At my request, the National Economic and Social Council gave a summary view about the characteristics of the people and the place which are helpful in terms of assessing both the issues, but also the need for an approach which is tailored to the local need.

NESC suggested as follows:

> "*Without understanding the reasons and processes of deprivation public interventions can easily miss the target. There are examples of interventions having a negative impact; housing becoming too expensive or removal of much needed cheaper housing. The literature highlights that detailed analysis of the area is required and this should include problems, as well as assets and energies and that very deprived areas suffer from multiple problems.*
>
> *Studies highlight the need to integrate place-based and person-based approaches to regeneration. Focusing too much on place-based factors can lead to a change in the population, pushing some groups out so that problems move to other areas. In relation to the inner city it is worth mentioning that Trutz Haase's (2009) report "*The Changing Face of Dublin's Inner City" *provides a very useful overview. It provided a socio-economic profile of the area.*
>
> *The report highlights key features of the area including the high proportion of lone parents, very high unemployment and low educational achievement in some parts of the area, especially the proportion going to 3rd level.*
>
> *It also highlights variability within the north inner city area, with an influx of young professionals especially around the IFSC. This is reflected in a variability in social class with professionals in some areas and a high proportion of unskilled and unclassified people in other areas. There is also an increasing number of non-Irish nationals in parts of the area, which has seen the growth of clusters of ethnic minorities. This is something that policy should seek to celebrate more.*
>
> *The North-inner city is also a diverse living place with local authority housing, (some estates primarily housing lone parents), private rented housing with a transient and non-Irish national population, and 'gated' apartment blocks rented by young professionals.*
>
> *In this sense both in terms of people and place there is a sense of very separate 'communities' within the area which tends to accentuate people's sense and awareness of inequality. The demographics and facts of the NEIC area challenge the idea that deprivation in an area will be addressed by just attracting more investment and more (middle and upper class) workers.*

A further concern of mine was to have some confidence that the plan would be implementable and implemented. The notion of "false dawns" I referred to earlier as well as tensions between different organisations within the area that they had done "better" or "worse" than others from previous initiatives. Within Ireland and elsewhere, there have been many attempts to take an area-based approach to "turning the curve" for families and communities. They have not all been successful.

Again, to support my thinking, I asked NESC's advice on what has worked and what are the factors which make things work. Based on a rapid review of the literature, NESC identified a number of critical factors necessary to ensure that any new plan is successful. In terms of process NESC emphasise the following:

Processes

Foster and support local buy-in: For re-generation and initiatives to work they need to have local 'buy in' (Urbact, 2015, Carley et al., 2000, Joseph Rowntree Foundation, 1998, Cadell et al., 2008, Rae et al., 2016).

Leadership: There is a real danger in the NEIC that lack of follow-through associated with previous initiatives may undermine new efforts. It is vital that a suitably qualified and experienced person is in charge of delivering on the long-term plan and that this person is perceived locally to have the authority to follow-through on the plan over the long-term. Leadership and champions for regeneration must also come from within the community and from government and the civil and public service. 'Project teams' or 'task forces' and 'brokers' with community standing to implement specific actions in a cross-agency way should be used.

Measuring What Works and What Doesn't and Why: In terms of understanding the area, successful re-generation also requires that changes in the area are monitored, and that what works, why, and how, is carefully documented. Targets which are monitored help the vision for the regeneration to have credibility and helps maintain stakeholder buy-in (Carley et al., 2000). The key is to ensure that stakeholders learn from what they are doing.

NESC conclude that while area-based policies can help, they cannot solve the problem alone. For that reason, they emphasise the need to ensure that any plan for the area is linked to Government policy and also that National, Regional, Dublin City Council operational policies and actions must be mutually supportive of any new plan for the North East Inner City area and that they co-operate on mutually achievable objectives.

In terms of the elements for successful programmes, NESC emphasise the need for a multi-lateral approach which builds on the existing community assets and builds capacity within the community:

Focus of Activities

Business as Partner: A key to success for regeneration is finding ways to ensure business partners are integrated into the approach (Carley et al., 2000). Their input is seen as valuable and their participation needs to be driven at the top-level.

Supporting Local Economic and Social Enterprise: Alongside business involvement an important issue is finding ways to support local economic and social enterprises, for example by including social clauses as part of public procurement; in facilitating access to finance, and in general helping the development of social enterprises.

Linking Investment and Local Job Creation: The research also draws attention to the fact that local jobs doesn't necessarily mean local employment—new jobs can be taken by residents of more prosperous areas (Rae et al., 2016). One way to respond to this has been to link employment and training opportunities for locals to all new investment—e.g. an enterprise zone where all tax incentives are conditional on provision of local jobs (Cadell et al., 2008). In addition, activities such as training, careers advice, mentoring and placement can help to increase the chances of locals being employed.

Re-imagine and re-double the effort to increase educational attainment: Here NESC comment on the low level of educational attainment and in particular poor progression to higher and further education. In the NEIC area, less than a quarter of school leavers are reported to progress to third level, and even this figure is likely to be significantly inflated by the inclusion of Belvedere College in the calculations. The research and work in NESC, in particular the ongoing work in a disadvantaged suburb of Dublin, highlights a number of key points:

- The importance of education for both skills required for employment as well as self—confidence.
- The need to ensure the relevance of courses and be explicit about the benefits of employment programmes and whether they are achieving intended outcomes.
- The need to strengthen career guidance as important in helping people develop sustainable career pathways.
- The need to expand and improve apprenticeship offerings—with a focus on making them accessible to disadvantaged populations e.g. pre-apprenticeships and wrap-around support, and also expanding apprenticeships to non-traditional sectors.
- The importance of investing in early years education and care, both pre-school and primary, which is age-appropriate and of good quality.
- The need for English language training for "third country nationals".

Finally, NESC emphasised to me - the importance of understanding and balancing the mix between the people aspects of any plan and the place aspects of any plan – which can be mutually reinforcing.

Making Services Work for People: NESC work on jobless households in a disadvantaged suburb of Dublin, as well as work for the OECD on addressing disadvantage in case study areas in Dublin and in Meath (*Weaving Together Policies for Social Inclusion in Ireland*, OECD Publishing, Paris. 2016), show capacities at local level have been severely diminished in recent years.

Developing Space and Using It: Studies show that as housing and physical environment improves, crime rates reduce. It is important to avoid the mistake that changes to physical space are the primary solution. Nonetheless, it is important to point out that measures such as the utilisation and improvement of space could be quite effective in improving perceptions and the 'look' of the area.

Balancing Place and People Based Interventions: Research distinguishes between place based (i.e. housing, crime and physical environment) and people based (i.e. health, education and community participation) interventions. A UK review of regeneration schemes found that rather than a focus on place or people based strategy that the key lesson is that if the explicit goal is to improve local economic performance then a healthier balance between place-based and people-based policies is needed.

Thus while the institutional landscape may appear extensive, in practice many services have been reduced. As a result citizens are experiencing significant problems. Responding to this requires a willingness to consider three issues

- the level of funding for services in the area;
- how services are coordinated and networked, the need for coordination between public/private and community sectors and also the scope to simplify and make structures less complicated; and
- the NEIC area as an opportunity to review and provide new ways of configuring and funding services, including how mainstream supports and services are established, maintained, configured and delivered.

I suggest that this requires a new kind of conversation which focuses on what needs to change to ensure service provision is effectively aligned and integrated.

Part 2 - Delivering Change

Key Areas for Priority Action

A. Tackling Crime and Drugs

B. Maximising educational / Training opportunities / Creating Local Employment Opportunities

C. Creating an integrated system of social services

D. Improving physical landscape

Vision

Making the North East Inner City a safe, attractive and vibrant living and working environment for the community and its families with opportunities for all to lead full lives

Emerging Principles & Priorities

Principles

Inclusive: a "whole community approach" to all the community areas with no preferences towards some.

A revised narrative for the areas: long term success is dependent on changing the current negative narrative in order to promote the area, its people and the various geographical communities with a focus on the assets on its doorstep that any town in Ireland would be proud of and which should be maximised for the future. It is steeped in history and cultural significance with strong historical links back to the foundation of the State. It is a prime location with huge development and economic potential, in close proximity to the IFSC, the new Docklands Development and four higher level colleges with many excellent schools and infrastructural potential.

Acknowledgement that "more of the same" is not the answer: the fact that significant parts of the community are struggling on an on-going basis with issues of crime, addiction and deprivation indicates that the previous area-based approaches have not effectively succeeded so something needs to change. There are no easy solutions - an innovative and radical approach is required which must involve change for both statutory and community service providers alike. Recognition of existing and future investment and if necessary realignment of services must be part of the solution

A Tailored Approach which is Evidence-informed: future funding and programmes must be grounded in sound analysis and evidence pointing to what works and what doesn't. Successful regeneration also requires that changes in the area are monitored and that stakeholders learn from what they are doing and are adaptable to change and new approaches.

Locally led and Community driven: without active involvement of residents in regeneration, policy measures are likely to fail. Community participation and buy-in – direct involvement of local people must be part of the engagement and engine for the changes. It is important to acknowledge and understand the tensions and disconnects in this area as well as to identify resistors to change or vested interests who value the status quo. Leadership needs to be built within the community involving the new/next generation.

Well-connected: success and longevity of focus requires a strong link to existing structures and policies. Any future work cannot stand alone – it must connect to existing national, regional and local policies and their respective structures. Existing local area structures need to be supported to "step-up" to the challenges and become the engine for solution. Equally the need for coordination between public/private and community sectors is important and as is the future scope to simplify and make structures less complicated. Finally, a key to success for regeneration is finding ways to ensure business partners are integrated into the approach.

Key Areas for Priority Action

Issues emerging from surveys in the Community refer to action being required on the following: Crime, Drugs, Education, Employment, Health, Youth Supports, Housing and Re-Imagining of Street Areas.

A. **Tackling Crime and Drugs**: Better and more visible policing with an emphasis on community policing needs to be key feature in the Plan. It must be "safe" to lead; it must be "safe" to live, work, learn and play in the community.

B. **Maximising Educational / Training Opportunities / Creating Local Employment Opportunities**: There needs to be significant enhancement of the linkages between education and employment opportunity for this current generation of school goers, young adults and the unemployed in local businesses and enterprises, particularly in the business / retail area of the inner city and in the Docklands Development - both in construction and business occupation stages.

C. **Creating an Integrated System of Social Services:** Social, educational and training services to address the real problems faced by families and their children need to be planned and delivered in a far more coordinated fashion. Services should be co-ordinated under a single plan which is in response to the particular needs and circumstances of different communities within the area.

D. **Improving the Physical Landscape:** The area has some of the broadest streets in the City with potential for refurbishment and revitalisation. Future regeneration needs to explore the potential within the area to renovate, make it liveable and bright with improved physical landscape; to eliminate waste, derelict sites and progress the refurbishment and replacement of the existing flat complexes.

Effective Implementation and Delivery

While the area has the benefit of a number of existing structures for policy, planning and provision within the community, there is no doubt that there is a need for a better aligned collective effort to ensure that the various initiatives required are developed and implemented in ways which are complementary to existing provision and to one another. In addition, there is a clear need to demonstrate and deliver real momentum for this area.

Key aspects of the recommendations which follow are to set the framework for further locally guided design and delivery of specific targeted activities. This needs proper resourcing to ensure that it can be delivered. It also needs to have an oversight and governance arrangement which implements and drives progress long after this Report has been published.

Pathways for Responding to Wide Range of Issues and Future Possible Projects

Approach of the Plan and Response to Individual Requests for Funding

What is clear from my work is that there is substantial investment already in this area. I acknowledge that funding in a number of services has diminished over recent years due to the economic downturn. However, in the context of the overall scale of state and state-funded investment, I do not believe that this is the only reason why services are not delivering for the community.

I have already emphasised how struck I have been by the commitment, passion and hard work of so many providers of services across the area – especially, although not exclusively in the community and voluntary sector. Nevertheless, it is the plethora of structures, services and niche service provision which is contributing to the burden on the community sector. The lack of predictability of funding and overhead involved in seeking and securing funds through a variety of schemes and programmes requires substantial effort. At the same time, the approach also creates the wrong incentives which drive providers away from alignment, complementarity, consolidation and sharing of knowledge and expertise.

In the submissions, about 30 separate organisations sought additional funding for their service. This Report cannot respond to each individual request for funding because I am not equipped to evaluate each service but also because this will not address the underlying problem of a series of diverse services being provided when there is a necessity for a comprehensive, cohesive plan to respond to the specific needs of the area.

I believe that every one of these services has value but I also believe that working together they can achieve far far more with more lasting positive outcomes. The NICCC submission

goes in that direction and along with the other submissions will feed into the Implementation Plan and its priorities.

For that reason, the focus of the Report has been to set a framework and a pathway where issues about funding can be addressed and resolved in a planned way, informed by the recipients of those services in the local community. Responses to perceived deficits must align with and leverage national policy change and identify acceleration of the implementation of existing policy, services and investment commitments.

The structure proposed will allow for these issues/projects/services to be addressed. While the Implementation Plan is being developed the current level of funding for existing services and staffing levels should at least be maintained by the funding Department/Agency for 2017. New funding/staffing levels will require to be agreed for 2018 and beyond as part of the totality of the Regeneration Plan, based on a new integrated approach. New funding may come on stream earlier than 2018 as part of the Implementation Plan.

Therefore this recommendation does not preclude alternative/additional funding in the interim period and I have highlighted within the Report the areas/specific services which have been funded as part of the initial response by Government to the challenges being experienced by the area. In a number of areas I have specifically highlighted the opportunities for the area to benefit from new initiatives about to be commenced and to highlight those services which need to be considered for mainstreaming based on robust evaluation of their impact.

Specific Project Funding

However in the course of my engagement with the local community there are some projects given their community wide service and their impact on various communities in the area which I believe merit particular support and staffing/funding assistance in the initial years of the Regeneration Plan.

- The Lourdes Daycare Centre - for Senior Citizens
- The Hope Project - for Drug Treatment/ Referrals
- The Oasis Centre - for Counselling Services
- The NCI Early Learning Initiative and associated programmes - for Early Years Interventions
- The National Family Support Network - supporting families affected by substance misuse and drug fatalities
- The Aftercare Recovery Group - for Drug/Alcohol Rehabilitation
- YPAR - coordinating services to children and young people at risk.

I do not wish to confine this list of services but I feel they are specifically deserving of further support.

Recommendations for a Three Year Action Plan 2017-2020

Introduction

While it is envisaged that the scale of the challenge to deliver real change for the community for the long-term will require sustained effort over a long period, I believe that clear ambition must be declared at the outset to deliver a number of immediate priority actions in the three year period to 2020. This puts a significant emphasis on the immediate next three years - from the current investment though to the ongoing provision of public/private funding for the enhanced services recommended.

Government and successive Governments must remain committed to the regeneration of the area for the minimum ten year period envisaged and to ensure positive change is embedded and sustained over the longer period. The Implementation Plan will need to be supported through a dedicated funding programme approved by Government. The immediate focus should be on the appointment of an Independent Executive Chair to put a team in place to establish the necessary structures to take forward these recommendations through an Implementation Plan. A first task will be to generate a detailed project plan to timeline and assign the necessary human and financial resources to deliver on the plan.

Further capital resource investment will be necessary for any major infrastructural projects which could be funded from the private sector and potential NAMA resources (as part of the DDA legacy commitments to the community) and from the major corporate businesses in the area.

Reporting on progress will be linked directly to the project plan. The early establishment of baseline data linked to specific outcomes will be vital to ensuring a continued focus on the priorities identified. It will also be critical to ensuring that there is a fair and honest appraisal of impact over time. Specific indicators of success should be identified and measured as part of that process.

A formal Review should take place after a three year period to reflect on the pace of delivery, the effectiveness of the structures and the barriers to implementation. This review will inform the development of a new Action Plan. There is undoubtedly a huge challenge for everyone involved which will require new approaches and changed working practices which will require time and effort for all involved. Equally the process must move forward and deliver in a timely fashion and cannot become a talking shop.

A. Policing and Crime Prevention / Tackling Crime and Drugs

The origins of this Report emerged from a Community which experienced in its midst multiple violent acts arising out of extreme criminal activity related to drugs. Many of these murders took place during the day among ordinary people going about their normal business. That this has impacted on residents' well-being and sense of security and safety is not surprising. The threat of violence is real and constant and the continuation of criminal activity and drug dealing is evident on a daily basis. Any regeneration of the community must start at the core which means tackling crime, intimidation and drugs and helping the community and people feel safe again. This means good and well-resourced policing.

The Policing service in Dublin's North East Inner City has traditionally been delivered from Store Street and Fitzgibbon Street Garda Stations. The closure of Fitzgibbon Street Garda Station in 2011 (due to health and safety concerns) coupled with diminishing Garda resources due to the economic downturn undoubtedly adversely affected the presence and visibility of Gardaí in the area. Given the significant reductions suffered between 2009 and 2016, the first step must be to increase the levels of Gardaí in the area.

As part of the North East Inner City Initiative announced by the Taoiseach on 20 July 2016, it was decided, following consultation with the Garda Commissioner, that Fitzgibbon Street Garda Station would be reopened. An Garda Síochána have been liaising closely with OPW to refine the brief of requirements for the building. The aim is to ensure that an appropriate range of community and specialist policing services can be provided to the local community from the building. A detailed estimate of costs and timelines will be available early in 2017.

The 'small areas' approach to Community Policy began in parts of the North Inner City in 2009 by identifying each small area of population and the streets within those areas. Based on demographics and other data, these form the basis for community policing areas for which individual Gardaí are given responsibility. In 2015 this approach was awarded the Q mark for quality management systems and awarded a European best practice certificate under the European Institute for Public Administration programme. This approach to policing has obvious potential to deliver improved outcomes at community and neighbourhood level if properly resourced and maintained.

The NESC Report *Quality and standards in human services in Ireland: policing and the search for continuous improvement* (2012) highlighted the potential of structured liaison between Gardaí and local communities and referred to the North Inner City Community Policing Forum. It remarked on the "*relatively successful model of engagement and citizens at local level" and a "greater culture of transparency*" between the community and the Gardaí involved at that time. This suggests that the existing Forum has strengths and has had some past success.

It is proposed that this Forum should continue to play a central role in improving the quality of policing in the area; and in particular in ensuring that community are engaged in the effort. This is to ensure that the community's concerns are taken on board and also that they work with the authorities in evaluating the impact and devising new solutions to the systemic problems which are leading to the high incidence of crime in the area.

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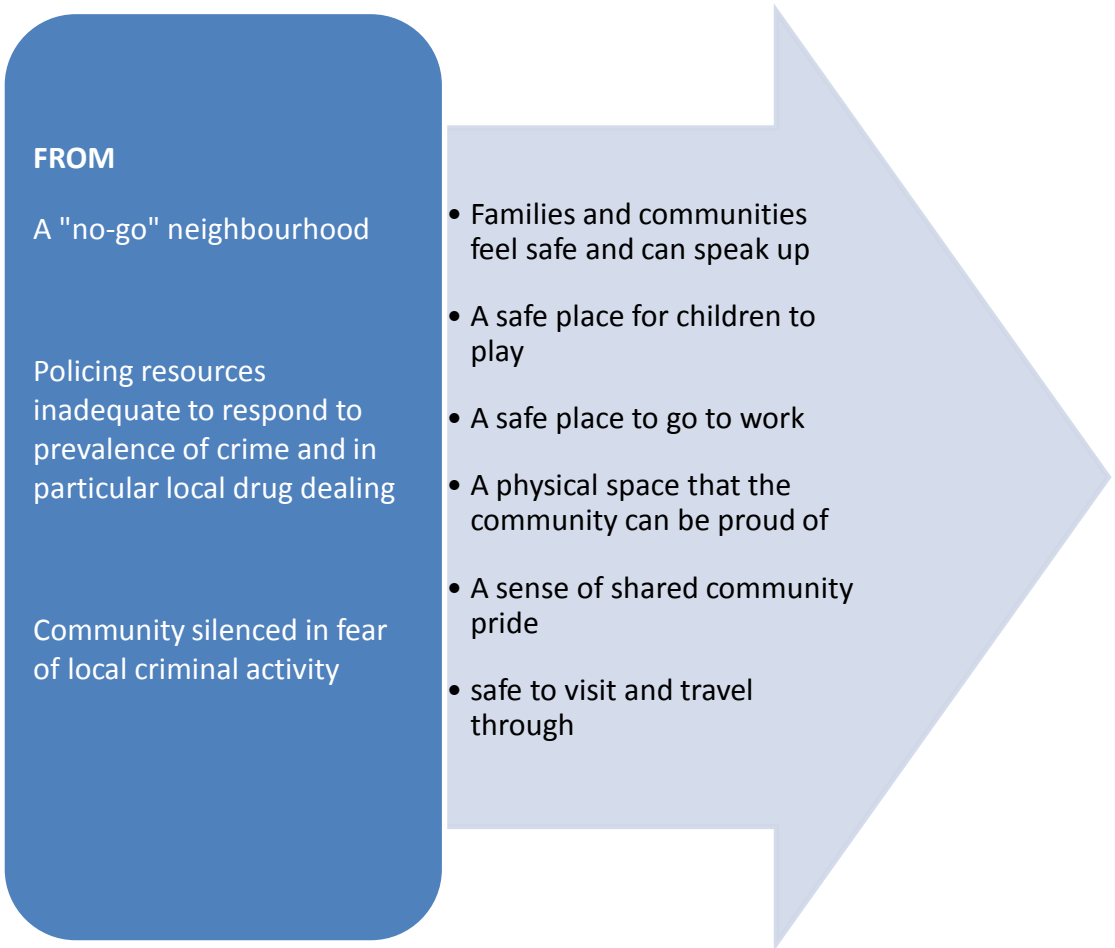
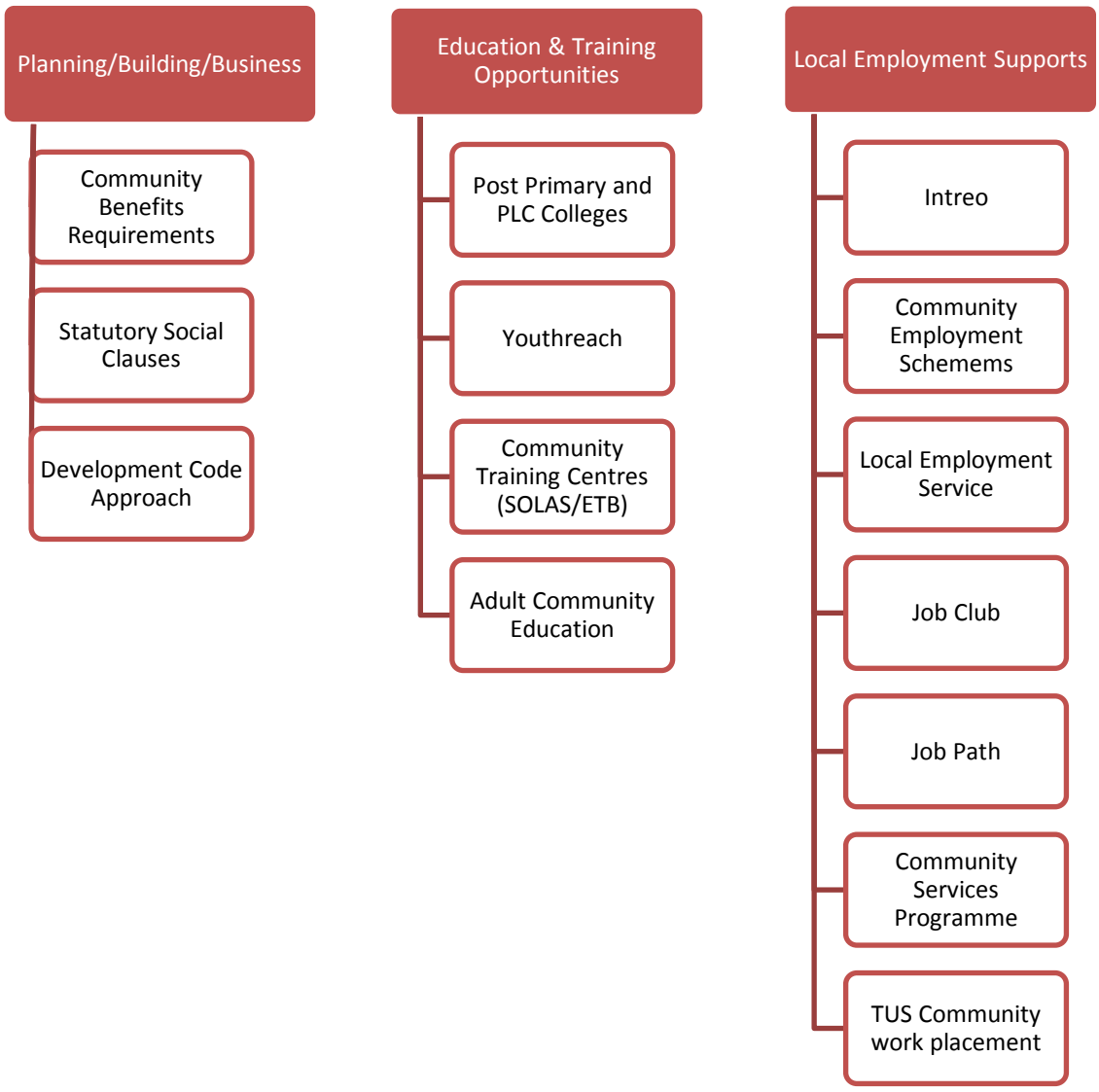


ACTION PLAN	Outcome/Output	Action
Tackling Crime and Drugs	1. A landmark physical centre for policing	• Re-furbish and re-open Fitzgibbon Street Garda Station making it a centre for community policing and local drug enforcement.
	2. A strengthened Garda presence	• Increase the levels of visible and consistent policing presence in the community with a strong focus on community policing to counter local intimidation and open drug dealing.
	3. A comprehensive “hub” with the range of community and specialist policing resource	• A fully resourced community policing model based on the "small areas" approach • A Central hub for the divisional drugs unit and this unit to be appropriately resourced. • A strengthened local asset profiling service feeding into CAB • A “community” space within the Station.
	4. Additional monitoring of the area	• Install CCTV in 4 locations identified as key gaps - Railway St/James Joyce St, Amiens Street/Buckingham St Lr, Seville Place/Oriel St, Sheriff St/Seville Place.
	5. Community engaged and empowered to participate in community activities and to contribute to a “safe” place.	• A discrete programme of events and activities to build cross-community cohesion, to tackle intimidation and make it safe for the community to speak out and to lead. • A public awareness campaign undertaken in the North East Inner City to promote the Drug Related Intimidation Reporting Programme.
	6. Youth capacity to inform and to lead in the community is developed	• Integration of targeted approaches to at-risk young people – consolidate and align targeted and universal services. This includes that alternative pathways from criminality and detention for young offenders must continue to be supported including Garda diversionary programmes and targeted youth interventions. • Develop and implement a specific youth leadership programme to provide young people’s voice in all of the local community processes.
	7. A consolidated & tailored local plan	• A new community policing plan will be developed. The Plan will build on the 'small areas' model which will reflect the needs identified by the community and its residents and encompass the elements above. • The Plan will identify further specific targets and outputs.
	8. A strong community process to inform the plan, its progress and evaluate its impact.	• The Community Policing Forum working with a refreshed community engagement model. The Community Policing Forum will provide the community with an opportunity to influence the Plan and to receive regular updates reporting for the community against the Plan, its objectives and outcomes. • Dedicated full-time personnel to support the process.

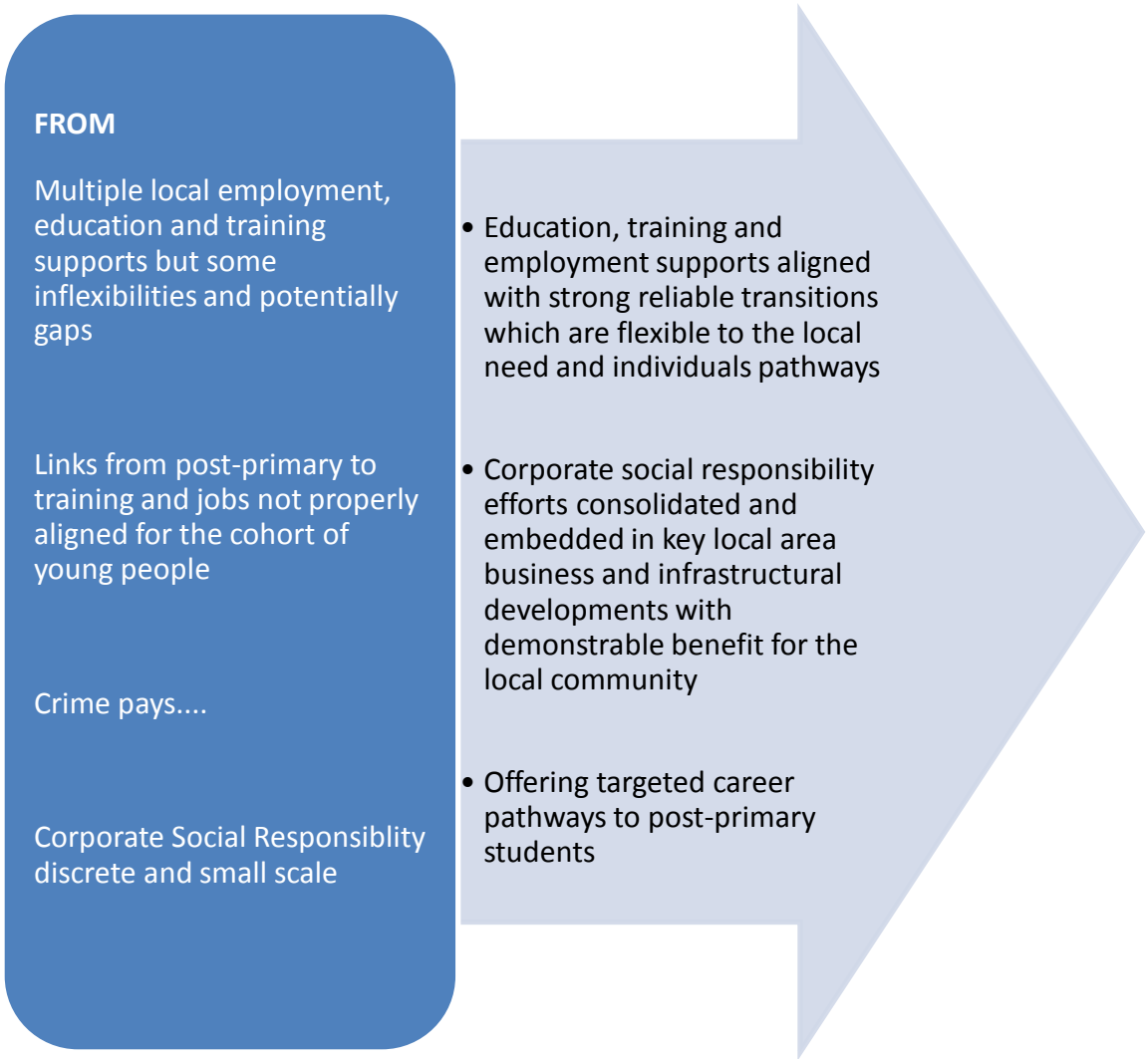
B. Maximising Educational / Training Opportunities / Creating Local Employment Opportunities

As is evident, the area has significant assets on which to build in terms of education, training and job creation. However, the area is currently a very "crowded platform" with many different activities, schemes and programmes. It appears that this is leading to a degree of fragmentation. Greater co-ordination, networking and information sharing is necessary.

There are a range of training and education activities provided by a wide range of actors and funders. There are some employer linkages but these are small in scale and niche. It is well established that integrating services and providing better co-ordination in areas such as this has more traction and is more feasible than additional financial resources. However, it is also the case there is a need for more local flexibility in order to allow for adjustments to programmes as might be needed. Three discrete strands of activity with multiple funders can be identified but the links between them and, more importantly, to the community and especially young people are poorly mapped and transitions are not adequate:



Aligning efforts and developing new strategic alliances and connections are critical to the plan if it is to deliver employment opportunities for the local community in ways that attract and retain young people, allow parents to provide economic security and opportunity to their children, and to break cycles of unemployment and disadvantage across the community .



ACTION PLAN	Outcome/Output	Action
Maximising educational / training opportunities / Creating Local Employment Opportunities	1. A NEIC Learning and Employment Forum in place to connect all education, training and jobs initiatives	Forum established to provide a single platform to streamline and align education, training and employment activation efforts with the support of the local statutory, non-statutory agencies and business communities.
	2. Training and Education providers and funders ensure services are complementary and comprehensive	Existing providers of training and education to develop a single accessible map of available services being provided and the course and places available locally. Existing third level access programmes provided by TCD, NCI, DCU and DIT and related initiatives should be aligned for the area - this could be achieved through a consortium approach.
	3. Local employers network engage with a NEIC Learning and Employment Forum	Establish a network for local business and employers to come together - to include businesses in the community and city centre, IFSC, Dublin Docklands and multi-nationals. Provide a skills need assessment for the next 3-5 years to inform training requirements and job opportunities in the area over the period.
	4. DSP Local Office/INTREO Service & strong LES presence in the area	Through the Learning and Employment Forum, strengthen links with the business community and examine the scope for greater flexibility. This is necessary in order to overcome ongoing barriers including complexity of schemes and eligibility for them. Assigning a dedicated Case Officer to liaise with other organisations and community groups in the NEIC to ensure that individuals have access to the best supports and to identify any shortfalls in service provision in the area. The language needs of those with poor English proficiency will be specifically considered in education and training programmes.

		Social Enterprise should be further developed in the area through continued supports and efforts to meet the growing need for enterprise space / starter units in the area.
	5. Tailored career guidance linking local young people with local training and related job opportunities	Develop an enhanced career guidance service across post-primary and PLC provision in the area building on, and tied into a review of, the existing school based career guidance service and outcome of CDETB Review. Such a service should operate independently of the schools to deliver supports for young people over the age of 15 targeting summer/transition year work placements to specific job/apprenticeship offers across local businesses and major companies building on the existing Schools Business Partnership.
	6. A community benefits clause for local developers/ employers ensures many labour requirements being met from within the community.	Devise a framework for community benefits for the area including options such as (i) Making planning permission dependent on apprenticeship and internship positions for local residents (ii) Include requirement for a community benefits plan in public service building contracts (iii) Seek business employers agreement to a NEIC employment charter, benchmark local employment and set challenging targets to increase employment of local people.

C. Creating an Integrated System of Social Services

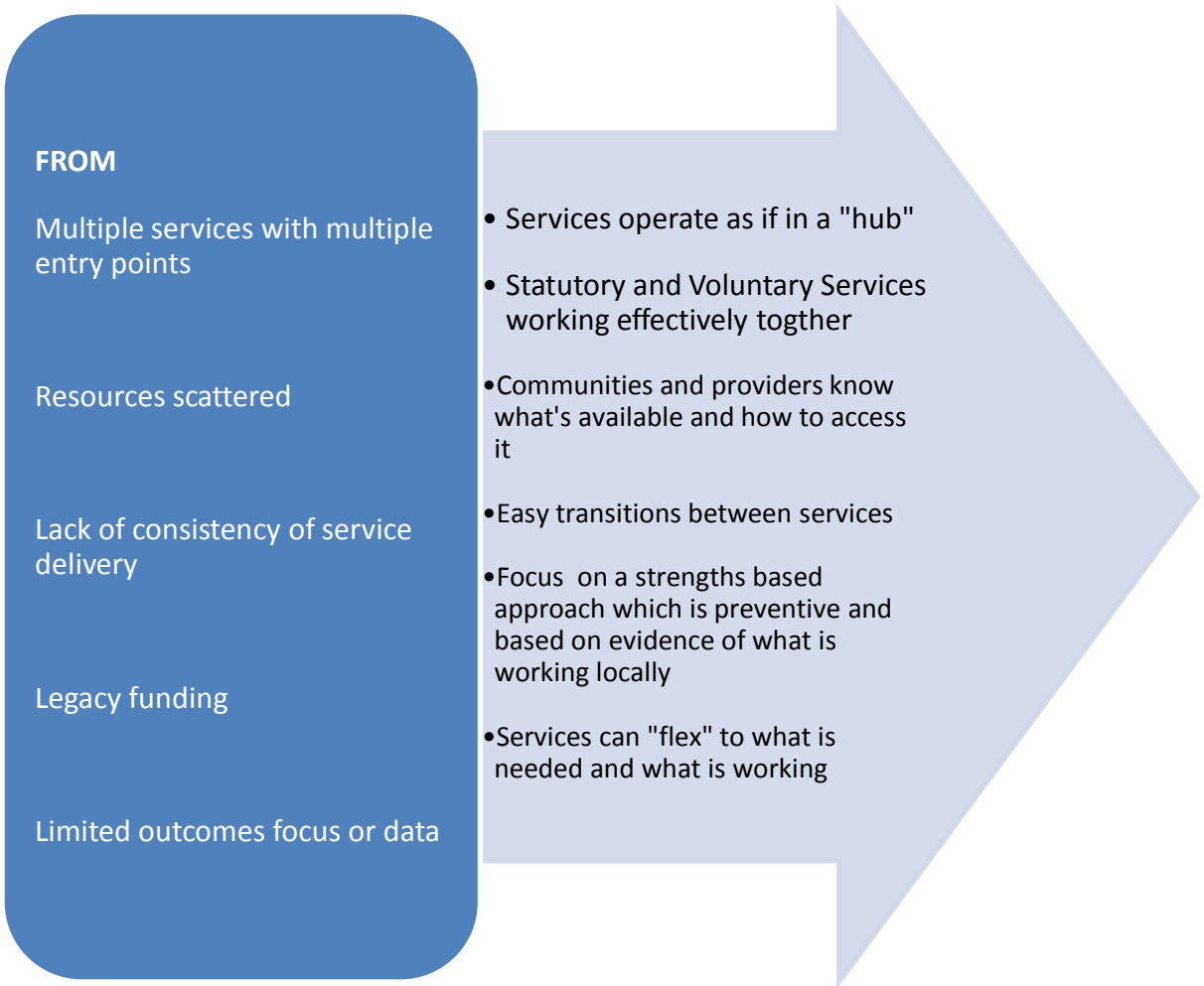
The OECD report *Weaving Together Policies for Social Inclusion in Ireland* (2016) recognises that part of the jigsaw in improving social inclusion relates not only to measures in respect of the economic measures. It emphasises the need to support families and communities to prepare them to "*avail of opportunities to improve their livelihoods*". Based on their research in examining vulnerable communities, they state that "*these supports are required in the areas of health, especially mental health, through personal and community development and through addressing issues associated with illegal drugs..... for many of the families .... these issues need to be dealt with before they are in a position to take up education and training opportunities or to move to employment*."

There is also a broad cohort of largely State funded community based projects providing a wide range of services including childcare, health and education and employment training, community engagement.

- There is a strong cohort of pre-school childcare and excellent primary and post-primary schools which do fantastic work with a strong tradition of retaining students to leaving certificate. The important role of education from early years through mainstream schools cannot be overstated in terms of providing stable and secure environments for learning, social development and fostering life ambitions.
- The challenges that arise where addiction, drug dealing, criminality, intimidation can interfere and put children at risk of not reaching their potential. These are when additional supports are required. This ranges from pre-birth parent readiness, to infant-care, pre-school support, right through primary and post-primary to career guidance. Many of the schools in the area have DEIS status giving a improved package of supports directly to schools but also supported by the Tusla run Education Welfare Service, Home School Community Liaison Scheme and School Completion Programme. Other important supports to school children include after school homework clubs, breakfast clubs and projects funded under the school meals programme.
- These latter services are further augmented by targeted youth services with an education focus provided and in some cases delivered alongside other youth work activities. Youth Service provided by DCYA programmes amounts to around €3 million per annum which are further augmented by local Gardaí and Probation youth oriented provision and DCC community development initiatives. However, there is an emerging need in recreation services for children under 10. There is may be some overlap with afterschool services such as homework clubs and childcare services and with structured activities provided in the arts and sports sectors.

- The community has a range of health services including about 30 GP services in the Dublin 1 area. The existing services will be complemented and consolidated by the completion of the new Primary Health Care Centre under construction in Summerhill.

Tusla, the Child and Family Agency have, through the local Children and Young People's Services Committee, examined the needs and services available in the area of Dublin North City. Their work emphasises (i) the need to work on a preventive basis with families by providing general programmes in ways and places which are accessible, convenient and co-located; (ii) the fact that most families can and do cope but there are families who are under pressure for different reasons and at different times – services need to respond to that; and (iii) that to support families, they need to support parents to deal with their own challenges relating to mental health, alcohol and drug misuse in a connected and holistic way. Working well, a cohesive and flexible interagency plan and operating model is required to meet the complexity of requirements and to be responsive to the changing needs of parents, children and young people in the area.



Action Plan	Outcome/Output	Action
Creating an integrated system of social services	1. CYSPC working with the local LCDC and health agencies put in place a discrete plan for child and family social services in the area.	Tusla North Dublin will explore with partners the development of a specialist hub for highly vulnerable families to include • Family Centres • Intensive Therapeutic and Practical Home Support • Addiction and Mental Health Parenting Supporting • Other co-parenting supports This "hub" to be developed as a test site for the roll-out of similar hubs elsewhere on a small area basis as part of Tusla's Family Support Strategy. Partners will include local community providers, the NCI Early Learning Initiative, local HSE and local schools.
	2. Local Early Years Provision has fully implemented the Siolta & Aistear Frameworks	All local providers should be supported to fully take up the intensive supports and mentoring available under the Better Start programme and to particulate in Siolta/Asitear Accreditation. Specific transition supports between local early years' providers and local primary schools should be developed and implemented on a consistent basis within the community.
	3. Local Schools benefit from collaboration, joint supports towards a joined up approach to teaching and learning across service providers within the community.	Local Principals networks to examine scope for a collaborative approach together with other local services to "community-wide" education initiatives and teaching/service resources to support the development of a North Central City community of schools, children, young people and families and to map and manage transitions between primary and post-primary education in the area. Local funders and commissioners will examine the potential to mainstream existing pilot programmes which have been proven to meet community need. Specifically local schools should be considered as locations to pilot innovations under the Schools Excellence Fund. Pilot a new model of in-school speech and language therapy involving collaboration between parents, schools and primary care services.

	4. Department of Children and Youth Affairs (incorporating IYJS) and Department of Education and Skills have an integrated approach to youth related services to ensure an appropriate spread of the right services creating synergies and avoiding overlap and unintended competition	Departments will complete a mapping of current service provision under various youth programmes, Tusla education welfare and school completion programmes; Garda youth diversion and youth probation programmes with a view to maximising alignment, exploring opportunities for greater synergies; and giving clarity to target cohorts; intended outcomes; emerging gaps in provision. Providers will come together to provide a single youth leadership development programme for the community to work with other structures set out in this plan and to represent youth voice and interests locally.
	5. Increased opportunities in Sports & Arts	The newly appointed Sports Development Officer should initiate a development programme for the use of sports facilities (already underway) and sports activity with the area in order to facilitate existing and new sports activities. A specific Sports Partnership arrangement among the various sporting organisations under new structures should be considered in order to develop additional sports activities in the area. A full audit of sports facilities is currently being undertaken by the Sport and Wellbeing Partnership (DCC). A number of Arts/Heritage projects are underway in the community and should be assisted and coordinated under agreed arrangements with individual cultural bodies and DCC. Apart from the provision of a central facility for the retention and exhibition of archival material, consideration should be given to a whole community based Arts Festival with the support of the Arts Council and the “Living City” initiative. A new Tourist Trail should be developed in association with the DDA, Tourism Ireland and Waterways Ireland.

	6. Improved Social Cohesion	DCC will continue to develop and plan, in collaboration with the local community a series of annual events to bring the community together and to celebrate community diversity and to showcase community assets. Restorative practice supported across the community in line with the existing Early Learning Initiative under the ABC Programme Local structures will work to include representatives of new communities in the area and community support funds will be sought under the relevant programmes to promote the integration and inclusion of migrants. In line with national policy, local services will give specific consideration to ensuring language appropriate formats and signage are in place.
	7. Services collaborate under a "what works" approach	In conjunction with the LCDC/CYPSC, will support the development of a "what works here" hub and virtual information centre focused on the outcomes and services relevant to local community and local service provision
	8. Drug treatment and rehabilitation and related health services are well integrated and responsive to the local area need	Many issues evident in the area relating to addiction services and tackling drugs problem that should be addressed in the new National Drugs Strategy including access to detox beds, the effectiveness of long-term methadone maintenance, supporting families affected by addiction and alternatives to criminal sanctions for low level drug offences. It is recognised that some very specific local needs relating to the drugs problem will need to be targeted and addressed in the context of a local implementation plan. The mainstream health and mental health services is also important for the wider community and for those with specific health and wellbeing needs. There needs to be an appropriate forum at local level to discuss and advance local health service needs and issues as part of the LCDC Planning.

INTERIM MEASURES AREADY BEING IMPLEMENTED	
€500,000 funding for Community Projects (all completed or in progress except marked*which is in planning)	• New Halloween event funded in 2016 for the three communities of Ballybough, Sheriff St. and Sean McDermott St. • Reader in Residence – Charleville Mall Library - 9 month programme underway involving 11 local schools. • Coderdojo Digital Skills Project -– 1 year programme underway giving children an understanding of programming languages. • An Cosán - SHaRE Reading Programme • Trinity Third Level Access Programme • Arts Grants • Mens Shed Project - North East Central Community Garden* • Home from Home Learning Spaces (National College of Ireland Early Learning Initiative) • Play area for Community Crèche (North Wall CDP Sheriff St.) • Junior Leadership Programme (Lourdes Youth & Community Services) • Research on hidden disadvantage in NEIC private rented sector (ICON) • Kitchen equipment for cookery classes at Hardwicke Street Flats Community Centre (Daughters of Charity Community Services)
€165,000 for Children's Initiatives	• Brighter Futures Restorative Practice projects undertaken across two age groups involving young people in the area culminating in presentations to Government Ministers and Officials and local services 14 Dec 2016 • Tulsa training for teachers to implement a number of evidence based intervention programmes proven to generate positive outcomes
Education Initiatives	• CDETB finalising its new integrated service plan following local engagement • NEPS rolling out the Incredible Years Teacher Programme and the Friends for Life programme to all local schools
Redevelopment of Rutland Street school	• DCC is committed to the development of a new Community Centre/Hub at the disused former school premises at Rutland Street and is working quickly to establish costs and to put a funding package in place

€100,000 additional funding allocated across 15 drug related projects in the area	After School Education & Support Programme €6,000 HIV Ireland €5,000 The Snug €8,000 Chrysalis €8,000 UISCE €5,000 Deora €8,000 SAOL Project €8,000 Crinan Youth Project Evening Service €8,000 HOPE €8,000 NEIC Policing Forum €8,000 ACRG (Aftercare Recovery Group) €8,000 CASPr €6,000 BeLong €5,000 Gateway €3,000 AOSOG €6,000
Package of €1.04m investment, in sports facilities and projects in the area (all completed or in progress except marked*which is due to commence shortly)	• Resurfacing of existing pitches at Sheriff YC and Larkin Community College* • New multi-use games pitch at Dublin City Council Recreation Centre in Sheriff Street • Acquisition and refurbishment of premises in Ballybough for boxing. • New Sport Coaching Programmes with the GAA and FAI • Capital grant for O'Connell Boys GAA Club • Sports equipment and small grants to 39 local sports clubs and groups • DCC appointed full time Sports Development Officer in September 2016
Arts Project	• €55,000 allocated to fund the Firestation Arts project to provide artists' workshop spaces and day studios - on hold pending an alternative site.

D. Physical Infrastructure – "Refurbishment Plan"

This is an area of significant "place" assets but one of significant contrasts. Alongside state-of-the art architectural showpieces we have unsightly housing, derelict buildings, waste / litter and unsightly building facades. The whole physical urban infrastructure and street landscape in the NEIC needs to be improved, building on the already existing road / street layout and the existing improvements made in the area around housing, education and social facilities.

The major streets and thoroughfares through the area require a significant degree of maintenance and upkeep - from the installation of better lighting, to street paving, to the planting of trees. This refurbishment must continue over the next number of years on an area by area basis under a comprehensive refurbishment plan that encompasses the entire area.

Specific measures to be delivered under the new national Housing Action Plan will also be helpful. The Minister of State for Housing and Urban Renewal is to oversee a number of initiatives including an expanded and enhanced Living City Initiative and the establishment of a national register of derelict sites, as a complement to the new vacant site levy, to bring vacant and under-utilised sites into beneficial use for housing and urban regeneration purposes.

All of these must be combined with actions to improve Garda community presence in the area to ensure the safety of all visitors and residents of both public and private housing throughout the area.

I enclose a number of photo montages at Appendix 3 which illustrate the changes which could be made in some key streets in the community. These could be duplicated throughout other streets in the area.

The overarching objective of the plan is to clearly link the "place" aspects with the "people" aspects. If we show confidence by investing in the physical infrastructure, we have the opportunity to deliver a better yield from the assets the area has; as well as to foster the support and contribution of the local community in contributing to a pride in place and also to the City of Dublin as a whole.

FROM
From a "run-down" and neglected area
• Modern and attractive environment
• Attractive for people to walk through
• No visible signs of dereliction
• Good street lighting, trees and greenery
• Community proud to own it
• Good social housing mix
• Part of "Our Capital"

Plan	Outcome/Output	Action
Improving the physical landscape	1. Leave the stigma of the past behind while retaining the proud history	• Rebrand the name of the area without losing its identity to be decided by the Community e.g. Dublin's North Central City Quarter • New safe pedestrian cycle and transport routes need to be incorporated within the area to increase usage of the streetscape, access to the area apart from drive through traffic and to encourage business to locate throughout the whole of North East Inner City. • Develop initiatives with resident associations and community organisations to take an active role in owning and maintaining these improved areas in cooperation with the DCC.
	2. Visibly pleasant streets and environment	• Transform the look and feel of the area by complete immediate and urgent physical improvement works as identified and scheduled by DCC.
	3. Vibrant and living area with new investment	• DCC to develop a comprehensive refurbishment plan for the area in consultation with local residents, community and business sector to include viable funding mechanism in line with the LCDC Planning processes. • Explore novel ways of funding such a refurbishment plan, for example, through (i) a levy on unused derelict sites in the area, (ii) a dedicated contribution from all related NAMA transactions in the North / East Docklands and a specific contribution from the IFSC related businesses including the Central Bank. E.G. a combined contribution of €10 million over one to three years to a "Renewal Fund" would regenerate and revitalise the urban landscape of the area.
	4. No visible signs of dereliction	• Target derelict sites as part of the refurbishment plan • Provide legal basis for use of CCTV and targeting of homeowners to tackle illegal dumping.
	5. Good social housing mix	• DCC to lead on the development of a sustainable communities plan to address the high proportion of social supported tenants through public and private accommodation.
	6. Developing Area with new businesses	• Encourage and incentivise the development of new residential and business units extending into the area beyond the Docklands to areas encompassing Gardiner Street, Mountjoy Square, Ballybough.

INTERIM MEASURES ALREADY BEING IMPLEMENTED

Work is already underway by Dublin City Council with additional funding €500,000 provided under the 2016 short-term measures further supplemented with an additional allocation of €2.7m provided by the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government in November 2016.

Roads Re-surfacing (parts of James Joyce St. and Railway St.)	Completed
Portland Place Park (Phase 1)	Completed
Painting of public lighting lampposts	Completed
Ballybough Community Youth & Fitness Centre (Xmas Lights)	Completed
Ballybough House, Courtney Place and environs	Substantially completed
Public Lighting Upgrade	Substantially completed
The LAB (City Arts Office) internal improvement works	Substantially completed
Sean Mac Dermott St. Swimming Pool (Internal refurbishment)	Substantially completed
Mountjoy Sq. Railings restoration and improvements	Substantially completed
Public Domain Improvements including roads re-surfacing	In progress
Vacant sites Hoardings	In progress
Sheriff St. Recreation Centre Equipment upgrade	In progress
Painting of Sheriff St. Upper Lifting Bridge	Technical works underway
Dorset St. Fire Station (In Community Use) - structural works	In planning phase
Lourdes Daycare Centre	Funding awarded
Sofia Housing Association (Internal Alterations & External Works)	On hold, possible planning reqmt

Bigger Potential Infrastructural Projects

There a number of iconic buildings in the area which offer significant potential for future development for community use or mixed business/community enterprise. While recognising the challenges regarding ownership and funding, it is, in my view, worth exploring these in more detail. The future development and use of these buildings would be a visible sign and legacy of this initiative.

Details of these initiatives under consideration and possible future opportunities are detailed in Appendix 2. They include:-

- Mountjoy Square and Mountjoy Square Park
- Aldborough House, Portland Row (in private ownership)
- Convent Lands - Sean McDermott Street
- Rutland St Lower
- Derelict Site adjacent to Belvedere Youth Club

Implementation & Monitoring

Effective Implementation and Delivery Structures

Even the best plans will fail if there is not a clear set of processes and structures for driving and demanding delivery over time and providing oversight. In addition, complex community change requires a holistic approach with well-integrated arrangements which maximise the impact of efforts, minimise duplication and provide for evaluation of outcomes.

It is worth reflecting on the existing structures in place and which are intended to support local planning and delivery at local authority level. Connecting with these existing structures will be critical to ensure that the implementation has consistent and ongoing support from the more discrete and sectoral specific structural arrangements.

To ensure that this plan is implemented and continues to evolve a robust but tightly connected set of structures and processes are set out here.

The approach I am proposing is intended to:

- Make the most of the existing community infrastructure – both statutory and non-statutory;
- Refresh structures and processes which were effective in the past but may have reached stasis and would benefit from a renewed focus and connectivity;
- Support an inclusive community engagement model which connects with **everyone** in the community and assists in developing new approaches where necessary.

The Board and Project Office structures set out below are designed to ensure direct linkages between the dedicated implementation and the broader structure and planning processes and will have a specific role in ensuring that the implementation of the plan informs, and is informed by the work of these other groups. Representatives of these groups will be directly involved in the Local Programme Working Group to ensure tight synergy between all of the work of each of these partner organisations/structures.

North East Inner City Programme Implementation Board

Led by an independent Executive chair, the Board will comprise the key Government departments and agencies who have statutory responsibility for delivery of key services and accountability for the expenditure of funds related to priority areas. The Executive Chair will be accountable, on behalf of the Board to the Ministerial Taskforce. The Board will be accountable for the delivery of the project plan and for the management of ring-fenced funds available for implementation. The Board's primary focus will be to oversee the implementation of the Plan and report to the Ministerial Taskforce.

- The Board will oversee the development of a detailed project plan, programme implementation and report progress on implementation.
- The Board will be charged with promoting a co-ordinated and integrated approach to local planning linked to national policies and programmes; and to agree and support tailored approaches for the implementation of programmes within the community.
- It will have a focus on ensuring parent organisations and wider stakeholder groupings are supporting delivery for the North East Inner City and ensure the necessary mandate and authority is devolved to local providers.

This small group of no more than 10 will be supported by the Programme Office.

Membership:

- Independent Executive Chair [appointed by the Ministerial Taskforce]
- Dublin City Council
- An Garda Síochána
- Department of Social Protection
- Department of Education
- Department of Children and Youth Affairs
- Department of the Taoiseach
- An individual from the community
- A representative of the Business / Employer network

North East Inner City Programme Office

A Programme office will be established within Dublin City Council and located in the area. The Programme Office will be headed by the independent Executive Chair of the Board:

- The Office will host the programme team including co-location of key team members employed outside of DCC with a role and expertise to drive progress on the priority areas for action
- As a first task, it will develop a project implementation plan in respect of the Actions and identify lead sponsors and partners in the delivery of individual Actions. The processes and timeline for the advancement of each Action will be mapped and agreed as part of the implementation plan.
- Its primary focus will be to drive the implementation of the plan, report to the Board on progress and escalating areas of risk.
- A specific strand of activity will be supporting the community and providers fora (referred to below) to ensure maximum participation and proactive engagement of the community in the detailed design and implementation of the plan.
- The Office will also actively support other actors in delivering on their elements of the plan.
- the Office will be accountable to the Board and the Ministerial Taskforce in respect of its functions.

The Programme Office will also support the necessary partnership and co-ordination arrangements across existing structures to ensure that the plan is firmly anchored in other planning and delivery processes for the area.

As regards the functions of DCC, the Programme Office will also work with the DoHCLG and other relevant Departments/Agencies and the OPW on the assessment and approval of the key physical infrastructure plans for the area in this plan. It will outline key dates for implementation of physical infrastructure programmes.

While most of the staff comprise of staff in existing services, there will be a requirement for a small number of newly established/seconded specialist posts and administrative and clerical support staff. These newly appointed staff should be co-located with existing DCC staff in dedicated offices in the area.

Staffing:

- DCC North Inner City Assistant Area Manager
- DCC North Inner City Projects Manager
- DCC North Inner City Sports Development Officer
- Local Employment Specialist
- Career Guidance Link Worker
- Project planning and community participation expertise

A New Community Consultative Forum

Community Involvement is key to the success of the Plan. The Programme Office will have a specific role in creating a new space for community participation and involvement to inform aspects of the plan yet to be detailed and feedback on implementation and delivery of the plan on the ground. The Consultative Forum will be co-ordinated by the Programme Office who will support facilitated meetings involving Q&A sessions with members of the Project Implementation Board

These Town Hall type meetings would be open to all voices within the community and could be "neighbourhood" based in the initial stages or involve "themed" discussions linked to the development and implementation of the plan.

The Forum could be used as a means of informing community about the local services and of starting conversations about how services could be more accessible, complementary and creating local ownership and connections to local projects and measures.

Membership: Open Invitation

A Local Programme Working Group

This Group is to work in tandem with the Programme Implementation Board. It will be chaired by the Independent Chair of the Programme Implementation Board comprising representatives of the statutory agencies, local community and voluntary providers, political representatives, local business and representatives from the Community Consultative Forum.

This will provide a forum for exchange of information and views to and from all of the elements within the local community. Using workshops this will also provide an opportunity to discuss and devise input to planning of actions and proposals as the plan evolves and to provide feedback to statutory agencies and the programme office on the needs and issues of concern as regards the implementation of the Plan. Ideally it should meet on a quarterly basis.

There is learning from previous experiences to inform good models of community engagement including in the locality with the Dublin Docklands. A recent study undertaken by Emer Costello includes a number of recommendations to achieve balanced and social regeneration in the area including the development of a stakeholder register, greater involvement of the community in the decisions that affect them, importance of a strong chairperson to lead this work, the scope for some projects to be undertaken as joint-ventures between statutory and community and the use of different methods for community engagement such as social media.

Membership:

- Independent Chair of the Programme Management Board (Chair)
- 6 Community Consultative Forum Reps (young person, senior citizen and person of working age & new communities' representatives)
- 6 Community Coalition Reps (to include political representation)
- 3 local business and employer representatives
- Dublin City Council/LCDC/CDETB
- Children and Young Peoples Services Committee
- An Garda Síochána
- Programme Office Staff
- Relevant Government Departments

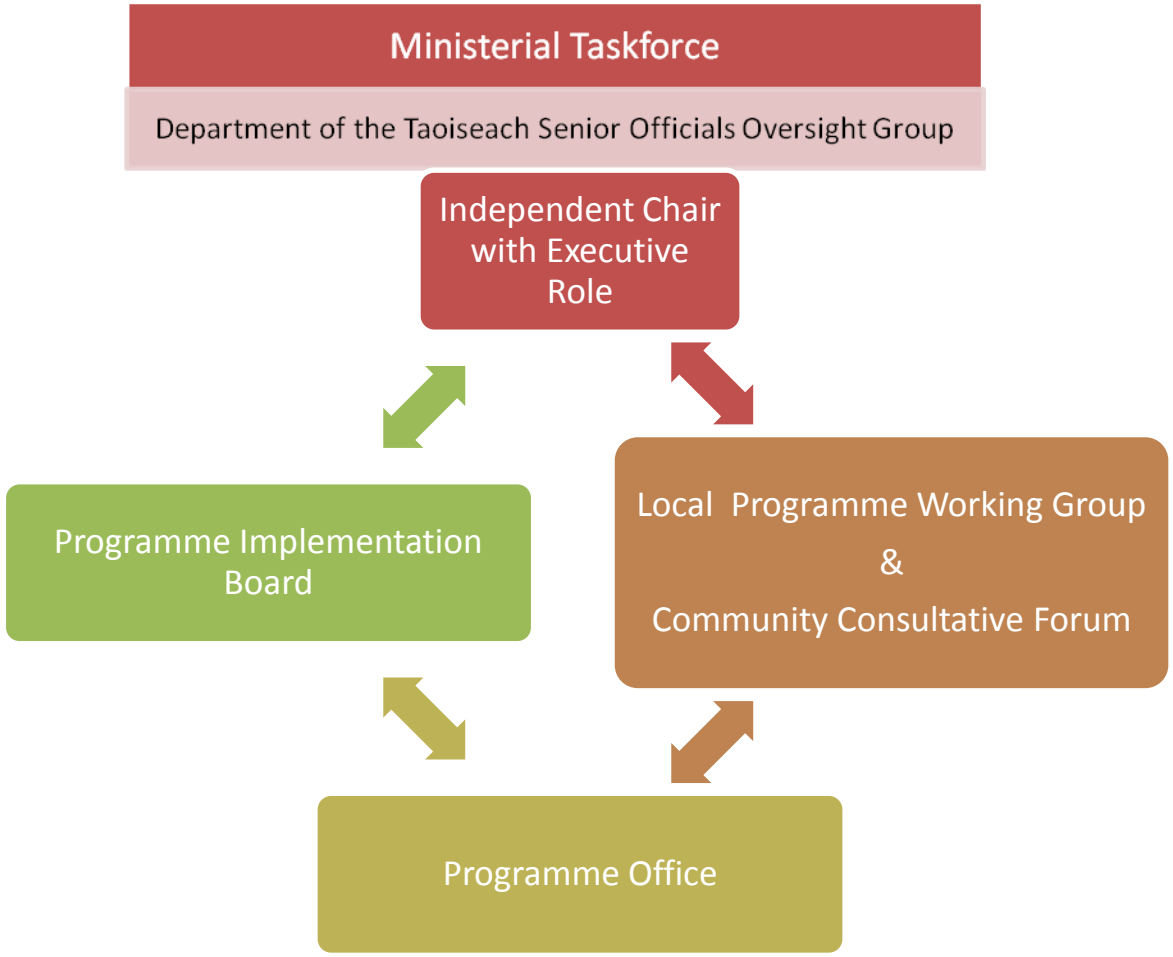
Monitoring and Reporting

The Implementation Planning arrangements will include opportunities for the Community Consultative Forum and the Local Programme Working Group to engage further with the more detailed planning process and to devise and agree reporting arrangements on the Plan. This will include formal written reports but also an ongoing series of regular information sharing sessions with both fora.

In addition, the Programme Office will report to the Programme Implementation Board every three months on the Actions undertaken and their progress. In turn, the Programme Implementation Board will prepare an Annual Report for the Ministerial Taskforce. To support the Ministerial Taskforce an oversight group will be established chaired by the Secretary General of the Department of the Taoiseach.

In addition, in the preparatory stages, the Programme Implementation Board will report on the development of the overall project plan; detailed sectoral plans; and the establishment of the key structures and process on at least a quarterly basis and as required in the first year of the programme.

Figure 1 Governance Structures



Programme Implementation Board will include:

Community

Dublin City Council

An Garda Síochána

Government Departments

Business

Executive Chair Role will include:

- Chair of the Programme Implementation Board
- Chair of the Local Programme Working Group and Chair of the Community Consultative Forum
- Executive functions as Programme Office Director on a part-time basis
- Member of the Senior Officials Oversight Group reporting to the Ministerial Taskforce

Appendix 1

1. Education & Training

Early Years Services: There are 21 pre-school services operating in the area – these include community /voluntary organisations (11) and private enterprises (10).

The ***Rutland Street Pre-School Project*** was established in 1969 as a project in early education for children living in this disadvantaged area. Provision currently involves a two year programme catering for 3-5 year-olds.

Schools: There are 12 primary schools in the North City area (Dublin 1 and Dublin 3) of which 11 are in DEIS (Urban Band 1). There are 5 post primary schools of which 4 are in DEIS. The overall pupil enrolment for the area is 4,354 of which of which 3,248 are supported in schools participating in the DEIS programme (Primary 1,614, Post Primary 1,634).

Post Leaving Cert Colleges: Marino College of Further Education. Connolly House, 171, North Strand Road, Dublin 1 (City of Dublin Education and Training Board) provides a range of courses some of which are stand alone and lead to direct employment (e.g. dental nursing) and /or lead to further studies and also works in building student capacity and assisting them to re-enter education.

Other Targeted School Supports: Schools are also supported by the ***Education Welfare Service***, ***Home School Community Liaison Scheme*** and the ***School Completion Programme*** provided by Tusla.

The Department of Education & Skills also funds a range of other educational provision in the area, both directly and through the Education and Training Board sector, including the following:

Youth Encounter Projects (YEPs) provide educational facilities for children who have either become involved in minor delinquency, or are otherwise at risk. A pupil may be referred to one of these schools by a number of agencies or by the Court system. The primary objective of the projects is to rehabilitate the pupils and to return them to the conventional schools system in the shortest possible time. The Projects are recognised as special national schools by the Department. Two Youth Encounter Projects are located in the Dublin 1 area under the patronage of the Dublin Archdiocese. These are:

- St Laurence O'Toole YEP, Aldborough Parade, North Strand, Dublin 1
- Henrietta Street YEP, 8 Henrietta Street, Dublin 1.

Training and Education Centres: The Department of Education &Skills funds a range of education provision in the area both directly and through the Education and Training Board, including

- The ***Youthreach*** programme provides two years integrated education, training and work experience for unemployed early school leavers without any qualifications or vocational training who are between 15 and 20 years of age.
- Four ***Community Training Centres*** funded by SOLAS/ETB catering for early school leavers between the ages of 16-21
- A range of ***Adult Community Education Programmes*** which provides a range of tailored programmes to assist those seeking a return to education and to provide basic literacy and numeracy skills.
- Two local training initiatives targeting the unemployed seeking to enter or re-enter the labour market including community-based training and work experience leading to nationally recognised qualifications.
- There are four third level institutions in or adjacent to the North East Inner City – National College of Ireland, Trinity College, DIT and DCU Colleges.

2. Social Protection – Training, Job Seeker Supports

Intreo Services Docklands SDZ Area is a single point of contact for all employment and income support. Designed to provide a more streamlined approach, Intreo offers practical, tailored employment services and supports for jobseekers and employers alike. Intreo Centre Parnell Street delivers DSP services for those clients living in Dublin 1, 3 and parts of 9. The claim load for Intreo Parnell is outlined below and includes the staffing level within the Activation team.

Intreo Centre Parnell Street Claimload w/e: 18th December 2016	
Type of Claim	**No. of Claims**
Back to Education	290
Back to Work	421
Jobseekers Transition	307
One Parent Family Payment	993
Pre-Retirement Allowance	8
Self-Employed	100
Systematic Short-Time	2
Jobseekers Allowance	3,577
Jobseekers Benefit Credits Only	559
Jobseekers Benefit	718
Part Time Job Incentive	3
Total Weekly Claimload	6,979
Activation Team Staffing WTE	15.4

Employment Activation - Community Employment Schemes (DSP): There are 23 Community Employment Schemes operating in the area with a total annual contract of **€11, 640, 000** providing opportunities for 732 participants.

Local Employment Service: provides a local gateway, or access point, to the full range of services and facilities that are available to help jobseekers to enter or return to employment. Services are provided to jobseekers referred to the LES through the Department's activation process and also to clients who engage directly with the service.

Contractor	LES Location	Pathways to Work (PtW) Activation Clients 2016	Other Client targets 2016
St Andrews Resource Centre **Eastside + Docklands LES** **114 Pearse Street** **Dublin 2**	Inner City Renewal Group 85 Amiens Street Dublin 1 St Andrew's LES 114 Pearse Street Dublin 2	840	230

Job Club operates in the area (Larkin Unemployed Centre Limited). This service assists jobseekers to enter / re-enter employment through individualised supports, a "drop in" service and formal workshops. The Larkin service has a workshop capacity of 243 and targets 1-1 support for 290 people and CV preparation for 50 people.

JobPath: is an activation measure which caters mainly for people who are long-term unemployed (over 12 months) to assist them to secure and sustain full-time paid employment or self-employment. Participants on JobPath receive intensive individual support to help them address barriers to employment and to assist them in finding jobs.

Contractor	Jobpath Location	Pathways to Work (PtW) Activation Clients 2016
Seetec	Seetec Jobpath The Connolly Building 42 Amien Street Dublin 1	

Community Services Programme: gives grants to community businesses that deliver services and create employment for people from disadvantaged groups. Two groups are funded in the north east inner city.

- ***Hill Street Family Resource Centre***, Hill St Playgrounds, Hill St, Dublin 1, contract term Jan 2016-Dec 2018,
- ***North East Dublin Community Services Ltd***, Araby House, 8 North Richmond Street, D 1 contract term Jan 2015-Dec 2016,. At present nedcsi has 10 workers, 8 full-time and 2 part-time sponsored under the community services programme, with wages topped up by the community groups.
- A number of employees are supported under the **TUS community work placement scheme/activation initiative** providing short term quality working opportunities for people who are long term unemployed (at least 12 months). Currently 32 workers supported in 7 organisations.

3. Health

Health Services:

There are a wide range of local health services in the area with around 30 GP services in Dublin 1 alone. There are two health centres (North Strand and Summerhill). The area also has two CAMHs teams. The Mater, Rotunda and Temple Street Hospitals are close by. There are also acute psychiatric services adjacent in Fairview.

- A new Primary Healthcare Centre is under construction in Summerhill which is expected to be completed by mid-2018 as the base for the following Primary Care Teams:
  - Summerhill Primary Care Team (population 10,779).
  - Inns Quay Primary Care team (population 14, 022).

  In addition it will be the base for all Network Primary Care services covering the North Inner City serving a population of 51,497.
- The following comprehensive range of health and social care services will be located in the new Summerhill facility -
    - General Practice Services
    - Public Health/Community Nursing Services
    - Occupational Therapy Services
    - Physiotherapy Services
    - Speech and Language Services
    - Psychology Services
    - Dietetic Services
    - Social Work Services
    - Home Help Services
    - Dental Services
    - Mental Health Day Hospital Service

- Early Intervention & School Age Services for children with Disabilities
- Meeting and administration accommodation
- Ambulance Services (located on the site in a separate building)

- The facility will be approximately 5,000sqm net floor area provided on three floors above ground including a basement car park.
- The staff moving to the Summerhill PCC (Mountain View Court) are currently housed in a number of Health Centres in the Inner City, i.e. Summerhill Health Centre, North Clarence Street, Amiens Street, 44 North Great George's Street and Railway Street Buildings.

Drugs Services: The Drugs Task Force 2016 allocation is €2.2m from the Department of Health and HSE in respect of projects across the key areas of Supply Reduction, Education/Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation and Research.

4. Child and Parent Services

Parenting / Family support:

Tusla have an active range of services operating in the area and providing family support, supports for pre-schools and a range of evidence-based parenting programmes are also operating. Tusla is also in the process of rolling out the Meitheal Practice Model which focuses on supporting families across the continuum of need along with key local partners both statutory and non-statutory. Strong existing elements relate to

- Quality service provision in Pre Schools (Siolta & High Scope)
- ABCs delivering home based visiting programmes
- Pre-schools focussing particularly on 'school-readiness' for the transition to primary school
- Evidence Based Parenting programmes available across the area

Tusla have indicated as part of the national planning improvement that work is ongoing to ensure that these services are well-integrated, evidence-based and have built-in evaluation. It emphasises the need to improve information across the range of agencies, young and adult service-users, communities and the general public. This national approach is intended to ensure a more strategic approach to planning services with greater focus on understanding if services are delivering improved outcomes for children and their families. A number of Tusla funded services are located in the area:

- Community After Schools Project Dublin 1 North Inner City Age 5-12
- Hill Street Family Resource Centre Dublin 1 North Inner City Age 0-18
- Young People At Risk Dublin 3 North Inner City 3-4 Age 0-18
- Daughters of Charity Community Services Dublin 1 North West Inner City Age 0-18
- DOCCS-ECDS St Louise's Day Nursery Dublin 1 North Inner City Age 2-5
- DOCCS St Marys Nursery Dublin 1 North Inner City 2-3 Age 3 mths- 5yrs
- St Brigids Day Nursery Dublin 1 North Inner City 2-3 Age 2-5
- The Cavan Centre Cavan Dublin North City Age16-20

- NIAP Dublin 1 DNC & DN Areas 3-4 Age 13-18
- CARI National Age 0-18
- Parentline National Age 0-18
- ISIDA National
- Treoir National Age 0-18
- Summerhill Family Support Dublin 1 North Inner City Families
- Neighbourhood Youth Project 1 Dublin 1 North Inner City Age 0-12
- Neighbourhood Youth Project 2 Dublin 1 North Inner City Age 13-18

ABBREVIATIONS[1]

ABC Programme – DUBLIN DOCKLANDS EARLY LEARNING INITIATIVE, project promoter, National College of Ireland

The ABC Programme is an innovative prevention and early intervention initiative consisting of committed funding for an area-based approach to help to improve outcomes for children by reducing child poverty. The ABC Programme is co-funded by the Department of Children and Youth Affairs and The Atlantic Philanthropies and builds on previous work in the area of prevention and early intervention and runs from 2013-2017.

To date €540,000 out of their grant of €1.2 million has been paid over.

5. Youth Recreation and Play

Arts/Sports/Recreational Services:

Six DCC managed recreational centres including the swimming pool facilities with a further 12 Multi- Use Games Areas

Youth Services*:* The City of Dublin Youth Services Board oversees the distribution of funding from the Department of Children and Youth Affairs under a number of funding schemes. In 2016, the following funds were made available to projects in the areas:-

Programme	Amount
Special Projects for Youth	€685,473
Youth Person's Facilities and Services Fund (Rounds 1 and 2)	€1,798,933
Interim and Local Task Force Funds allocated by CDYSB	€493,748
TOTAL	**€2,978,154**

[1] DOCCS (Daughters of Charity Community Services)
ECDS (Early Childhood Development Service)
NIAP (Northside Inter-Agency Project)
CARI (Children at Risk in Ireland)
ISDA (Irish Sudden Infant Death Association)
TREOIR (The National Federation of Services for Unmarried Parents and their Children)

The CDYSB also provides support to 30 voluntary youth clubs and groups in the postal districts of Dublin 1 and 3.

€21,500 was also provided to summer projects by CDYSB in 2016.

6. Local Authority Community Supports:

Local Authority Social Housing: 1998-2016

Year Completed	Project	Homes provided
1998	St Joseph's Mansions now Kilarney Court	100
2001	Empress Place	11
2001	Spring Garden Street	19
2002	Foley St Apartments	11
2004	Rutland Place / Summerhill Place	38
2005	St Jude's now the Kin & the Forge	25
2005	Annesley Close / Place	30
2007	Taaffes Place	18
2001	Sean Treacy House	52
2009/2010	Lourdes House now Patrick Heeney HSE/Cresent	64
2014	Liberty House now Peadar Kearney House	56
2016	Tom Clarke House Ph 1 (Bedsits to 1 bed homes)	6

Current Public Funded Housing projects

Project	Homes provided
St Agatha's Court North William St AHB	11
Castleforbes North bank DCC	26
Castleforbes Northbank AHB	21
Ballybough Road DCC	7
Sackville Ave Cottages DCC	12
Croke Villas	35
St Mary's Mansions AHB	80
Popular Row AHB	30
Railway Street AHB	34
Tom Clarke House DCC	8
Ballybough Court DCC	20

Community Development Initiatives

The Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government allocates funding (to the Local Community Development Committee for Dublin City) in respect of the Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme, in 2016 this amounted to €290,156.

An additional amount of €600,000 is also being provided by the D/HPLG to groups in the North Inner City outside of, and separate to, the SICAP, to address specific community structural issues arising in the North Inner City.

7. Justice

Policing and Community Safety: The area is patrolled by members assigned to the Dublin Metropolitan Region (DMR) North Central Division. The number of Gardaí assigned to this area (31 October 2016) was 604. Of these, 255 members were assigned to Store Street, 155 in Bridewell, 3 to Dublin Docklands for immigration purposes and 191 in Mountjoy. From the 700 new recruits undergoing training, so far 62 newly attested Gardaí have been assigned to the DMR North Central Garda Division to date.

Garda Youth Diversion Projects (GYDPs) are community-based, multi-agency crime prevention initiatives, which seek to divert young people from becoming involved in anti-social and/or criminal behaviour. There are five existing Garda Youth Diversion Projects in the Dublin North Inner City area:

Project	Location	2016 Allocation
DIME	45-46 Hardwicke Street, Dublin 1	€123,500
HAY	Unit 3, St. Josephs, Summerhill, Dublin 1	€118,500
MOST	Bradóg 34 Dominick Place, Dublin 1	€113,500
NICKOL	Belvedere Youth Club 41 Lower Buckingham Street, Dublin 1	€138,500
SWAN	Swan Youth Service, St Agatha's Hall, Dunne St., Dublin 1	€113,500
TOTAL		**€607,500.00**

Probations Service Projects: Community Based Organisation (CBOs) funded by the Department through the Probation Service to develop and deliver adult services in their communities to offenders including training and education, offender management programmes, residential accommodation, and drug and alcohol treatment programmes. There are also Young Person Probation (YPP) Community Based Organisation to develop and deliver services to young offenders in their communities. The focus, client group and activities of projects range considerably. Currently funded groups include the Adventure

Sports project is based in Summerhill ; the Daughter's of Charity project is based in Henrietta Street; the Young People at Risk project (YPAR) ; the Crinan Youth Project in Summerhill; Aftercare Recovery Group in Seville Street; SAOL is a community based educational and rehabilitation day programme in Amiens Street including the Brio Peer Education project; BRIDGE based in Francis Street.

8. Corporate Social Responsibility

Local Area Initiatives involving local employers:

The Central Bank has been involved in outreach for the North Wall Quay (NWQ) area under the headings of jobseeker outreach and student outreach. The Bank supports these initiatives through a combination of staff volunteering and financial contributions.

IFSC Inner City Trust (managed by a small group of volunteers drawn from IFSC bodies) provides support to community organisations providing education, training and recreation for young and old in the area.

There are also big corporations located in the area which have very active specific corporate social responsibility projects including A&L Goodbody, PwC, KPMG, Accenture . These include specific engagement, support and fundraising programmes around employment, education and enhancing the local community.

The GAA - Croke Park Stadium

(i) Community Fund

Croke Park employs a full-time community officer to liaise and work in the stadium on behalf of local residents and employs a community team of local residents, to assist their neighbours on stadium event days. It also has a Community Fund which is used to support projects in the immediate area around the stadium which has to date allocated over €725,000 to local community groups.

(ii) Ballybough/Croke Villas/Sackville Avenue Reconstruction

The GAA has agreed to work with Dublin City Council on the reconstruction of Sackville Avenue. This will provide new housing, the demolition of the existing Croke Villas, a new entrance to Croke Park to take pressure off other local streets and the building of a world class National Handball and Community Centre. The new Centre will be managed by a partnership arrangement between the GAA and the local community and handball centre members.

[Picture courtesy of Croke Park Stadium and SSA Architects]

Appendix 2 – Potential Large Scale Infrastructural Projects for Future Consideration

1. Mountjoy Square and Mountjoy Square Park

Mountjoy Square is one of the key residential areas within the North East Inner City, with some 1,400 people living in a variety of residential units directly facing onto the Square. The area is also significant given the extremely diverse nature of the residential population – with estimates of over 55% of residents being born outside Ireland. The Square and adjacent streets provide private rented accommodation, private and public social housing, and owner occupier properties. Some of the houses are original Georgian properties, while others are multi-unit developments developed since the 1980s and public housing schemes built from the early 1960s. While there are a number of businesses in the Square, including educational institutes and NGOs, the Square remains predominantly residential.

Mountjoy Square Park is one of Dublin's five historic Georgian Squares and was developed by the Gardiner family in the late 1700s.It is the centrepiece of the Square and has been under the management of the City Council since the 1930s. The park has undergone changes to its layout to meet the changing demands of the local area over the decades and its original design has largely been eroded. The park has greater potential to contribute to the local area by enhancing its attractiveness to all local users and combating anti-social behaviour. As a historic park in a historic square it has a wider role to play for Dublin as part of its urban heritage. Key to achieving this is investment into the park and surrounding streetscape regeneration to raise quality, improve its perception and identity and strengthen its accessibility to its daily users and visitors.

Proposals for the refurbishment of the park have been developed by DCC as a first step towards the regeneration of this historic area which represents a real opportunity to create an amenity green space for the local community and to encourage people into the area.

2. Aldborough House, Portland Row (in private ownership)

This property has recently changed ownership and it is understood that development potential and proposals are currently being explored.

This is the second largest private residence built in the 18th Century in Georgian Dublin, outside of Leinster House. Over the centuries it has had several uses – a school, an army barracks, a Department of Telecom and more recently various speculative ventures. It is subject to a preservation order by DCC.

I understand that a planning application is in train by the current owner for the refurbishment of this iconic /heritage building. If this does not materialise then serious

consideration should be given to it being acquired to provide external preservation and refurbishment for the provision of a Heritage Tourist Centre with provision for local businesses / entrepreneurial services. It is imperative that this 'eyesore of dereliction' in the heart of the inner city is rescued and restored.

3. Convent Lands - Sean McDermott Street

This site is in the possession of DCC. It represents one of the biggest potential development sites in the inner city outside of the Docklands.

It is a keynote site in the centre of Sean McDermott St / Railway St and has great potential to create a landmark mixed development, whilst retaining a memorial to those who worked in the Magdalene Laundry and some element of the exterior facades.

The property is being disposed of by way of a Development Agreement with Dublin City Council, in order to ensure the site is transformed into a high quality mixed-use development within a short timeframe. The new scheme will be well positioned to capitalise on the existing regeneration of the area by developing a key block capable of providing a significant level of residential and/or commercial accommodation. There are a number of other development projects in the immediate vicinity currently under construction, including two student accommodation sites and a large primary care centre, with many of the nearby social housing blocks also being redeveloped. The site provides an exceptional opportunity to deliver a high density mixed-use project in a highly accessible city centre location. The property is likely to appeal to institutions, funds, developers, hoteliers, retailers and student accommodation providers considering the city centre location and the attractive development potential of the site.

The Church in the complex is a preserved structure and could be adapted to an Arts / Heritage / Library / Exhibition space (a model for such use is the Library in the old Church on the UCD Smurfit Business School, Carysfort campus).

4. Rutland St Lower

This area is home to three very historical and high profile buildings – The Old Rutland St School (the "School on Stilts") and the old Scots Presbyterian School. Across the road from the latter is the remaining Greek / Corinthian facade of the Presbyterian Church. All of these building are owned by Dublin City Council.

In July 2016, as part of the interim measures announced, the Ministerial Taskforce committed to the development of the school site into a centre to provide a permanent location and focal point for local community projects in the North East Inner City. Despite recent uncertainty about the costs of such a project, Dublin City Council remains committed to refurbishment of the Rutland Street School site and continued provision of community services and facilities at that location. I am firmly of the view that the delivery of this project is an essential element of this overall initiative to underpin the State's commitment and statement of intent to the community.

5. Derelict Site adjacent to Belvedere Youth Club

Belvedere Youth Club is the oldest Youth Club in the State (1918) and was originally established by past pupils of Belvedere College. The existing premises is a purpose built (24 years ago) building and provides an impressive array of services and activities for over 350 children and young adults ranging from 7 – 20 years. The Club is curtailed by physical space and wishes to expand the services it provides into new programmes with additional capacity to accommodate the numbers of young people accessing their services. They have a waiting list for access to the club.

They have outlined a series of programmes in the areas of Education, Training and Artistic work which I believe are worthy of support. The derelict and unused site at No 40 has not been utilised and if acquired would improve significantly this Club's offering which has community wide support. It would be a great vote of confidence in the Youth of the area and as recognition of the work of Belvedere Youth Club that in its centenary year – 2018 it would have possession of this site and which hopefully would attract funding from a mix of State Agencies and the Corporate Sector.

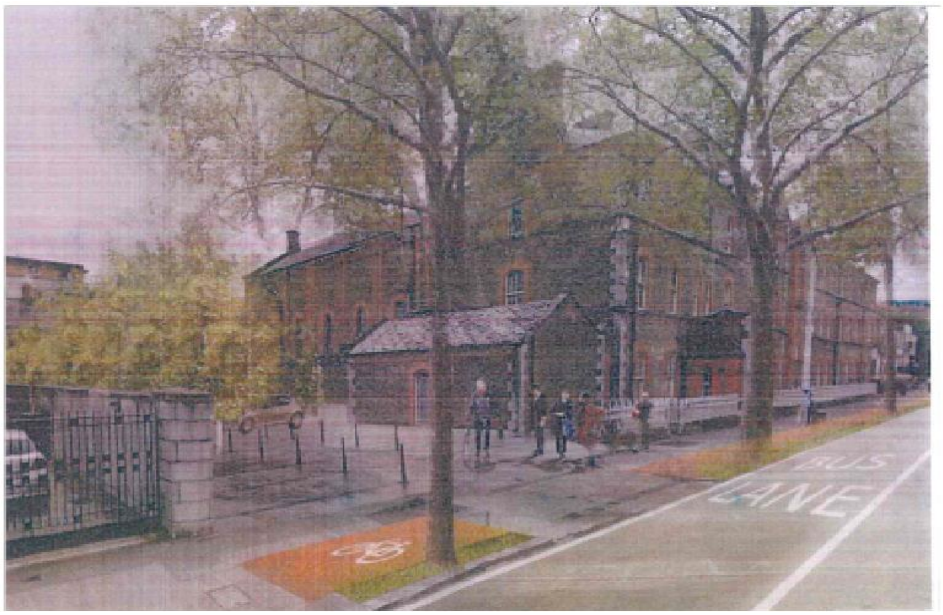
Appendix 3– Before and After Photos

(with thanks to Patrick Linders and Maxime Laroussi of Urban Agency)

Sean McDermott Street

Before

After



Railway Street

Before

After