

From:
Sent: 29 October 2020 11:36
To: Local Development Plan
Cc:
Subject: Representation Enclosed for Re-Consultation on LDP Draft Plan Strategy
Attachments: Meenan Square Area Plan Final Submission October.pdf; Appendix 1 Derry Londonderry Strategic Framework Urban Villages Bogside Fountain & Bishop Street.pdf; LDP Submissions Form Meenan Square.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

To whom it may concern,

Please find an attached representation (consisting of 3 documents) to be taken into consideration in the most recent consultation period from 11th September to 6th November 2020 on the LDP Draft Plan Strategy. The 3 documents are as follows:

- Completed draft Plan Strategy Representations Form
- Accompanying Explanatory Report
- Appendix 1 Derry-Londonderry Urban Villages Strategic Framework Bogside, Fountain and Bishop Street

Please take into consideration all documents enclosed.

Many thanks,

13th October 2020

Local Development Plan Team
Planning Office
Derry City and Strabane District Council
98 Strand Road
Derry, BT48 7NN

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: SUBMISSION TO THE DERRY CITY AND STRABANE DISTRICT COUNCIL LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN TEAM.

PROPOSAL TO HAVE APPLICANT'S LANDS AT MEENAN SQUARE, BRANDYWELL, DERRY INCLUDED WITHIN THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT LIMITS FOR THE CENTRAL AREA IN THE NEW LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2032.

I have been instructed by my client, WestCo Developments Ltd., to make a formal submission to Council requesting that Central Area (CA) zoning of the Derry Area Plan 2011 is maintained in the new Derry City & Strabane District Council, Draft Local Development Plan 2032 and extended to include the subject site, as identified in red on the aerial photograph included below, within the Central Area of Derry-Londonderry.

My clients support Designation DOS 1: Development Opportunity Sites within Derry City Centre & Strabane Town Centres, the Strategic Objectives for Car Parking in Derry, and Designation TAM 9 Car Parking & Servicing as illustrated in the publication of the Derry City and Strabane District Council's Local Development Plan – Draft Plan Strategy 2032.

This Meenan Square site provides a great opportunity for a mixed-use redevelopment site that needs to be included within the Central Area of Derry-Londonderry in the new Derry City & Strabane District Council, Draft Local Development Plan 2032 for the reasoning detailed below.

1.0 SUMMARY:

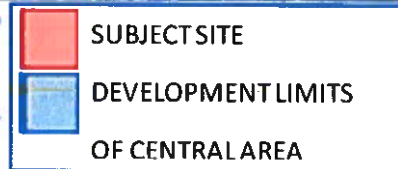
- 1.1** An in-depth description of the subject site, as well as the context of the settlement in which it is located, are included.
- 1.2** Detailed coverage of relevant planning policy guidance, applicable to Meenan Square (located on subject site), have been explored.
- 1.3** The relevance of the Urban Villages Initiative for the Bogside, Fountain and Bishop Street is also explored as the regeneration of the subject site would be in accordance with the initiatives and objectives of this policy document.
- 1.4** We also provide specific comments with respect to the need for new housing and retail opportunities to strengthen and compliment the Primary Retail Core, and the appropriateness of our client's lands to facilitate this.
- 1.5** Finally, we identify our client's lands as a rational rounding off for the Central Area Boundary and the justification for this.

2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

- 2.1 The subject site, as illustrated in red in Figure 1, is located at the junction of Westland Street and Lecky Road. It is situated immediately adjacent to Derry City's current Central Area, as designated in the Derry Area Plan (DAP) 2011, and is separated from the Central Area only by Lecky Road.
- 2.2 The subject site is an amalgamation of two separate sites, both of which are owned by WestCo Developments Ltd. Both sites, together, result in a total site area of approximately 0.37 HA. The total subject site area is not included within any designations nor zonings and is illustrated as 'Whiteland' in current policy mappings set out in the DAP 2011.
- 2.3 At present, the site is of a predominately derelict nature, consisting of a number of vacant buildings/units including the former Bogside Inn. It is predominately rectangular in shape and is not subject to any topographical challenges. It has a total approximate roadside frontage of 85m with Lecky Road and 48m with Westland Street.
- 2.4 The site has an existing public footpath and street lighting that extends along its frontage with both Lecky Road and Westland Street and boasts good connectivity and accessibility due to the existing vehicular route and pedestrian footpaths.
- 2.5 It is well documented, via local media, that the subject site is a hub for anti-social behaviour and vandalism. At present, the site offers no aesthetic value nor amenity to the local area and community. Furthermore, its current status significantly detracts from the site's location within an area of the Bogside predominately known for its proximity to the town centre and large tourist / visitor footfall due to the People's Gallery Murals.
- 2.6 Ultimately the site is of significant value to its local community and is to be considered a 'key gateway' into the Central Area (CA) of Derry-Londonderry as it presents a viable opportunity for redevelopment and should be considered an asset that needs to be capitalised upon.



Figure 1: Aerial photograph of subject site



*Site to be included in Central Area of DAP 2032.

3.0 JUSTIFICATION:

3.1 Settlement Context:

3.2 The subject site is located within the Bogside neighbourhood within the settlement limits of Derry-Londonderry, currently adjacent the Central Area (CA) as shown on the Aerial Photograph above.

3.3 The Regional Development Strategy for Northern Ireland 2035 describes Derry-Londonderry as “the core settlement and regional gateway city for the North West”. As the principle city of an expanding North West cross-border city region, Derry-Londonderry therefore has top tier ‘city’ status in the settlement hierarchy of the new Draft Local Development Plan (LDP). The city has a substantial population of 83,163 residents, which accounts for 4.59% of the NI total, and approximately 35,501 households.

- 3.4 The subject site is located in the neighbourhood of the Bogside, which sits just outside the city walls of Derry and is separated from the current Central Area designation by Lecky Road only. The Bogside neighbourhood is a unique and distinctive area with a strong cultural identity and one which presents a unique tourism offer in the form of the People’s Gallery Murals which links to the inner-city tourism offer. With regards to layout, the Bogside has a tight network of terraced streets with distinctive tessellated street patterns that run uphill from Lecky Road.
- 3.5 The Bogside forms part of the TRIAX Cityside Neighbourhood Renewal Area (NRA), launched in 2003 by Northern Ireland (NI) Government, as well as the Brandywell, The Fountain and Creggan. The neighbourhood has been flagged by the Department for Communities as being located within one of the most deprived 10% of wards across Northern Ireland as identified using the Noble Multiple Deprivation Measure. The total NRA has an approximate population of 16,266 residents (NINIS). The Bogside is also included within the Urban Villages Initiative (**Appendix LKP1**) as instigated by the NI Executive. Its purpose is to develop thriving places where there has been a history of deprivation.
- 3.6 The Bogside forms part of the Brandywell Electoral Ward and The Moor District Electoral Area. The Brandywell Ward was ranked as level 5 according to the NI Multiple Deprivation Measure 2017 (where 1= most deprived and 462=least deprived). 2011 Census Population Statistics illustrate that the Brandywell Ward has a usual resident population of 2,495 residents living in approximately 1,062 households. Of these residents, 56.87% did not have access to a car/van, 52.59% were economically inactive with an unemployment rate of 10.93% and 62.43% of households were rented (either privately or socially).
- 4.0 Urban Villages Strategic Framework: Bogside, Fountain & Bishop Street 2016
- 4.1 The Bogside neighbourhood formed part of the Urban Villages Initiative as introduced by the NI Executive. The initiative aimed to specifically target those neighbourhoods where a history of deprivation was particularly evident and to transform these places into attractive, thriving hubs for their local community and visitors alike.
- 4.2 Meenan Square, located on our subject site, was flagged as currently presenting both a physical and visual eye sore, a scar on the environment and a barrier to movement and the economy.
- 4.3 Discussions are currently at an advanced stage for the redevelopment of this site with the developer, local community representatives, Urban Villages, NIHE and a local Housing Association.



LEEKENNEDYPLANNING

CHARTERED TOWN PLANNERS & DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANTS

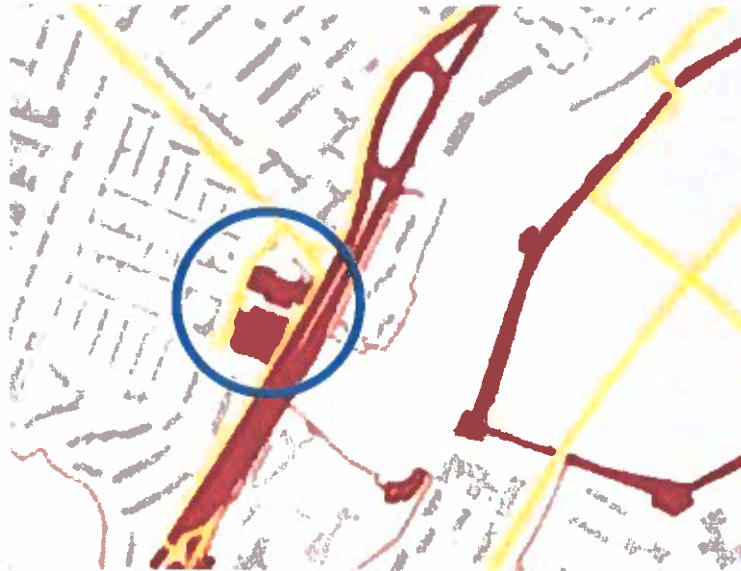


Figure 2: Pedestrian Routes and Barriers to Movement

Source: Urban Villages Strategic Framework 2016

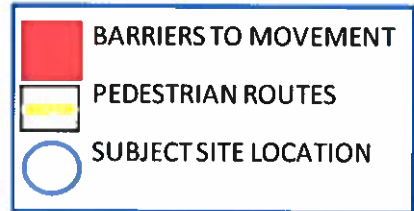
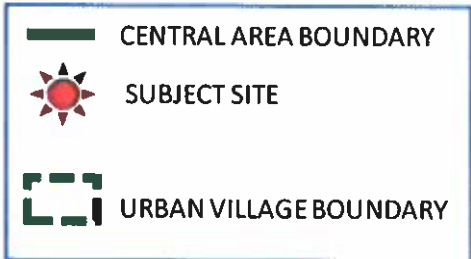


Figure 3: Location of Site in relation to Central Area & Urban Village Boundaries



- 4.4 The comprehensive redevelopment of this site will remove a visually unsightly building in a state of dereliction, an 'economic and physical eyesore', an area of high anti-social activity, and a physical barrier for pedestrian movements increasing the accessibility and connectivity of the site for all users and by 'de-facto' incorporating the site into the CA of the city in accordance with the objective Urban Villages Initiative for the city (**Appendix LKP1**).
- 4.5 This site boasts a strategic location with a wealth of cultural heritage. The Urban Villages Strategic Framework states that addressing dereliction, coupled with vacancy, should be presented as an action priority, particularly given the extent and prominence of the location's close proximity to the city centre.
- 4.6 The framework highlights the Meenan Square site as a key opportunity to enhance the area with new development whereby its utilisation for redevelopment could increase the population living and working in the area and in turn increasing its connectivity and accessibility into the CA and offer of services and amenities whilst increasing both vibrancy and vitality.

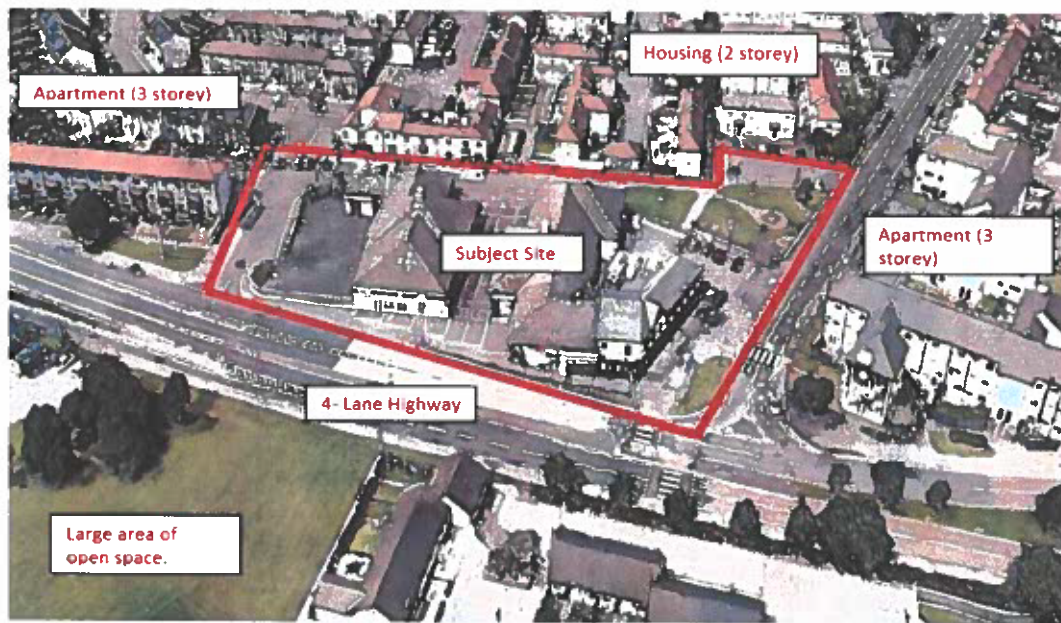


Figure 4. Aerial location of site at junction of Lecky Road and Westland Street



Figure 5: View approaching site along Lecky Road

5.0 Inclusive Strategic Growth Plan 2017-2032

- 5.1 The Inclusive Strategic Growth Plan 2017-2032 acknowledges that Derry and Strabane District Council Area comprises the second largest city in Northern Ireland. Derry-Londonderry is the 'Capital of the North West' and is at the core of the only functional economic city region of scale which straddles the border with the Republic of Ireland.
- 5.2 With regards to housing tenure the council area has the second highest number of applicants on the social rented waiting list (4,247 in 2015-16). A major social challenge has to be acknowledged; over the next 20 years (2016-2039) the City and District will experience a significant shift in the age profile of the population. By the end of this period, the region is forecasted to have an increase, of those of retirement age, of around 14,000 (a 66% increase). This is a dramatic change to the region's population structure and highlights the urgency to review appropriate infrastructure to meet the needs of the population.
- 5.3 Furthermore, people and places matter; *"Our sense of identity, of being rooted within our families, neighbourhoods, communities and our relationships and connections within them matter."* It is therefore important to stop the displacement of residents from their locality due to lack of housing infrastructure and services.

- 5.4 Therefore, key outcomes and actions of the Inclusive Strategic Growth Plan are detailed below:
- 5.5 **Action Point: Physical and Environmental Regeneration**
- *Support the implementation of the Urban Villages Programme in the Bogside, Fountain and Bishop Street areas to foster positive community identities, build community capacity and improve the physical environment of the area.*
 - *Provide quality social and private housing in sustainable urban and rural neighbourhoods to meet the needs of the growing population providing attractive places to live within easy access to local services and amenities.*
- 5.6 **Action Point: Enterprise and the Economy**
- *Maximise job creation and investment opportunities in our City and Town Centres through significant regeneration sites.*
- 5.7 **Action Point: Community and Social**
- *Reduce crime, disorder, and intercommunity tensions by addressing interface and contested spaces issues and improve safety.*
- 5.8 The regeneration of the Meenan Square site is a key priority for the Urban Villages Programme and a key component and action point of the Strategic Growth Plan 2017 -2032. The seamless integration of the Bogside (outside CA) to the Fountain and Bishop Street Area (both inside the CA) by enhancing accessibility and connectivity via the easy flow of movement from these areas will, in turn, reduce both anti-social activity and intercommunity tensions therefore improving safety and creating attractive places to live .
- 5.9 It is both logical and crucial, for the delivery and regeneration of this problem site , that its incorporated into the CA of the City together with Bishop Street and the Fountain . The subject site needs to be incorporated into the CA of the new Area Plan 2032 for the district to comply and be coherent with central governments objectives and actions points set out in both the Strategic Growth Plan 2032 & The Urban Villages Initiative.
- 6.0 **CONCLUDING SUMMARY**
- 6.1 A vibrant and diverse central area plays a pivotal role in the life of the City however, the sourcing of development opportunities in city centres can be a challenging one.
- 6.2 Derry-Londonderry is recognised in the Regional Development Strategy as an important regional retail centre and highlights the need to further strengthen and secure its role as the principle city in the North West via the identification of appropriate locations for retailing and other complimentary functions.

- 6.3 Should the subject site be accepted into Central Area Development Limits, the proposed development would be complimentary under RP 2 Derry Primary Retail Core (PRC) and City Centre: Provision of high quality, commercially attractive units to a high standard of design and improve the appearance of the city centre. As forementioned, the proposed development site is currently of a derelict nature attracting well documented anti-social behaviour and vandalism.
- 6.4 The provision of a new mixed-use development would not prejudice the function of the Commercial Core but would instead compliment it. The proposal has also paid special attention to the use of upper floors, not designated for retail function, to perform residential use. The high vacancy rates of upper floors within city centre limits and their general underutilisation are widely acknowledged (DC7SDC Retail Capacity and City/Town Centre Health Study). In its policy recommendation, The Retail Capacity Study (November 2018), undertaken as baseline research in the formation of the DPS, states that consideration should be given to land and buildings that fall immediately beyond a town centre boundary i.e. edge of centre sites.
- 6.5 Furthermore, The Retail Capacity Study recommended the following possible amendments to the Commercial Core, as a basis for defining the City Centre boundary:
1. The North West Regional College could mark an appropriate northern boundary to the city centre.
 2. Logically extend the south western part of the boundary to follow the route of the city walls. Note, within this extended area would be the Cathedral (an important focal point within the historic walled city) and a car park which currently serves the city centre and is also identified in the Area Plan as a re development opportunity site.
 3. Contract the boundary at its most southerly point close to the roundabout of the B507/A2, being a logical gateway point into the city centre.
- 6.6 The proposed site should be granted central area designation as it is an underdeveloped physical asset. Furthermore, the area within which it is located, already functions as part of the city centre, particularly due to its close proximity directly adjacent to a concentrated zoning of residential use.
- 6.7 The proposed development on the subject site will help to create a safe and attractive pedestrian environment, will pose no infliction upon the historic character of the area, and will significantly improve the appearance of the public realm. The development would also satisfactorily integrate into the centre and is compatible, in terms of scale and type, with the character and function of the centre. It will also reinforce the retail vitality and improve the appearance of the centre and public realm as well as cater for the urban-focussed trend for more smaller-size dwelling units.

CONCLUDING STATEMENT

Therefore, our client, taking into consideration all points made above, would like to take this opportunity to inform the council that their lands (as identified in Figure 1) are available, suitable and deliverable, and should be given immediate consideration for inclusion within the development limits of Derry City Central Area in order to deliver the business/housing units required or for commercial/community use.

Therefore, I request that Council, in the preparation of its new Local Development Plan (LDP) 2032, include these subject lands in whole, or any part of, into the development limits of Derry City Central Area and zone for housing/commercial/community use.

Please feel free to contact me if you wish to discuss in more detail.

Yours Faithfully,

Bogside, Fountain &
Bishop Street

**DERRY~
LONDONDERRY**



STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

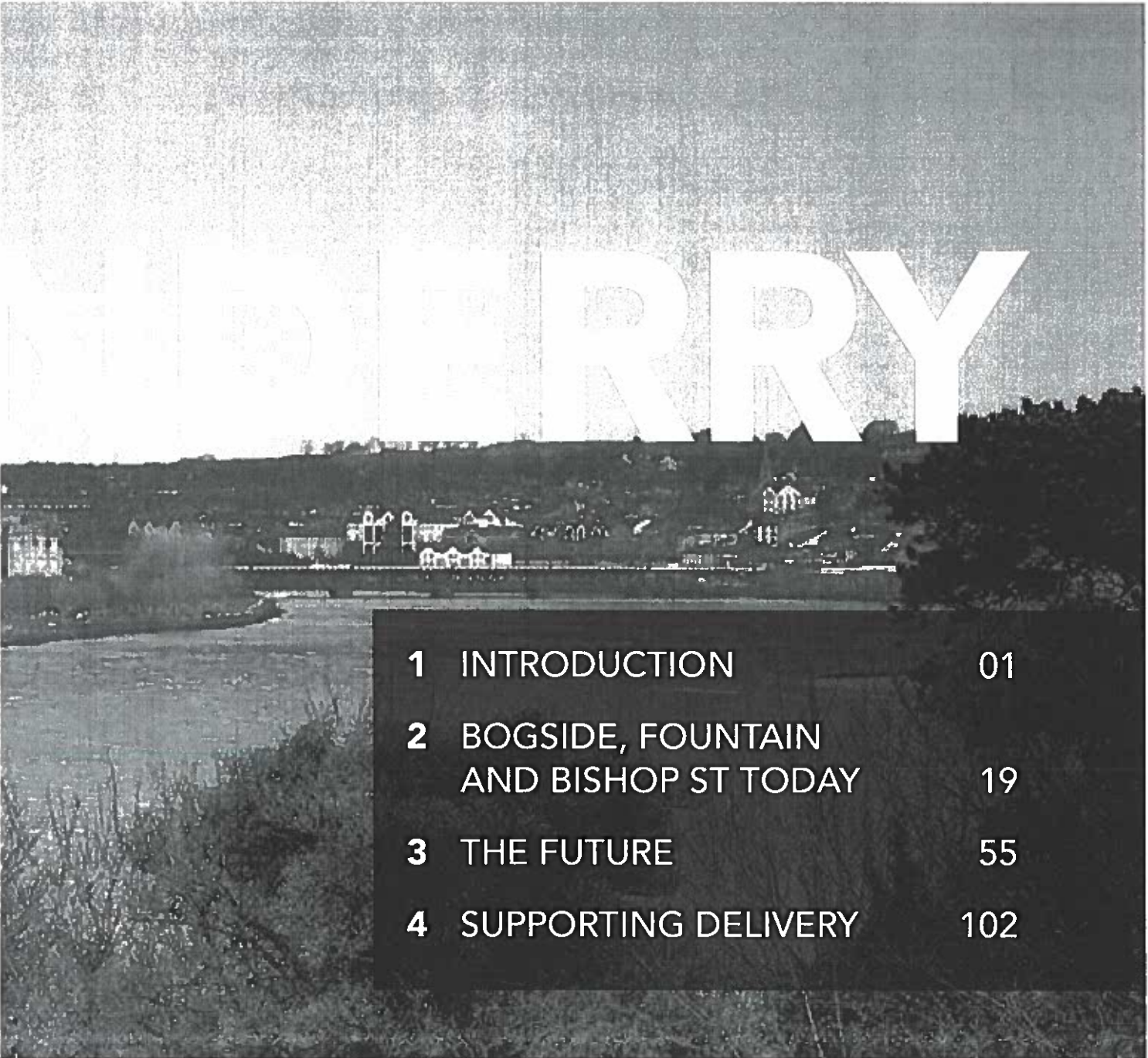
DERRY ~ LONDONDERRY

URBAN VILLAGES INITIATIVE



The
Executive Office

www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk



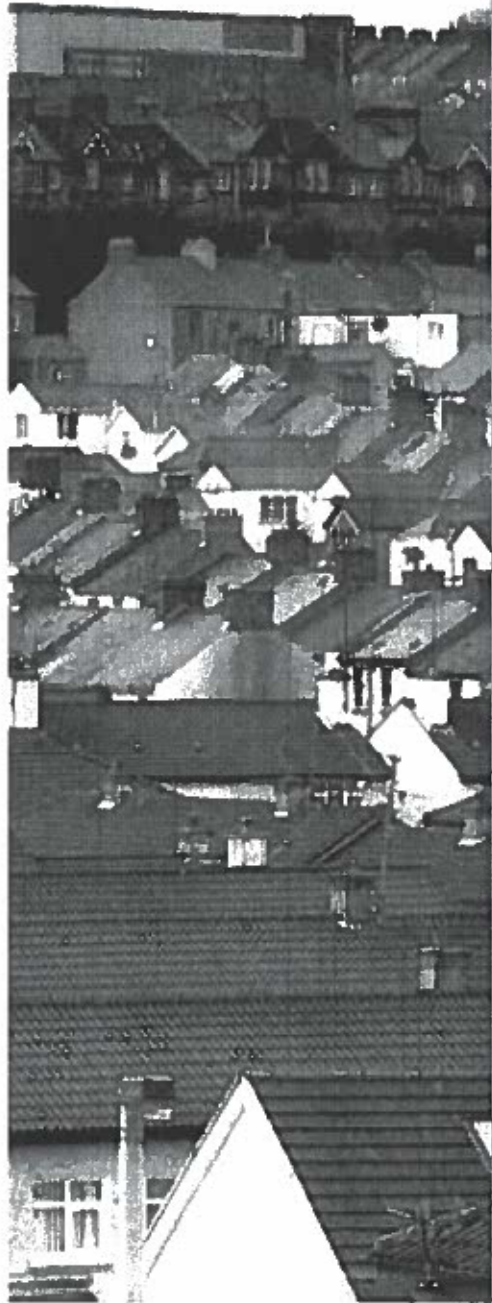
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URBAN VILLAGES

Thriving Places





01

INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION



1

PURPOSE OF DOCUMENT

This Strategic Framework is intended to provide a reference point for anyone involved in shaping investment decisions or identifying collaborative opportunities in the Bogside, Fountain and Bishop Street Urban Village area. The Framework presents findings from a creative process of analysis and reflection which involved individual members of the community, as well as representatives from local and central government. It provides an analysis of place and is a tool for informing action and investment.

The Framework is intended to be used as a working document so that emerging opportunities can be identified and changing circumstances acknowledged.

It begins by presenting information on what the Urban Villages Initiative is, what it is trying to achieve and how it will work.

Section 2 then sets out the local context and presents key findings under three headings - strengths, symptoms and causes.

Section 3 looks towards the future and sets out Strategic Actions which emerged through the process of engagement, evidence gathering and analysis. These can help to inform future investment plans as well as identifying opportunities for alignment of effort and collaboration around shared outcomes.

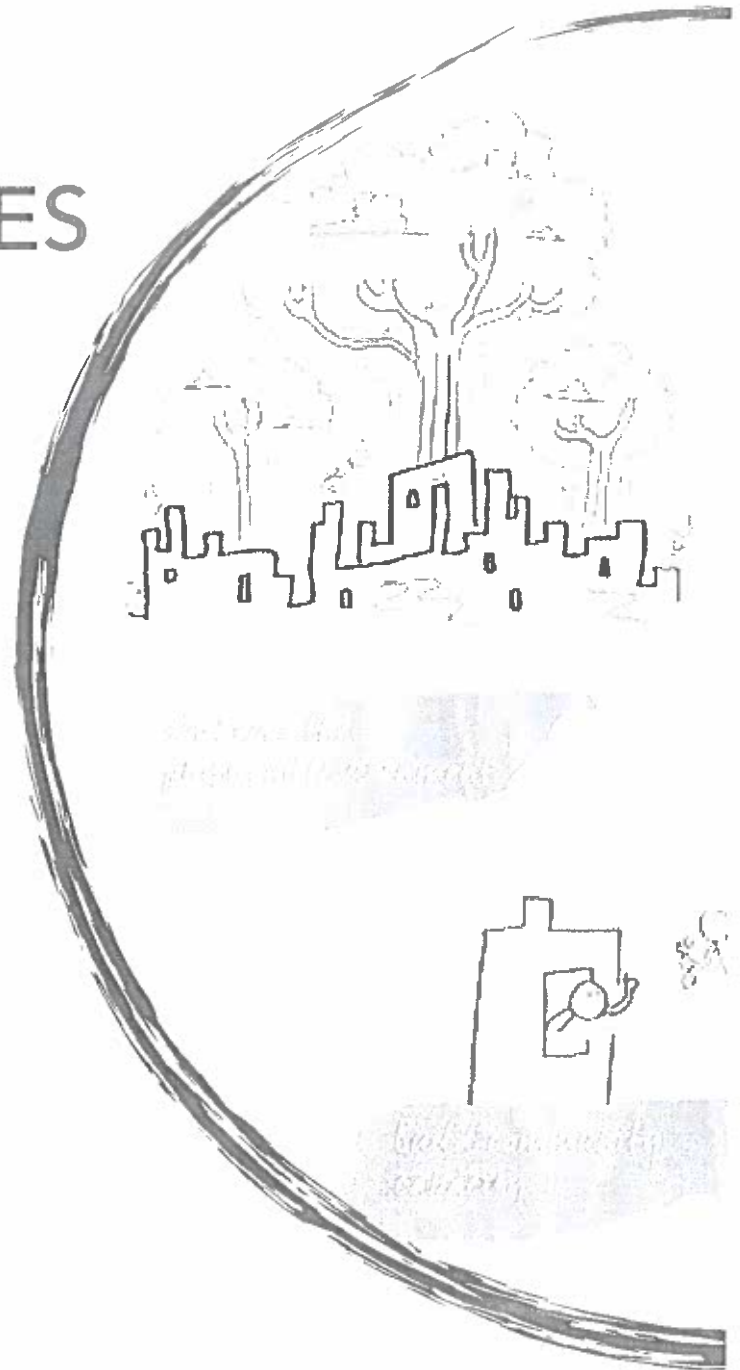
Section 4 focuses on delivery. The Executive Office will take forward projects and programmes within its remit, and work with others to progress opportunities for shared delivery of outcomes, in keeping with the approach articulated in the draft Programme for Government Framework.



Urban Villages Initiative - Bogside, Fountain and Bishop Street 3

WHAT IS THE URBAN VILLAGES INITIATIVE?

The Urban Villages Initiative is a key action within the Northern Ireland Executive's 'Together: Building a United Community' Strategy. It is designed to improve good relations outcomes and to help develop thriving places where there has previously been a history of deprivation and community tension.





There are three inter-connected aims:

- to foster positive community identities
- to build community capacity
- to improve the physical environment.

In working towards these aims, a key delivery mechanism will be aligning and influencing investment and finding better ways of 'doing more with what we've got'. The goal is to enable current and future investment to be targeted and delivered in more effective and sustainable ways. In practice this will mean:

- co-ordinating and aligning effort across Government Departments, local Councils and community organisations to deliver good relations outcomes
- identifying and building on what is working because sustainable change requires investment in social (people and communities) and in physical assets
- exploring ways of investing and trying new approaches which stimulate private investment and economic activity.

OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES

In order to focus effort and set a clear route to delivery, a set of objectives and outcomes will inform investment decisions and actions.

OBJECTIVES

Create attractive, thriving places for residents and visitors

Improve internal and external access within and to the Urban Village

Encourage shared spaces

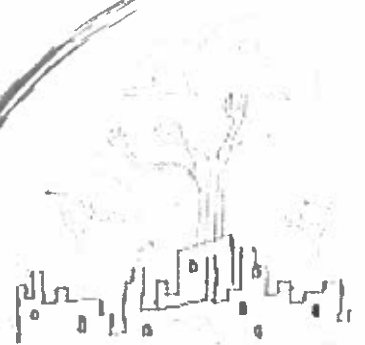
OUTCOMES

Shared space is accessible to all

Residents are proud of their neighbourhood

Increased use of shops, services and amenities

Increased business activity





OBJECTIVES

- Build trust and relationships
- Enhance pride and confidence in Urban Village areas
- Create welcoming places where people feel safe and connected, regardless of religious or ethnic background

OUTCOMES

- Improved relationships between and within communities
- Cultural diversity is celebrated
- A community where places and spaces are safe for all
- Increased sense of community belonging

OBJECTIVES

- Encourage and support communities to express their views and influence what happens in their areas
- Enhance the capacity and confidence of communities to work and socialise within and outside their immediate neighbourhoods
- Enhance community capacity to participate in local and regional networks and recognise shared needs and priorities

OUTCOMES

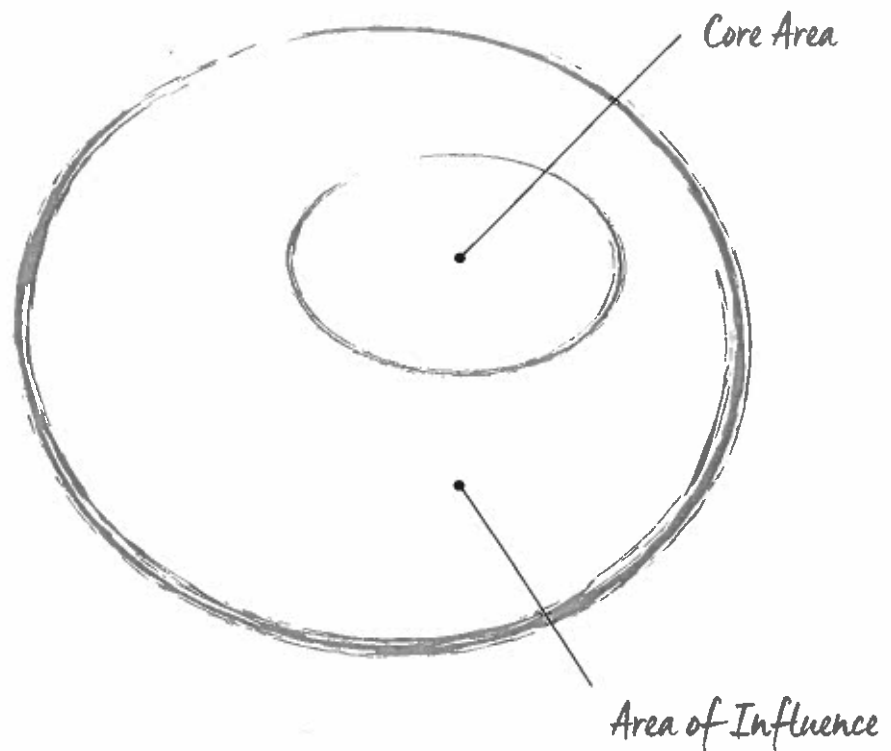
- Increased use of shared spaces and services
- Greater voice and influence
- Confident and enterprising community

PLACES

Delivery will be focussed on five 'core' areas in:

- Ardoyne and Greater Ballysillan (North Belfast)
- Bogside, Fountain and Bishop Street (Derry~Londonderry)
- Colin (West Belfast)
- EastSide (East Belfast)
- Sandy Row, Donegall Pass and the Markets (South Belfast)

The core area provides a focal point for action and investment. The concept of a wider area of influence, that is not sharply defined, acknowledges that thriving places require wider connection to both physical and social assets. Investment decisions and actions will be informed by the likely impact on core areas.



STRATEGIC ACTIONS

The Strategic Actions in this Framework document are intended to inform discussion about how to best deliver positive outcomes in each place. In order to ensure that expertise is harnessed at a neighbourhood level, local Reference Groups are being developed - to provide a first point of contact and sense-check for project ideas, to build civic stewardship and sustainability around specific interventions and to ensure that delivery is built from shared priorities.

Transform places

- Tackle dereliction and vacancy
- Create a well designed, sustainable and thriving place
- Maximise connections
- Create effective shared space
- Address challenges of interface walls

Build a more resilient and self sufficient community

- Develop and promote social enterprise and entrepreneurship
- Improve and increase allotments community gardens and growing

Health and well being

- Encourage participation in sport and physical activity
- Support and sustain positive lifestyle choices
- Collaborate to tackle social isolation

Enterprising communities

- Connect and collaborate
- Increase education, training & employment opportunities

Motivate, support and inspire our young people

- Encourage youth engagement opportunities
- Support multi-discipline activity
- Increase support for lifelong learning

Celebrate and promote cultural diversity

- Promote and develop a programme of festivals, events and cultural activity
- Celebrate and foster cultural diversity
- Encourage partnerships with local, national and international organisations

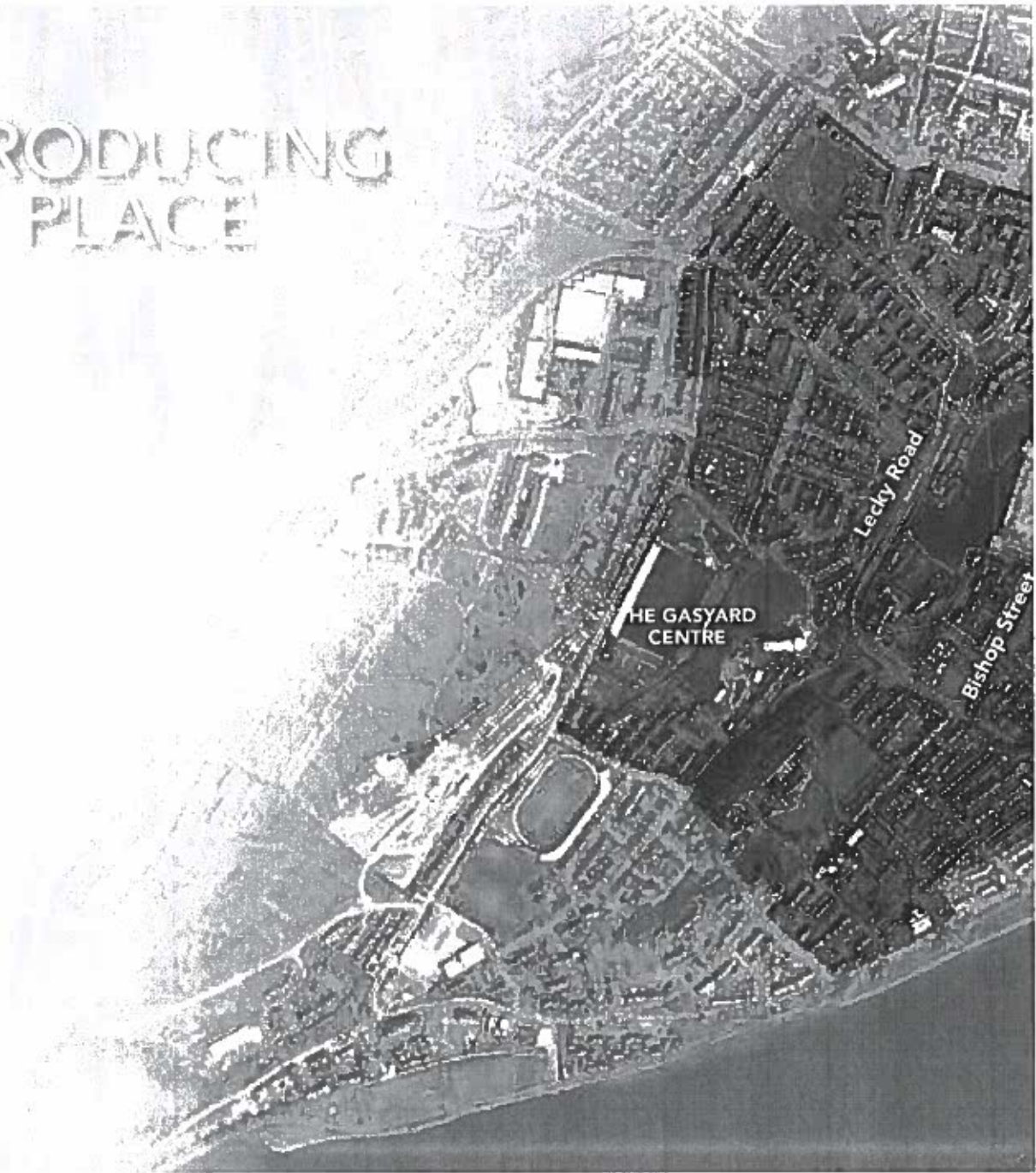
Maximise tourism offering

- Unlock latent tourism offer
- Creatively re-use/ conserve physical assets
- Increase the spin-off benefits of existing tourism

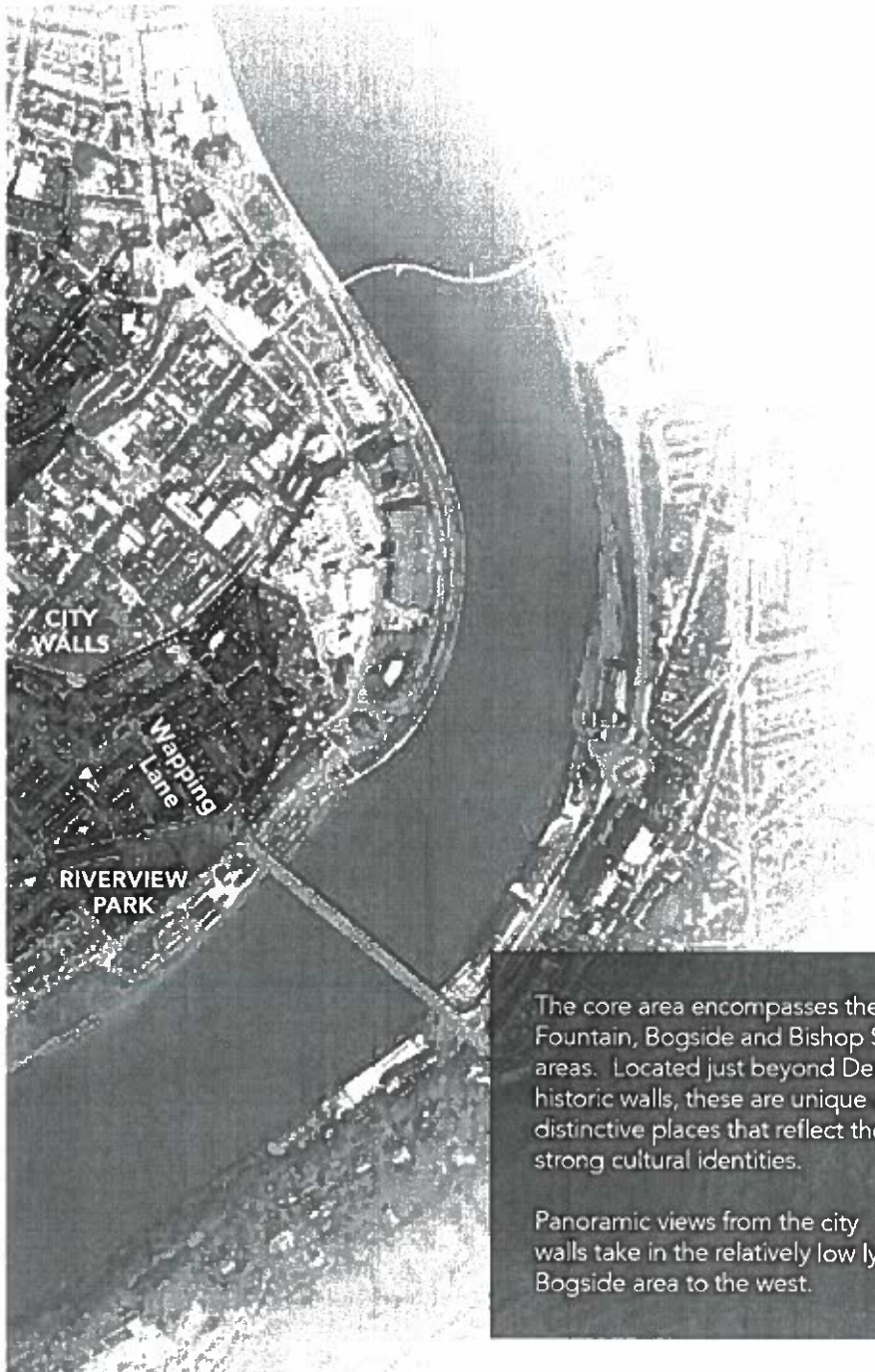


INTRODUCING THE PLACE

1



10 Urban Villages Initiative - Bogside, Fountain and Bishop Street



The core area encompasses the Fountain, Bogside and Bishop Street areas. Located just beyond Derry's historic walls, these are unique and distinctive places that reflect their strong cultural identities.

Panoramic views from the city walls take in the relatively low lying Bogside area to the west.

Its tight knit hilly terraced streets rise to its western boundary – the Lonemoor Road, an offshoot of the Old Letterkenny Road.

The Fountain is discrete and contained, bounded by the walled city on the north, Bishop Street (interface) on the northwest, and Carlisle Road and Abercorn Road on the southeast.

METHODOLOGY

1

The process that informed this Strategic Framework began with an in-depth analysis process involving desktop research, site appraisal and extensive stakeholder consultation. This included 1-to-1 meetings, workshops, surveys, focus groups and public events.

The findings from each stage helped to ensure this Framework is specific to the place and people. It seeks to build on what is working and will continue to progress positive change to bring about real transformation, whilst significantly improving the living environment and area.

Central to the methodology was engagement with the people who live, work and spend time in the

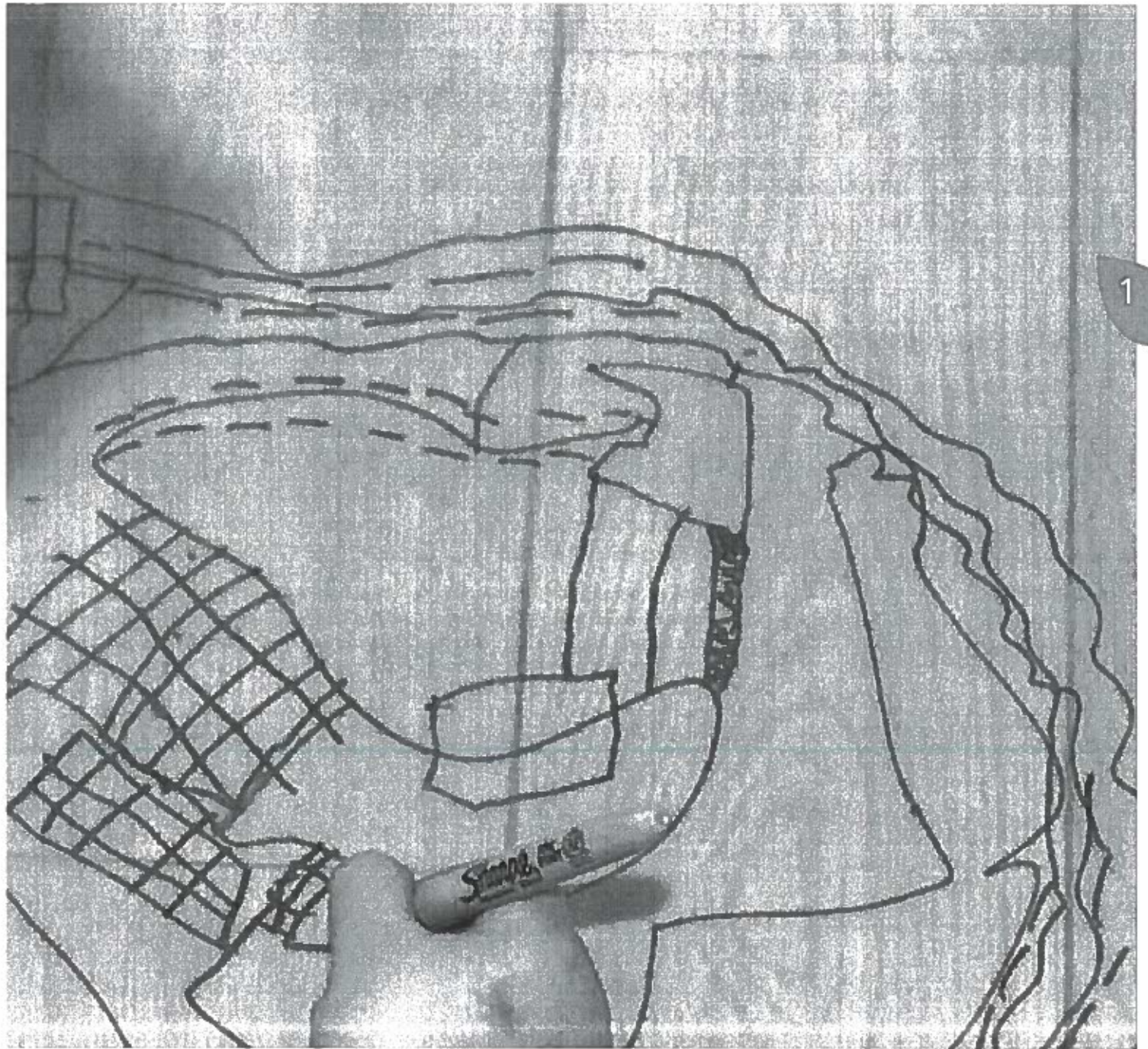
area. Between January and March 2016 the Urban Villages team engaged with local people, community groups and wider stakeholders from both the public sector and local business through a series of workshop events. During the 'Visiting the Neighbours' walking workshop each participant tied gold ribbons to their 'Top Ten' favourite places and spaces in the area, and purple ribbons to ten things needing a helping hand. This demonstrated increased civic pride by collectively identifying and agreeing the area's top assets and opportunities.

A range of issues were explored in more depth. These included, for example, the role of illumination and lighting in regeneration; children's play spaces; community gardens and allotments; and the role of business associations.

This informed the findings and Strategic Actions in parallel with the valuable contributions and participation throughout the process.

A Reference Group was established as an informal group of stakeholders in April 2016 as an expansion of a previous DSD led steering group. This includes key statutory, community and traders' voices. This Reference Group provides a point of contact for continued engagement, sharing of information for dissemination within the wider community.

A commitment to sustained consultation and engagement with all local stakeholders is made for all stages of delivery and as such this is a working document forming the basis for discussion and delivery.



CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

Key to the project methodology was engagement with the people who live, work and spend time in the area.

A wide variety of engagement events, one to one consultation meetings, and supporting research surveys highlighted the area's existing strengths, possibilities, and needs.

The process included 302 people who played their part in nine interactive, inquiry and co-creative workshops, two of which were delivered as part of a Peace Walls Project conference.

141 people responded to a community relations survey during Culture Night 2015. This informed a presentation at a Derry City and Strabane District Council (DCSDC) Community Relations and Cultural Awareness event, in collaboration with Urban Villages in support of the Peace Walls Project.

Seasonal cultural events such as the Christmas Market and Spring Festival also achieved wider engagement and captured views from people about the places where they live. A 'Christmas tree survey' attracted 75 respondents and 17 'vox-pop' contributors.

Over 2000 people attended various Spring Festival events with 296 people completing the Spring Festival Survey. All events were positively received reinforcing the contribution that arts & culture can make to this area and demonstrating its future potential.

Five community led events included a film project by Cathedral Youth Club documenting Fountain resident's hopes and aspirations. Following cross community consultation delivered by Gasyard Wall Féile and Londonderry Bands Forum, scripts for theatre projects on the Easter Rising and Battle of The Somme were developed and written for performance later in the year. Health & wellbeing events across the neighbourhood saw 400+ people of all ages participate in a wide range of sporting, fitness and holistic therapy events.



STREET SOCIETY



SURVEY RETURNS



COMMUNITY LED EVENTS



WORKSHOP EVENTS



FESTIVALS



CONSULTATION MEETINGS

STREET SOCIETY

Three Street Society projects were delivered in the area over a week in March 2016. Three groups of architecture, engineering and anthropology students from Queen's University Belfast worked with community client representatives to tackle current challenges and suggest solutions.

The projects produced information, recommendations and opportunities to help community groups look at potential opportunities and also informed the Strategic Actions within this Strategic Framework.

The Bishops Return

involved working with the Peace Walls project to explore a series of new gable end structures into the interface - each equipped with a gate fronting Bishop Street and the Fountain Estate, to facilitate through movement when desired.

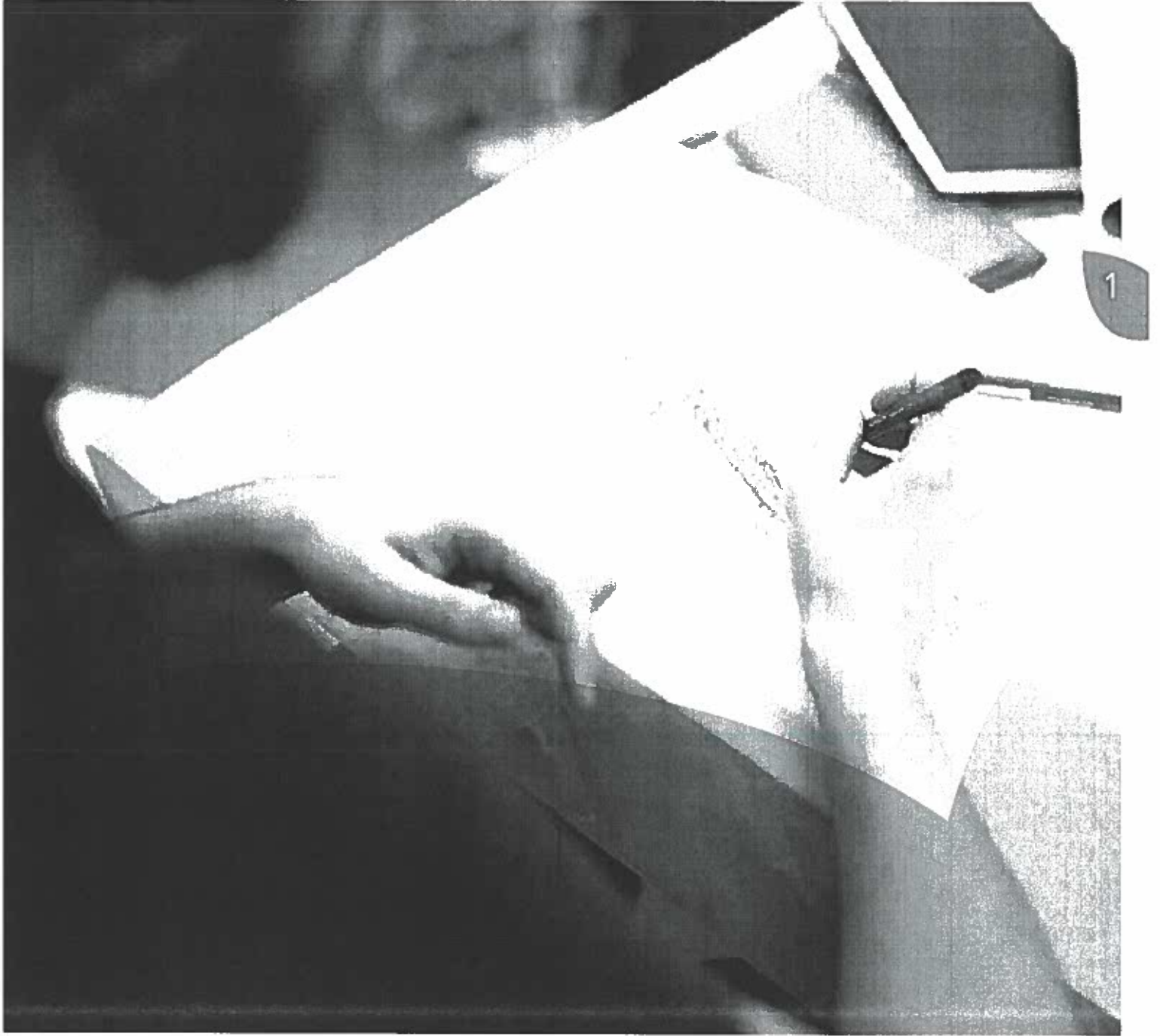
Cultural Activations

explored possibilities for transforming 20-22 Hawkin Street in the Fountain – into an Arts and Cultural Hub. The client group included representatives of Londonderry Bands Forum, Bob Harte Memorial Trust, Blue Eagle Theatre Productions and Solus Cultural Productions. Within the week the students had presented an entirely plausible three phase concept.

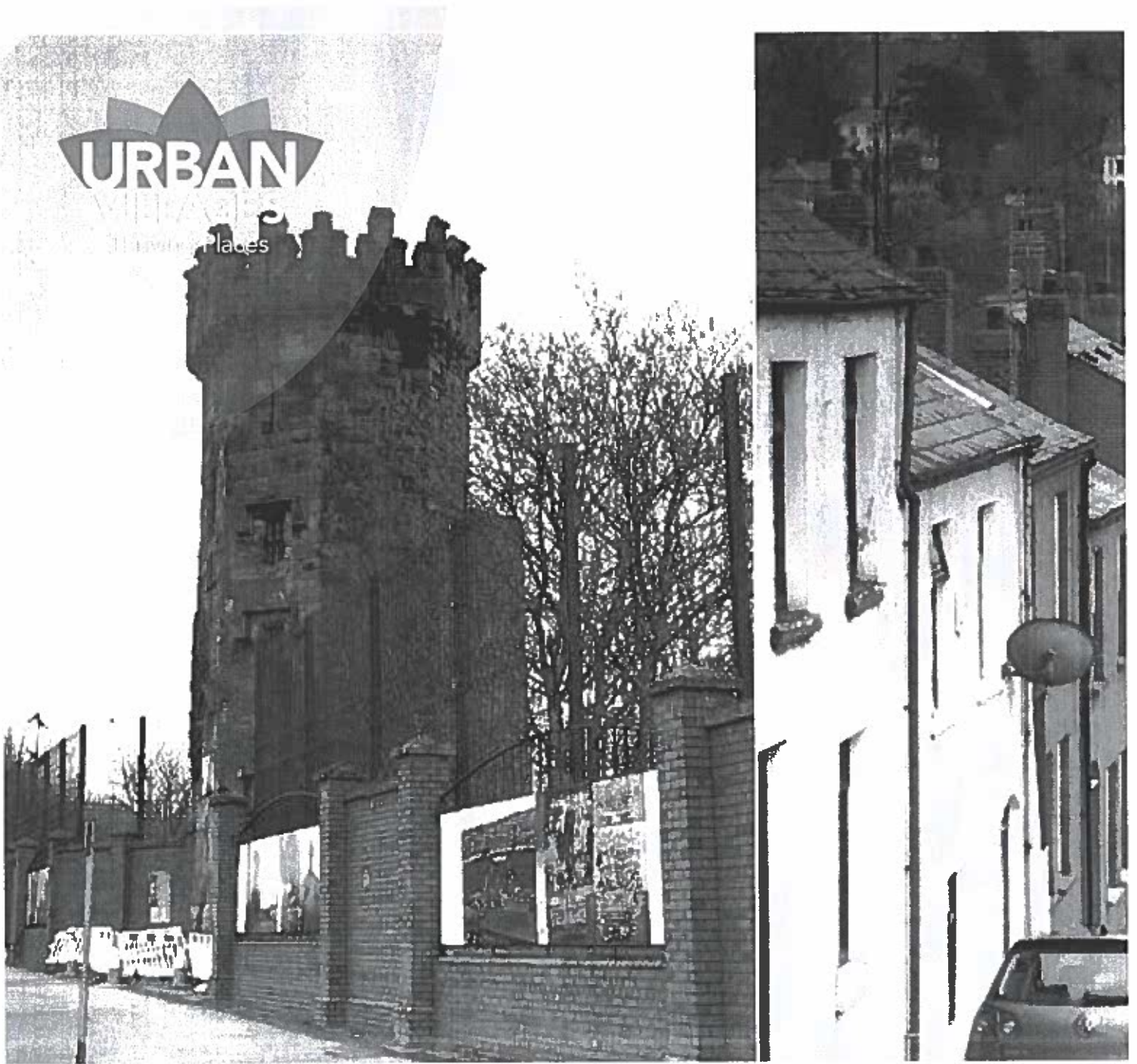
A Youthful Landscape

explored possibilities around Lecky Road Flyover. Gasyard Development Trust, Bogside and Brandywell Health Forum, and Dove House as client group saw the Flyover transformed into an urban green space, a skateboarding park below, as a grass roofed Healthy Living Centre morphed out of the new urban green-space.





Urban Villages Initiative - Bogside, Fountain and Bishop Street 17



18 Urban Villages Initiative - Bogside, Fountain and Bishop Street



02

BOGSIDE, FOUNTAIN AND BISHOP STREET TODAY

BOGSIDE & BISHOP STREET

The area's name is derived from boggy silting due to a retreating River Foyle evacuating its former route around the island 'Hill of Derry'.

Panoramic views from just about everywhere show off its tight network of historic, terraced hilly streets. Distinctive tessellated street patterns run uphill from Lecky Road to Lonemoor Road. Similarly at Bishop Street these frame views towards a majestic River Foyle.



FOUNTAIN

The Fountain is home to a residential community of around 300 people. A legacy from days when the city was the shirt making capital of the British Isles is a collection of former shirt factories and associated workers' housing.

Bounded to the north by the historic Derry walls, a brick built interface wall divides it from Bishop Street and Upper Bennett Street to the west and south.





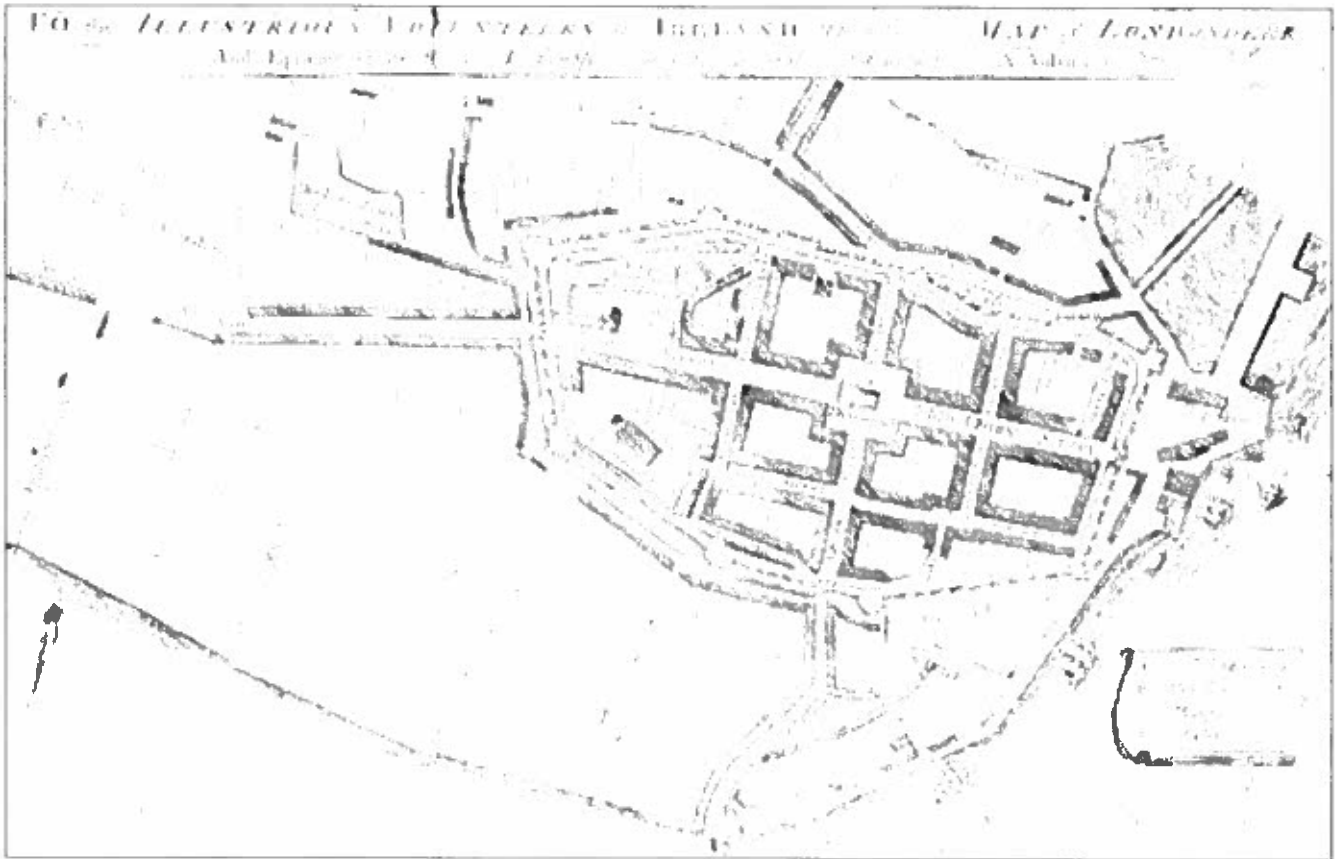
Plate 1. 'London Derry'. 1685. by Thomas Phillips, pen and ink wash (British Library); original size 48 x 91 cm, reduced by approximately two fifths (Phillips view).

Irish Historic Towns Atlas

1685

HISTORIC DEVELOPMENT

Located in the northwest of the island of Ireland, tucked away between the Sperrin Mountains and Inishowen Hills, within the Foyle's hilly valley, the Fountain, Bogside & Bishop Street area is geographically and topographically isolated within the city.



Map 16. Londonderry, c. 1780 (Trinity College Dublin); original scale 10 perches to an inch, size 42 x 27 cm, reduced by approximately two thirds (Volunteer).

Irish Historic Towns Atlas

1780

The adjacent Walled City's reputation as a signature tourist destination continues to grow. The Walled City is the first example of true urban planning in Ireland and the only remaining intact walled city on the island. With a street grid pattern of European, classical origins, it is also the jewel in the crown of Ulster Plantation's collection of urban heritage.

By the time of the Siege of Derry in 1689, expansion beyond the city walls boundaries shows clearly the emerging alignment of Bishop Street and Fountain Street. This gives both streets considerable historic significance.

Bishop Street is a major arterial route between the two cathedral towns of Derry and Raphoe. It has a rich story to tell of journeys made by the bishops.



1905

The footprint of the Urban Village area at its most dense. This condensed development footprint, which persisted into the 1960s ensured a lively street life and still accommodated considerable open space – some of it agricultural. Former residents recount that 'Old Rossville Street was a great street'. Others remember when every street in the Bogside was full of music, with enough musicians of its own to form a band.



2016

Comparison between 2016 and 1905 figure-ground maps (previous) reveals that while substantial tracts of the area's Plantation and 19th century historic street pattern is still evident, the density of development within the area has been substantially eroded. This is due to insertion of 1970s roads infrastructure, construction of lower density post 1960s public housing, and more recent building demolition, especially along the river.

GREEN SPACES, GAP SITES AND SURFACE CAR PARKS

There are extensive open spaces in the area that provide recreational and visual amenity. However due to topography, perceived and physical barriers some of these have limited benefits for the residents of the area.

The existing green spaces within the core area are identified on the adjacent plan. These are concentrated on the grassy banking that slopes up the city walls and Long Tower Church, Bull Park, Riverview Park and the Gasyard Park. There is also a riverside park which is a city wide amenity, although it would benefit from improvements. There is also a linear riverside park at Foyle Road. There are pleasant spacious grounds at Lumen Christi College although relatively inaccessible. Brooke Park is located northwest of the area and will reopen after a £5.6m make-over in 2016. In addition, there are many smaller green open spaces in the area.

The adjacent plan also identifies a number of gap sites and/or surface car parks which have the potential for future change. These vary in ownership, scale and potential.





KEY

- Vegetation / Green Space
- Gap Sites
- Surface Car Parks



PEDESTRIAN ROUTES AND BARRIERS TO MOVEMENT

There are various barriers to movement through the area both physical and perceived. This analysis has been informed by participants in workshops when the most commonly walked routes were mapped which revealed that many residents faced a variety of barriers while going about their daily routine i.e. going to school, work and shopping. These include Lecky Road dual carriageway, the city walls, steep embankments, the Bishop Street interface, and palisade security fences around buildings and between housing developments.

Safety and perceived safety also impact on the routes people choose to walk and factors may include the levels of lighting, extent of vacant buildings and sites, traffic speeds and fear of falling debris from buildings in poor repair. Topography is also a barrier especially to elderly, adults with small children and people with disabilities.

KEY

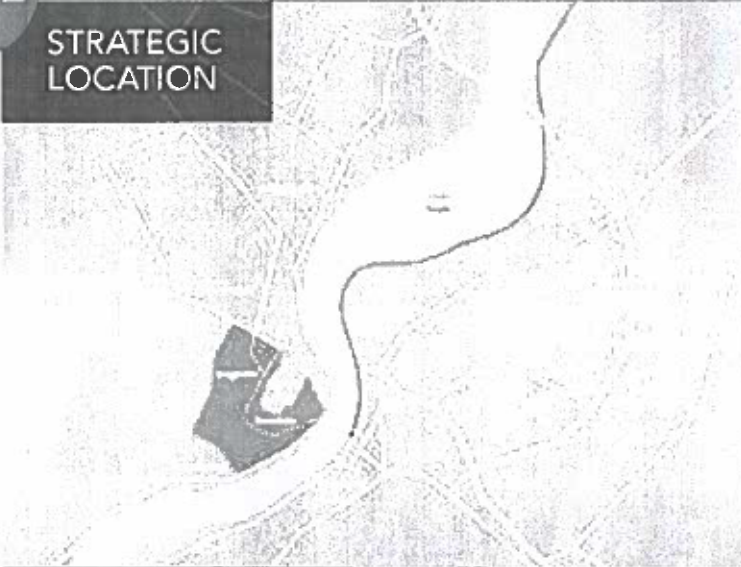
- Barriers to Movement:
- Pedestrian Routes

STRENGTHS

The engagement process and analysis identifies many positive aspects and strengths that include people, activities and places which are summarised over the following pages.

2

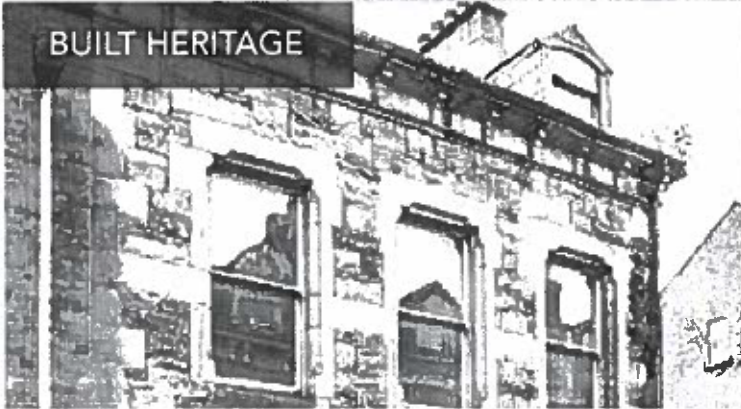
STRATEGIC LOCATION



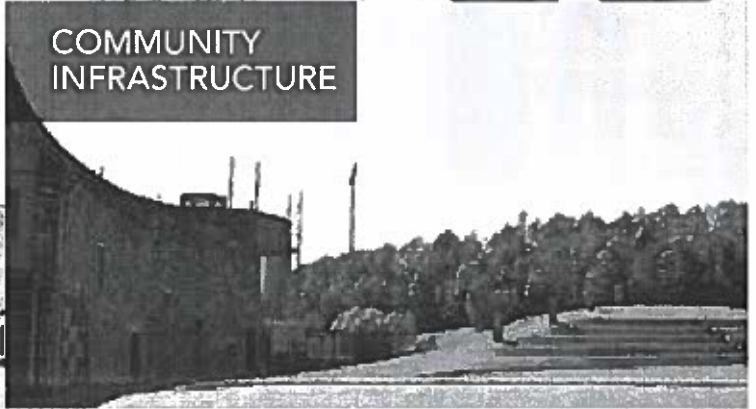
COMMUNITY SPIRIT



BUILT HERITAGE



COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE



CULTURAL
HERITAGE

CultúrLann
UíChanáin

FESTIVALS &
EVENTS

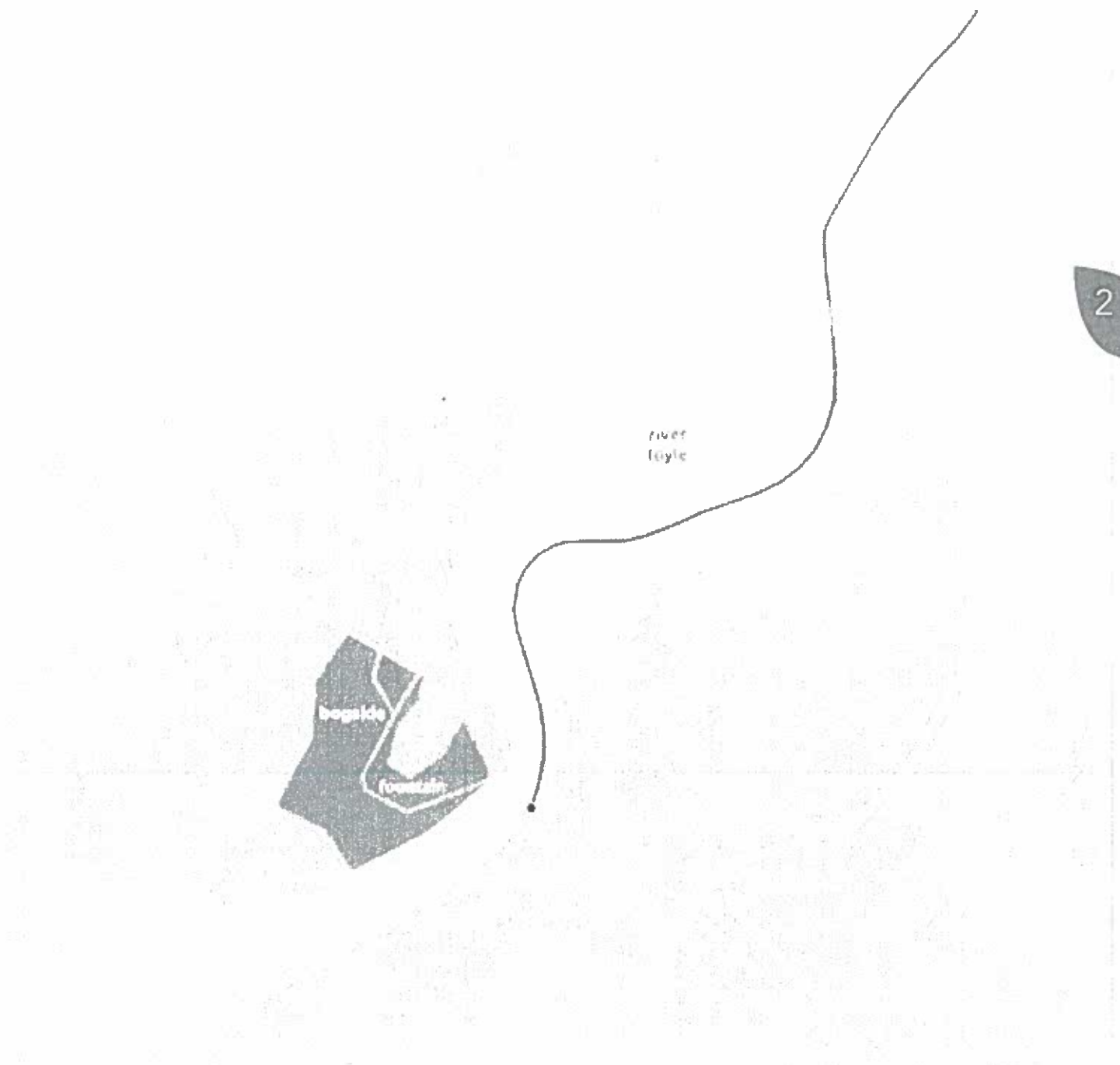


STRATEGIC LOCATION

When it comes to location this place has it, lying close to stunning countryside and coastal landscapes, and a stone's throw from the Wild Atlantic Way.

Less than five minutes walk takes residents to the heart of the city centre and the associated facilities. The area is also right beside the River Foyle and Northern Ireland's largest scheduled monument, the four hundred year old city walls.





BUILT HERITAGE

A number of historic streets fall within the Historic City Conservation Area. Though suffering varying degrees of dereliction, these streets are the most visible and tangible expression of the area's architectural heritage past and present.

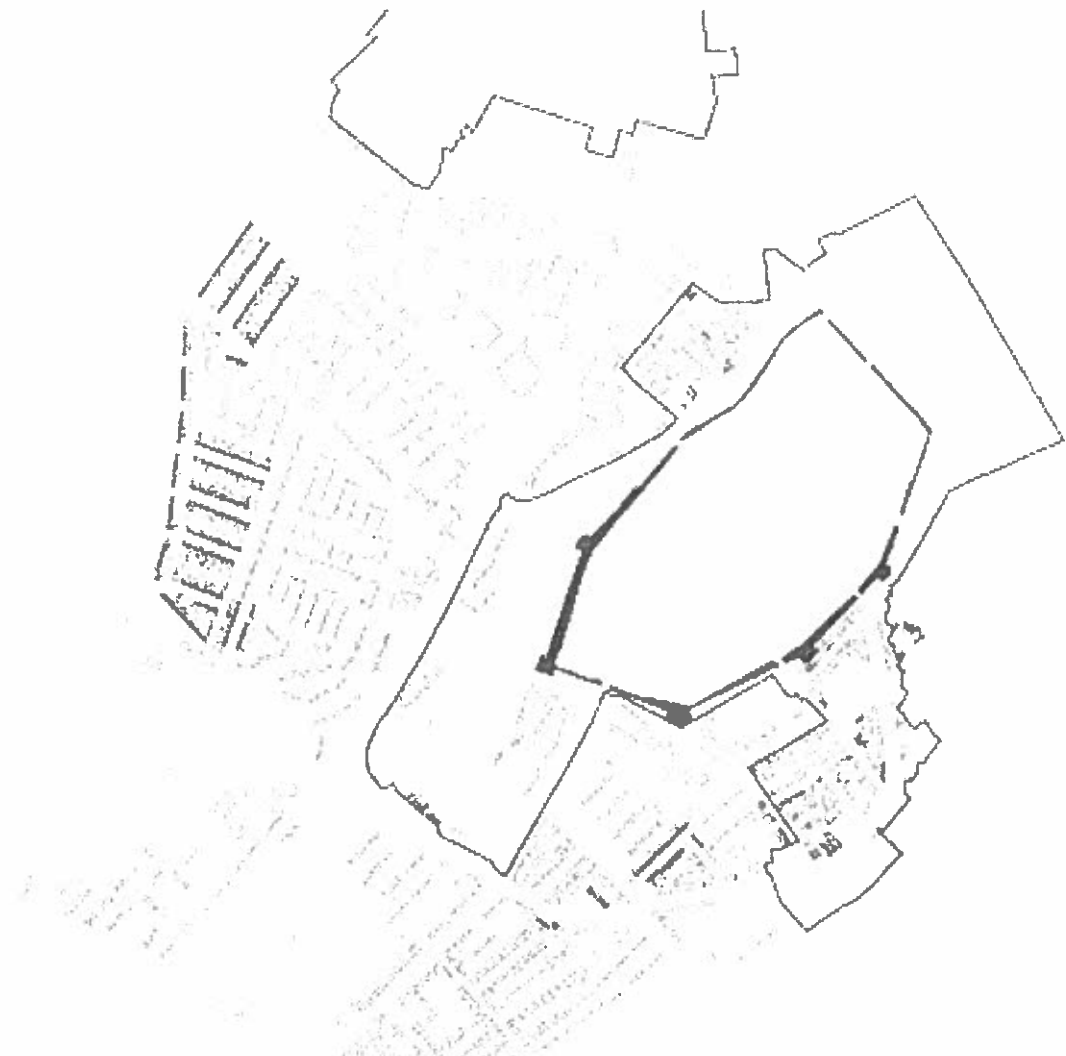
The built heritage in the area is of varying quality and states of repair however it all contributes to the sense of place. Much of the built heritage in poor repair was highlighted

with purple ribbons through the engagement process - as things in need of a helping hand.

Collectively, they are a legacy of thriving 19th and early 20th century shirt making activity in the area. The Fountain Estate contains two B+ listed former shirt factories and associated worker's housing. These tell the story of the city that was the global capital of shirt making in its heyday.



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KEY

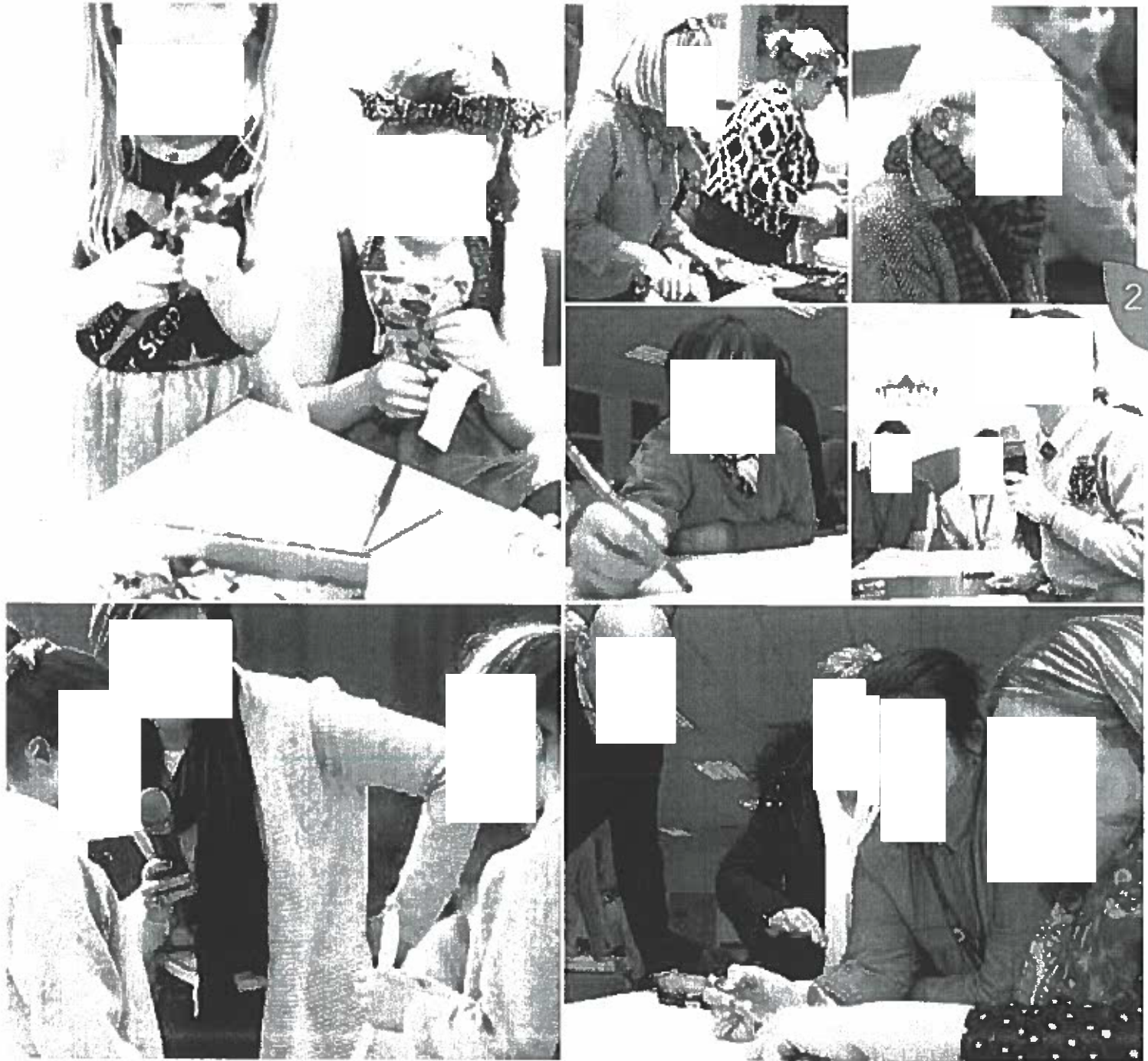
- Conservation Area
- Listed Buildings
- Scheduled Monument
- Buildings of Special Architectural Value

COMMUNITY SPIRIT

The events and community engagement process identifies a strong sense of belonging and community spirit in the area with resilient groups and many stories shared. This reflects the essence of a great community, a place where people know how to support each other and care for those in need.

There has been a resurgence in traditional crafts such as knitting, patchwork, crochet, and jewellery making via initiatives including Keep Her Knit and Crafty Corner. Also Men's Shed and increased interest in growing food in the local allotments are also providing opportunities for activities to increase community spirit.



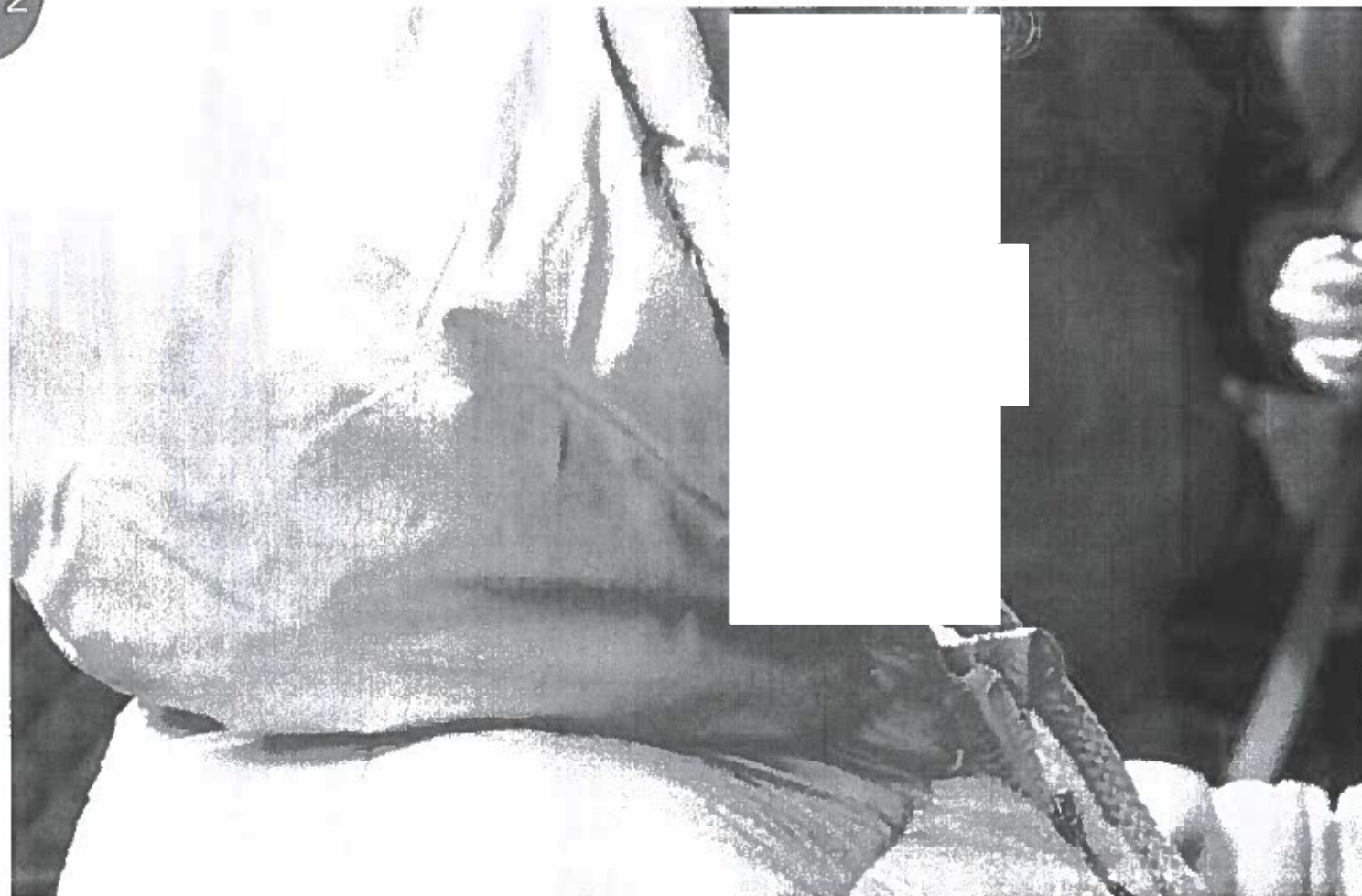


COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE

An inspiring spirit of self-help is at the root of the area's community organisations. Emerging from the worst years of conflict, sustained collaborative grass roots work created a host of robust, established organisations serving a wide range of needs.

Cross-community interaction has laid solid foundations for strong relationships developing between and within the local community.

Initiatives including TRIAX, The Gasyard Development Trust, Dove House, Bogside Brandywell Health Forum, Cathedral Youth Club,



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Bogside and Brandywell Initiative, the Derry Credit Union, Pilots Row Community Centre, North West Cultural Forum and Holywell Trust provide scope and inspiration for further positive collaborative work and development.





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CULTURAL HERITAGE

The city has been a hotbed of creativity for many years producing internationally acclaimed artists, musicians, playwrights, poets and writers. High levels of creativity and energy again bubbled to the surface in the aftermath of conflict resulting in a wide number of culture and arts facilities across the fields of sport, art, drama and history. This remains a relatively unexploited jewel in the area's cultural tourism offer.

From famous Irish tenors to influential punk bands, the area punches well above its weight, consistently producing top class musicians over the years. Songwriters including [

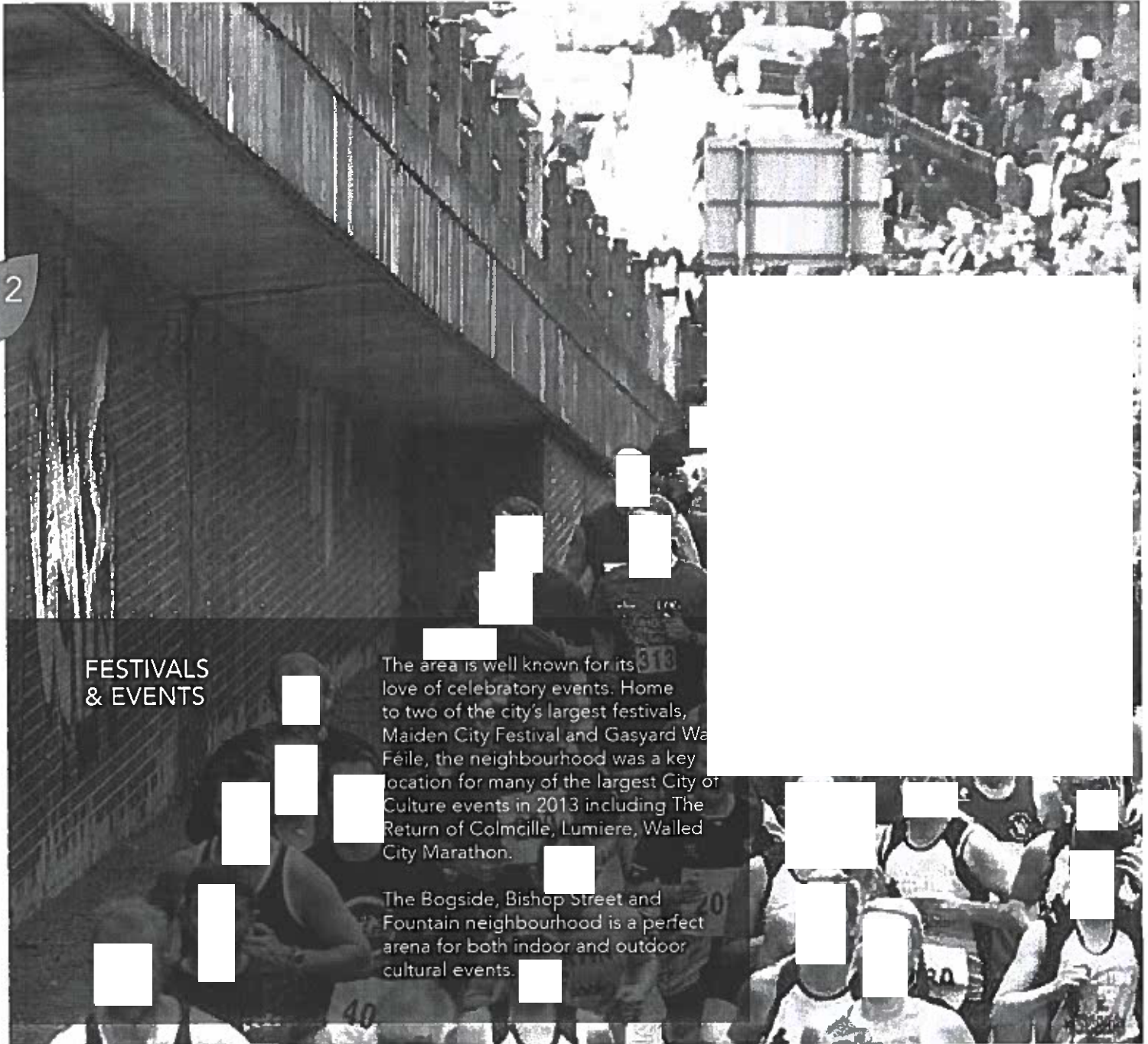
including the acclaimed Colmcille Ladies Choir and flute bands including the William King Memorial Flute Band are among the other acts from the area that have achieved national and international success.

Dance in all its forms remains strong in the area with Irish dancing, highland dance, ballet, hip-hop and contemporary dance classes proving especially popular.

Also the former St Columba's College on Bishop St (now Lumen Christi College) has schooled several literary giants including Nobel Laureate and the world renowned playwright [

2

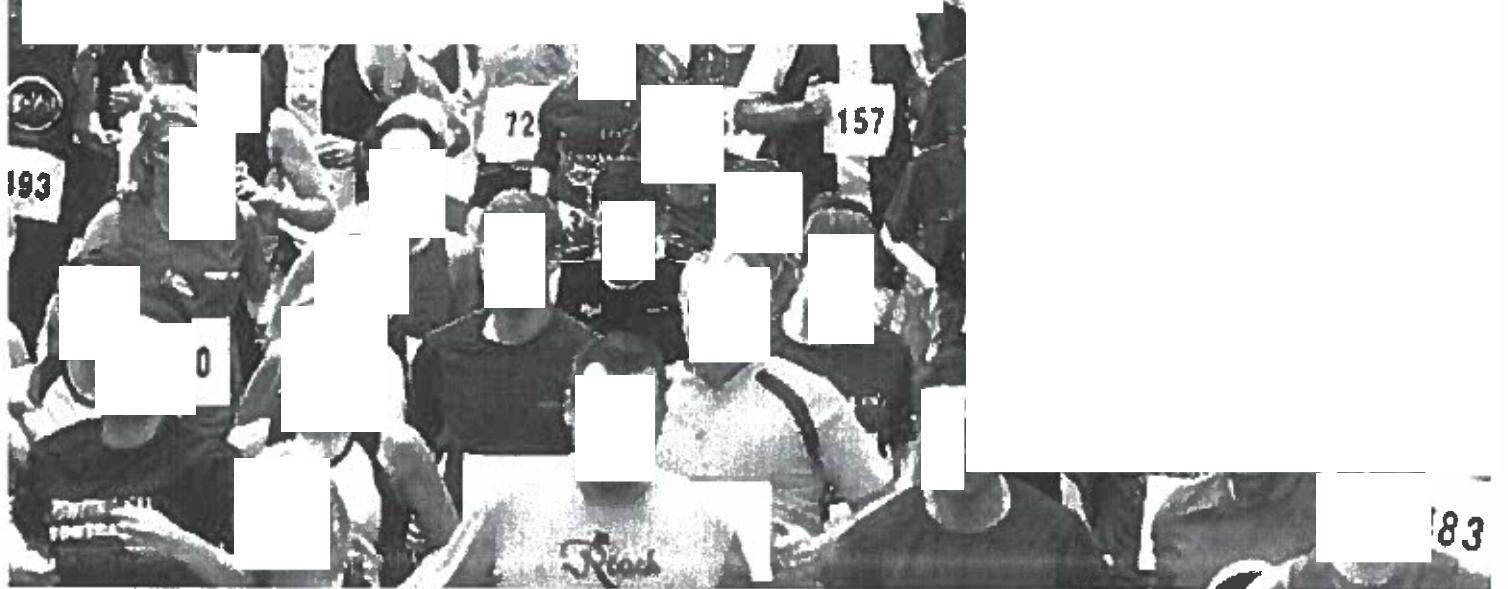
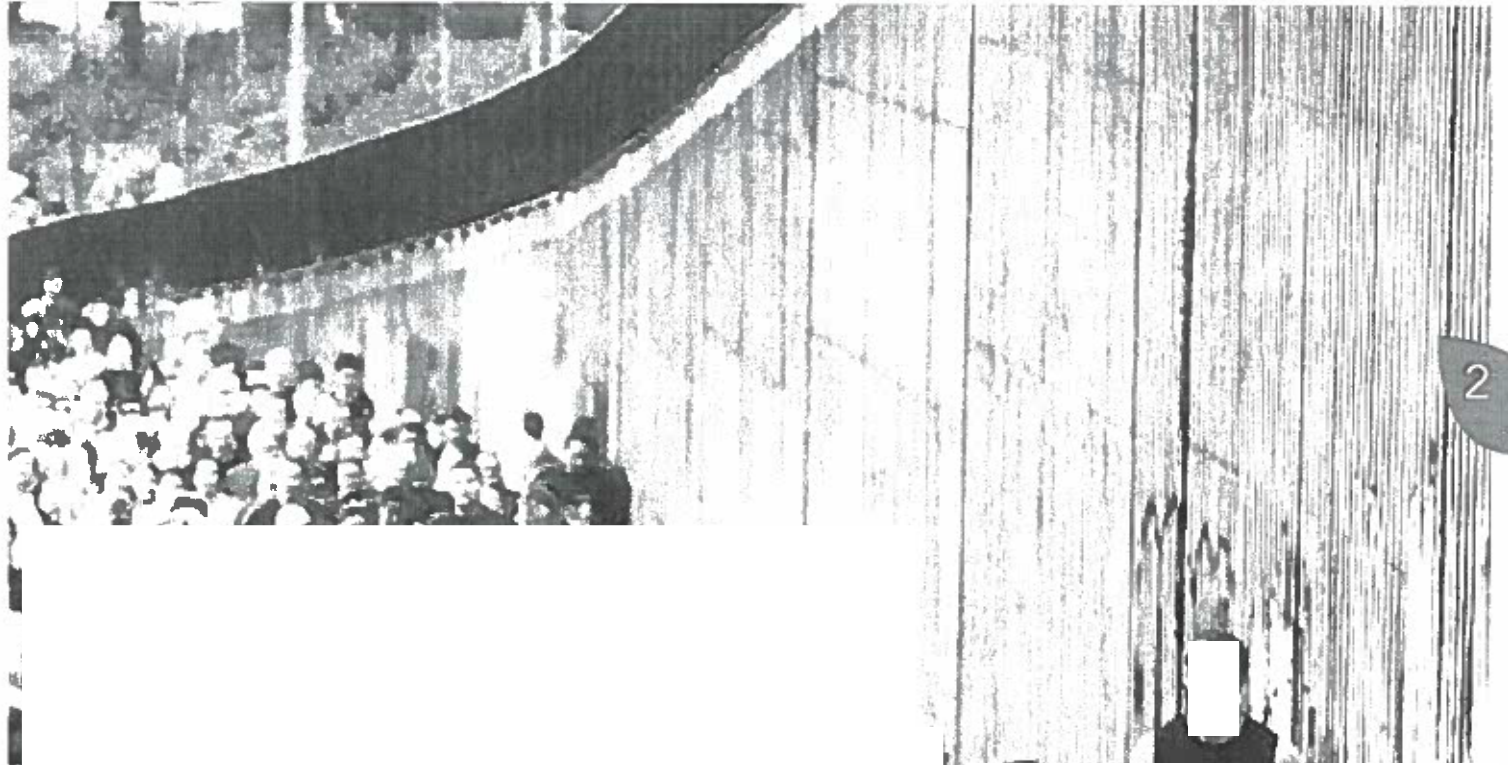




FESTIVALS & EVENTS

The area is well known for its love of celebratory events. Home to two of the city's largest festivals, Maiden City Festival and Gasyard Walféile, the neighbourhood was a key location for many of the largest City of Culture events in 2013 including The Return of Colmcille, Lumiere, Walled City Marathon.

The Bogside, Bishop Street and Fountain neighbourhood is a perfect arena for both indoor and outdoor cultural events.



CHALLENGES

Unsurprisingly all three neighbourhoods face similar challenges. Adjacent to the city centre, they all express the city's evolving historic development phases, social and economic contexts.

2

DERELICTION
AND VACANCY



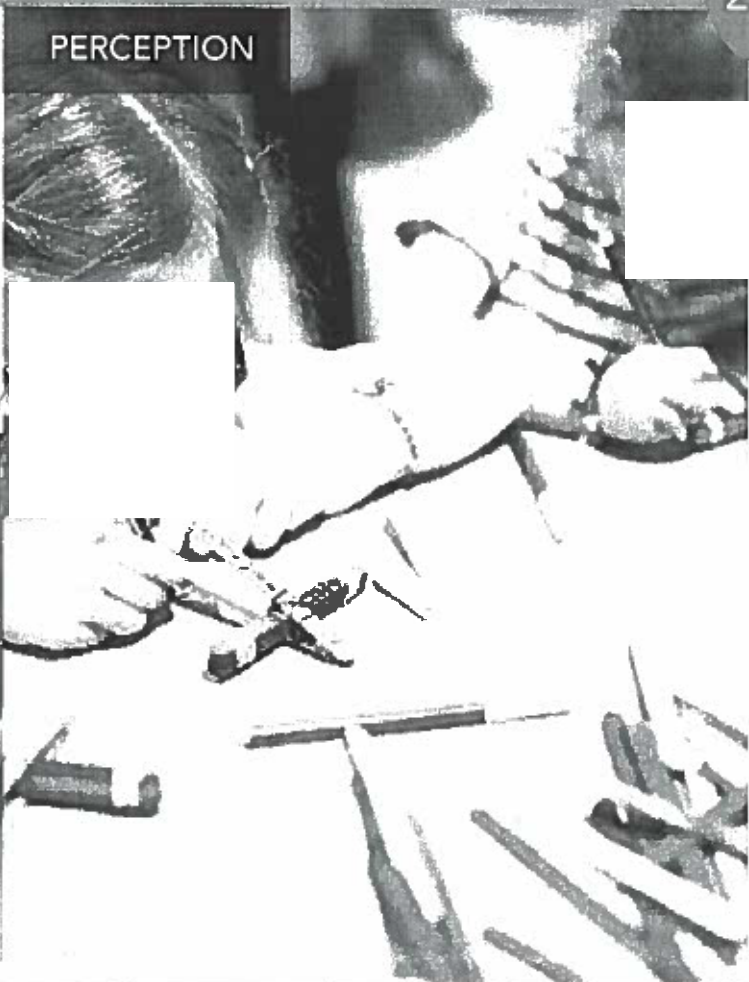
LIMITED
ACCESS



SOCIAL ISOLATION



PERCEPTION



DERELICTION AND VACANCY

There are concentrated areas of dereliction and vacancy in the area, including Meenan Square, Hawkin Street and Wapping Lane. These cause blight and become an economic and physical eyesore for residents and visitors alike due to poor states of repair and vacancy.

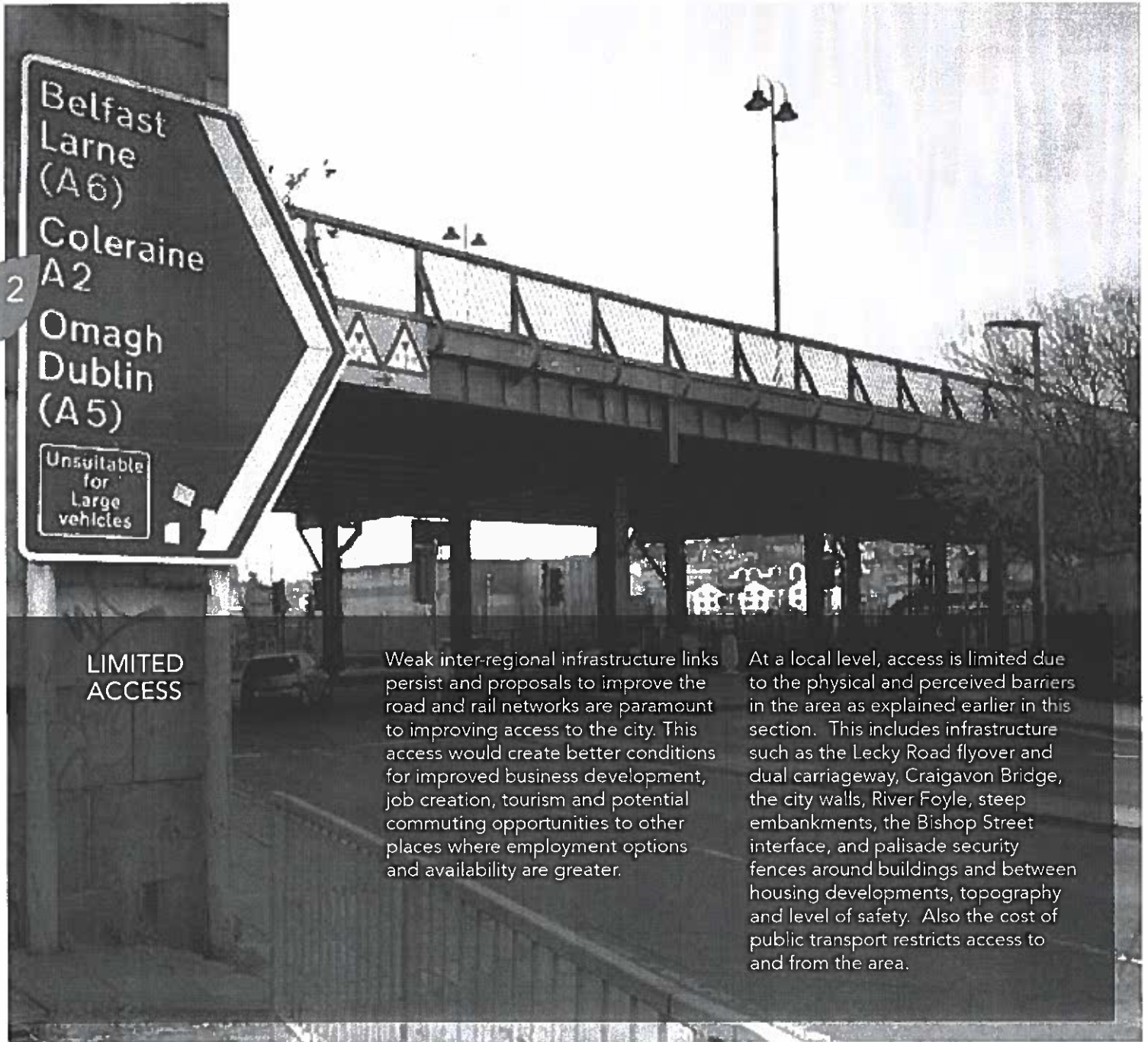
Of almost 800 buildings examined in the Urban Village area, 36 have been identified as being 'at risk' and in need of priority repair. These 'at risk' buildings are mostly located within the Fountain and Chamberlain Street areas.



The scale of the opportunity varies from individual properties to extensive sites with various land owners and different levels of work required to bring these opportunities forward. Addressing dereliction, particularly where this

coincides with vacancy, is a priority given the extent and prominence of derelict properties close to the city centre.





LIMITED ACCESS

Weak inter-regional infrastructure links persist and proposals to improve the road and rail networks are paramount to improving access to the city. This access would create better conditions for improved business development, job creation, tourism and potential commuting opportunities to other places where employment options and availability are greater.

At a local level, access is limited due to the physical and perceived barriers in the area as explained earlier in this section. This includes infrastructure such as the Lecky Road flyover and dual carriageway, Craigavon Bridge, the city walls, River Foyle, steep embankments, the Bishop Street interface, and palisade security fences around buildings and between housing developments, topography and level of safety. Also the cost of public transport restricts access to and from the area.



SOCIAL ISOLATION

The effects of conflict and changing demographic patterns, have, over time, resulted in physical changes to neighbourhoods. The erection of walls, security fences, gates on back alleys, and 'gated communities' are a noticeable physical change throughout. The physical and perceived barriers in the area segregate neighbourhoods regardless of cultural background and contribute to social isolation.

Isolation, loneliness and health continue to be a feature in today's society. In the TRIAX area a recent survey by the Bogside and Brandywell Health Forum suggests that 1 in 3 of participants (aged 60- 90) live alone. Almost one in five of those surveyed reported they did not socialise outside their homes because of a lack of motivation.

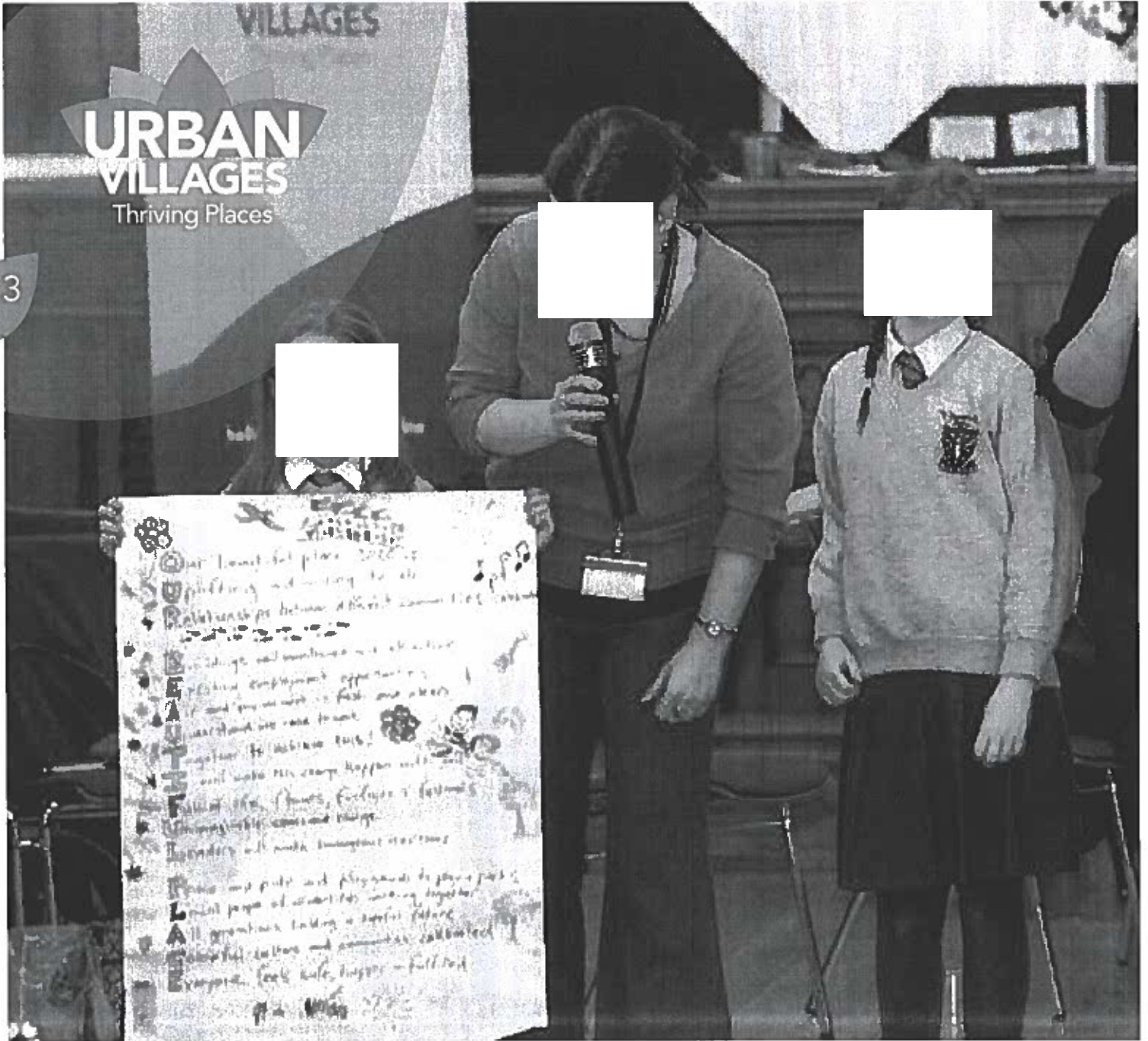
Other health challenges include; obesity, mental health, drugs & alcohol and a lack of exercise.



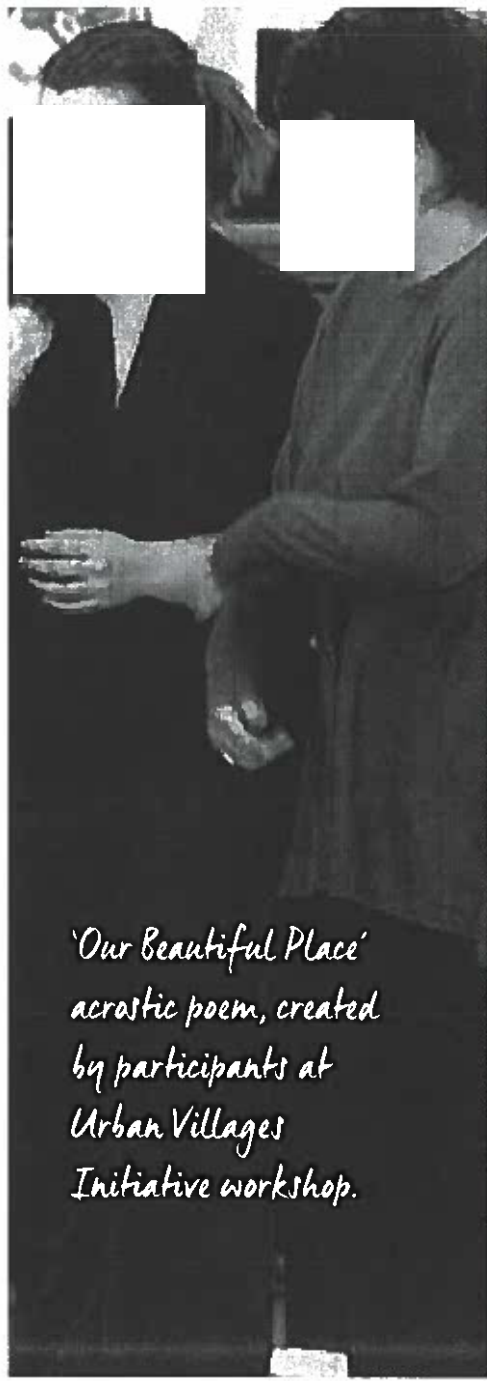
PERCEPTION

Anti-social behaviour in the area has reduced substantially in recent times owing to the collective efforts of residents and organisations, offering a range of intervention programmes to encourage and enable more positive behaviour. Positive perception and expression is challenged annually however, during the summer bonfire season.

The Urban Villages Spring Festival Survey 2016, receiving 296 responses, reveals over 36% of residents still believe the area is perceived negatively by both local residents and those not living in the area.



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*'Our Beautiful Place'
acrostic poem, created
by participants at
Urban Villages
Initiative workshop.*

03

THE FUTURE

3

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

The Strategic Actions have been developed through a comprehensive process of information gathering, analysis and extensive engagement with a wide and diverse audience. They seek to build on what is working, highlighting opportunities for sustaining positive change. Each of the Strategic Actions sits within one of seven overarching themes and will lead to various projects and/or alignment with other projects.

3

TRANSFORM PLACES

- *Tackle dereliction and vacancy*
- *Create a well designed, sustainable and thriving place*
- *Maximise connections*
- *Create effective shared space*
- *Address challenges of interface walls*

BUILD A MORE RESILIENT AND SELF-SUFFICIENT COMMUNITY

- *Develop and promote social enterprise and entrepreneurship*
- *Improve and increase allotments, community gardens and growing*

HEALTH AND WELLBEING

- *Encourage participation in sport and physical activity*
- *Support and sustain positive lifestyle choices*
- *Collaborate to tackle social isolation*



ENTERPRISING COMMUNITIES

- Connect and collaborate
- Increase education, training & employment opportunities



MOTIVATE, SUPPORT AND INSPIRE OUR YOUNG PEOPLE

- Encourage youth engagement opportunities
- Support multi-discipline activity
- Increase support for lifelong learning

3



CELEBRATE AND PROMOTE CULTURAL DIVERSITY

- Promote and develop a programme of festivals, events and cultural activity
- Celebrate and foster cultural diversity
- Encourage partnerships with local, national and international organisations



MAXIMISE THE BENEFITS OF TOURISM

- Unlock latent tourism offer
- Creatively re-use/ conserve physical assets
- Increase the spin-off benefits of existing tourism

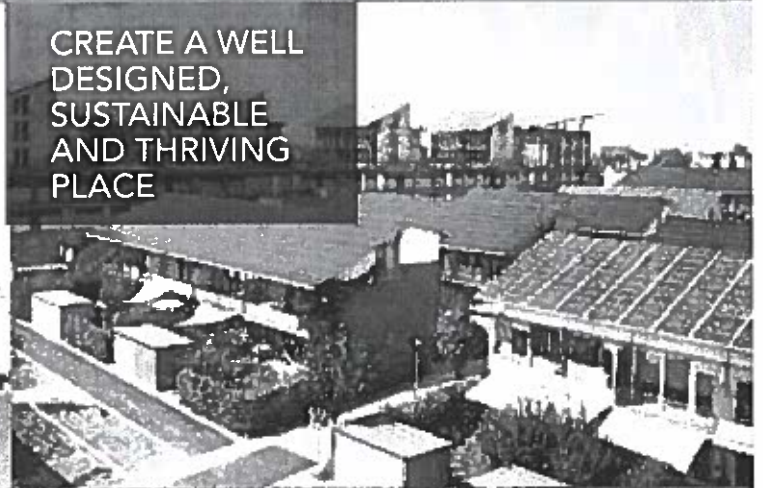
TRANSFORM PLACES

3

TACKLE
DERELICTION
AND VACANCY



CREATE A WELL
DESIGNED,
SUSTAINABLE
AND THRIVING
PLACE

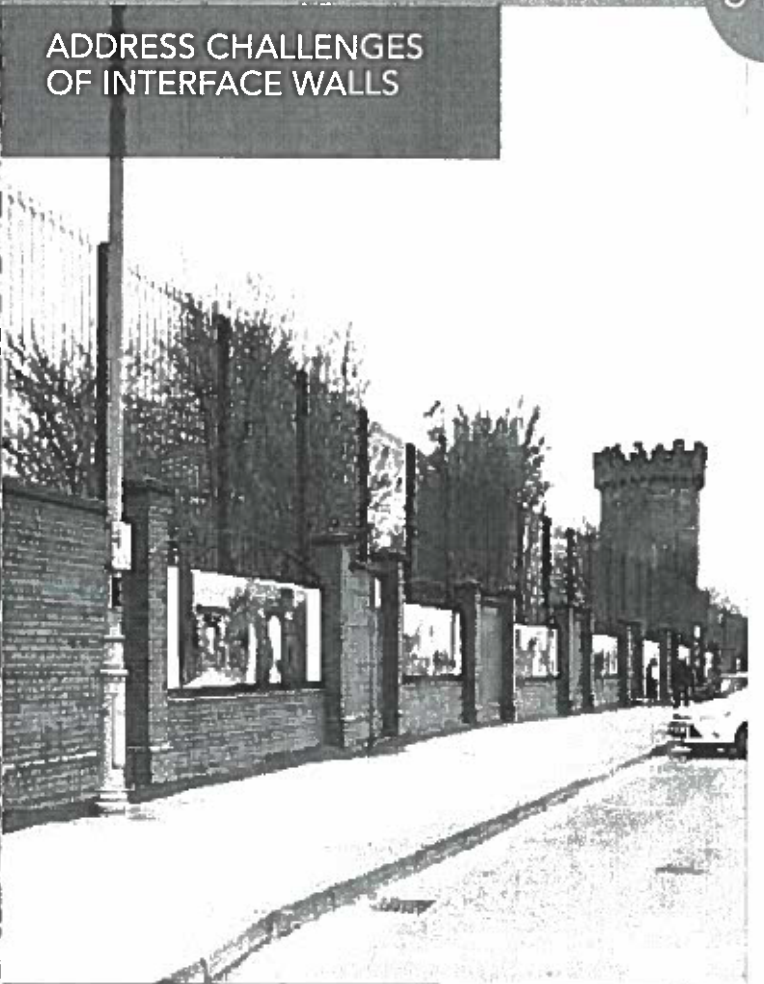
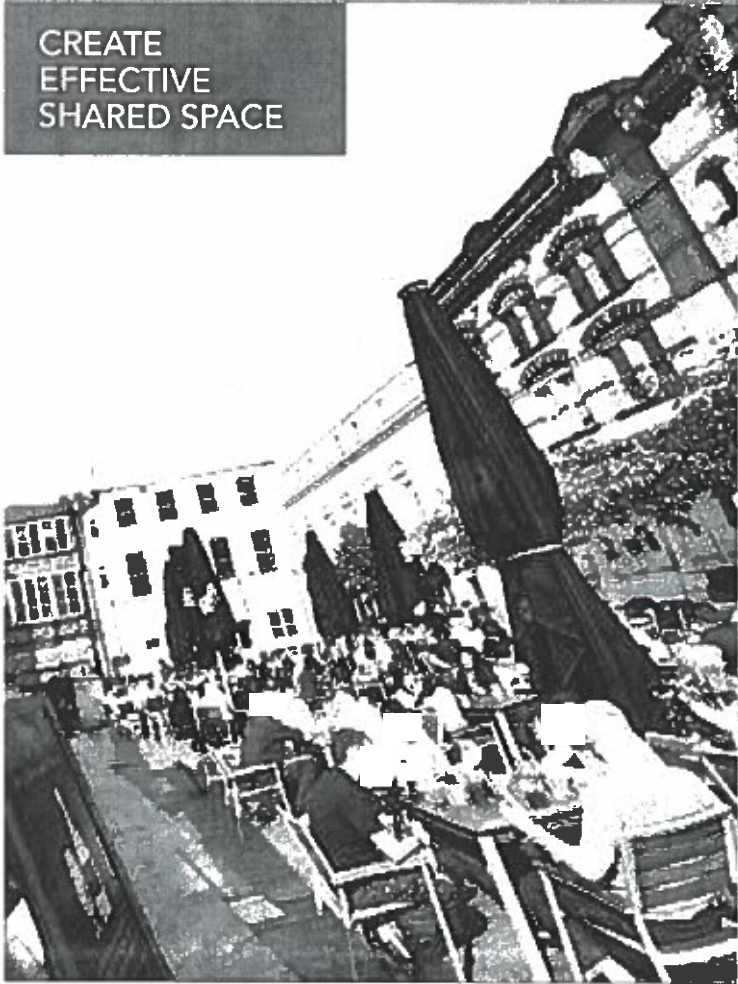


MAXIMISE
CONNECTIONS



CREATE
EFFECTIVE
SHARED SPACE

ADDRESS CHALLENGES
OF INTERFACE WALLS



TACKLE DERELICTION AND VACANCY

The scale of the opportunity varies from individual properties to extensive sites which could transform the area. These range from empty upper floors of buildings to vacant shop units, historic buildings and cleared sites. Each will require a different level of work to bring these opportunities forward with different individuals, groups, voluntary, private and public sector organisations.

Consideration will need to be given to short, medium and long term opportunities and could range from frontage improvements to repair and re-use projects and potential redevelopment proposals for key sites.

Due to timescales to deliver redevelopment proposals potential exists to transform some of the vacant spaces through the innovative application of meanwhile uses. These temporary interventions would add value to an area and its people. They could include community gardens, performance spaces, outdoor galleries/markets, wildlife gardens and many other imaginative proposals, considered and developed with local residents, organisations, schools and landowners. It is critical that from the outset there is commitment to supporting the management of these spaces and a clear understanding that ultimately they will be redeveloped.



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CREATE A WELL DESIGNED, SUSTAINABLE AND THRIVING PLACE

There are significant opportunities to enhance the area with new development that is well designed and contributes to animation. Inner city brownfield, gap and underutilised sites should be consolidated and redeveloped to increase the population living and working in the area. This would in turn support facilities and amenities in the area in a sustainable manner and increase vibrancy and viability.

The potential to create design/development briefs and possibly design competitions should be explored. This would support innovation and the creation of high quality places that reflects the local character whilst introducing innovation in design and technology including renewable energies and materials.

3



Urban Villages Initiative - Bogside, Fountain and Bishop Street 61



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CREATE EFFECTIVE SHARED SPACE

Creating shared space that is accessible to all is central to the Urban Villages Initiative outcomes. There are opportunities to improve and increase access for a wider community to existing spaces, through physical interventions and/or activities and events.

In designing new spaces, careful consideration needs to be given to the adjacent uses, to ensure they maximise the positive animation that provides the feeling of safety and encourages the use of the space for all. Regular positioning of doors and windows along frontages increases overlooking of the space.

Also note the importance of designing shared spaces for all ages and abilities and encouraging inter-generational use of the spaces.

Shared movement through spaces should also be considered, where appropriate. The concept is to improve the visual appearance of spaces, whilst giving pedestrians and cyclists increased priority, reduce traffic speeds and create flexible spaces to accommodate different events and activities.

MAXIMISE CONNECTIONS

There are possibilities to maximise connections in the short, medium and long term. The quality and range of connections across, within and beyond the area including links to the city centre, River Foyle and other community assets need to be considered. Interventions may range from removing a railing, creating safe pedestrian links, to the longer term goal of considering the removal of the Lecky Road Flyover and re-making 21st century streets.

Priority should be given to increasing connectivity for pedestrians, cyclists and disabled people, whilst

overcoming topographical challenges through creative urban design. The balance between commuter parking and residential amenity should be addressed and consider the potential for creating home-zone play areas integral to residential streets.

Potential cycle routes and riverside walkways/parks, bridges and links to the city walls should be increased. Similar schemes in other areas have seen an increased uptake in running, walking and cycling which promotes healthy lifestyles and provides opportunities for tourism.

ADDRESS THE CHALLENGES OF INTERFACE WALLS

In the 'Together: Building a United Community' Strategy, the Northern Ireland Executive made a commitment to remove interface barriers by 2023.

As a headline action in that Strategy, we will work with local people and other stakeholders to address the challenges of interface walls in Urban Village areas as appropriate in each place. Clearly this is not a simple task and fulfilling such an objective must be carefully undertaken.

In each Urban Village area it is proposed that local people and those with responsibility for taking action on issues around interfaces are involved in shaping delivery of any capital or other schemes. There is no prescribed approach to this task.

Delivery may include increasing levels of communication and positive interaction, protecting original and potential points of connection, maximising opportunities for

regular communication and shared programmes and activities and introducing flexibility to physical barriers where there is community support to do so.

Work could also be undertaken to address non-physical barriers that exist between neighbourhoods, in keeping with Urban Village's three aims of fostering positive identities, building community capacity and improving the physical environment.

BUILD A MORE RESILIENT AND SELF-SUFFICIENT COMMUNITY

3

DEVELOP AND PROMOTE SOCIAL ENTERPRISE AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP



IMPROVE AND INCREASE ALLOTMENTS, COMMUNITY GARDENS AND GROWING





3

DEVELOP AND PROMOTE SOCIAL ENTERPRISE AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Strategically well located, the area has the potential to become a key place for investment, private business and social enterprise. This should be proactively pursued collectively with partners including: TRIAX, Derry City & Strabane District Council, residents, City Centre Initiative and Londonderry Chamber of Commerce.

These may include business incentives, marketing support, digital connectivity and targeting training support. More importantly, the conditions must be in place to ensure that the area can provide, attract and retain the workforce needed to supply any employment created.

A collaborative working relationship with businesses and their representative organisations could identify a series of practical measures and learning tools to support employment opportunities in the area.



IMPROVE AND INCREASE ALLOTMENTS, COMMUNITY GARDENS AND GROWING

As a strong, vibrant community the area enjoys many assets including community gardens and allotments. These are a precious resource, providing local people with the opportunity to grow fresh produce, eat it and learn about it, making it a positive social activity.

There are already a number of well-utilised allotments throughout the neighbourhoods. The community could be further transformed by creating allotments and community gardens on vacant sites as meanwhile uses as well as other existing open spaces.

There's also potential to bring former gardens back to life including private front and back gardens. This would increase self-sufficiency and provide opportunities for residents to develop skills in horticulture and vegetable growing and offer them opportunities to participate in themed community events in a social setting.

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

3

ENCOURAGE PARTICIPATION
IN SPORT AND
PHYSICAL ACTIVITY



SUPPORT AND SUSTAIN
POSITIVE LIFESTYLE
CHOICES



COLLABORATE TO
TACKLE SOCIAL ISOLATION

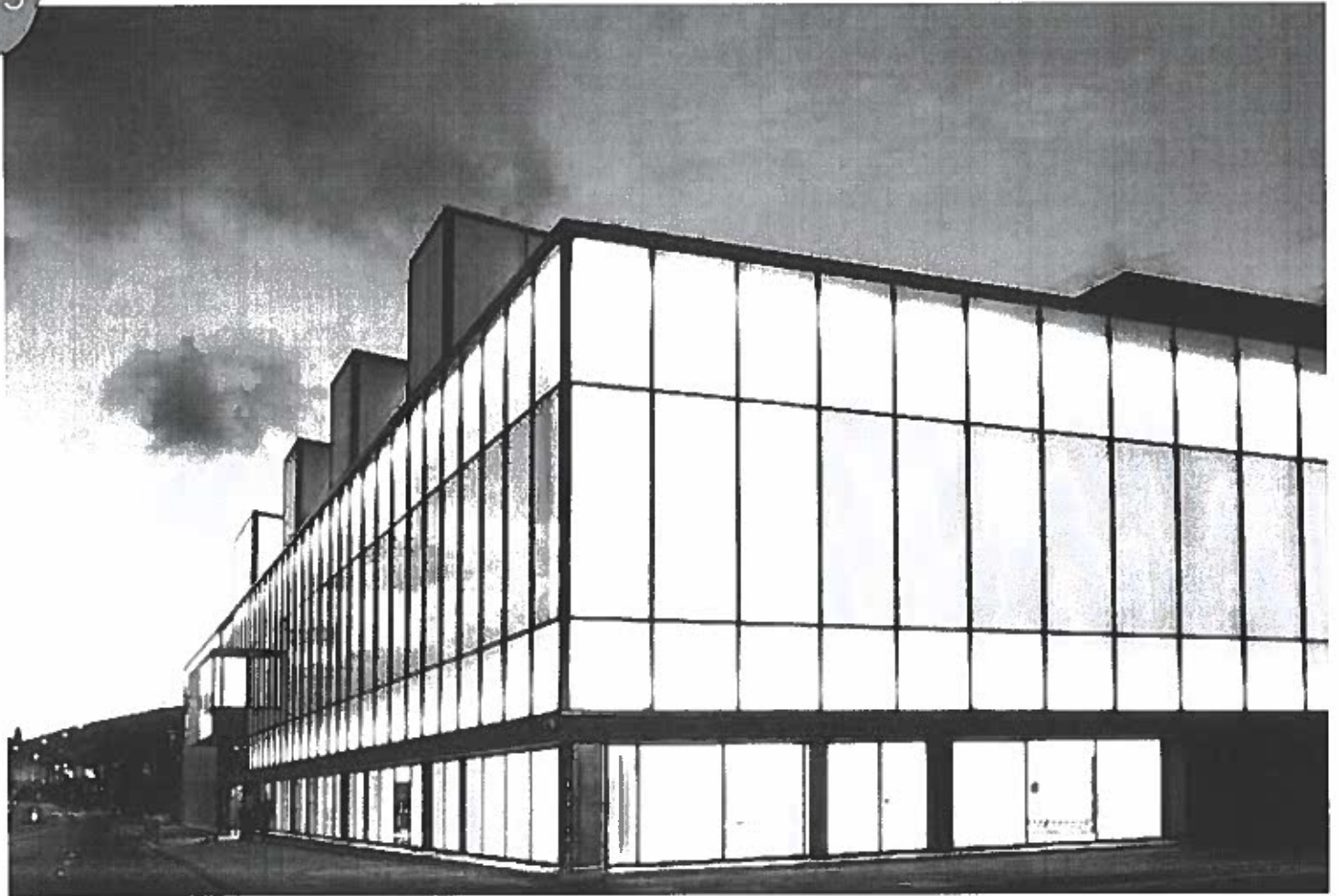


ENCOURAGE PARTICIPATION IN SPORT AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

Homegrown sporting stars who have competed at the highest level across several disciplines hail from the area. Boasting several of the city's key sports facilities, namely Brandywell Stadium, Celtic Park, City Baths, Pilots Row Community Centre, The Gasyard Centre and Fountain MUGA the area provides great opportunity to support

and nurture talent. The River Foyle offers further activity with potential to introduce many to water sports enabling people to see it as a positive asset and amenity.

Significant sporting events like the Walled City Marathon, City of Derry Triathlon and Jog in the Bog have



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inspired hundreds of people of all ages to get involved in regular sporting activity. More sporting events/festivals would provide further inspiration for people to get involved in sport.

It is crucial to create a sustainable culture and environment in which sport and physical activity is intertwined

to become the norm from an early age. There are opportunities to offer a wider menu of sporting options and programmes to members of the community who do not participate in traditional sports and regular activity. For example; teenage girls, senior citizens, disabled groups and members of the LGBT community.



SUPPORT
AND SUSTAIN
POSITIVE
LIFESTYLE
CHOICES

Given the health issues and inequalities in the area there is a need for people to be better informed of their lifestyle choices. This could be through events, courses and information sessions that address a wide range of issues from life expectancy to suicide rates, the prevalence of mood and anxiety disorders to disability benefit uptake.

For most, this is best placed in the local community making it more accessible for all to take up an opportunity to have a health check completed, discuss personal details in a confidential space within close proximity of their home, saving them cost and time. Having support to know and understand their rights would enable participants to maximise their household potential with a confidence and drive that would trigger an inter-generational shift with better knowledge and understanding of their rights and health requirements.

COLLABORATE
TO TACKLE SOCIAL
ISOLATION

The community continues to deal with a challenging economic climate, social inequalities threaten to deplete community energy and resilience. This makes partnership approaches critical to the sustenance and well being of members of the community, to ensure the best use of our collective skills and resources.

Lower socioeconomic groups have a greater risk of poor health, isolation and reduced life expectancy. Opportunities should be sought to address this by collectively harnessing and supporting a continued collaborative focus across the area. This direct positive impact could improve the standard of living for all

by providing a service that encourages communication through listening and supporting the views, strengths and relationships of people in the community.

Organisations such as Western Health Social Care Trust and Public Health Agency working in partnership with community groups such as Dove House and Bogside & Brandywell Health Forum will be key to building effective approaches that improve inclusion, health and wellbeing.



ENTERPRISING COMMUNITIES

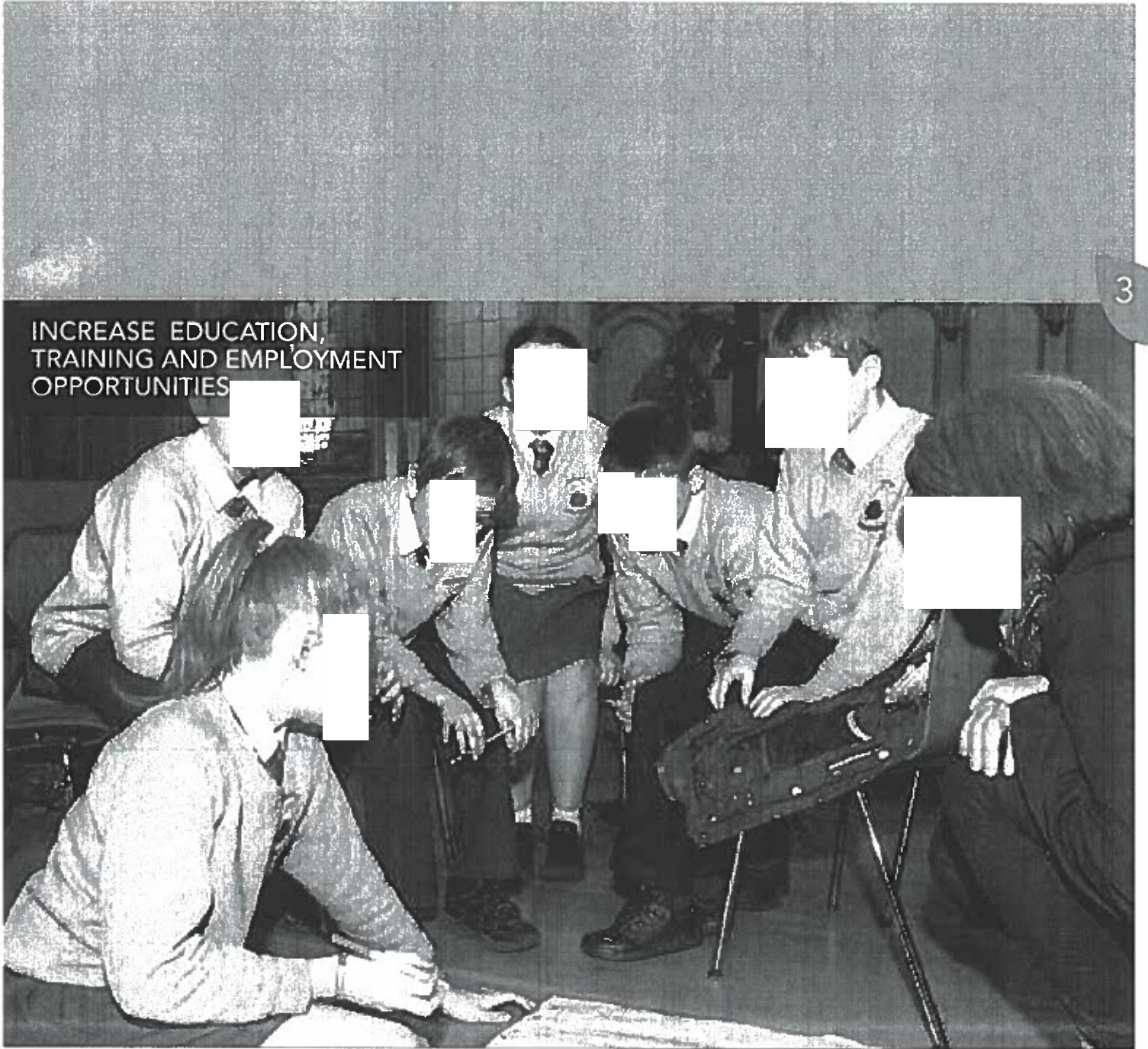
3

CONNECT AND COLLABORATE



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INCREASE EDUCATION,
TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT
OPPORTUNITIES



3

CONNECT AND COLLABORATE

We are living in an era of transformation with the creation and sharing of knowledge. There are many community, training, schools and college establishments in the area and their skills and knowledge could be shared more effectively through collaboration and collective thinking. A partnership approach on a cross sector basis is critical to support and enable learning progression and achievement, with a particular focus on those who have traditionally 'fallen through the gaps' and need more support to build confidence and capacity before re-entering the labour market.

There is currently great potential to connect and further develop technologies and social processes to provide the next generation with positive learning experiences that can open doors to partnership working, academic achievement and economic opportunity. A more effective sharing of information via social media and e-zines would complement and better promote information and educational opportunity that is available to all.



INCREASE EDUCATION, TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

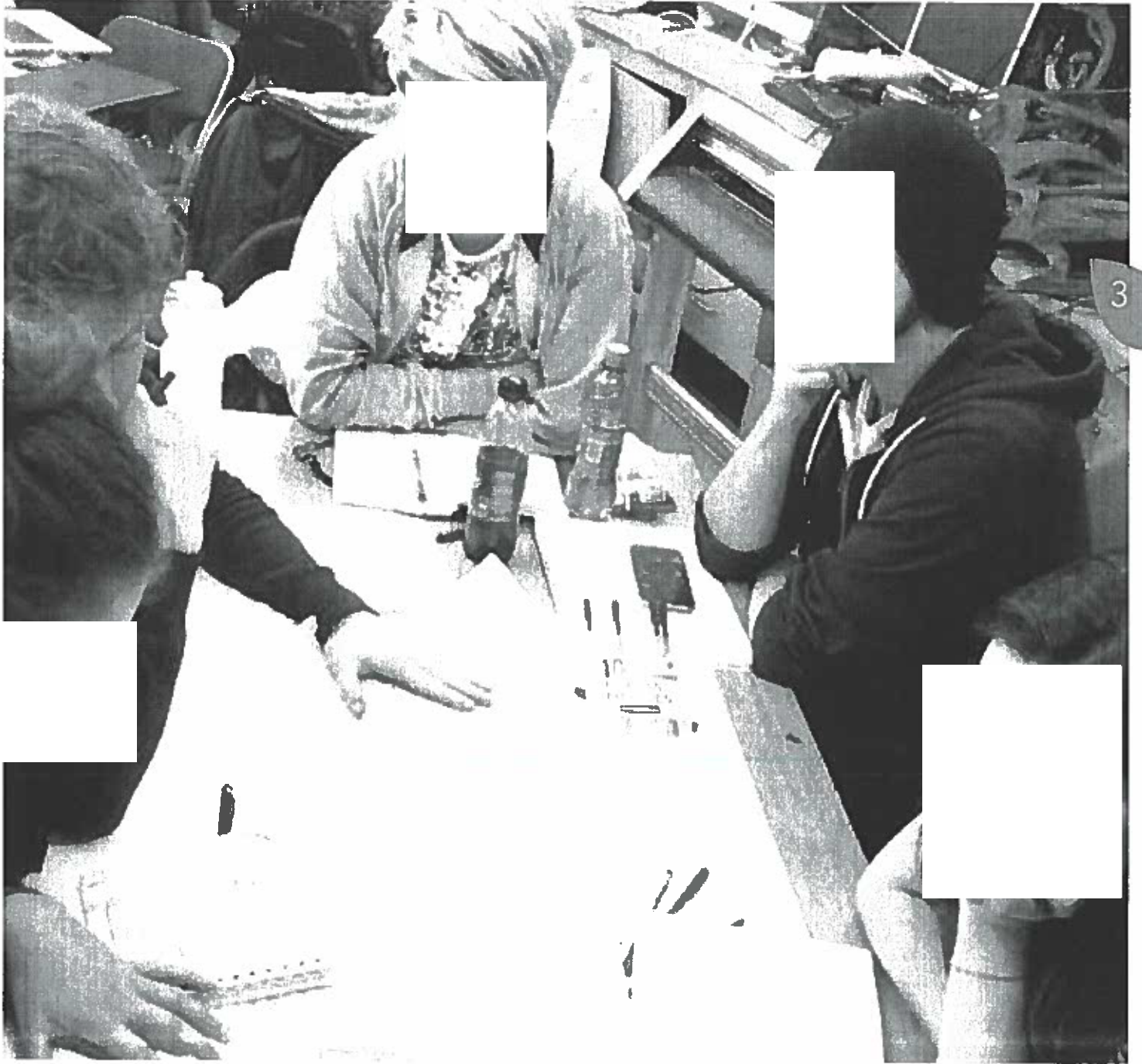
Unemployment and economic inactivity continue to threaten the vibrancy and potential of the community. Collective planning and continued promotion of a positive learning ethos within families, the community and local businesses are crucial steps towards an educated, well skilled, employed community.

There are opportunities to tackle barriers to employment with a collaborative approach to learning. Starting in the community, the potential to increase local skills would enhance and support the work of schools and colleges to develop better employment opportunities. Accreditation centres could be harnessed to ensure a wide range of accredited training is available to address the immediate needs of the area.

Apprenticeships in trades and other professions are placing the vocational qualification firmly back on the agenda to offer an alternative road map to skills and qualifications whilst

earning. Working collaboratively, local businesses and organisations could offer an all round training opportunity by enabling participants to maximise their own learning potential by working and developing their strengths both practically and academically.

Empowerment and motivation are key to enabling learners to pursue knowledge and develop expertise that takes advantage of their unique interests and potential. This unique learning landscape could be achieved with a partnership approach to training, through a variety of learning environments and specialist training providers to promote and support local talent with skills that are unique to the area. Training in areas like; social media, graphic design, 3d printing, heritage skills and event management/production would allow local people to bring specialist qualifications to the area for the area.



MOTIVATE, SUPPORT AND INSPIRE OUR YOUNG PEOPLE

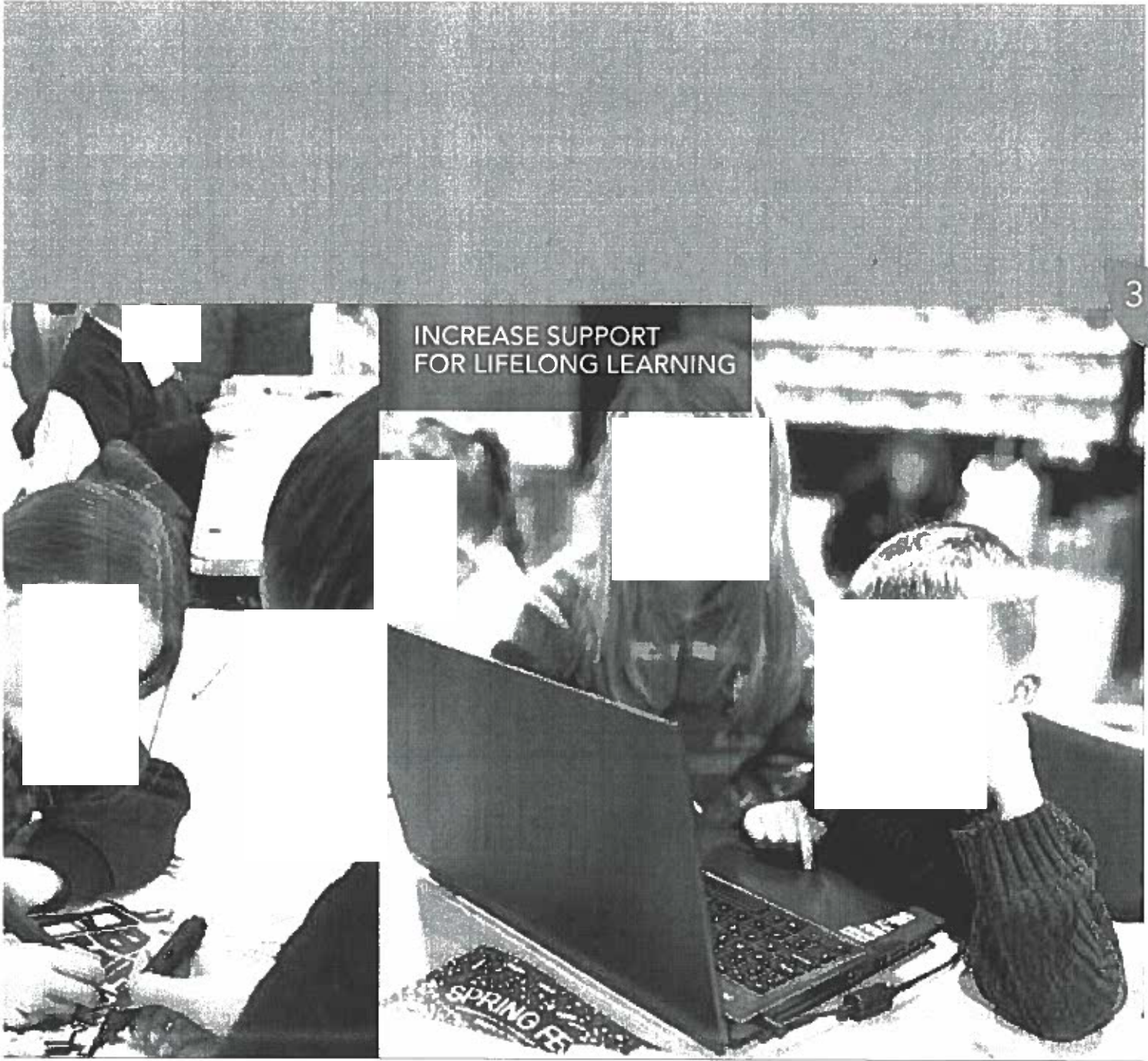
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ENCOURAGE YOUTH
ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

SUPPORT MULTI-DISCIPLINE
ACTIVITY



INCREASE SUPPORT FOR LIFELONG LEARNING



ENCOURAGE YOUTH ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The legacy of the conflict demanded that the majority of children attend schools that are mainly Catholic or Protestant. This means that young people continue to have limited opportunities to meet young people from different backgrounds.

More programmes, events and initiatives that bring young people together would strengthen relationships, break down barriers

and provide the youth with a better understanding of the world around them and the potential they have to achieve goals with ambition and drive.

Engagement opportunities could be further supported and utilised when diversionary work is needed, especially during times of heightened tension when it is critical to create events/trips with a youth focus.



SUPPORT MULTI-DISCIPLINE ACTIVITY

Urban Villages inter-generational community engagement workshops reported that participants welcomed the opportunity to share and discuss their own life experiences. This was done with a range of age groups and varied environments.

Further innovative collaboration would support youth groups and other local groups to work together in a sharing capacity. This would enable skills to be harnessed both inter-generationally and cross community. This sharing of ideas could be further appreciated through intercultural activity in a range of programmes, allowing people to use their voice and opinions in a safe confidential space that recognises and respects all voices.

3





86 Urban Villages Initiative - Bogside, Fountain and Bishop Street

INCREASE SUPPORT FOR LIFE LONG LEARNING

Bringing the potential to enhance social inclusion, citizenship, and personal development, Lifelong Learning enables people to tackle life choices, issues and opportunities

This could be harnessed and developed with a diverse range of inter-generational programmes, supporting a sharing of skills and ideas. These may take place within

the community in a formal and more traditional learning manner to enable participants to have a range of options. Options include Further Education, vocational training and direct links to employment Programmes on parenting skills, particularly to those on the margins to develop a context for enhancing their children's life potential and enabling them to have a more positive outlook on life in general.

CELEBRATE AND PROMOTE CULTURAL DIVERSITY

3

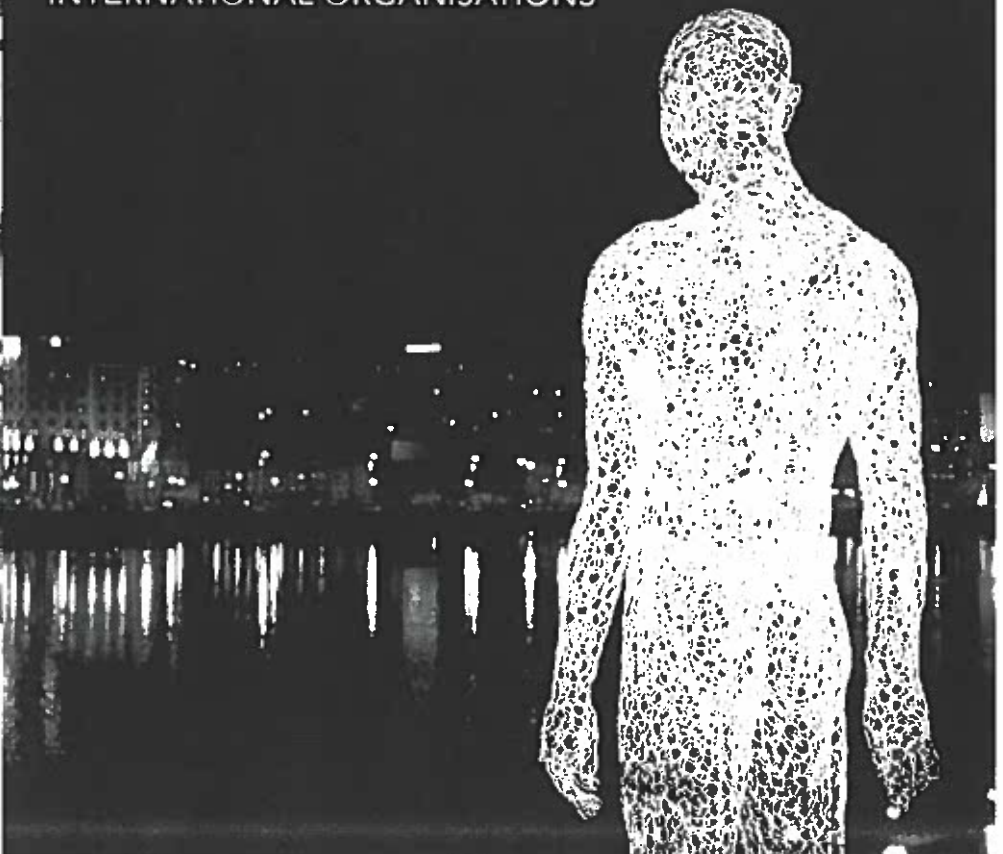
PROMOTE AND DEVELOP A PROGRAMME OF FESTIVALS, EVENTS AND CULTURAL ACTIVITY

CELEBRATE AND FO
CULTURAL DIVERSIT





ENCOURAGE PARTNERSHIPS
WITH LOCAL, NATIONAL AND
INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS



PROMOTE AND DEVELOP A PROGRAMME OF FESTIVALS, EVENTS, AND CULTURAL ACTIVITY

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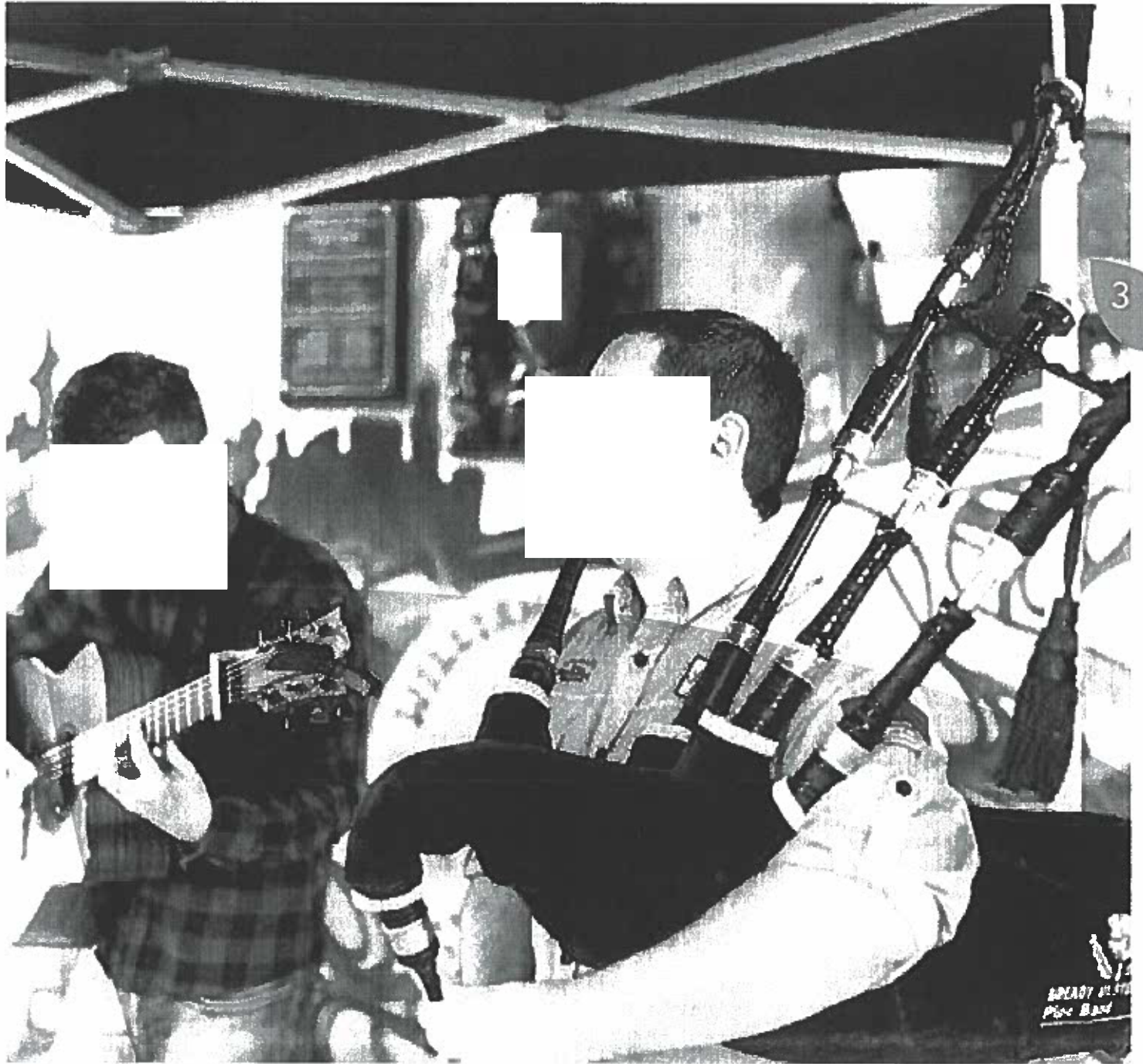
Gasyard Wall Féile and the Maiden City Festival are locally produced and managed festivals, unique to the area that celebrate the area's history, culture and people. They have become highlights in the wider city's cultural calendar and complement the well established city wide celebrations including; Halloween, St Patrick's Day, City of Derry Jazz Festival, Foyle Film Festival, Celtronic, Music City and Feis Doire Colmcille.

Increasing awareness of these key local festivals and offering support to existing practices and events would increase their wider benefits. This could be achieved with the implementation of a co-ordinated overarching approach to the management of resources and the

promotion/ marketing of opportunities that may arise within the community in all areas of participation including; marshalling, volunteering, timekeeping, organising packs and enabling a full family participation.

The City of Culture year demonstrated the transformative power of arts and culture which have been increasingly linked to social and economic regeneration, well being and contributing to a shared future. Scope for festivals and events throughout the year should continue to be pursued for all ages around different themes including arts, crafts, music and sport.





CELEBRATE AND FOSTER CULTURAL DIVERSITY

3

The city is becoming increasingly diverse with people of many nationalities, backgrounds and cultures choosing to settle and make the city, including the Bogside, Fountain and Bishop Street, their home.

Continued positive engagement between people living in the area is now needed more than ever in this ever evolving community. The opportunity to encourage the involvement of all people in the community should continue to emphasize fun, a sense of belonging, inclusivity, respect and a place to be proud of.

Further support and opportunities are needed to ensure that all cultural traditions, including those of newer communities are developed and promoted in a positive, inclusive, integrated manner. Communication and understanding about the history, ethos and practices of cultural traditions should be better shared and encouraged to aid wider understanding and participation, whilst also instilling community pride locally.







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**ENCOURAGE
PARTNERSHIPS
WITH LOCAL,
NATIONAL AND
INTERNATIONAL
ORGANISATIONS**

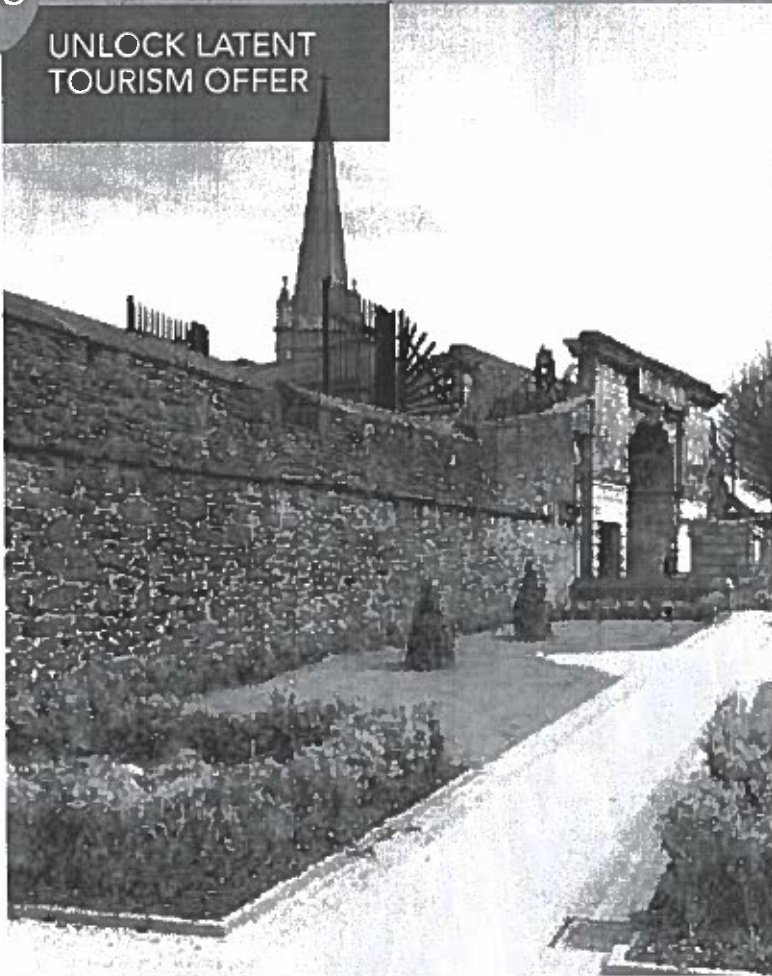
There has been great collaborative work carried out by local organisations with national and international groups in recent years. Examples include creative events company Artichoke collaborating with Gasyard Wall Féile and Apprentice Boys of Derry at the Lumiere event in 2013 which attracted 200,000 visitors.

The development of further strategic partnerships with local, national and international organisations focusing on the arts, culture, leadership, health, child development, heritage, and education sectors should be harnessed, explored and encouraged where possible. Done collaboratively on a cross sector basis to include the local community, this could provide an opportunity to see and experience other communities and places outside of their immediate environment.

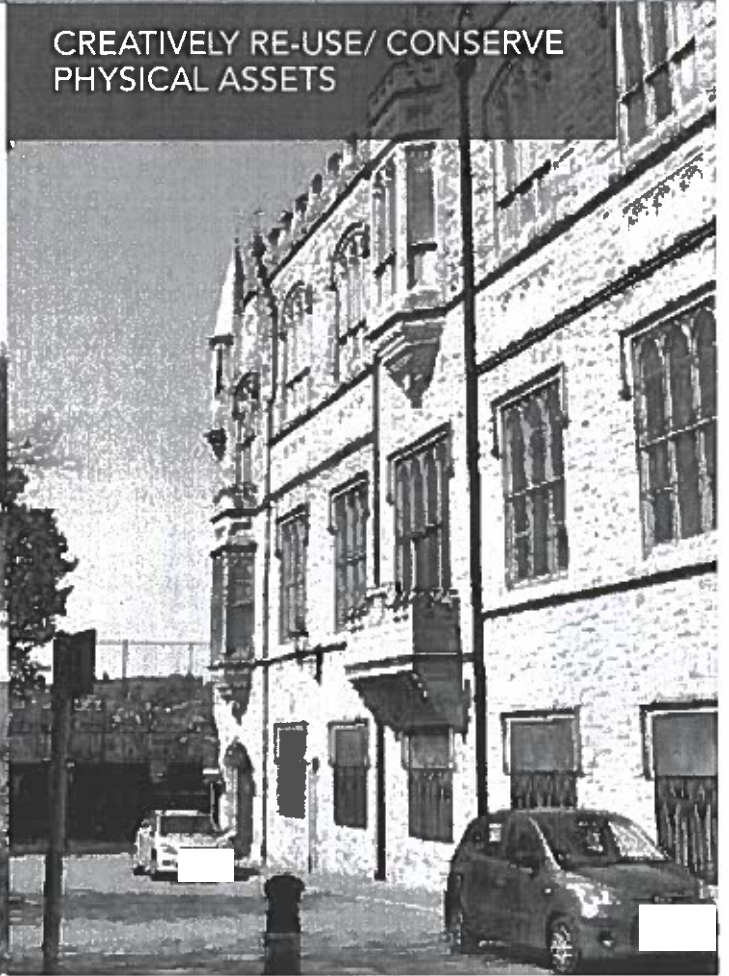
MAXIMISE TOURISM OFFERING

3

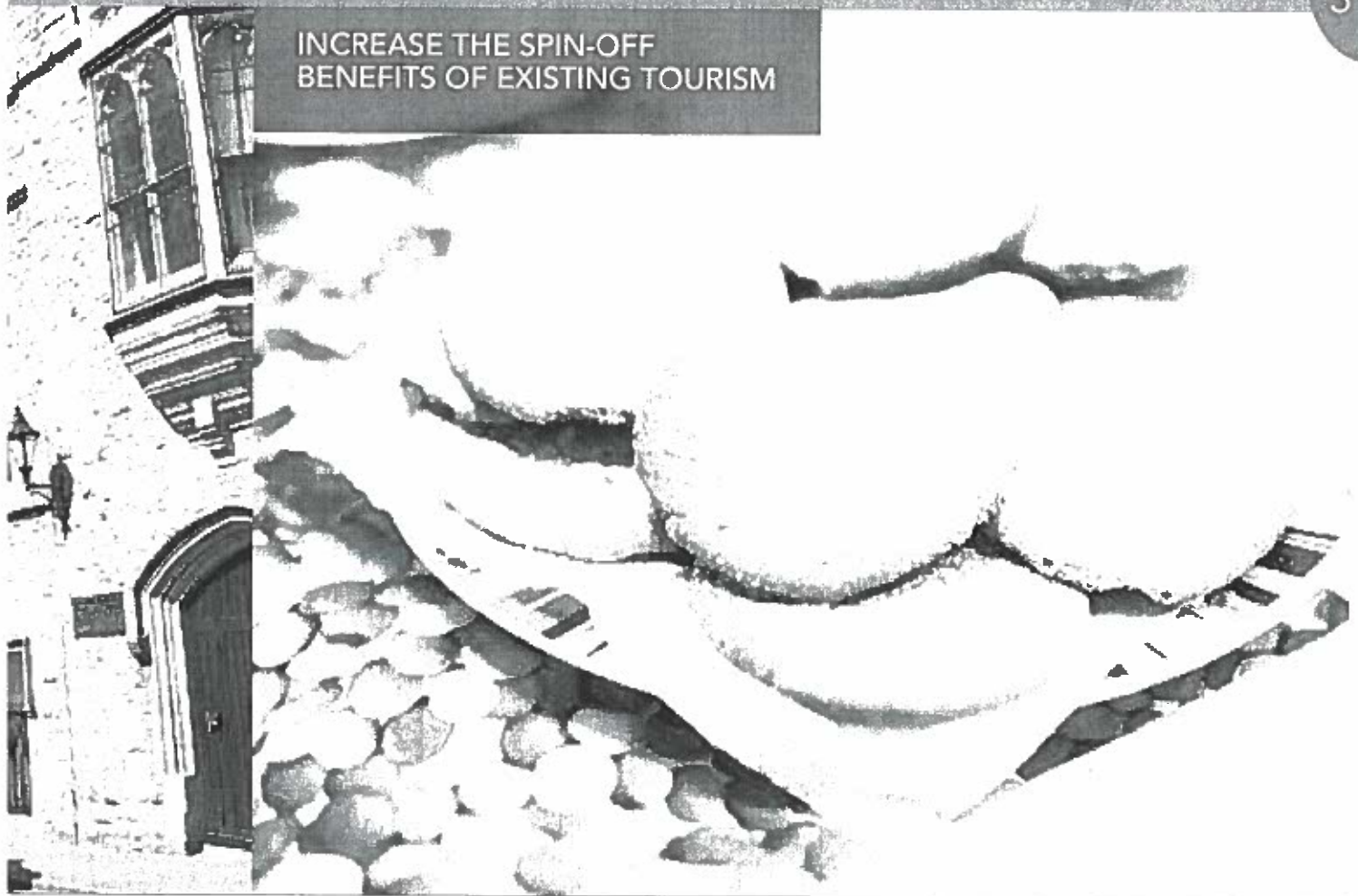
UNLOCK LATENT
TOURISM OFFER



CREATIVELY RE-USE/ CONSERVE
PHYSICAL ASSETS



INCREASE THE SPIN-OFF
BENEFITS OF EXISTING TOURISM

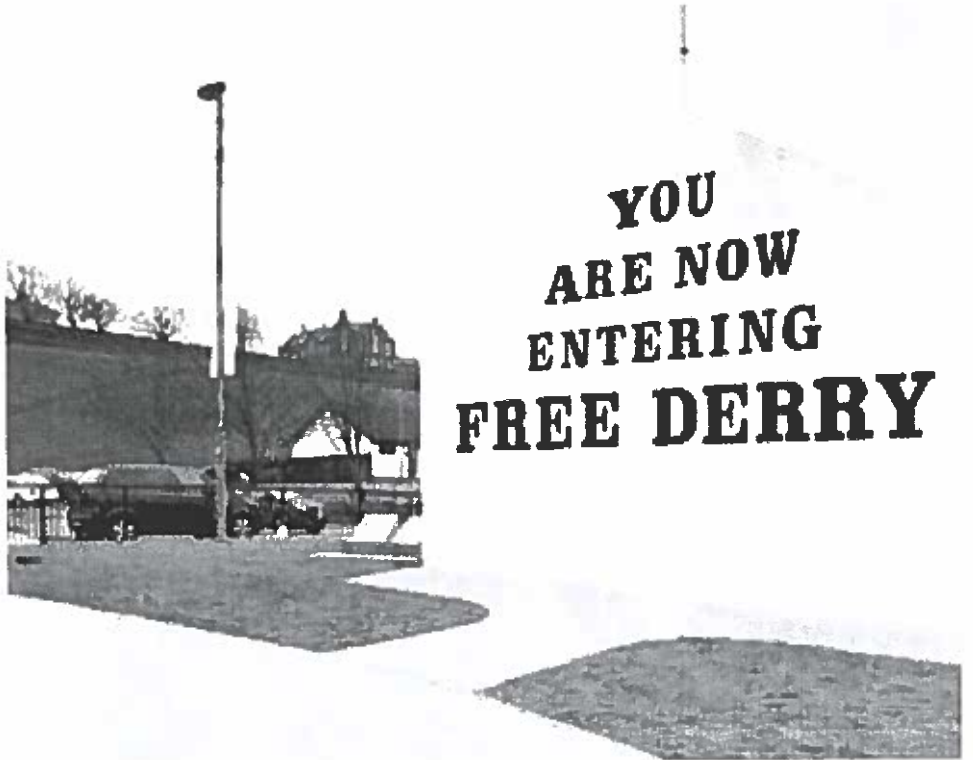


UNLOCK LATENT
TOURISM OFFER
WITHIN THE AREA

Having boasted some 500,000 visitors in recent years, the city has become a popular tourist destination. Several key tourist sites are located in or close to the area including the City Walls, Free Derry Corner, Museum of Free Derry, Bogside Murals, Long Tower Chapel/ Áras Colmcille, St Columb's Cathedral, putting the area on the tourist trail.

There is potential to expand and build on the area's valuable tourism offer. The city's impressive history of shirt making remains largely untold. There are also opportunities to offer literary links to the Nobel Laureate Seamus Heaney, world renowned playwright Brian Friel as well as 'the Shakespeare of Derry', George Farquhar. The majestic River Foyle continues to be an asset that offers great potential both to the community and visitors.

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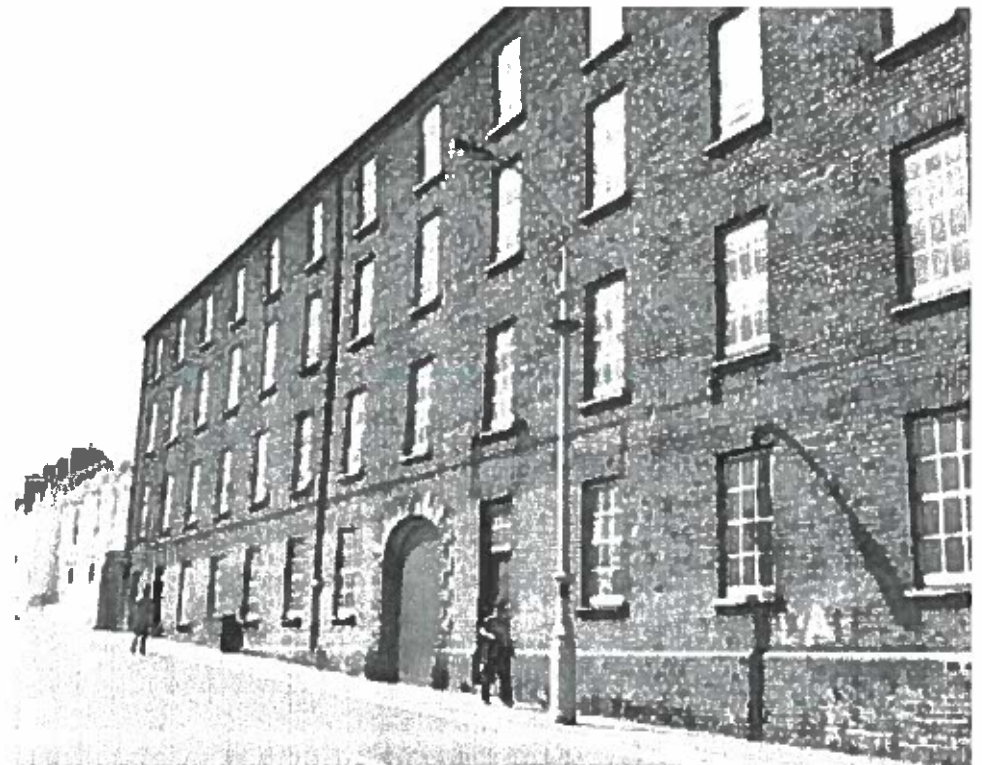


CREATIVELY RE- USE / CONSERVE PHYSICAL ASSETS

Unlocking the latent potential in the area's existing shirt factories and associated worker's housing both in Bogside and Fountain could provide an opportunity to sustainably re-use these to meet everyday needs.

Job creation possibilities in this sector include heritage construction (trades and professionals), hospitality and leisure and community heritage management.

3





3

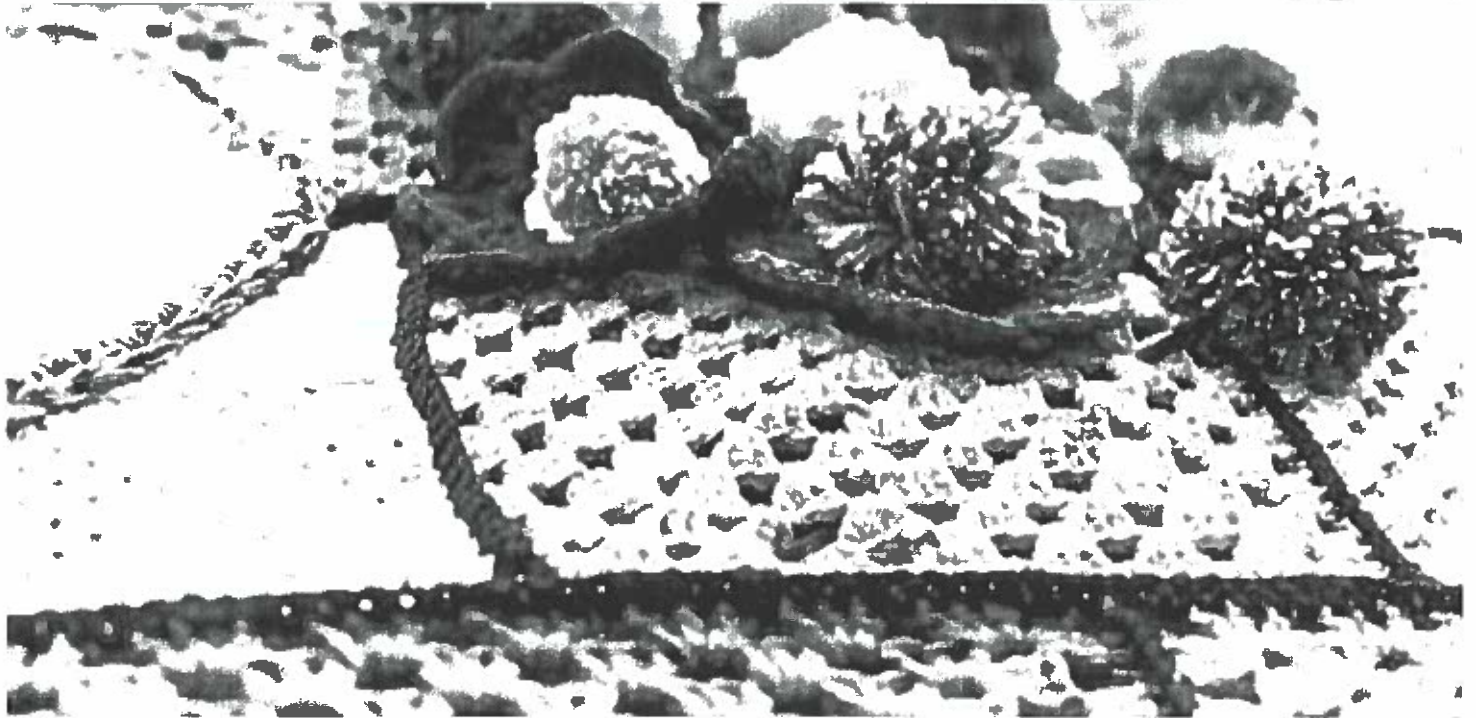
INCREASE THE SPIN-OFF BENEFITS OF EXISTING TOURISM

There is potential to introduce more creative ways to improve access from and to the city walls that will remain sensitive to the monument and its story. This can only be achieved through robust community discussions with local businesses, organisations and local residents to ensure all are involved in the areas evolving nature.

This could take place with a series of innovative events, highlighting the city's assets and the potential to engage in a fun and positive manner. An opportunity to harness visitors spending power by offering retail and hospitality opportunities to tourists before they move on to other destinations also offers potential for local businesses to progress and offer products.

The TRIAX community tourism group has been working on a voluntary basis to develop tourism infrastructure and promotional materials.

An opportunity to offer tour guide training, event marshalling and retail training would offer the potential to provide additional employment and income opportunities to the area.





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04

SUPPORTING DELIVERY

SUPPORTING DELIVERY

4

STRATEGIC CONNECTIONS

The Urban Villages Initiative is a headline action within the Executive's 'Together: Building a United Community' Strategy. It is led by the Executive Office with the support of senior representatives from other government departments alongside Derry City and Strabane District Council.

This Strategic Framework is intended to be a useful point of reference for anyone with an interest in the Urban Village areas and a means for identifying opportunities to collaborate around shared Programme for Government outcomes and indicators.

ROUTES TO DELIVERY

Although coordinated by the Executive Office, and overseen by Junior Ministers, capital and revenue investments made directly through the Urban Villages Initiative will be led and managed by organisations that best suit the particular project or programme. This means that work on parks, public realm projects and other physical interventions is likely to be led by the Council, the Department for Communities, NI Housing Executive or the Department for Infrastructure.

Support will be provided to projects and programmes in keeping with the good relations outcomes of the Urban Villages Initiative. We will draw from the most appropriate delivery partners including central and local government and community and voluntary groups.

Activity more focussed on community capacity building, cultural innovation and positive identities will be delivered by community and voluntary groups to maximise local networks and connections or through central or local government.





Urban Villages Initiative - Bogside, Fountain and Bishop Street 105



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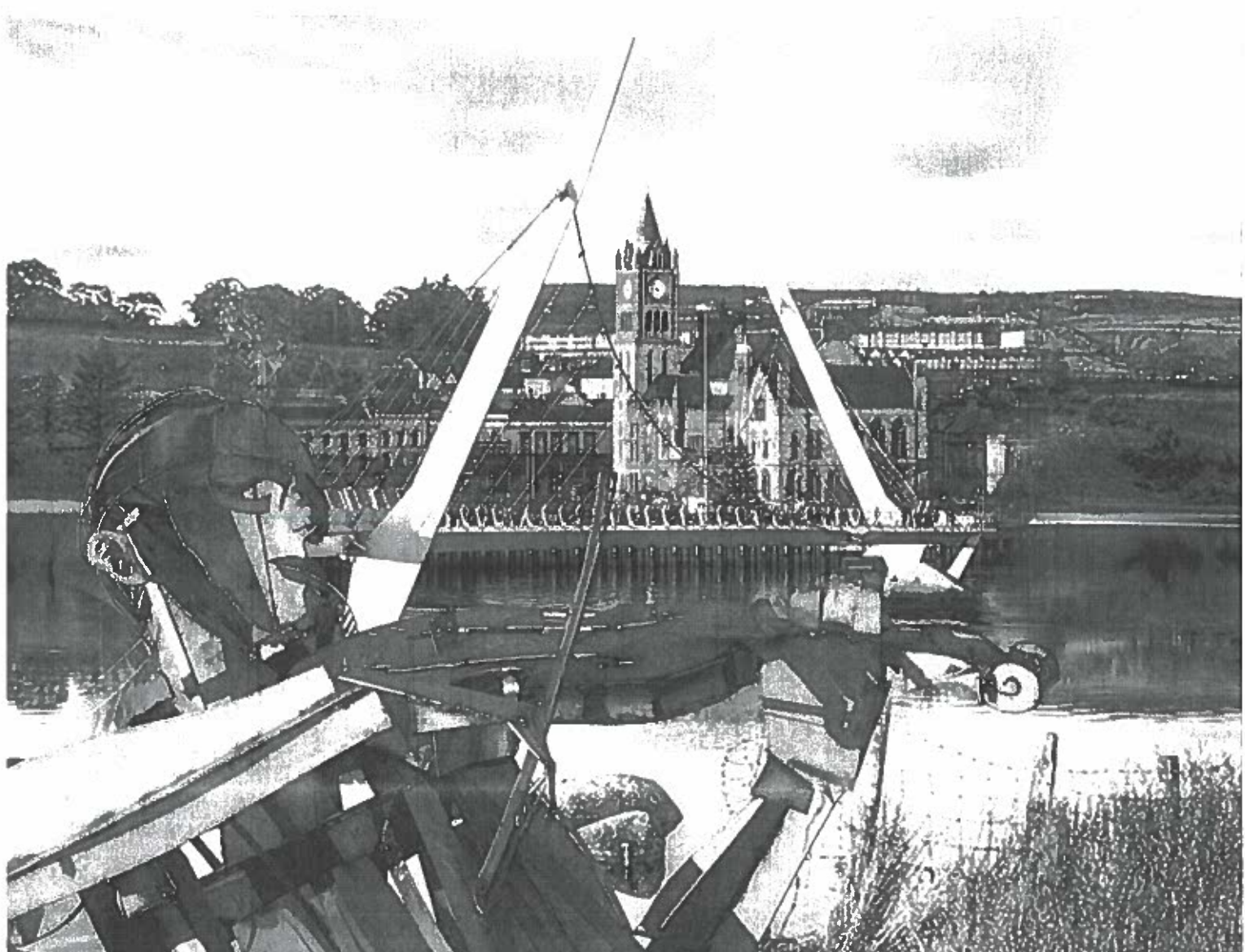
Derry City & Strabane
District Council
Council Offices
The Guildhall
Derry City & Strabane
BT48 7JL

Derry City & Strabane District Council

Local Development Plan

(LDP) 2032

**Representations Form for the Re-Consultation of the LDP
Draft Plan Strategy & Associated Appraisal / Assessments**



September 2020

<http://www.derrystrabane.com/Subsites/LDP/Local-Development-Plan>

Re-Consultation on LDP Draft Plan Strategy

The Council's LDP draft Plan Strategy was already published in December 2019, followed by a consultation period which ended in January 2020. However, a procedural error has been identified so this further consultation period is now being undertaken. Any additional or revised representations may now be submitted during this re-consultation period.

If you did not make a Representation to the draft Plan Strategy during the previous consultation period and now wish to do so, please use this form to make your Representation. Similarly, you can use this form to provide any additional or revised information to a previously made Representation or to indicate that you do not wish to add any further information to your previously submitted Representation.

What is the Local Development Plan (LDP)?

The new LDP will guide land-use development and set out Planning policies and proposals for the use, development and protection of our settlements and countryside across our District to 2032. Crucially, it will help to deliver the outcomes in the Strategic Growth Plan. Once the LDP is adopted, its Planning policies, zonings and development proposals will be used to determine planning applications across the District. The LDP will comprise of two development plan documents: this LDP Plan Strategy and, in due course, the LDP Local Policies Plan.

What is the LDP Plan Strategy (PS)?

This LDP draft Plan Strategy sets out the Council's strategic Planning objectives, designations and policies for the District in line with regional strategies and policies, but tailored to the local needs of this City and District.

The preparation of the PS has been informed by the Council's LDP Preferred Options Paper (POP – May 2017) which provided the basis for consulting with the public and stakeholders on a series of options for dealing with key issues in the Plan area. It set out the Council's initial proposals and policy direction, therefore aiming to stimulate public comment and help interested parties to become involved in a more meaningful way at the earliest stage of Plan preparation. The published draft LDP PS fully reflects a consideration of all the representations made during the POP consultation period and all engagement with stakeholders, consultees and elected Members of the Council.

How We Are Consulting

Complete this draft Plan Strategy Representations Form and either return by email to **LDP@DerryStrabane.com** or download a copy and post to:

**Local Development Plan Team,
Council Offices,
98 Strand Road,
Derry,
BT48 7NN**

Hard copies of the form will be available at the above address and our other main office at 47 Derry Road, Strabane, Tyrone, BT82 8DY. **Please note that if you are making a representation in any other format, it must include the requested information set out in this form and address the Tests of Soundness.**

The draft Plan Strategy is published for formal public consultation for a period of eight weeks beginning on **11th September 2020** and closing on **6th November 2020**. Please note that in order for comments to be considered valid, you must include your contact details. We will use these details to confirm receipt of comments and to seek clarification or request further information. Anonymous comments or comments which do not directly relate to the draft Plan Strategy will not be considered as part of the consultation process.

Availability of Documents

The LDP draft Plan Strategy and supporting documents, including the Sustainability Appraisal Report (incorporating the Strategic Environmental Assessment), the Habitats Regulation Assessment, Rural Needs Impact Assessment and the Equality Impact Assessment, are all available to view online www.derrystrabane.com/ldp

From Friday 11th September to 6th November 2020, between the hours of 9am-5pm (Monday to Friday), all documents will also be available for inspection, by appointment only, at the Council's offices at 98 Strand Rd, Derry BT48 7NN, or at 47 Derry Rd, Strabane BT82 8DU. In order to arrange an appointment to view the documents, or if you have any queries on accessing the documentation, the Planning Office can be contacted on 028 71 253 253 or ldp@derrystrabane.com

The dPS document will also be available at the Council Leisure Centres and Public Libraries that are open in the District, due to COVID 19 restrictions, from 11th September 2020.

Please note that, due to the current COVID 19 circumstances, there will be no further public meetings or drop-in sessions with this re-consultation. Instead, during the re-consultation period, an appointment may be made to speak to or meet / virtual meeting with a Planning Officer by contacting us at the email / telephone number above, where you can ask questions in the same manner as you would at a public meeting or drop-in.

Section A: **Data Protection**

Local Development Plan Privacy Notice

Derry City and Strabane District Council is a registered data controller (ZA119397) with the Information Commissioner's Office and we process your information in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation and Data Protection Act 2018 (GDPR).

Derry City and Strabane District Council only collects and processes personal information about you in order to fulfil our statutory obligations, to provide you and service users with services and to improve those services. Your personal information will be used to populate the LDP Representations Database.

If you wish to find out more about how the Council processes personal data and protects your privacy, our Corporate Privacy Notice is available at:

<https://www.derrystrabane.com/Footer/Privacy-Policy>

It contains the standards you can expect when we ask for, or hold, your personal information and an explanation of our Information Management Security Policy. All representations received will be published on our website and made available at our Local Planning Office, 98 Strand Road, Derry BT48 7NN, for public inspection and will be forwarded to the Department for Infrastructure (DfI) and hence to the Independent Examiner / PAC.

Why are we processing your personal information?

- To enable the preparation of the Council's Local Development Plan;
- To consult your opinion on the Local Development Plan through the public consultation process;
- To ensure compliance with applicable legislation;
- To update you and/or notify you about changes; and
- To answer your questions.

If you wish to find out more information on how your personal information is being processed, you can contact the Council's Data Protection Officer:

Data Protection Officer
47 Derry Road
Strabane
BT82 8DY
Telephone: **028 71 253 253**
Email: **data.protection@derrystrabane.com**

Section B: Your Details

Q1. Are you responding as an individual, as an organisation or as an agent acting on behalf of individual, group or organisation? (Required)

Please only tick one

- Individual (Please fill in Question 2, then proceed to Section C.)
- Organisation (Please fill in the remaining questions in the section, then proceed to Section D.)
- Agent (Please fill in the remaining questions in the section, then proceed to Section E.)

Q2. What is your name?

Title

First Name (Required)

Last Name (Required)

Email

Q3. Did you respond to the previous LDP Preferred Options Paper?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

w

Q4. Tick whichever is applicable:

- I / we wish to carry forward my previously submitted representation without adding anything further (Insert Rep Number if known)
- I / we do wish to provide additional / revised information to my / our previously submitted Representation (insert Rep Number if known)
- I / we did not submit a representation during the previous consultation period (December 2019 – January 2020) and now wish to submit a Representation during this Re-Consultation period.

Section C: Individuals

Address (Required)

Town (Required)

Post code (Required)

On completion, please proceed to Section F.

Section D: **Organisation**

If you have selected that you are responding as an organisation, there are a number of details that we are legally required to obtain from you. If you are responding on behalf of a group or organisation, please complete this section, then proceed to Section F.

Organisation / Group Name (Required)

Your Job Title / Position (Required)

Organisation / Group Address (if different from above)

Address (Required)

Town (Required)

Postcode (Required)

On completion, please proceed to Section F

Section E: Agents

If you have selected that you are responding on behalf of another individual, organisation or group there are a number of details that we are legally required to obtain from you. Please provide details of the individual, organisation or group that you are representing.

Client Contact Details

Title / First Name (Required)

Last Name (Required)

Organisation / Group Address (if different from above)

Address (Required)

Town (Required)

Postcode (Required)

Email address (Required)

On completion, please proceed to Section F

Agent Contact Details

Title / First Name (Required)

Last Name (Required)

Organisation / Group Address (if different from above)

Address (Required)

Town (Required)

Postcode (Required)

Email address (Required)

On completion, please proceed to Section F

Q4. Would you like us to contact you, your client or both in relation to this response or future consultations on the LDP? Please only select one

Agent

Client

Both

Section F: **Soundness**

The LDP draft Plan Strategy will be examined at Independent Examination (IE) in regard to its 'soundness'. Accordingly, your responses should be based on soundness and directed at specific strategic policies or proposals that you consider to be unsound, along with your reasons. The tests of soundness are set out below in Section J.

Those wishing to make representations seeking to change the draft Plan Strategy should clearly state why they consider the document to be unsound having regard to the soundness tests in Section J. It is very important that when you are submitting your representation that your response reflects the most appropriate soundness test(s) which you believe the draft Plan Strategy fails to meet. There will be no further opportunity to submit information **once** the consultation period has closed unless the Independent Examiner requests it.

Those who make a representation seeking to change the LDP draft Plan Strategy should also state below whether they wish to be heard orally at the Independent Examination (Please see www.pacni.gov.uk for further details on the IE procedures.)

Section G: **Type of Procedure**

Q5. Please indicate if you would like your representation to be dealt with by: (Required)
Please select one item only

- Written (Choose this procedure to have your representation considered in written form only)
- Oral Hearing (Choose this procedure to present your representation orally at the public hearing)

Unless you specifically request a hearing, the Independent Examiner will proceed on the basis that you are content to have your representation considered in written form only.

Please note that the Independent Examiner will be expected to give the same careful consideration to written representations as to those representations dealt with by oral hearing.

Section H: **Is the draft Plan Strategy Sound?**

Your comments should be set out in full. This will assist the Independent Examiner to understand the issues you raise. You will only be able to submit further additional information if the Independent Examiner invites you to do so.

Sound

If you consider the Plan Strategy to be Sound and wish to support the LDP Plan Strategy, please set out your comments below.

See attached report.

Attach additional sheet(s) if necessary, but please be as clear and concise as possible.

Section I: **Unsound**

In this section, we will be asking you to specify which part(s) of the draft Plan Strategy you consider to be unsound.

Note: If you wish to inform us that more than one part of the draft Plan Strategy is unsound each part should be listed separately, and Sections J and K filled out for each separate part of the draft Plan Strategy. (i.e. if you believe that multiple parts of the draft Plan Strategy are unsound, please fill out multiple copies of Sections J & K).

Q6. If you consider that the LDP draft Plan Strategy is unsound and does not meet one or more of the tests of soundness below, you must indicate which test(s) you consider it does not meet, having regard to Development Plan Practice Note 6 available at:

https://www.planningni.gov.uk/index/news/dfi_planning_news/news_releases_2015_onwards/development_plan_practice_note_06_soundness__version_2__may_2017_.pdf

Please note that if you do not identify a test(s), your comments may not be considered by the Independent Examiner. Continued on next page.

Section J: **Tests of Soundness** (Required)

State which Chapter / Policy / Paragraph / Map that this Section refers to:

This should relate to only one section, paragraph or policy of the LDP draft Plan Strategy. If you wish to inform us that you consider more than one part of the LDP draft Plan Strategy is unsound, you can submit further representations by completing and submitting additional copies of this section.

Procedural tests

- P1. Has the plan been prepared in accordance with the Council's timetable and the Statement of Community Involvement?
- P2. Has the Council prepared its Preferred Options Paper and taken into account any representations made?
- P3. Has the plan been subject to Sustainability Appraisal including Strategic Environmental Assessment?
- P4. Did the Council comply with the regulations on the form and content of its plan and on the procedure for preparing the plan?

Consistency tests

- C1. Did the Council take account of the Regional Development Strategy?
- C2. Did the Council take account of its Community Plan?
- C3. Did the Council take account of policy and guidance issued by the Department

Coherence and effectiveness tests

- CE1. The plan sets out a coherent strategy from which its policies and allocations logically flow and where cross boundary issues are relevant, is it in conflict with the plans of neighbouring Councils.
- CE2. The strategy, policies and allocations are realistic and appropriate having considered the relevant alternatives and are founded on a robust evidence base.
- CE3. There are clear mechanisms for implementation and monitoring.
- CE4. The plan is reasonably flexible to enable it to deal with changing circumstances.

Section K: **Which part(s) of the draft Plan Strategy are you commenting on?**

This should relate to only one section, paragraph or policy of the LDP draft Plan Strategy. If you wish to inform us that you consider more than one part of the LDP draft Plan Strategy is unsound, you can submit further representations by completing and submitting additional copies of this section.

Relevant Chapter number(s)

(and/ or) **Relevant Policy number(s)**

(and/or) **Relevant Paragraph number(s)**

(and/or) **District Proposals Map**

Please give full details of why you consider this part of the LDP draft Plan Strategy to be unsound, having regard to the tests(s) you have identified above. Please be as clear and concise as possible.

Attach additional sheet(s) if necessary, but please be as clear and concise as possible.

If you consider the LDP draft Plan Strategy to be unsound, please provide details of what changes(s) you consider necessary to make the LDP draft Plan Strategy sound.

Attach additional sheet(s) if necessary, but please be as clear and concise as possible.

Section L: **Sustainability Appraisal**

If you wish to submit an 'expression of opinion' in relation to the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) of the LDP draft Plan Strategy (incorporating the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)) please state them below or by email to LDP@DerryStrabane.com. If sending by email, please clearly state that your comments are in relation to the SA.

Attach additional sheet(s) if necessary, but please be as clear and concise as possible.

Section M: **Draft Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA or AA)**

If you have any comments or opinions in relation to the Draft Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA) report of the LDP draft Plan Strategy, please submit them below or by email to LDP@DerryStrabane.com. If sending by email, please clearly state that your comments are in relation to the HRA.

Attach additional sheet(s) if necessary, but please be as clear and concise as possible.

Section N: **Draft Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA)**

If you have any comments or opinions in relation to the Draft Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA) report of the LDP draft Plan Strategy, please submit them below or by email to LDP@DerryStrabane.com. If sending by email, please clearly state that your comments are in relation to the EQIA.

Attach additional sheet(s) if necessary, but please be as clear and concise as possible.

Section O: **Draft Rural Needs Impact Assessment (RNIA)**

If you have any comments or opinions in relation to the Draft Rural Needs Impact Assessment (RNIA) report of the LDP draft Plan Strategy, please submit them below or by email to LDP@DerryStrabane.com. If sending by email, please clearly state that your comments are in relation to the RNIA.

Attach additional sheet(s) if necessary, but please be as clear and concise as possible.