



# The BIG Plan



# Delivering the Big Plan for Ards and North Down

**Creating positive outcomes for everyone by empowering individuals and communities to be more resilient; reducing inequality; promoting good relations and sustainability; while at the same time improving the quality and accessibility of all public services is at the heart of the Big Plan for Ards and North Down.**

**Implementing the Big Plan will help ensure that by 2032 all people in Ards and North Down:**

- 1.** Fulfil their lifelong potential
- 2.** Enjoy good health and wellbeing
- 3.** Live in communities where they are respected, are safe and feel secure
- 4.** Benefit from a prosperous economy
- 5.** Feel pride from having access to a well-managed sustainable environment

Since the publication of the Big Plan in March 2017, work has been ongoing to create a Delivery Plan with an initial set of agreed actions. This list is not absolute and additional actions can and will be added throughout the 15-year lifespan of the Big Plan.



During the Big Conversation, your feedback identified the five outcomes that make up the Big Plan. Your continued involvement will help to ensure it delivers on its aspirations.





# Outcome 1

**All people in Ards and North Down fulfil their lifelong potential**

## Key ambitions

- This is a great place for all people to gain educational and emotional support and it is easy to gain skills needed for learning, life and work
- People at all stages of life can grow older in comfort with lots of choices and easy access to services and support

**Which actions would you prioritise?**

**Use the postcard to let us know what is important to you.**

## Headline actions

1. Develop programmes and initiatives to reduce educational underachievement
2. Work with local business owners to increase the number of locations that are officially breastfeeding friendly
3. Provide programmes to help people of all ages work towards alternative qualifications that widen their skill set
4. Make public spaces and services accessible and friendly for everyone i.e. dementia, age, autism etc.
5. Improve the quality and availability of volunteering opportunities
6. Develop programmes and support services that reduce social isolation and loneliness
7. Provide and promote support services that work with people to prevent them becoming homeless
8. Redesign the existing work experience model to better prepare young people for the world of work

## Who will work in partnership to implement these actions?

- Ards and North Down Borough Council
- Education Authority
- Police Service of Northern Ireland
- NI Ambulance Service
- Public Health Agency
- Sport NI
- South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust



# Outcome 2

**All people in Ards and North Down enjoy good health and wellbeing**

**Which actions are important to you?**

## **Key ambitions**

- People are confident, take control of their own wellbeing and make sensible life choices
- Exercise and leisure activities are valued as important ways of helping people to stay healthy and happy

## **Headline actions**

1. Develop support programmes and services that address the factors that influence a person's mental health and physical wellbeing
2. Create a community of life savers to increase survival rates of people suffering cardiac arrests
3. Tackle serious and organised crime to take drug dealers off the street and remove opportunities for people to use illegal drugs
4. Improve how outdoor spaces are connected to increase opportunities for people to take part in leisure and recreational activities
5. Increase opportunities for people to take part in sporting activities
6. Develop and run outdoor education programmes for young people
7. Use workplaces to educate people about health and develop programmes for businesses to help their employees improve their own health and wellbeing
8. Increase out of school opportunities for children to lead more active lifestyles

## **Who will work in partnership to implement these actions?**

- Ards and North Down Borough Council
- Education Authority
- Police Service of Northern Ireland
- NI Ambulance Service
- Public Health Agency
- Sport NI
- South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust





# Outcome 3

**All people in Ards and North Down are respected and live in communities where they are safe and feel secure**

**Have you identified your top three actions?**

## **Key ambitions**

- An increased amount of quality shared space and neutral space where everyone feels welcome and all communities and cultures understand, respect and value each other
- People are safe and feel secure in their homes, in their communities and when they are out in public

## **Headline actions**

1. Make Ards and North Down a place where everyone is welcome regardless of ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation or political opinion
2. Tackle paramilitary activities and develop programmes to promote education and lawfulness as better long-term options
3. Address conflict that arises due to flags, bonfires and emblems
4. Increase co-ordination and enforcement across public bodies to reduce anti-social behaviour
5. Increase the effectiveness of inter-agency work by providing tailored support to keep vulnerable people safe
6. Implement programmes, including enforcement, to reduce the number of people killed and seriously injured in road traffic collisions
7. Implement measures to minimise injuries and deaths caused by home accidents and fires
8. Increase the number of businesses with a safe space for people affected by domestic violence

## **Who will work in partnership to implement these actions?**

- Ards and North Down Borough Council
- Education Authority
- Libraries NI
- Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service
- Northern Ireland Housing Executive
- Police Service of Northern Ireland
- Public Health Agency



# Outcome 4

**All people in Ards and North Down benefit from a prosperous economy**

**Are we missing important actions from those listed?**

## **Key ambitions**

- Everyone has enough money to live on and has access to affordable housing, food and utility services
- There are lots of jobs and thriving businesses which are supported to maximise growth potential which encourages local businesses to flourish

## **Headline actions**

1. Implement programmes and run support sessions to prepare people and families for the introduction of universal credit, welfare reform and money management issues
2. Develop digital infrastructure to improve how people access public services e.g. broadband and mobile phone coverage
3. Run employability programmes and promote the skills and qualifications that will help people gain employment locally
4. Create sustainable communities through the promotion of social enterprises
5. Review the skills and qualifications on offer so they match the needs of existing and future businesses
6. Improve the quality and diversity of local jobs to reduce the need for people to travel outside of the borough for employment
7. Encourage entrepreneurship and the growth of new business opportunities e.g. tourism, digital and creative industries
8. Provide support for rural businesses to create new employment opportunities

## **Who will work in partnership to implement these actions?**

- Ards and North Down Borough Council
- Department for Communities
- Invest NI
- Northern Ireland Housing Executive
- South Eastern Regional College
- Tourism NI



# Outcome 5

**All people in Ards and North Down feel pride from having access to a well-managed sustainable environment**

**Tell us the actions that will provide the greatest benefit to you?**

## **Key ambitions**

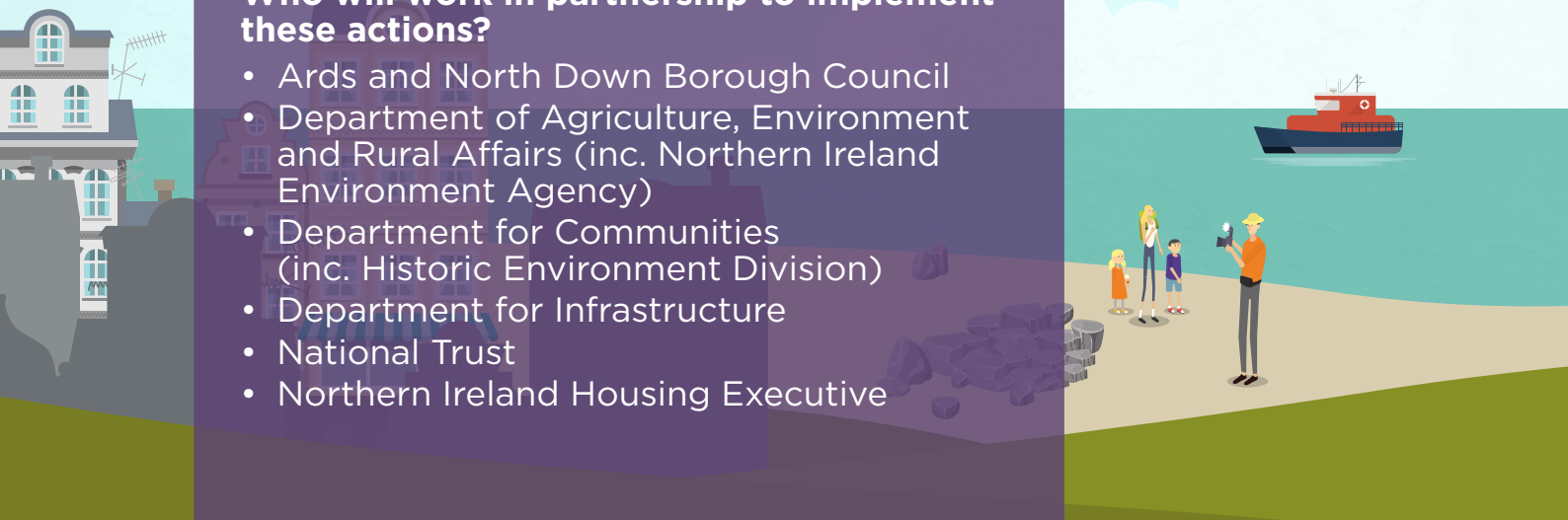
- People can access the natural and historic environment and its health and economic benefits are valued
- The quality of the physical environment is managed to protect natural assets and built infrastructure such as roads, water, coastal defences and housing
- Neighbourhoods are regenerated to promote wellbeing and connect people to jobs, leisure and transportation

## **Headline actions**

1. Improve options available to encourage people to move towards alternative low carbon travel e.g. greenways, electric charging points and access to public transport
2. Manage and protect our natural and historic environment
3. Use digital technology to improve how people explore and interpret their natural and historic environment
4. Protect local infrastructure from the effects of severe weather such as flooding, storm surges, erosion and other natural disasters
5. Deliver priority regeneration programmes identified in village and urban master plans
6. Improve disability access to the natural and historic environment
7. Empower communities to take increased ownership of natural spaces and historic assets
8. Increase the amount of affordable housing available for first time buyers

## **Who will work in partnership to implement these actions?**

- Ards and North Down Borough Council
- Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (inc. Northern Ireland Environment Agency)
- Department for Communities (inc. Historic Environment Division)
- Department for Infrastructure
- National Trust
- Northern Ireland Housing Executive



## Join the Big Conversation

The current list of actions is only the start of what needs to be done to achieve the aspirations of the Big Plan.

The Big Plan and the actions within the Delivery Plan are constantly under review. We need to make sure that the actions remain relevant to you and that they will continue to address the issues that are important to you.

We want to make sure the Delivery Plan is robust – help us! What actions are missing and what additions should be made. A survey postcard is included with this booklet to make it easy for you to provide feedback.

### Use the postcard to tell us:

1. How would you prioritise the current list of actions?
2. What actions are missing and what additions should be made?
3. Have you taken part in a previous version of the Big Conversation?
4. If you have previously taken part in the Big Conversation, can you see your feedback reflected in either the Big Plan or within the Delivery Plan actions?

## How to fill in the freepost postcard

Use the postcard to tell us how you would prioritise the action for each outcome by circling your top three. Are there other actions we should also consider including?

### Please use the four questions below to provide feedback on the list of initial actions:

1. How would you prioritise the current list of actions?  
Using the information provided under each of the outcomes, circle the three actions you think should be a priority over the next two years.

Delivery Plan Outcomes	Delivery Plan Actions <small>Circle your top 3 priorities for each outcome</small>
<b>Outcome 1</b> Fulfil their lifelong potential	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
<b>Outcome 2</b> Enjoy good health and wellbeing	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
<b>Outcome 3</b> Live in communities where they are respected, safe and feel safe	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
<b>Outcome 4</b> Benefit from a prosperous economy	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
<b>Outcome 5</b> Feel pride from having access to a well-managed sustainable environment	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

2. What additional actions (not already listed under each outcome) do you think should be included in the Delivery Plan?

We need a clear long term plan for investment that supports local business and highlights specialist areas such as creative arts and tourism.

3. Have you taken part in a previous version of the Big Conversation (either by completing an earlier postcard, undertaking an online survey or attending a meeting/workshop?)

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Can't remember

4. If you have previously taken part in the Big Conversation, can you see your feedback reflected in either the Big Plan or within the Delivery Plan actions?

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not sure

What is your postcode? BT19 6SJ (this will only be used to show if we have reached everyone)



# How will we know if the Delivery Plan is making a difference?

**To assess the impact of the Delivery Plan we need to ask three questions:**

1. What has been done to implement each action?
2. How well has each action been implemented?
3. Is anyone better off because of each action?

Implementation of the actions will be measured via indicators and performance measures.

## For example the Big Plan Outcome 2

**All people in Ards and North Down enjoy good health and wellbeing**

**The Big Plan indicator:** The proportion of people admitted to hospital for drug-related causes

**Reason for selecting this indicator:** There is a steady trend and in areas of high deprivation people are twice as likely to be admitted to hospital for drug-related causes

**Action within the Delivery Plan:** Tackle serious and organised crime to take drug dealers off the street and remove opportunities for people to use illegal drugs

**Performance measures:**

Recorded crime – trafficking of drugs

Recorded crime – possession of drugs

**How will enforcement reduce the number of people admitted to hospital?**

Increasing the risk factors associated with trafficking and possessing drugs will make it harder for people to buy illegal drugs. Increased threat of arrest should act as a deterrent. This action by itself will not reduce the number of people admitted to hospital but, together with other actions such as education, counselling, skills development and diversionary tactics (leisure and recreation), we should, over time, start to see an impact on the indicator from the Big Plan.

## Who is responsible for the Big Plan?

People have the right to expect high standards from all agencies delivering public services in Ards and North Down. While Ards and North Down Borough Council facilitates the development of the Big Plan, it is **NOT** a Council plan. All community planning partners share an equal responsibility for the implementation of the plan.

Ards and North Down's Strategic Community Planning Partnership meets twice a year and provides an overarching commitment to the implementation and monitoring of the Big Plan.

## Which organisations are represented in the Strategic Community Planning Partnership?

### Statutory Partners

- Ards and North Down Borough Council
- Council for Catholic Maintained Schools
- Education Authority
- Health and Social Care Board
- Invest Northern Ireland
- Libraries NI
- Police Service of Northern Ireland
- Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service
- Northern Ireland Housing Executive
- Sport NI
- South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust
- Tourism NI
- Public Health Agency

### Government Departments

- Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs
- Department for Communities
- Department of Education
- Department of Finance
- Department for Infrastructure
- Department of Justice
- The Executive Office

### Support Partners

- National Trust
- NICVA
- South Eastern Regional College
- Translink

### Ards and North Down's 3rd Sector Community Planning Forum

was established at the end of December 2017 to ensure the voice of the Community and Voluntary Sector is reflected in the delivery and monitoring of the Big Plan for Ards and North Down.

**Thematic Wellbeing Groups** meet quarterly to develop the Delivery Plan and to monitor and report on its performance to the Strategic Community Planning Partnership. Membership of these groups is drawn from the organisations represented in the Strategic Partnership and the 3rd Sector Community Planning Forum.



# There are lots of ways you can keep up to date with the Big Plan for Ards and North Down

Stay informed about the Big Plan and its implementation by signing up for our newsletter, following the Big Conversation on Twitter or reading the Big Plan and other documents on Ards and North Down Borough Council's website.

## Resources to tell you more about the Big Plan include:

- The Big Plan for Ards and North Down
- An Easy Read version of the Big Plan for Ards and North Down
- Six animations to highlight the aspirations of the Big Plan for Ards and North Down
- The Delivery Plan with actions
- Past issues of 'engage', our newsletter to keep you up to date with the Big Plan and its implementation
- A statistical baseline for Ards and North Down





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