



## Belfast City Council response to Lenadoon Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership's Action plan (2007)

### Background

LNRP was formally established in March 2005 when it first sat as an emerging partnership recognised by BRO in September 2005. The Lenadoon Community Forum [LCF] is the lead partner and was established in May 1992 to address the many social and economic needs that existed in the Lenadoon estate.

Since its launch the LCF has become an umbrella group for some 20 smaller community groups addressing social issues such as health, employment, environment, youth, community safety and education. The LCF is housed within the Glen Community Complex on the Suffolk Road along with the Lenadoon Women's Group, Glen Parent Youth Group and the Emerald Boxing Club.

A number of the projects/ programmes that the LCF delivers are also located at the Community Complex including the Lenadoon Counselling Project, the Lenadoon Fresh Start Project and the Lenadoon Training and Education Project. Through this locally co-ordinated delivery model LCF has been able to provide high quality and much needed services targeted and tailored to the needs of local people from across the Lenadoon NRA and beyond.

The Vision Statement for the Lenadoon Neighbourhood Renewal Area:

*"The Lenadoon Neighbourhood Renewal Area will be an attractive, prosperous and safe place to live, work and visit. High quality, local services and facilities will be accessible to all and will provide opportunities for local people to develop their own health and wellbeing, education, social and economic capacity. A strong community spirit and infrastructure supported by local people and local business with public services that are responsive to need will be the model of partnership delivery."*

The strategic priorities for neighbourhood renewal have been identified by DSD as:

- **Community Renewal** – to develop confident communities that are able and committed to improving the quality of life in the most deprived neighbourhoods;
- **Economic Renewal** – to develop economic activity in the most deprived neighbourhoods and connect them to the wider urban economy;
- **Social Renewal** – to improve social conditions for the people who live in the most deprived neighbourhoods through better co-ordinated public services and the creation of safer environments; and
- **Physical Renewal** – to help create attractive, safe and sustainable environments in the most deprived neighbourhoods.

### The council's input

A number of discreet actions in the plan identify Belfast City Council as either a lead or supporting partner in their delivery. As part of their consultation process Lenadoon Partnership have now asked the council to make an official response to the actions.

Detailed below are each of these council-related actions and a combined council response (established after discussions with the council's departments).

## Strategic Theme: Community Renewal

Desired outcome:	New multi-use leisure, recreation & community facility incl. outdoor play area & pitch and commercial space.
(1) Action sought:	<b>Scope and design of the facility developed (including community input and ownership via Facility Design Steering Group) EA development Secure funding Construction</b>
Resource implications:	£ for design of facility and development of funding application. Architect fees Project management Facility manager
Lead:	LNRP DSD
Support:	NIHE, <b>Belfast City Council</b> , Glencolin Residents Association

**Council response: From the details provided at this stage it is not clear as to the extent and nature of the facility and pitch being proposed. The council would need more detail on its proposed supporting role before being able to comment in detail.**

**The council would also like to explore the implications of the proposal in relation to Andersonstown or Whiterock leisure centres both of which potentially may have similar catchment areas. However, should the project attract capital funding the council's Leisure Services section would be keen to work with the facility management on issues such as sports and club development, advice and assistance.**

**Similarly, if such capital funding was identified, the facility could be supported through the council's current Community Services grant programmes including such areas as revenue, summer play scheme and project funding. The new Community Support Plan and staff structure will support and facilitate greater community development outreach and partnership work in the Glen Colin area.**

- Desired outcome: Maximum use of existing facilities –Hannahstown Hall, Carrigart YC, Oliver Plunkett PS, Horn Drive CC and Glen CC
- All of the community groups in the NRA have skills and capacity to engage local people and influence statutory bodies
- Proposed development worker for Glencolin in place
- (2) Action sought: **Increased involvement of parent volunteers working with youth workers, church & School.**
- Formalise links with facility owners & explore potential of sharing resources**
- Targeted capacity building programmes in all parts of the NRA.**
- EA for Development Worker agreed.**
- Explore feasibility of transferring ownership of statutory facilities to the community**
- Resource implications: Staff time and resources to set up & manage volunteers  
Additional / redistributed youth worker man hours  
Training costs  
£ for Glencolin Development Worker Post
- Lead: **Belfast City Council**
- Support: Residents Associations
- Council response: The council's new Community Support Plan (which will run until 2010) includes a plan to promote the use of facilities throughout the city – current usage of the council facilities in the Lenadoon NRP is over 60%. The new plan will investigate the management options for community centres. Community Services has previously supported and facilitated the transfer of facilities to community ownership on a number of sites in Belfast.**

Desired outcome: All NRA residents are aware of the services and facilities available & can share news, experiences, ideas and thoughts.

(3) Action sought: **Community News remit expanded & distributed to all NRA**

**Regular Open Days & Public Meetings**

**Launch & maintain NR website for Lenadoon**

**Advocate & promote the establishment of a targeted network for carers & disabled people.**

Resource implications: Possible additional print & distribution Costs

Development Staff time & resources

Feasibility study to explore £ required for technical & content development for website + on going maintenance & hosting costs

Lead: DSD, Community org, Lenadoon Community Forum and Development team

Support: DSD, **Belfast City Council**

**Council response: The implementation of the council's new Community Services structure aims to facilitate local networking and communications. The review of the Community Support Plan will also address issues of local communication and networking. It will examine the viability, through local community centres, of a 'one stop shop' idea to bring a range of council services and information to one location.**

**The council's new Strategic Neighbourhood Action Programme (SNAP) is being developed to enhance the council's ability to communicate and deliver its services at a local level. The SNAP team would be interested in working with the Partnership in exploring issues of consultation and engagement with the Lenadoon community and the sharing of local service knowledge.**

Desired outcome: Zero tolerance & incidence of vandalism.

(4) Action sought: **Responsive and accountable Policing**

**Targeted use of alley-gating Education programme - schools & YC**

**Encourage youth to respect parks + involve them in the design, development & maintenance**

**Lobby park & property owners to take action**

**Agree a strategy in conjunction with the WBPB to engage with the PSNI in order to develop local, acceptable and accountable policing.**

Resource implications: Community Wardens / Play Supervisors

Funding for alleygating £ and staff for education programme

Lead: **Belfast City Council, PSNI**

Support: DSD £ for alleygating Schools & Youth Providers, LNRP

**Council response: The council plays a key role in the Belfast Community Safety Partnership which recommends that strong links are developed with Belfast District Policing Partnership to support more responsive and accountable policing.**

The council is also part of Anti Social Behaviour Forums that have been established in north, south, east and west Belfast, where NIHE, PSNI, and the council come together to discuss ASB cases and agree action to be taken. Information can be supplied to any one of these agencies regarding anti-social behaviour and they will determine whether or not to take further action.

The council's Community Safety Team manage the 'Alleygates' pilot project and have produced a manual that outlines the process. The Team are available to discuss this with the community.

Over the next financial year the council is planning an improvement project for Lenadoon playground on Horne Drive. We are also planning to extend the council football pitch to encourage greater usage and play activities. Our Parks and Cemeteries section are willing to meet with the Partnership to discuss these and future parks projects.

Our Good Relations unit are leading on a number of activities in local areas around the city, for example, the Re-Imaging Communities programme (funded by the Arts Council to work with communities to re-image their area, the unit will be applying for funding on behalf of a number of communities); Pilot Bonfires Management Project; a Conflict Transformation Project; Good Relations grant aid (grants up to £10,000 to support community relations projects); St Patrick's Day grants (grants to support small scale events to mark St Patrick's Day); and a Good Relations Plan for the city (an interagency plan to co-ordinate Good Relations activity in the city in line with the Government's 'A Shared future').

Local groups can help shape the Good Relations work of the council through such activities as representation on the council's Good Relations Steering Panel.

Desired outcome: Zero tolerance of under age and open-air drinking.

(5) Action sought: **Designate alcohol free zones & enforce  
Work with local licencees to adopt a code of conduct**

**Development & delivery of new approaches to issue of young people alcohol & drug abuse with schools & women's projects – e.g peer mentoring, on street youth work models – initially target young people who do not access other youth services**

**Agree a strategy in conjunction with the WBPB to engage with the PSNI in order to develop local, acceptable and accountable policing.**

Resource implications: Staff time and resources

Lead: **Belfast City Council**, Ehssb – Edact, Current Community Org. Delivering Need =, Lenadoon Community Forum & Development Team

Support: Schools, Local licencees

**Council response: The council's Community Services unit will work with Lenadoon Community Forum and the Area Partnership to address issues of anti-social behaviour through programme support and resources, best practice initiatives, shared learning and information.**

**The Belfast Community Safety Partnership currently coordinates the *Get Home Safe Project*, which, with the council, includes a number of partners such as PSNI and the Federation of Retail Licensing Trade.**

**The council also has a Regulatory Services Manager who can work with the community on a number of these issues.**

**Belfast City Council are developing an Anti Social Behaviour Policy that will reflect issues around ASB and alcohol abuse.**

**A Community Safety Coordinator for North and West Belfast is available to work with the partnership on community safety issues.**

**To illustrate what can be achieved in tackling such issues, Belfast Community Safety Partnership recently funded a project in partnership with EDACT to run a campaign around the themes of parental responsibility around drinking.**

**As previously noted the council's Good Relations unit are leading on a number of activities in local areas and are developing a Good Relations Plan for the city (an interagency plan to co-ordinate Good Relations activity in the city in line with the Government's 'A Shared future').**

**Local groups can help shape the Good Relations work of the council through such activities as representation on the council's Good Relations Steering Panel.**

Desired outcome: All residents feel safe outside and inside their homes.

(6) Action sought: **Expansion of Safer Neighbourhood Scheme + training & advice**  
**Source and implement additional security measures for vulnerable groups – make full use of existing projects/initiatives**  
**Investigate feasibility of a Community Watch Scheme and Community Safety Officer for the NRA**  
**Agree a strategy in conjunction with the WBPB to engage with the PSNI in order to develop local, acceptable and accountable policing.**

Resource implications: Staff / Volunteers

Lead: PSNI, NIO Community, Safety Unit, **Belfast City Council**

Support: LNRP, NIHE

**Council response: Belfast Community Safety Partnership currently attends and supports other such forums in the Upper Springfield area, and will give advice where appropriate.**

**The Partnership also fund the Safety of Seniors project, which is a roadshow providing information to groups of Senior Citizens from a range of agencies such as PSNI, Fire Authority, DPP, Fold Telecare, NIHE, etc.**

**As previously noted the council's Good Relations unit are leading on a number of activities in local areas and are developing a Good Relations Plan for the city (an interagency plan to co-ordinate Good Relations activity in the city in line with the Government's 'A Shared future').**

**Local groups can help shape the Good Relations work of the council through such activities as representation on the council's Good Relations Steering Panel.**

Desired outcome: Community and Youth Centres fully equipped and open on evenings & weekends & during holiday periods  
Upgraded and better used existing sports facilities.

(7) Action sought: **Provision of additional YC hours**

**Agreement between young people & residents/community acceptable locations for them to socialise**

**Better sharing of existing sports facilities**

**Improved facilities & equipment to allow expansion of use**

**Explore feasibility of midnight soccer scheme**

**Scoping analysis of youth provision in the area and appointment of a large professional youth organisation to develop co-ordinated youth policies for the NRA**

**Explore feasibility of transferring ownership of statutory facilities to the community.**

Resource implications: Costs of extended opening hours

£ to improve existing facilities & equipment

£ for analysis of youth provision

£ for upgrading

Lead BELB, **Belfast City Council**, Sports Council CURRENT COMMUNITY ORG., DELIVERING NEED =, GLEN PARENT YOUTH GROUP

Support: DSD

**Council response: Current council facilities provide a range of activities for children and young people as part of a general community programme. There may be some additional capacity available at the council centres.**

**Other resources available to improve programmes includes equipment, transport and grant aid programmes. Access to facilities at weekends is limited due to current resource allocation but will be investigated as part of the management options of facilities.**

**There is potential for the proposed action to tie in with the council's existing leisure programme for youth, for example, the Midnight Soccer League which has been organised at various council facilities and could be extended to Lenadoon.**

## Strategic Theme: Physical Renewal

Desired outcome:	Litter free streets No dog dirt Local residents managing their domestic rubbish No rubbish dumping.
(8) Action sought:	<p><b>More rubbish bins &amp; dog bins (with bags) on streets / outside shops etc – cleared regularly</b></p> <p><b>Advertise &amp; enforce litter, &amp; dog fouling laws &amp; penalties</b></p> <p><b>Regular power hosing</b></p> <p><b>Additional promotion / information re: blue bin recycling &amp; criteria for 2nd /larger bin.</b></p> <p><b>Education –antilitter workshops in schools, youth groups, community groups</b></p> <p><b>Encourage responsible dog ownership – targeted visible dog warden presence</b></p> <p><b>Investigate feasibility of providing localised recycling facilities</b></p> <p><b>Test potential for a social economy/litter collection/ graffiti clean up company in conjunction with WBPB initiatives</b></p>
Resource implications:	<p>Installation &amp; clearing of additional bins</p> <p>Cost of additional signage, promotion &amp; enforcement</p> <p>Minimal: redistribution of appropriate information material</p> <p>Extension of existing</p> <p>Captain Cleanup &amp; other community awareness programmes into area</p> <p>Focus of dog warden resource for specific period of time</p> <p>Cost of installation &amp; on-going clearance</p>
Lead:	<b>Belfast City Council</b>
Support:	LNRP to provide information to target appropriately Schools, DSD, WBPB
<b>Council response:</b>	<p><b>The council’s cleansing service are available to meet to discuss particular cleansing issues in the area.</b></p> <p><b>Representatives from the Council’s Cleansing Services, Community Awareness, Enforcement and operational teams service are available to meet with Lenadoon to provide a full picture of current activities and to discuss support in the future.</b></p> <p><b>The Council’s Cleansing Forums holds quarterly meetings as a way for community groups and individuals to work with Cleansing Services and we encourage the Partnership to join the forum.</b></p> <p><b>Cleansing offers a range of community engagement activities from community talks, workshops, youth activities (e.g.) summer schemes and school workshops and visits alongside specific community focused anti-litter projects.</b></p> <p><b>Our Waste Management Service is available to review recycling provision in the area and will work with local communities to ensure that education activities for recycling are available.</b></p>

**Every household in Belfast now has access to a recycling kerbside collection for home. In addition, there are recycling centres close to Lenadoon (at Blackstaff Industrial Estate and on the Springfield Road). The Service is also devising new methods of recycling more bulky household which can also be collected for free from households.**

**As with other parts of the city, the Waste Management Service periodically reviews recycling provision in the Lenadoon area and will implement improvements where necessary. Education activities for recycling can be carried out in conjunction with the local community.**

Desired outcome: Existing Green spaces protected  
New green spaces developed & greenery introduced.

(9) Action sought: **No more private housing developments on green spaces**

**Identify & protect potential new green spaces & investigate development/usage**

**Introduce new greenery to area**

**Development of an Environmental forum to incorporate LNP / BCC / NIHE and other relevant bodies.**

Resource implications: Staff time and resources  
Cost of new greenery  
Staff time and resources

Lead: The Planning Service, NIHE, **Belfast City Council**

Support: LNRP, Environmental Forum, **Belfast City Council** NIHE

**Council response: The council recognises the importance of open space and the contribution that they play to urban communities. Its Open Space strategy seeks to improve the character and accessibility of existing council owned open space. Currently, as part of the Open Space strategy the council is working with partners to protect the Colin Glen area and promote its use as a greenway.**

**The council would be keen to participate in a local environmental forum that was working on such issues. It is planning to examine the issue of local land use and will work with the Partnership to look at ways forward.**

Desired outcome: A safe outdoor play area for children at the 'upper end' of the NRA.

(10) Action sought: **Review & support the current feasibility study & proposal noted above.**

Resource implications: Staff time and resources

Lead: **Belfast City Council**

Support: LNRP

**Council response: The council's Park and Cemeteries section are keen to work with the Partnership and the local community in planning this project in a fashion which integrates it with wider developments in the area.**

Desired outcome: Derelict / empty buildings & waste ground renovated and put to good use or cleared all together.

(11) Action sought: **Identify targets sites  
Develop proposals for future use  
Enforce fly tipping laws.**

Resource implications: Staff time and resources  
£ for development of proposals

Lead: **Belfast City Council**, Policing Board

Support: LNRP

**Council response: The Council's Building Control Service responds to complaints and reports regarding dangerous and derelict buildings taking legal or other more direct action to make them safe. Whilst most of this work is in response to requests we will work with the partnership to investigate any practice work detailing local circumstances in Lenadoon. (It should be noted that vacant houses are not dealt with by the council but are under the legislative control of the NIHE.)**

Desired outcome: Slower traffic on Glen Road & Suffolk Road.

(12) Action sought: **Innovative traffic calming measures  
Junction management e.g. traffic lights  
Car parking bays at shops  
Link and engage with Arterial Routes  
Initiative to ensure NRA considered in further development.**

Resource implications: Additional £

Lead: DRD Roads Service, **Belfast City Council**

Support: PNRP, PSNI

**Council response: The council has worked with the Department for Regional Development (DRD) in other parts of the city to look at issues of traffic management. DRD have their own guidelines regarding developing actions or schemes and any developmental work dealing with roads in the city must involve DRD from the outset and require their final approval.**

**Through the 'Renewing the Routes' arterial routes project, the council is currently engaged in analysing the Springfield Road and Whiterock junction to develop proposals on traffic congestion and community safety issues.**

Desired outcome: Greater collaborative working between community and statutory bodies.

(13) Action sought: **Strengthening of the Lenadoon Environmental Forum with commitment from statutory organisations to attend and take action**

**Tie in with the development of a comprehensive Physical Master plan for West Belfast to draw significant links with the city centre and other parts of Belfast.**

Resource implications: Staff time and resources

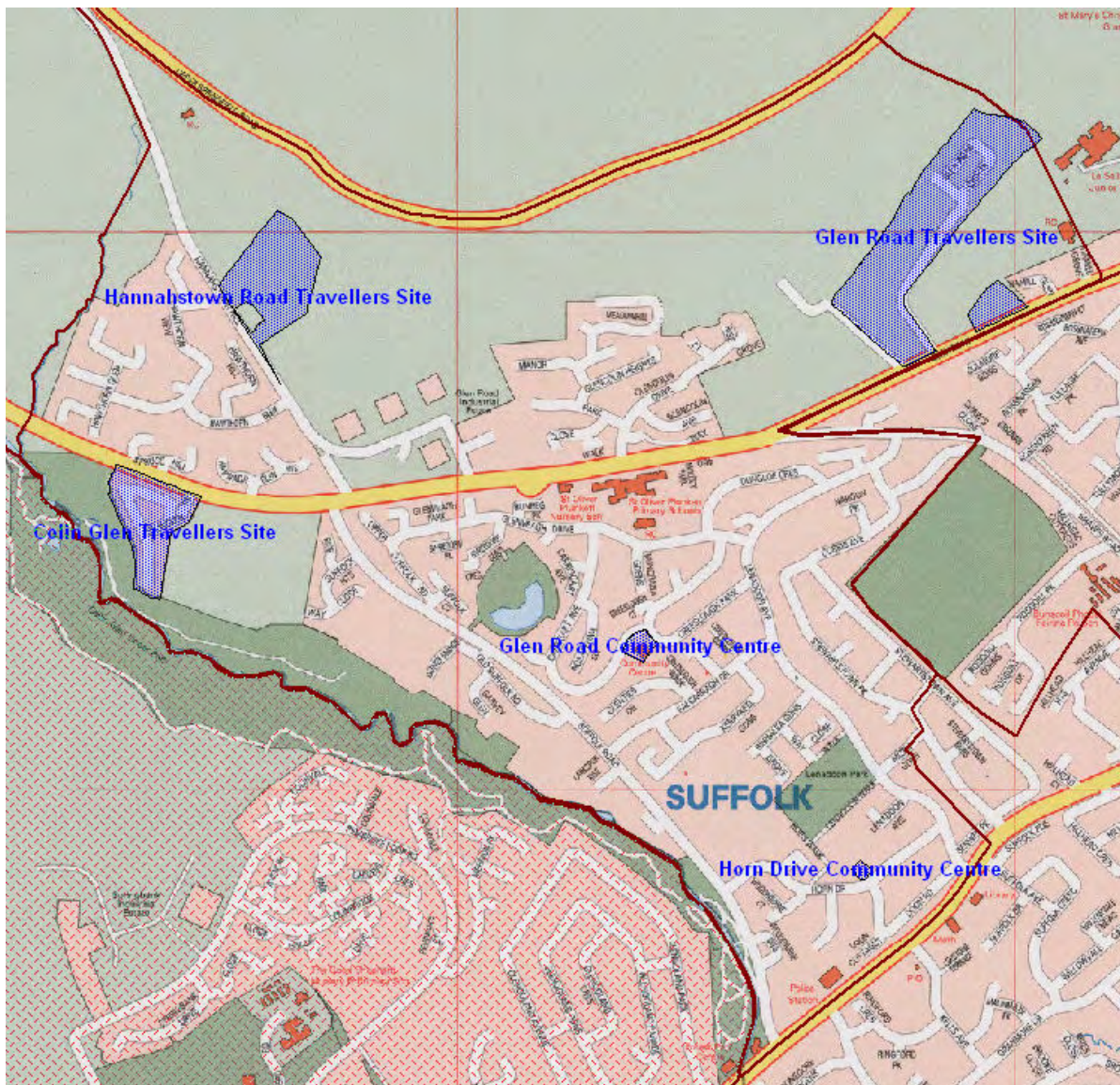
Lead: LNRP, **Belfast City Council**, CURRENT COMMUNITY ORG., DELIVERING NEED =, LCF DEVELOPMENT TEAM

Support: South DRD Roads Services

**Council response: The council would suggest that any physical development masterplan being developed for west Belfast (and that includes the wider Lenadoon area) should be considered by the Lenadoon Environmental Forum. This will be of particular importance in the consideration of any physical and environmental plans that impact directly upon the area.**

**The council's new SNAP programme is being developed to enhance the council's ability to communicate and deliver its services at a local level. The SNAP team would be interested in working with the Forum in exploring issues of consultation and engagement with the Lenadoon community**

### Appendix 1: Boundary of Lenadoon Neighbourhood Renewal Area



## **Appendix 2: Lenadoon Neighbourhood Renewal Plan**

A copy of the full Lenadoon Action plan is available on **Docs Open #73274**