

# Appendix A: The 'To Do' list for Belfast

## Neighbourhood

### Objectives

#### **1. Take actions to increase the population by attracting more people to live, work and play in the city**

##### **Actions:**

- ✘ Market Belfast as a place to live
- ✘ Enhance housing opportunities by increasing supply and affordable accommodation
- ✘ Encourage new forms of high-density living in tandem with enhanced design principles
- ✘ Promote a sustainable and compact land-use model
- ✘ Promote with developers the concept of city centre living
- ✘ Encourage mixed use development through legislation and planning procedures

#### **2. Reduce the number of people living in deprivation**

##### **Actions:**

- ✘ Enhance access to healthcare and community facilities
- ✘ Develop long-term investment strategies for tackling deprivation
- ✘ Research and identify the factors that lead to social inclusion
- ✘ Develop a holistic approach that tackles social, physical, economic and environmental issues in an integrated way
- ✘ Promote benefits of education
- ✘ Review regeneration expenditure in the city
- ✘ Promote the concept of a single regeneration strategy for the city
- ✘ Review funding mechanisms to standardise and simplify the application and approval system

#### **3. Foster greater civic responsibility and civic pride**

##### **Actions:**

- ✘ Develop community capacity to shape regeneration plans and programmes
- ✘ Promote improved community relations
- ✘ Work with local communities to create diverse neighbourhoods
- ✘ Establish a champion to spearhead regeneration activity in the city based on inclusive working
- ✘ Promote a simplified governance structure within the city
- ✘ Create higher levels of joint working in regeneration between agencies and communities

# Physical

## Objectives

### 4. Agree on standards of excellence in urban design for the city

#### Actions:

- ✘ Establish an 'Office of City Architect'
- ✘ Open a Belfast urban design centre
- ✘ Work with city developers to ensure quality design and mixed use

### 5. Re-invigorate the centre city

#### Actions:

- ✘ Define the city centre boundary
- ✘ Implement a public realm strategy
- ✘ Promote mixed and integrated uses
- ✘ Encourage city centre living that also includes families
- ✘ Promote the city centre as a physical location for the regional driver
- ✘ Develop an investment plan that recognises and builds upon the city's spatial assets

### 6. Promote a quality public transport infrastructure for the city

#### Actions:

- ✘ Develop a multi-modal and integrated transport system
- ✘ Improve pedestrian linkages
- ✘ Increase accessibility by reducing journey times and costs
- ✘ Improve the pedestrian linkages between the centre and the neighbourhoods

### 7. Promote physical regeneration along the city's arterial routes

#### Actions:

- ✘ Promote Business Improvement Districts (BIDs)
- ✘ Promote public-private partnerships
- ✘ Encourage the regeneration of communities along the city's arterial routes
- ✘ Create an appropriate regeneration delivery mechanism
- ✘ Promote the arterial routes as locations of economic activity through greater investment

### 8. Upgrade the gateway entrances to the city

#### Actions:

- ✘ Release environmental assets for sympathetic development
- ✘ Create neutral workspaces linking the 'centre city' and the 'middle city'

## **9. Increase linkages to the city**

### **Actions:**

- ✘ Promote increased air connectivity to Europe and America
- ✘ Strengthen linkages between the city and the international airport

## **10. Release the environmental assets of the city**

### **Actions:**

- ✘ Develop, create access to, and promote the hills, river, parks and public realm
- ✘ Link hills and open spaces
- ✘ Link the city to the Lagan

## **Economy**

### **Objectives**

#### **11. Take actions to increase entrepreneurship in the city**

##### **Actions:**

- ✘ Stimulate continued development in emerging sectors such as creative and knowledge-based industries
- ✘ Develop a plan for our creative industries
- ✘ Develop fiscal measures that will help stimulate entrepreneurship through increased investment
- ✘ Promote entrepreneurship through all levels of education
- ✘ Develop a plan to identify and address risk adverse issues

#### **12. Strengthen and promote the city's indigenous industries**

##### **Actions:**

- ✘ Promote development across the city's industry sectors
- ✘ Address specific issues around particular industries such as manufacturing
- ✘ Conduct research to identify and understand employer needs
- ✘ Develop a growth plan that will match skills to industry requirements
- ✘ Promote on-the-job training schemes to alleviate attrition rates
- ✘ Encourage balanced economic growth by recognising the importance of different sectors in development plans
- ✘ Identify and address sector-specific issues that hinder growth

#### **13. Take cohesive action to increase R&D and levels of innovation in the city**

##### **Actions:**

- ✘ Research the factors that encourage greater innovation and nurture these
- ✘ Strengthen links between stakeholders and the universities

## All

### Objectives

#### 14. Seek to attract new industries to the city

##### Actions:

- ✘ Encourage greater inward investment
- ✘ Identify potential locations for the 'clustering' of industries
- ✘ Encourage life-long learning amongst citizens

#### 15. Re-invigorate the city's neighbourhoods

##### Actions:

- ✘ Develop greater mobility and connectivity within and among neighbourhoods
- ✘ Protect and enhance local neighbourhood centres
- ✘ Encourage greater investment into deprived neighbourhoods

#### 16. Promote Belfast as a regional driver which benefits the development of the whole region

##### Actions:

- ✘ Encourage a private-sector led economy
- ✘ Develop and promote the rationale for Belfast as Northern Ireland's economic driver
- ✘ Address competing interests between the Region, BMA and Belfast
- ✘ Address different spatial perceptions and realities across the region
- ✘ Promote enhanced integrated working at all levels to link between regional, city and local initiatives and programmes
- ✘ Prioritise public sector strategies around spatial plans

#### 17. Promote employability and increase the skill base in the city

##### Actions:

- ✘ Develop local employment initiatives
- ✘ Identify and address barriers to employability
- ✘ Identify and address reasons for unemployment
- ✘ Encourage a culture which places greater value on education

#### 18. Increase brownfield development

##### Actions:

- ✘ Promote a new city 'land bank' to attract key inward investment
- ✘ Release redundant road infrastructure for development
- ✘ Create a cohesive land-use based economic plan for the city
- ✘ Increase brownfield development within the city
- ✘ Encourage brownfield site development through all emerging spatial plans
- ✘ Promote indigenous industry growth by providing suitable packaged land and/or premises within the city's neighbourhoods