

Over 30 Years Supporting Community Involvement

1984

Community Technical Aid (CTA) established to assist tenants' and residents' associations in responding to planning and redevelopment proposals.

1985

Research confirms impact of CTA's role in supporting community participation in planning.

1986

Draft Belfast Urban Area Plan published. CTA helps communities present their case.

1987

CTA supports community involvement in Belfast Urban Area Plan with funding from the Department of the Environment to employ planners.

1988

Support for first self-build community facility.

1989

Completion of Irish Language Nursery School and Hillman Street community centre.

1990

Development of community proposals in response to plans for Springvale Renewal area in West Belfast.

1991

Assistance provided to community-led play areas and youth facilities.

1992

Community audit undertaken in Fermanagh presented to planners and local council.

1993

Full community architecture service for local community projects launched.

1994

Major renewal works for a community museum begin.

1995

First in a series of Local Community Development Plans with community forums.

1996

First Economic Appraisal completed. First 'Planning with People' local plan.

1997

Major community and public consultation undertaken on Belfast City Region Plan proposals.

1998

Two community facilities begin construction. Training for Economic Appraisals provided for local groups.

1999

Community groups facilitated to influence Shaping Our Future (Regional Development Strategy).

2000

Public and community consultation facilitated on future of Railway Service for new Assembly Taskforce.

2001

Lobbying for new community consultation process successful and groups assisted in responding to seven Area Plans over 15 district council areas.

2002

Advice and support to rural halls projects with the Rural Community Network and to community buildings in areas of weak infrastructure with Community Foundation for Northern Ireland.

2003

Support service to community building projects funded by Urban II in North Belfast launched. Consultation facilitated on Transport Plan for Belfast.

2004

Community Guide to the Planning System published.

2005

New Planning Advice Service for individuals launched. Support to community sector on developing proposals for Community Planning.

2006

Work with communities on adverse impacts of HMOs in Belfast. Sustainability plan for Community Healthy Living Centre in Belfast.

2007

Engaged communities on Belfast City Council's proposals for new 'Giant's Park'. Support to groups involved in the Big Lottery Fund's Community Buildings Programme. New Community Planning Support Project launched.

2008

Name change to **Community Places**. Consultation undertaken on rural planning policy and Planning Stronger Communities report published. New advice service for groups seeking Modernisation Capital Fund grants begun.

2009

Launch of new website and publications by Minister of the Environment at event to mark 25 years of supporting community involvement.

2010

Support to Traveller family on successful judicial review. Local Community Plans developed with communities across the region. Right to be heard in person policy retained in new Planning Legislation.

2011

New planning policy won for serviced accommodation sites for the Traveller community. Statement of Community Involvement won in Planning Legislation as a duty on Councils and Department.

2012

Community Planning Toolkit launched online resource participation. Lobby for policy linking land use and community planning successful. Advice to groups applying to the Big Lottery Fund's Energy Efficient Venues Programme.

2013

Support to communities opposed to proposal for a university car park on a site zoned for social housing in North Belfast. Over 100 organisations support our Manifesto lobbying which secures five major changes to legislation for Community Planning.

2014

Support and capacity building to 11 new councils on designing Community Planning. Successful lobby to have planning application fees abolished for community facilities. Support to residents through a judicial review quashing planning permission for a major sports stadium in West Belfast residential area.

2015

Facilitated engagement in Community Planning for Councils. Launch REP Project to develop community sector representation, engagement and participation.

2016

Published 11 guides to Council-led planning systems. Participation exchange project with universities in Portugal and Italy. New engagement tools tested and 'Beyond NIMBYism' film launched.