

COMMUNITY SURVEY REPORT

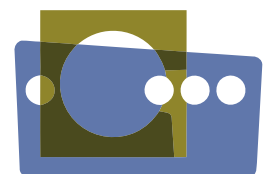
Impacts Of Development On An Inner-City Community

ashton
Supporting
North Belfast



Belfast
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Community
Places



Community Survey Report – Impacts Of Development On An Inner-City Community

Purpose of the Community Survey

In the last few years people living in Inner North Belfast have experienced major construction projects including the Ulster University York Street campus and several purpose-built student accommodation developments. There are also ongoing plans by the Department of Infrastructure to develop a £130-165 Million York Street Interchange (YSI) scheme. In response to these ongoing and proposed developments a community survey was designed to:

- get a better understanding of the needs, issues and concerns of the community;
- enable residents to bring forward their own ideas and solutions; and
- encourage greater community activism and volunteering in response to these issues.

Community Survey Process

The survey was designed to be conducted face to face with an emphasis placed on capturing the insight and stories of local people in their own words. To facilitate this the survey included several open questions and prompted respondents to provide examples where possible. The survey was presented in two distinct sections. The first, capturing the impacts, both positive and negative, of the current and proposed development. With the second section exploring community activity and involvement. To build ownership and maximise engagement with the process by the local community Community Places and the Ashton Community Trust supported community volunteers to lead on the process of collecting survey responses.

Community Training Sessions

Community Places facilitated Community Training sessions with a team of 13 local community representatives who volunteered to conduct the survey. At each session participants discussed the purpose of undertaking the research. This highlighted the important opportunity which the survey provided for the local community to have their say on the potential impacts of current and proposed development; how these impacts could be addressed; and how the community could be more active and involved in the area.

Community Places prepared and presented draft survey questions to the volunteers. This enabled the questions to be tailored and refined and ensured that the survey questions flowed logically, were written in Plain English and that the survey interviewers were familiar with the terminology and content of the survey. As part of the training sessions the community volunteer interviewers considered the potential questions they might be asked by residents. A Questions and Answers hand-out was developed so that interviewers were prepared for any such questions. This covered issues about the survey process; length of time to complete the survey; terminology; how and what the survey information would be used for; what to do with other information or requests not related to the survey questions; and confidentiality. Guided by Community Places, the volunteers defined and agreed the areas and streets which they would each cover. The target of collecting survey responses from a third of the number of households within each area was set. The volunteers were asked to look out for specific community stories which could be featured in a community film which was being developed to document impacts from the developments on the surrounding

community. A community Information Sheet was prepared and circulated throughout the study area by Ashton Community Trust to raise awareness of the survey and its purpose. To encourage participation survey respondents were offered the opportunity to be entered into a prize draw to win one of two £25 supermarket vouchers.

Two questions tailored to Sailortown were included in the survey. Enabling the Sailortown Regeneration Group (SRG) to hear from local people about the types of services and facilities they would like to see developed in the area and what meanwhile uses could be delivered from St Joseph’s – an important community asset which SRG are working to restore and transform into a heritage and interpretation centre to celebrate the history and heritage of the dockland community.

Community Survey Study Area

The survey study area consists of approximately 368 households stretching from Henry Street to Frederick Street, homes in and around North Queen Street and Sailortown. The survey was targeted at three distinct areas adjacent to the proposed York Street Interchange: Henry Street Area; Lancaster Street Area; and Sailortown as illustrated below.

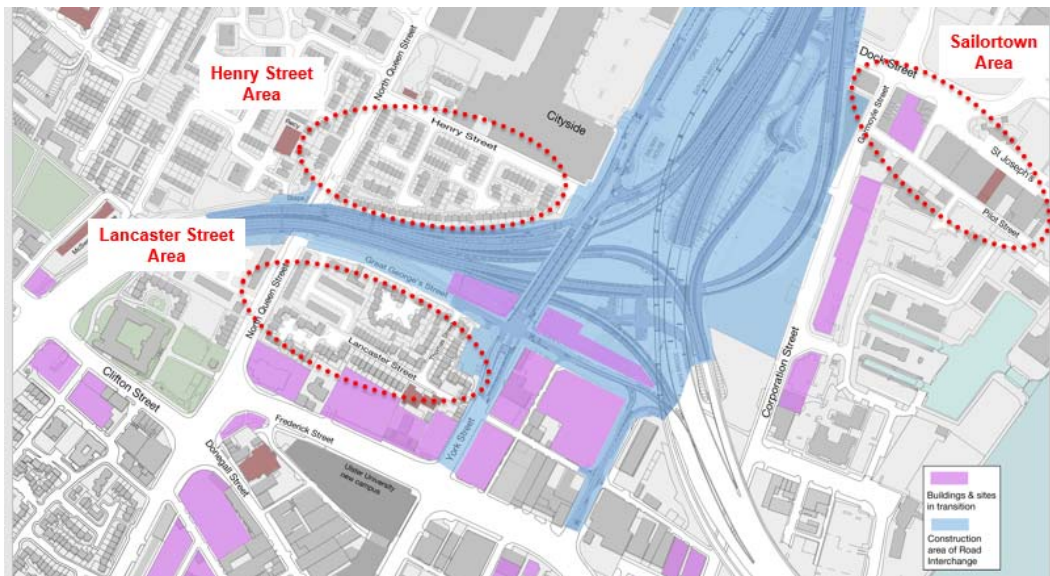


Figure 1: Survey Study Area

A response rate of 40% was achieved with 146 completed surveys and at least a third of all households in each area participated.

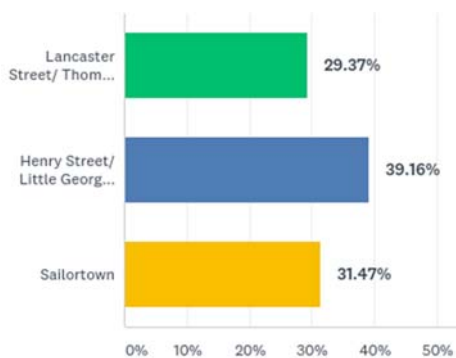


Figure 2: Survey Response by Area

Key Survey Findings

- **Levels of awareness:** Overall, respondents had a high level of awareness of developments in the area including York Street Interchange; Ulster University and Student Accommodation. There was less awareness of City Quays however, respondents from the Sailortown area were familiar with it.
- **Positive aspects of the community:** included quiet, safe and peaceful character of the area; friendly and good neighbours; strong community spirit; proximity to the city centre and amenities such as shops; clean and tidy; and the history of the area.
- **Impacts on the Community:** 71% stated that the positive aspects of the community will be affected negatively by the developments. Considering the Henry Street and Lancaster Street area this increased to 78% and 73% respectively. Overall, the results illustrated that 69% of respondents think the community will experience mostly negative impacts from the development. Again, this increased to 82% of respondents from the Henry Street area and 73% from the Lancaster Street area.
- **Concerns:** Main concerns relate to increased noise, traffic, dirt and pollution; general inconvenience and reduced access; disruption to sleep and impacts on school work and well-being; parking constraints; vermin; loss of community spirit; isolation of elderly residents; safety for children from increased traffic; potential anti-social behaviour from students similar to that experienced in South Belfast; and structural damage to houses during work on the Interchange.
- **Positive Aspects of developments:** 11% of respondents noted that the developments could also bring positive aspects to the area including employment; increased population and footfall to support local community and businesses; an up to date campus; less traffic congestion in the longer term; investment; and more shops and services.
- **Health and Well-being:** 60% of respondents from the Henry Street and Lancaster Street areas and 52% from the Sailortown area stated that recent or current developments in the area were having a negative impact on the health and well-being of people in their household. Impacts included: disruption to sleeping patterns; mental and physical impacts from disruption to daily routines, traffic congestion and noise; anxiety and isolation as friends and family find it more difficult to visit; worsening air pollution and dust impacting on those prone to chest infections or with Asthma and COPD.
- **Impacts of YSI:** 71% of all respondents said the YSI (York Street Interchange) would have mostly negative impacts on the area. This increased to 87% for respondents from the Henry Street area and 75% of respondents from the Lancaster Street area. 11% stated that the YSI would have mostly positive impacts and 18% didn't know. The negative impacts centred on: increased traffic congestion, noise and air pollution, dirt, dust and rats during construction; parking constraints; danger to children from increased traffic; accidents; delays to emergency service vehicles; impact on house prices; general disruption to journeys by both foot and car including school run; and isolate Sailortown from neighbouring communities. Positive impacts included less traffic congestion in the longer term, less pollution and improved access when the works are completed.

- **Addressing Impacts:** Preferred actions to ameliorate potential impacts from the YSI development included: schemes to reduce impacts of noise and dust pollution (87%); construction company to listen to the views and concerns of local people before construction work begins (83%); no night-time construction works (82%); designated areas for construction vehicle parking (79%); regular information from the construction company (78%); Local person employed to liaise with construction company (73%); and a Community Fund to bring improvements to the local area (73%). Efforts to reduce noise and dust; Information; effective communication; and limiting the hours of construction works were consistently raised by respondents.
- **Community Involvement:** The most popular ideas to get people more active and involved in the community were: the introduction of Kitchen Table Conversations where neighbours come together to discuss issues (57%); a Community Facebook page (51%); Community Space (47%); Participatory Budgeting – when local people pitch and vote for ideas to improve their area (46%); and a Community Website (42%). Other comments highlighted the convenience of on-line access to information on what is happening in the area.
- **Levels of activity in the community:** 57% of respondents said they would be more active in the community if it was easier to get involved or have a say in decisions that affect the community. 91% of respondents noted that the best way for their household to be kept aware of what's happening in the local community was through a Community Newsletter, with many of the respondents referencing the existing Ashton Community Magazine as a key source of information.
- **Sailortown:** Respondents from Sailortown prioritised the development of Green space (83%) (trees, planters, baskets and grass) to improve well-being and support wildlife; Parks (78%) including, clean safe places for children and dogs that are off-street and away from traffic; and a Community Space (72%) accessible to all. In relation to activities and events in St Joseph's respondents prioritised activities for older people (84%); youth activities (80%); Health and Well-being (71%) and Training or lifelong learning (67%). Over half of respondents were supportive of seasonal events, community celebration events and cultural and historical events.
- **Bunscoil Mhic Reachtain:** issues raised by Principal Dr Séamas Ó Donnghaile related to opportunities such as job creation, economic investment, learning and the creation of pathways to University. Other issues included: air pollution, relationship with Ulster University, restrictions on future expansion; threat to the history and sense of community of the area, and the need for active and sustained communication and engagement between developers and the community.
- **Other comments:** structural damage of homes; impact on house values; impact of the YSI on vulnerable people within the community; support for compensation to address inconvenience and disruption; concerns of anti-social behaviour; the need for activities targeted at individuals rather than solely family orientated; and positive outcomes such as recognition of the role of volunteers within the community.

Survey Analysis

Awareness of Proposed developments in the area

The first question sought to identify the levels of awareness regarding development in the immediate vicinity of the study area. Respondents were asked if they were aware of the following ongoing and proposed developments in the area including, Ulster University Campus; Student Accommodation; York Street Interchange Motorway Works and City Quays (hotel and office development along the River adjacent to the M3 Bridge).

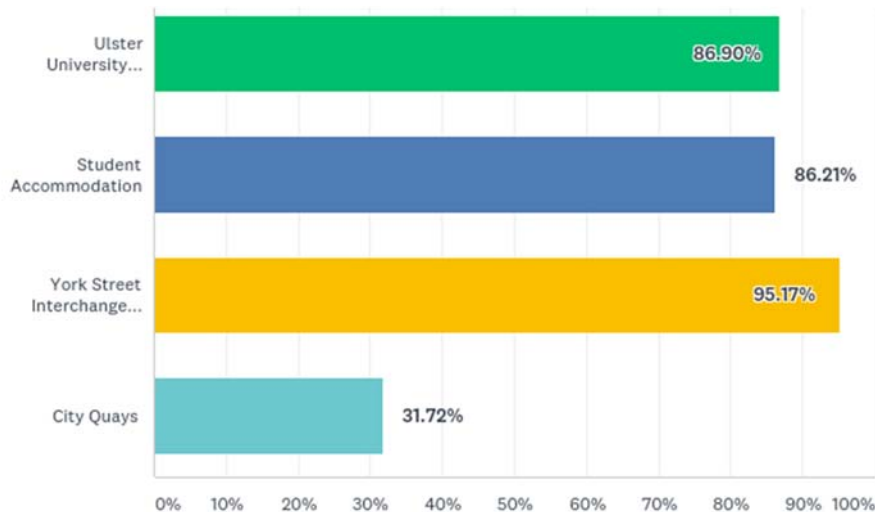


Figure 3: Levels of awareness of proposed developments

Overall, respondents had a high awareness of development related to Ulster University (87%); Student Accommodation (86%) and York Street Interchange (95%). There was less awareness of the City Quays Development (32%) however, all the respondents from the Sailortown area were familiar with City Quays.

Positive aspects of the Community

Respondents were asked to identify three positive things about their community. The word cloud below illustrates the most frequent responses. Including, the quiet, safe and peaceful character of the area; friendly and good neighbours; strong community spirit; the proximity to the city centre and amenities such as shops; clean and tidy; and the history of the area.



Figure 4: Word Cloud of Positive aspects of the community

“Friendly community everyone looks out for one another – most residents have lived here since the houses were built.”

“Everything is nearby, its clean and tidy with nice neighbours.”

“Always there to help and support each other.”

Positive and Negative Impacts from the developments

71% of respondents felt the positive aspects of the community will be affected negatively by the developments. Considering the Henry Street and Lancaster Street area this increased to 78% and 73% respectively. The main concerns related to increased noise, traffic, dirt and pollution; general inconvenience and reduced access; disruption to sleep and impacts on school work and well-being; parking constraints; vermin; loss of community spirit; increased traffic will make it less safe for children; concerns about potential anti-social behaviour from students similar to that experienced in South Belfast; and worry about structural damage to houses during work on the Interchange. Others noted that the developments could also bring positive aspects to the area including employment and more people to support the local community and businesses.

Overall, the results illustrated that 69% of people think the community will experience mostly negative impacts from the developments. Again, this increased to 82% of respondents from the Henry Street area and 73% from the Lancaster Street area. Concerns related to: disruption and inconvenience to daily routines (school, shops); noise and pollution; erosion of community spirit; isolate elderly residents; fear of anti-social behaviour; and rats. 11% consider that the impacts will be mostly positive: up to date campus; less traffic congestion in the longer term; increased population and footfall for local businesses; jobs and investment; and additional shops and services. While, 20% were unsure whether impacts would be positive or negative.

“With all the work it will be noisy and dirty unless the work is limited to suitable hours and more sweepers in the area to keep on top of it.”

“The area is already cut off due to roads and parking, so the Interchange is a concern. There needs to be more investment in facilities for the community here and not sole focus on office workers and expensive student accommodation.”

“People want to move even before Interchange works begin due to fears of what will materialise in the construction stage. I personally will be hesitant to let my niece play outside while works are ongoing which is unfair to child development. Construction works and the plan outcome will deny us the right of freedom of movement as we know it.”

“People are scared of the unknown – need to be informed more – I want to move- I don’t want to stay at home.”

“More footfall for local businesses, less traffic on roads and investment in local facilities.”

“More people about the area and more activity from students.”

Health and Well-being

60% of respondents combined from the Henry Street and Lancaster Street areas and 52% from the Sailortown area stated that recent or current developments in the area were having a negative impact on the health and well-being of people in their household. Examples included: disruption to sleeping patterns; mental and physical impacts from disruption to daily routines, traffic congestion and noise; anxiety and isolation as friends and family will find it more difficult to visit; worsening air pollution and dust impacting on those prone to chest infections or with Asthma and COPD. Over one fifth of respondents felt that the developments were having no impact on their health or well-being; 19% didn't know and 2% thought they were having a positive impact.

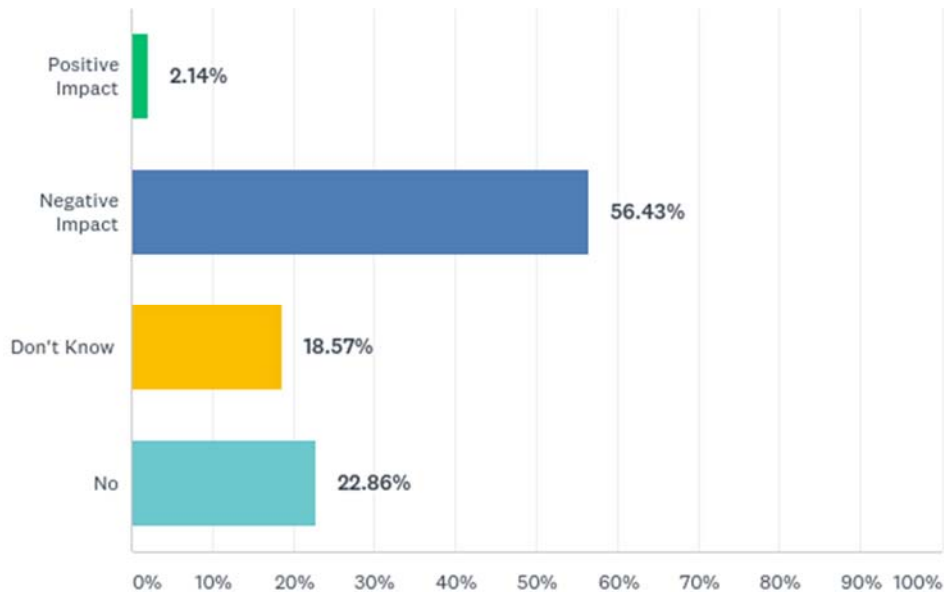


Figure 5: Developments and impacts on Health and Well-being

“Children have asthma, also ASD. It will cause havoc with my life as my son doesn't like noise or dust.”

“Worry of what the social, environmental and community outcomes will be is an ongoing drain on mental and emotional well-being. Restriction of movement and isolation as a result of these developments will shatter sustained community infrastructure in view of knowledge on the ground. Our community genuinely fear for the future and what these developments will mean for life as they know it.”

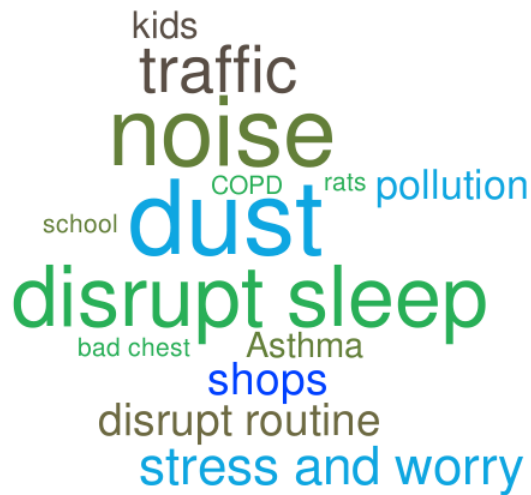


Figure 6: Word Cloud of perceived impacts on health and well-being

Impacts from proposed York Street Interchange (YSI)

Respondents were asked to consider the specific impacts on the area from the York Street Interchange (YSI). 71% of respondents felt that the YSI would have mostly negative impacts on the area. This increased to 87% for respondents from the Henry Street area and 75% of respondents from the Lancaster Street area. 11% of respondents stated that the YSI would have mostly positive impacts and 18% didn't know.

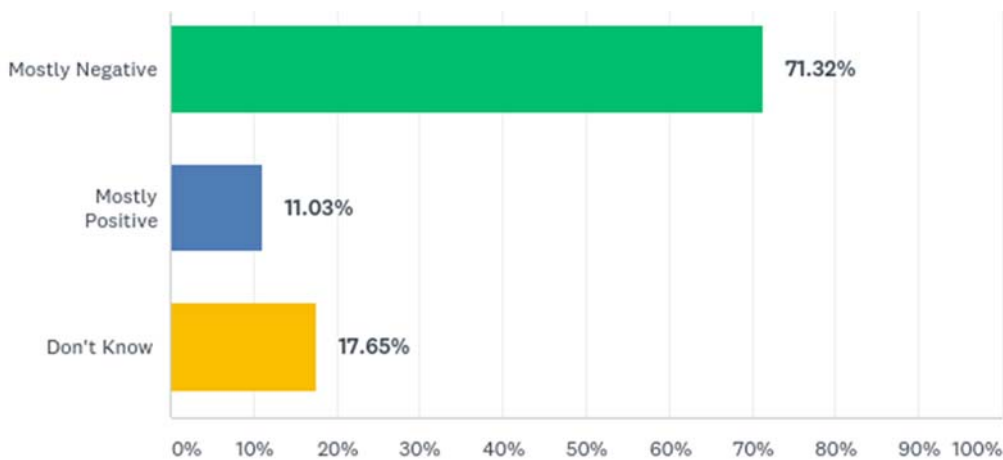


Figure 7: York Street Interchange (YSI) and perceived impacts

The negative impacts centred on: increased traffic congestion, noise and air pollution, dirt, dust and rats during construction; parking constraints; danger to children from increased traffic; accidents; delays to emergency service vehicles; impact on house prices; general disruption to journeys by both foot and car including school run; and isolation of Sailortown from neighbouring communities.



Figure 8: Word Cloud of perceived negative impacts from YSI

“Noise while under construction and when finished. Then the appearance of the development when finished – is it going to look like a concrete jungle?”

“The elderly will find it hard trying to access Yorkgate and town.”

“Noise and air pollution significantly increased. Community safety on many levels will suffer. Children forced indoors as a result of the necessary environmental disruption.”

“Works taking place at all hours. More through traffic with parents dropping children at school. Disruption to TV and Internet services, water being turned off without notice.”

“Dust in my chest. Dirt on cars and windows. Noise and air pollution. Construction vehicle parking.”

The perceived positive impacts from the YSI included less traffic congestion, pollution and improved access when the works are completed.

“It will be positive as long as pedestrians and cyclists are kept safe and are catered for.”

“Hopefully there will be less traffic after the motorway is completed.”

Actions to address potential impacts of the current and proposed developments

There was broad support for each of the suggested actions to reduce potential impacts of the current and proposed development. The most supported proposals (over 70% of respondents) were: schemes to reduce the impacts of noise and dust pollution (87%); the construction company to listen to the views and concerns of local people before construction work begins (83%); no night-time construction works (82%); designated areas for construction vehicle parking (79%); regular information from the construction company (78%); Local person employed to liaise with construction company (73%); and a Community Fund to bring improvements to the local area (73%).

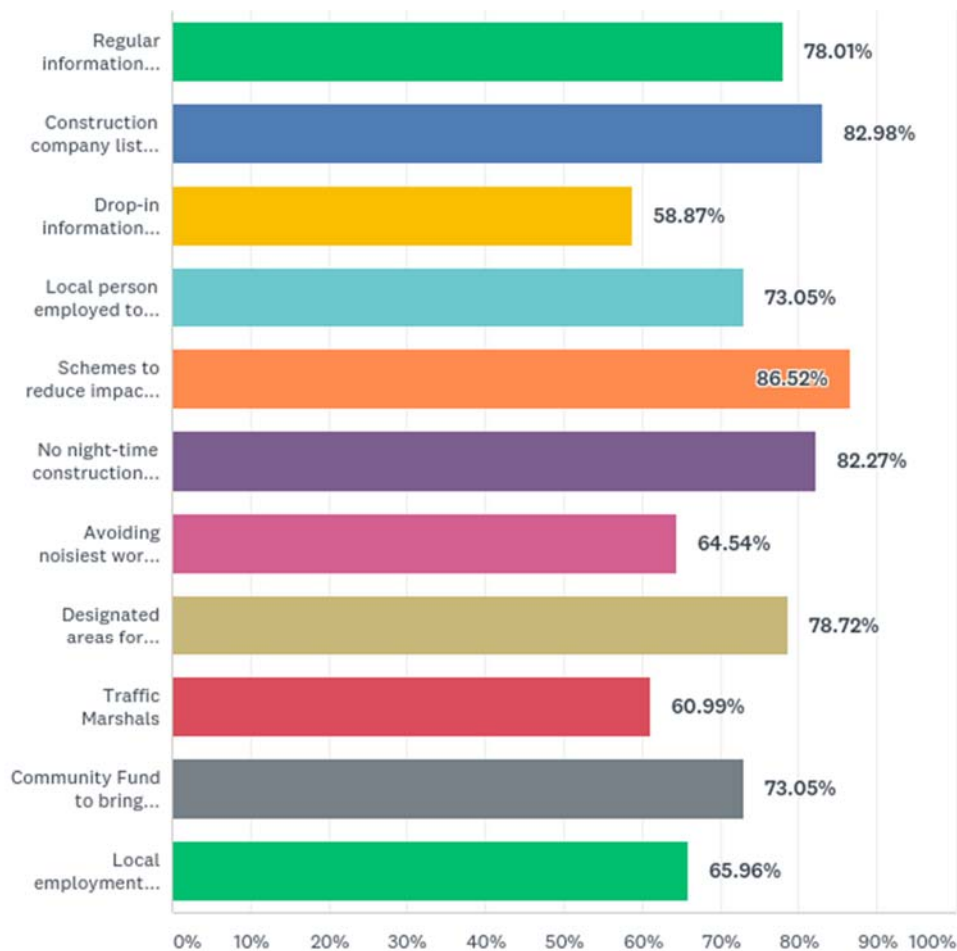


Figure 9: Actions to address potential impacts of the current and proposed developments

Efforts to reduce noise and dust; Information; effective communication; and limiting the hours of construction works were consistently raised by respondents.

“More consideration needs to be taken of residents’ needs regarding all works – general impact on community.”

“Ensure local people are involved at all stages.”

“Local people employed e.g. window cleaners to clean dust of windows. Compensation to residents – respite from noise.”

Community Involvement

Residents identified a number of methods and activities that would encourage people to be more active and involved in the community. The most popular options were the introduction of Kitchen Table Conversations where neighbours come together to discuss issues (57%); a Community Facebook (51%); Community Space (47%); Participatory Budgeting – when local people pitch and vote for ideas to improve their area (46%); and a Community Website (41.79%). Community X-Factor (7%) and Street Party (25%) were the least supported options. Other comments highlighted the convenience of on-line access to information and what is happening in the area.

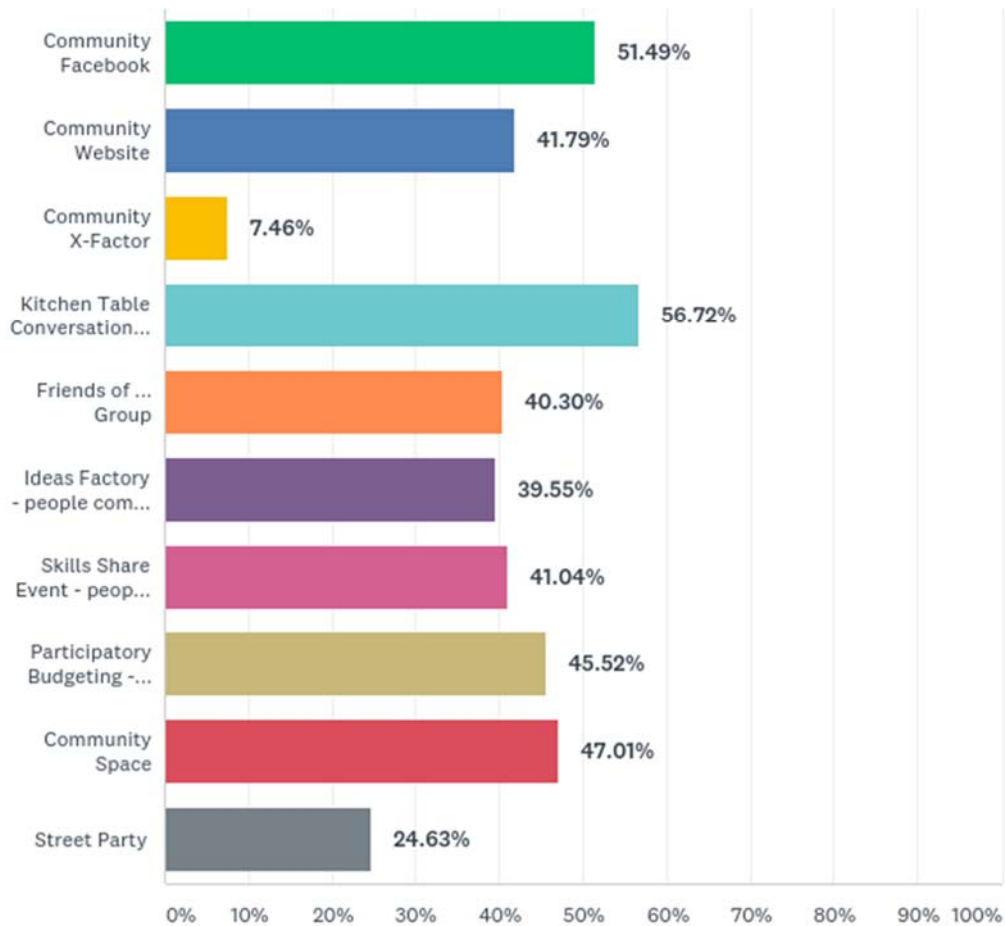


Figure 10: Actions to encourage greater community involvement

57% of respondents said that they would be more active in the community if it was easier to get involved or have a say in decisions that affect the community. 21% said that they wouldn't get more involved and 21% were unsure if this would encourage them to be more active. 91% of respondents noted that the best way for their household to be kept aware of what's happening in the local community was through a Community Newsletter, with many of the respondents referencing the existing Ashton Community Magazine as a key source of information.

"Online for easy access or a person to come to our doors with newsletters so we don't miss out."

"Door to door contact. People throw away leaflets, forget about things they read. Door to door is more personal."

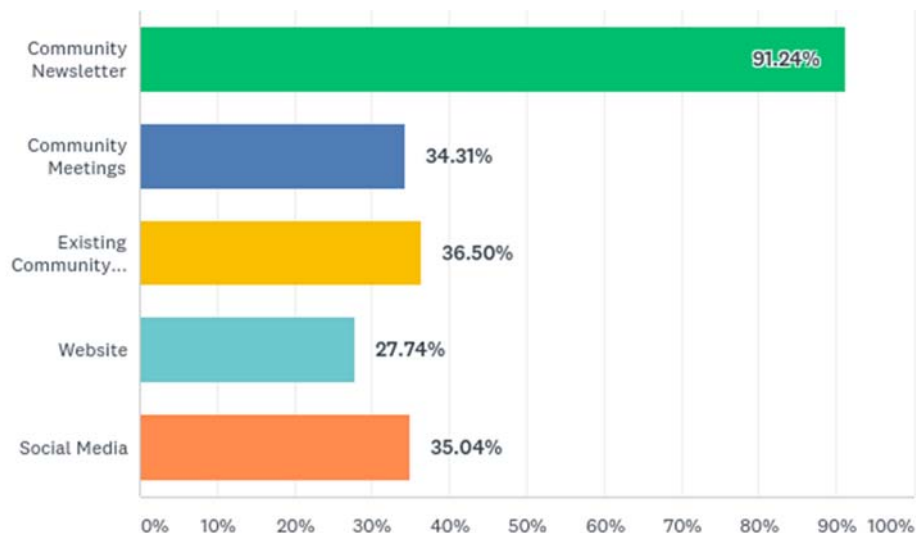


Figure 11: Preferred methods of communication

Sailortown – Facilities, Services and Activities

Respondents from Sailortown were asked two additional questions concerning future development priorities for the area and the types of meanwhile activities and events they would like to see offered at St Joseph’s community space. The Sailortown Regeneration Group (SRG) are working to restore the important community asset into a heritage and interpretation centre. Respondents prioritised the development of the following facilities and services: Green space (83%) several comments related to provision of more trees, planters, baskets and grass to improve well-being and support wildlife; Parks (78%) including, clean safe places for children and dogs that are off-street and away from traffic; Community Space (72%) accessible to all; and Shops (46%). Other comments included: an ATM; gas or electric top ups; foot or cycle bridge to Titanic Quarter; improved lighting; investment in local businesses including restaurants and bars; that the provision of safe places for children would help to address Anti-Social Behaviour; more bus connections; community and public art; information point for tourism especially walking tours.

“Would love to see more trees and planters for wildlife, the bees are dying and need help! Would love a garden park to go and sit and relax in and a place for local kids to go as they have nothing at the minute.”

“For a small community packed with history an information hot spot would help tourism and walking tours. Access to public transport around the area for buses, gliders and taxi ranks. Restaurants and bars for people to meet and socialise.”

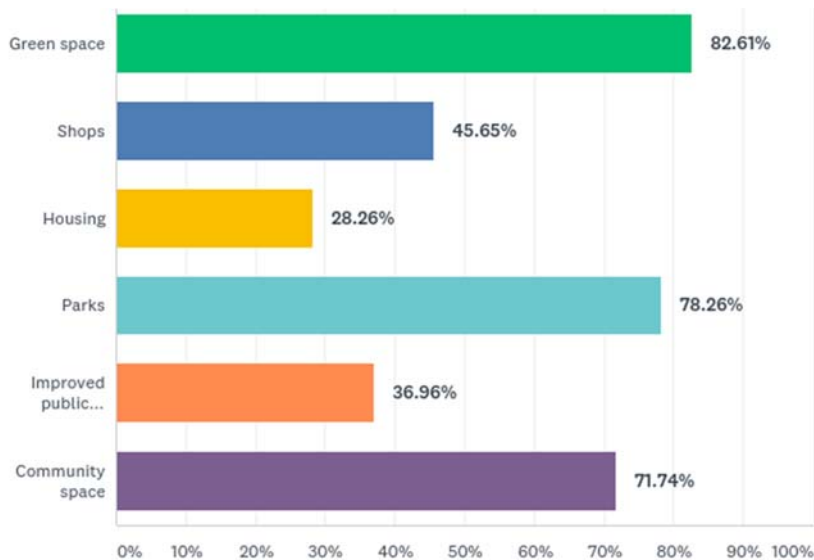


Figure 12: Facilities and Services the community would like to see developed

St Joseph's – Activities and events

Respondents would like to see activities and events in St Joseph's for older people (84%); youth activities (80%); Health and Well-being (71%) and Training or lifelong learning (67%). Over half of respondents were supportive of seasonal events, community celebration events and cultural and historical events. Some noted that they would like to see all of the suggested activities and events provided. Other comments included: activities for pre-teens, teens and local families; live music; social nights and a shop or café to generate income.

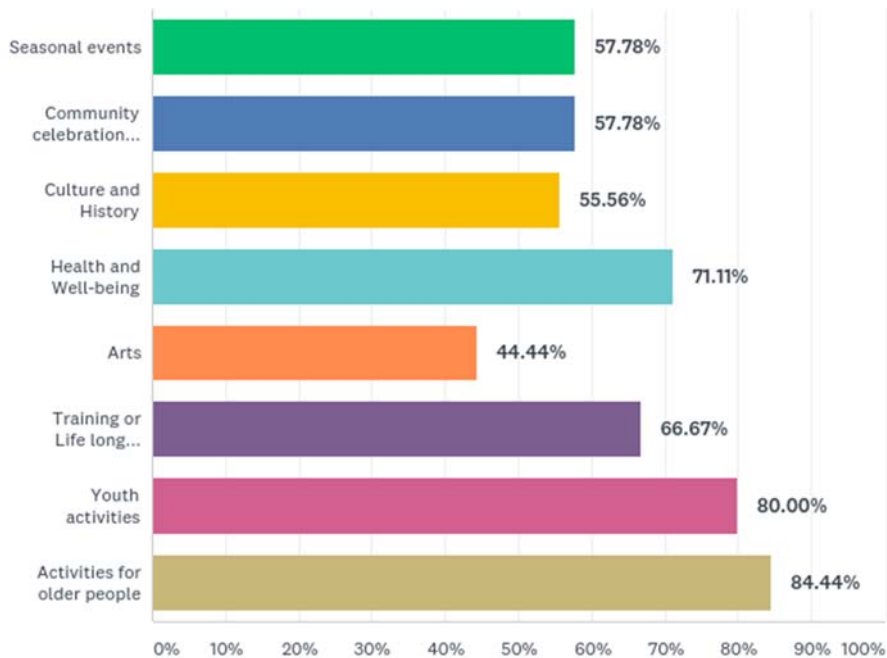


Figure 13: Activities and events the community would like to see developed at St Joseph's

“Keep everybody busy makes a happy community. More community spirit about with classes for all locals.”

“Keep our community active and healthy for good harmony will bring people together more which is always positive.”

Bunscoil Mhic Reachtain

The Bunscoil Mhic Reachtain is an important community asset located within the study area. As such, an interview was conducted with the Principal Dr Séamas Ó Donnghaile on 07 January 2019 to capture his views on the recent and proposed development of the area. The principal highlighted several opportunities and impacts affecting the Bunscoil as a result of the development.

Safeguarding the cultural heritage of the area

The principal highlighted his concerns that the rich cultural heritage of the area could be forgotten or replaced - the story of the streets of the immediate area which were home to the Flyweight champion of the world John ‘Rinty’ Monaghan; the work of the Quakers; and the wider history of the Cathedral Quarter. He warned that there is a sense of belonging and community fabric which could disappear if the area turns into a more transient community with a rise in HMOs.

Sustainability of the Bunscoil and relationships with Ulster University

Dr Ó Donnghaile noted that the Bunscoil is hemmed in by development on all sides: *“essentially a bowl of concrete surrounds the site with buildings of height that create a darkness that wasn’t there before.”* This could have implications for the sustainability of the school and future growth plans. The Bunscoil currently has 98 pupils and is expected to increase to 107 by 2019/2020. The Department of Education wants to see schools with 140 pupils, but that number of pupils couldn’t be accommodated at the Bunscoil site. The principal recalled: *“when the Frederick Street car park site was being considered by Ulster University the university could have incorporated provision for the Bunscoil in the form of a dinner room or hall. However, the university failed to acknowledge the Bunscoil or the community limiting their vision to a few hundred square meters of York Street. They essentially clipped the wings of a small Irish medium school.”* This has obliterated relationships and there is now a lack of integrity and trust. However, he also asserted that the university can compensate the children by providing access to university facilities, and larger spaces for teaching and learning which the school can’t offer. Dr Ó Donnghaile also stressed that there is a real learning opportunity and motivation for the pupils. If they can experience daily learning at the university this can create pathways to and connections with the idea of university, an expectation that can be lacking in the community. He noted that he has no doubt that UU has created pathways to support the Irish language to degree level through language shift reversal and that there is an opportunity for the university to embrace the capabilities within the school and the community.

York Street Interchange (YSI)

In relation to the York Street Interchange the principal noted that this could offer a productive and creative learning opportunity with staff and pupils. Structural engineers and other professionals could visit the school, motivate the pupils, share their knowledge and explain how and why the development is happening. The principal highlighted that the existing one-way system already causes difficulty with congestion and that perhaps the YSI may ease congestion in the longer term. He noted that enabling the traffic to flow better through the area may also improve air quality which is very poor as a result of traffic congestion.

Although, he warned that easing congestion can also attract more traffic. He also noted that there are high rates of Asthma in the school with 13% of pupils using inhalers daily.

The principal identified positive aspects to the YSI development such as creating employment and contributing to the economy. He also stressed that it will cause daily interruptions and disruption to the local community and congestion in the streets if not managed properly and that it will require residents to be very understanding. Dr Ó Donnghaile noted that the developer must form a positive and courteous relationship with the community. He noted that Farrans, in the past, had developed a good relationship with the community.

The principal explained that the piling stage is the most difficult and has the most impact on the Bunscoil: *“It is extremely noisy, and the vibrations can cause damage to the Grade II listed building.”* He explained that because the building is listed surveys will have to be undertaken before and after to ensure there is no damage. He questioned whether this would happen for local homeowners.

Active engagement

The principal stressed that: *“the key issue is that change has happened ‘to and on’ the community rather than ‘with’ the community. The processes of development and change has failed to engage with the community, opportunities were lost, and relationships and trust were eroded. People can embrace change if it is managed appropriately. Going forward appropriate and timely active engagement is essential. Without this it becomes a David and Goliath situation.”* He felt, that the opportunities for engaging with the school and the community are limitless. However, developers need to build relationships and have people on the ground communicating and engaging with the local community over what could be a 4 to 5-year period.

Other Comments

Respondents were asked to provide any additional comments: many of the responses reiterated concerns relating to structural damage of homes and impact on house values; disruption to daily routines; noise; the impact of the YSI on vulnerable people within the community; support for compensation to address inconvenience and disruption; concerns of anti-social behaviour; the need for activities targeted at individuals rather than solely family activities; and positive outcomes such as increased local employment and recognition of the role of volunteers within the community.

“Compensation for inconvenience and disruption not token gestures.”

“Houses need to be soundproofed before work begins and regular checks to ensure no structural damage while work is ongoing.”

“I am concerned about house prices – if I ever want to sell my house. I am also concerned about safety when the motorway is completed – would there be something to ensure protection without blocking light?”

“I think local residents should be compensated in some form. Respite weekends / weeks away from noise and pollution. Worried about my rent going up or being evicted due to landlord being able to charge students more for my home.”

“I appreciate all the help from volunteers within the community.”

75% of respondents are interested in hearing the results of the survey. An evening event was identified as the most suitable time for respondents (55%). 80% of respondents are happy for Ashton Community Association to keep in touch with them.

Recommendations

Each of the recommendations below demonstrate that effective and sustained communication and engagement is paramount to delivering change **‘with’** rather than **‘to and on’** the community.

Department for Infrastructure

Dedicated community engagement resource for the YSI

A dedicated resource from the Department to the community sector to enable it to support effective engagement, communications and information sharing between the Contractor, Community and the Department. It is essential that both the Department and the Contractor listen to the concerns of local people in advance of works. Ashton Community Trust are best placed to support and co-ordinate this process as a trusted organisation with a detailed understanding of the wider North Belfast regeneration agenda.

The resource will enable:

- agreed Protocol between the Developer, Department for Infrastructure and the Community, ensuring all parties recognise and acknowledge each other’s responsibilities;
- regular information and representation on Contractor’s Liaison Forum; Ulster University Community Safety Forum and establishment of a YSI Development Management Forum;
- a Local Community Fund to deliver social and environmental improvements to the local area and respite for affected residents;
- designated areas for construction vehicle parking;
- minimising impacts of noise and dust pollution;
- ensuring no night-time construction works and where emergency works are required compensation for affected residents.

Contractor

To lessen impacts on surrounding residents and local service users the contractor should:

- provide a named on-site operational point of contact;
- participate in early and meaningful engagement workshops with the community facilitating genuine opportunities to reduce impacts of localised phasing;
- survey homes and Bunscoil Mhic Reachtain (a Grade II listed building) to assess damage before and after works e.g. utilising sensor and drone analysis;
- liaise with the Bunscoil Mhic Reachtain to minimise disruption to bunscoil routine, teaching and learning and to maximise creative learning opportunities e.g. engineers and other professionals sharing their knowledge with pupils.

Community

- **Moving from change happening ‘to and on’ the community to ‘with’ the community**

It will be essential for the community to continue to organise and co-ordinate to safeguard the strong sense of community which exists and is valued by local residents and to develop local ideas, solutions and ownership of this process. It will be challenging to maintain momentum and a consistent and united voice over what could be a lengthy 3 to 4-year YSI construction period.

- **Kitchen Table Conversations**

One idea which received broad support from survey respondents was the introduction of community kitchen table conversations. This is where a household hosts other neighbours to come together to discuss and document impacts and identify solutions. This could usefully inform engagement on localised phasing of YSI development; evidence and coordinate complaints to Belfast City Council's Environmental Health Services regarding issues such as vermin and noise nuisance; and ensure that the local community benefits from city regeneration. Initially these could be developed and tested within each of the three study areas.

- **Advocacy and Networking**

Advocacy and networking relationships should continue to be strengthened between the community and other stakeholders, service providers and users within the immediate area. This could include for example: Ulster University; Student Roost; North Belfast Heritage Cluster; Quakers Society of Friends Frederick Street; Bunscoil Mhic Reachtain; Depaul Ireland Stella Maris Hostel; Sailortown Regeneration Group; Clanmill Housing Association; Translink; Belfast Harbour; City Quays, Cathedral Quarter Trust; Cathedral Quarter BID; Belfast City Council; Local Businesses. Partnerships could also be developed with other agencies such as Age Concern, International Fund for Ireland; National Lottery Community Fund; and Children in Need to provide respite or relief for particularly vulnerable residents.

- **Ashton Community Trust Magazine**

There was widespread support for the continued use of the Ashton Community Trust Magazine to keep the local community informed and connected.

- **Sailortown**

The survey results should inform and shape ongoing plans for: Sailortown community regeneration; a programme of events and activities for St Joseph's Community Space; and the wider Clarendon Masterplan and City Quays developments.

Appendix 1: Ashton Community Survey: Impacts of Development and Involvement in the Community

1. Are you aware of the following ongoing and proposed developments in your area?

- Ulster University Campus
- Student Accommodation
- York Street Interchange Motorway works
- City Quays

Other (please specify)

2. Can you list three positive things about your community?

1.

2.

3.

3. Do you think any of these positive things will be affected by the developments?

- Yes
- Don't Know
- No

Can you give me an example(s)?

4. Do you think the community will experience mostly positive or mostly negative impacts from these developments?

- Mostly Positive
- Don't Know
- Mostly Negative

5. Can you give me an example(s) of these impacts- Positive?

6. Can you give me an example(s) of these impacts - Negative?

7. Do you think recent or current developments are having an impact on the health and well-being of anyone in your household?

- Positive Impact Don't Know
 Negative Impact No

Can you give me an example(s)?

8. Thinking about the York Street Interchange, do you think it will have mostly negative or mostly positive impacts on your area?

- Mostly Negative Don't Know
 Mostly Positive

9. Can you give me an example(s) - Positive?

10. Can you give me an example(s) - Negative?

11. Would any of the following help to address any potential impacts of the current and proposed developments?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Regular information from the construction company | <input type="checkbox"/> Avoiding noisiest works at certain hours of the day e.g. nursery/school drop off and pick up, play times |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Construction company listen to views and concerns of local people before construction work begins | <input type="checkbox"/> Designated areas for construction vehicle parking |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drop-in information point | <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic Marshals |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Local person employed to liaise with construction company | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Fund to bring improvements to the local area |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Schemes to reduce impacts of noise and dust pollution | <input type="checkbox"/> Local employment opportunities in the construction projects |
| <input type="checkbox"/> No night-time construction works | |

Do you have any other suggestions?

12. Sailortown - What facilities or services would you like to see developed in Sailortown?

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Green space | <input type="checkbox"/> Parks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shops | <input type="checkbox"/> Improved public transport |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Community space |

Do you have any other ideas or suggestions?

13. Sailortown - What activities or events would you like to see happening in St Joseph's?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Seasonal events | <input type="checkbox"/> Arts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community celebration events | <input type="checkbox"/> Training or Life long learning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Culture and History | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth activities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health and Well-being | <input type="checkbox"/> Activities for older people |

Do you have any other ideas or suggestions?

14. Would any of the following help to get people more active and involved in the community?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Facebook | <input type="checkbox"/> Ideas Factory - people come together to share ideas |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Website | <input type="checkbox"/> Skills Share Event - people come together to share skills |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community X-Factor | <input type="checkbox"/> Participatory Budgeting - when local people pitch and vote for ideas to improve their area |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kitchen Table Conversations - neighbours come together to chat | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Space |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Friends of ... Group | <input type="checkbox"/> Street Party |

Do you have any other ideas?

15. Would you get more active in your community if it was easier to get involved or have a say in decisions that affect it?

- Yes
- No
- Don't Know

16. What would be the best way for your household to be kept aware of what's happening in the local community?

- Community Newsletter
- Website
- Community Meetings
- Social Media
- Existing Community Groups

Do you have any other suggestions?

17. Is there anything else that you would like to say?

18. Would you be interested in coming to an event to find out the results of the survey?

- Yes
- No

19. What time of the day would suit you most?

- AM
- PM
- Evening

20. Can we keep in touch with you?

- Yes
- No

21. Contact Details

Name	<input type="text"/>
Street	<input type="text"/>
Postal Code	<input type="text"/>
Email Address	<input type="text"/>

22. Area

- Lancaster Street/ Thomas Street Area
- Henry Street/ Little Georges Street/ North Queen Street
- Sailortown

23. Interviewer's Name and Date of Survey

COMMUNITY SURVEY REPORT

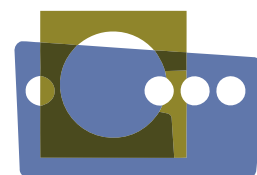
Impacts Of Development On An Inner-City Community

ashton
Supporting
North Belfast



Belfast
City Council

Community
Places



For further information on the survey results contact:

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