

Branieł Community Plan





Contents

	Page number
Introduction	4
The Community Planning Process	4
Braniel Community Association	4
Braniel Community Survey	6
Background	6
Survey Method and Response Rate	6
Community Facilities	6
Environment, Transport and Safety	6
Policing and Safety	7
Health, Education and Training	8
Action Plan	10
Community Facilities	10
Environment, Transport and Safety	11
Health, Education, Training And Social Activities	12
Promotion	13
Northern Ireland Neighbourhood Information Service (NINS) Area Profile	14
Castlereagh District Housing Plan and Local Housing Strategy 2010-2011	16
Participants in developing the Community Plan	20
Glossary	21



Introduction

This Community Plan for Braniel has been developed by Braniel Community Association, working with Castlereagh Borough Council, the Housing Executive, local churches and other community groups in the Braniel area. This process was facilitated by Community Places, as part of its Supporting Communities in Community Planning project.

Community Planning is about those delivering public services working together with local communities and the community and voluntary sector to identify and solve local problems, improve services and share resources.

The Braniel Community Planning Process

In developing the plan, Community Places facilitated a series of workshops which enabled participants to:

- agree how they would work together;
- design and undertake a

- community survey;
- assess the results of the survey; and
- identify priorities and agree actions.

The survey findings are summarised at page 6 and the agreed actions are presented on pages 10 to 13.

Braniel Community Association

The Braniel Community Association was formed in February 2008 to promote Braniel and improve facilities and quality of life in the area. Braniel Community Association aims to provide for all members of the community in Braniel. It has built up strong working relationships with the local church and primary school as well as other community organisations, statutory agencies and the Council.

Braniel Community Association's current projects include:

- Re - imaging project which will include a new entrance feature for the estate
- Participation in the Conswater Greenway Project
- Co-operation with other local areas to share good practice and address social deprivation
- Working towards and lobbying for the provision of a much needed new community centre and sports facilities in Braniel.

Braniel Community Association looks forward to working alongside other agencies and organisations to achieve the aims set out in this Community Plan.





Braniel Community Survey

Background

As part of the Community Planning process, it was agreed to carry out a community survey to identify the needs of people in Braniel. The survey questions were developed by the Community Plan participants at the workshops facilitated by Community Places.

Survey Method and Response Rate

The survey was primarily conducted by volunteers who called door to door throughout the Braniel Estate. Volunteers visited homes in Braniel on Saturday 15 January 2011 and either helped residents to fill out the survey on their doorstep or dropped the survey off for collection later in the week. There was also a drop off box in the Centra shop and in the high rise flats, where residents could return their survey and the survey was also available online. The survey was also carried out with local groups, such as the local football team. It was advertised in

the local shops to raise awareness that the survey was taking place and prizes were provided by Castlereagh Borough Council and Charter for Northern Ireland to encourage residents to take part.

In total, 928 surveys were distributed throughout Braniel, with a response rate of 22%. The survey results are summarised below.

Community Facilities

80% of people said that Braniel needs improved community facilities and 77% of people said that Braniel needs improved sports facilities. 40% of people said that the lack of facilities for all age groups is the worst thing about living in Braniel and 60% said that they would use a sports hall or large hall.

66% of people said that a community library is needed and 59% of people said that a drop in community computer centre

is needed. 57% said that play areas and facilities need to be improved.

80% of people said that the bowling green next to the community centre should be developed as a 3G football pitch.

66% of people said that they would be interested in a drop in café and 67% of people said that if a better community centre was developed, they would use a coffee lounge.

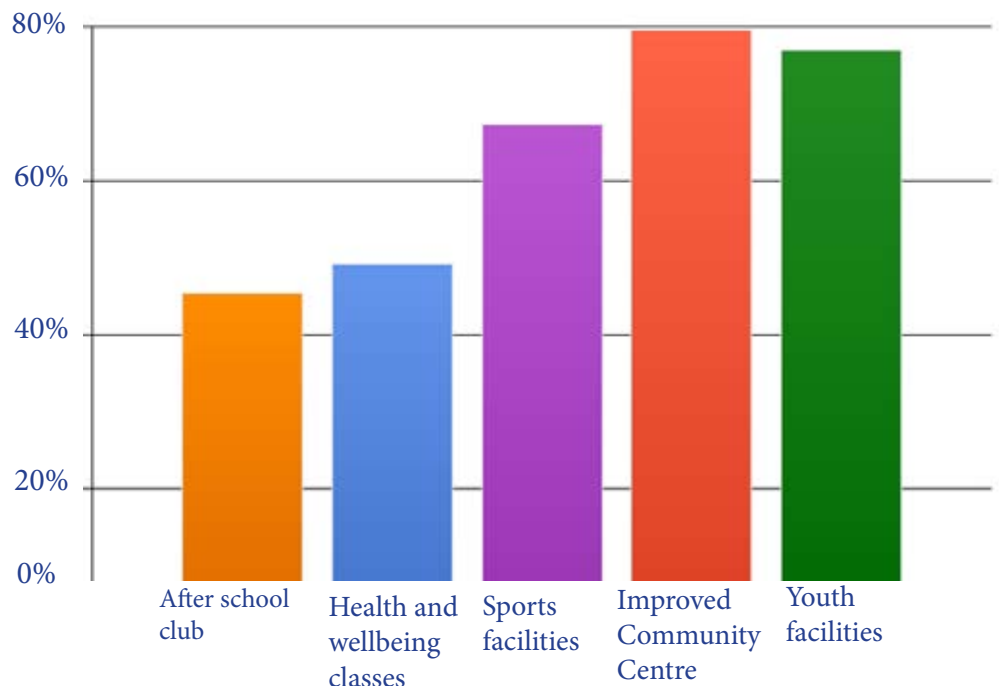
Environment, Transport and Safety

40% of people said that an environmental issue was the worst thing about living in Braniel. 59% said that repairing and cleaning footpaths needs to be improved and 72% of people said that the problem of dog fouling needs to be tackled in Braniel. 54% said that parking facilities need to be improved.

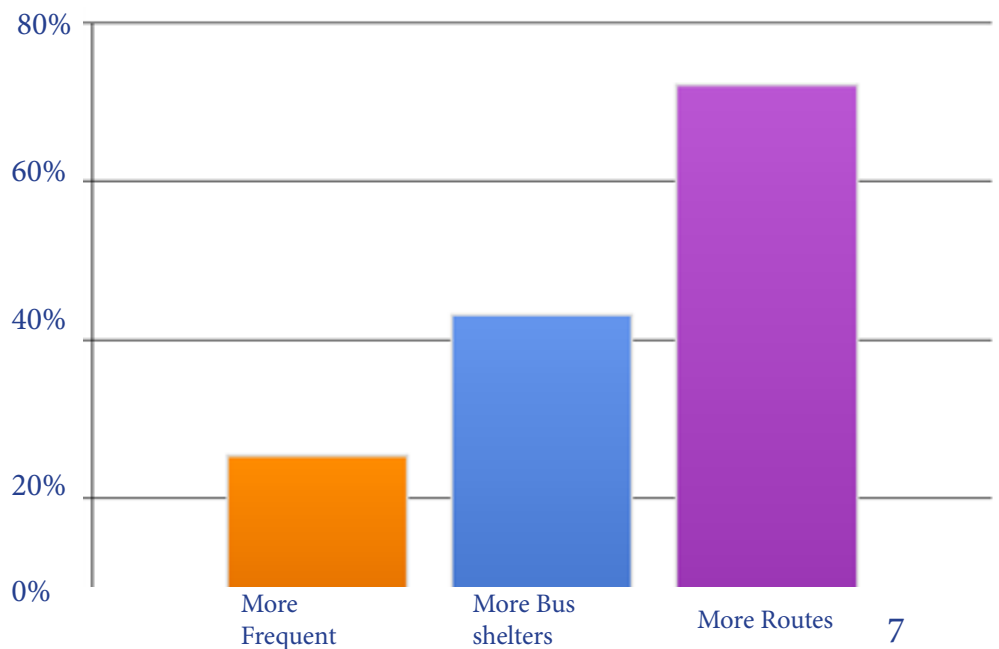
72% of people said that public transport in Braniel should be improved by introducing more



Which of the following does Braniel need?



How could public transport be improved in Braniel?



routes. 41% said that they would like a public transport route that goes to the Newtownards Road and 18% said they would like to see a return of the Number 24 bus.

11% of people said that a public transport issue was the worst thing about living in Braniel.

Policing and Safety

82.7% of people said that a more visible police presence would improve policing and safety in Braniel and 51.4% said that more information about police services in Braniel could improve policing and safety in Braniel. Respondents also showed concern about vandalism, graffiti and other safety issues.

Health, Education and Training

52% said that they would like to see local advice and information on drugs misuse and 51% said that they would like to see mental health awareness and support.

The respondents who had people aged between 41 and 65 in their household were most likely to be interested in health and well being activities.

58% of people said that they would be interested in short training courses and 56% said that education/training classes in the community are needed. 64% said that help with finding jobs is needed. 58% of people said that basic computer classes are needed and 42% of people who indicated what type of classes they would be interested in basic computer classes.

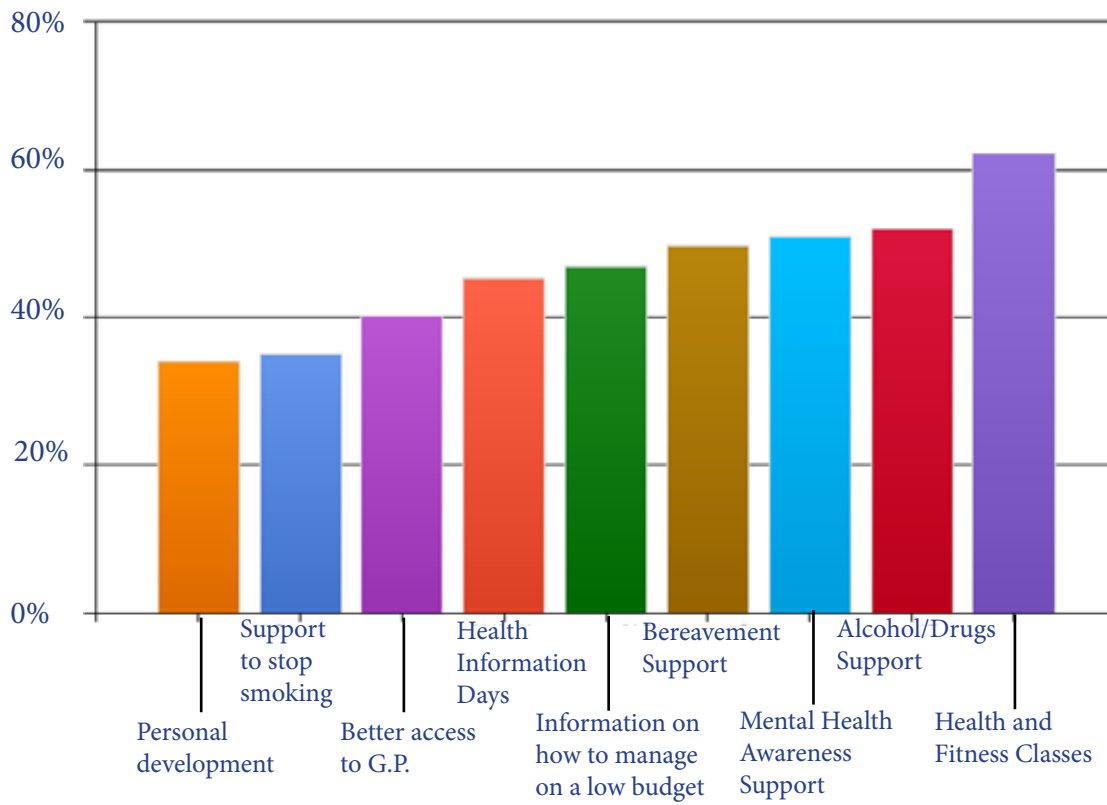
62% of people said that they would like to see health and fitness classes in Branial.

28% of people said that if a better community centre was developed and offered a crèche, they would use it.

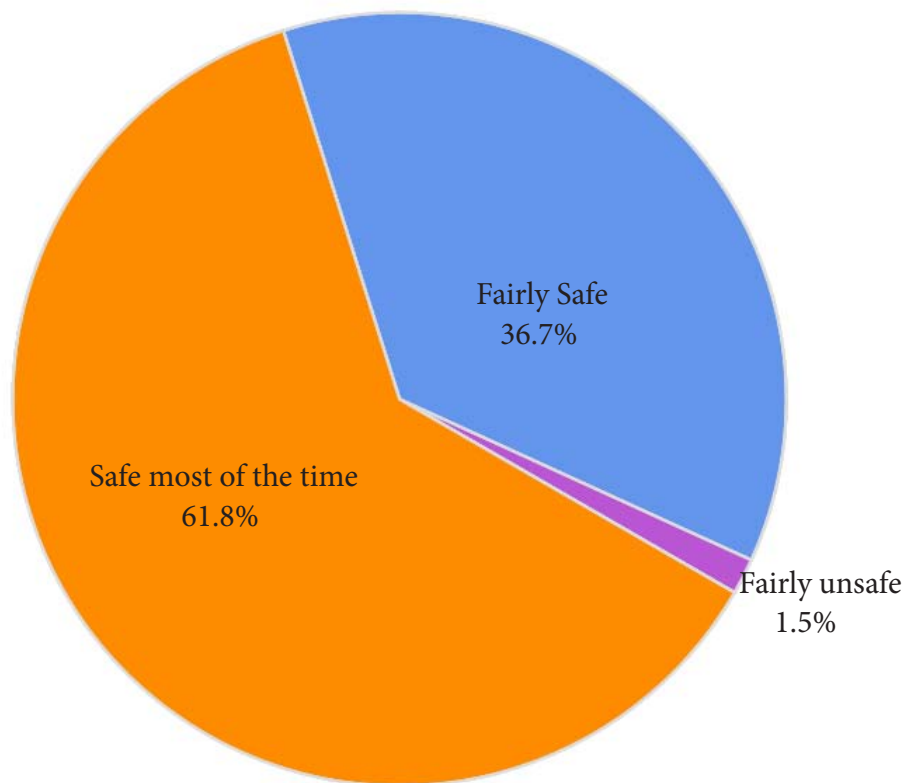
57% of people said that they would be interested in social nights, such as darts, quizzes or dancing and 39% said that the lack of facilities and activities is the worst thing about living in Branial.

Suggestions for activities in Branial included street parties or fetes and events. 77% of people said that Branial needs improved youth facilities. 46% of people said that Branial needs an after school club and 34% said that they would be interested in parent support. 50% of people said that they or their family would be interested in activities for senior citizens. 67% of people said that Branial needs improved sports facilities.

Which of the following would you like to see in Braniet ?



How safe do you feel in your local area?



Action Plan

Community Facilities

Issue	Action	Short/medium/ Long term	Who
New Community Centre	Present facts and figures of survey to council to support our case.	Short term	Community Plan Group
	Meet new council committee to ask for a business plan (and costed technical plans) to be prepared.	Medium term	Braniel Community Association
	Arrange visit to Moneyrea Community Centre and others (as examples of local centres)	Short term	Braniel Community Association
	Begin discussion with library services about possibilities of a presence in new centre (including a 3G pitch)	Medium term	Community Plan Group and School
Bowling Green	Grass pitch at bowling green	Short term	Castereagh Borough Council
	Organised IFA Coaching	Medium term	Braniel Community Association and IFA
	Indoor Sports Hall	Long term	Braniel Community Association and School
	Start talks with school on options for shared development	Short term	Braniel Community Association
Drop in Cafe	Talk to the Housing Executive about the availability of the vacant shop for community use	Short term	Braniel Community Association and NIHE
	When shop becomes available source funding (e.g. from Big Lottery Fund)	Medium term	Braniel Community Association

Environment, Transport and Safety

Issue	Action	Short/medium/ Long term	Who
Repairs to footpaths	Contact Roads Service to establish scale of the problem	Short term	Braniel Community Association and DRD Roads Service facilitated by NIHE
Cleaning footpaths	Meet with cleansing section on site	Short term	Braniel Community Association, Castlereagh Borough Council and NIHE
Dog fouling	Bins and signs at shops	Short term	Braniel Community Association, Castlereagh Borough Council and NIHE
Local Environmental Awareness	Environmental education officer to meet with Braniel Community Association	Short term	Braniel Community Association and Castlereagh Borough Council
Improve public transport	Re-education to use public transport	Short term	Braniel Community Association
	Orbital Belfast route - meet with Translink and Health Service	Medium term	Braniel Community Association
Increase visible police presence	Discuss with PSNI	Short term	PSNI and Braniel Community Association
	Ask Castlereagh Policing Partnership to hold meeting in Braniel Community Centre	Short term	PSNI and Braniel Community Association
Graffiti, vandalism and anti-social behaviour	Encourage people to consistently report incidents	Short term	Braniel Community Association, PSNI and NIHE

Health, Education, Training And Social Activities

Issue	Action	Short/medium/ Long term	Who
Promotion of opportunities	Taster sessions - health and fitness	Short term	CSAW (Lynsey and Michael to contact)
Drugs awareness	Contact projects for support	Short/medium	CODA, FASA(Lynsey)
Job search	Bring support into Braniel	Short	Stepping Stone Project (Jackie)
IT courses	Promote locally	Short/medium	FIT
Mental Health	Contact projects for support	Short	CODA/FASA
Essential Skills	Promote locally	Short/medium	FIT
After school club	Find out how other clubs operate	Short	Lynsey
Parent and Toddler Club	Promote Club	Short	Church and Braniel Community Association
Social events	Research opportunities and practice elsewhere	Short	Braniel Community Association
	Start up Bingo and Quiz nights	Short	Braniel Community Association
Braniel Youth Group	Social activities and training for young people - investigate possibilities	Medium	Braniel Community Association, DPP/Community Safety Partnership (Roy), School

Promotion

Issue	Action	Short/medium/ Long term	Who
Promotion of work being done in the community	Notice boards in shop and community centre	Short term	Braniel Community Association and local businesses
	More frequent local news-sheet with local sponsorship	Medium term	Braniel Community Association and local businesses
	Website	Medium term	Braniel Community Association and local businesses



Northern Ireland Neighbourhood Information Service (NINIS) Area Profile

All of the Braniel Estate lies within two wards: Lower Braniel and Upper Braniel*. NINIS Statistics for each ward are summarised below.

Resident Population on Census Day, 29 April 2001

	Upper Braniel	Lower Braniel	Total	Castlereagh	N.I
Resident Population	2228	2540	4768		
Under 16 years old	17.8%	19.1%	18%	21.7%	23.6%
Over 60 years old	27.5%	26.8%	27%	21.2%	17.6%

Education and Training on Census Day, 29 April 2001

	Upper Braniel	Lower Braniel	Total	Castlereagh	N.I
Degree level or higher qualifications	13%	15.8%	15%	22.2%	15.8%
No or low levels of qualifications	63.1%	61.7%	62%	52.3%	58.9%

Low levels of qualifications are those categorised as Level 1 which include; GCSE (grades D-G), CSE (grades 2-5), 1-4 CSEs (grade 1), 1-4 GCSEs (grades A-C), 1-4 'O' level passes, NVQ level 1, GNVQ Foundation or equivalents.)



	Upper Braniel	Lower Braniel	Castlereagh	N.I.
School leavers who achieved at least 5 or more GCSEs at grade C and above (%) (2008)	72%	35%	71.2%	66.9%

Household information on Census Day, 29 April 2001

	Upper Braniel	Lower Braniel	Total	Castlereagh	N.I
No. of households	955	1142	2097	26887	626718
Average household size	2.33	2.22	-	2.44	2.65
Households owner occupied	77.9%	68.3%	73%	77.8%	69.6%
Households rented	22.1%	31.7%	27%	22.2%	30.4%
Lone pensioner households	18.3%	17.6%	18%	17.7%	12.8%

* Taken together the statistics for the two wards are a good representation of the whole estate because the areas outside of the estate which are within the ward boundaries are rural and sparsely populated.



Castlereagh District Housing Plan and Local Housing Strategy 2010-2011

The following information has been taken from the Castlereagh District Housing Plan and Local Housing Strategy 2010-2011.

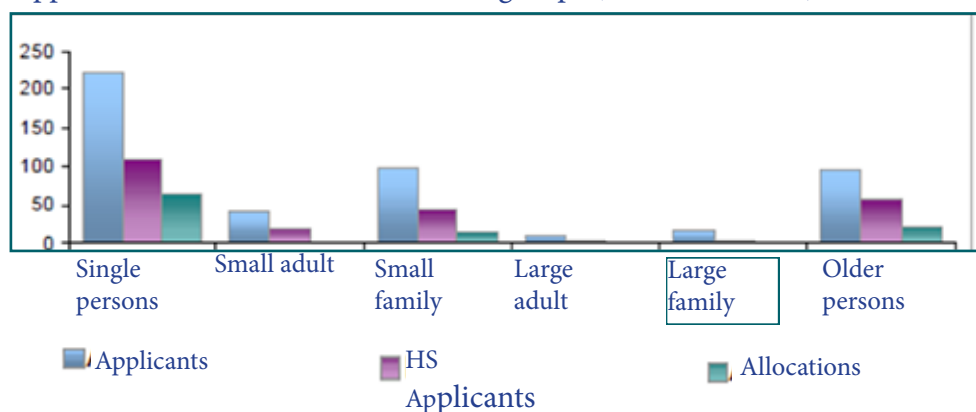
The Castlereagh and District Housing Plan and Local Housing Strategy 2010-2011 notes that Braniel is located in the Castlereagh Urban Central area which consists of the Ballygowan Road, Braniel, Clonduff and Cregagh areas. It states that the social new build requirements for Castlereagh Central in the next five years has been projected at 134 units. The Castlereagh District Housing Plan and Local Housing Strategy 2009-2010 states,

“Braniel is a popular estate where housing need cannot be met from existing stock.”

The social housing waiting list analysis for Castlereagh Urban Central, contained in Castlereagh and District Housing Plan and Local Housing Strategy 2010-2011 shows that the majority of applications were made by “single

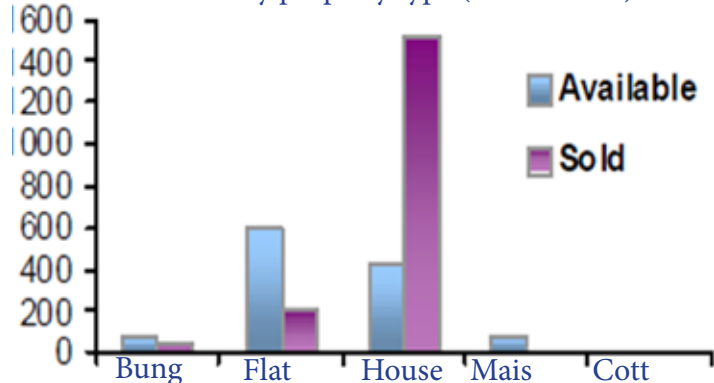
persons”. There were also a relatively high number of applications from small families and older persons. The waiting list analysis also shows a higher number of housing stress applicants in these categories. (See diagram below, taken from Castlereagh and District Housing Plan and Local Housing Strategy 2010-2011)

Application and allocation household groups (December 2009)



The NIHE Housing Stock Analysis for Castlereagh Urban Central contained in Castlereagh and District Housing Plan and Local Housing Strategy 2010-2011 provides a breakdown of the property types both available and sold in the area. (See diagram below taken from Castlereagh and District Housing Plan and Local Housing Strategy 2010-2011)

Stock by property type (March 2010)





Figures are supplied in the Castlereagh and District Housing Plan and Local Housing Strategy 2010-2011 showing the household composition of applicants at December 2009. The household composition of housing applicants for Braniel at December 2009 are shown in the table below.

Common Landlord Area	Type	Single Person	Small Adult	Small Family	Large Adult	Large Family	Older Person	Total
Braniel	Applicant	72	12	28	4	5	20	141
	App (HS)	36	4	16	2	1	13	72
	Alloc App	28	1	8	0	1	14	52

Applicant - Housing Applicant

App (HS) - Housing Stress Applicant

Alloc App - Annual Allocations to Applicants for year ending December 2009

The Castlereagh and District Housing Plan and Local Housing Strategy 2010-2011 also provides the following information about schemes for Braniel.

Table 15: Schemes in the 2009/10 published programme not commenced at 31st March 2010

Scheme	No of units	Client Group	Housing Association	Policy theme
188-190 Lower Braniel Road, Castlereagh	13	General needs	BCHA	Urban need



Table 16 shows schemes programmed in the Social Housing Development Programme which are due to commence over the next three years in Castlereagh District.

Table 16: New build schemes programmed April 2010 - March 2013

Scheme	No of units	Client Group	Start date	Housing Association	Policy theme
188-190 Lower Braniel Road, Castlereagh	26	General needs	2010/11	BCHA	Urban need
68 Lower Braniel Road, Castlereagh	16	General needs	2010/11	Connswater	Urban need
Lower Braniel Road, Castlereagh	20	General needs	2011/12	Habinteg	Urban need



The following definitions have been taken from the Castlereagh and District Housing Plan and Local Housing Strategy 2010-2011.


- Housing Applicants*** Housing Applicants include all those who have applied for accommodation from the Housing Executive and/or a Housing Association, excluding transfer requests.
- Housing Stress*** Housing Applicants obtaining at least 30 points under the Common Selection Scheme.
- Transfer applicants*** Transfer applicants include all existing tenants who have applied for another home whether to the Housing Executive or another housing association.
- Allocations** Dwellings available to housing and transfer applicants as a result of stock turnover and new build completions.
- Single Person** 1 person 16-59 years old
- Small Adult** 2 persons 16-59 years old
- Small Family** 1 or 2 persons aged 16 or over, with 1 or 2 children
- Large Family** 1 or 2 persons aged 16 or over, and 3 or more persons 0-15, or 3 or more persons 16 or over and 2 or more persons aged 0-15
- Large Adult** 3 or more persons aged 16 or over with or without 1 person aged 0-15
- Older Person** 1 or 2 persons aged 16 or over, at least 1 over 60

*Count of 1st preference applicants only

Participants

Rev John Wonnacott	Braniel Church
David Park	Braniel Community Association
Debbie Chapman	Braniel Community Association
Joanne Morton	Braniel Community Association
Scott Osion	Braniel Community Association
Mary Ellis	Braniel Community Association
Hugh Cousins	Braniel Community Association
Jackie Geddis	Braniel Craft Group
Bobby Curie	Braniel Methodist and Presbyterian Church
Dianne Dawson	Braniel Primary School
Cllr Vivienne McCoy	Castlereagh Borough Council
Cllr Michael Copeland MLA	Castlereagh Borough Council
Cllr Michael Long	Castlereagh Borough Council
Cllr Denny Vitty	Castlereagh Borough Council
Lynsey Mc Court	Castlereagh Borough Council
Tom Cousins	Castlereagh Borough Council
Roy Lawther	Castlereagh District Policing Partnership
Frankie Gallagher	Charter for Northern Ireland
Sharon Lesley	Charter for Northern Ireland
Billy McClean	Dream Scheme NI
Jade Irwin	Dream Scheme NI
Sharon Skillen	DUP
James Scott	FASA/EDACT
Geri Shields	Northern Ireland Housing Executive
Ivester Casement	Northern Ireland Housing Executive
Constable Clare Haslett	PSNI (Neighbourhood Officer)
Sgt Richard Smith	PSNI
Constable Jenny Gibson	PSNI
Jackie Millar	Stepping Stone Project
Sam Caldwell	Local businessman
Chris Lyttle MLA	

Glossary



CSAW	Castlereagh Safe and Well
CODA	The CODA Project
DPP	District Policing Partnership
EDACT	Eastern Drugs and Alcohol Co-ordination team
FASA	Forum for Action on Substance Abuse and Suicide Awareness
FIT	Fasttrack to IT
IFA	Irish Football Association
DRD	Department of Regional Development
NIHE	Northern Ireland Housing Executive
PSNI	Police Service for Northern Ireland





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