

New Lodge Barrack Area:

Towards a Safer and Healthier Place for All



A report by Community Places for the Ashton Health and Wellbeing Department on environmental actions to improve health and safety conditions of the Barrack area of New Lodge for all residents and visitors.

March 2020

The Barrack Area:

Towards a Safer and Healthier Place for All

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1. Introduction

This report presents a series of environmental and community actions to improve the Barrack area of the New Lodge for the benefit of all its residents. The actions proposed have been identified through a process of community engagement and discussions with informed stakeholders and informed by research into good practice.

The Project was commissioned by the Ashton Health and Wellbeing Initiative 'Healthy North Belfast' which aims to deliver better health and wellbeing services for the people of North Belfast. The initiative focuses on identifying new ideas which can be replicated for the benefit of all areas of need.

The Project study area was identified as exhibiting a range of environmental, housing and community factors which impact negatively on residents' health and wellbeing. The actions presented in the report are designed to address and mitigate those underlying issues.

2. The Project Area

The area is commonly referred to as ‘the Barrack’ because it was once the location of a military barrack, parade ground, gym and accommodation. The only remaining feature from this time is the community centre in the area which is called ‘the Recy’.

The primary focus area of the Project is outlined in red in the map below. During the consultation and engagement, it became evident that aspects of the adjacent walkways and activities associated with them impact directly on the health, wellbeing and safety of residents in and visitors to the area. In response to this consideration was given to what improvements to these walk and alleyways would benefit all residents. The report thus also presents proposals for these areas.



The Barrack area forms part of the Inner North Belfast Neighbourhood Renewal Area. It thus features among the highest indicators for multiple deprivation; health and community wellbeing disadvantage and poverty. A statistical analysis of the area is presented in Appendix 1.

Much of the housing layout in the Project area is along the **Radburn Design**. The Radburn layout was used to design many housing areas here and in Britain in the 1960s. Typically, in Radburn estates housing is accessed from a footpath network while roads and parking are often located away from the houses. The overall layout is a warren of footpaths, walkways and rear alleyways/entries with unused communal areas and open spaces. Many Radburn estates have been demolished or substantially regenerated:

- in Belfast the ‘new Beechmount’ Radburn houses in the Falls Road area were demolished and replaced in the 1990s;
- in Old Trafford, Manchester a combination of demolitions and major re-design of layouts was used to renew the area;
- Newcastle City Council concluded that “the problems associated with the layout of the New Meadows Radburn style layout ... contribute to the anti-social behaviour and crime in the area”.
- an independent housing stock analysis for the Department for Social Development in 2009 described Radburn layouts as “outmoded” and “not providing defensible space for residents”.
- Government Guidance in 2004 on Safe Places concluded “Radburn layouts have become discredited due to the crime problems caused by the separation of vehicles and pedestrians”.
- a PSNI Report (2018) noted in reference to the project area “The overall design of the area is known as a Radburn Estate, this means that no thought went into its overall design. Dwellings were built as and when they were required and in any space available, this resulted in a maze of pathways, providing many ways in and out of the area making it very permeable”.

3. Project Objectives

The objectives initially established by Ashton for the Project were:

- to facilitate processes to enable local residents within the area of benefit to discuss physical issues that affect their wellbeing;
- to enable residents to identify and suggest ideas and measures to improve their local area;
- to provide a report of the findings of the engagement alongside recommendations to make the area a safer and more attractive place to live.

During the course of the consultation and engagement it became clear that public spaces within the area are not used for activities which would improve health and wellbeing. Alongside this it was noted that some householders are required to bring their 'wheelie' bins through their homes for disposal of the contents by the refuse service. This is not conducive to good health. These two factors led to a slight amendment of the Project Objectives which became:

- to facilitate processes to enable local residents within the area of benefit to discuss physical issues that affect their wellbeing;
- to enable residents to identify and suggest ideas and measures to improve their local area;
- to provide a report of the findings of the engagement alongside recommendations to make the area a safer, healthier and more attractive place to live.

4. Engagement Process

Engagement with the local community and key stakeholders has been central to formulating this report.

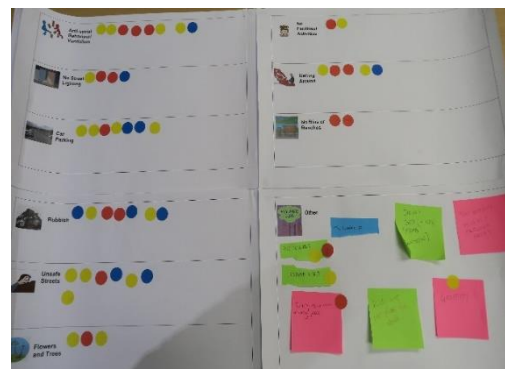
We held an engagement session as part of the Ashton Family Fun and Information Event in the North Queen Community Centre (the 'Recy') on Wednesday, 5 February 2020.



This enabled us to reach residents who lived in the local area.

Ashton played an active role in promoting the engagement session and encouraging people to get involved and to have their say on the future of the area.

We provided A3 maps of the area and each participant was asked to identify 'hot-spots' (see above). Each participant was given coloured dots to highlight the 'issues' in the area and then provided with coloured post-its to suggest ideas for 'improvements' to the area. Staff from Community Places and Ashton were on hand to explain the engagement process and to talk informally to people who attended about their ideas and suggestions.



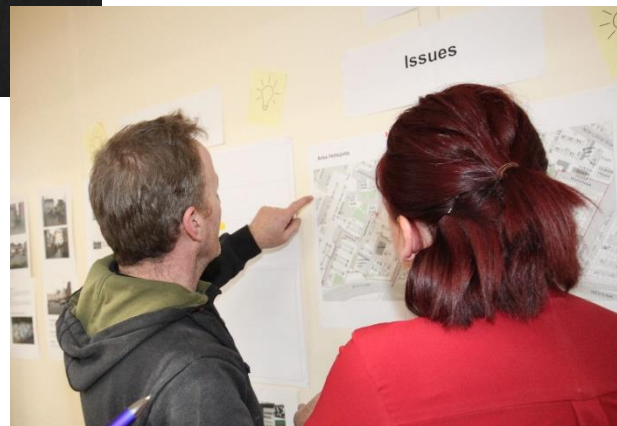
We also conducted a door-to-door survey with residents on Thursday, 20 February 2020. The views expressed by these residents largely reflected those of the participants during the Family Fun event. However, the door-to-door survey provided more detailed views on specific areas within the wider neighbourhood.

The residents and community representatives on the Safer Streets Committee acted as a focused reference group for the Project and provided valuable insights into both the issues which need to be addressed to enhance health and wellbeing and possible solutions.



We also met with Carál Ní Chuilín, one of the MLAs for the area, who highlighted the issues of greatest concern to her constituents and residents and provided a strategic contextual overview for the Project.

We discussed the emerging issues with statutory representatives from the NI Housing Executive and Department of Justice and the staff of the Ashton Community Trust who are developing the Healthy North Belfast Initiative.



5. Engagement Findings and Evidence of Need

The engagement process is outlined at Section 4 (above). The Project Team also walked through and assessed the area on three occasions. A report prepared in 2018 on the Pinkerton Walkways by the PSNI was also considered.

The key issues and concerns identified are:

- Overall appearance and maintenance is poor and in some locations the environment is unkempt and apparently almost abandoned. The area is described by visitors as 'grey' in visual appearance. Many pathways are covered in grime, moss and weeds and strewn with rubbish.
- Fencing of varying quality, age, and condition is evident throughout and adds to the bleakness and uninviting environment. A variety of harsh and unattractive fencing materials is in place in public outdoor area. Put simply, parts of the area are unsightly, bleak and uninviting.
- Concerns about protecting private space (gardens, frontages and back garden areas) are evident from the provision by residents of an array of fencing and other defensive materials.
- Many outdoor public spaces are of poor quality. Residents have retreated from many of these spaces and have little or no ownership of them. Instead of being community assets they have become associated with unwanted behaviour and usage and are rarely, if ever, used for positive healthy activities.
- Lighting is poor in some of the public walkways, passages and alleyways and absent in others. This contributes to the lack of community safety and provides a place where anti-social behaviour can take place without being observed.
- Residents in the walkways off Carlisle Road have to bring their 'wheelie' bins through their homes. This is a public health issue.
- These walkways are barren and uninviting thoroughways - particularly at night-time. Residents do not have any ownership of them and do not have any sightlines to them from within their homes.
- The green and parking areas around the base of Finn House and Oisín House make no positive contribution to residential amenity and are, in effect, of no real value to the community at present.

A PSNI report in 2018 on the Pinkerton area commented:

"The area has been experiencing high levels of ASB, criminal damage, burglary and assault. Specific issues relate to youths gaining entry to the

communal yard through gates and sitting on stairwells partaking in drug activity, drinking and causing a general nuisance. The stairwells provide shelter, seating and are hidden from view. These youths also climb onto walls and fencing to gain access to upper levels of the building”.

“Lighting in the area is poor and is provided by street lamps and a number of bulk head lamps, these provide ‘orange’ light”.

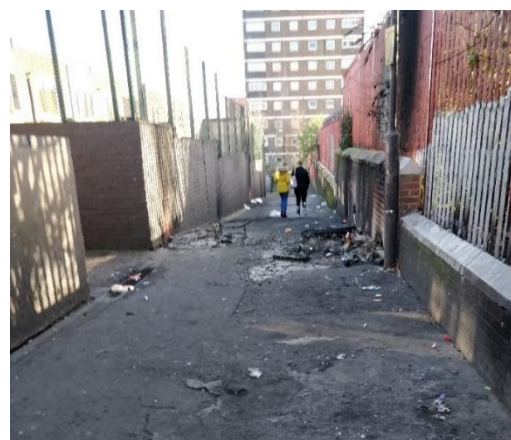
“The area suffers from graffiti. There is an academic study which suggests if an area is unkempt and not looked after it breeds similar behaviour. This area gives the impression that it is uncared for. Graffiti should be removed as soon as it appears”.

Comments made during the engagement process reinforce these PSNI conclusions and highlighted two walkways in particular which need urgent attention to render them safe and free from anti-social behaviour and of some positive use to residents.

The following images illustrate some of the issues described above:

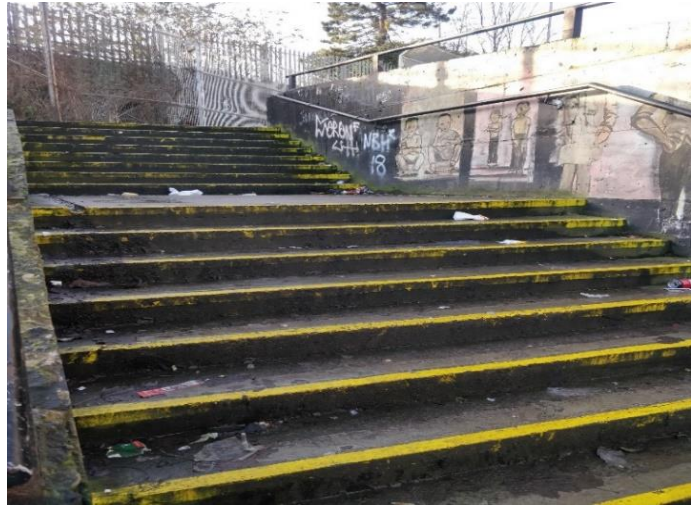


One of the worst alleyways in the area



Path and walkways strewn with rubbish with artwork destroyed by graffiti





Precarious, poorly maintained walkways and paths



Long walk and alley ways enclosed by a variety of imposing fences



Boundary walls and fences create an uninviting environment





Carlisle Road Walkways



Enclosed spaces unkempt and effectively abandoned



Typical large green open space with potential for positive, healthy usage



Evidence that community owned open spaces are respected by all (image credit below¹)



NIHE demonstration of how open spaces can be transformed



¹ 'Our Lady of the New Lodge' - Local artist and Gaelic scholar Art Hughes

6. Learning from Good Practice

To inform our study of the Barrack Area we have reviewed estate regeneration projects and drawn some of the learning from them which is relevant to the issues and needs identified in the area. Two examples are summarised below.

6.1 Lower Falinge Estate Regeneration Project

Lower Falinge Estate close to Rochdale city centre is one of the most socially deprived estates in Greater Manchester; ranking the 31st most deprived place in England (Multiple Deprivation Measure Ranking)².

The area is characterised by 1960s high-rise ‘seven sisters’ type tower blocks, surrounded by further four storey flats, terrace dwellings and limited amenity green space. This area of Rochdale and the Barrack area of the New Lodge are similar in spatial and social context. Both areas are dominated by a mixture of high-rise tower blocks and terrace dwellings with underutilised green space, located on the periphery of city/town centres. Both also experience common social problems of antisocial behaviour and crime. In 2013 Housing Association Rochdale Boroughwide Housing (RBH) prepared a regeneration masterplan in conjunction with Rochdale Borough Council to redevelop the area³. RBH worked with residents in workshops and they voted on design options.

The purpose of the project was to revive the estate and re-connect it with Rochdale’s Heritage Action Zone and town centre. Throughout phased development RBH engaged with residents, empowering them to influence what was built and how through a series of design workshops.

As a result of resident/RBH co-design, the following design-led measures were identified and implemented into project development:

- the re-introduction of streets with street trees and clear coherent connections;
- **improvement of public realm areas** with more trees and less asphalt;
- an improved degree of private space distinct from public space;
- installation of self-contained **refuge storage facilities** at each new terrace style dwelling;
- the rediscovery of historic areas that were previously perceived as areas of fear, and incorporating these into a new build residential area;

² UK Government, (2019) *English Indices of Deprivation* [online] Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/english-indices-of-deprivation-2019>

³ Smith, N. (2019) *Pioneering Regeneration: Creating Streets in Rochdale’s Lower Falinge*, CREATE Streets

- the use of two brick **colours** as a way of providing simple and cost-effective horizontal variegation;
- introducing a variety of pattern with end terrace houses closest to older buildings on the estate. End houses were finished in a different **colour** of brick;
- incorporating a **new open green space**, 'Pioneer Park' at the centre of all access routes to redeveloped apartment blocks. This design encouraged the green space to be used as a main pedestrian thoroughfare.

In considering this case study, concepts of good practise design at Lower Falinge similar to the Barrack area include:

Good Practice

Design Concept Implementation at Lower Falinge

Installation of self-contained refuse storage at terrace housing



Ensuring there is an improved degree of private space distinct from public space



Improving public realm areas with more trees and planting and less asphalt



Incorporating open green space

Clear coherent connections

6.2 Castle Vale Estate Design-led Regeneration Project

Castle Vale Estate was Birmingham's biggest post war, predominantly high-rise housing estate. It housed 20,000 people in 5,000 dwellings alongside other social and community service buildings. In the 1970s, social and economic decline set in and crime levels, anti-social behaviour and vandalism grew in the area⁴.

Extensive regeneration was carried out in the area in the 1990s, led by Castle Vale Housing Action Trust, delivering new housing alongside economic and social regeneration initiatives. In an area blighted by physical, social and economic decline, one of the main issues facing designers of this scheme was how it was going to tackle the issue of antisocial behaviour and crime. The developer's commitment to good design produced a design-led and participative approach from the offset.

The following good practice design-led measures were implemented as part of regeneration development:

- Redeveloping and refurbishing existing apartment blocks to create an unbroken perimeter layout to set **clear definition of public fronts of buildings and private amenity** space behind, with no rear access. This improved the security of dwellings and back gardens;
- Paths and pavements run as part of the street to the front of dwellings. This reinforces movement in the right places, keeping streets animated and restricts rear access to properties;
- All **parking** was designed to be **at the front of properties**, the principal forms were on-plot and on-street lay-bys;
- **Overlooked footpaths** have purpose and direction, connecting to surrounding neighbourhoods and facilities;
- Corner buildings were designed to have distinctive architecture and **colouring** to aid legibility and character;
- Landscaping and built form were implemented to work together to **define public and private boundaries**;
- Exposure to rear and side of properties minimised and **access points are well overlooked**
- **Improving the quality of existing green space.**

As a result of regeneration in the area residents believe that crime and vandalism has reduced. Crime levels have steadily declined in the area from early 2000s onwards.

In evaluating this case study, concepts of good practise in design at Castle Vale similar to the Barrack area include:

⁴ Design Council, CABE and Home Office (2010) *Creating Safer Places to live through Design: Residential Design and Crime Project*

Good Practice Concepts

Design Concept Implementation at Castle Vale

Improve permeability without creating separate/new movement routes

Overlooked footpaths have purpose and direction, connecting to surrounding neighbourhoods and facilities

Unbroken perimeter layout to set clear definition of public fronts of buildings and private amenity space behind, with no rear access.



Landscaping and built form are implemented to work together to define public and private boundaries.

Exposure to rear and side of properties minimised (all private spaces gated) and access points are well overlooked.



All parking space designed so that it is visible; i.e. to front of buildings or buildings overlooking off-street parking or on street lay-bys.



Corner residential buildings have distinctive colouring to aid legibility and character.



The Castle Vale Regeneration Project is a case study that achieved safety through design. Crime and antisocial behaviour are ongoing issues within the Barrack area, and safety in design concepts like those above should be considered for implementation where appropriate.

Good Practice Guidance

Our approach to learning from good practice focused not only on reviewing estate regeneration project case studies relevant to the issues and needs identified in the Barrack area, but also on accumulating knowledge from existing Good Practice Guides including:

- Department for Communities and Local Government (2016) *Estate Regeneration National Strategy: Good Practice Guide*
- Office of the Deputy Prime Minister and Home Office (2004) *Safer Places: The Planning System and Crime Prevention*
- Cullen, S. (2006) *Shelter Back on Track: A Good Practice Guide to Addressing Anti-social Behaviour*

7. Proposals and Recommendations

As noted elsewhere in this report 'Radburn' housing areas similar to much of the Barrack area have been demolished and/or radically redeveloped elsewhere. This is an option for much of the area which can only be set aside if there is significant investment for immediate improvements and consistent, effective, ongoing maintenance.

The Radburn experiment has been a failure here and elsewhere. It has, in effect, lent itself to and exacerbated a range of social problems including anti-social behaviour, social isolation and a breakdown in community cohesion. The actions proposed here can begin to reverse this trajectory only if they are fully implemented in co-ordination with other community and youth initiatives planned and under way. A co-ordinated approach between community and statutory organisations is now essential. The particular details of the Radburn layout employed in much of the area makes this more difficult than elsewhere and is also all the more reason why collaborative and new approaches to implementation must be applied.

The proposals for action recommended here have been informed by:

- community and stakeholder engagement;
- the North Belfast Health and Wellbeing Initiative Appreciative Inquiry;
- PSNI reports on anti-social behaviour;
- walking studies of the area by the Project Team;
- research and guidance on creating safe and healthy spaces.

The North Belfast Appreciative Inquiry found that residents want environmental improvements which encourage people to socialise more and be more active. This resonates with the Glasgow Centre for Population Health report on Neighbourhood Change (2018) which found that there is "evidence of the impacts of good quality amenities on positive health behaviours (particularly diet and walking) and of neighbourhood attractiveness and the subsequent impact on residents' mental health".

The Government's 2004 guidance 'Safer Places: the Planning System and Crime Prevention' identifies seven elements which together create safer communities:

<i>Safety Element</i>	<i>Description</i>
Access and Movement	Places with well-defined routes, spaces and entrances that provide for convenient movement without compromising security.
Structure	Places that are structured so that different uses do not cause conflict.
Surveillance	Places where all publicly accessible spaces are overlooked.
Ownership	Places that promote a sense of ownership, respect, territorial responsibility and community.
Physical Protection	Places that include necessary, well-designed safety features.
Activity	Places where the level of human activity is appropriate to the location and creates a reduced risk of crime and a sense of safety at all times.
Management and Maintenance	Places that are designed with management and maintenance in mind, to discourage crime in the present and the future.

This guidance has provided an analytical approach to the development of proposals. The proposed actions are recommended with a view to improving the Barrack area and achieving the following vision:

- **an environment which is safer for all residents to enjoy with public walkways, passages and alleyways which are attractive and look and feel safe;**
- **improved public spaces and areas which enhance health and wellbeing through greater use and ownership of public outdoor spaces by residents;**
- **outdoor spaces which encourage active, positive usage by all residents;**
- **a more attractive area for residents and visitors with colourful and attractive public outdoor spaces which are well-lit and well maintained.**

Recommended Actions

Cleaning and Maintenance



All walkways, pathways, alleyways, footpaths and shared spaces should be power hose-cleaned to remove all accumulated grime, moss, weeds and graffiti.

A single cleaning and graffiti removal contract should be procured for all these areas. It should be of the highest standard, rigorously monitored and the benefits of awarding this to a social or local business should be fully explored.

Lighting



Many of the path and walkways look and feel unsafe. Footpath embedded lights provide security and light the way ahead without imposing light pollution on nearby residents. They are in use on the lower Antrim Road (see opposite) and elsewhere in the city.

Similar lights should be installed in all the main walk and pathways in the area (and see also proposals for Carlisle Road walkways below)

Fencing and Railings

The hotchpotch of fencing and railing should all be replaced. The replacement material should match that used to enclose new frontages along Victoria and Queens Parade. The effect of using the same material will be to provide cohesiveness and continuity across the area.

Area Colour Scheme

Colour adds vitality and life to any area. The grey appearance and reputation of the Barrack should be transformed into a colourful environment which residents are proud of. All fencing, railing and walls forming the boundary between public and private spaces should be painted within an overall colour scheme (determined after community consultation).

To ensure a consistent, overall scheme is implemented across the area a single contract should be procured. The benefits of awarding this to a social or local business should be fully explored.

Positive Use and Animation of Open Spaces

The open, public and green spaces in the area are not used for positive activities. They must be restored as assets - places of benefit for all. In some locations they could be transformed into communal gardens or allotments. The areas to be enclosed at the entrances to the high-rise blocks would be suitable as would green areas near to the Carlisle Road.

A community programme of activities, celebrations, temporary and pop-up uses should be provided to animate these spaces and reclaim them for the whole community.

Oisín and Finn Houses

The Housing Executive has delivered an attractive scheme which encloses public space at the base of Fianna House. By transforming it into a semi-public space the Housing Executive has created a residential amenity and attractive, welcoming entrance way to the flats:



Similar schemes should be implemented for Finn House and Oisín House - incorporating as much as possible of the existing green and hard surface areas.

Carlisle Walkways



The walkways off Carlisle Road should be transformed into semi-private areas that residents feel ownership of and can enjoy.

At each end of the walkways pedestrian 'chicane' railings should be installed to indicate to pedestrians that they are entering semi-private spaces.

Embedded pavement lights should be installed to light up both ends of each walkway. These should look different from those installed in the public paths (see above) to indicate that the walkways are not as public.



Robust decorative planters should be placed along the centre of the walkways to provide a residential amenity and emphasise the semi-private nature of the area.



Frontages should be provided for each house along the walkways to create a 'garden' enclosure (similar to those installed in the Pinkerton walkways).

Households along the walkways must keep their 'wheelie' bins in their back gardens and bring them through their homes on refuse collection days. This is a potential health risk.

Secure bin storage areas with individual household access should be provided at suitable locations following detailed consultation with residents. Use of these storage facilities should be at the discretion of residents.



Pinkerton

Two walkways in the Pinkerton area require action to prevent further Anti-Social behaviour (ASB).

One of these walkways which is the scene of ASB is off the main residential walkway from the New Lodge Road to Queens Parade (between numbers 32 and 34). A chicane railing entrance (as recommended for Carlisle Road) should be installed.

A streetlight along this main walkway is used to gain access to balcony walkways. It should be replaced with footpath embedded lighting which should be installed along all the walkways in Pinkerton.

The other Pinkerton walkway which attracts ASB runs from the 7 Hills area along the back of the Victoria Nursery to the Artillery Youth Club. Alley-gates should be installed with residents given access where they choose to store their 'wheelie' bins. In keeping with the other improvements recommended the alley-gates should be

decorative and conform to the overall colour scheme. As part of this scheme the “two steps” at the top end of this walkway should be permanently closed off.

Alley-gated areas are ideally suited to the installation of raised timber planters for growing vegetables and decorative garden plants (as below). Consideration should be given to a community initiative of this nature at this location.



Co-ordination and Complementarity

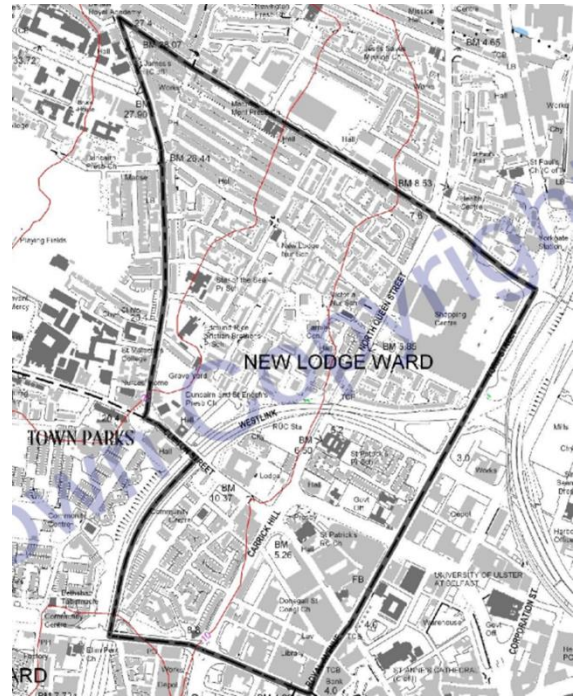
We are aware that other initiatives are planned, under way or being considered. The goal of transforming the Barrack requires the actions set out in this report and much more. The other actions which we view as complementary and necessary include:

- enhanced neighbourhood policing with the community;
- the co-ordinated delivery of Neighbourhood Services which Belfast City Council is spearheading;
- sustained increased investment in youth outreach and community development in the Barrack and surrounding parts of the New Lodge;
- implementation of the linear greenway scheme from the steps at North Queen Street to Henry Place.

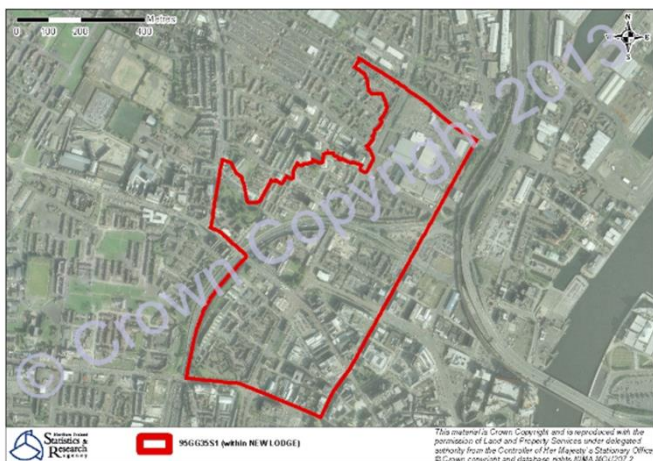
Appendix 1 – Statistical Analysis of the Area

The Barrack area is within the New Lodge Ward. This ward is one of the 582 Wards in Northern Ireland (also referred to as Electoral Wards). Wards are mostly equivalent to or are a combination of Super Output Areas (SOAs). The 582 Wards join to form the 26 Local Government Districts (LGDs). 4,537 Small Areas (SAs) are combined to form Wards.

The New Lodge Ward is situated in the Belfast Local Government District as well as in the Belfast North Assembly Area. The New Lodge Ward is made up of New Lodge 1, 2 and 3 Super Output Areas. Super Output Area 3 does not cover any part of the project area.



Geographical Information for New Lodge 1 Super Output Area



Geographical Information for New Lodge 2 Super Output Area



Super Output Areas 1 and 2 contain thirteen Small Areas, two of which cover the project area but also include a portion of the surrounding areas.

Geographical Information for N00001350 (New Lodge Ward)



● N00001350 (New Lodge Ward) Small Area (SA) can be defined as Urb

Geographical Information for N00001354 (New Lodge Ward)



● N00001354 (New Lodge Ward) Small Area (SA) can be defined as UR

The statistics were taken from the 2011 Census (27 March 2011) and have been grouped according to the Census themes.

Usually Resident Population of Project Area

1,675 people live in the project area. 1,625 of these people live in households and 50 live in a communal area.

	Number in Project Area	NI Total	% of Usual Residents (NI)	Households	Average Household Size
N00001350	919	1,810,863	0.05%	413	2.10
N00001354	756	1,810,863	0.04%	397	1.90

Datasets used: Usual Resident Population_KS101NI (statistical geographies), Household Size_KS403NI (statistical geographies), NISRA Census Office

Demography

On Census Day 2011, in the project area 18.4% of the usual resident population were under 16 years and 18.25% were over 65 years. (49.65%) of the usual resident population was Male and (50.36%) was Female.

	Percentage of Project Area	Number in Project Area	NI Total
Under 16 years	18.40%	310	379,323
Over 65 Years	18.25%	310	263,720
Male	49.65%	414	887,323
Female	50.36%	424	923,540

Datasets used: Usual Resident Population_KS101NI (statistical geographies), Age Structure_KS102NI (statistical geographies), NISRA Census Office

Ethnicity, Identity, Language, Religion

The majority of the usual resident population in the project area stated they were White (98.41%), Catholic (91.56%), with over half (57.89%) claiming an Irish identity.

	Percentage of Project Area	Number in Project Area	NI Total
Ethnicity			
• White (including Irish Traveller)	98.41%	1,669	1,779,750
Religion			
• Catholic	91.56%	1,531	817,385
• Protestant (and other Christian)	6.56%	112	875,717
Identity			
• British	18.67%	319	876,577
• Irish	57.89%	959	513,390
• Northern Irish	42.96%	465	533,085

**Respondents could indicate more than one national identity*

On Census Day 27th March 2011 considering the population aged 3 years old and over, 18% could speak Irish and 3.19% could speak Ulster-Scots. 2.07% did not have English as their first language.

	Percentage of Project Area	Number in Project Area	NI Total
Irish	18.01%	288	184,898
Ulster Scots	3.19%	54	140,204
Did not have English as First Language	2.07%	33	54,540

Datasets used: Ethnic Group - KS201NI (statistical geographies), Religion or Religion Brought Up In_KS212NI (statistical geographies), National Identity (Classification 2)_KS203NI (statistical geographies), Knowledge of Irish_KS209NI (statistical geographies), Knowledge of Ulster-Scots_KS210NI (statistical geographies), Main Language_KS207NI (statistical geographies), NISRA Census Office

Health

More than half of the usual resident population (57.89%) stated that their general health was Good or Very Good although 40.16% noted a Long-Term Health Problem. 12.31% gave unpaid care to family friends, neighbours or others.

	Percentage of Project Area	Number in Project Area	NI Total
Long-Term Health Problem	40.16%	670	374,646
General Health Good or Very Good	57.89%	971	1,439,803
Unpaid care to Family Friends Neighbours or Others	12.31%	207	213,980

Datasets used: Health and Provision of Unpaid Care_KS301NI (statistical geographies), NISRA Census Office

Housing and Accommodation

65.07% of the houses in the project area were rented. 29.98% were owner-occupied with 15.39% of the homes owned outright. 16.75% of the homes were lone parent households (with dependent children) and 12.2% were single person aged 65+ households. The majority of the households (70.79%) had no access to a car or a van.

	Percentage of Project Area	Number in Project Area	NI Total
Owner Occupied	29.98%	248	474,751
Rented	65.07%	527	210,901
Owned Outright	15.39%	125	225,845
Single Person 65+	12.2%	99	78,101
Lone parent Households (with dependent children)	16.75%	136	64,228
No access to car or van	70.79%	519	159,659

Datasets used: Tenure and Landlord_KS402NI (statistical geographies), Household Composition_KS105NI (statistical geographies), Car or Van Availability_KS405NI (statistical geographies), NISRA Census Office

Qualifications

On Census Day 27th March 2011, considering the population aged 16 years old and over:

	Percentage of Project Area	Number in Project Area	NI Total
Degree or Higher Qualification	8.43%	114	338,544
No or Low (Level 1*) Qualification	69.03%	943	581,649

**Level 1 is 1-4 O Levels/CSE/GCSE (any grades) or equivalent*

Datasets used: Qualifications and Students_KS501NI (statistical geographies), NISRA Census Office

Labour Market

	Percentage of Project Area	Number in Project Area	NI Total
Economically Active	41.82%	521	869,767
Economically Inactive	58.18%	721	443,653
Paid Employment	30.21%	376	756,609
Unemployed	8.74%	109	65,196

Datasets used: Economic Activity_KS601NI (statistical geographies), NISRA Census Office

Variables

- Number of all usual residents aged 16 to 74 years;
- Number and percentage of all usual residents aged 16 to 74 years who are economically active: Part-time and Full-time Employee/Self-employed/Unemployed/Full-time student;
- Number and percentage of all usual residents aged 16 to 74 years who are economically inactive: Retired/Student (including full-time students)/Looking after home or family/Long-term sick or disabled/Other;
- Number and percentage of all usual residents aged 16 to 74 years who are unemployed: Aged 16 to 24 years/Aged 50 to 74 years/Unemployed Never worked/Long-term unemployed;
- Number and percentage of all usual residents aged 16 to 74 years who carried out voluntary work

Economically active population comprises all persons of either sex who furnish the supply of labour for the production of economic goods and services as defined by the United Nations System of National Accounts during a specified time-reference period.

Economically inactive people are those without a job who are not seeking work and/or are not available to start work in the next two weeks.

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March 2020

