

**ANNUAL  
REPORT**  
2013/2014





Belfast Healthy Cities is an independent partnership organisation with a specific remit to deliver the priority themes as agreed by stakeholders within the city, of each phase of membership of the WHO European Healthy Cities Network.

### **Our Vision**

Our vision is to be a leader in creating a healthy, equitable and sustainable city

### **Our Mission**

Our mission is to promote health and well-being, provide inspiration and facilitate innovative collaborative action and good policies through:

- leadership and learning from the WHO European Healthy Cities Network
- supporting research, sharing evidence and building capacity
- introducing and piloting innovative concepts and approaches
- maximising partners impact on health and inequalities

## Chairperson's Report

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As the new chair of Belfast Healthy Cities, I am very pleased to present this annual report and I would like pay tribute to the previous chair, Dr Bernadette Cullen for her excellent leadership through a period of significant change within health & social care.

This year has been an exciting and productive year and a year of change. The launch of the new Phase VI (2014-2018) of the World Health Organization (WHO) European Healthy Cities Network presented the unique opportunity for Belfast Healthy Cities' stakeholders to identify the priorities for Belfast's application to be a member of the Phase VI Network. Phase VI is based on the new common WHO European policy for health and wellbeing - Health 2020 and aligns with Making Life Better, the new public health framework for Northern Ireland. Its emphasis is on the collaborative approach required to reduce health inequalities and build a healthier Northern Ireland.

In January 2014, The Lord Mayor, Cllr Máirtín Ó Muilleoir hosted the Phase VI workshop at the City Hall in support of Belfast's application to Phase VI. It was submitted jointly by the Lord Mayor and Dr Eddie Rooney, Chief Executive, Public Health Agency in early 2014, and we were delighted that a letter from Dr Zsuzsanna Jakab WHO Europe Regional Director, in September 2014, confirmed Belfast's designation.

At the recent International Healthy Cities Conference, Belfast was honoured by the presentation of two WHO certificates recognising successful completion of Phase V (2009-2013) and the city's long-term commitment to the Healthy Cities movement as one of a small number of cities who have been active member through five phases since 1988. Cllr Colin Keenan, Vice Chair of the Health & Environmental Services Committee, Belfast City Council received the WHO 25 year certificate on behalf of Belfast. The Phase V (2009-2013) evaluation also highlighted Belfast as a WHO Healthy City Champion. Our central place within the WHO European Healthy Cities Network is exemplified through our WHO Secretariat role, which provides a high profile for Belfast at an international level.

We will continue to consolidate our approach to improving health and wellbeing within the new powers in local government and bring inspiration from the WHO Healthy Cities Network to the city.

I would like to thank Ministers, City Council elected members, Chief Executives and Permanent Secretaries of partner organisations and government departments; the Board of Directors and the many individuals and organisations who have contributed to the work of Belfast Healthy Cities over the past year. Finally I would like to thank the staff team and in particular the Chief Executive, Joan Devlin. Without their hard work and dedication, it would not have been possible to play a key role at European level and make a difference in Belfast.

**Nigel McMahon**

## Chief Executive Officer's Report

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Being a member of and representing Belfast over the past 25 years of the WHO European Healthy Cities Network has been and continues to be a privilege for all partners, stakeholders and staff of Belfast Healthy Cities. It provides the opportunity to promote and share the expertise developed across the city with colleagues within WHO Europe and for the learning and innovation from the European Healthy Cities Network to be transferred and adapted locally.

The priorities identified at the WHO Phase VI (2014 - 2018) workshop in January 2014 have shaped the action plan for this year and whilst Phase VI programmes will continue to have a focus at a strategic policy level, there will be a strong emphasis on testing and delivering new concepts at a community level

One continuing priority is the theme of healthy urban environments, including the multi-faceted approach of the Child Friendly Places programme, which aims to create places that will enhance and enrich the health and social wellbeing of children and their families, particularly in areas where children experience disadvantage.

Our contribution to the concept of WHO Age Friendly Cities was also high on our agenda this year and the report outlines the 'walkability assessments' that were carried out with older peoples' groups across the city.

A core aspect of our work is sharing the learning on public health issues from WHO Europe with colleagues in Belfast. Our capacity-building programme included a series of seminars, which created opportunities for partners to hear experiences from European cities on a number of subject areas. One of the most popular events presented first hand experiences from Freiburg and Copenhagen, as they became cycling and active travel cities.

The recent 'Reuniting Health & Planning Conference' proved to be a highly inspirational event with delegates attending from a range of sectors and the ideas presented being included in some local future plans. Additionally, an online resource collating the abstracts presented at each annual WHO Healthy Cities Conference in Europe was completed and is available through our revamped website to share successful models of practice from across WHO Europe.

It has been a dynamic and refreshing start to a new WHO Phase, achieved through the commitment and energy of all stakeholders. I would like to express my sincere thanks to the chair, vice chair and Board of Directors who provide the continuity of support required to deliver our innovative and challenging programmes; to the chairs and members of the working groups for guiding each programme area and to the staff team whose dedication and enthusiasm create the conditions for delivering successful programme outcomes.

**Joan Devlin**



## Healthy Urban Environments

### Regeneration and Healthy Urban Environments Group (R&HUE)

The R&HUE group has a dual mandate, delivering on behalf of Belfast as a WHO Healthy City on the core theme of Healthy Urban Environments, and on the regeneration theme of Belfast Strategic Partnership (BSP).

The Reuniting Planning and Health Capacity Building programme was created to build capacity among planning, local government and health professionals on the links between land use planning and health. The programme's purpose is to create a starting point for exploring intersectoral collaboration on planning and health. The first elements within this year included the Planning for Healthy Communities online resource and the Reuniting Planning and Health: Tackling Disadvantage Conference.

### Planning for Healthy Communities Online Resource

In autumn, the online resource Planning for Healthy Communities was launched. Developed in partnership with Town and Country Planning Association (TCPA) it is designed to help inform and support planning and local government reform and is aimed at elected representatives as well as professionals in local government, health, housing and regeneration sectors. It outlines how planning influences health and wellbeing, and highlights potential areas for action. It includes examples of good practice from

Northern Ireland, the UK and elsewhere in Europe.

The resource is available at [planning.belfasthealthycities.com](http://planning.belfasthealthycities.com)



*Belfast Healthy Cities Chair, Nigel McMahon and Belfast Lord Mayor, Cllr Nichola Mallon launch the online resource.*

“Planning and local government reform offers an important opportunity to consider health in a new way within planning. The benefits to be reaped are significant: more attractive places; safer, more cohesive and resilient communities; effective transport systems and of course, healthier people.”

**Lord Mayor,  
Cllr Nichola Mallon.**

### Reuniting Planning and Health: Tackling Disadvantage Conference

The Reuniting Planning and Health: Tackling Disadvantage conference took place in November in Belfast. The event was opened by Belfast Lord Mayor, Cllr Nichola Mallon who welcomed delegates and addressed by Minister

for Health, Social Services and Public Safety, Jim Wells, MLA who highlighted some of the challenges in tackling health inequalities in Northern Ireland.

Nigel McMahon, Chair of Belfast Healthy Cities,

welcomed keynote speaker Riccardo Marini of the world renowned Gehl Architects who addressed the conference on the theme of Valuing Place: Cities for People.

# Reuniting Planning and Health: Tackling Disadvantage Conference

Other speakers at the conference included Gabriel Scally, World Health Organization Collaborating Centre for Healthy Urban Environments, who reflected on how planning can shape people's lives and communities and Hugh Ellis, Town and Country Planning Association (TCPA) who introduced the new resource Belfast Healthy Cities Planning for Healthy Communities.

Case studies from The Paul Hogarth Company, Connswater Community Greenway, Police Service for Northern Ireland, and Department for Social Development provided a local context for discussion in workshops.

"Place Making is turning somewhere you want to leave into somewhere you don't ever want to leave"

**Riccardo Marini, Gehl Architects**

In the afternoon session, chaired by Carol Ramsey, Chair of Regeneration and Healthy Urban Environments group, Michael Harris, Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) shared learning on the critical importance of planning to developing cities that support good health and are sustainable.



*Chair of the R&HUE group, Carol Ramsey; Health Minister, Jim Wells, MLA and Belfast Healthy Cities Chair, Nigel McMahon.*

The penultimate speaker, Suzanne Wylie, CEO of Belfast City Council presented the council's vision for local government reform and planning, emphasising its potential benefits for health in the city. Closing the event Belfast Healthy Cities Chief Executive, Joan Devlin, commended the speakers and welcomed the mainstreaming of the concept of healthy urban planning which was

introduced by WHO Healthy Cities in 1998. Reflecting on the quality and depth of the contributions throughout the day, she added that she hoped that the event would be the beginning of wider discussions and actions to plan a city that supports the health of its people.

Presentations and short films from the event are available at [www.belfasthealthycities.com](http://www.belfasthealthycities.com)



## Healthy Urban Environments

### Active Travel- Plan for Belfast

During the year, Belfast Healthy Cities has continued to contribute to Active Belfast and in particular its Active travel action-planning group. This group led the development of the Active Travel Action Plan for Belfast 2014-2020, which was launched in November 2014.

Belfast Healthy Cities also contributed evidence to the Department for Regional Development Bicycle strategy.

### Climate Change and Health Partnership

Belfast Healthy Cities continues to facilitate the Climate Change and Health Partnership, a regional group chaired by DHSSPS. Work is focusing on refining the remit of the group and identifying the most relevant approaches that can be applied at a practical level. A key aspect of work has been strengthening engagement with Health and Social Care Trusts.

"Incorporating walking and cycling into everyday lives helps to meet many priorities... it improves both physical health and mental wellbeing, "

**Dr Eddie Rooney,**  
Chair, Belfast Active Travel  
Action Planning Task &  
Finish Group



### Mapping Physical Activity in South Belfast

Belfast Healthy Cities is now supporting South Belfast Partnership and Active Belfast to undertake mapping of physical activity opportunities in south Belfast. A workshop for completing mapping questionnaires took place in September and analysis of questionnaires is underway.

### Healthy City Explorer Bursary

The annual Healthy City Explorer Bursary was launched as part of Belfast Healthy Cities' 25 anniversary celebrations. It supports a study visit to a European Healthy City or Network to explore their approach to a WHO priority theme. The inaugural bursary was awarded to Anne McNally, an officer from the Health Protection policy branch at the Department of Health Social Services and Public Safety. She travelled to Oslo to learn about their experience of implementing a new Public Health Act and examine ways in which learning from Norway could

be applied to inform policy in Northern Ireland.

Anne will present her findings at the Belfast Healthy Cities Annual General Meeting in December. The Healthy City Explorer Bursary for 2015 will also be launched at the meeting.





# WHO Belfast Healthy City Awards 2014



Following the popularity and success of the WHO Belfast Healthy City 25 Anniversary Awards in 2013, it was decided to introduce annual awards to recognise the quality of work being undertaken to improve health and wellbeing in the city. The Lord Mayor of Belfast, Cllr Nichola Mallon, along with the Belfast Healthy Cities Chair, Nigel McMahon and Chief Executive, Joan Devlin, officially launched the 2014 Awards in September.

This year awards were made in three categories in recognition of excellence in addressing a WHO Core theme. Nominations were received from across the city from a wide variety of organisations, in all sectors. We would like to thank our judging panels, drawn from the Belfast Healthy Cities Executive Board, partner agencies and previous award winning organisations for their commitment to what resulted in a very competitive judging process.



The awards were presented at the Reuniting Planning and Health conference by Honorary Chair Gabriel Scally

## The winners in each category were;

### Healthy Places:

Joint Winner:

Connswater Community Greenway  
- Regeneration of Victoria Park and  
Construction of the Sam Thompson  
Bridge

Joint Winner:

The Conservation Volunteers -  
Growing Communities

### Healthy Living:

Autism Initiatives:

Learn to Cycle

### Promoting Health Equity:

Council for the Homeless (NI) - CHNI Fareshare



## Child Friendly Places

### Shaping Healthier Neighbourhoods

Shaping Healthier Neighbourhoods aims to give children an opportunity to make their views about their environment heard. Building on a highly successful pilot programme in west Belfast, the model was rolled out to all other areas of Belfast.

Schools taking part included:

**South:** St Malachy's; Fane Street

**East:** Knocknagoney; St Joseph's

**North:** St Patrick's; Currie; Holy Family; Malvern; Bunscoil Mhic Reachtain

Through a range of classroom and outdoor workshops, children were encouraged to think about the built environment where they live and go to school. Participants took photos and created artwork that demonstrates what they like and don't like about their neighbourhood, while making recommendations about what could make things better.

A questionnaire was also disseminated through Belfast Education and Library Board to schools in Belfast to gather children's views on the built environment and more than 1200 responses were received.



## Child Friendly Places

### Children's Voices- A Charter for Belfast, Belfast City Hall

In June, participants in the Shaping Healthier Neighbourhoods for Children had the opportunity to have their voices heard at Belfast City Hall at a celebration event marking the end of the programme.

The event was opened by Deputy Lord Mayor, Cllr Maire Hendron, addressed by Environment Minister, Mark H Durkan and closed by the Northern Ireland Commissioner for Children and Young People, Patricia Lewsley-Mooney. The keynote speaker at the event was Sue Rumbold, Chief Officer, Children's Services, Leeds City Council, who shared experiences of the development of Child Friendly Leeds.

"All too often it's grownups who say what our cities should look like. But children will know what they want, what works best for them. It's important they have their say as well."

**Mark H Durkan, Minister for the Environment**

The children had an opportunity to quiz decision makers including John McGrillen, Director of Development, Belfast City Council; Clifford



McIlwaine, Divisional Planning Manager, Planning and Local Government Group, Department of the Environment and Sue Rumbold, during a Children's Question Time.

They also displayed the posters they had produced in classroom sessions

and presented Children's Voices- A Charter for Belfast, which makes a range of suggestions by children on how to improve the built environment. Since the event, the Charter has been distributed to key decision makers.



# Child Friendly Places

## KidsSpace

KidsSpace is the initiative from Belfast Healthy Cities that transforms city space into a child friendly place by creating active, creative and free space.

This year's programme was launched in March by then Lord Mayor Cllr Máirtín Ó Muilleoir. In addition to the regular outdoor events, in March there were two indoor events as part of a month of family friendly events in Belfast City Centre. The first took place at Urban Soul Café, May Street Presbyterian Church, and the second in a vacant unit in CastleCourt shopping centre. Both events were organised with the support of the Public Health Agency and Belfast City Centre Management.

In August, we were delighted to be asked to bring KidsSpace to the Lord Mayor, Cllr Nichola Mallon's Beach Party at Belfast City Hall.



In September, it was back to our now regular spot at Culture Night Belfast. This year KidsSpace, which was at Buoy's Park, was extremely well attended with the largest audience on record of 1500 parents and children.

KidsSpace has proven to be a highly adaptable model that can be tailored to a different space as a standalone activity, or incorporated into larger citywide events.

## Smoothie Bikes

Belfast Healthy Cities has two smoothie bikes, which have proved a popular attraction at KidsSpace as an activity that encourages physical activity while promoting healthy food choices. They have also been used to support a number of other events and are now proving equally popular with all ages. Events included a consultation event at the Olympia Leisure Centre; Love Parks Week at Crawfordsburn Country Park; Giro Celebration event at St Matthew's Primary School and Mental Health Awareness Day, in partnership with Action Mental Health.





# Child Friendly Places

## Planning My City

As part of the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) centenary celebrations Belfast Healthy Cities, in partnership with the planning schools at Queen's University Belfast and Ulster University took part in a week long event at the Ulster Museum, Belfast.



Representatives of event partners and sponsors including Royal Town Planning Institute (NI), Belfast Healthy Cities, Ulster University, and Queen's University Belfast and Eplani join guest of honour, Lord Mayor, Cllr Nichola Mallon.

"Children's experiences of the built environment should be valued and listened to; this will not only generate better decisions, but also help children grow up as active and engaged citizens."

**Joan Devlin, Chief Executive, Belfast Healthy Cities**

a purpose built model, designed by students from Ulster University: arts and crafts, paper-bag houses: a photo wall and computer modelling/interactive areas.

children to think about their city. She also took time to take part in one of the arts activity and heard from the children first hand, about what makes a healthy city.

Planning My City encouraged children to think about the environment around them and how it has been shaped with a range of materials, including

The event received a visit from Lord Mayor, Cllr Nichola Mallon who heard about the importance of using creativity to encourage

More photographs and a short video of the event are available at [www.belfasthealthycities.com](http://www.belfasthealthycities.com)

## Developing A Child Friendly Places Framework for Belfast

Belfast Healthy Cities has facilitated the Child Friendly Places working group to take this work forward. Priorities have been identified from all of the children's feedback and will inform a Child Friendly Places action plan, a draft of which will be available in early 2015.

Child friendly places was selected as the Belfast Strategic Partnership demonstration project of the Regeneration and Healthy Urban Environments group.



# Capacity Building - Learning from WHO Europe

## Creating Healthy Communities Capacity Building Seminars

The 2013/2014 seminar series began with the Belfast - 25 years as a WHO European Healthy City event in November 2013 and continued into March and April 2014. The series was organised by Belfast Healthy Cities with support from Public Health Agency. This year sessions explored local and European practice under three key themes: sustainable food supply, active travel opportunities and the co-production of economic and health benefits,

introducing effective solutions to creating healthier neighbourhoods and cities.

Ahead of the seminars, keynote speakers met with partner organisations including Department for Regional Development, Public Health Agency and Belfast City Council to discuss the challenges and opportunities of implementing new approaches in their cities.

### Active Travel



The seminar was opened by Regional Development Minister Danny Kennedy, MLA. It compared the situation in Belfast with that in major European cities and shared the best of international practice from leading active travel cities.

Chaired by Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure, Belfast City Council the seminar provided examples of leading active travel focused cities, including Copenhagen from Alexander

Karl Lehmann and Freiburg from Andreas Hildebrandt who both highlighted the added benefits for all of society when streets are designed for walking and cycling as well as cars. Professor Geraint Ellis, Queen's University Belfast provided an overview of work to create walkable neighbourhoods in Belfast.

Local inputs were presented by Translink, Department of Regional Development and Sustrans NI.

"The yearly health benefits from active travel in Copenhagen amount to 228 million Euro (£180 million)"

**Alexander Karl Lehmann, City of Copenhagen**



## Capacity Building - Learning from WHO Europe



"First, do no harm... second, help people back to work...third invest in public health."  
"Fairer more equal societies will determine the health of our body economic"

**David Stuckler,  
The Body Economic:  
Why Austerity Kills**

### Sustainable Food

The event was chaired by Nigel McMahon, Chief Environmental Health Officer, Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety and Chair of Belfast Healthy Cities. Participants in the seminar heard about the importance of strategic support for local action from Dr Colin Sage, University College Cork, who spoke about creating a citywide food policy for Cork, which is also a WHO European Healthy City.

A case study focusing on the Belfast City Council Growing Communities Strategy reported on developments on a local level. Other case studies presented included the Belfast Sustainable Food City vision and action plan from Sustainable NI; Love Food, Hate Waste from WRAP and Community Food Initiatives from Healthy Food for All.

### Co-production of Economics & Health

The final seminar in the series was chaired by John McMullan, Bryson Charitable Group and member of Belfast Healthy Cities Board of Directors with a welcome from Dr Paddy Woods, Deputy Chief Medical Officer, Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety.

It focused on the links between economic development and health, exploring the incentives for and co-benefits of an integrated approach with contributions from David Stuckler, University of Oxford; David Gavaghan, Titanic Quarter Ltd and Donal Rogan, Belfast City Council.

Local case studies were presented by Queen's University Belfast; Bryson Energy; Health and Social Care Board and Ashton Community Trust.

Presentations are available on the Belfast Healthy Cities website:  
[www.belfasthealthycities.com](http://www.belfasthealthycities.com)



# Age Friendly Belfast

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## Age Friendly Neighbourhoods



During 2014, Belfast gained accreditation as a WHO Global Age Friendly City, a strategic process that recognises existing features within a city that make it a supportive place to grow older, while identifying issues that need to be addressed and improved upon.

Belfast Healthy Cities' work this year has centred on contributing to the Healthy Ageing Strategic Partnership (HASP) action plan under the age friendly environments theme. A pilot of a Walkability tool to access how older people use their environment,

which began in central, north and east Belfast last year has been extended to south and west Belfast. Groups taking part included;

### In South Belfast:

(Working with South Belfast Partnership)

- Hong Ling Gardens - Chinese Welfare Association
- Lower Ormeau Residents Association Group (LORAG)
- Blackstaff walking group
- Ballynafeigh Community Development Association Men's Shed
- Ballynafeigh Community Development Association Men's walking group

### In West Belfast:

- Holy Trinity Centre
- The HEART Project
- Ardoyne Shankill Healthy Living Centre
- Hemsworth Court Supported Housing

A report detailing findings from the initial pilot, including recommendations for improvements, along with a summary poster which was awarded first place at the Institute of Public Health in Ireland (IPH) Open Conference in October are available at [www.belfasthealthycities.com](http://www.belfasthealthycities.com)

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## Health Literacy

Health Literacy is a core theme for Belfast as a member of the WHO Healthy Cities Network Phase VI (2014-2018), as identified by partners at the WHO Phase VI planning workshop, hosted by the then Lord Mayor Cllr Máirtín Ó Muilleoir in January 2014. Health Literacy is a relatively new concept, which implies achievement of a level of knowledge, personal skills and confidence to take

action to improve personal and community health by changing personal lifestyles and living conditions. The benefits of improved health literacy are felt across society and between government departments, highlighted locally within the Northern Ireland Executive's Making Life Better strategy and through a number of initiatives occurring at local and regional level. Dr Graham Kramer, GP and National Clinical Lead for

Self-Management and Health Literacy with the Scottish Government has been of particular support as we identify a health literacy programme in Belfast.

A workshop to be held in December 2014 to explore an understanding of Health Literacy within the context of Belfast will examine models of practice locally and across the UK and Ireland and agree a way forward with partners and stakeholders in Belfast.

# WHO International Healthy Cities Conference October 2014 Athens



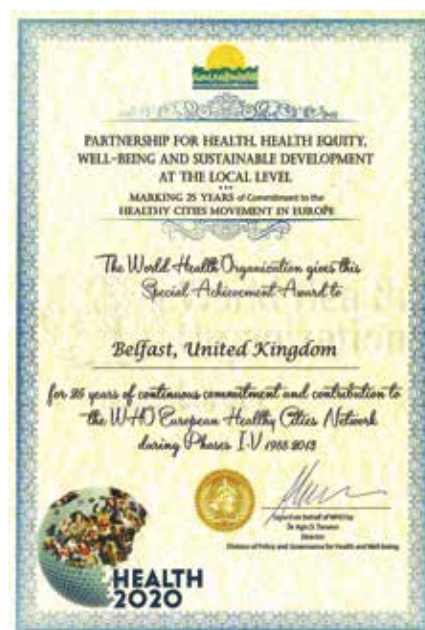
The theme of the International conference was Health and the City: Urban Living in the Twenty First Century- visions and best solutions for cities committed to health and well-being. Belfast worked closely with colleagues in WHO Europe and in Athens to develop and manage the scientific programme. Each day had a special theme: Healthy Cities lessons learned - making a difference; Mayors can make the difference; Designing healthy cities - city tourism and health; Smart and innovative cities - Creating happy and resilient cities.

The Belfast delegation included Councillor Matt Garrett, Councillor Colin Keenan and Damian Connolly representing Belfast City Council and Nigel McMahan, John McMullan and Mary McDonnell representing the Belfast Healthy Cities Board of Directors. They participated in a programme that shared global learning and expertise with Belfast Healthy Cities presenting five case studies and two poster



presentations citing good practice in Belfast, including work carried out in the past year on child friendly places, walkability and healthy urban planning indicators.

Cllr Keenan, Vice Chair of the Health and Environmental Services Committee, Belfast City Council, was invited by the World Health Organization to address the official conference opening session alongside representatives from other longstanding healthy cities. He also signed the Athens Declaration for Healthy



Cities on behalf of the city of Belfast.

Belfast also received a special achievement award in recognition of successful participation in five WHO European Healthy Cities phases (1988-2013). The conference was attended by 500 participants representing 54 countries worldwide and celebrated 25 years of the Healthy Cities movement.

## Belfast a WHO European Healthy City

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### National Healthy Cities Networks - UK and Ireland

The Belfast Secretariat continued to support the development of the WHO National Healthy Cities Network of Ireland, which was successfully accredited as a WHO National Network in October 2014. Belfast is a full member of the UK Healthy City Network.

### WHO Secretariat

Belfast Healthy Cities continues as WHO Secretariat to the WHO European Healthy Cities Networks, having been awarded the contract for 2014-2015. Belfast administered the designation process for cities to become members and in the first year of Phase VI (2014-2018), 31 cities are now officially WHO Healthy Cities. The process continues with application submissions from across WHO Europe being received.

The results of the evaluation of Phase V (2009-2013) were presented at the 2014 International Healthy Cities conference in October, celebrating the end of the phase.

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### WHO European Healthy Cities Network Case Studies

Belfast Healthy Cities has developed a resource to share learning from the WHO European Healthy Cities Network with partners locally. It collates and classifies abstracts and case studies from the Network's annual business and technical conferences. This year, new thematic documents covering

a range of WHO topics, including Healthy Urban Environments, Healthy Ageing and Health Equity in All Policies have also been developed. Abstract documents are available on the Belfast Healthy Cities website, with case studies available upon request.





# WHO Healthy Cities Phase VI (2014-2018) Application Workshop

## WHO Healthy Cities Phase VI (2014-2018) Application Workshop

In January 2014, Belfast Lord Mayor, Máirtín Ó Muilleoir hosted a workshop at City Hall to identify the priorities to be included in the Phase VI (2014-2018) application. It was facilitated by Irene Hewitt and was attended by Chief Executives and Senior Officers from across public agencies and government departments. Café style sessions identified

the priorities relevant to the local context to be taken forward within the application.

In May, a full application for designation on behalf of the city was made by Belfast Lord Mayor Cllr Máirtín Ó Muilleoir and Dr Eddie Rooney, Chief Executive, Public Health Agency. After consideration by the WHO

Regional Office for Europe, Belfast's designation to WHO Healthy Cities Phase VI (2014-2018) in October was confirmed by the Director of the World Health Organization's Regional Office for Europe, Zsuzsanna Jakab. The decision was welcomed by all stakeholders in the city who look forward to another successful WHO phase.

## Communications



**Website:** Over the summer months the Belfast Healthy Cities website has been redeveloped with a fresh new look and improved navigation. The next stage of development will be improvement of information sections to allow easier access to WHO resources. We have also introduced video content, including shareable content from conferences.

**Social media:** Twitter continues to develop as a key communication channel for Belfast Healthy Cities. Followers have doubled in the past year to 1200. It has been particularly effective for distributing information relating to events and sharing WHO resources. This year at the WHO International Healthy Cities Conference Belfast Healthy Cities was amongst the top five tweeters globally. Belfast Healthy Cities can be followed @BelfastHealthy

**Information service:** The service continues to redistribute Departmental and WHO news releases to a list of 1500 subscribers.

## Charitable Status

In June 2014, as part of a new legal process for charity registration in Northern Ireland, Belfast Healthy Cities applied to The Charity Commission for Northern Ireland for charitable status. Registration was confirmed in September 2014 and Belfast Healthy Cities will make an annual return and report to the Commission beginning in 2015.

## Political Engagement

In May 2014, ahead of the local council and European elections, Belfast Healthy Cities developed a briefing for candidates. It provided essential information on putting 'health & place' into planning policy and addressing health inequalities. A similar briefing will be produced in 2015 for candidates for the Westminster and Northern Ireland Assembly Elections.



# Belfast Healthy Cities Project Limited

(A company limited by guarantee)

## Independent auditor's report to the trustees of Belfast Healthy Cities Project Limited

We have audited the financial statements of Belfast Healthy Cities Project Limited for the year ended 31 March 2014 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

## Respective responsibilities of trustees and auditors

As explained more fully in the Trustees' Responsibilities Statement, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view.

Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's (APB's) Ethical Standards for Auditors.

## Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the company's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the trustees; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, we read all the

financial and non-financial information in the annual report to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

## Opinion on financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2014 and of its incoming resources, including its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

## Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006.

In our opinion the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.



**Mr Robert Barr ACA**  
(Senior Statutory Auditor)  
For and on behalf of

Muldoon & Co, Statutory Auditor  
Chartered Accountants &  
Reporting Accountants  
16 Mount Charles  
Belfast  
BT7 1NZ


# Belfast Healthy Cities Project Limited

(A company limited by guarantee)

Balance sheet as at 31 March 2014

	Notes	2014		2013	
		£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	11		4,334		5,407
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	12	24,732		156,366	
Cash at bank and in hand		319,907		128,475	
		<u>344,639</u>		<u>284,841</u>	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	13	<u>(153,498)</u>		<u>(80,388)</u>	
<b>Net current assets</b>			<u>191,137</u>		<u>204,453</u>
<b>Net assets</b>			<u>195,471</u>		<u>209,860</u>
<b>Funds</b>					
Restricted income funds			81,769		96,008
Unrestricted income funds			113,702		113,852
<b>Total funds</b>			<u>195,471</u>		<u>209,860</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board and signed on its behalf by:

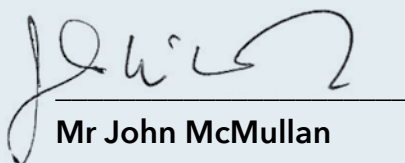


**Dr Bernadette Cullen**

Chair

11-9-14

Date



**Mr John McMullan**

Treasurer

11-9-14

Date



## Belfast Healthy Cities Board of Directors

Nigel McMahon (Chair)	Chief Environmental Health Officer	DHSSPS
John McMullan (Treasurer)	Chief Executive	Bryson Charitable Group
Neil Dunlop	Independent Member	
Dr Karen Casson	Lecturer in Health Promotion and Public Health	Division of Public Health, School of Nursing, Ulster University
Dr Bernadette Cullen	Independent Member	
Justine Daly	Urban Design Director	Turley Associates
Professor Geraint Ellis	School of Planning, Architecture and Civil Engineering	Queens University Belfast
Mary McDonnell	Acting Senior Principal Officer- Supporting People	Northern Ireland Housing Executive
Clifford McIlwaine	Area Planning Manager	Department of the Environment
Catherine McNicholl	Director of Adult Social and Primary Care Services	Belfast Health & Social Care Trust
Dr Elizabeth Mitchell	Director of Development & Capacity Building	The Institute of Public Health in Ireland
Bryan Nelson	Co-Director Public Health (A)	Belfast Health & Social Care Trust
Siobhan Toland	Head of Environmental Health	Belfast City Council
Sharon McNicholl	Corporate Planning and Policy Manager	Belfast City Council

## Belfast Healthy Cities Staff Team

Joan Devlin	Chief Executive
Maura Ahern	Corporate Services Manager
Jonna Monaghan	Health and Wellbeing Manager and Healthy Cities Co-ordinator
Caroline Scott	Support Officer
Laura McDonald	Health Development Officer (Inequalities)
Anne McCusker	Policy and Project Officer
Suzanne Miller	Information and Policy Officer
Claire McIlhatton	HUE Placement Student (Until May 2014)

## Partners and Funders

Belfast Healthy Cities would like to recognise the wide range of stakeholders and partners from the community, voluntary and public sectors, universities and government departments who have made a substantial contribution to the success of Belfast Healthy Cities programmes during the year.

Appreciation is also expressed to our core funders who have helped to make our work possible throughout 2013/14

Public Health Agency  
Belfast City Council  
Belfast Health and Social Care Trust  
Northern Ireland Housing Executive

We are also grateful to the Department for Social Development and Belfast City Council for their financial contribution to the KidsSpace programme.

## Belfast Healthy Awards 2014 Judging Panel

Honorary Chair: Gabriel Scally WHO Collaborating Centre for Healthy Urban Environments  
Chair: Healthy Living: Andrew Hassard Belfast City Council  
Chair: Promoting Health Equity: Dr Bernadette Cullen BHC Board of Directors  
Chair: Healthy Places: Justine Daly Turley Associates and BHC Board of Directors

Barbara Boardman The Conservation Volunteers  
Geraldine McAteer West Belfast Partnership Board  
Siobhan McCauley Northern Ireland Housing Executive  
Jonna Monaghan Belfast Healthy Cities  
Bryan Nelson Belfast Health and Social Care Trust & BHC Board of Directors  
Carol Ramsey DSD and Chair, Regeneration and Healthy Urban Environments Group

## Belfast Healthy Cities Working Groups

### Regeneration and Healthy Urban Environment Working Group (RHUE)

Carol Ramsey Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI)  
/Department for Social Development (Chair)

Caroline Bloomfield Public Health Agency  
Michael Corr PLACE  
Justine Daly Turley Associates  
Anne Doherty Belfast City Council  
Joan Devlin Belfast Healthy Cities  
Neil Dunlop Belfast City Council  
Professor Geraint Ellis Queens University Belfast  
Sylvia Gordon Groundwork  
Robin Hawe Northern Ireland Housing Executive  
Kim Kensett Belfast Health Development Unit  
Geraldine McAteer West Belfast Partnership Board  
Laura McDonald Belfast Healthy Cities  
Clifford McIlwaine Planning and Local Government Group  
Department of the Environment

Conor McKinney Ulster Wildlife Trust  
Nigel McMahon Department of Health Social Services & Public Safety  
Gary McNeill Belfast City Council  
Barbara Megaw Belfast Regeneration Office Department for Social Development  
Jonna Monaghan Belfast Healthy Cities  
Seamus Mullen Public Health Agency  
Bryan Nelson Belfast Health and Social Care Trust  
Claire Patterson Belfast City Council  
Gavan Rafferty Ulster University  
Paul Roberts Ashton Community Trust  
Tom Reid Department for Regional Development

## Child Friendly Places

Joan Devlin	Belfast Healthy Cities (Chair)
Elaine Black	Belfast City Council
Margaret Devlin - Hania	Belfast Health and Social Care Trust
Elma Greer	Belfast Health Development Unit
Declan Hill	Forum for Alternative Belfast
Susan Kehoe	Playboard NI
George Kirk	Police Service of Northern Ireland
Martina Lundy	Department of the Environment
Deirdre McAliskey	National Children's Bureau
Rebekah McCabe	PLACE
Roisin McCooley	Belfast Childcare Partnership
Laura McDonald	Belfast Healthy Cities
Lynne McElhinney	Department for Regional Development
Damien Martin	Northern Ireland Housing Executive
Geraldine Millican	Department for Social Development
Trevor Murphy	Belfast Education and Library Board
Paul O'Neill	Ashton Community Trust
Tom Smith	Belfast City Centre Management
Jill Trotter	Belfast Education and Library Board

## Climate Change and Health Group

Nigel McMahon	Department of Health Social Services & Public Safety (Chair)
Alex Hill	Met Office
Jonathan Bell	Northern Ireland Environment Link
John Bradley	Sustainable Development Unit
	Office First Minister & Deputy First Minister
Annie Chambers	Food Standards Agency in Northern Ireland
Seamus Camplisson	Department of Health Social Services & Public Safety
Iain Deboys	Health and Social Care Board
Damian Horisk	Belfast Health and Social Care Trust
Teresa Keating	Institute of Public Health in Ireland
Sean MacIntyre	Ulster University
Jane McCullough	Climate NI
Gary McFarlane	Chartered Institute of Environmental Health
Claire McKeown	Belfast City Council
Fionnuala McKinney	Western Health and Social Care Trust
John McMullan	Bryson Charitable Group
Anne McNally	Department of Health Social Services & Public Safety
Keith Miller	Department of Health Social Services & Public Safety (Until August 2014)
	Public Health Agency
Barbara Porter	Southern Health and Social Care Trust
Gerard Rocks	Chief Environmental Health Officers Group
Raymond Smyth	South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust
Robert Spence	Ulster University
Marie Vaganay	Public Health Agency
Gerry Waldron	Public Health Agency
Peter Wilson	Business Support Organisation

## Health Literacy

Joan Devlin	Belfast Healthy Cities (Chair)
Eimear Barrett	Queen's University Belfast
Karen Casson	Ulster University
Una Lappin	Belfast City Council
Jackie McBrinn	Belfast Strategic Partnership / Public Health Agency
Anne McCusker	Belfast Healthy Cities
Fiona Meenan	Belfast Health and Social Care Trust
Jonna Monaghan	Belfast Healthy Cities
Stephanie Tallentire	Department of Health Social Services & Public Safety





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**HSC** Belfast Health and Social Care Trust

**Housing Executive**

**HSC** Public Health Agency