



Annual Review 2016-17





Belfast

A World Health Organization

Healthy City

Belfast Healthy Cities has represented Belfast within the WHO European Healthy Cities Network since 1988, working with partner organisations and stakeholders across the city, to deliver actions that fulfil the goals of the WHO European Healthy Cities Network Phase VI (2014-2018).

Belfast Healthy Cities has almost 30 years of experience in challenging health inequalities, improving health and wellbeing for all our citizens and in working in partnership with Government at all levels.

Belfast is at the heart of the European WHO network, serving as WHO Secretariat to the WHO European Healthy Cities Network of more than 100 cities and 20 national networks.

Vision and Mission

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 wellbeing, 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 Dr David Stewart



I am very pleased to present this annual report which describes a year of significant achievement by Belfast Healthy Cities. As the new chair, I would like to thank our previous chair, Nigel McMahon, for his excellent leadership over the past three years. During this period, Belfast Healthy Cities continued to develop in its roles at both international and local levels including making a successful bid to host the 2018 International Healthy Cities Conference in Belfast. We are looking forward to the challenge of hosting this exciting event in October 2018.

Within the World Health Organization (WHO) European Healthy Cities Network, Belfast Healthy Cities plays a pivotal role through the hosting of the network secretariat at our office. In this role we have supported the evaluation of progress within cities in Phase VI (2014-2018) of the network. The network is continuing to expand and, during 2016/17, a further 20 cities made successful applications to join. There are now 103 cities in the network which provides excellent opportunities to share experience in approaches to improving health and wellbeing in cities. The work of the network is increasingly being aligned with taking action towards the achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. These 17 goals are a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity.

Through our work, Belfast Healthy Cities seeks to support both regional and city strategies for improvement. Our programmes align with Making Life Better (2013 - 2023), the 10 year public health strategic framework to improve the health and wellbeing of people in Northern Ireland. We look forward to making a significant contribution to The Belfast Agenda, the new vision for Belfast for the year 2035.

During 2016/17 we worked with our partner organisations to take forward our agreed programmes of work. Our progress in each programme is described in this report. We were delighted that Belfast has been chosen to host the UK Health Literacy conference in 2018, a clear mark of achievement by the team leading our work in this area.

The work of Belfast Healthy Cities could not move forward without the excellent support of many people and organisations. I would like to thank Ministers, Permanent Secretaries and government departments, City Council elected members, Chief Executive, senior staff, partner organisations and the many individuals and organisations who have contributed to the work of Belfast Healthy Cities during 2016/17.

I would also like to thank my colleagues on the Board of Directors for all their involvement in the work of the organisation. I would like to pay a particular tribute to our Chief Executive, Joan Devlin and our team of dedicated staff who make a huge commitment to delivering our work in improving health both in Belfast and across Europe.

Dr David Stewart
Chair

Chief Executive's Report Joan Devlin



We continued to focus this year on sharing knowledge, and strengthening capacities of all sectors to achieve better, more equitable health and well-being across the city and Northern Ireland. Our pioneering cross sectoral training programmes on health literacy and reducing inequalities were hugely successful, and in such demand that we will roll them out again regionally in early 2018. It was a privilege to work closely with colleagues in University of Groningen, the Netherlands, Derry/Strabane Healthy Cities and the Community Development & Health Network in delivery the training.

Addressing inequalities and improving health and well-being requires changing the way in which organisations work individually and collectively. Through our capacity building programmes, organisational efforts are increased and policies refined to ensure 'striking inequalities' can be challenged.

Our programme on child friendly places has gone from strength to strength. The model has been adapted by Council and others, developing family fun days across the city. The demand to hear about our experience has led to participation in a number of European Conferences and case studies in WHO global publications.

Our evidence based publications responding to the Local Development Plan and the Belfast Agenda, firmly emphasise the potential that planning and community planning agendas have to improve health and well-being and reduce inequalities for all ages.

Adopting a collaborative approach to improving environments for health is the way forward, but remains a challenge for many organisations. Our long intersectoral experience tells us it works best when united by a common goal and the Teaching Resource, developed with schools, NIHE and PHA, is an excellent example of such.

Throughout the report, you will see highlights of our programmes delivered locally and how the city is promoted across WHO Europe. It is our privilege to hold the WHO Belfast Secretariat role and to represent the city at many WHO Conferences across Europe. Our programmes are delivered through our partner organisations and facilitated by a small committed team whose skills and resilience operate in an innovative and changing environment. Our Board of Directors provide strategic direction.

My thanks to the staff team for their enthusiasm and dedication; to the Board of Directors for their encouragement and commitment; special thanks to the chair who provides leadership and inspiration to all of us. Collectively it has been another successful and busy year and I very much look forward to working with colleagues in delivering a successful World Health Organization International Healthy Cities Conference in Belfast in 2018.

Joan Devlin
Chief Executive

Regeneration & Healthy Urban Environments



Place Standard

The Scottish Place Standard is a tool developed to support agencies across sectors to engage communities in place based decision making, to gather local evidence and information and assist in priority setting. Training on the tool, jointly hosted by NHS Health Scotland and the WHO European Healthy Cities Network, took place in Edinburgh 27-28 September. Jonna Monaghan was accompanied by Geraldine McAteer, Chief Executive of West Belfast Partnership and Belfast City Councilor, to the event.

Interest in piloting the tool has been explored with Belfast City Council and all four Belfast Area Partnerships, with particular interest expressed by Belfast City Council in relation to the Ulster University campus regeneration community engagement work. Plans are underway to bring members of the intersectoral Place Standard team to Belfast for information and training in 2018.

Regeneration & Healthy Urban Environments (RHUE) group / Healthy Places group

Following consultation with group members, the RHUE and Child Friendly Places groups have now merged, as Healthy Places.

Book chapter in publication on Healthy Urban Environments

Belfast Healthy Cities contributed a chapter on the Belfast experience of developing HUE work in a book being edited by a team of Italian academics. The content focuses on developing relationships and strengthening understanding through demonstration initiatives.

Royal Town Planning Institute Urban Thinkers Campus

Jonna Monaghan presented our work on child friendly places in a workshop at the international Urban Thinkers Campus in Belfast 31 May-1 June. The workshop focus was on 'How can inner city communities be healthy'.

Belfast Agenda and LDP Preferred Options Paper

Belfast Healthy Cities held a breakfast seminar held in City Hall on 29 June to launch consultation responses to Belfast City Council's Belfast Agenda and Local Development Plan (LDP) Preferred Options Paper. The seminar was attended by a number of Councillors and senior decision makers from across the City.

Tackling Inequalities in a Fast Changing City: Health at the Heart of the Belfast Agenda highlights how the Belfast Agenda can maximise its impact on reducing inequalities across the city. The publication provides examples and outlines policy directions targeting inequalities while meeting the wider aims of the Belfast Agenda. Its emphasis is on joined up approaches across priorities, which are found essential to achieve sustainable outcomes.



A Plan Fit for Children: Health at the Heart of the Local Development Plan provides an overview of how the LDP can meet its aim to create a livable, healthy and prosperous city, through a focus on child friendly places. This publication focuses on evidence and examples illustrating how children's needs can be at the heart of the Plan in a way that enhances its other aims.

UK-Ireland Planning Research Conference

Belfast Healthy Cities hosted a roundtable on Child Friendly Places: The State of the Art, at the UK-Ireland Planning Research Conference organized by Queen's University Belfast 11-13 September. Chaired by Dr David Stewart as Chair of Belfast Healthy Cities, the roundtable included presentations by Dr Neil Galway, QUB on current examples and links to policy; Fearghal Murray, MMAS Architects on work in a north Belfast interface area on reimagining the spaces; and Belfast Healthy Cities on experience to date. Professor Geraint Ellis, QUB acted as discussant in the session, which offered an opportunity to explore future directions for practice as well as research.

Child Friendly Places



Child friendly tools

An initial draft of a checklist and guidelines for engaging children has been developed with QUB following our experience of engaging children in the teaching resource and KidsSpace.

Contribution to ARUP 'Living Cities' series

Belfast Healthy Cities was invited to share experiences with a team from ARUP developing a guidance book on child friendly places, as part of a series on emerging key future themes. The work will be featured as a case study and the experiences of Belfast Healthy Cities will inform recommendations in the book.

KidsSpace

Three KidsSpace events were delivered in August-September. These included an event in St Anne's Square as part of the First Thursday's initiative of the Destination CQ Business Improvement District; an event delivered as part of a community fun day in the Care Zone area, and an event supporting Culture Night, which was attended by approximately 700 people. Exploratory meetings have taken place with Belfast City Council to consider child friendly places within the city centre.

Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) collaboration

The 2017-18 teaching resource roll out will include an award for the best proposal, in a collaboration with Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI). RTPI will sponsor an award, initially for 2017-18 but with potential for an extension.



European Healthy Cities Business and Annual Technical Conference 1-3 March, Pécs, Hungary

The Child Friendly Places approach along with the teaching resource were presented at the annual conference in Pécs and were well received. Interest from a number of cities to pilot or adapt the resource, and work is underway to identify potential partnerships and options to share the resource across the European Network.



Climate change and health

Climate NI Health and Wellbeing Network

The new group operating as an intersectoral network has been established and a number of initial activities explored. The initial focus will be on developing and piloting a virtual information sharing network, which will be supported by Climate NI.

An online information sharing platform has been developed to initiate the network and encourage a wider range of stakeholders to participate in activities. The platform is initially being piloted with members of the former Climate Change and Health Partnership.



Demonstration Projects

Several demonstration projects have arisen from the Healthy Places, Healthy Children schools project in 2016. Schools within the 'Care Zone' area have been supported by Clanmil Housing and local Councillors in developing outdoor classroom space and painting school railings.

Northern Ireland Housing Executive is liaising with those schools who took part in the 2017-18 pilot to explore options for developing proposals further.

St Kevin's Primary School, which participated in the 2015-16 Healthy Places, Healthy Children pilot, successfully applied for an Active Belfast grant of £9000 to make their playground more child friendly.



Healthy Places, Healthy Children

Teaching resource pilot 2016-17

A second stage pilot of the schools' resource was undertaken and included rural and semi-rural schools. Teacher training to support delivery of the resource took place for schools, and professionals from Queen's University Belfast (QUB), Belfast City Council (BCC), Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE) and the Public Health Agency (PHA) attended to discuss children's initial proposals and answer questions from the teachers. The children's work generated some interesting discussion. QUB also presented on the area of child friendly places and demonstrated examples of good practice and examples from further afield. BCC presented on the Belfast Agenda and Local Development Plan. Belfast Healthy Cities also facilitated teacher training in the Derry/Strabane area. Six schools from this area will take part in the project.

Refinement of the tool following the 2016-17 pilot has been completed; elements added to the resource include a focus on air quality and noise, which are key issues in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). A new publication highlighting the proposals of the schools piloting the resource and the resource development process has been added to the pack to provide a record that can also act as a stand-alone publication demonstrating the approach.

Healthy Places, Healthy Children - Celebration events

As over 400 children participated in the pilot, two celebration events were organised to celebrate the work of the children and give them a platform to present proposals developed as part of the teaching resource to senior decision makers and elected representatives.

The celebration events were held in Girdwood Community Hub and we were delighted that the Lord Mayor, Cllr Nuala McAllister, was able to attend both events. It was also very positive that nominees from the Council's Area Working Groups for North, South, and West Belfast were able to participate in the panel providing feedback to schools. Cllr Geraldine McAteer, Cllr Charlene O'Hara and Cllr JJ Magee participated. The panel at each event consisted of representatives from the Public Health Agency (PHA), Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE) and Belfast City Council (BCC) Planning Team.

A separate event was organised for St Mary's Kircubbin by Ards and North Down District Council, involving the Mayor and Council directors. Derry and Strabane Healthy Cities also hosted an event for schools participating in the pilot in the Derry City and Strabane District Council area. Belfast Healthy Cities participated in both events, which highlighted opportunities to continue developing and rolling out the resource regionally.



Health Literacy

Introduction to Health Literacy training

Collaboration on health literacy with PHA Northern Area continued with a third 'Introduction to health literacy' half day programme delivered in early March 2017. The programme received positive feedback confirming strong interest and clear links with other programmes.



Health Literacy Communication Training for Health Professionals

More than 30 participants took part in the Health Literacy Communication Training pilot programmes, which took place in Belfast and Derry & Strabane. The programme was delivered in partnership with Community Development Health Network and participants were encouraged and supported to develop action plans to sustain behavioural change on health literacy within their organisations.

This pilot programme included a research element in the form of a series of questionnaires. The research element is coordinated by University Medical Centre Groningen, and a report is expected in 2018. A request for a separate report of findings for Northern Ireland will be made to support development of future options for work on health literacy. Participants developed action plans as a result of their training which were reported to the university as part of the pilot.



UK Health Literacy conference

Belfast will host the UK Health Literacy conference, entitled 'Health Literacy – Making Life Better' on Friday 16 February 2018. The Chief Medical Officer will provide the opening address for the conference and Don Nutbeam, Professor of Public Health at the University of Sydney and a leading expert in developing the health literacy concept, will provide the keynote address. The Health Literacy working group will assist in the planning of the conference.

Training on health literacy with professional groups and community members will form part of the programme in 2018.



Health Equity in All Policies

Reducing Inequalities: Getting Results seminar



The 'Reducing Inequalities: Getting Results' seminar took place at Queen's University Belfast on 18 January 2017. More than 100 professionals came together to hear speakers from Slovenia and Manchester share their experience of tackling inequalities through direct policy action and preventative measures. Delegates were welcomed by Cllr Tim Attwood, Deputy Chair of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee of Belfast City Council.

The key speaker was Dr Mojca Gobec, Public Health Director General at the Ministry of Health, Slovenia, which has been highlighted by WHO Europe as a good practice example of effectively reducing inequalities. Other speakers included Paul Etches, Area Manager, Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service; Malachy Corcoran, Assistant Principal Officer, Health and Wellbeing Programme at the Department of Health in the Republic of Ireland, and Mark Browne, Director of Strategic Policy, Equality and Good Relations in The Executive Office.

Reducing Inequalities: Getting Results Flagship Training Programme

The pilot of this programme was completed with a total of 20 participants from key partner agencies as well as a number of voluntary sector agencies. Feedback from participants was positive and identified an interest to develop in house programmes, including short taster sessions and introductory half day programmes on reducing inequalities.

We were grateful to the Chief Medical Officer, Dr Michael McBride, and Chief Executives of our partner organisations for their support with the programme. A new programme will run in early 2018.

Belfast City Council's locality planning pilots

We provided initial support to a Locality Planning pilot in Whiterock, west Belfast and also in Belvoir and Milltown.

Care Zone

Belfast Healthy Cities are supporting the development of the Care Zone initiative in north Belfast, led by Jo Murphy, Lighthouse and other local groups, which forms part of implementing recommendations from the Future Search process on addressing suicide. The contribution has included development of an initial draft profile of the area, collating statistical data at local area level to support action planning for the Care Zone area. A qualitative element exploring community views is also being developed.

Care Zone Community event

Belfast Healthy Cities hosted KidsSpace as part of a community event in August, building on the success of the Action Cancer Bus and Concert for Hope, organised locally.

Policy & Public Affairs Question Time:

Election hustings event: How can we make Belfast a healthier city?

An election debate took place in February in collaboration with the MAC. All five main parties were invited to the debate, chaired by BBC health correspondent Marie-Louise Connolly. The debate involved Claire Hanna, SDLP, Pat Sheehan, Sinn Fein and Mike Nesbitt, UUP.

More than 70 participants from the wider health sector attended the debate. The diverse discussion at the hustings explored responses to the increasing need for mental health services, options for strengthening collaboration within the



health sector and across sectors, and making breastfeeding a cultural norm in Northern Ireland. The role of city design and planning to create a safer city was also explored, in a discussion that emphasised the role of the built environment in creating child and family friendly cities and encouraging active lifestyles.

Open University - Promoting Public Health

Belfast Healthy Cities was invited to contribute to a video being developed by the Open University for its Promoting Public Health course. The interview focused on developments in the city and within the Healthy Cities movement over the last 10 years, and will replace a video Belfast Healthy Cities contributed to during Phase IV (2003- 2008) .

Northern Ireland Local Government Association (NILGA) Wellbeing resource

As part of a seminar programme, NILGA invited Belfast Healthy Cities to develop a wellbeing resource for its members. This was followed up with a number of bulletins for members on topics such as methods for community engagement and measurement of wellbeing frameworks.

Healthy City Explorer bursary

Applications for the 2017 Healthy City Explorer Bursary covered a range of sectors and were of high quality. The judging panel awarded the bursary to Dervilia Kernaghan of Cancer Focus NI, who visited Barcelona in November to look at how public health information is provided to older people; how social isolation of older people is addressed, both as preventative measures to promote healthy lifestyle in cancer prevention.

Age Friendly Cities

WHO Healthy Ageing Task Force

Creating Age-Friendly Environments in Europe (AFEE): A tool for local policy-makers and planners was presented to Healthy Ageing Strategic Partnership (HASP) Members and suggested as a tool to support the strategic review of the group.

Work is underway to introduce an initial tool for local policy-makers and planners developed by member cities of the Healthy Ageing Task Force to stakeholders across the age sector in Northern Ireland, with a view to developing an action plan to support age-friendly approaches across Northern Ireland.

Queens University Belfast Healthy Urban Living and Ageing in Place project (HULAP)

Belfast Healthy Cities is supporting Work Package 6 of this project, which focuses on knowledge exchange between the academic sector and other sectors. Aims and objectives have been completed for a study visit to Curitiba in Brazil, where the project partner university is located, which took place in December. A number of public and voluntary sector partners are also involved.



Healthy Ageing Task Force (HATF) Meeting, Udine, Italy



A meeting of the Healthy Ageing Task Force took place in Udine, in October and launched the final Age-Friendly Environments in Europe (AFEE) tools, including: A tool for local policy-makers and planners; indicators, monitoring and assessments; A handbook of domains for policy action.

Future areas of priority were also identified: Silver Economy; Ageing in Place; Road Safety and Mobility; Nutrition and Men's Health.

PHA Community Active Travel programme

Belfast Healthy Cities is undertaking a series of walkability assessments in each community participating in this project, which is coordinated by Sustrans. The aim of assessments is to provide a baseline for each community identifying barriers and drivers for active travel. Belfast Healthy Cities took responsibility for introducing the assessment process to communities, while a range of marketing materials will also be developed.

Walkability Assessment for Healthy Ageing

We presented our Age Friendly work to the Belfast City Council All Party Reference Group on Older People in April. A meeting with Transport NI is being organised through IMTAC, to identify how it can support operational delivery. Initial interest to integrate the tool into Department for Infrastructure (DfI) policy has also been expressed, in addition to interest from DfI to build on Belfast Healthy Cities' experience in the area to strengthen policy on walking. A meeting with a representative from DfI, took place in December to explore opportunities and work is underway to follow up on this.

Belfast - WHO Europe

67th session of the World Health Organization Regional Committee for Europe, Budapest

Belfast Healthy Cities Chief Executive Joan Devlin attended the 67th session of the World Health Organization Regional Committee for Europe, in Budapest, representing Belfast and the WHO European Belfast Healthy Cities Secretariat. Joan took part in a panel discussion entitled 'Roadmap to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, building on the Health 2020 policy framework.' It was the first time, the European Healthy Cities Network was represented at the WHO Regional Committee Meeting, alongside the 53 member states of WHO Europe.

The event examined opportunities and challenges for 21st-century public health in implementing the Sustainable Development Goals and the Health 2020 policy framework and also included progress reports on the implementation of the European action plan to reduce the harmful use of alcohol 2012–2020, the European food and nutrition action plan 2015–2020, and the European mental health action plan. The Prime Minister of Greece and the deputy Prime Minister of Turkey presented their experiences on promoting health amidst the respective migrant and economic crises.



Belfast - WHO Europe

Annual Meeting of the Healthy Cities National Network - Prague



The Annual Meeting of the Healthy Cities National Networks took place in Prague, 18-20 September. This meeting was jointly arranged with the WHO Regional Office and attended by National Network politicians for the first time. The meeting report was produced by the Belfast Secretariat as well as some of the meeting facilitation.

2017 Healthy Cities Annual Business and Technical Conference, 1-3 March 2017 Pécs, Hungary

In March 2017, the staff team participated in and contributed to the scientific programme of the WHO Healthy Cities Network and Network of European Healthy Cities Business and Technical Conference in Pécs, Hungary. Three case studies and a poster were presented on the topics of Child Friendly Places, Capacity Building, Health Literacy and Health Inequalities.

At the Pécs conference, Belfast was announced as the host city for the 2018 WHO International Healthy Cities Conference.

The Sixth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health, Ostrava.



The Sixth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health was held in Ostrava, Czech Republic, 13-15 June. Organised by the World Health Organization for Europe in partnership with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and the United Nations Environment Programme, the three day event saw 500 representatives from the 53 countries of the European Region, international and nongovernmental organisations meet to track progress and priorities future action on environmental risks to health which culminated in the signing of the Ostrava Declaration.

The Belfast Healthy Cities Chair, Dr David Stewart and the Health Development Manager, Jonna Monaghan, attended the conference representing the UK Healthy Cities Network, and were invited to participate in one of the conference side events - "Cities and regions: building environmental and social resilience in the context of the global environmental changes" which was organised in partnership with the Lord Mayor of the City of Ostrava; the Governor of the Moravian-Silesian Region; the Czech Healthy Cities Network; the European Committee of the Regions, and the WHO Regions for Health Network.

Belfast Ambassador Award

Belfast Healthy Cities has been awarded with a Belfast Ambassador award by Visit Belfast. The Award was made at a special event in the Titanic Hotel Belfast to celebrate the efforts of over 150 of Belfast and Northern Ireland's academic, medical and professional organisations to recognise their focused efforts in positively promoting the city as an inspiring place to meet, share ideas, transfer learning and do business.



WHO European Healthy Cities Political Vision Group, Cork, September 2017.

In September the WHO European Healthy Cities Network Political Vision Group met in Cork to discuss the future direction of the Healthy Cities network in Europe and provide knowledge on local government issues to improve health of the populations. The event was hosted by the Lord Mayor of Cork, Cllr Tony Fitzgerald, and Joan Devlin was joined by Cllr Brian Heading in representing Belfast with delegates from six Healthy Cities.

The meeting of the group in Cork looked at how healthy cities can support one another, and looked at establishing the best way to exchange information on how solutions to challenging issues can be found.

The Political Vision Group was set up by WHO Europe to engage politicians to support



and guide the strategic approach of Healthy Cities. It provides political input on local level knowledge to the future strategic direction of Healthy Cities. The work of this group helps cities improve their citizens health, and strengthens the effectiveness of the network. The work of this group will be launched next year at the International Healthy Cities Conference in Belfast.

'Well-being for all – equity and health'

Belfast Healthy Cities Chief Executive, Joan Devlin, attended the 'Well-being for all – equity and health' conference organised by the City of Reykjavik and Directorate of Health, Reykjavik. Joan gave a presentation on 'Healthy Cities – Connected for Health' including the experience of Belfast being a healthy city across all six phases since the inception of the European Healthy Cities Network.

Joan also facilitated a further workshop with key staff from the Directorate of Health and City of Reykjavik on the health equity tool developed in Belfast.



New Belfast Health Cities Website

We have recently launched the new look Belfast Healthy Cities website, which will make it even easier for you to keep up with our work.

Visit us at www.belfasthealthycities.com.



WHO International Healthy Cities Conference Belfast, 1st - 4th October 2018

The World Health Organization (WHO) has announced that the 2018 WHO International Healthy Cities Conference will take place in Belfast. Belfast Healthy Cities

and its partner organisations will host the event which is expected to attract over 800 delegates from across the six WHO Global Regions in October 2018.

The 2018 International Healthy Cities Conference will mark the 30th anniversary of the Healthy Cities network and in fact will be the 30th anniversary of the establishment of Belfast Healthy Cities. The main conference venue will be the Waterfront Hall, but it is Belfast Healthy Cities' aim to ensure that it is not confined to one venue, and site visits are being organised which take in all that Belfast has to offer, including a walking, cycling (and maybe even a running) tour, and engagement with our vibrant community and voluntary sector.



Belfast City Council gave support to the bid to host the event and Belfast Lord Mayor Nuala McAllister welcomed the successful outcome: "Securing the 2018 International WHO Healthy Cities Conference is excellent news for Belfast. Not only because it will help us to address health inequalities with our partners – which is a key pillar of the Belfast Agenda - but also because hosting this conference will result in increased spend in the city, showcase Belfast as a great place to visit and do business and further enhance our international connections."

Planning for the conference is underway and a delegation from Belfast Healthy Cities travelled to Copenhagen in September to meet with the WHO delegation, headed by Monika Kosinska, who was joined by Stephanie Brickman, WHO Healthy Cities Communications consultant; Srdan Matic, WHO Europe, Unit Head, Non communicable Diseases and Environment; Francesca Racioppi, Senior Adviser, Environment & Health; Manfred Huber, WHO Coordinator, Healthy Ageing, Disability and Long Term Care, and Porcia Maley, WHO Healthy Cities.

The Conference website will soon be launched and more details of the conference speakers will be posted over coming months, as well as details on registration.

www.healthycitiesbelfast2018.com



Belfast Healthy Cities' Board of Directors

Dr David Stewart, Chair	Independent
Dr Karen Casson, Vice Chair	Ulster University
Mr Michael Gibbs, Treasurer	Different Tracks Global
Dr Bernadette Cullen	Independent
Ms Justine Daly	Urban Villages
Mr Neil Dunlop	Independent
Prof Geraint Ellis	Queen's University Belfast
Mr Robin Hawe	Northern Ireland Housing Executive
Dr Elizabeth Mitchell	Independent
Mr Nigel McMahon	Department of Health
Ms Sharon McNicholl	Belfast City Council
Mr Danny McQuillan	Extern Group
Mr Bryan Nelson	Belfast Health and Social Care Trust
Ms Carol Ramsey	Department for Infrastructure

Staff Team

Joan Devlin	Chief Executive/WHO Healthy Cities Secretariat
Jonna Monaghan	Health and Wellbeing Manager
Julie McAllister	PA/Office Manager
Anne McCusker	Policy and Projects Officer
Laura McDonald	Health Development Officer (until September 2017)
Caroline Scott	Support Officer/WHO Healthy Cities Secretariat

Healthy Places Group

Andrew Grieve	Department for Infrastructure
Anne Doherty	Belfast City Council
Anne Tohill	Department for Infrastructure
Barry Smyth	Alzheimer's Society
Bryan Nelson	Belfast Health & Social Care Trust
Ciaran Donnelly	Department for Communities
Claire Patterson	Belfast City Council
Damien Martin	Northern Ireland Housing Executive
Diane McIntyre	Public Health Agency
Elma Greer	Belfast Health Development Unit
Gary McNeill	Belfast City Council
Gavan Rafferty	Ulster University
Geraint Ellis	Queen's University, Belfast
Geraldine McAteer	West Belfast Partnership Board
Joy Hargie	Department for Infrastructure
Justine Daly	Strategic Investment Board
Lillian Hanna	Department for Infrastructure
Margaret Devlin-Hania	Belfast Health & Social Care Trust
Martina Lundy	Belfast City Council
Neil Dunlop	Independent
Nigel McMahon	Department of Health
Paul O'Neill	Ashton Community Trust
Paul Roberts	Ashton Community Trust
Rebekah McCabe	PLACE
Robin Hawe	Northern Ireland Housing Executive
Seamus Mullen	Public Health Agency
Stephen Leonard	Belfast City Council
Tom Reid	Department for Infrastructure

Health Literacy Working Group

Bernadette Cullen	BHC Board Member, Chair
Louise Hales	Queen's University Belfast
Fiona Meenan	Belfast Health and Social Care Trust
Karen Casson	Ulster University
Kate Fleck	Arthritis Care
Maresa McGettigan	Cancer Focus NI
Kathy Martin	Community Development Health Network
Stephanie Tallentire	Department of Health
Joan Devlin	Belfast Healthy Cities
Anne McCusker	Belfast Healthy Cities

Financial Report

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT to the Members of Belfast Healthy Cities Project Limited (A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

We have audited the financial statements of Belfast Healthy Cities Project Limited for the year ended 31 March 2017 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities (incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account), the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement, the Accounting Policies 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).

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As explained more fully in the Statement of Directors' Responsibilities, the directors 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 Practice Board'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 directors; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the Directors' 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 company's affairs as at 31 March 2017 and of the group's incoming resources and application of 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.

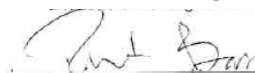
Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the directors were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing the Directors' Annual Report.



Mr Robert Barr (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of
MULDOON & CO
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Belfast
BT7 1NZ


Date: 31 July 2017

Belfast Healthy Cities Project Limited (A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital) Company Number: NI031042 BALANCE SHEET as at 31 March 2017

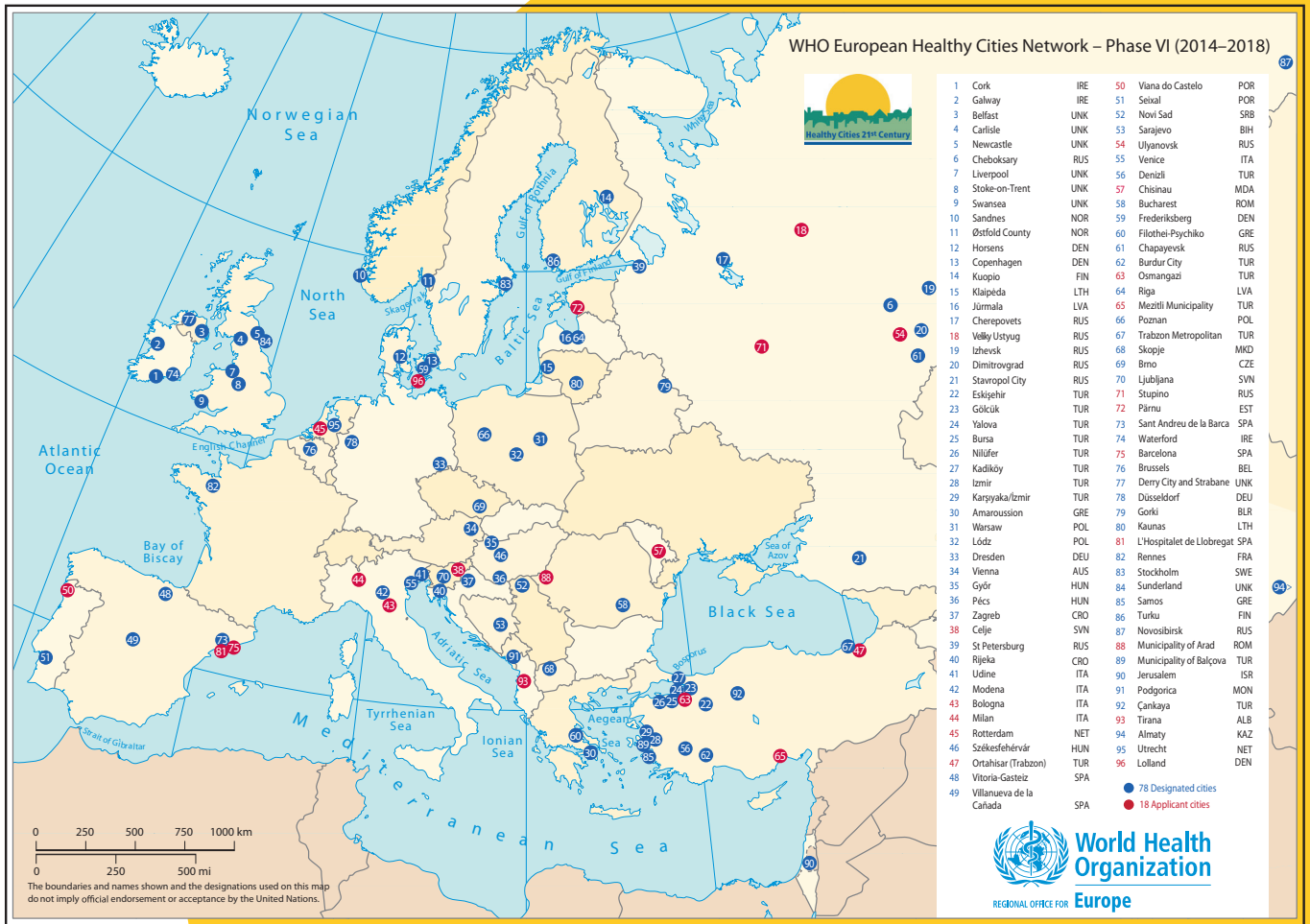
	Notes	2017 £	2016 £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible assets	6	3,088	3,009
Current Assets			
Debtors	7	57,873	66,659
Cash and cash equivalents		279,427	223,535
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	8	337,300 (63,285)	290,194 (54,626)
Net Current Assets		274,015	235,568
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		277,103	238,577
Funds			
Restricted trust funds		-	-
Unrestricted designated funds		277,103	82,000
General fund (unrestricted)		-	156,577
Total funds	10	277,103	238,577

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the board and authorised for issue on 31 July 2017 and signed on its behalf by



Dr David Stewart
Director



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Company Reg No NI31042
Registered with The Charity
Commission for Northern Ireland
NIC100587



HSC Belfast Health and
Social Care Trust

HSC Public Health
Agency

Northern Ireland Housing Executive