



Belfast
A World Health Organization
Healthy City



Annual Review 2018







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 fulfill the goals of each of the WHO European Healthy Cities Network Phases.

Belfast Healthy Cities has 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 since 2008 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.
- partners impact on health and inequalities.

Chair's Report

Dr David Stewart



I am very pleased to present this Annual Review which describes a very exciting and productive year in the life of Belfast Healthy Cities.

The highlight of the year was undoubtedly the successful hosting of the World Health Organization International Healthy Cities Conference, Changing Cities to Change the World, which took place in Belfast Waterfront, 1-4 October 2018. The conference marked 30 years of the WHO European Healthy Cities Network and the conclusion of the Phase VI (2014 – 2018) of the work of the European Healthy Cities Network with many presentations describing the action which had been carried out in cities across Europe and other WHO regions.

The conference delegates supported the adoption of the Belfast Charter which will guide the work of the next phase of the Network. Phase VII will focus on the six key themes of People; Place; Participation; Prosperity; Peace; and Planet. Belfast Healthy Cities looks forward to working with organisations across the city to develop innovative programmes in relation to these themes for the next five years.

The 18-month period between the announcement by WHO that the Belfast bid to host the conference had been successful and the event taking place was an exceptionally busy period for everyone involved. I am very grateful for all the support of our partner organisations, the members of the Steering Committee and the BHC Staff Team which led to the success of the conference. It provided a unique opportunity to showcase many of the excellent health improvement initiatives taking place in Belfast to an international audience. I would like to thank all the organisations who facilitated this through hosting side events and site visits.

During 2018 we worked with our partner organisations to take forward our agreed programmes of action. Our progress in each programme is described in this report. We were particularly pleased that Belfast was chosen to host the UK Health Literacy conference which was a very successful event, held in Queen's University, Belfast, in February 2018.

I would like to thank Permanent Secretaries and government departments, City Council elected members, Chief Executives, senior staff, partner organisations and the many individuals and organisations who have contributed to the work of Belfast Healthy Cities during the past year.

I would also like to thank my colleagues on the Board of Directors, Conference Steering Group members, our Chief Executive, Joan Devlin, and our team of dedicated staff for all their contributions to the organisation during this exceptionally busy and successful year.

Dr David Stewart
Chair



Chief Executive's Report Joan Devlin

2018 was a year of celebration for Belfast Healthy Cities. The city of Belfast celebrated thirty years of being a member of the World Health Organization European Healthy Cities Network and we were honoured to host the WHO International Healthy Cities Conference, with almost 600 participants from 60 countries representing every WHO global region, including Mayors, political and health leads from more than 200 cities.

WHO indicated 'it was an excellent four days and a wonderful way to celebrate 30 years of the movement. It was a privilege to have been so well-hosted by the city of Belfast, and we are very grateful for the support of Belfast Healthy Cities in organizing the International Healthy Cities Conference this year'.

Earlier in 2018, on 6 February, we hosted the annual UK Health Literacy Conference, another hugely successful event with much learning, many contacts and networks being established locally and across Ireland and the UK as a result.

At the local level, our programme of work continued throughout the year with an emphasis on capacity building programmes, continuing with the Health Literacy and Health Inequalities training and adding a new training programme developed by NHS Scotland on the Place Standard Tool. Our training programmes continue to strengthen capacities of organisations: across public, third sector and community organisations, to achieve better, more equitable health.

Healthy Places, Healthy Children, a teaching resource about the relationship between the environment and health has proved really successful with primary schools and as a result the Education Authority is providing the resource online to allow all schools to access it. It will also be available on our website so that afterschool clubs and others can also use it. We were very pleased the resource received a commendation as part of the Royal Town Planning Institute Awards in London in May 2018.

Understanding health, health inequalities and the determinants of health has increased significantly across all sectors in Northern Ireland, and owes much to the work and innovation gained through membership of the WHO European Healthy Cities Network. At the end of Phase VI (2014 -2018) I would like to thank all partners and individuals who have worked collectively to deliver the Phase VI themes.

Sincere thanks go to the Board of Directors, who were very active this year in supporting the Conference, alongside the individuals who joined us as members of the Conference Steering Committee. Special thanks go to Belfast Healthy Cities Chair, Dr David Stewart who gave endless support and advice throughout this busy year. Finally, whole-hearted thanks go to the small but dedicated staff team, who made this yet another very productive and successful year.

Joan Devlin
Chief Executive

Health Literacy



Working Group

The programme on health literacy is informed and supported by across sectoral working group with representation from community, voluntary, academia and statutory sectors, including Cancer Focus NI, Community Development & Health Network, Queen's University, Belfast, Ulster University, Department of Health, Belfast Health & Social Care Trust and Public Health Agency.

5th Health Literacy UK Conference

The 5th UK Conference, Making Life Better, was hosted by Belfast Healthy Cities in Riddell Hall, Queen's University, in February in partnership with the Health Literacy Group UK. The conference allowed delegates to share current health literacy thinking, practice and research from across the UK, and was attended by over 100 health and community professionals from right across the UK. The keynote address was given by Professor Don Nutbeam, Professor of Public Health in Sydney, Australia.

Training Programme

As part of a research project led by the University Medical Centre Gronigen, the Netherlands, Health Literacy Communication training for health professionals was delivered in Belfast, Derry and Strabane. Initial findings from the research suggested that this comprehensive training significantly enhances professionals' health literacy competences and patient autonomy. The Health Literacy Communication Training for Health Professionals continues to be delivered in partnership with Community Development Health Network to a variety of health professionals including dentists, dental nurses and pharmacists. The programme was delivered through WHO Healthy Cities Network with Public Health Wales as part of the Making Every Contact Count Programme. The programme will continue to be delivered in 2019.



Age Friendly



Age Friendly Belfast

The Age Friendly Belfast Plan for 2018-2021 was launched by the Health Ageing Strategic Partnership. The key areas of work for Belfast Healthy Cities within the plan include health literacy and walkability.

WHO Healthy Cities Network Healthy Ageing Task Force continue to provide leadership, coordination and exchange on activities for healthy ageing within the WHO European Healthy Cities Network. The group met in May at WHO Regional Office for Europe in Copenhagen and in October in Belfast during the WHO International Healthy Cities Conference.

WHO International Day of Older Persons

As part of International Older People's day, two Health Ageing events were held during the WHO International Healthy Cities Conference. The Department of Health seminar was entitled 'Technology and Innovation to support active and healthy ageing.' The event, hosted by Queen's University, also held discussions on 'Ageing In Places Insights from recent UK-Brazil Research.'

Manfred Huber, WHO lead for Healthy Ageing, launched the 2018 WHO International Day of Older Persons on Monday 1st October at the Older Person's Convention in Belfast City Hall.



Healthy Places

HEALTHY PLACES, HEALTHY CHILDREN

Healthy Places, Healthy Children provides a cross curricular introduction to planning and its role in creating healthy and child friendly places. The resource offers children the opportunity to engage in researching their local environment and identifying how it could become more child friendly.

The 'Healthy Places, Healthy Children' resource was developed in consultation with the Education Authority and has been piloted by a number of primary schools in Belfast, Derry City & Strabane and Ards & North Down District Council areas between 2015 - 2017.

The resource consists of seven units and a 'Delivering Change' case study booklet that highlights the process, proposals and progress of pilot projects in various primary schools. Belfast Healthy Cities is also working to support the implementation of some of the proposals in collaboration with partners, including Northern Ireland Housing Executive.

An online version of the resource has been finalised and is now available to schools across Northern Ireland, who will be able to use the resource from early 2019.

Belfast Healthy Cities has worked with Royal Town Planning Institute Northern Ireland to make a financial award available to schools that produce a proposal developed as part of the teaching resource in the 2018-2019 school year. The Joanne Mathers award scheme offers an award of £1,000 towards the winning entry.

The resource received a commendation in the Health and Wellbeing for Planning category of the 2018 RTPI Awards. Belfast Healthy Cities attended the awards ceremony in London in May.

PLACE STANDARD

Belfast Healthy Cities has been promoting the Place Standard Tool to policymakers and community representatives as a potential vehicle for developing capacity within communities. The idea is to identify key challenges related to their local built environment and sharing these findings with relevant policymakers.

Meetings with representatives from CareZone North Belfast and other local groups have been held to scope opportunities for the organisation of future Place Standard Tool assessments in local areas. A further training event targeted towards local community representatives is being planned for early 2019.

Belfast Healthy Cities has also been exploring opportunities for utilising the Place Standard Tool for monitoring and progressing Programme for Government outcomes.



CHILD FRIENDLY CITY CENTRE

Belfast Healthy Cities has been liaising with Cathedral Quarter Business Improvement District (BID) in relation to the inclusion of child friendly elements in any future proposal for meanwhile use of spaces in and around the Cathedral Quarter.

Further engagement with the Cathedral Quarter BID public realm group is planned to bring forward the development of permanent child friendly elements in the Cathedral Quarter. Alongside this, Belfast Healthy Cities has been working with the Department for Infrastructure to ensure child friendly design elements are incorporated in the overall design parameters for the Streets Ahead Scheme.



Walkability

The Community Active Travel (CAT) Initiative is a three-year project aimed at encouraging communities in Belfast to travel more actively, both for transport and leisure purposes. The project is funded by the Public Health Agency and delivered in partnership with Sustrans. A main aim of the programme is to conduct walkability assessments of local neighbourhoods across Belfast in order to provide an insight into the community's perceptions regarding the assets and challenges of walking in local areas and to extrapolate the key issues that are relevant across the city. This year, seven walkability assessments have been completed in collaboration with local communities across the twelve CAT wards, including assessments in New Lodge, Connswater and Inner Falls.

HEALTHY PLACES WORKING GROUP

Quarterly Healthy Places working group meetings were put in place in order to strengthen cross-departmental and cross-sectoral work on improving the link between the built environment and positive public health outcomes. These meetings bring together a range of policymakers and representatives from across the academic and voluntary sectors.

Belfast Healthy Cities' work on child-friendly places and related recommendations have been shared with the Department for Infrastructure in order to encourage potential inclusion of child friendly design parameters in the upcoming tender process for 'Street Ahead Phase V'.

CLIMATE CHANGE

As a member of the Climate Change and Health Group, Belfast Healthy Cities is working to develop an online platform for hosting and disseminating good practice for counteracting the negative impact of climate change.

Belfast Healthy Cities also provided logistical support on the organisation of a seminar on the topic of Planetary Health during the WHO International Healthy Cities conference.

Healthy Urban Living and Ageing in Place (HULAP)

In mid December 2017, Belfast Healthy Cities joined a delegation that swapped the ice and snow of Belfast for four days in the city of Curitiba in southern Brazil. The aim of the trip was to learn about the city's ground breaking approach to planning and transport, and to find out about initiatives supporting older people. The trip was part of the Healthy Urban Living and Ageing in Place (HULAP) research project led by Queen's University Belfast in collaboration with the Pontiff Catholic University of Paran , based in Curitiba.

Belfast Healthy Cities is contributing to a work package aiming to encourage policy makers to use research findings more extensively in decision making, and has provided the secretariat for an Impact Advisory Group consisting of key agencies in Belfast in the built environment and ageing sectors.

During the WHO International Healthy Cities Conference, Queen's University hosted a discussion session on Ageing in Place Insights from recent UK-Brazil Research which featured highlights from Healthy Urban Living, Ageing in Place and WHO publication series Age Friendly Environment in Europe: Indicators, monitoring and assessments.

Inequalities Programme

'Reducing Inequalities: Getting Results' training programme was delivered from January to March 2018 to 25 participants from local government, community and voluntary sector, community health and elected representatives.

Two one day training sessions with key learning from Reducing Inequalities: Getting Results were delivered as follow up to the four module programme. One event was delivered to Belfast City Council and Neighbourhood services department and representatives from a number of organisations working to reduce inequalities. The feedback from participants was extremely positive and there were numerous requests for additional programmes. As a result, the four module programme will run again between January and March in 2019.

The Reducing Inequalities: Getting Results programme was presented at the WHO International Healthy Cities Conference, with the programme tools being shared with participants.

CareZone

Belfast Healthy Cities sit on the CareZone Steering Group and participate in social activities such as the Care Zone Fun Day event which took place on 15th August in aid of strengthening social support networks for residents of North Belfast.

As part of a statistical health profile that has been produced in order to highlight the key health challenges in the CareZone area, Belfast Healthy Cities has been proactively working with Lighthouse Charity and other local groups to input to the training of the community champions, to support them to conduct focus groups of residents in the area. The quantitative data from these focus groups will assist in drawing up comprehensive pictures of the main health challenges facing residents in the area, particularly those relating to depression and suicide.

Opportunities for taking forward a 'Place Standard Tool' assessment and walkability assessment of the CareZone area have been explored for the purpose of strengthening the evidence base underlying future recommendations.





World Health Organization International Healthy Cities Conference 2018

Belfast, 1st - 4th October 2018

The WHO International Healthy Cities Conference opened on 1 October 2018 in Belfast, bringing together more than 500 delegates from 60 countries and over 200 cities and celebrated 30 years of Healthy Cities as a global movement.

Participants gathered for a 4-day programme with multiple sessions under the overarching theme of "Changing cities to change the world"

Day 1

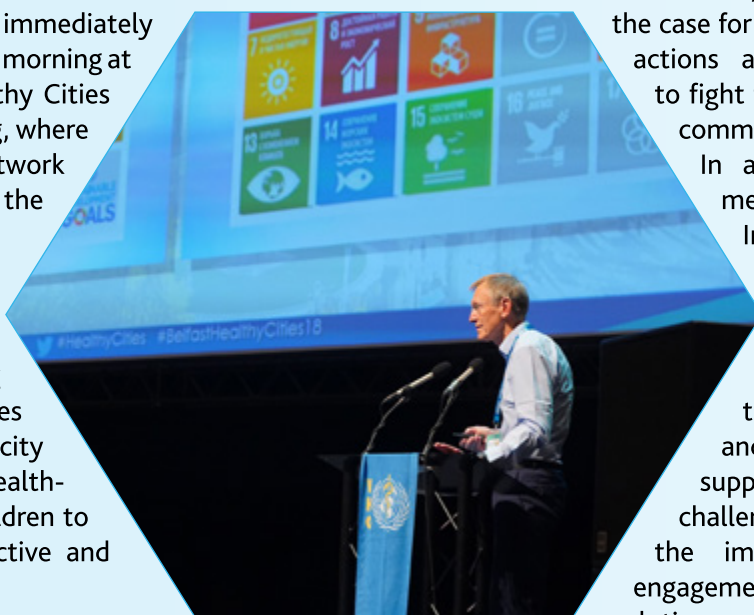
Conference delegates immediately set to work on Monday morning at the WHO European Healthy Cities Network business meeting, where voting members of the Network discussed preparations for the next phase of work.

A series of 8 concurrent side events across the city followed the meeting and highlighted examples of successful healthy city initiatives, ranging from health-promoting schools for children to technology to support active and healthy ageing.

The afternoon plenary session opened with a powerful recital of the poem "Confidence" by Mr Colin Dardis, written to mark the 70th anniversary of the United Kingdom's National Health Service.

The Deputy Lord Mayor of Belfast, Councillor Emmet McDonough-Brown, warmly welcomed participants, noting in his remarks that Belfast was the 11th city to join the Network in 1988 and has been a key member ever since.

The plenary continued with a focus on primary health care, making links to the 40th anniversary of the Declaration of Alma-Ata on primary health care.



Dr Mikkelson, a keynote speaker, made the case for why cities should prioritise actions and investments designed to fight the rising epidemic of non-communicable diseases.

In a joint session, the chief medical officers of Northern Ireland and Scotland and deputy chief medical officers of England and Wales, United Kingdom, reflected on the challenges that lead to unhealthy cities and provided ideas for how to support cities in tackling these challenges. They underscored the importance of community engagement to design effective solutions.

The day closed with 8 parallel sessions sharing good practices of multisectoral strategies for urban health, followed by a welcome reception hosted at Queen's University Belfast.

Day 2

Councillor Deirdre Hargey, Lord Mayor of Belfast, opened the second day of the Conference by expressing her hope that city leaders will have the chance to engage with counterparts from around the world and to benefit from the experience the Network has to offer.

In her opening speech on behalf of WHO, Dr Piroska Östlin, Director of the Division of Policy and Governance for Health and Well-being at WHO/Europe, noted that the Network must use the experience gained over the past 30 years to expand the healthy cities movement further throughout the world. Innovative and transformative approaches are at the heart of the movement, and these will be crucial to achieving the SDGs, using health as a cross-cutting platform.



throughout the plenary session.

The afternoon allowed participants to delve further into the themes of environment and health, peace, and urban design through 16 separate parallel sessions. The day concluded with a civic reception hosted by the Belfast City Council in the iconic Belfast City Hall.

Day 3

Staying true to the principles of a healthy city, the day started with the opportunity for participants and delegates to join an early morning run or a brisk walking tour of Belfast.

The draft Belfast Charter was presented and outlines the actions that cities will need to undertake in order to implement the political vision laid out in the Copenhagen Consensus. The draft Charter is currently open for comments, with the aim of adopting a final version at the close of the Conference on Thursday.



Dr Agis Tsouros, International Adviser for Global Healthy Cities, emphasised that the agenda and priorities of the healthy cities movement have always been consistent with the big issues now embedded within the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. He encouraged cities to “grab the big issues” and seize the opportunity to put in place credible and evidence-based urban health policies.

Dr Janez Potočnik, Co-chair of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) International Resource Panel called for a new paradigm of the circular economy. He warned that we have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to shift the expected path of urbanisation in a more environmentally sustainable and socially just direction.

Trade-offs among various Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are unavoidable, Dr Potočnik continued, because they are dependent on natural resources, but focusing on sustainable consumption and production is the best way to mitigate trade-offs and create more efficient synergies. A circular economy should be seen as part of the societal and cultural transformation needed to sustain humanity, with benefits for both the environment and health.

In keynote speeches, Dr Brandon Hamber, Professor at the International Conflict Research Institute of Ulster University, and Dr Ilona Kickbusch, Director of the Global Health Centre of the Graduate Institute (Switzerland), explored the relationship of health within development and security, peace and participation.



The necessity of co-creating solutions and bolstering civic engagement in urban life was a thread

Mr Victor Everhardt, Deputy Mayor of Utrecht, offered pioneering examples from his city, such as electrically powered boats that make deliveries throughout the city's canal network, approaches to remove cars from public spaces,

and initiatives to improve and expand bicycle paths and bicycle parking throughout the city. Participants then had the rest of the morning to join one of 18 site visits across the city of Belfast to gain first-hand experience and insight into actual projects that are making Belfast a healthier, more sustainable city to live in.

The day closed with 2 blocks of parallel sessions – 16 in total – covering a broad range of topics from sustainable communities, to equity and inclusion, to environment and health. In the evening, a dinner for the delegation of mayors and politicians was hosted by the Lord Mayor of Belfast at the beautiful Malone House.

Day 4

The final day of the Conference opened with a performance by the Harmony Choir, a project that brings together 10 school choirs from Belfast North. The morning plenary session focused on the theme of food and food systems, and their critical role in health, well-being, community resilience and tackling inequalities.

Mr Geoff Tansey, curator of the Food Systems Academy (United Kingdom), emphasised how food systems should deliver safe, sustainable and sufficient diets for all. He explained that the marketing of unhealthy foods is harming our health and well-being, and noted that the 4 main threats to the world (and food systems) are climate destabilisation, increasing inequality, competition over resources and global militarisation.

Coming together across cultures and borders to build happier and healthy cities can



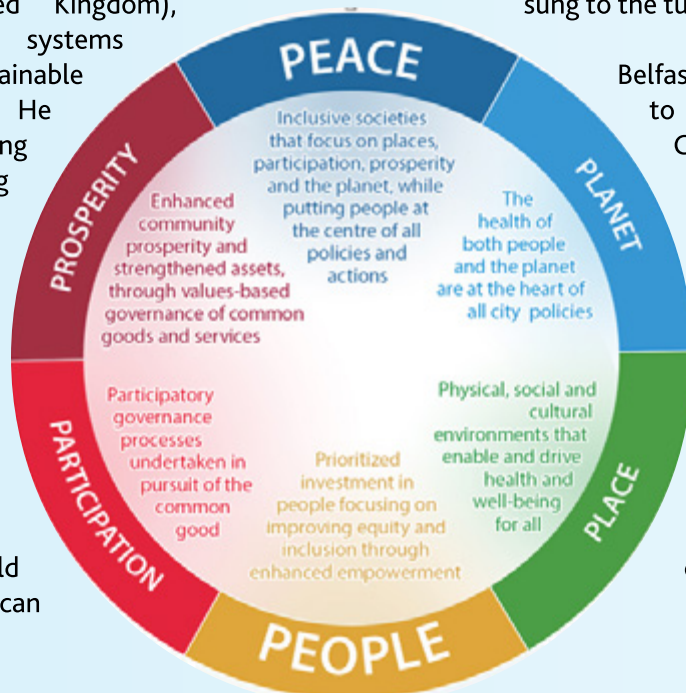
help counter these trends. Mr Tansey encouraged city leaders to look beyond technical innovation to social, economic, institutional and legal innovation to find ways to create sustainable and equitable food systems.

The afternoon saw more parallel sessions as well as a meeting of universities. The group explored the development of an open partnership of universities that would cooperate with the Network and provide scientific and practical support.



The final plenary and business session of the Conference took place in the afternoon, when the Belfast Charter was officially adopted. The election of representatives of cities and national healthy cities networks to the advisory committee for the next phase was also announced.

The Conference concluded with a farewell from Ms Suzanne Wylie, Chief Executive of Belfast City Council, and a performance by the Belfast Here 4 U Choir. Delegates joined the Choir in a song commissioned for the event, with lyrics by Ms Inge Kristiansen, Healthy City coordinator in Horsens, Denmark and sung to the tune of Ode to Joy.



Belfast Healthy Cities would like to thank the Board of Directors, Conference Steering Group, Sub-Committee groups, partners and funders for their commitment and dedication in making the conference such a successful event. Special thanks to Public Health Agency, Northern Ireland Housing Executive and Belfast Health and Social Care Trust for their important contribution.

BELFAST CHARTER FOR HEALTHY CITIES

OPERATIONALIZING THE COPENHAGEN CONSENSUS OF MAYORS: HEALTHIER AND HAPPIER CITIES FOR ALL
International Healthy Cities Conference 2018 Belfast, 1–4 October 2018

Political statement

We, the mayors and political leaders of cities, metropolitan regions, city regions, and urban places in the European Region of the World Health Organization (WHO), have gathered at the 2018 International Healthy Cities Conference in Belfast, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, to confirm our commitment to the values and principles of the Healthy Cities movement.

In an increasingly urban and globalized world, we will lead by example, both individually and collectively, to make our cities healthy, safe, fair, inclusive, resilient and sustainable.

Healthy Cities foster health and well-being through governance, empowerment and participation, creating urban places for equity and community prosperity, and investing in people for a peaceful, sustainable and more resilient planet. Healthy Cities lead by example, tackling inequalities and promoting governance and leadership for health and well-being through innovation, knowledge sharing and city diplomacy for health.

We recognize that:

the well-being, health, and happiness of our citizens depends on our willingness to give priority to the political choices that shape and address the determinants of health and well-being across the life course, including pregnancy and birth, and that combat the main causes of death and disability, including noncommunicable diseases;

the quality of urban life requires our urgent action to address social, political, commercial and environmental determinants and how they affect health and well-being; and

the social diversity and trust essential for vibrant, peaceful, multicultural, and cohesive communities can only be fostered if we counteract the policies that lead to increasing social divides and health and well-being inequities. We will therefore advocate forcefully for investing in cities and their human capital – the people – and natural capital, and will significantly increase our engagement in city diplomacy for health – within and between cities and with other stakeholders in whole-of-society and whole-of-government approaches.

We declare our commitment to:

act as a network for sharing examples of good practice, learning, collaboration and innovation globally and regionally, and to act as a key partner in developing and implementing evidence- and practice-based actions;

act as a platform, through our national networks, for building capacity at national level, and coherence at all levels of government for better health, well-being and equity outcomes;

act as a partner and vehicle for local-level implementation of global and regional priorities, including those outlined in the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, within the context of the Copenhagen Consensus of Mayors: Healthier and Happier Cities for All;

work alongside WHO to keep the world safe, improve health and serve the vulnerable, in line with WHO's Thirteenth General Programme of Work, adopted at the World Health Assembly in May 2018.

We will work collectively and individually to ensure that Phase VII of the WHO European Healthy Cities Network will act as a convener and an enabler for all relevant stakeholders across both government and society to come together and ensure that cities around the globe facilitate and foster improved health and wellbeing for all, reduce inequalities both within and between cities and countries, and act as a central element of the healthier, happier, and more sustainable future that we all strive for.

We call on all city and health leaders globally, and everyone who lives in urban places, to join us in this endeavour. Together, we can succeed.





WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION
INTERNATIONAL HEALTHY CITIES CONFERENCE
BELFAST
1st - 4th OCTOBER 2018





ORGANIZATION
INTERNATIONAL
CITY CITIES
CONFERENCE
FEST
OCTOBER 2018



Mayors' Summit, Copenhagen

The WHO International Mayors Summit took place in Copenhagen, 12-13th February, and Belfast was ably represented at the event by the city's deputy Lord Mayor, Cllr Sonia Copeland; Cllr Brian Heading, Chair of Belfast Healthy Cities Dr David Stewart, Valerie Brown from City Council and Joan Devlin.

This was the first event of its kind within the WHO European Healthy Cities Network and almost 200 delegates attended, including 60 Mayor and other elected politicians as well as senior officials from cities across the network, including Derry City & Strabane. The summit looked at how politicians can act as champions for Healthy Cities at home, and the Copenhagen Consensus was formally adopted.

The summit included a key note by Prof Andy Haines who emphasised the links between human health and environmental change and the need to redesign sprawling cities to reduce greenhouse gasses and address the challenge of air pollution which causes 7 million deaths worldwide annually.



WHO Environment & Health Working Group

Belfast Healthy Cities has been liaising with European partner cities for the purpose of setting up a working group on Environment and Health. This working group has now been established with the city of Utrecht, the Netherlands, as Chair. Belfast Healthy Cities provided logistical support on the organisation of the first full meeting of the working group at the WHO International Healthy Cities Conference.





Healthy City Awards

Each year Belfast Healthy Cities hold the Health City Award ceremony. The awards recognise not only the work of many organisations across Belfast to improve the health and wellbeing of the city but also marks the achievements of some of the most innovative, inclusive and interesting healthy living and space projects in our city.

The 2017 winners included Windsor Women's Centre, Hosford & East Belfast Mission, South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust and Northern Ireland Prison Service, Radius Housing, Lagan Dragons Dragon Boat Club, Intelligent Health and Beat the Street Northern Ireland. The 2018 Awards have proved one of the most popular in the six years of the award, with a record number of entries.

The winners are announced at a special event in December each year.



2018 Healthy City Explorer Bursary

The Healthy City Explorer Bursary has been offered by Belfast Healthy Cities since 2014 and allows individuals working in the field of health and wellbeing, including healthy urban planning and design, to visit another WHO European Healthy City or National Network to study their approach to addressing a key issue relating to health inequalities.

The 2018 bursary was awarded to Christine McKee, a Public Health Registrar with the Public Health Agency, who travelled to the Netherlands in September. As part of her study visit, Christine met a wide range of public health stakeholders in the cities of Utrecht and The Hague including the Public Health department in Utrecht, the Dutch Alliance for Health Literacy and other national and local departments that work on childhood obesity prevention.

She also visited a Care farm that provides a healthy learn and work setting that helps people from all ages to develop new skills and insights together. The learning outcomes from this study trip will be disseminated within the PHA in order to shape future health literacy programmes.

Policy & Public Affairs

Northern Ireland Local Government Association (NILGA) Wellbeing Bulletin

Belfast Healthy Cities has been working with NILGA to develop a series of wellbeing bulletins since 2016. These bulletins have been developed in order to inform council members about the link between policy and levels of wellbeing of the population. The latest bulletin was produced in June and focused on the role of partnership working.

Northern Ireland Air Quality Strategy

Through Belfast Healthy Cities' involvement in the Air Quality Forum, a response to the draft Northern Ireland Air Quality Strategy was submitted to the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs in April. This response also helped shape the consultation questions for the forthcoming Northern Ireland Air Quality Strategy. Belfast Healthy Cities' response focused on the adverse impacts of air pollution for children's development; existing health inequalities and the exposure of deprived areas to high levels of air pollution; and the role of health literacy for increasing awareness of poor air quality on life expectancy.



Belfast Local Development Plan Strategy

Belfast Healthy Cities have been involved in discussions around the Local Development Plan prior to the official consultation process through representations in the Healthy Places Working Group and the LDP Health and Wellbeing Working Group. A formal response was submitted in November, and focussed on scrutiny of the Plan Strategy in relation to Health Equity, Family-friendly city centre, child-friendly and age-friendly design, active travel; green infrastructure, and environmental sustainability. The response also aimed to identify gaps in the Plan Strategy in relation to the UN's Sustainable Development Goals. A separate response to the Plan Strategy's Equality Impact Assessment was submitted, structured around the same themes.

Age-friendly Belfast Plan (2018-2021)

Belfast Healthy Cities is a member of the Healthy Ageing Strategic Partnership and participated in the development of the Age-Friendly Belfast Plan 2018-2021. An Inequalities Screening Tool for policy proposals, developed by Belfast Healthy Cities and partner organisations, was used to inform the consultation. The Age-Friendly Belfast Plan 2018-2021 includes key areas of work such as healthy literacy and healthy places to support and enhance the lives of older people across Belfast.

Belfast Healthy Cities Board of Directors

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Nigel McMahon	Department of Health
Danny McQuillan	Extern
Elizabeth Mitchell	Independent
Carol Ramsey	Independent
Christine Robinson	Belfast City Council

Belfast Healthy Cities Staff Team

Joan Devlin	Chief Executive/WHO Healthy Cities Secretariat
Chris Karelse	Project Officer
Julie McAllister	PA/Officer Manager
Anne McCusker	Policy and Projects Officer
Caroline Scott	Support Officer/WHO Healthy Cities Secretariat

WHO International Healthy Cities Steering and Sub Committees

Steering Committee

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Catrina O'Hare	Belfast Health & Social Care Trust
Roger O'Sullivan	Institute of Public Health
Caroline Scott	Belfast Healthy Cities
David Stewart	Independent
Daniel Quee	Belfast Healthy Cities

Events Team

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Nikki Girvan	Public Health Agency
Aiden Hynes	Abbey Conference & Events
Julie McAllister	Belfast Healthy Cities
Anne McCusker	Belfast Healthy Cities
Daniel Quee	Belfast Healthy Cities
Caroline Scott	Belfast Healthy Cities

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Joan Devlin	Belfast Healthy Cities
Julie McAllister	Belfast Healthy Cities
Catrina O'Hare	Belfast Health & Social Care Trust
David Stewart	Independent

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Brendan Mulgrew	MW Advocate, Co-Chair
Michelle Canning	Northern Ireland Housing Executive
Martin Flynn	Northern Ireland Housing Executive
Cliona McCarney	Northern Ireland Confederation
Gary McKeown	Public Health Agency
Caroline Scott	Belfast Healthy Cities

Site Visits Sub-Committee

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Yvonne Cowan		Belfast Health & Social Care Trust
Joe Hinds		Urban Villages
Wendy Langham		Odyssey Trust
Geraldine McAteer		West Belfast Area Partnership
Anne McCusker		Belfast Healthy Cities
Sinead McGreevy		Belfast Health & Social Care Trust
Kerry McIvor		Forward South Partnership
Andrew Steenson		Belfast Health Development Unit

Side Events organisation

Nigel McMahon	Department of Health, Chair
Anne McCusker	Belfast Healthy Cities

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Directors' Report.

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

Responsibilities of directors for the financial statements

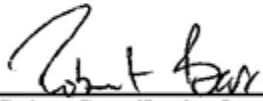
As explained more fully in the Statement of Directors' Responsibilities, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to the going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an Auditor's Report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is contained in the appendix to this report, located at page 17, which is to be read as an integral part of our report.


Mr Robert Barr (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of
MULDOON & CO
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
16 Mount Charles
Belfast
BT7 1NZ

Date: 23/10/18

Belfast Healthy Cities Project Limited
 (A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)
 Company Number: NI031042

BALANCE SHEET

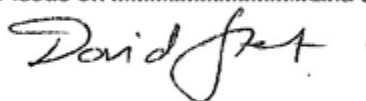
as at 31 March 2018

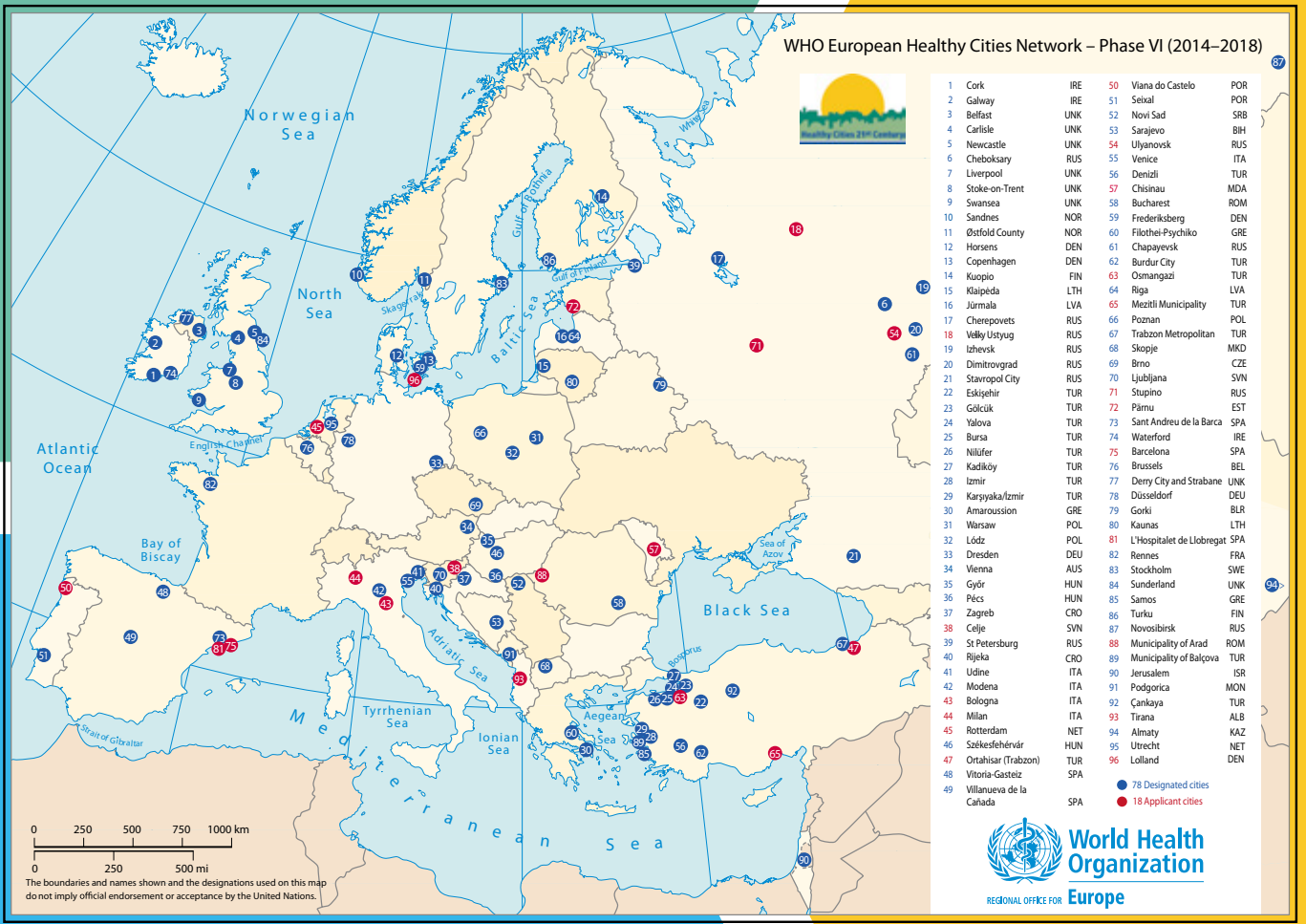
	Notes	2018 £	2017 £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible assets	10	7,619	3,088
Current Assets			
Debtors	11	94,781	57,873
Cash and cash equivalents		316,267	279,427
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	12	411,048 (98,520)	337,300 (63,285)
Net Current Assets		312,528	274,015
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		320,147	277,103
Funds			
Unrestricted designated funds		277,104	277,103
Unrestricted funds		43,043	-
Total funds	14	320,147	277,103

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 23-10-2018 and signed on its behalf by

Dr David Stewart
 Director





World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe 2017

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 22/24 Lombard Street
 Belfast BT1 1RD

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www.belfasthealthycities.com
 @belfasthealthy

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

