



Tullycarnet

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This Place Shaping Plan was developed by Community Places, 2024. We would like to thank the Advisory Group and everyone who participated in the development of the plan.

Introduction

The Housing Executive commissioned a place shaping process for Tullycarnet to explore the social, economic, community and environmental regeneration potential of the area. The process took place between April and September 2024 and brought together key stakeholders to identify and explore existing assets and opportunities within the area and how these could be maximised to bring wider benefits up until 2035.

A key driver of the place shaping process was the Housing Executive's plans to demolish and redevelop the Kings Road flats which will act as a catalyst for the wider regeneration of the Tullycarnet area. The place shaping process also considered key challenges, areas for improvement and strategic development opportunities.

Early and meaningful engagement with the local community, groups, key stakeholders and service providers was central to the process. This was embedded from the outset to ensure the plan reflected local views, bolstered ownership of the place shaping process and maintained a focus on implementation.

An Advisory Group¹ was established and informed and shaped the process throughout. It consisted of representatives from the Housing Executive (HE); Department for Infrastructure (DfI) Roads; Belfast City Council (BCC); Education Authority (EA); Department for Communities (DfC); NI Libraries and community representatives from Hanwood Community Resource Centre; Tullycarnet Neighbourhood Collective and Charter NI. The project team, led by Community Places, also worked closely with the Tullycarnet Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership as the process progressed. The place shaping process took account of existing strategic plans and strategies including the Tullycarnet Neighbourhood Partnership Action Plan, Belfast Agenda Community Plan, Local Development Plans and the Housing Investment Plan.

1 See Appendix 1 for Membership

Place Shaping Process



At the outset of the plan process an area profile and spatial analysis was undertaken. The spatial audit mapped the physical infrastructure, asset base, and services and facilities currently available. A detailed socio-economic profile was also developed with engaging infographics. Stakeholder engagement was undertaken with landowners, service providers, elected representatives and council officers.

A range of approaches was used to encourage participation in the Place Shaping Plan and to explore assets, aspirations, challenges and priorities of key stakeholders, groups and the local community. This included: workshops with the Advisory

Group; one-to-one meetings with key community groups, organisations and statutory service providers; one-to-one engagement sessions with Links Women's Group, Barnardo's Parent and Child Group, Tullycarnet Football and Boxing Club Committees and the Junior and Senior Ardcarnet Youth Club. An Art and Poetry Competition was undertaken with members from the Junior Ardcarnet Youth Club, exploring what they like most about Tullycarnet or how they would like to see Tullycarnet improve over the next ten years. Two further open community engagement sessions were also held in the Tullycarnet Community Centre, complemented by a short online survey to capture input from those who were unable to attend in person.



Posters were distributed across the study area and shared on social media to raise awareness of the process and the opportunities to get involved in helping to shape the future of Tullycarnet. Members of the Advisory Group and the Tullycarnet Neighbourhood Collective played an important role in sharing information and encouraging participation in the community engagement sessions.

Engagement events were scheduled throughout the day to maximise participation from the surrounding community. Over 130 people participated in the place shaping process. Engagement findings were discussed with the Advisory Group to identify plan priorities and develop a regeneration action plan for the area which set out priorities and short-, medium- and long-term actions to be undertaken over the next ten years, until 2035. A draft Place Shaping Plan was presented to the Advisory Group in August 2024 and a final plan completed in September 2024.



Vision for Tullycarnet

The existing Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership vision was presented to the community and used as a foundation for further exploration. A number of key messages were highlighted by participants during the engagement process in relation to the future vision for Tullycarnet. These centred on celebrating and safeguarding access to open and green spaces, the sense of community safety and the strong, engaged and supportive community spirit which exists in Tullycarnet. A revised vision is presented below:

“Tullycarnet will be a vibrant place with access to quality homes and green spaces; a strong community where people care for each other, feel safe, proud and are actively engaged in delivering a positive and sustainable future.”





Area Profile

Tullycarnet is located in outer East Belfast, the housing estate was developed by the Housing Trust between 1966 and 1970², with final development completed in the early 1970s by the newly formed Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE). The Public Records Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI) holds historical mapping for the region. The first map on record for the Tullycarnet area is dated 1834, additional maps from 1901, 1920 and the late 1930s can also be viewed. These maps show the clear expansion of Belfast eastwards towards Dundonald. Tullycarnet House, Hanwood House and Vionville are visible on the mapping. The old Belfast to Comber Railway line, now the Comber Greenway is visible on mapping from 1901 onwards.

Up until 2015 Tullycarnet was located within the Castlereagh Borough Council area, it then transferred to the Belfast City Council area due to local government reform and associated boundary changes. The study area lies within the Gilnahirk District Electoral Area (DEA) (see Figure 5 below) and within the Tullycarnet Super Output Area (SOA).

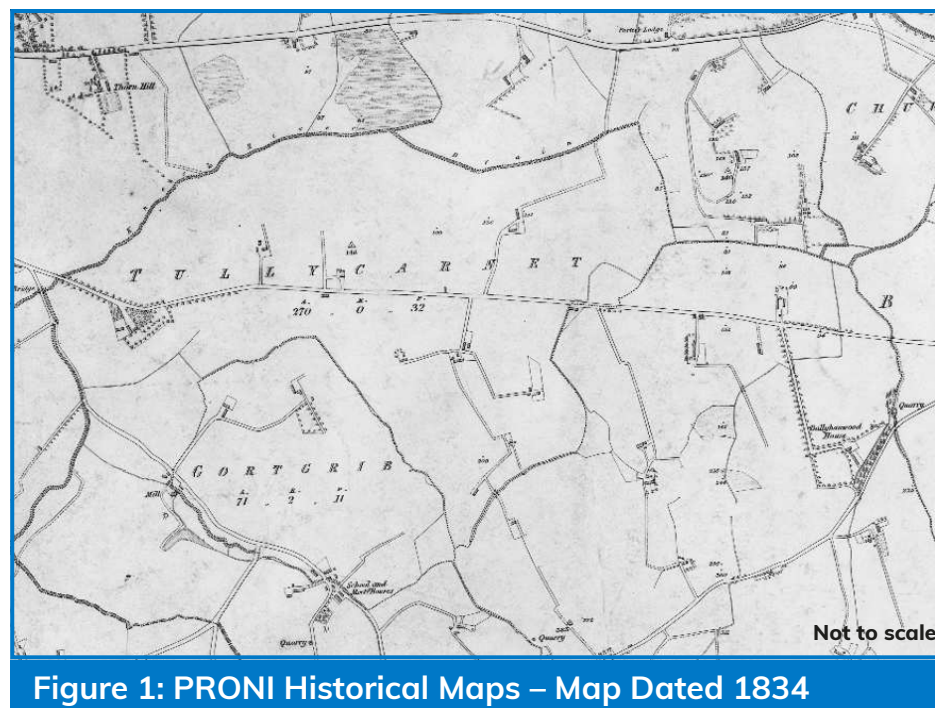


Figure 1: PRONI Historical Maps – Map Dated 1834

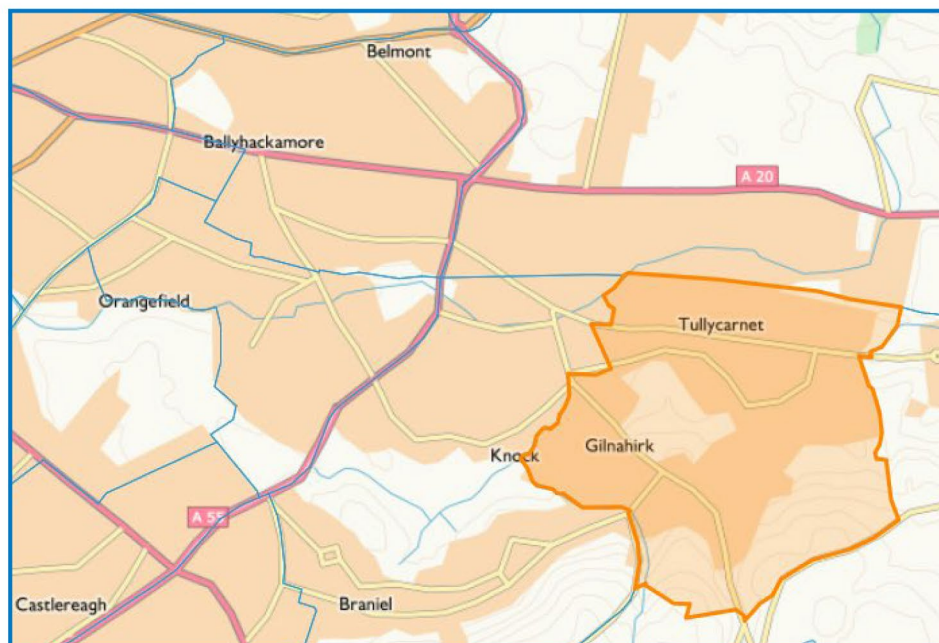


Figure 5: Ordnance Survey of Northern Ireland Map of the Gilnahirk District Electoral Area

The study area is outlined in blue in Figure 6 below and incorporates the Tulycarnet Neighbourhood Renewal Area (outlined in red), the Tulycarnet Park to the west and extends to lands to the south of Leven Drive and to the east of Vionville Rise.

The Kings Road is the main throughfare through Tulycarnet, with Melford Drive and the site of the former Tulycarnet Primary School to the south and Kinross Avenue and the Kings Road Flats to the north. The boundary with Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council (annotated in green above) runs through the Hanwood football pitch and social economy petrol station to the east, with the East Point Omni Park and Dundonald International Ice Bowl located further east along the Kings Road and Dundonald beyond.

The Comber Greenway, to the north, runs adjacent to Tulycarnet along the route of the former Belfast and County Down Railway mainline between Ravenscroft Avenue car park, Belfast and Belfast Road, Comber. The majority of the study area is in the ownership of the Housing Executive as indicated in the pink lands in Figure 7 below:

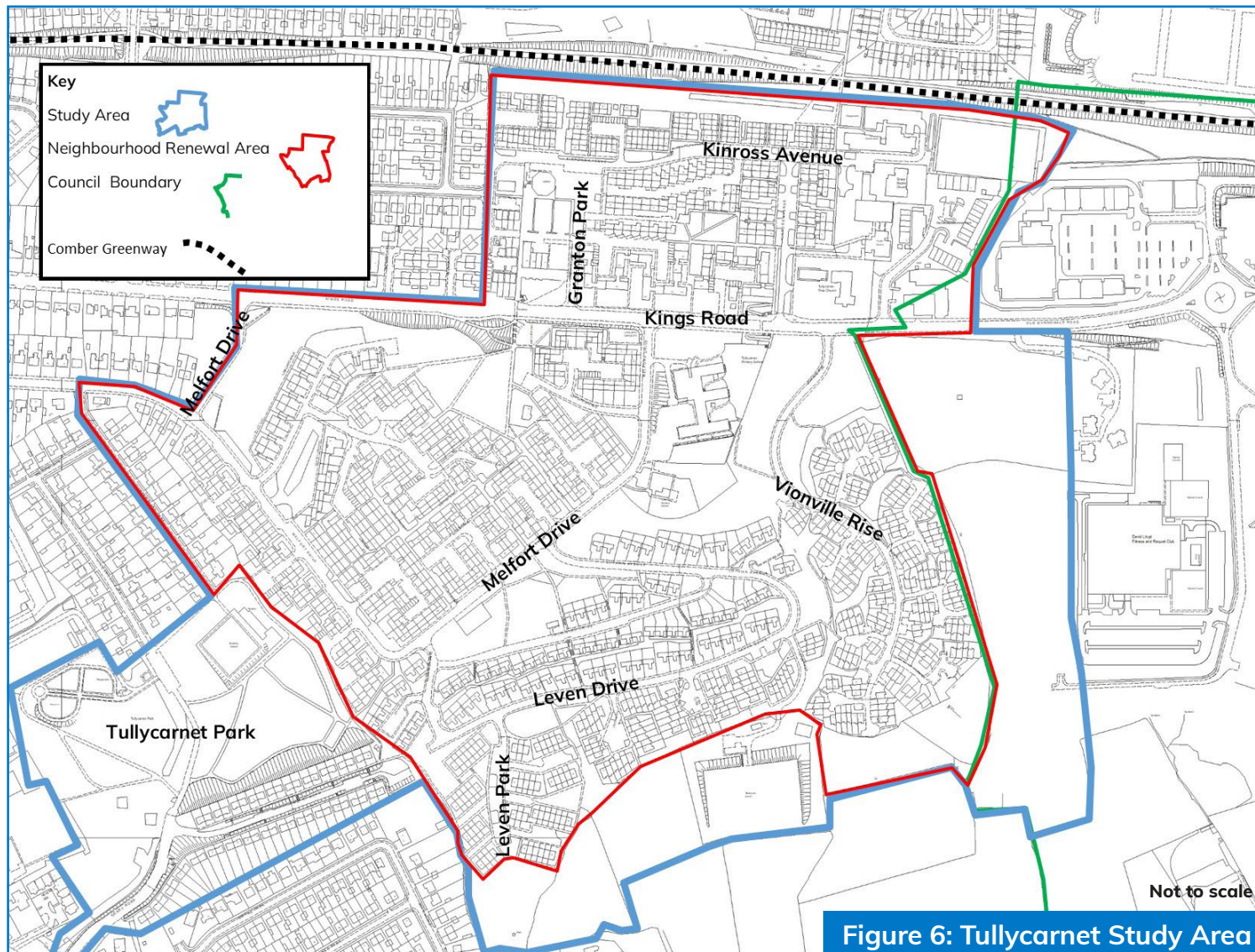


Figure 6: Tullycarnet Study Area

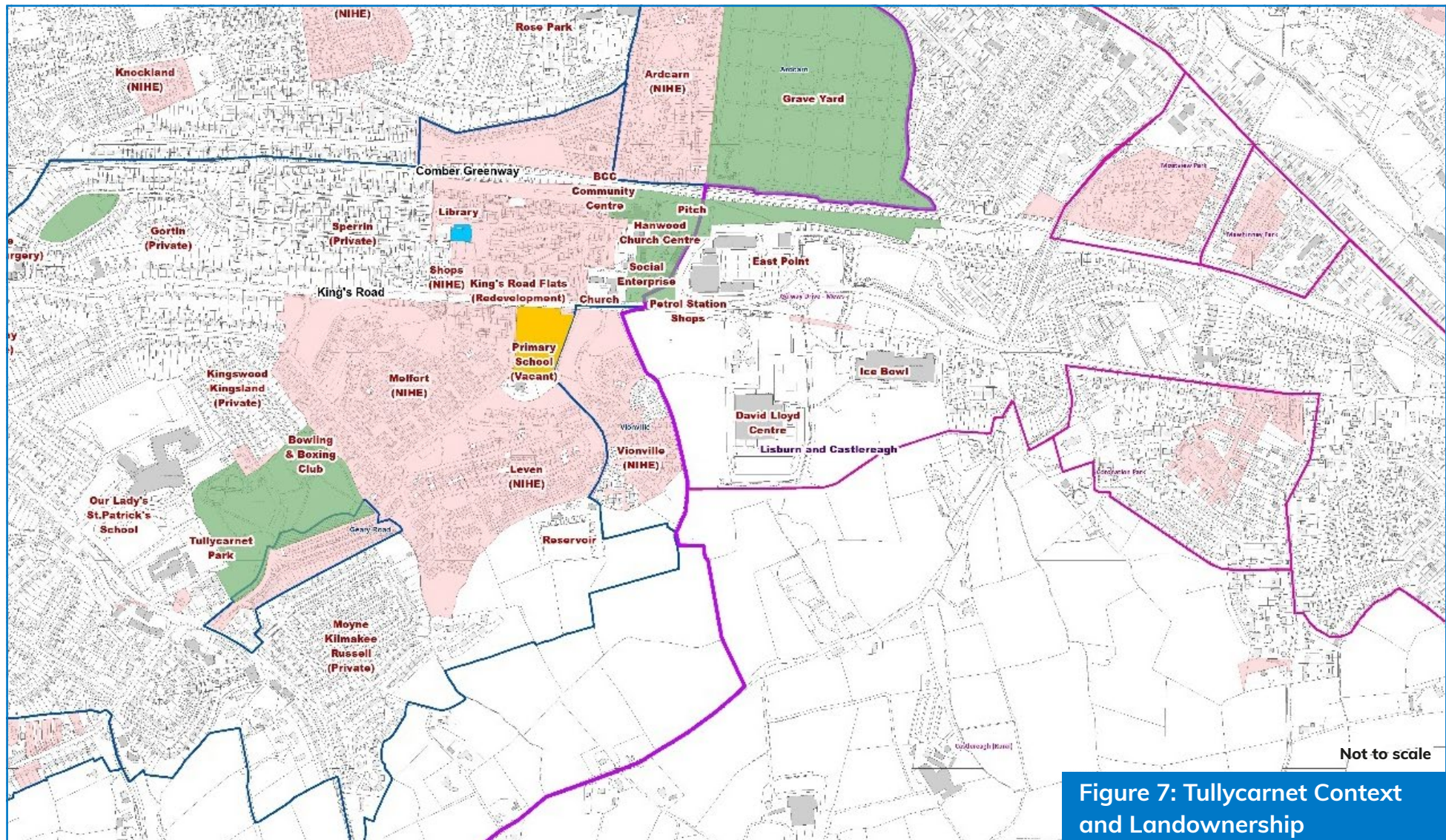
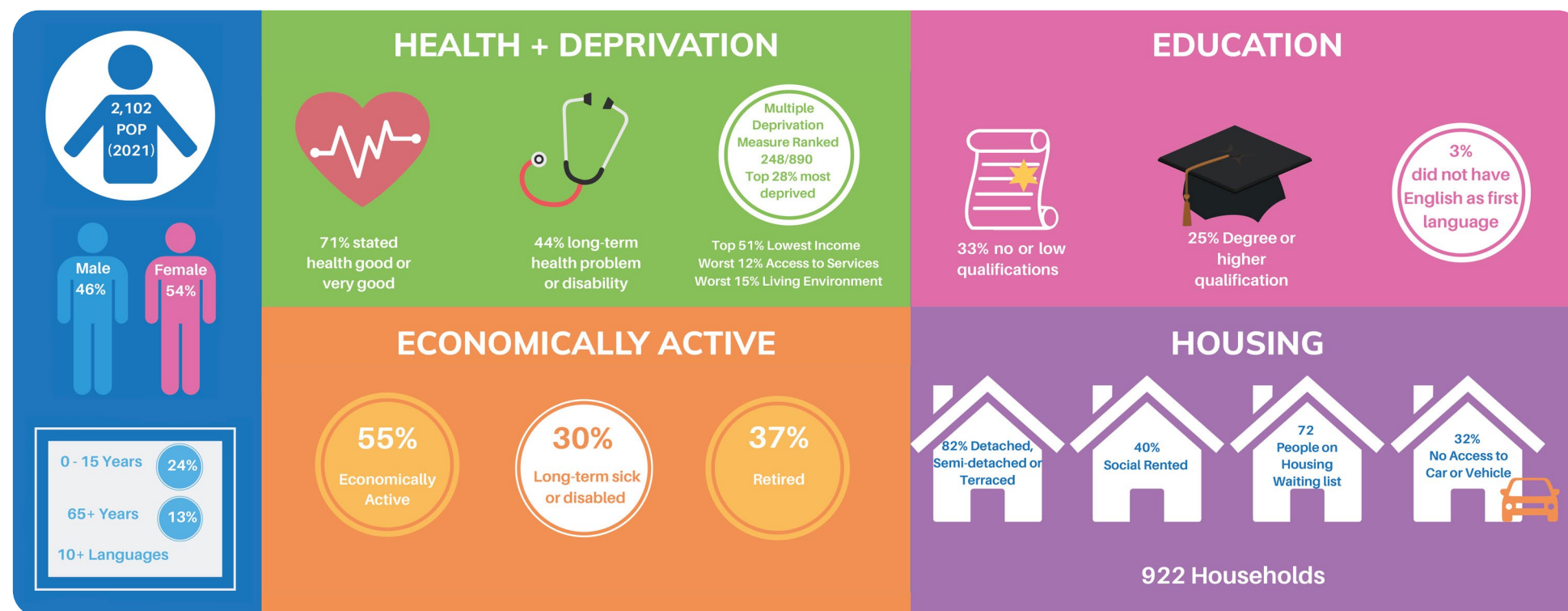


Figure 7: Tullycarnet Context and Landownership

Statistical Analysis

TULLYCARNET



Population

The population of Tullycarnet NRA on Census Day 21 March 2021³ was given as 2,102. This population is made up of 974 males (46%) and 1,128 females (54%). Nearly a quarter of the population, 495 (24%) are aged 0-15 years; 686 (32%) are aged 16-39 years, 646 (31%) are aged 40-64 years and 275 (13%) are aged 65 years and over.

Of the population 65% belong to or were brought up in the Protestant or Other Christian religion, 30% do not have any religious association, 4% belong to or were brought up in the Catholic religion and 1% follow a different religious tradition.

In regard to National Identity, 1,282 (61%) identified as British only, 45 (2%) Irish only and 318 (15%) Northern Irish only. Five (0.2%) residents identified as British and Irish only, with 294 (14%) British and Northern Irish only, seven (0.3%) identified as Irish and Northern Irish only. A further seven (0.3%) identified as British, Irish and Northern Irish and 141 (7%) identified as other.

Interestingly, the census data also shows that there are 10 languages spoken within the study area, after English (97%) this includes Polish, Romanian, Portuguese, Bulgarian, Chinese, Lithuanian, Irish, and Arabic.

Multiple Deprivation Measures (MDM) 2017

The Multiple Deprivation Measures (MDM) provided by the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency provide data on seven different deprivation measures and an overall deprivation measure for what are termed Super Output Areas (SOA) within the region. Each area is then ranked in order of most deprived (1) to least deprived (890). The overall MDM for the Tullycarnet SOA is 248, this is in the top third of most deprived areas within the region. The area is within the top 15% of the most deprived areas in terms of both access to services and living environment. By contrast it is in the top 49% of income.

The Small Area MDM data indicates that the project area has a deprivation measure of 78, meaning it is in the top 2% most deprived areas within the region. Additional figures from the 2021 Census data indicate that of the 922 households within the study area 75% fall within at least one dimension of deprivation.

Health

On census day 21 March 2021, 71% of the usually resident population stated they were in very good health or good health, 12% stated they were in bad health and/or very bad health. Just under half, 44% of the usually resident population advised they had one or more long term health conditions.

Educational Attainment

The usual resident population of those 16 and over is considered in terms of educational attainment, 33% of this population have no qualifications. By contrast, 66% of the population hold some form of qualification including O-Levels, CSEs, GCSEs, A-Levels and apprenticeships, of this group 25% hold a Level 4 qualification or above, this is the equivalent to a Bachelor's degree.

Housing and Accommodation

When considering the housing and accommodation provision within the study area, some 24% of the usually resident population reside within a detached or semi-detached house and 58% of all residents reside within a terraced house.

Almost 40% of the households within the study area are social rented, a similar proportion (43%) are owner occupied, either outright or with a mortgage. The remaining households within the project area are privately rented.

Of the 922 households within the study area, 64% are made up of single and two person households, only 1% of households in the area are made up of six or more people. Almost one third of households (32%) do not have access to a car.

Housing Executive figures indicate there are 1,121 people in the social housing waiting list within the outer east Belfast area, of these 26% are single men aged 18-59 years, 20% are single women aged 18-59 years. Almost 40% of those on the waiting list are families with one or more children, while 15% are aged 60 years and over. Figures indicate there is a projected social housing requirement of 343 houses during the period 2023-2028.

The Housing Executive figures⁴ indicate there are 72 people on the social housing waiting list for the project area, of these 47% are single people, a similar figure of 46% are families and 7% are elderly. Of those within the study area, 64% (46) are considered to be in housing stress.

4 www.nihe.gov.uk/getattachment/eb84bb70-25d8-4863-9b85-f6383a191f6e/Current-Waiting-List-in-Belfast.pdf

Labour Market

When considering the labour market of those who usually reside in the study area, 55% of the population are economically active, the majority (83%) of this group are employees and 3% are students in employment. Data indicates that of those who are economically inactive, 37% are retired and 30% are on long-term sick leave or disabled.

Crime

Data in relation to crime is available from the 2017 - NRA indicators⁵. The Tullycarnet Super Output Area has a Crime and Disorder Domain Rank of 518, meaning the area falls midway between the most and least deprived areas in the Region. The data also indicates that Tullycarnet falls below the regional average rate of all assessed criminality. The Tullycarnet Neighbourhood Renewal Area Profile Report 2022⁶ indicates that there have been decreases in burglary, anti-social behaviour and criminal damage. However, there has been an increase in recorded crime, domestic abuse, drug offences, theft and violence, sexual offences and robbery.

Benefits Claimants

Data in relation to benefits claimants is available from the Tullycarnet NRA Profile Report 2022. The report indicates that there was a 58% reduction in the number of Jobseekers Allowance claimants between 2005 and 2022, a similar level (57%) of reduction was also seen in those claiming Disability Living Allowance. There was an 84% decrease in those claiming Income Support during the period 2003-2022 and a 40% decrease in those claiming Pension Credit between 2005-2022.

5 Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measures 2017 - NRA indicators

6 www.communities-ni.gov.uk/publications/neighbourhood-renewal-area-profiles-2022-belfast



Policy Framework

The Belfast Agenda

The Belfast Agenda is Belfast's Community Plan, it was first published in November 2017 and was updated in 2024. The plan sets out the vision and the long-term ambitions for Belfast's future, it also outlines key priorities for the life of the plan to 2028.

The Plan's vision for Belfast is "Belfast will be a city re-imagined and resurgent. A great place to live and work for everyone."

The inclusive growth plan for the city includes 5 strategic themes:

- Our people and communities,
- Our economy,
- Our place,
- Our planet, and
- Compassionate city.

The Plan notes the long-term ambitions for the city such as the economy supporting 46,000 additional jobs, the city being home to an additional 66,000 people, a 33% reduction in the life expectancy gap between the most and least deprived

neighbourhoods, every young person leaving school has a destination that fulfils their potential and a reduction in carbon emissions by 80%.

The Belfast Agenda is linked to and reflects other key strategies and plans. This includes the new Belfast Plan Strategy 2035 (see below) which will provide the spatial framework for the city and will consider any land use planning aspects which emerge through the Belfast Agenda such as housing, employment, open spaces and connectivity.

Planning Framework

The Review of Public Administration in 2015 and the formation of the region's 11 Councils resulted in Tullycarnet moving from Castlereagh Borough Council into the new Belfast City Council area. The planning framework for Belfast City Council is complex and comprises of a number of Local Development Plans including Belfast Urban Area Plan 2001, the Draft Belfast Metropolitan Area Plan 2015 (dBMAP 2015), the Belfast Metropolitan Area Plan 2015 (BMAP 2015) and the Belfast Plan Strategy 2035. For the purposes of the Place Shaping Plan, the most relevant planning documents are:

Belfast Plan Strategy 2035

The Belfast Local Development Plan, Plan Strategy 2035 was adopted in May 2023 and shapes the future development of the city. The Local Development Plan is vital to the delivery of the outcomes in the Belfast Agenda as it provides the planning framework and acts as the spatial expression to support the delivery of economic and social outcomes for the city, while delivering sustainable development. The Belfast Plan Strategy is the relevant Local Development Plan for the study area. However, as Belfast City Council is in the process of drafting its Local Plan Policies with associated land use zonings and maps, the mapping set out in the plans below is most current.

Draft Belfast Metropolitan Area Plan 2015

The study area lies within the settlement limit of Metropolitan Castlereagh as defined by dBMAP 2015 which was first published in 2004, due to the changes in the Council boundaries introduced in 2015 the study area is now within the limits of Belfast City Council. Within the study area dBMAP includes land zoned as existing open space (coloured green on Figure 8 below. Immediately north of the study area, now the Comber Greenway, this area of land was designated as the EWAY Rapid Transit Scheme (MCH 17/01), which at the time of the plan was zoned to provide a bus-based rapid transit scheme.

The Greenway provides a pedestrian link between Belfast City and the outer east. The area now home to the Hanwood Pitch was subject to several zonings which include open space, the Dundonald Urban Landscape Wedge (MCH 30), Dundonald Leisure Park (Ref MCH 31) and Dundonald Wedge Local Landscape Policy Area.

These zonings stretch from the Comber Greenway in the north to the settlement limit in the south and move eastwards towards Dundonald International Ice Bowl, they provide a landscape buffer between Belfast and Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council areas.

Tullycarnet Park is designated as Tullycarnet Local Landscape Policy Area (LLPA) (MCH 44) and as an area of existing open space. The LLPA provides an expanse of green space surrounded by residential properties, it has been designated due to its amenity importance as a municipal park with panoramic views of Belfast and its local conservation interest with stands of mature trees.

Beyond the settlement limit to the south of the study area the land is considered to lie within the open countryside and is zoned as the Castlereagh Escarpment Area of High Scenic Value.

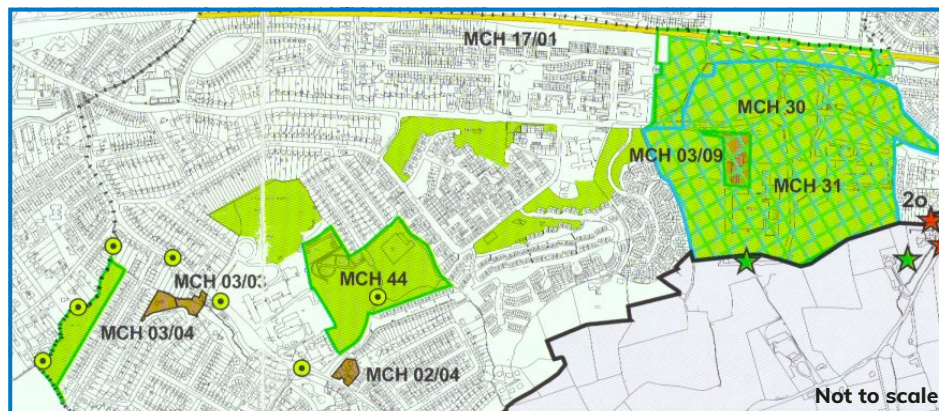


Figure 8: showing Map No 2a Metropolitan Castlereagh from Draft Belfast Metropolitan Area Plan 2015

Belfast Metropolitan Area Plan 2015

Belfast Metropolitan Area Plan 2015 (BMAP 2015) provides similar designations to dBMAP 2015, with areas zoned as existing open space. Tullycarnet Park is again zoned as a Local Landscape Policy Area (MCH 40) and includes a further zoning as a Community Greenway (BT147/07). The area of the Hanwood Pitch is zoned as the Urban Landscape Wedge Dundonald (MCH 26), Dundonald Leisure Park (MCH 27) and Local Landscape Policy Area Dundonald Wedge (BT104). This area also includes a further designation as the Dundonald Old Railway Line Site of Local Nature Conservation Interest (SLNCI) (MCH 28/08). SLNCIs are designated due to their specific flora, fauna or earth science interest. The Comber Greenway is no longer designated as a rapid transit route, but is now a Community Greenway (MCH 41/06).

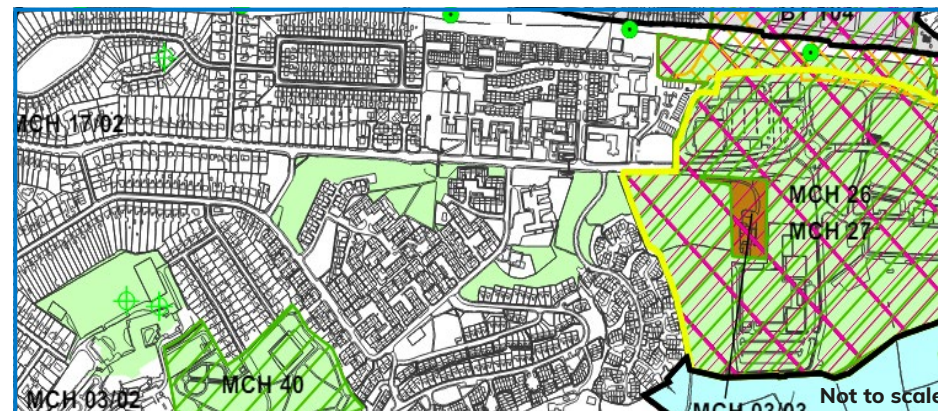


Figure 9: showing Map No. 2/001 Metropolitan Castlereagh from Belfast Metropolitan Area Plan 2015

Housing Investment Plan 2023-2026

Central to the Place Shaping Plan is the redevelopment of the Kings Road flats which will be taken forward by the Housing Executive or a partner Housing Association. The Housing Executive is both a statutory Community Planning and Local Development Plan partner. The Housing Investment Plan (HIP) for Belfast 2023-2026 reports on progress made over the past twelve months and sets out the Housing Executive's ambitions for the coming year. The plan recognises the role in which housing can contribute to achieving community planning objectives. It is important to note that the objectives within the 2023 HIP relate to objectives set out in the first publication of the Belfast Agenda in 2017 (the Belfast Agenda was updated in 2024). The HIP advises that the new build social housing need 2022-2027 for Outer East Belfast is 297, there is a total social new build requirement for Belfast City of 7,984 homes.

Tullycarnet Neighbourhood Renewal Area Annual Report 2022–2023

Neighbourhood Renewal is a government initiative, supported by the Department for Communities, to tackle social deprivation and disadvantage in the 10% most economically and socially deprived neighbourhoods. The Tullycarnet Neighbourhood Renewal Area was established in 2005 and includes a wide range of partners working together to meet the needs of the local community and drive forward renewal in Tullycarnet. The Partnership has identified specific priority areas set in the context of the four strategic priorities for neighbourhood renewal, they include:

- Community Renewal
 - Securing the engagement of the whole community.
 - Building a community identity.
- Economic Renewal
 - Ensuring access to reasonably paid employment.
 - Identifying training and employment outside the local area.
- Physical Renewal
 - Improved provision of social housing for the elderly.
 - Maximise the opportunities presented by current and/or pending infrastructure projects.
- Social Renewal
 - Building a 'whole community' approach to education.
 - Creating a sense of pride in the estate.

Much progress has been made by the Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership across all priority areas and considerable time has been invested in bringing the community along with the process

to embed real change and progress. The lack of clarity in relation to the future of neighbourhood renewal investment in the area is a major concern for partners and the wider community.

Belfast Open Space Strategy

Open space enhances the quality of the local environment and contributes to each area's identity. The Belfast Open Spaces Strategy (BOSS) sets out an ambitious vision that by 2035:

'Belfast will have a well-connected, accessible network of high quality, sustainable open spaces recognised for the value and benefits they provide to everyone who live in, work in and visits our city'.

The Strategy is supported by seven guiding principles, that Belfast's open spaces will:

- SP1: Provide welcoming shared spaces
- SP2: Improve connectivity
- SP3: Improve health and well-being
- SP4: Support place-making and enhance the built environment
- SP5: Increase resilience to climate change
- SP6: Protect and enhance the natural environment
- SP7: Be celebrated and support learning.

These guiding principles support the ambitions and the visions of both the community plan, the Belfast Agenda and the Local Development Plan, Belfast Plan Strategy.



Spatial Analysis Audit

A spatial analysis audit was undertaken of the physical and social infrastructure and asset base of the Tullycarnet study area and is mapped below.

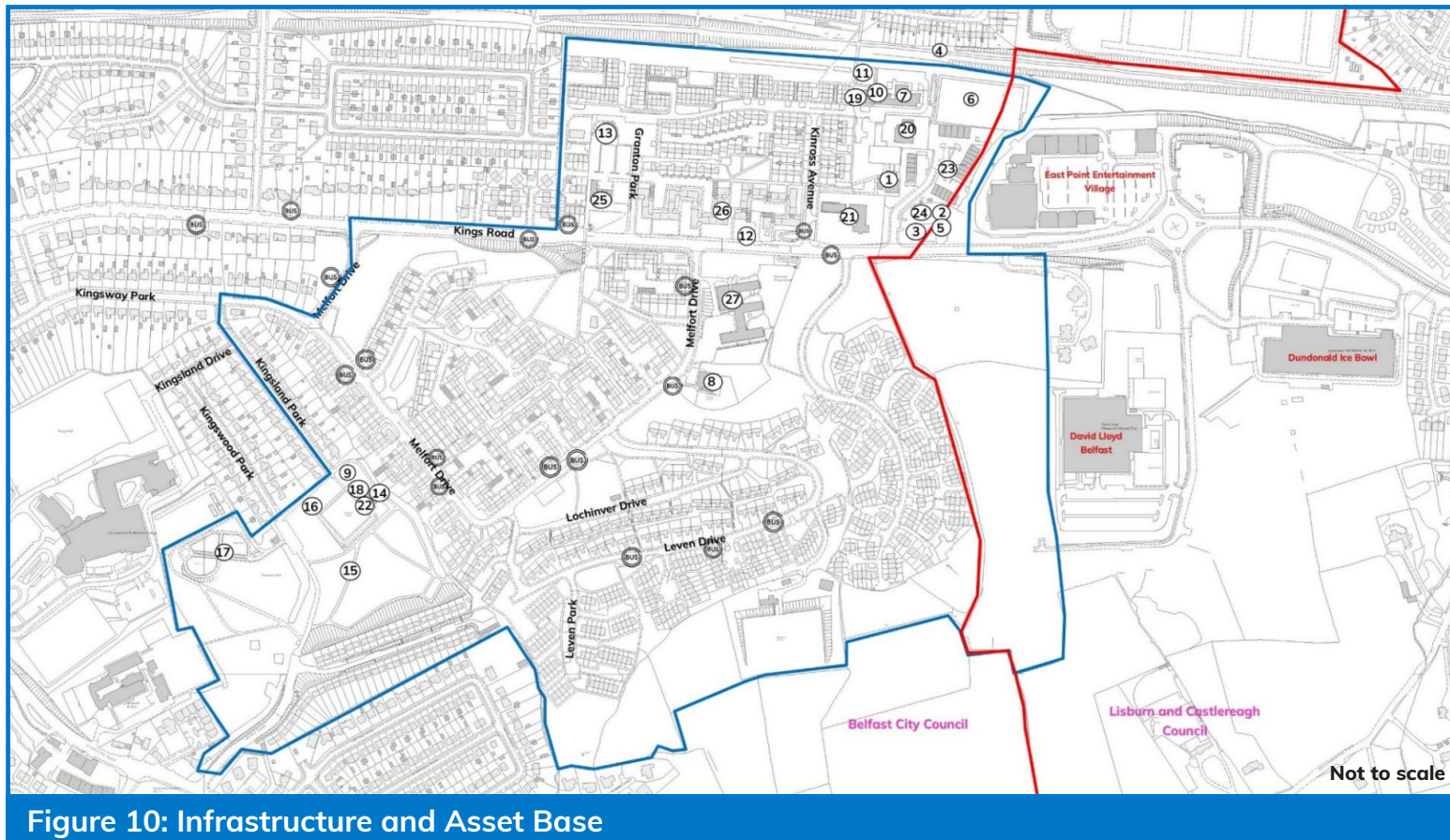


Figure 10: Infrastructure and Asset Base

Tullycarnet Key Services and Facilities

	Baseline Map Number
Key Services and Facilities	
Ardcarnet Youth Centre *	1
ATM at Hanwood Garage	2
BP Pulse Electric Vehicle Charging Point (x2)	3
Comber Greenway	4
Defibrillator at Hanwood Garage	5
3G pitch	6
Hanwood Centre	7
Kings Road Nursery School	
Metro and Ulster Bus Service Stops	8
Tullycarnet Boxing Club	9
Tullycarnet Community Centre*	10
Tullycarnet Community Centre Playground	11
Tullycarnet Garden of Remembrance	12
Tullycarnet Library*	13
Tullycarnet Lawn Bowling Club	14
Tullycarnet Park	15
Tullycarnet Park Playground	16
Outdoor Gym	17
Defibrillator at Tullycarnet Park	18
(*Free period product provision)	
Churches	
Eastpoint Church	19
Grace Baptist Church	20
Tullycarnet Presbyterian Church	21
Tullycarnet Church (based at Bowling Club)	22

	Baseline Map Number
Businesses	
Hanwood Business Centre	23
Belfast Music	24
Create Bake Decorate	
Cream Café Bistro	
Lisa Woods Hair and Beauty Salon	
Macarthur The Printing Company	
MKB Fire	
MKB Medical Services Ltd	
Nicdar Tiles	
The Sewing Room	
The White Lighthouse	
Used Clothing Co	
Wedding Essentials	
Zace Print and Embroidery	
Hanwood Garage and Spar	
Catch 22 Fish and Chips	
Four Star Pizza	
Wine Flair	
Opportunity Sites	
Granton Park Shops (4 units)	25
Kings Road Flats	26
Tullycarnet Former Primary School Site (Education Authority)	27

SWOT Analysis

A SWOT analysis was conducted setting out the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats facing Tullycarnet.

Strengths

- The people of Tullycarnet
- Sense of community and good neighbourliness
- Sense of safety
- Strong community identity and sense of belonging
- Well-used Community Centre
- Youth Centre and facilities
- Hanwood Centre, Gym and Football pitch
- Tullycarnet Neighbourhood Collective
- Range of community groups, clubs and activities
- Supportive community environment
- Neighbourhood Renewal Investment
- Faith based groups and activities.
- Access to natural environment including Tullycarnet Park and Comber Greenway
- Open and Green spaces safe for children's play
- Library facility – celebrating 50 Years.
- Hanwood Social Economy Business Park and Petrol Station
- Employment opportunities at nearby Eastpoint (Omni Park) and Dundonald International Ice Bowl
- Community Policing

Weaknesses

- Lack of health services eg GP and pharmacy
- Lack of available and affordable housing
- No Primary School
- Upkeep and appearance of public spaces within the area.
- Closure of Primary School displaced groups including Barnardo's, Links Women's Group and Tullycarnet Community Support Services, First Steps Playgroup
- Lack of meeting space for community activity
- Lack of dedicated spaces for worship
- Perceptions of public transport
- Limited bus services on Sundays
- Hanwood 4G Football pitch is at capacity and is expensive to hire.
- Perceived negative image of the area due to anti-social behaviour attracted by and associated with the bonfire.

Opportunities

- Redevelopment of the Kings Road Flats site (including the vacant retail units)
- Redevelopment of the former Primary School site, owned by the Education Authority
- Willingness of groups to support and connect with each other.
- Support of those with premises to accommodate community activity
- Access to Dundonald International Ice Bowl
- Access to employment opportunities
- Connectivity to surrounding neighbourhoods and city centre.
- Strengthen connections between Library and community through outreach activities and the redevelopment of Kings Road Flats

Threats

- Loss of sense of community and destabilising impact which the clearance of Kings Road Flats is having on community, especially older people.
- Loss of Neighbourhood Renewal Investment
- Opportunity sites remaining vacant which could attract anti-social behaviour.
- Prominence of Kings Road frontage (and if it remains undeveloped) detracting from the perception and image of the area.
- Parking Congestion
- Lack of affordable housing for older people and families

Inclusive Engagement in the Place Shaping Process

Central to the place shaping process was meaningful and inclusive engagement with the local community, key stakeholders and service providers in the area. At the outset of the process the Housing Executive established an Advisory Group consisting of representatives from the Council, key service providers, asset and landowners and representatives from the local community.

The project team worked closely with the Advisory Group throughout the process and also liaised with the Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership during the development of the Place Shaping Plan. Early in the process, the project team met with the Tullycarnet Neighbourhood Collective, an umbrella group of local community representatives and organisations operating within the Tullycarnet area, to share and refine our

proposed approach to maximise community participation. Team members attended the launch of the 'Forever Our Home' Tullycarnet Urban Heritage Project and heard first hand stories and poems by older people who were born and bred in or living in Tullycarnet about their experiences and memories of the Tullycarnet community.

One-to-one meetings were held with representatives of the Tullycarnet Neighbourhood Collective to discuss their services, what works well in Tullycarnet and what could be improved, this provided key local insights and knowledge. Five targeted engagement sessions were hosted with the Football and Boxing Club committee members, the Links Women's Group, Barnardo's Parent and Child Group and two sessions with the Ardcarney Youth Centre (Juniors and Seniors). Two open community engagement sessions were facilitated, one running from morning to evening, the other from afternoon to late evening to provide a range of opportunities for people to engage.

The junior members of the Ardcarneet Youth Centre participated in an Art and Poetry competition, where they were asked to draw or write a poem about what they love about Tullycarnet or what would make Tullycarnet an even better place.

Members of the Neighbourhood Collective and the Advisory Group played a key role in promoting the engagement activities and ensuring support and buy-in from the local community. The groups shared links and promoted the engagement activities on their social media and encouraged their users to get involved in the Place Shaping Plan. In addition to the in-person engagement and recognising that some people may not feel comfortable sharing opinions and views in front of others we conducted a short online survey which attracted responses from 50 people.

In total, over 130 people actively contributed to the place shaping process. Special thanks are given to the Tullycarnet Community Centre, the Hanwood Resource Centre, Tullycarnet Presbyterian Church and Ardcarneet Youth Centre for hosting the engagement sessions.



Summary of Engagement Findings

In consultation with the Advisory Group and the Housing Executive an engagement plan and core engagement questions were agreed. The Place Standard Tool⁷ was drawn on to frame conversations to inform the development of the Place Shaping Plan.

During the one-to-one meetings, focus groups, open engagement sessions and the online survey people were asked a number of consistent engagement questions: what they liked about Tullycarnet, identifying and building on the assets of the area; what could be improved; and specific housing-related questions associated with the Kings Road Flats redevelopment and longer term opportunities for social housing provision in the area.

What do you like about Tullycarnet?

The strong community spirit, and close-knit and caring nature of the people were consistently highlighted as positive aspects of Tullycarnet. Others commented on the vibrancy and hub of activity within the community centre and the wide range of services provided by community groups and churches which make a positive difference to the community. Numerous respondents noted that they have lived in the area for many years and that it feels settled and safe with reliable neighbours. Others highlighted the abundance of open and safe green spaces and grassed areas particularly in relation to children's play. The proximity to the Comber Greenway, Eastpoint and the Dundonald Ice bowl were also noted as positive aspects. While the strong sense of belonging was celebrated a few respondents noted that paramilitaries have an influence on the community and were concerned about the impact this may have particularly on younger people living in the area.

“Good neighbours, friendly and safe estate.”

“The sense of community in the estate, everyone looks out for everyone.”

“Everything, there is something for everyone in the estate.”

“The great community we have and the churches and centres we have to use.”

“Plenty of grassed areas for children to play safely near your door.”

“I love living in Tullycarnet and I use all the amenities that’s on offer. All the groups do so much for us.”

What could be improved about Tullycarnet?

Affordable social housing

A consistent message centred around the need for more affordable social housing to cater for over 55s, older people and growing families who want to remain in the area. Another common area for improvement related to the bus service, particularly the Sunday service this was especially pertinent for non-car owners (nearly a third of the area population) and older people who rely on public transport to access services.

Additional community space

Others stressed that additional community space was required to accommodate groups and enable community activity to grow. Several respondents and interviewees noted that a number of groups had been displaced as a result of the closure of the primary school site. This included Tullycarnet Community Support Services and the First Steps Play Group; Barnardo’s; and the Links Women’s Group. A number of the churches are also in temporary accommodation operating out of the Community Centre and the Bowling Club. Several respondents and interviewees highlighted that the First Steps Play Group requires a dedicated space with access to sensory and outdoor space for children.

It was noted that the First Steps service is long established and viewed as a vital community resource which needs to be safeguarded and supported for the benefit of the wider community.

It was suggested that there could be additional activities and events for younger people, particularly those aged seven to 16 years. While others noted that families, children and older people are well catered for they felt there were fewer activities for those aged between 25 and 50 who do not have children. It was noted that the existing play parks cater for younger children only. Others commented that the football pitch at the Hanwood Centre could be widened, and a spectator shelter included.

“Need larger community centre as the centre at the minute is at full capacity therefore there is no space for things like Banardos, Women’s Group, Men’s Group. These groups help the community, and everyone pull together in times of need (Covid). These groups have no storage never mind a place for people to come for help or just to chat.”

General appearance and upkeep of the area

A number of comments related to the need for improvements to the general appearance and upkeep of the area including grass verges, open grassed areas and removal of weeds along kerbs and parking areas; potholes; and the appearance and condition of the two subways.

Parking and Traffic calming

Several respondents raised the issue of parking constraints and the need for additional traffic calming measures including speed bumps on Leven Drive and Lockinver Drive.

Addressing anti-social behaviour

Some respondents noted that there are instances of anti-social behaviour including excessive noise from unauthorised scramblers; and anti-social behaviour, damage to facilities, excessive noise and smashed glass associated with the bonfire site (located on car park adjacent to the library). The bonfire site was also noted as unsightly and presenting a negative image of the area. Several commentators suggested that the area in the vicinity of the library, especially the car park site could be redeveloped to provide much needed housing.

“Regeneration of the shops and car park in front of the Library.”

“Regeneration of the shops and area directly in front of the library. Most of the year this is wasted space. It would be great to see more bungalows in the area and more affordable housing in general.”

“It is such a shame because it makes the area feel like a not great place to live for that time period and makes me dread the July celebrations when it was always my favourite time, and the community puts so much effort in to organising such amazing activities in the run up.”

“Bonfire site, Library, anti-social behaviour and unsightliness and negative image of area.”

“The management of local youths, especially around the library site. Litter, noise and general destruction of the area is appalling. Police need to be present. Bonfire site too close to houses.”



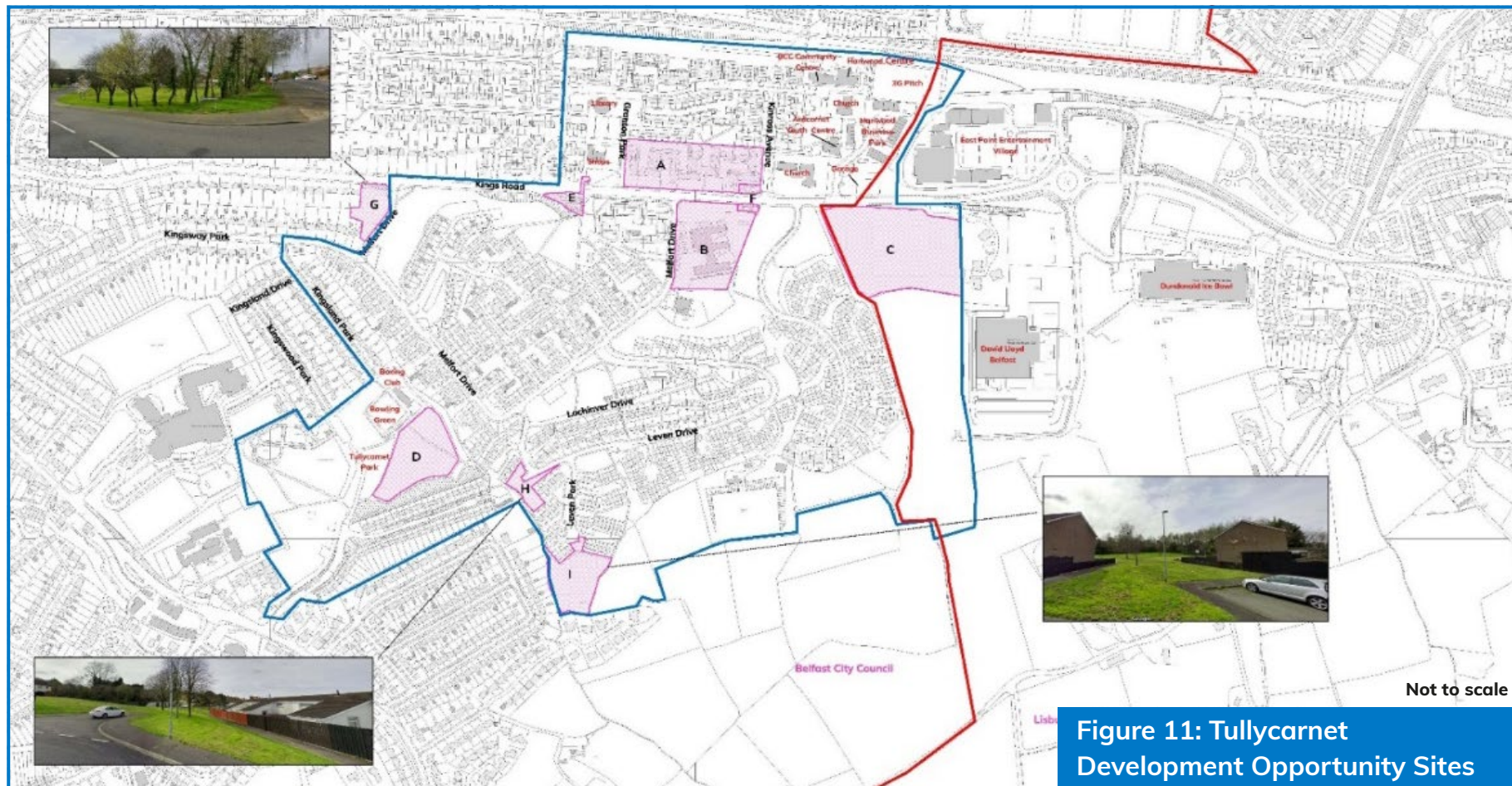


Figure 11: Tullycarnet Development Opportunity Sites

Development Opportunity Sites

During the place shaping process, a number of development opportunity sites emerged from discussions with key stakeholders and the community.

Kings Road Flats Redevelopment

There is a real sense of loss within the community in relation to the redevelopment of the Kings Road flats. Many people have lived in the flats for most of their lives and are annoyed and vexed to have to leave their homes. This is particularly poignant for the older people living in the area who will lose the support networks and good neighbours who they rely on for care and help.

Others recalled that when housing was demolished previously (at Granton Heights) the land was sold to a private house builder rather than being replaced with social and affordable housing. There was concern that this could happen again.

While people were clearly disappointed that the flats will be demolished there was support for the swift redevelopment of affordable social housing to meet the needs of the local community and to enable younger people to have the opportunity of remaining in the area to be close to family and support networks. Others expressed concern that they did not want to see the site sit vacant or derelict for too long as this could attract anti-social behaviour and generally would not help the image and perceptions of the area. Others noted concerns relating to disruption, noise and potential vermin during the demolition and redevelopment of the site.

“Those flats have been an eyesore for many a year. However, what I would hate to happen is for them to be knocked down and the area sit with nothing on it like the primary school site.”

“Homes for low-income people.”



Options for Redevelopment of Kings Road Flats Site

Three options for the extent of the Kings Road redevelopment site were presented for comment. These included:

Option A: Existing Footprint of the Kings Road Flats



Option B: Existing Footprint of the Kings Road Flats and the Former Retail Units



Option C: Existing Footprint of the Kings Road Flats, the Former Retail Units and the Car Park Site



There was a clear preference for **Option B** which would incorporate the existing Kings Road Flat footprint and the former retail units. Comments highlighted the need to retain the car park due to parking constraints for residents and library users and the opportunity to host family fun days and community events on the car park site. There was no support for Option A with respondents welcoming a larger area to be included in the redevelopment site to meet housing needs in the area.

A number of people supported Option C noting that the need for housing in the area was in their opinion more important than a seasonal bonfire which attracts anti-social behaviour (often from outside of the area) and was unsightly. They felt that other locations could be found for the bonfire. Others questioned whether people would want to live so close to a bonfire site and that the retention of the bonfire could make the site less attractive for prospective housing associations. A number of other people, including younger people, expressed their support for the car park site to be retained as a designated bonfire site.

Future House Types on Kings Road Flats Site

People were asked to share their views on the future housing provision mix on the Kings Road site. Based on the housing need figures for the area a broad outline of percentage of house types was presented to the community for comment. This included a mixture of apartments, townhouses, and semi-detached houses, with a breakdown of 10% 1 bedroom; 50% 2 bedrooms; 30% 3 bedrooms and 10% 4 bedrooms.

The community expressed a desire for accessible pensioner bungalows for those with complex needs and accommodation for over 55s and older people (the nearby development by Helm housing at Dundonald was referenced) with ground floor access and private garden space.

It was noted that dropped kerbs should be included to meet the needs of wheelchair users. There was also interest in a fold or retirement village with associated health and wellbeing facilities. Others noted the need for one bedroom accommodation to avoid bedroom taxes for those living alone. Others commented that the redevelopment of two-bedroom accommodation may enable some people who are living alone in larger homes the opportunity to downsize and free up family accommodation within the wider area.

The majority of respondents noted that there was a need for additional three- and four-bedroom housing provision to accommodate families and to enable people to remain in the area as their family grows. There were also concerns raised about the cost of future rents and the need to secure a supportive and affordable Housing Association.

“Estate needs bungalows for the elders.”

“Build pensioners bungalows or a fold so elderly residents don’t have to move away from the area.”

“They need to do it quicker, have more houses so young people from Tullycarnet can stay without having to move out of the area.”

“Potential when Kings Road flats are redeveloped may free up three and four bedrooms in Tullycarnet.”

Levin Drive



Levin Park



Melfort Drive



Figure 12: Longer term potential housing provision sites at Leven Drive, Leven Park and Melfort Drive

Opportunities for Longer Term Housing Development in Tullycarnet

A number of longer-term options for future housing development were identified by the Housing Executive and presented to the community for comment (see below in Figure 12). Despite support for additional housing in the area especially to accommodate older people, in terms of the proposed sites there was a clear preference for their retention as open space. It was expressed that the sites are important green and open space areas which support positive mental health and wellbeing and provide connections with nature for the community. Comments were recorded regarding additional opportunity sites for housing these included lands opposite site G on Melfort Drive, lands behind the Kings Road Nursery School site and on lands off Lochinver Drive adjacent to the electricity substation.

How would you like to See Tullycarnet become even better in the next ten years?

Responses centred on the need for affordable social housing; improved public transport services on a Sunday; additional community programmes and support for all age groups; more integrated cultural events and more services such as shops, a pharmacy, and a GP surgery. Others wanted to see a return of the primary school. One respondent suggested that the youth club could design and deliver a community leaflet quarterly to older residents and those who do not use social media to help keep them informed of what is happening in the area.

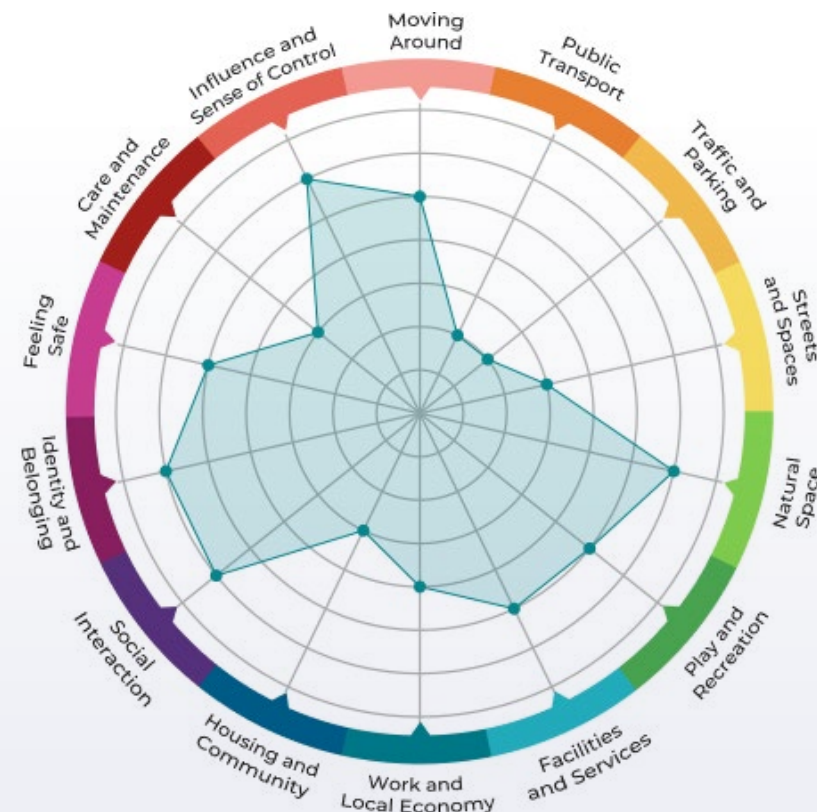
Others suggested that the car park site adjacent to the library could be redeveloped as a communal family park or garden area with allotments for everyone in the community to enjoy. It was noted that the bonfire site could be relocated to a quieter site further away from the library and existing homes.



Place Standard Analysis

The Place Standard Tool was drawn upon to frame conversations at each of the community engagement sessions. It provided a structured approach to explore the key issues and priorities impacting on Tullycarnet. The tool encouraged participants to consider the physical, spatial and social aspects of the area. It also helped to pinpoint the strengths and assets of Tullycarnet, as well as identifying areas for improvement. Participants were invited to comment on each of the 14 themes. The process produces a diagram which highlights at a glance the areas where a place is performing well and where there is room for improvement. A score of (1) means there is a lot of room for improvement and a score of (7) means there is very little room for improvement. Across each of the engagement sessions there was a consistent message in terms of priorities for improvement. However, there were a number of variances in scoring which we have noted below:

Facilities and Services: scored 1 by Football and Boxing Club representatives; Moving Around: scored 3 by Links Women's Group and Barnardo's Parents' Group; Feeling Safe: scored 4 by Youth Club (Juniors) and Barnardo's Parents' Group; Work and Local Economy – scores ranged from 2-6. A summary of the comments and score for each theme is detailed below in order of emerging priority (See Appendix 2 for all comments and scoring).



Priority Areas for Improvement

1. Traffic and Parking: 2.2
2. Public Transport: 2.5
3. Care and Maintenance: 2.9
4. Housing and Community: 3.1
5. Streets and Spaces: 3.5

Room for Improvement

6. Work and Local Economy: 4.1
7. Play and Recreation: 4.7
8. Moving Around: 5
9. Facilities and Services: 5.4
10. Feeling Safe: 5.5

Performing Well

11. Influence and Sense of Control: 5.7
12. Natural Space: 5.8
13. Social Interaction: 6.1
14. Identity and Belonging: 6.3

Traffic and Parking (2.2)

Traffic and Parking attracted a significant volume of concern. It was almost universally accepted that traffic and parking in the area was problematic, there was a significant lack of parking and that at some times of the day the streets operated almost as a one-way system, with both buses and refuse lorries finding the area inaccessible. As there was no assigned parking, when residents have visitors or events take place in the Tullycarnet area there are increased parking pressures. It was noted that the Churches often facilitate parking in their grounds when there are community events taking place. It was suggested that some of the green verges between parking bays could potentially be used to provide additional parking.

It was noted that vehicles parked on footpaths impede pram users and those with limited mobility from moving around. It was emphasised that there have been instances of cars being damaged as residents have been forced to park further away from their homes without natural surveillance. Concerns regarding access onto the Kings Road from both Kinross Avenue and Melford Drive were raised and it was suggested that traffic lights could be introduced here to improve traffic flow. Others noted the need for general upkeep of the road infrastructure including the need for pothole repair.

Public Transport (2.5)

Public transport is viewed as a key area for improvement. It was noted that there is only one bus operating around the estate, there is a limited Sunday service, and no service past 10.15 pm on the return route from the city centre to Tullycarnet. It was noted that the Number 21 bus used to be an efficient service for the local community, but that when the Glider service was introduced, the 21 service was drastically reduced. Tullycarnet is serviced by Translink Metro services 4C, 4D, EB3, 7H, 188 and Translink Ulster Bus services 511b and 25c. Interestingly, the Metro 7H provides a service to Forestside shopping centre and the EB3 provides a service to Connswater shopping centre. There was support for a more regular service which caters for a range of needs including GP visits and children accessing nearby primary and secondary schools.

The Glider was noted as being very convenient, however the service was considered limited at weekends and weekday evenings. For elderly people, wheelchair and pram users living in Tullycarnet, the Glider stop (Upper Newtownards Road) was viewed as too far away on foot, limiting their access to public transport.

Care and Maintenance (2.9)

The theme care and maintenance attracted a large volume of responses. The lack of street cleansing was of particular concern. It was noted that grassed areas within Tullycarnet were not appropriately maintained, the grass (in May) was knee high and spreading to the footpaths along with weeds, making the pavements slippery. It was highlighted that communal bin areas were not maintained appropriately. It was felt that statutory bodies did not act quickly enough when issues were raised.

The issue of fly tipping was also identified, with participants noting that incidents of fly tipping generally occurred near to the reservoir at Vionville and at land between Kinross Avenue and Ardcar. One participant noted that the grit box had been closed/empty all winter. Participants felt that the Housing Executive maintained its housing stock well, with new kitchens and bathrooms having been recently installed. It was felt that the housing itself was well looked after, but the streets and pathways were not.

Housing and Community (3.1)

People highlighted and supported the need for homes to be built in the area. Several specific needs were identified including bungalows for the elderly; housing for families (with gardens) who have outgrown their existing homes and who want to remain in the area; as well as providing housing for future generations who want to stay in Tullycarnet. Parents added that they need to stay near to family who support their childcare needs. It was also suggested that assigned parking should be introduced as many modern families have two cars.

Others noted that existing social housing stock could be reconfigured to meet part of the housing need. Housing swaps could be undertaken so that elderly people could move into smaller accommodation and families into their larger 3–4-bedroom homes. Others advanced that the Education Authority's vacant primary school site could be developed to provide social housing, connecting the Vionville and Melfort Drive areas. There was also a suggestion that new housing could be better developed and managed by a Co-operative Housing organisation which could promote shared space and support social interaction between tenants.

Several people highlighted that the housing refurbishment scheme in Tullycarnet was beneficial, with many kitchens and bathrooms improved. However, some people noted that they had outstanding repair issues and found it difficult to contact the Housing Executive. Additionally, elderly people living in the Tullycarnet Flats were concerned about the standard of replacement housing and its location outside of the Tullycarnet area.

There was support for the retention of the memorial garden and murals located at the Kings Road Flats. People felt a profound connection with both, and felt it was important that they were incorporated into the redevelopment of the Tullycarnet flats site. Others raised concerns that anti-social behaviour at the Kings Road flats site could be inevitable if flats are left vacant prior to demolition. There was concern amongst some of the young people living in Tullycarnet that if housing was developed on the Granton Park site, the designated bonfire in the area would be lost.

It was noted that there is a strong sense of community in Tullycarnet. The community works together, and it was considered a good neighbourhood to live in where people know each other well. It was felt that the local churches do a lot for the community and provide a range of services. Several participants raised the issue of Neighbourhood Renewal funding and felt it was important that support be sustained to ensure the area continues to improve.

Streets and Spaces (3.5)

People generally felt the area could be a more attractive place if street cleansing and maintenance were improved. It was noted that as there was no longer a road sweeping service, weeds along the pavement have become a persistent issue. It was also highlighted that potholes were a prevalent issue in streets and sand/grit boxes were not filled or were locked. People in Tullycarnet also wanted to see improved street lighting, as well as repairs to existing streetlights not in operation.

Similarly, the subways were highlighted as areas requiring cleansing due to dog fouling and litter. It was noted that there is also an issue with fly tipping in communal entries surrounding residential areas and walkways, including the Comber Greenway. Several of the younger people expressed the need to upgrade and improve the appearance of the subways.

People confirmed the gate to the rear of the Hanwood Business Park provided well-used access and egress from Hanwood Centre, 4G pitch and other services. However, the gate was not always open. It was also noted that the overprovision of cycle racks in Hanwood Business Park could be replaced with seating.

Overspill parking on footpaths throughout Kinross Avenue and Govan Drive has resulted in children playing on the road and a congested street scene. This was also an issue experienced during drop off and collection times adjacent to the Kings Road Nursery.

Work and Local Economy (4.1)

The majority of responses welcomed the area's close proximity to 'Eastpoint Omni Park' and the wealth of hospitality and service industry employment that it brings with it. It was noted that there were also job opportunities in the adjacent retail park and at the Ulster Hospital. It was considered that these jobs were convenient given the proximity to Tullycarnet, with employees being able to walk to and from work or access employment via public transport. Respondents also highlighted other large employers in the area such as Sainsburys, Spar, Dundonald International Ice Bowl and local primary schools. However, it was noted that following the closure of Tullycarnet Primary school there was a loss of some jobs.

Several respondents raised concerns regarding the local economy the lack of opportunities and training services within the Tullycarnet area. It was also noted that Dundonald High School only operates up to fifth form (year 12) and there was little opportunity for access to training and apprenticeships from aged 16 years. One of the younger respondents noted that Charter NI helps with training needs and a further participant noted that the Community Centre provides a careers service every Tuesday.

Play and Recreation (4.7)

It was noted that there are many well used facilities within Tullycarnet for various types of play and recreation. It was highlighted that there was a particular demand for use of the football pitch to the rear of the Hanwood Centre and that it can be costly to hire the pitch. Comments were also raised regarding the lack of toilet and drinking water facilities within the Tullycarnet Park. It was suggested that additional play facilities be provided for older children and a coffee dock could be developed to create a social space for parents who walk through the park to access primary schools and dog walkers.

Play parks including Tullycarnet Park play park and the play park to the rear of Tullycarnet Community Centre were noted as well used facilities, but it was felt that some of the play equipment needed to be better maintained. It was also noted that the range of equipment should be updated and more age appropriate for older children aged eight and over. The Ardcarney Youth Centre currently has a soft pitch area, however the youth groups noted that it can be dangerous to play on as it can become very slippery and would welcome its replacement with a 4G pitch or MUGA. The Tullycarnet Resource Centre was considered a good place for younger children to play, but it was felt that there should be more facilities for older children.

Moving Around (5)

The main issues raised regarding moving around related to pavements being obstructed by parked cars and refuse bins (on bin collection days). The height of kerbs was also raised as a concern to those using mobility scooters, walkers and prams. It was noted that the lack of dropped kerbs and grips on steps made moving around challenging for people with accessibility needs and parents with young children. The local topography of Tullycarnet added to this issue with the area being naturally hilly.

The immediate proximity of the Comber Greenway, Tullycarnet Park, local shops and Ardarnet Youth Centre were highlighted as positive and readily accessible features. It was noted that the Comber Greenway 'on the doorstep' location was valued, but that there were some accessibility issues with its use, including lack of benches along the route for rest points; no designated cycle lane (distinct from walkers); and issues with maintaining the greenway including cutting grass and trees, as well as the lack of provision and maintenance of dog foul bins. It was noted also that the provision of cycle racks in Hanwood Business Park exceeded demand in the area.

In terms of moving around within the immediate context of people's homes, it was noted that access to split-level houses made deliveries difficult. Others with visual impairments felt moving around outside of their home without assistance was very challenging.

Facilities and Services (5.4)

The loss of and lack of facilities and services in the area was identified as a key challenge. People made specific reference to the loss of services such as the GP Surgery, Granton Park shops including a Chinese takeaway and the Primary School. Others noted the absence of a dental surgery or public toilet provision in Tullycarnet Park. It was noted in terms of accessing services, those without a car were limited to using services at Hanwood Garage, which can be more expensive. It was also highlighted that due to having no GP surgery in Tullycarnet, many people must take two buses to access their nearest GP surgery located at Bryson Street. People were aware of the proposed redevelopment of Dundonald Ice Bowl with plans to include a health and wellbeing facility, but there was uncertainty as to whether these plans would result in health service provision for Tullycarnet residents. Several people noted the Comber Greenway was a valued facility on their local doorstep and welcomed the installation of new lighting.

The Tullycarnet Community Support Service's First Steps Nursery was viewed as an essential service for the area and there was support for a dedicated space to safeguard the much needed and vital service to address early years provision and support parents. Tullycarnet library was highlighted as a positive and valued facility. It was noted there were services for children but that these were often underused due to clashes in scheduling with other youth services in the area. Families with young children felt there could be improved scheduling of services between facilities in the area to make better use of the library.

The gym facility within the Hanwood Centre and Boxing Club at Tullycarnet Park were identified as well-used facilities and services, alongside the Hanwood Centre's 4G pitch, which was regularly used for football training. Tullycarnet Community Centre featured positively as a hub and lifeline for local community groups who were able to avail of the free room hire service provided by Belfast City Council.

Feeling Safe (5.5)

It was noted that Tullycarnet was perceived as a quiet community with a neighbourhood watch and although there were some instances of antisocial behaviour or incidents between neighbours, generally people feel safe and part of the community.

Those living alone highlighted that they often leave doors unlocked and knew everyone that lived around them. It was noted that adults and children know each other, and people are very friendly. Others highlighted concerns around safety in relation to inadequate street lighting, anti-social behaviour associated with youth use of the subways and at the bonfire site, and unauthorised scramblers in the area. It was highlighted that there are very positive and good relations between the community and local police officers. People living in the Kings Road flats noted that they feel safe when they see the PSNI.

Influence and Sense of Control (5.7)

Participants emphasised that Tullycarnet is an inclusive community. Local people felt there were opportunities to be listened to and to have their say. Furthermore, younger people had a say with a number of youth club members sitting on a Youth Committee to direct and shape youth activities in the area. Residents often contact local representatives about issues such as housing need and service provision in the area. They also expressed positive influence in maintaining the public library. Residents noted that staff working in the Tullycarnet Community Centre, Ardarnet Youth Centre and groups such as TAGIT were very approachable and interested in addressing local issues. It was also noted that the Tullycarnet Neighbourhood Collective was an effective forum for all groups to come together to discuss and tackle local issues.

It was evident that the redevelopment of the Kings Road Flats has made people feel like they were losing some sense of control, particularly older people who are being relocated outside of the area and will lose established support networks.

Natural Space (5.8)

There was strong consensus that Tullycarnet benefits from many open and green spaces with Tullycarnet Park and the Comber Greenway identified as important assets, the smaller playground at Tullycarnet Resource Centre was also highlighted positively. It was noted that the Tullycarnet Park is regularly used by adults for dog walking and as a safe and pleasant through route to access the local primary schools, while younger users meet their friends and play football in the park. One participant felt there could be more colourful planting within the park or the provision of a community allotment to animate the space. Several people noted that the Comber Greenway requires more general litter and dog waste bins.

Social Interaction (6.1)

Participants noted that there was very good social interaction within the community with a strong sense of community spirit and a variety of activities to suit all age groups. People highlighted the work of the four churches within the area, noting that they provide a valuable service for a wide range of social groups, especially the younger people of the area. The Belfast City Council Resource Centre was also highlighted as an important hub for community activity.

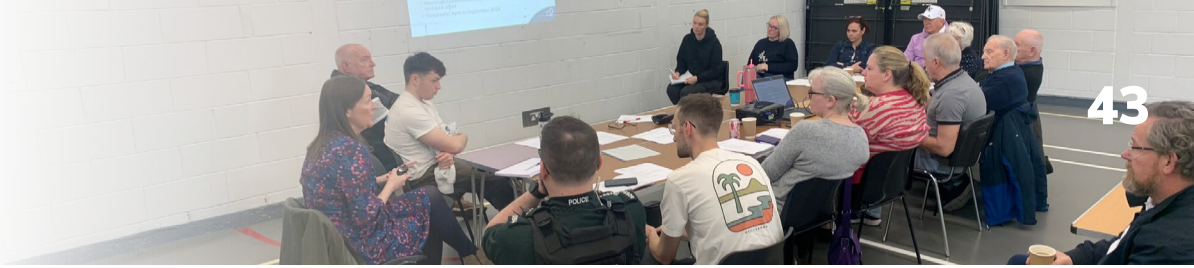
It was emphasised that organisations and groups such as TAGIT, Tullycarnet Neighbourhood Collective, Charter NI, Belfast City Council and the four Churches work well together for the benefit of the local community and area.

This was echoed by the work that is carried out by the Ardarnet Youth Centre, with the younger participants advising they enjoyed activities and hanging out in the youth centre and at the Hanwood Centre. A main concern for participants was that further social interaction was being limited due to a lack of available community meeting space.

Identity and Belonging (6.3)

There was a strong sense of community with people being proud to come from Tullycarnet. It was noted that neighbours were supportive, and it was a close-knit community where people looked out for one and other. The loss of the primary school had a significant negative impact on the community and has resulted in the majority of younger people who attended the primary school being dispersed across a number of other schools in the wider vicinity.

The bonfire site was highlighted as an area of particular importance for the younger people of the area. People recalled that at one point in time there were over 30 bonfires in the area and that this had been reduced to approximately three resulting in less anti-social behaviour. In contrast some people felt that this reduction was eroding the cultural heritage of the area. It was also acknowledged that while flags and other markers can be intimidating to outsiders, if you are seen as part of the community, you will be welcomed.



Key Engagement Findings

A number of consistent engagement findings have emerged from the place shaping process:

Strong sense of community and belonging: Tullycarnet has good neighbours who look out for each other, especially older people in the community, there is a sense of belonging and community safety.

Active and vibrant community: wide range of groups, clubs and activities with the Community Centre acting as a central hub. However, there is concern that this will not be sustained without continued investment from Neighbourhood Renewal.

Affordable Housing: the redevelopment of the Kings Road Flats has had a destabilising impact on the community, especially older people who have resided in Tullycarnet for nearly all of their lifetimes and are now having to be relocated outside of the area. While this has been destabilising, there is recognition and support for more affordable housing to meet the needs of older people and families in need.

Lack of available meeting space: there is limited available meeting spaces for groups and services. This has been a particular issue for those displaced by the closure of the Primary School including Tullycarnet Community Support Service First Step's Nursery, Link's Women's Group and Barnardo's. There are, however, opportunities and groups interested in working together to accommodate and support further community activity.

Former Primary School site: the closure of the primary school in August 2017 had a significant negative impact on the community and also displaced other vital services which operated out of the school site. The site is in a prominent location on the frontage of the Kings Road, the main thoroughfare running through the area. There is concern that if the cleared site lies empty it will attract anti-social behaviour and present a poor image of the area to the surrounding and adjacent community.

The site is being held in the long term as a potential site for Special Educational Needs and while there is support for this use within the community there is frustration that the site may lie cleared and vacant for some years. The local community would support a meanwhile use on the site on an interim basis to reinstate an active frontage along the Kings Road.

Additional sports provision: there is support for additional sports provision including an additional football pitch to meet demand and interest in the replacement of the soft surface pitch at the Youth Centre to a Multi-use Games Area (MUGA).

Loss of services and access via public transport: there is a sense of a consistent erosion of services in the area particularly with the closure of the Primary School, relocation of the GP Surgery, closure of retail units at Granton Park and a lack of pharmacy facilities. It is felt that this is exacerbated by existing bus routes which are viewed as insufficient.

Parking congestion: parking congestion impedes movement throughout the estate and is particularly associated with the hub of community activity concentrated adjacent to the Community Centre, Hanwood Centre, Hanwood Football pitch and Grace Baptist Church.



Care and maintenance of streets and pathways: general maintenance and upkeep issues were raised in relation to potholes, moss, weeds, long grass, fly tipping of white goods, the condition of the subways and lighting throughout the area.

Anti-Social behaviour: while the area is predominantly perceived as safe there are instances of anti-social behaviour. It was felt that the bonfire can attract anti-social behaviour from outside of the area, presents a negative image of the area and can be unsightly for residents.



Tullycarnet Library: is a long-standing service within the Tullycarnet area, celebrating its 50th year during 2024. It is, however, an underutilised resource by the local community. The library can play an important role in addressing isolation, supporting social inclusion, providing a safe and welcoming space and promoting good mental health and wellbeing through its services.

Access to green and open spaces: the open and green spaces within Tullycarnet are positive assets which support health and wellbeing and access to nature. The proximity to and connectivity provided by the Comber Greenway is a key asset and valued by the local community, although there is a need for improved maintenance and bin provision.



Access to employment opportunities: there is recognition that Tullycarnet is well positioned to offer opportunities to employment in relation to the adjacent Omni Centre, Dundonald International Ice Bowl, large supermarkets and the Ulster Hospital. It is acknowledged that additional training and apprenticeships would be welcomed to extend opportunities beyond the service sector.

Place Shaping Priorities and Regeneration Objectives

Six priorities have been identified through the place shaping process along with associated regeneration objectives. Priority actions and an implementation plan identifying key partners, short (0-2 Years), medium (3-5 Years) and long-term (6+ Years) timeframes, linkages to Place Standard themes are presented below, and possible support and funding opportunities can be found in Appendix 4. It is essential to recognise that during the plan period (up until 2035) other development opportunities may arise to support the wider regeneration of the Tullycarnet project area.

Moving Around, Parking and Public Transport

A connected community with active⁸ travel options to access health, employment and education services

Improving the appearance and image of Tullycarnet

A vibrant and attractive place with quality green and open spaces where people feel a sense of pride and belonging

Kings Road Flats redevelopment supporting a thriving community

Delivering affordable and quality homes to create a thriving community people are proud to call home

Play and Recreation Facilities

Quality play and recreation facilities to support active and healthy communities

Strong and engaged community

Sustaining levels of community activity and capacity building to support resilience

Regeneration potential of the Former Primary School Site and reinstating the active frontage along the Kings Road

Unlocking the regeneration potential of Tullycarnet and ensuring an active frontage along Kings Road thoroughfare

Priority Actions and Implementation

Moving Around, Parking and Public Transport

A connected community with active⁹ travel options to access health, employment and education services

Place Standard:

Traffic and Parking 2.2

Public Transport 2.5

Work and Local Economy 4.1

Moving Around 5

Facilities and Services 5.4

Parking constraints and congestion were identified as persistent issues requiring action. A number of areas were highlighted including the immediate vicinity of the Community Centre and Hanwood Centre due to the cluster of community services and facilities operating at this location; adjacent to the King's Road Nursery School during drop off and pick up times and accessing the Kings Road from Kinross Avenue.

It was noted that parking on footpaths impedes pedestrians, bin collections and access for emergency services.

Additional traffic calming measures should be introduced at Leven Drive, Lockinver Drive and Melford Drive (adjacent to Lowland Avenue and Lothian Avenue).

Experience of and access to public transport is varied depending on age and mobility requirements. While the Glider service can be accessed from the Upper Newtownards Road, older people and those with mobility needs find it difficult to access the stop from the Tullycarnet area. Sunday transport services are viewed as particularly limited and bus services are often cancelled at short notice leading to long waits and further inconvenience.

A number of key services, including the GP and Primary School, have been closed in Tullycarnet and as over a third of the population has no access to a car or vehicle, many people rely on public transport. For example, to access GP services at Cherryvalley or Bryson Street residents need to take two separate bus journeys and public transport routes to adjacent primary and secondary schools is also limited with many having to travel on foot.

In addition to lobbying Translink in relation to bus routes through the area, community transport projects eg U-Turn Project which provides a minibus for community group usage and active school programmes could be considered.

The proximity to the Dundonald International Ice Bowl new build which is expected to open in mid to late 2027 offers the opportunity to access health and wellbeing services including a gym and GP referrals.

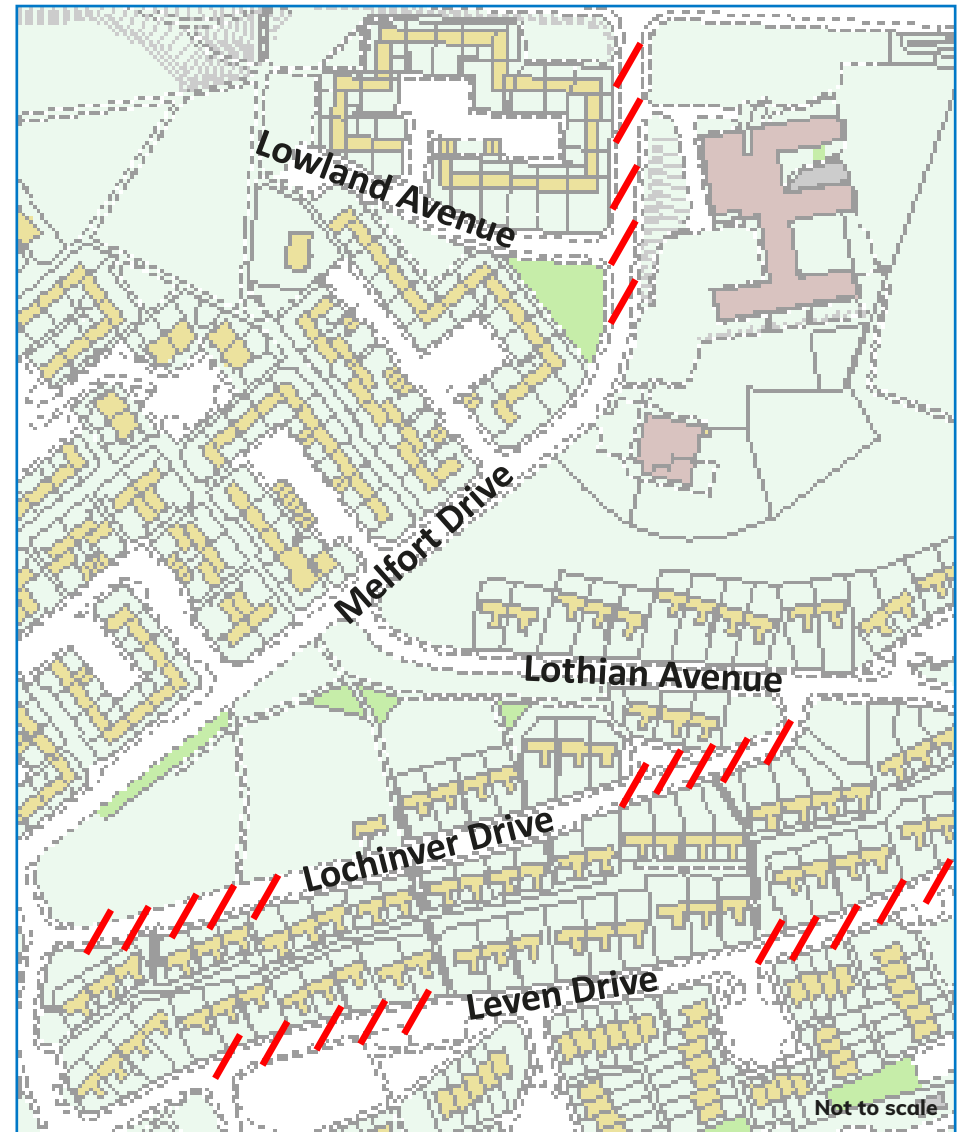
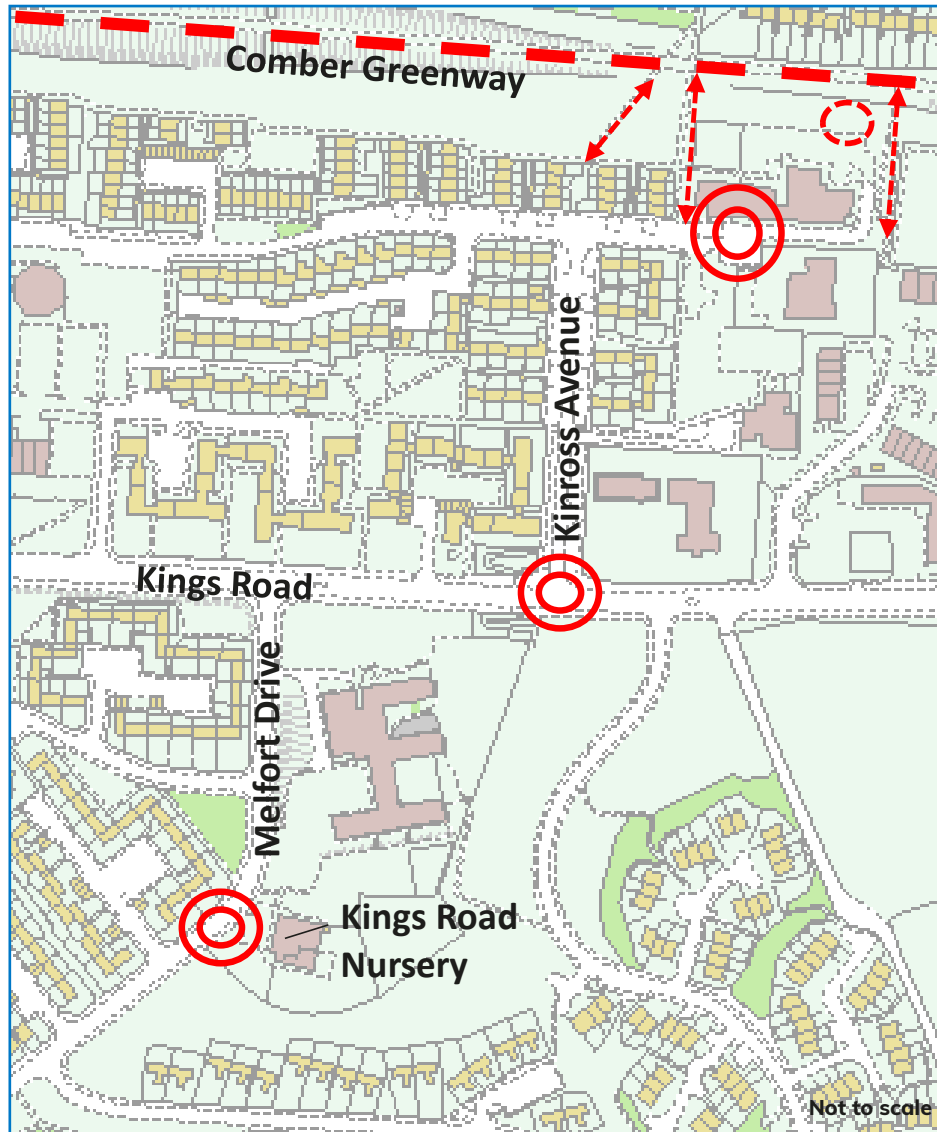
A key asset is the proximity of and access to the Comber Greenway, a 6.5-mile shared use off-road path almost entirely along the route of the former Belfast and County Down Railway mainline. The Greenway passes through the areas of three councils: Belfast City Council (3 miles), Lisburn City and Castlereagh Council (2 miles) and Ards and North Down Borough Council (1.5 miles) and is in the ownership of Department for Infrastructure. While the Greenway is well used by the local community, improved signage at access points would encourage further usage. There is also the potential to extend the Belfast Bikes Scheme to Tullycarnet, with a new docking station adjacent to the Comber Greenway at the Hanwood Community Centre.

The next phase will see the introduction of e-bikes which would be ideally suited to Tullycarnet's location on the edge of the city and improve accessibility to a range of services, employment and education via active travel options. In addition, Sustrans can support and train volunteers in a range of walking and cycling activities to empower the local community to enjoy and promote the use of the Comber Greenway.

Across the engagement sessions participants had varying experiences of work and local economy depending on age and gender. Younger people noted an abundance of employment opportunities within the service sector in the adjacent Eastpoint and Dundonald International Ice Bowl facilities. Parents with caring responsibilities felt there were fewer opportunities and noted the loss of employment as a result of the closure of the Primary School and retail units at Granton Park. Younger people also felt that access to training and apprenticeships could be improved.

Actions	ST	MT	LT	Partners
Lobby DfI Roads to provide additional parking bays along Kinross Avenue and to introduce further traffic calming measures at Leven Drive, Lockinver Drive and Melford Drive (adjacent to Lowland Avenue and Lothian Avenue).	ST			DfI Roads, Housing Executive
Facilities, particularly the Community Centre and Hanwood Centre, should promote and encourage service users to use active travel modes (eg walking, cycling, e-cycling or scooting) to access services and consider joint scheduling of programme activity to reduce congestion at peak times.	ST			BCC, Hanwood Trust, Sustrans
BCC's #parkwithusinmind pilot campaign could be extended to Tullycarnet.		MT		BCC, PSNI, DfI, Local Councillors
Lobby DfI Roads to undertake a traffic survey (volume of traffic, accident history) to determine whether traffic lights should be introduced at junction of Kings Road and Kinross Avenue to improve traffic flow and safe access and egress on to Kings Road.		MT		TAGIT, DfI Roads, PSNI
Liaise with Translink regarding Sunday service bus routes within the estate to better meet local travel needs.	ST			Translink, Local Councillors
Liaise with BCC regarding extending the Belfast Bikes Scheme with a docking station for e-bikes at Tullycarnet. Potential site at Hanwood Centre adjacent to the Comber Greenway.		MT		BCC Physical Programmes Team, DfI, Hanwood Centre
Explore Community Transport options including volunteer car drivers and minibus schemes to connect those without access to a car or with mobility issues to key services such as GPs and employment.	ST			Community Transport NI, TAGIT, Neighbourhood Collective

Actions	ST	MT	LT	Partners
Connect to Dundonald International Ice Bowl community outreach referral officers and the existing GP referrals scheme in the Hanwood Centre to address health inequalities and obesity including, 'MacMillan Move More' and 'Active Aging' outreach programmes to build confidence to access and use the facility.		MT		Lisburn City and Castlereagh Council, DIIB, GPs, Hanwood Centre, Neighbourhood Collective.
Liaise with local primary and secondary schools to connect with Sustrans Active School Travel Programme including a Walking Bus for children.	ST			Local Primary and Secondary Schools, Sustrans
Work with Sustrans NI to recruit and train volunteers in a range of walking and cycling activities to promote and encourage the use of the Comber Greenway.	ST			Sustrans NI, Hanwood Centre, Tullycarnet Community Centre, TAGIT
Establish link between the Youth Club and Tullycarnet Library to provide careers service, and information and signposting to training, trades and apprenticeships.	ST			Youth Centre, Library
Promote and signpost to training opportunities provided by Charter NI to support pathways to work and employment.	ST			Charter NI, Youth Centre
Link to BCC employability team to access employment academies and training opportunities.	ST			BCC, Youth Centre, Charter NI



Improving the Appearance and Image of Tullycarnet

A vibrant and attractive place with quality green and open spaces where people feel a sense of pride and belonging.

Place Standard

Care and maintenance 2.9

Streets and Spaces 3.5

Feeling Safe 5.5

Natural Space 5.8

The general appearance and upkeep of the area were identified as requiring improvements. This included: removal of moss and weeds from paths, footpath repair, grass cutting and addressing fly tipping (including white goods) on outskirts of Tullycarnet. A two-pronged approach should be adopted: additional upkeep and maintenance activities; along with changing attitudes through a civic pride campaign such as 'Live Here Love Here', 'Adopt a Spot', and 'The BIG Spring Clean' an annual volunteer clean-up which takes place throughout March and April.

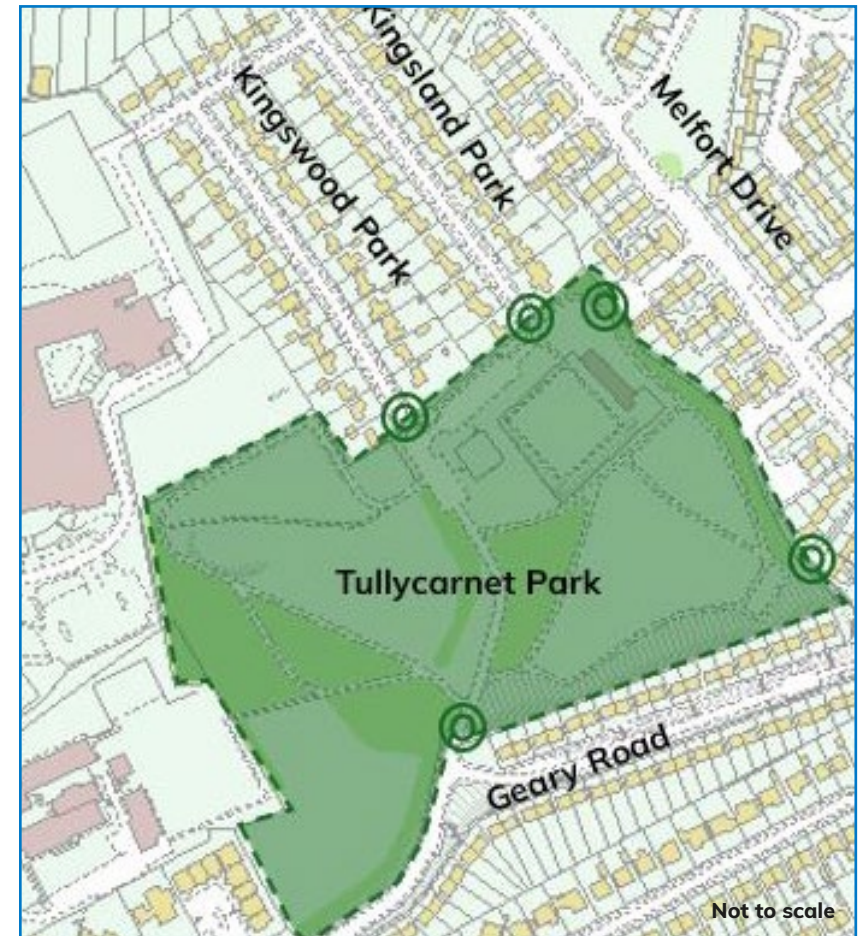
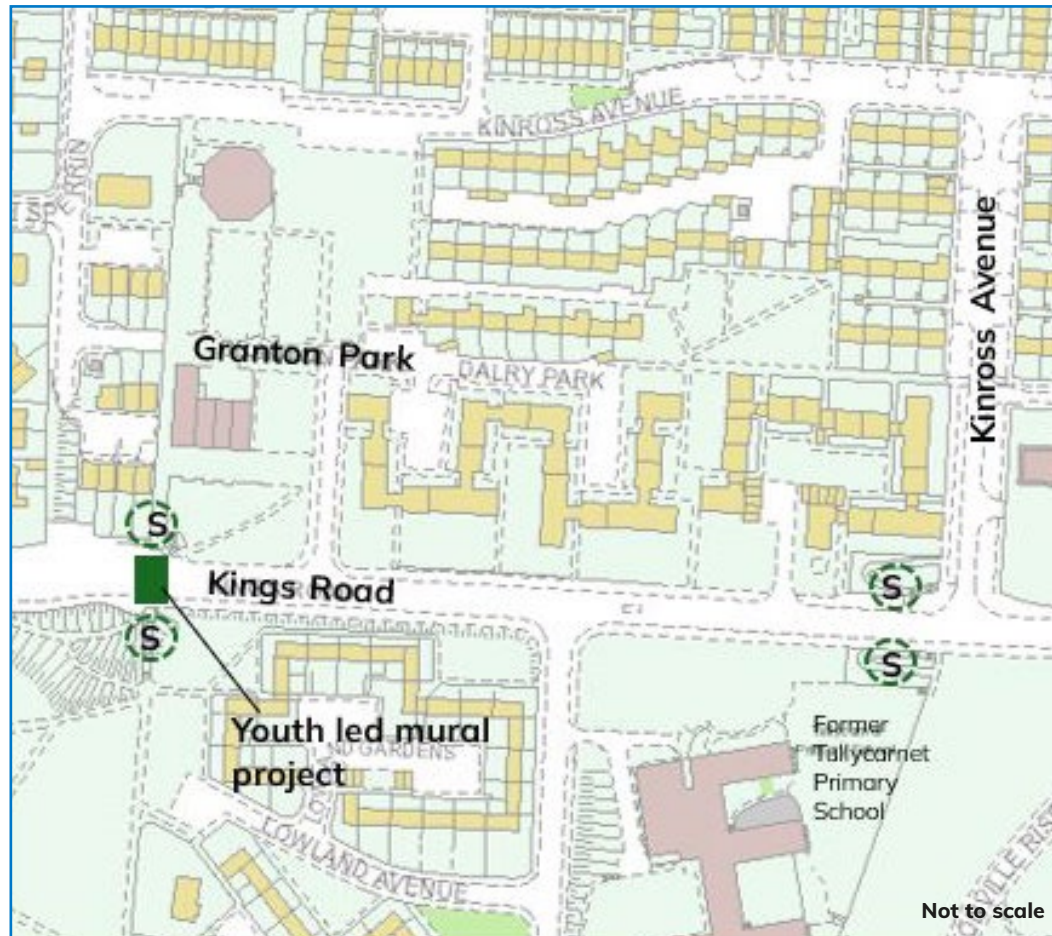
The two subways represent significant physical structures and in their current state are unsightly, attract some anti-social behaviour, are slippery when wet and prone to flooding in heavy rain. The Youth Club, Charter NI and the PSNI remain interested in developing a youth led Community Mural Project. Previous explorations failed to secure permission from DfI. The place shaping process presents an opportunity to revisit this issue and Charter NI has confirmed it can provide public liability insurance¹⁰. A community mural would improve the appearance of the subways, address issues of anti-social behaviour and build positive community and youth ownership of the subways.

The appearance of Tullycarnet Park could be enhanced through improved welcome signage particularly at pedestrian entrances, the introduction of flower beds and planting schemes. There is also support for additional services including eg water fountain, toilet facilities and a dedicated social space or coffee dock to enhance the park experience. A community allotment or Incredible Edibles style garden project could also be established within the park or on an area of existing open green space eg to the rear of 26 Leven Park.

10 £10,000,000 is the required level of public liability insurance

Actions	ST	MT	LT	Partners
Undertake a walk-around with NIHE to identify areas to improve the general appearance and upkeep of the area.	ST			TAGIT, HE, BCC
Annual Estate Inspection – using NIHE Estate Inspection Toolkit to maintain the appearance of the area.	ST			TAGIT, HE
Develop a Programme of Environmental Improvements to enhance the local area: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet with BCC and HE to discuss maintenance of grassed areas (potential community contract/social enterprise), pathways, moss and weed clearance on footpaths and parking areas and opportunities for additional street cleansing. • Meet with DfI Roads, to discuss pothole and footpath repair. • Liaise with DfI to discuss repairs to street lighting. • Replace over provision of cycle parking at Hanwood Business Park with seating and potential Belfast Bikes Docking Station. • Liaise with DfI regarding improved signage, lighting and the general maintenance and upkeep of the Comber Greenway. 	ST			TAGIT, HE, BCC, DfI Roads Hanwood Business Park
Promote BCC's free Bulky Waste Collection service for house holders.	ST			BCC
Develop a Keep Tullycarnet Tidy Campaign with Community Litter Picks throughout the year, including 'Adopt a Spot' and the 'BIG Spring Clean'.	ST			TAGIT, Tullycarnet Neighbourhood Collective and Community Volunteers

Actions	ST	MT	LT	Partners
Meet with DfI to re-explore support for a youth-led community mural project to transform the appearance and safety of the subways.	ST			Youth Centre, Charter NI, PSNI, Housing Association or HE, DfI Roads and BCC PCSP.
Meet with BCC Parks Outreach team to discuss welcome signage, planting project, volunteer days and animation in Tullycarnet Park. Opportunity to connect with 'ParkLife' for community groups and 'Belfast in Bloom' competition.	ST			BCC, Parks Outreach Team,
Meet with BCC to discuss provision of a water fountain, toilet facilities and coffee dock (pop up/mobile) in Tullycarnet Park.		MT		Housing Executive,
Meet with BCC and Housing Executive with support from Social Farms and Gardens and Groundwork to explore opportunities for introduction of a Community Allotment or garden within the park or on open green space to the rear of 26 Leven Park.	ST			Social Farms and Gardens, Groundwork, TNC and TAGIT



Kings Road Flats redevelopment supporting a thriving community

Delivering affordable and quality homes to create a thriving community people are proud to call home.

Place Standard:

Housing (3.1)

The plans to demolish and redevelop the Kings Road Flats have had a destabilising impact on the Tullycarnet community, especially for older people who have been or will be displaced and provided with accommodation outside of the Tullycarnet area. Despite this, there is recognition and wide support for the timely redevelopment of the Kings Road Flats to mitigate housing stress and need within the community and to act as a catalyst for wider regeneration and investment. There is a clear and consistent message from the local community for affordable housing, accommodation suitable for older people (accessible and complex needs) and families to enable people to remain in the area close to support networks.

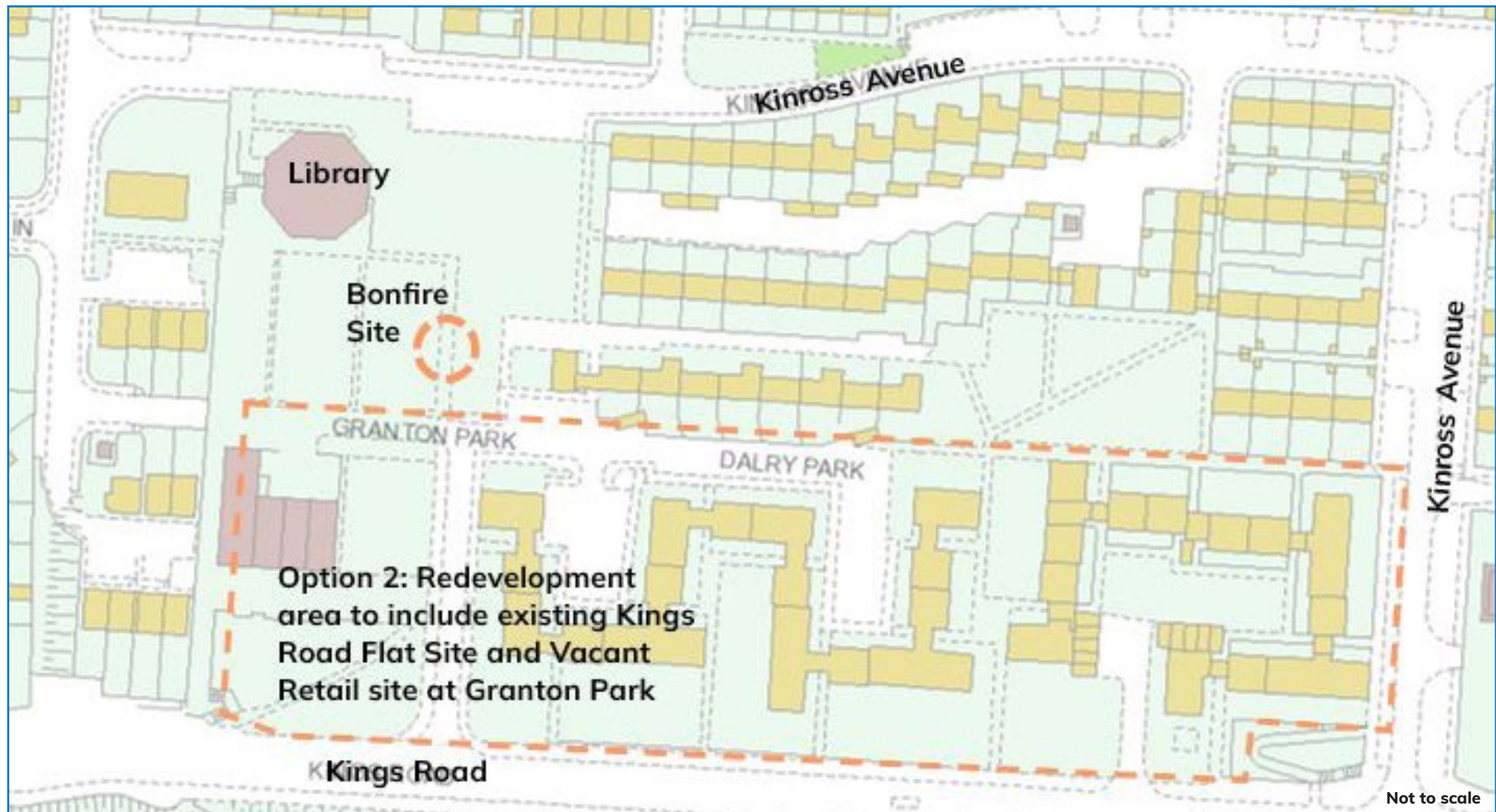
As detailed earlier in the plan three footprint options were presented to the community for comment. There was a clear preference for Option 2 which includes the existing Kings Road Flat Site and the adjacent vacant retail site at Granton Park. There was also support for Option 3 which includes the existing Kings Road Flat Site, adjacent vacant retail site at Granton Park and the car park site adjacent to the Library (bonfire site). A number of people acknowledged the need to balance the greater need for housing with the seasonal use of the bonfire site

which can attract anti-social behaviour from outside of the area and for some, presented a negative image of the area. However, there was a clear desire from younger people (seniors) to retain the designated bonfire site.

The clearance of Kings Road Flats is estimated to be complete by end of 2024/25 with a demolition contractor on site in spring 2026. There was support for the redevelopment of the Kings Road Flats to provide in-curtilage or assigned parking to address parking congestion and for the introduction of private garden space. The redevelopment of the Kings Road Flats presents an opportunity to re-establish links and sight lines with the library supporting the visibility and usage of this important community facility.

A number of existing open space sites were presented for longer term consideration for housing provision (see Figure 10). There was a clear preference to retain these as open and green spaces to support mental health and wellbeing, enhance the appearance of the area, support nature and address climate change. A number of other sites were advanced as longer term options for the Housing Executive to consider: Melfort Drive and Kings Road (adjacent to Lowland Walk – complex needs housing); Junction Melfort Drive and Lochinver Drive (housing and play area); and Melfort Drive, to rear of Kings Road Nursery.

Actions	ST	MT	LT	Partners
Key engagement findings will inform the Kings Road Flats Development Brief, Concept Plans and Design Statement: including Preferred Option 2, mix of housing provision, retention of Memorial Garden (on site), retention of Murals (on or off site), provision of in-curtilage or assigned parking, access to gardens and incorporation of flexible community festival and animation space on the car park (seasonal bonfire site) with concrete base to minimise ground damage from bonfire.	ST			Housing Executive. DFI, HA, BCC, TAGIT, Libraries NI.
Maintain communication and engagement with community as redevelopment plans progress: including nomination of social housing provider, development of design proposals, and submission of planning application and drawings.	ST	MT		Housing Executive, Housing Association, TAGIT, Tullycarnet Neighbourhood Collective
Design proposals to improve visibility of and accessibility of the Library facility with the community.		MT		Housing Executive, Libraries NI
Housing Transfer System to identify interest from those who may want to downsize to free up larger family homes.	ST			Housing Executive, Tenants.
Maintain communication regarding maintenance, upkeep and housing improvements across Tullycarnet.	ST			Housing Executive, TAGIT, Tenants.
Programme of community activities and events to support community connections between new tenants and the wider community.		MT		Housing Executive, TAGIT, Tullycarnet neighbourhood Collective, Tullycarnet Library.
Identification of additional sites within Tullycarnet appropriate for longer term housing provision – existing open space sites.			LT	Housing Executive, Local Community.



Play and Recreation Facilities

Quality play and recreation facilities to support active and healthy communities.

Place Standard:

Play and Recreation 4.7

Facilities and Services 5.4

Additional Football Pitch Provision

There is clear community support and demand for an additional football pitch facility to complement the existing pitch at the Hanwood Centre which is used to capacity. There is also affordability issues associated with hiring the Hanwood pitch for the local community. At the outset of the place shaping process two areas were identified as potential opportunity sites for a new football pitch.

A) Tullycarnet Park: site adjacent to the Boxing Club and Bowling Club located to develop a Sports Hub. Services are already in place; the ground is relatively flat given the topography of the area and the site is in Belfast City Council ownership. However, development on this site would result in loss of significant mature trees and would decimate the park area for other users.

B) Land at Vionville Rise, adjacent to David Lloyd and Dundonald International Ice Bowl. There is historical outline planning permission (Y/2000/0210/O) for a football pitch at this site as part of plans for the initial Hanwood Centre development (See Appendix 3). The site can be readily accessed from the Kings Road, the hilly topography of the site is challenging, site is located within Lisburn City and Castlereagh Borough Council area.

Paul Millar (Tullycarnet Football Club) has met with East Belfast Area Working Group, Belfast City Council to discuss the feasibility of developing a football pitch in the Tullycarnet Park (A) and has raised the issue of Lands at Vionville Rise (B) with Donal Rogan the Corporate Land Owner, Regeneration and Growth lead at Lisburn City and Castlereagh Council.

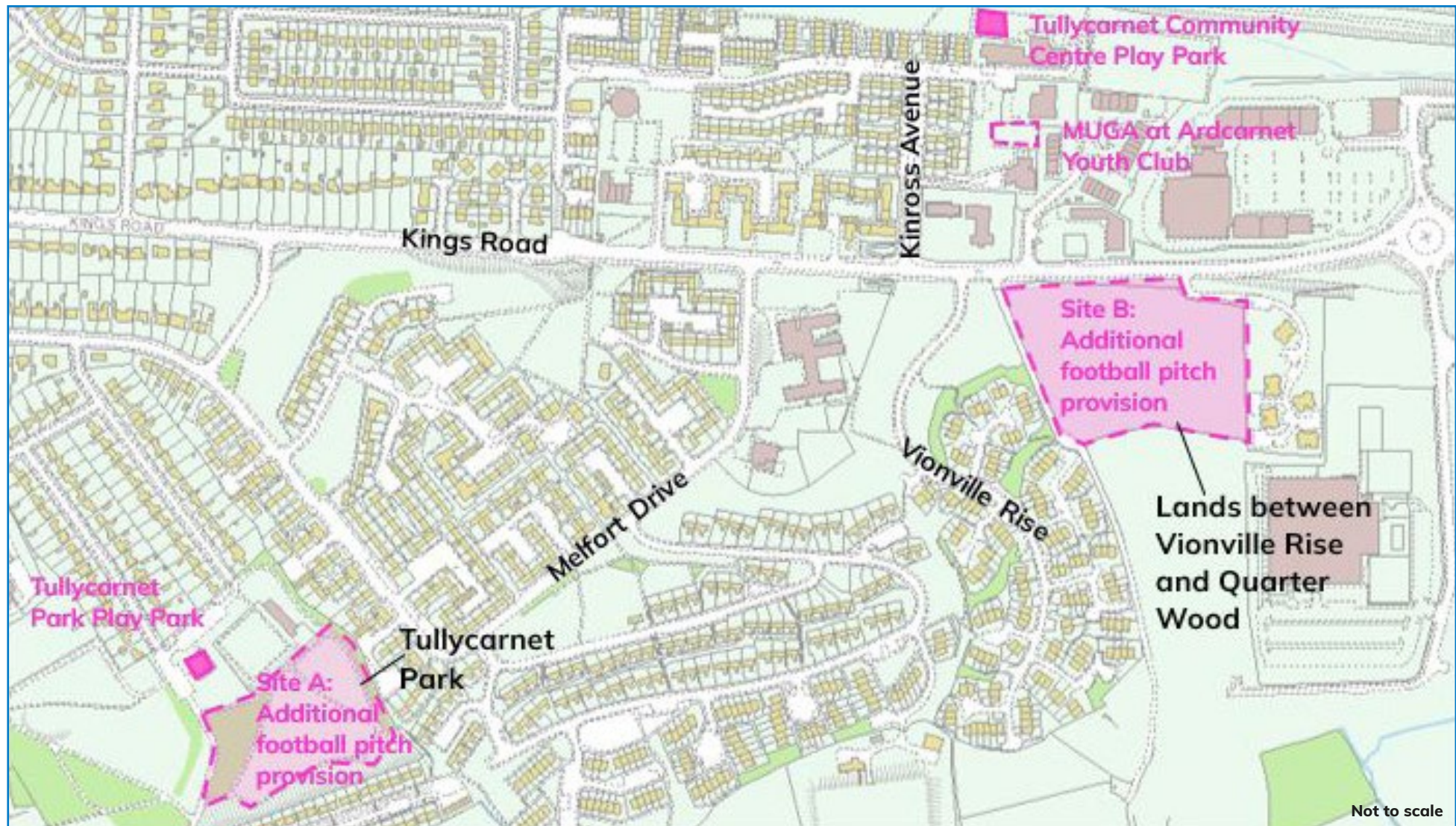
MUGA

The Youth Centre (Junior and Senior) is interested in replacing the existing soft surface pitch area with a MUGA. The existing soft surface pitch is difficult to maintain and can be slippery and unsafe to play on due to moss growth. Opportunities could be explored through a community-youth services partnership to replace the pitch with a MUGA. The Education Authority requires groups wanting to use the soft surface area to have £10 Million Insurance cover which is prohibitive for groups and organisations in the area.

Improvements to Play Park Provision

While there are two well used children's play parks and an outdoor gym in the Tullycarnet community, parents felt that there was a lack of play equipment for older children and children with special educational needs and repairs are needed to equipment in the Play Park to the rear of the Hanwood Centre

Actions	ST	MT	LT	Partners
Continue to liaise with landowners regarding additional football pitch provision.	ST			Tullycarnet Football Club (Paul Millar and Harry Flynn); Hanwood Centre; Land Owners: BCC and LCCC.
Undertake a Feasibility Study of identified sites to provide additional football pitch provision in Tullycarnet.		MT		
Explore opportunity to re-place existing soft surface pitch at Youth Centre with a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) through a community-youth services partnership.	ST			Youth Centre, Education Authority, Belfast City Council, TAGIT.
Meet with BCC to discuss repairs to play equipment, potential of providing multi age play equipment (age zones, particularly 8+ years) and Special Educational Needs play provision in play park to rear of Hanwood Centre. BCC is currently developing a Play Strategy.	ST			BCC, Parks and Leisure TAGIT, Neighbourhood Collective.
Explore Community Insurance cover for use of soft surface pitch at the Youth Centre.	ST			Neighbourhood Collective. Tullycarnet NRP, NICVA.



Strong and Engaged Community

Sustaining levels of community activity and capacity building to support resilience

Place Standard:

Facilities and Services 5.4

Social Interaction 6.1

Influence and Sense of Control 5.7

Identity and Belonging 6.3

One of the strengths and key assets of Tullycarnet is the level of community activity taking place, with a wide range of groups and organisations working together for the benefit of the area. Community support, capacity building and connections have been taken forward through DfC Neighbourhood Renewal Funding. For example, the Tullycarnet Neighbourhood Collective meets regularly to share information, provide support and offer a collective voice focused on the improvement of the area. This activity and collaboration have been driven through Neighbourhood Renewal investment and requires ongoing funding and support to be sustained. The current review of Neighbourhood Renewal, People and Place, and the uncertainty of future social investment in the Tullycarnet area is of major concern to the community and key partnerships.

Furthermore, existing community, youth and church spaces are currently used to capacity which is limiting the ability to grow, extend or introduce new services. This issue was exacerbated with the closure of the primary school site which displaced Links Women's Group, Barnardo's and Tullycarnet Community Support Services First Steps Nursery. These services have been partially relocated within the area as a result of the good will of organisations with premises. Links Women's Group is currently operating out of the Community Centre; Barnardo's has had to relocate to the Newtownards Road and operates a session in Tullycarnet Presbyterian Church; Tullycarnet Community Support Services First Steps Nursery has relocated to the Grace Baptist Church, providing support to 24 families with the service operating from Monday to Friday, and an office space located in Presbyterian Church. A number of the churches also operate out of other facilities including the Tullycarnet Church, currently located at the Bowling Club and East Point Church operating out of the Community Centre. Despite organisations offering space to these displaced groups there are persistent challenges associated with their use including, insurance, hire costs, access to the buildings which in some cases is limited to the host organisations' opening hours or staff availability and limited storage. There is clearly a deficit of dedicated, flexible and affordable community meeting space in Tullycarnet.

It is evident that there is a strong sense of community spirit and belonging to Tullycarnet with older and younger people and families well catered for through a variety of community activity. It was noted that additional activities could be provided for individuals falling within the 25-to-50-year-old age category where there was a perceived gap in provision. Social media, and in particular the Tullycarnet Facebook page, is an important vehicle to communicate with the wider community. However, interest was expressed in re-establishing a Community Newsletter to reach older people and those who do not have access to social media. The Housing Executive noted that it could provide printing services for a Newsletter. Younger people from the Youth Club could volunteer to distribute the Newsletter to households throughout Tullycarnet.

Libraries NI has fully engaged in the Place shaping process and are committed to undertaking outreach activities to promote the services available at the library. These include early years activities to support language development, school preparedness, social interaction and peer support for parents; Rhythm and Rhyme; Lego Club; mindful colouring; children's story time; reading scheme projects; reminiscence sessions; Libby and BorrowBox apps for e-books; support for reading groups and book collection outside libraries; walking groups from the Library using audiobooks to improve step count and social interaction; and free digital skills training.

Actions	ST	MT	LT	Partners
A working group should be established to scope additional opportunities for groups and services to be located within existing premises in Tullycarnet. Including, Presbyterian Church Hall, Youth Centre and Tullycarnet Library. Community Outreach Officer, Tullycarnet Presbyterian Church has offered to facilitate this process.	ST			Links Women's Group, Barnardo's; Tullycarnet Community Support Services, Libraries NI, Youth Centre, Presbyterian Church, Tullycarnet Neighbourhood Collective.
Presbyterian Church is supportive of accommodating further community use within its premises.	ST			Displaced Groups (as above) and Tullycarnet Presbyterian Church.
Initiate formal conversation with Libraries NI to scope feasibility of a partnership use of Library facility with community groups. There are clear complementary uses between Library early year services and First Steps Nursery, Barnardo's and Link's Women's Group.	ST			Link's Women's Group, Barnardo's, Tullycarnet Community Support Services First Steps Nursery and Libraries NI
Dundonald International Ice Bowl redevelopment will provide community meeting space for hire.		MT		Neighbourhood Collective, Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership.

Actions	ST	MT	LT	Partners
The Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership should continue to raise the need for ongoing investment in the Tullycarnet area and lobby for funding to be retained to sustain community development and the ongoing regeneration of Tullycarnet.	ST			Tullycarnet NRP, TAGIT, Charter NI EB Partnership, Neighbourhood Collective Elected representatives.
Continue to provide a programme of community activities and events to promote community connections and social interactions between groups and the wider community. Opportunity to explore additional activities for those aged 25-50 years and to promote existing activities to this grouping.	ST			TAGIT, Neighbourhood Collective
Re-introduce a seasonal community newsletter to support community inclusion and share information. Content and information from social media could be re-purposed and volunteers from the Youth Clubs identified to distribute the newsletter. The Housing Executive can print copies and digital copies can be made available for free in the library.	ST			Housing Executive, Neighbourhood Collective, Youth Volunteers
Libraries NI will promote services available at Tullycarnet Library and undertake outreach activities to increase community awareness and use of services. The library will develop an Action Plan in conjunction with local community groups on a 12-month rolling basis.				Libraries NI, Tullycarnet Library, Neighbourhood Collective and Tullycarnet Community Support Service

Regeneration potential of the Former Primary School Site and reinstating the active frontage along the Kings Road

Unlocking the regeneration potential of Tullycarnet and reinstating the active frontage along Kings Road thoroughfare

Place Standard:

Identity and Belonging 6.3

Facilities and Services 5.4

Influence and Sense of Control 5.7

The former primary school site is a significant vacant site (approximately 1.1 ha) on the main frontage of the Kings Road under the ownership of the Education Authority. Due to the prominent location and visibility of the site, the community is concerned that if the site remains vacant, coupled with the planned demolition works and clearance of the Kings Road Flats, the immediate environment of Tullycarnet will present a run down and negative image to the community and to those who travel along the main thoroughfare of the Kings Road. As a result, there is support for a meanwhile use on the site or the opportunity to redevelop the site as a community hub to support Early Years, family support services and community activity.

After discussions with the Education Authority there is a clear directive that the site will be retained and in the medium to longer term for potential satellite use for Special Educational Needs (SEN). As a result, there is no support from Education Authority for a meanwhile use in order to safeguard potential SEN use as and when required to meet the growing demand in East Belfast. The Education Authority does however recognise the need for and support improving the appearance of the site frontage given its prominence.

The community is alarmed that the site may lay undeveloped for a number of years and are concerned that a vacant site could attract anti-social behaviour and worsen wider community perceptions of the Tullycarnet area. While there is support for a potential SEN use, there is frustration that the site is being effectively land banked for a potential use that may never come forward. Consequently, the community will lobby local elected representatives, the Minister and the Education Authority to either provide a SEN use on the site; consider a meanwhile use or facilitate a community asset transfer of the site in the longer term to provide a community hub.

Actions	ST	MT	LT	Partners
Lobby Group to be established with the community and local elected representatives to engage with the Minister and Senior Education Authority representatives to discuss the future development of the site.	ST			Education Authority, TNRP, TAGIT, Charter NI, Elected Representatives, Community.
To improve the appearance and image of the site, Community History Boards could be erected on the frontage of the site celebrating the history of the Kings Road area. The recent Urban Heritage Project 'Forever Our Home' poems could be displayed on boards, which could be relocated within the community when the site comes into use.	ST			TNRP, TAGIT, Neighbourhood Collective, Charter NI, Education Authority
Commission the development of a feasibility study and concept plans to support ongoing lobbying with the Minister and Education Authority, illustrating meanwhile or long term uses on the site to address the lack of early years provision, community meeting and activity space in the area.		MT		TNRP, TAGIT, Neighbourhood Collective, Charter NI



Implementation and Next Steps

Many of the place priorities are connected and complement each other and it is important to note that the ongoing regeneration of Tullycarnet will require progress on each aspect. Advancing the priority actions identified in the plan will require a partnership approach with combined efforts and investment from statutory partners, the local councils and community and social infrastructure to deliver the regeneration objectives. The plan provides an agreed set of priority actions which the Advisory Group and the local community can use as a lobbying tool and as a vehicle to draw down funding to support implementation.

The Advisory Group and Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership will play central roles in driving the plan forward over the next ten years and working collaboratively with key service providers and the community to ensure the successful implementation of the plan.

They will:

- Provide MLAs and elected representatives with copies of the Plan and seek their support;
- Develop an Implementation Plan to monitor and review progress;
- Support and encourage joined up partnership working to progress the plan;
- Provide a welcoming environment which encourages all stakeholders to get involved;
- Review progress in taking forward the Action Plan;
- Communicate the progress of the Plan with the wider community; and
- Organise an annual review of the Action Plan with key stakeholders.

Glossary

BCC	Belfast City Council
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BMAP	Belfast Metropolitan Area Plan
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BOSS	Belfast Open Space Strategy
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BPS	Belfast Plan Strategy
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BUAP	Belfast Urban Area Plan
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dBMAP	draft Belfast Metropolitan Area Plan
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DEA	District Electoral Area
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DfC	Department for Communities
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DfI	Department for Infrastructure
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EA	Education Authority
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ESP	Eastside Partnership
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HA	Housing Association
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HE	Housing Executive
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LCCC	Lisburn City and Castlereagh Council
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LDP	Local Development Plan
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LLPA	Local Landscape Policy Area
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NIMDM	Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measures
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NRA	Neighbourhood Renewal Area
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NRP	Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership
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PSNI	Police Service of Northern Ireland
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SOA	Super Output Area
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TAGIT	Tullycarnet Action Group Initiative Trust
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TCSS	Tullycarnet Community Support Services
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TNC	Tullycarnet Neighbourhood Collective
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Appendix 1: Advisory Group Membership

Tullycarnet Place Shaping Plan Advisory Group was made up of representatives of the following organisations.

Belfast City Council

Charter NI

Department for Communities

Department for Infrastructure (Roads)

Education Authority

Hanwood Trust

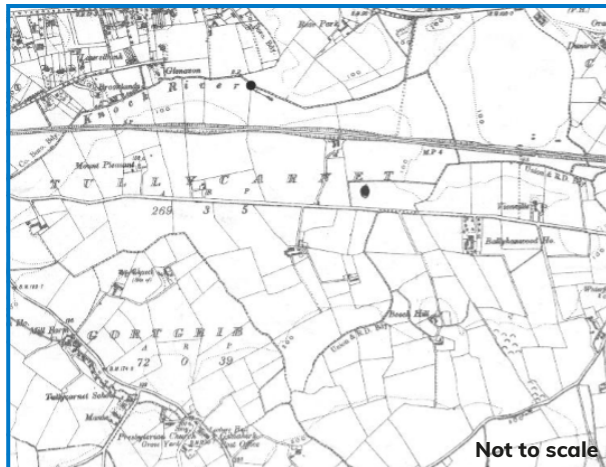
Housing Executive

Libraries NI

Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council

Tullycarnet Action Group Initiative Trust

Appendix 2: Mapping



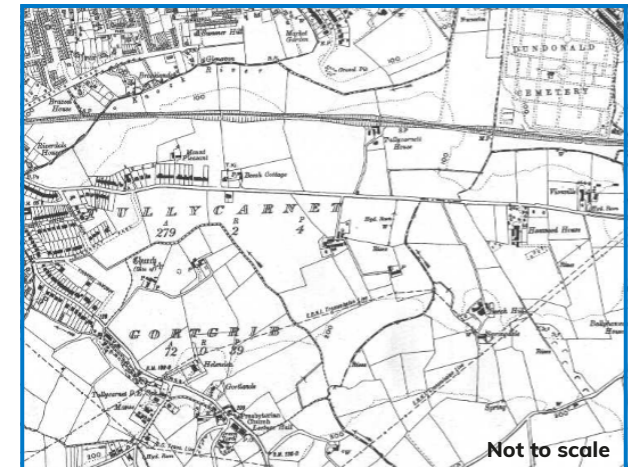
Not to scale

Figure 2: PRONI Historical Maps –
Map Dated 1901-1902



Not to scale

Figure 3: PRONI Historical Maps –
Map Dated 1919-1920



Not to scale

Figure 4: PRONI Historical Maps –
Map Dated 1938-1939

Appendix 3: Key Services and Groups

Key Services: Programme Delivery and Outreach Activities

Kings Road Nursery School

- Forest School
- Eco School
- Sensory Room
- 52 Full Time Nursery Spaces

Hanwood Centre

- 3G Sports Pitch
- Fitness Suite
- Meeting Rooms and Fitness Studio for Hire
- Health and Wellbeing Programmes including Strength and Balance; Older and Active; Friday Flex; GP Referrals
- Down Syndrome Football Training for children aged 5-12.
- The Pamper Zone for massages and therapies

Tullycarnet Community Centre

- Capacity Building Support and Training
- Free Wi-Fi
- Room Hire
- Sports Hall
- Minor Hall
- Meeting Rooms
- Free period products available

Following services are provided:

- Advice Clinic
- Creche
- Links Women's Sewing Group
- Archery Club
- Credit Union
- Hens Den
- Dance for You/2 Crew for You
- Tullycarnet Football Club
- Craft Class
- Bridge Club
- Lunch Club
- Jujitsu
- Pensioners Pool
- East Point Church: Hub and Grub and Grief Share
- Children's Down Syndrome Sports Club
- Men's Group
- Church Breakfast Club
- Teds Club
- PSNI: Coffee with a Cop
- TCSS Vintage Diners

Tullycarnet

Ardcarnet Youth Centre

- Junior Youth Club
- Senior Youth Club
- Football Skills Programme
- DJ Skills Workshop
- Groupwork Sessions
- Graffiti Workshop
- Belfast Works Connect Training
- Flare Ambassadors Programme/Flare Project (Facilitating Life and Resilience Education)
- Together: Building a United Community (T:BUC) Programmes
- Cultural Expressions Programme (CEP)
- Outdoor Learning Service Programme (OLS)
- PSNI: 'Pizza with a Peeler'
- Free period products available

Tullycarnet Library

- Tea and Newspapers
- Rhythm and Rhyme
- Tullycarnet Yarn Spinners
- Free period products available
-

Tullycarnet Boxing Club

- Boxing Exercise classes for age 8 and over
- Junior and senior classes
- Tullycarnet Flute Band

Tullycarnet Bowling Club

- Outdoor bowl sessions for all ages
- Tullycarnet Church Sunday Service
- You Belong
- Addiction Group
- Kids Club
- Warm Space
- Summer Scheme

Grace Baptist Church

- First Steps Playgroup (relocated after primary school demolished)
- Sunday School
- Monthly Life Stories
- Campaigners
- Monthly Women in the Community
- Bible Study and Prayer Meeting
- Mums and Tots Group
- Warm Space (Winter months)
- Summer Scheme

Tullycarnet

Tullycarnet Presbyterian Church

- Girls Brigade (ages 3-18)
- Boys Brigade (ages 4-18)
- Presbyterian Women Group
- Life Group (Bible Course)
- Parents and Toddlers group
- Open House space (Fridays)
- Campfire Kids Club
- Barnardo's Playgroup

Tullycarnet Park

- Playpark
- Coach parking and accessible parking.

Groups in the area

- Ardcarney Youth Club – Junior and Senior
- Banardos - Tullycarnet Family Project
- First Steps Playgroup
- Links Women's Group
- Tullycarnet Dancers Group
- Senior Citizens Group
- Tullycarnet Advisory Group
- Tullycarnet Action Group Initiative Trust (TAGIT)
- Tullycarnet Boxing Club
- Tullycarnet Bowling Club
- Tullycarnet Community Support Services
- Tullycarnet Community Forum
- Tullycarnet Community Football Club
- Tullycarnet Flute Band
- Tullycarnet Neighbourhood Collective
- The Hanwood Trust
- Yarn Spinner Group
- Charter NI
- EastSide Partnership - Neighbourhood Renewal
- East Belfast Community Development Agency (EBCDA)

Appendix 4: Support and Funding Opportunities

Moving Around, Parking and Public Transport

- [Sustrans NI](#)
- [TNLCF Awards for all](#)
- [Belfast Bikes Scheme](#)
- [Community Transport](#)
- [U-Turn Project Community Transport, Belfast](#)
- [Charter NI](#)
- [BCC Employment Academies](#)
- [Tullycarnet Library](#)

Improving the appearance and image of Tullycarnet

- [Housing Executive Community Involvement Grants](#)
- [BCC Parks and Open Spaces](#)
- [TNLCF Awards for All](#)
- [Peace Plus Programme](#)
- [Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful](#)
- [Incredible Edible Network](#)
- [Social Farms and Gardens](#)
- [Groundwork](#)
- [BCC Bulky Waste Collections](#)

Kings Road Flats redevelopment supporting a thriving community

- [Housing Executive](#)
- [Confederation of Housing Associations](#)
- [Housing Executive Community Involvement Grants](#)
- [TNLCF Awards for All](#)
- [Peace Plus Programme](#)

Play and Recreation Facilities

- [National Lottery Community Fund Awards for All](#)
- [BCC Parks](#)
- [Sport NI](#)
- [Asda Foundation Spaces and Places Grant](#)
- [Peace Plus Programme](#)
- [NICVA](#)

Tullycarnet**Strong and engaged community.**

- [National Lottery Community Fund Awards for All](#)
- [Libraries NI](#)
- [Dundonald International Ice Bowl](#)
- [Tullycarnet Presbyterian Church](#)
- [Peace Plus Programme](#)
- [Asda Foundation Spaces and Places Grant](#)

Regeneration potential of the Former Primary School Site and reinstating the active frontage along the Kings Road

- [The National Lottery Community Fund Awards for All](#)
- [The National Lottery Community Fund UK Fund](#)
- [Peace Plus Programme](#)
- [Asda Foundation Spaces and Places Grant](#)
- [Development Trust NI](#)
- [Groundwork NI](#)



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