

# Belfast: Streets Ahead

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## Regeneration for a Healthy City

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# Background

- Improving the public realm is a key part of any regeneration programme
- Government has funded environmental improvements in Northern Ireland since at least the 1980s
- Up to 2007, schemes were mostly relatively modest in scale and cost
- Since then the investment has increased significantly
- Case Study – Belfast: Streets Ahead programme



# Context

- Belfast City Centre Regeneration Policy Statement 2004
- Public Realm Improvement Strategy (2005)
- Public Realm Masterplan (2006)
- Belfast Streets Ahead (BSA) Programme

# Progress and Achievements

- Phase 1 of the BSA programme delivered improvements to 14 of the main shopping streets in Belfast city centre at a cost of c£28 million. The scheme involved:
  - Improvements to pavements and roadways
  - Improvements to street lighting
  - Improvements to street furniture
  - Planting of new urban trees
  - Installation of public art
  - Rationalisation of street furniture



# Progress and Achievements



# Progress and Achievements



# Applying the Learning

- DSD is currently taking forward a third phase of the BSA programme
- The BSA Phase 3 project offers the opportunity to build on the success of BSA Phase 1, taking account of what went well and what didn't

# BSA Phase 3 Initiative

The BSA Phase 3 project:

- Pushes the regeneration of Belfast's City Centre streets and spaces northwards
- Extends the perceived retail core, and engages with an area of the City that is currently seeing great change and regeneration



# Regeneration for a Healthy City

## Key Considerations

- High Quality Design (Paving, Lighting, Artwork)
- Enhanced walking environment/pedestrian priority
- Removal of street clutter
- New street furniture
- Cycling provision
- Enhancements for people with mobility issues
- Greening the City Centre

# Conclusions

The Project Team is currently working in collaboration with:

- Central Government Departments
- Local Government
- Private Sector
- Key Stakeholders.

to produce the optimum design for BSA Phase 3

# Discussion