



## **Awards To Recognise Excellence in Health Promotion in Belfast**

The Lord Mayor of Belfast Councillor Brian Kingston paid tribute today to organisations from across the community and voluntary as well as public bodies who are delivering projects and initiatives aimed at tackling health inequality and promotion wellbeing in Belfast. The organisations were recognised for their work at the World Health Organisation 2016 Belfast Healthy Cities Awards which awarded winners in four distinct categories.

Entries were invited across four categories, Healthy Living, Promoting Health Equity, Healthy Places and Engaging for Change.

The award winners were:

**Promoting Health Equity:** Council for the Homeless & FareShare NI

**Healthy Living:** Street Soccer NI

**Healthy Places:** NI Association for Mental Health

**Engaging for Change:** Cancer Focus NI & Choice Housing Ireland

In each category there were a number of other shortlisted projects who received special commendation for their work.

Lord Mayor Cllr Kingston said,

“It is important to recognise the excellent work ongoing on a daily basis across our city to promote a healthier lifestyle. The Belfast Healthy Cities Awards are an important way of sharing experience and acknowledging the efforts of community organisations and public sector bodies who often work in partnership for the betterment of all. I congratulate all those who entered the awards and who continue to work for a positive Belfast. ”

Joan Devlin Chief Executive of Belfast Healthy Cities said in this fourth year of the awards the volume and standard of entry was as high as ever.

“The awards are now well established and it is important to acknowledge and celebrate the great work which is being done.

As an example, Street Soccer NI, is a very direct way of engaging with homeless people and opening up various channels of support which can assist those who find themselves homeless. At this time of year that is a particularly important area to focus on. We congratulate all those who entered and won today.”

For more information on the awards or on the work of Belfast Healthy Cities visit [www.belfasthealthycities.com](http://www.belfasthealthycities.com)

The highly commended organisations included:

Northern Ireland Chest Heart & Stroke Association  
Alzheimers Society  
Windsor Women’s Centre  
Belfast Health & Social Care Trust  
Conservation Volunteers  
SUSTRANS  
Ulster Wildlife