



Belfast

A World Health Organization
Healthy City



Annual Review 2015-16

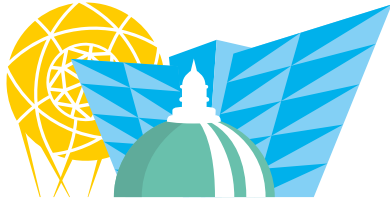




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Belfast Healthy Cities has represented Belfast within the WHO European Healthy Cities Network since 1988, working with partner organisations and stakeholders across the city, to deliver actions that fulfil the goals of the WHO European Healthy Cities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

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

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

Vision and Mission

Our Vision

Our vision is to be a leader in creating a healthy, equitable and sustainable city.

Our Mission

Our mission is to promote health and wellbeing, provide inspiration and facilitate innovative collaborative action and good policies through:

- leadership and learning from the WHO European Healthy Cities Network
- supporting research, sharing evidence and building capacity
- introducing and piloting innovative concepts and approaches
- maximising partners impact on health and inequalities.

Chairperson's Report

I am very pleased to present this annual report, which highlights the work being carried out in Belfast. We are mid-way through membership of Phase VI (2014 -2018) of the World Health Organization (WHO) European Healthy Cities Network and the mid-way review conducted by WHO demonstrates our significant progress made on the themes identified in our Phase VI application to WHO in 2014.



This year has been another highly productive year locally and there have been a number of opportunities to promote our programmes across WHO Europe. At the European level, under new leadership, Healthy Cities continues to gain strength and momentum. We were pleased to welcome a number of cities from the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) to the Network this year. Our WHO Secretariat team within Belfast Healthy Cities plays a key role within the new Healthy Cities team supporting technical and administrative developments on current and emerging developments, as new and closer relationships are created with many departments within WHO Europe. The Regional Director of WHO Europe, Dr Zsuzsanna Jakab, paid tribute to the Belfast Secretariat at her first meeting with Healthy City Coordinators, earlier this year in Copenhagen.

At the local level in Belfast we have continued to provide leadership on improving health and wellbeing and reducing inequalities. Building on our expertise and past experience we have developed a number of capacity building programmes central to current and emerging policy across Belfast and Northern Ireland, including the Belfast Agenda, Programme for Government and Making Life Better. Our strength in WHO Europe allows us to bring to the city, knowledge and expert speakers from across Europe to strengthen capacity and knowledge and to share the learning from Europe with colleagues at the local level.

I would like to thank Ministers, Permanent Secretaries and government departments, City Council elected members, Chief Executive, senior staff, partner organisations and the many individuals and organisations who have contributed to the work of Belfast Healthy Cities over the past year. I would also like to thank my colleagues on the Board of Directors who help to keep the organisation on track and play a key role in supporting the team and in developing innovative programmes to meet the WHO Phase VI goals and requirements. John McMullan, CEO of Bryson Group leaves the Board this year after many years of support in various roles and is deserving of a very special mention. John, we will miss your expertise and wise counsel. Finally, I would like to pay tribute to the Chief Executive Joan Devlin and the small team of dedicated officers for their continued commitment to making Belfast a healthier and happier place to live, work and play, and for showcasing the best of what has been achieved in Belfast across the WHO European Region.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nigel McMahon'.

Nigel McMahon
Chair

Chief Executive's Report



Being a member of and representing Belfast in the WHO European Healthy Cities Network continues to be a privilege for partners, stakeholders and staff of Belfast Healthy Cities. Alongside this, leading the WHO Healthy Cities Secretariat Belfast provides the opportunity to promote and share the expertise from WHO Europe within the city while at the same time creating high level and confident visibility for the city of Belfast at the European and international level.

Belfast Healthy Cities' programmes test and deliver new concepts at the local policy and community level. There are many challenges in introducing new concepts but a major success programme this year has been the development of the Healthy Places, Healthy Children key stage 2 teaching resource on healthy urban environments. It is an excellent example of how sectors working together can reach the goals of a number of sectors. The resource, which aims to create places that will enhance and enrich the health and social wellbeing of children and their families, was developed and piloted in collaboration with schools across Belfast and published in June. Our Healthy City colleagues across Europe also piloted the resource and we were delighted to welcome a teacher and two pupils from the 20th school of Ilioupolis in Athens to present their experience at the Children's Voices event in Belfast City Hall.

Our programme on Health Literacy is being rolled out across Northern Ireland and we are pleased to deliver this in partnership with local agencies as well as with Groningen University from the Netherlands. A core aspect of our work this year has been developing a programme on reducing inequalities. Still a complex area of work and a challenge for all organizations, as the gap in inequalities widens across the city population, our programme aims to equip officers from across key partner organizations with the knowledge, tools and practical application to make changes within their departments that will reduce inequalities.

We were delighted to host our capacity building programme this year in partnership with four Belfast Area Partnerships and East Belfast Community Development Agency. The aim of the series was to increase understanding of the concept of healthy urban environments and support engagement in the forthcoming Local Development Plan in ways that will enhance well-being.

All of our programmes are immersed within current and emerging agendas across Belfast and Northern Ireland - but partners cannot be complacent in the challenges of creating the organisational change required to ensure inequalities are reduced and policies and actions monitored to ensure positive health outcomes. Delivering the Programme for Government requires a more joined up approach to reduce inequalities and to deliver action on the determinants of health. The new team in WHO Healthy Cities brings a dynamic and fresh start to WHO Healthy Cities as we take steps to launch the WHO Europe Healthy Cities Network in 2018. It has been our pleasure this year to work with them.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to the chair, vice chair, treasurer and to the Board of Directors who provide consistent high level support in delivering our innovative and challenging programmes and to the chairs and members of the working groups for guiding programme developments. I would like to pay tribute to Maura Ahern who left her position this year in Belfast Healthy Cities following fifteen years committed service and to wish her every future success. Finally, sincere thanks to the staff team for their continued steadfast dedication and enthusiasm that create the conditions for delivering successful programme outcomes.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joan Devlin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Joan Devlin
Chief Executive Officer

Regeneration & Healthy Urban Environments

Collaboration with Belfast City Council

Belfast Healthy Cities has acted as liaison between the Council and the health sector in relation to the development of a draft policy on hot food takeaways. A number of reports were provided to support this.

Project with NIHE and TCPA

The publication Delivering Healthy and Sustainable Communities in Northern Ireland was launched in March at an event where Belfast Healthy Cities contributed a presentation on models from across the WHO Network. Belfast Healthy Cities is highlighted as co-author of the document alongside TCPA.

Presentations to planning students

Belfast Healthy Cities was invited to contribute lectures to both the QUB MSc in Planning and the UU MSc in Planning and Property Development in February and March. The presentation focused on healthy urban environments and demonstrated Belfast Healthy Cities key programmes of work including Child Friendly Places.

The Regeneration and Healthy Urban Environments Group continues to meet regularly and has placed a key focus for the coming period on identifying opportunities to inform the Local Development Plan.

Climate Change & Health

The Climate Change and Health Partnership (CCHP) will be developed further as a sectoral network of Climate NI, a partnership focused on increasing understanding of climate change impacts and promoting adaptation actions necessary to address these. The work will focus on information sharing and the new structure will enable a wider range of stakeholders to participate. Existing members will continue to drive strategic direction as previously.



Health Equity in All Policies

Pilot with Belfast City Council, Parks and Leisure Services

An outline for a pilot with the Parks and Leisure service in Belfast City Council has been developed, focusing on exploring incentives and barriers to using the park.

Pilot supporting Belfast City Council's locality planning process

Belfast Healthy Cities provided support to the Whiterock locality planning process through a pathway mapping method, which aims to identify the relationships between key issues identified as priorities for the area. Belfast Healthy Cities also drafted a survey to be undertaken with local residents with Job Assist.



Inequalities Capacity Building Programme

This programme has been developed by Belfast Healthy Cities in collaboration with Erica Ison and will be launched at the 'Getting Results: Reducing Inequalities' conference in January 2017.



The Capacity Building programme; Upskilling for Inequalities will be delivered over four modules. There will be an emphasis on the evidence-based benefits for all society from employing a Health Equity in All Policies approach, especially through collaboration and partnership working. The programme will target managers and practitioners working to address inequalities from Belfast Healthy Cities' partner organisations and members of the Belfast Strategic Partnership, including Public Health Agency, Belfast Health and Social Care Trust, Belfast City Council, Northern Ireland Housing Executive and organisations within the Community and Voluntary sector. CPD certification will be sought for the training programme, which also will involve the development of a workbook that can be used for future programmes.



Child Friendly Places

Taking Action on Child Friendly Places: First Steps

This intersectoral action plan, which is the first of its kind in the city was launched at the Children's Voices, Children's Places event in June. The action plan is endorsed by Belfast Healthy Cities' core partners and aims to put child friendly places higher on the agenda of the city, while beginning to deliver on priorities identified by children across Belfast. The action plan covers the period 2016-2018, with a significant proportion of actions led by Belfast Healthy Cities in collaboration with partners.

GIS mapping of children's place and health data

This innovative initiative aims to provide a visual resource linking local data on the built environment with data on child health and wellbeing. It is designed to help inform policy and decision making and is currently at pilot stage. The initiative was supported by Belfast City Council on data collation, and NIHE supported development of the GIS maps. The initial profile has been completed and was launched as part of the Children's Voices, Children's Places event. Further development options are being developed alongside promotion of the tool with stakeholders as a support to inform decision making.

Healthy places, Healthy Children Key Stage 2 teaching resource.

This teaching resource aims to provide children with an opportunity to gain an understanding of how the environment affects their life and health, and also to identify ways of making their voice heard in the decision making process. It was developed in collaboration with the Education Authority and has been piloted in 13 schools to date with the support of PHA and NIHE.

These schools are exploring the following topics:

- Cranmore Integrated Primary School: colourful and child friendly bins.
- Nettlefield Primary School: A growing patch in the school grounds and benches for reading
- St Kevin's Primary School: Improve school playground with playtime games and equipment, received £8,000 through Active Belfast.
- St Mary's Primary School: zebra crossing and school signs on nearby street to make coming to school safer.
- St Patrick's Primary School: improve an unused area and create more green space
- St Paul's Primary School: more bins in the area and a crossing near school to make coming to school safer.
- St Teresa's Primary School: 4G pitch.
- St Vincent De Paul Primary School: Resources to play with in their school grounds, zone the playground, bike area and football area. Applied for Active Belfast grants.

- Seaview Primary School: A skate park in an unused space beside school
- Victoria College Preparatory School: Artificial grass to stop green areas in school getting mucky.
- Wheatfield Primary School: A play area on the waste ground beside the community garden.

Through Belfast's membership of the WHO European Healthy Cities Network, a number of schools were identified as having interest in piloting parts of the resource. These schools were from Dimitrovgrad, Spain, Athens, Croatia, Galway and Chapaevsk. This provided Belfast schools with the opportunity to link up via Skype to share learning.

The second stage pilot including schools across Northern Ireland is underway. Participant schools in Newry, Mourne and Down, Antrim and Newtownabbey and Derry and Strabane District Council areas have been confirmed through partnerships created with community planning staff within the two former areas and with Derry/Strabane Healthy Cities in the latter.

Children's Voices, Children's Places event

This event, acting as the launch of the action plan and a celebration for the schools participating in piloting the teaching resource, took place on 20 June in City Hall and was attended by over 300 participants including 270 children.

As part of piloting the Healthy Places, Healthy Children teaching resource children developed proposals for how to make their local area more child friendly and at the



event each class presented their proposal. A panel of decision makers provided feedback on the proposals, including potential options for developing the pilots further.

A teacher from Athens along with two students who piloted part of the resource attended the event and shared their experience of the resource and also their experiences of life in Greece. The Greek delegation also visited Cranmore Integrated Primary school the day after the event to experience school life here, and the schools have indicated an interest in maintaining contact in future.

Demonstration projects

Belfast Healthy Cities will explore opportunities to develop a number of the proposals into demonstration projects over the next year.

An early result of the action plan and the teaching resource was securing additional bins in and around St Paul's PS. Consideration of requests for bins is a commitment made by Belfast City Council to the action plan and two new bins were delivered to the neighbourhood in September.



KidsSpace

KidsSpace was delivered as part of Culture Night 2016 with an estimated 1,200 participants.

KidsSpace at Belvoir Community Hub

A KidsSpace event was organised on 20 July as part of a South Belfast SureStart community fun day designed to consult the local community in relation to redevelopment plans for the space immediately surrounding the centre.



Capacity Building Seminar Series

Shaping Places for Healthy Lives

This seminar was organised in collaboration with the Ministerial Advisory Group for Architecture and the Built Environment (MAG) in Northern Ireland and incorporated the awards ceremony for the 2015 WHO Belfast Healthy City Awards. The keynote speaker was Leo Kosonen, researcher and former Chief Planner of the City of Kuopio in Finland. A presentation on a Place Standard for Scotland was also given by Sandy Robinson from Scottish Government.

Promoting culture and the arts is good for health

The 'Promoting culture and the arts is good for health' seminar took place on 15 February. The Minister for Culture, Arts and Leisure, Caral Ni Chuilin opened proceedings. The keynote speaker for this event was Johanna Reiman, Executive Director, Baltic Region Healthy Cities Association, WHO Collaborating Centre for Healthy Cities and Urban Health in the Baltic Region who presented the strategic context of culture in Turku. Her colleague, Toni Ekroos, Youth Services, Turku presented a local example looking at culture and regeneration and culture activities in relation to children.

Innovation: Making technology work for health and inequalities

The 'Innovation: Making technology work for health and inequalities' seminar took place on 11 March. A keynote address was given by Art Holopainen, Senior Advisor, Kuopio Innovation, Finland. Nina Williams, Public Health Consultant from Swansea also presented in relation to early years and technology. Delegates also had the opportunity to hear presentations from the Connected Health Alliance and SMART Cities Belfast City Council.

Understanding Health Literacy: Impacts on Inequalities

The 'Understanding Health Literacy: Impacts on Inequalities' seminar took place on 28 April. The seminar was opened by CMO, Dr Michael McBride, who launched the Health Literacy online resource. Speakers included Sanna Salanterä, Professor of Clinical Nursing Science, University of Turku, Finland; Joanne Morgan, Director, Community Development and Health Network, and Karolina Mackiewicz, Development Manager, Baltic Region Healthy Cities Association. The seminar used an Open Space format instead of traditional workshop which allowed participant to take the lead and propose topics for discussion.



Healthy Urban Planning

November was 'Healthy Urban Planning' Month, which saw Belfast Healthy Cities working with the five Belfast Area Partnerships to deliver a seminar series on healthy urban environments. The series aimed to build capacity at community level to engage with the forthcoming Local Development Plan process. It focussed on four key issues that affect people's everyday lives and their health and wellbeing – transport, green space, people friendly places and mental wellbeing. The seminars featured urban planning experts from Newcastle, Glasgow, Carlisle and London.

Election briefing

The election briefing was completed and a launch took place in Stormont on 15 March. Claire Hanna MLA and Sammy Douglas MLA hosted the launch, and Belfast Healthy Cities' staff engaged directly with MLAs from all parties on some of the key elements of the briefing.



Wellbeing handbook

Belfast Healthy Cities are working with NILGA to provide a Wellbeing Resource to support capacity building for NILGA members. The project builds on a wellbeing handbook first launched in 2011.

WHO Belfast Healthy Cities Awards

The 2016 WHO Belfast Healthy Cities Awards were launched on 9 September. Belfast Healthy Cities was joined by two of the 2015 Award Winners, Carole Caldbeck, Wildflower Alley Group and Rachelle McCurry, Studio 5 CIC for an official launch photo at Wildflower Alley. There are four award categories, which include Promoting Health Equity; Healthy Places; Healthy Living and Engaging for Change. Awards were presented at a high profile ceremony on 7 December 2016.



2016 Healthy City Explorer Bursary

Both of this year's awardees have undertaken their visits. Neil Galway from QUB explored best practice in Child Friendly Places in Sweden and Denmark in August. Pamela Frazer from Alzheimer's Society travelled to Galway on 12 September to explore good practice in dementia friendly environments. This year the awardees gave their presentations as part of the Annual WHO Belfast Healthy Cities award ceremony in December.



Age Friendly Cities

Walkability Assessment for Healthy Ageing

A report combining findings from all assessments conducted across Belfast was launched by The Lord Mayor of Belfast on 30 September with participants involved in the walk assessments to celebrate WHO International Day of Older Persons 2016. The findings from the report will be used to evidence the voices of older people in consultations and planning the city.

QUB Healthy Urban Living and Ageing in Place research project

Belfast Healthy Cities is a partner in this research, which focuses on exploring older adults' experience of the urban environment in Belfast and Brazil. The study aims to identify approaches and tools that can support

future policy development. The role of Belfast Healthy Cities is to facilitate stakeholder engagement through an international Impact Advisory Group.

The project, which will run until late 2018, will involve a visit from a similar Impact Advisory Group from Brazil in 2017. A number of representatives from Belfast will have an opportunity to visit Brazil at the end of the project in late 2018.



Health Literacy



Medicines Optimisation Framework Innovation Lab

Belfast Healthy Cities was invited to participate in this Department of Finance led engagement initiative as a result of previous collaboration with DHSSPS on the community pharmacy strategy. Bernadette Cullen, as Chair of the Health Literacy group, represented Belfast Healthy Cities at the engagement events.

Capacity building for Healthy Living Centres

An 'Introduction to health literacy' training session was developed to help build capacity on the concept among frontline staff. An initial training day took place on 10 June at the H.E.A.R.T. Healthy Living Centre in west Belfast and a series of sessions has been delivered in collaboration with PHA in the Northern area. Feedback from the training was very positive and follow up training is being developed.

A capacity building programme for community pharmacists is being developed in collaboration with Community Development and Health Network. This programme will pilot training materials developed by a consortium led by the University of Groningen in the Netherlands, as part of the EU funded IROHLA research project.



Thank you to long serving Board members

John McMullan is stepping down from Belfast Healthy Cities' Board of Directors after 27 years of service. We would like to express our sincere thanks to John for his dedicated service as a Board member and long standing Treasurer.



Mary McDonnell stepped down from the Board of Directors in April 2016 following her retirement from NIHE. Mary served on the Board from 2006 and we would like to thank Mary and pay tribute to her dedication and commitment.

Belfast Healthy Cities' Board of Directors

Chair: Nigel McMahon
Vice Chair: Karen Casson
Treasurer: John McMullan
Bernadette Cullen
Justine Daly
Neil Dunlop
Geraint Ellis
Robin Hawe
Mary McDonnell
Catherine McNicholl
Sharon McNicholl
Elizabeth Mitchell
Bryan Nelson
Carol Ramsey
Siobhan Toland

Department of Health
Ulster University
Bryson Charitable Group
Independent Member
Strategic Investment Board – Urban Villages
Independent Member
Queen's University Belfast
Northern Ireland Housing Executive (from April 2016)
Northern Ireland Housing Executive (until April 2016)
Belfast Health and Social Care Trust (until July 2016)
Belfast City Council
Institute of Public Health in Ireland
Belfast Health and Social Care Trust
Department for Infrastructure
Belfast City Council

Staff team

Joan Devlin
Maura Ahern
Jonna Monaghan
Julie McAllister
Anne McCusker
Laura McDonald
Suzanne Miller
Caroline Scott

Chief Executive/WHO Healthy Cities secretariat
Corporate Services Manager (until October 2016)
Health and Wellbeing Manager
PA/Office Manager (from June 2016)
Policy and Projects Officer
Health Development Officer
Information Officer (until March 2016)
Support Officer/WHO Healthy Cities secretariat



We would like to pay tribute to Maura Ahern, who has moved on from the organisation following 15 years' service. We express our sincere thanks to Maura for her dedication and commitment, and wish her all the best for the future.

We would also like to express our thanks and pay tribute to Suzanne Miller, who took up a new post in March 2016 following five years of enthusiastic and committed service.



Belfast Healthy Cities Working Groups

Regeneration and Healthy Urban Environment Working Group (RHUE)

Justine Daly	Strategic Investment Board – Urban Villages (Chair)
Caroline Bloomfield	Public Health Agency
Anne Doherty	Belfast City Council
Joan Devlin	Belfast Healthy Cities
Neil Dunlop	Independent
Professor Geraint Ellis	Queen's University Belfast
Elma Greer	Belfast Health Development Unit
Geraldine McAteer	West Belfast Partnership Board
Laura McDonald	Belfast Healthy Cities
Nigel McMahan	Department of Health
Gary McNeill	Belfast City Council
Damien Martin	Northern Ireland Housing Executive
Jonna Monaghan	Belfast Healthy Cities
Seamus Mullen	Public Health Agency
Bryan Nelson	Belfast Health and Social Care Trust
Claire Patterson	Belfast City Council
Gavan Rafferty	Ulster University
Paul Roberts	Ashton Community Trust
Tom Reid	Department for Infrastructure

Child Friendly Places

Jonna Monaghan	Belfast Healthy Cities (Chair)
Margaret Devlin - Hania	Belfast Health and Social Care Trust
Stuart Freeman	Department for Infrastructure
Elma Greer	Belfast Health Development Unit
Gillian Hassard	National Children's Bureau
Mairead Kane	PLACE
Susan Kehoe	Playboard NI (until March 2016)
George Kirk	Police Service of Northern Ireland
Martina Lundy	Belfast City Council
Roisin McCooley	Belfast Childcare Partnership
Laura McDonald	Belfast Healthy Cities
Lynne McElhinney	Department for Infrastructure
Aideen McLoughlin/Elaine Black	Belfast City Council
Damien Martin	Northern Ireland Housing Executive
Trevor Murphy	Education Authority – Belfast Region
Paul O'Neill	Ashton Community Trust
Tom Smith	Belfast City Centre Management
Jill Trotter	Education Authority – Belfast Region

Belfast Healthy Cities

Working Groups

Climate Change and Health Group

Nigel McMahon	Department of Health (Chair)
Annie Chambers	Food Standards Agency in Northern Ireland
Damian Horisk	Belfast Health and Social Care Trust
Teresa Keating	Institute of Public Health in Ireland
Sean MacIntyre	Ulster University
Stephen McCabe/Jonathan Bell	Northern Ireland Environment Link
Jane McCullough/Stephen Jones	Climate NI
Gary McFarlane	Chartered Institute of Environmental Health
Clare McKeown	Belfast City Council
Fionnuala McKinney	Western Health and Social Care Trust
John McMullan	Bryson Charitable Group
Anne McNally	Department of Health
Barbara Porter	Public Health Agency
Gerard Rocks	Southern Health and Social Care Trust
Gerry Waldron	Public Health Agency

Health Equity Group

The Health Equity group is chaired by Karen Casson, Ulster University. Members include Belfast Healthy Cities' core partners and other city stakeholders including Bryson Energy; Community Evaluation NI; Save the Children and Queen's University Belfast.

Health Literacy

Bernadette Cullen	Independent Member (Chair)
Eimear Barrett	Queen's University Belfast (until October 2016)
Karen Casson	Ulster University
Joan Devlin	Belfast Healthy Cities
Kate Fleck	Arthritis Care
Una Lappin	Belfast City Council (until March 2016)
Jackie McBrinn	Belfast Strategic Partnership / Public Health Agency (until March 2016)
Anne McCusker	Belfast Healthy Cities
Maresa McGettigan	Cancer Focus NI
Fiona Meenan	Belfast Health and Social Care Trust
Jonna Monaghan	Belfast Healthy Cities
Elaine O'Doherty	Public Health Agency
Mary O'Hagan	Community Development and Health Network
Stephanie Tallentire	Department of Health
Linda Wylie	Public Health Agency

We would like to pay a special tribute to Brian Mullan of Mater Hospital Community Forum, who sadly passed away in July 2016.

WHO Healthy Cities European Network Belfast Secretariat

Belfast continues to deliver the Secretariat function to the WHO European Healthy Cities Networks. Applications continue to be submitted and assessed; 69 cities have been designated to date. The secretariat is working with applicant cities to bring their applications to the assessment stage, as applications need to be completed by the end of 2016.

A major focus over the year was a midway review of Phase VI with assessment of 68 cities in the WHO Networks. Cities will receive individualised feedback in early 2017.

The secretariat continues to provide technical and administrative support to cities and networks including producing updates

The secretariat continues to provide technical and administrative support to cities and networks including producing updates highlighting relevant publications, news items, conferences and items from healthy cities and national networks. Cities and Networks have been asked to provide items of interest based on the current Phase VI themes.

In April, coordinators of Healthy Cities had an opportunity to meet with the Regional Director of WHO Europe, Dr Zsuzsanna Jakab, and other key WHO Europe staff in Copenhagen. Coordinators were also invited to take part in a pre pilot of a flagship training programme, which was held in Turku, Finland in September.

European collaboration

Belfast continues to participate in the UK Healthy Cities Network and is an associate member of the National Healthy Cities and Counties of Ireland Network, which was formally launched in November 2016. The two Networks held their first ever joint meeting in Belfast in early December 2016.

Belfast is a member of the WHO Healthy Ageing Taskforce, which coordinates delivery of the healthy ageing programme. Belfast hosted a meeting of the Taskforce in November, which explored maximising the impact of Healthy Cities and age friendly cities. Belfast was also represented at meetings of the Taskforce in Udine, Italy in March and Riga, Latvia in June.



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

to the Members of Belfast Healthy Cities Project Limited

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

We have audited the financial statements of Belfast Healthy Cities Project Limited for the year ended 31 March 2016 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities (incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account), the Balance Sheet, the Accounting Policies and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As explained more fully in the Statement of Directors' Responsibilities the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practice Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the company's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the directors; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the Directors' Annual Report to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by us in the course of performing the audit. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

Opinion on financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 31 March 2016 and of the group's incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

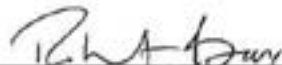
Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit, or



Mr Robert Barr (Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of

MULDOON & CO

18 Mount Charles

Belfast

BT7 1N7

Northern Ireland

Date: 12th August 2016

Belfast Healthy Cities Project Limited

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

Company Number: NI 031042

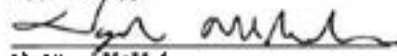
BALANCE SHEET

for the year ended 31 March 2015

	Notes	2016 €	2015 €
Fixed Assets			
Tangible assets	6	3,009	2,641
Current Assets			
Debtors	7	66,659	58,546
Cash at bank and in hand		223,535	158,430
		290,194	219,576
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	8	(54,626)	(8,123)
Net Current Assets		235,568	211,293
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		238,577	214,894
Net Assets		238,577	214,894
Funds			
Restricted trust funds		-	58,269
General fund (designated)		82,000	-
General fund (unrestricted)		155,577	126,625
Total funds	11	238,577	214,894

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

Approved by the board and authorised for issue on 12th August 2015 and signed on its behalf by



Mr Nigel McMahon
Director



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

