

June 2003

Quality of Life Matrix

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Planning for a Healthy City **One Year On**



“ people and their living conditions should
be the central consideration in town planning.”

WHO Health 21
Health for All in the 21st century

Foreword

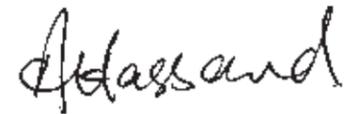
The links between planning and health are many and varied. Environmental, social and economic conditions in cities can have both positive and negative influences on human health and wellbeing. Urban planning and related professions play an important role in shaping those conditions. There is a clear need for urban planners to integrate health considerations fully into their work, both in policy and practical terms, and for all sectors in cities to work together to improve health, wellbeing and quality of life.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) recognises the importance of these links, and healthy and sustainable urban planning has been a core area of work for Phase III of the WHO European Healthy Cities (1998-2002).

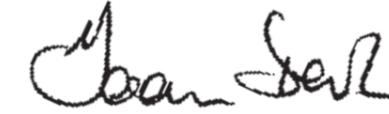
This document has been produced as a result of Action on Planning outlined in *Planning for a Healthy City* published by Belfast Healthy Cities in February 2002. It is a tool which planners can use to promote the building of strong, healthy neighbourhoods, towns and cities. It aims to support planners in their work as facilitators and catalysts.

Although the Matrix was designed in such a way that it included assessment of quality of life issues specific to the Belfast Metropolitan Area Plan (BMAP) and was formally submitted to the BMAP Team in January 2003, the framework can be adapted to be used in other cities or towns and as a more general Matrix beyond land use.

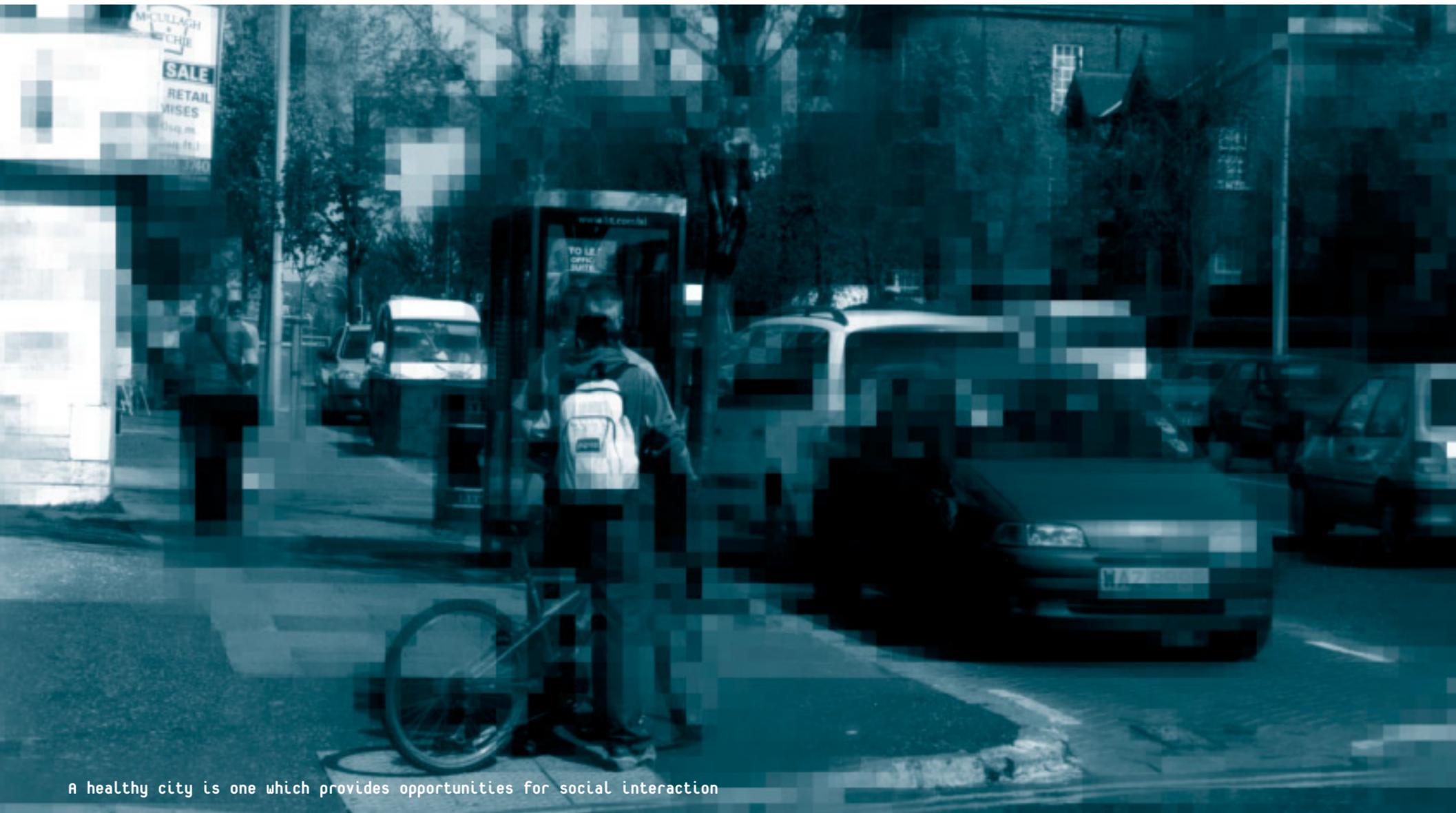
We would like to express appreciation and gratitude to the working group Mr Paul McCullough, Environmental Health Officer, Belfast City Council, Dr Angela Jordan, Specialist Registrar, Public Health Medicine, Eastern Health & Social Services Board and Ms Victoria Creasy, Health Development Manager, Belfast Healthy Cities. Warm thanks also to Professor Brian Norton, Dean of the Faculty of Built Environment and Engineering, University of Ulster, and Mr Geraint Ellis, Lecturer, Queens University of Belfast for their expertise.



ANDREW HASSARD
Chairman
Belfast Healthy Cities



JOAN DEVLIN
Director
Belfast Healthy Cities



A healthy city is one which provides opportunities for social interaction

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This Weir was built to regulate the level of water in the river Lagan, and ensure it was not adversely affected by tidal level.

Introduction

This Matrix outlines social, economic and environmental considerations which can significantly impact on the quality of life of individuals living within an area. The Matrix is split into two parts - Social and Economic Health Considerations and Environmental Considerations. Within each part are a number of sections relating to quality of life. The significance of each section is explained and positive and negative actions outlined.

Using the questions contained in the Matrix the Plan should be considered in terms of the positive or negative actions it would have on the area. Where negative actions arise alternative options or ways to mitigate these should be explored.

References to key policies have been included within each section. This will provide additional guidance where necessary and helps to demonstrate the links between this document and the current strategic thinking of other major departments.

The Northern Ireland measures of deprivation published in 2001 by NISRA have allowed us to highlight wards within the boundaries of the Belfast Metropolitan Area, which fall into the top 5% in Northern Ireland for multiple deprivation, and health deprivation and disability.

Separate individual domains within the multiple deprivation index have been used to highlight wards within the top 5% which are relevant for specific sections of this Matrix.

When using this Matrix, attention should be paid to the actions the plan will have on these particular wards.

Wards within the boundaries of the Belfast Metropolitan Area which fall into the top 5% most deprived in terms of multiple deprivation.

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| Crumlin | Falls |
| Whiterock | St. Annes |
| Ballymacarrett | Woodvale |
| New Lodge | The Mount |
| Shankill | Upper Springfield |
| Ardoyne | Shaftesbury |
| Water Works | Duncairn |
| Clonard | Woodstock |
| Twinbrook | |

Wards within the boundaries of the Belfast Metropolitan Area which fall into the top 5% most deprived in terms of health deprivation and disability.

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------|
| Crumlin | Whiterock |
| New Lodge | Ballymacarrett |
| Falls | Shaftesbury |
| St. Annes | Ardoyne |
| Upper Springfield | Woodvale |
| The Mount | Woodstock |
| Shankill | Duncairn |
| Island | Blackstaff |
| Water Works | Glencairn |

Similar measures of deprivation do not currently exist for the environmental considerations but cognisance should be paid to the reference documents.

Part 1: Social and Economic Health Considerations



This site provides opportunities for local business development in a deprived area. The site is located at an interface between communities, providing an opportunity for integration

A. Housing

Significance	Examples of actions which would have a positive impact	Examples of actions which would have a negative impact
<p>A poor choice of location and design of housing developments can lead to unemployment, social isolation and can also exacerbate incidents of crime and vandalism. Ensuring new housing developments are appropriately sited or integrated with public transport can ensure people can avail of employment opportunities and services.</p> <p>The travelling community has high rates of childhood mortality and low life expectancy. This can be improved by the availability of sites with appropriate amenities which they can utilize.</p> <p>Homeless people are at increased risk of physical and mental illness. Adequate numbers and quality of hostels and social housing can improve this.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify areas and allocate land which will provide a mix of social and private housing Allocate land for housing which will ensure a wide range of sizes and types of housing and hence ensure affordable housing for people on lower incomes Ensure new housing developments have good access to employment and amenities Promote new housing developments near areas of employment growth Ensure new housing developments are fully integrated with public transport services Provide sites for a range of accommodation options for Travellers Ensure sites for Travellers are located near high quality amenities Identify land for hostels to contribute to addressing homelessness in urban areas Promote the use of underused space within the city centre e.g. the upper floors above premises compatible for residential use Allocate space for recycling facilities (accessible for collection) in new housing developments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of housing or sites for Travellers adjacent to sources of environmental pollution or with poor access to amenities Creation of housing developments which are isolated from employment opportunities or services Development of land which is dominated by private housing Provision of a poor range of house types and locations New housing developments which result in loss of areas of open space
Question: Does the plan impact on housing conditions in the area?		
Actions which have a POSITIVE impact	Actions which have a NEGATIVE impact	Alternative options or ways to mitigate negative impacts
Summary of actions	References	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral	<p>Wards within the boundaries of the Belfast Metropolitan Area Plan which fall into the top 5% most deprived in terms of the housing domain: (Blackstaff, Ballysillan, Woodvale, Botanic, Ravenhill, The Mount, Greenisland, Harbour)</p> <p>Key policy documents: <i>Regional Development Strategy</i> (Department for Regional Development); <i>Investing for Health</i> (Department of Health and Social Services & Public Safety), <i>Planning for a Healthy City</i> (Belfast Healthy Cities), <i>Housing and Health: Towards a Shared Agenda</i> (Northern Ireland Housing Executive); <i>Programme for Government 2003-2006</i> (Northern Ireland Executive)</p>	

B. Employment & Economic Growth

Significance	Examples of actions which would have a positive impact	Examples of actions which would have a negative impact
<p>Those in secure employment generally enjoy better health than those who are unemployed. Unemployment or job insecurity can lead to financial stress, social isolation, depression, anxiety and a higher risk of premature death.</p> <p>Urban planning can facilitate attractive opportunities for businesses, encourage diversity in employment and ensure local job opportunities are retained. It can also play an important role in making job opportunities easily accessible to all members of the community by ensuring employment opportunities are fully integrated with public transport. Economic investment can contribute to increased wealth and vitality of the city. It can lead to a greater sense of security and diversity in employment and can increase quality of living. Urban planning should ensure the provision of areas where there will be increased opportunities for business development and the growth or maintenance of cultural facilities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage a diverse local economy by identifying land for a wide range of businesses Identify land which would provide attractive opportunities for businesses Target land in deprived areas for new job opportunities Provide sites which would encourage small business development Provide sites for local business development in areas of social and economic disadvantage Target sites for compatible new business development near new housing developments Allocate land for new job opportunities in locations which are accessible to all sections of the community Ensure new business developments are fully integrated with public transport networks Promote investment in cultural facilities Identify land for and promote mixed use development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encouragement of employment opportunities in inaccessible locations Encouragement of employment opportunities in locations which are not fully integrated with public transport networks Failure to provide areas for local business development
<p>Question: Does the plan impact on employment opportunities? Does the plan contribute to a wide range of job opportunities for all sections of the community?</p>		
Actions which have a POSITIVE impact	Actions which have a NEGATIVE impact	Alternative options or ways to mitigate negative impacts
Summary of actions	References	
<input type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral	<p>Wards within the boundaries of the Belfast Metropolitan Area Plan which fall into the top 5% most deprived in terms of the employment domain: (Crumlin, St Anne's, Ballymacarrett, Woodvale, Shankill, Falls, Whiterock, The Mount, Duncairn, Water Works, New Lodge, Shaftesbury, Twinbrook, Clonard)</p> <p>Key policy documents: <i>Corporate Plan 2002-2005</i> (Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment); <i>Programme for Government 2003-2006</i> (Northern Ireland Executive); <i>Regional Development Strategy 2025</i> (Department for Regional Development)</p>	

C. Education

Significance	Examples of actions which would have a positive impact	Examples of actions which would have a negative impact
<p>Education is a crucial determinant of health. It gives a purpose and structure to life, a means of participating in society and provides access to employment opportunities. Lifelong learning can promote social cohesion and improve the economic development of an area. Education also ensures that individuals are better informed to make crucial life choices, which can influence health.</p> <p>Urban planning can contribute by ensuring that education sites are available locally and are easily accessible.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allocate land for educational purposes in neutral areas which are accessible to all sections of the community Allocate land for educational purposes near new housing developments Ensure that land for educational purposes is fully integrated with public transport networks Provide sites for mixed use buildings within areas of deprivation Allocate land with a view to recruitment of businesses which will provide training opportunities in the area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allocating land for new developments which will contribute to a reduction in local education facilities and opportunities
<p>Question: Does the plan impact on opportunities for life-long learning? Does the plan threaten the provision of education and training within the area?</p>		
Actions which have a POSITIVE impact	Actions which have a NEGATIVE impact	Alternative options or ways to mitigate negative impacts
Summary of actions	References	
<input type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral	<p>Wards within the boundaries of the Belfast Metropolitan Area Plan which fall into the top 5% most deprived in terms of the education, skills and training domain: (St Annes, Crumlin, The Mount, Whiterock, Woodvale, Blackstaff, Falls, Shankill, Duncairn, Shaftesbury, Upper Springfield, Island, Ardoyne, Woodstock, New Lodge, Ballymacarrett, Tullycarnet, Braden, Coole, Dunaney, Northland)</p> <p>Key policy documents: <i>Lifelong Learning: A New Learning Culture for All</i> (Published jointly by Department of Education and Training Employment Agency); <i>Investing for Health</i> (Department of Health and Social Services & Public Safety); <i>Regional Development Strategy 2025</i> (Department for Regional Development); <i>Programme for Government 2003-2006</i> (Northern Ireland Executive)</p>	



This development provides training and employment in an area of deprivation and long-term unemployment, easily accessible on foot or by bus

D. Poverty

Significance	Examples of actions which would have a positive impact	Examples of actions which would have a negative impact
<p>Poverty is the largest risk factor for health leading not only to material deprivation but also social and psychological problems. People living in the lowest socioeconomic groups are more likely to have chronic illnesses and to die prematurely. Deprived communities also have higher rates of violence, crime and truancy.</p> <p>Urban planning can help by targeting deprived areas and contributing to the provision of good quality low cost housing and accessible training and job opportunities. Opportunities for business development within deprived areas will encourage economic development.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide sites for new business development within deprived areas • Provide sites for a mix of private and social housing development within deprived areas • Ensure any land identified for new housing, within deprived areas is fully integrated with public transport • Contribute to increasing accessibility to education, employment and health services for people within deprived areas by appropriate identification of sites for education and employment opportunities and health services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targeting of sites for education and employment away from deprived areas and hence increasing the gap between deprived and affluent groups
question: Does the plan impact on deprivation within the area?		
Actions which have a POSITIVE impact	Actions which have a NEGATIVE impact	Alternative options or ways to mitigate negative impacts
<p>Summary of actions</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Positive</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Negative</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Neutral</p>	<p>References</p> <p>Wards within the boundaries of the Belfast Metropolitan Area Plan which fall into the top 5% most deprived in terms of the income and/or child poverty domains: (Falls, Whiterock, New Lodge, Upper Springfield, Ardoyne, Colin Glen, Ballymacarrett, St Anne's, Twinbrook, Clonard, Crumlin, Water Works, Shaftesbury, Tullycarnet, Woodvale, Dunanney, Shankill)</p> <p>Key policy documents: <i>New Targeting Social Need</i> (Office of the First and Deputy First Minister); <i>Investing for Health</i> (Department of Health and Social Services & Public Safety); <i>Planning for a Healthy City</i> (Belfast Healthy Cities); <i>Programme for Government 2003-2006</i> (Northern Ireland Executive)</p>	

€. Safety

Significance	Examples of actions which would have a positive impact	Examples of actions which would have a negative impact
<p>Safety includes both freedom from assault and from the fear of assault. When people's local environment is intimidating they tend to stay indoors or use cars. This minimizes social interaction and physical activity. The design and layout of residential and commercial areas can help to alleviate the problem of safety. Good lighting, natural surveillance over public spaces and vibrant, busy areas can reduce the incidence of crime.</p> <p>Road traffic accidents are also a leading cause of accidents especially among the young, the elderly and disabled people. Traffic-calming techniques to slow the speed of road traffic and give priority to pedestrians and cyclists are key to a safer environment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the development of traffic calming measures Ensure appropriate location of land for new housing developments (i.e. not in areas liable to flooding or near unprotected railway lines) Identify areas for further development of pedestrian walkways Identify areas for provision of cycling networks Identify land for secure play areas especially near new residential developments Identify and develop "community greenways" linking urban open spaces 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allocating land for new developments which result in loss of existing cycle and pedestrian networks The development of new road networks which will increase traffic flow through residential areas The separation of residential areas and open spaces by new road networks
<p>Question: Does the plan impact on safety among individuals and communities? Does the plan impact on the sense of security among individuals and communities?</p>		
Actions which have a POSITIVE impact	Actions which have a NEGATIVE impact	Alternative options or ways to mitigate negative impacts
Summary of actions	References	
<input type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral	<p>Wards within the boundaries of the Belfast Metropolitan Area Plan which fall into the top 5% most deprived in terms of the social environment domain: (The Mount, Water Works, Ballymacarrett, Crumlin, Bellevue, Falls, Upper Springfield, Woodvale, Beechmount, Love Lane, Colin Glen, Kilwea, Harbour)</p> <p>Key policy documents: <i>Community Safety Strategy</i> (Northern Ireland Office)</p>	

F. Accessibility

Significance	Examples of actions which would have a positive impact	Examples of actions which would have a negative impact
<p>People require easy access to goods and services needed for everyday living, such as banking facilities, post offices, pharmacies, food shops and employment opportunities. At times they also require specialized services, such as hospitals and schools. In many areas, public services schools and hospitals are being rationalized, leading to closure of local facilities. Bulk shopping facilities are now being located out of town often to the detriment of local facilities. This can restrict access to certain sections of the community e.g. elderly people, women with children, handicapped people and ethnic minorities. It also increases dependence on cars and motorized forms of travel.</p> <p>Ensuring that these facilities are easily accessible through walking, cycling and public transport can encourage people to take more physical exercise and hence reduce levels of heart disease and other chronic illnesses and promote good mental health.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure new residential developments have easy access to local social and community facilities, such as schools, crèches and local shops Ensure new residential developments have easy access to areas of employment Ensure new residential developments have easy access to health facilities Identify areas for new employment creation near existing residential areas especially in deprived wards Restrict further development of out of town shopping facilities which are only accessible by car Identify areas for further development of cycling networks Identify areas for further development of pedestrian walkways Promote investment in a variety of public transport services, such as the rail network 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifying land for new residential areas which is isolated from public transport, social and community facilities or local areas for job creation Promoting car dependency by identifying land for housing or employment which is not integrated with public transport
<p>Question: Does the plan impact on the community's access to essential goods and services? Does the plan restrict access of certain groups to local facilities and services?</p>		
Actions which have a POSITIVE impact	Actions which have a NEGATIVE impact	Alternative options or ways to mitigate negative impacts
Summary of actions	References	
<input type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral	<p>Key policy documents: <i>Regional Transportation Strategy</i> (Department for Regional Development); <i>Belfast Metropolitan Transport Plan</i> (Department for Regional Development); <i>Planning for a Healthy City</i> (Belfast Healthy Cities); <i>Regional Development Strategy 2025</i> (Northern Ireland Executive)</p>	

G. Social Cohesion

Significance	Examples of actions which would have a positive impact	Examples of actions which would have a negative impact
<p>Supportive networks of families and friends throughout the community help people cope with daily stresses and can reduce depression and chronic illness. Fragmentation of these links by splitting up communities means people lose access to these networks.</p> <p>Urban planning cannot create cohesive social networks. However, creating communities in which people live, work and play together can facilitate social cohesion. A feeling of safety and areas for community interaction will also help networks to develop. Of particular importance to Belfast is the development of mixed communities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage patterns of development which support and develop community interaction and cohesion Provide diverse range of housing types Allocate land for development of mutual meeting places e.g. post offices, schools, community centres, libraries Identify land for mixed use developments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of roads severing community links Creation of barriers to pedestrian connectivity Insensitive housing redevelopment Separation of communities
<p>Question: Does the plan promote integrated communities? Does the plan segregate or isolate individuals or groups? Does the plan retain/improve social networks? Actions which have a positive impact</p>		
Actions which have a POSITIVE impact	Actions which have a NEGATIVE impact	Alternative options or ways to mitigate negative impacts
Summary of actions	References	
<input type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral	Key policy documents: <i>Investing for Health</i> (Department of Health and Social Services & Public Safety); <i>Regional Transportation Strategy</i> (Department for Regional Development); <i>Belfast Metropolitan Area Plan</i> (Department of the Environment)	

H. Recreation

Significance	Examples of actions which would have a positive impact	Examples of actions which would have a negative impact
<p>Healthy exercise combats heart disease, strokes and other diseases that are associated with both sedentary occupations and stressful lifestyles. It can also improve mental well being. Play has an important role in promoting the health and social development of children.</p> <p>Planning can create attractive, safe and convenient environments that encourage people to walk or cycle to work, shop, school and other local facilities. Development plans can ensure adequate recreational opportunities including accessible open spaces and areas for children to play, which are equally distributed among the community.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote development of vibrant town and city centres Identify and allocate land for playing fields, leisure centres, parks and allotments Protect existing open spaces especially within the city centre, urban areas and near settlements Protect and enhance country and urban parks and landscape wedges Develop provision of open space in areas which are currently deficient Develop provision of open spaces in ways which will provide natural surveillance and increase safety for users Establish "community greenways" to create a network of open spaces 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Building on greenfield sites Failing to provide land set aside for leisure facilities Failing to provide open spaces in new residential developments
<p>Question: Does the Plan impact on recreational activities within the community?</p>		
Actions which have a POSITIVE impact	Actions which have a NEGATIVE impact	Alternative options or ways to mitigate negative impacts
Summary of actions	References	
<input type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral	Key policy documents: <i>N.I. Physical Activity Strategy 1996-2002</i> (Health Promotion Agency)	

Part 2: Environmental Considerations



This nature conservation area is an attempt to recreate former wetlands which were lost when the airport runway was extended and new industries located on Belfast Harbour estate.

A. Conservations

Significance	Examples of actions which would have a positive impact	Examples of actions which would have a negative impact						
<p>Good urban planning can protect natural habitats and wildlife thereby providing opportunities for recreation whilst enhancing the aesthetic value of an area.</p> <p>Open spaces will include playing fields, allotments, children's play areas etc. They all contribute to the urban environment and provide opportunities for leisure and improve health and well-being. Development on previously used land reduces the pressure on the countryside thereby helping to maintain it for future generations. Tree and vegetation cover helps reduce air pollution, provides a habitat for wildlife and improves the aesthetics of an area.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safeguarding designated sites • Increasing wildlife potential through landscaping • Increasing and / or maintaining the quality of and access to open spaces • Development on previously used site • Provision of new and / or replacement trees and vegetation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development which leads to loss or degradation of wildlife habitats • Intensive agriculture and forestry • Development which leads to loss of open spaces, sports fields etc • Development on 'greenfield' sites • Development which leads to loss of trees and hedges 						
<p>Question: Does the plan help to prevent the destruction of natural habitats and wildlife? Does the plan help to maintain areas of open land? Does the plan encourage the use of previously used land? Does the plan encourage the maintenance of existing and establishment of new areas of tree and vegetation cover?</p>								
Actions which have a POSITIVE impact	Actions which have a NEGATIVE impact	Alternative options or ways to mitigate negative impacts						
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Summary of actions</th> <th>References</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive</td> <td rowspan="3">Key policy documents: <i>Northern Ireland Biodiversity Strategy</i>, (Environment and Heritage Service, Department of the Environment)</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Negative</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Neutral</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Summary of actions	References	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive	Key policy documents: <i>Northern Ireland Biodiversity Strategy</i> , (Environment and Heritage Service, Department of the Environment)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Negative	<input type="checkbox"/> Neutral
Summary of actions	References							
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive	Key policy documents: <i>Northern Ireland Biodiversity Strategy</i> , (Environment and Heritage Service, Department of the Environment)							
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Negative								
<input type="checkbox"/> Neutral								

B. Air Pollution

Significance	Examples of actions which would have a positive impact	Examples of actions which would have a negative impact
The Planning system has an integral role in improving air quality and should take account of air quality objectives.	Actions which: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce need to travel • Reduce traffic congestion • Increase energy efficiency 	Actions which: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase traffic and congestion • Increase emissions to air • Increase use of fossil fuels
Question: Does the plan encourage compliance with the National Air Quality Strategy objectives? Does the plan help to reduce the emission of pollutants which contribute to global warming?		
Actions which have a POSITIVE impact	Actions which have a NEGATIVE impact	Alternative options or ways to mitigate negative impacts
Summary of actions	References	
<input type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral	Key policy documents: <i>The National Air Quality Strategy</i> (Department of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs 2000); <i>Draft Air Quality (Northern Ireland) Regulations</i> (UK Government 2003); <i>The Environment (Northern Ireland) Order 2002</i> (UK Government 2002); <i>Local Air Quality Management Draft Policy Guidance</i> (Department of the Environment 2003)	

C. Noise

Significance	Examples of actions which would have a positive impact	Examples of actions which would have a negative impact
Urban planning can separate noise producing premises from noise sensitive premises. It is recognised that long-term exposure to environmental noise can have significant effects on health and well-being.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Separation of noise-producing and noise-sensitive premises • Protection of noise-sensitive premises and tranquil areas • Mitigation of the effects of noise • Reduction of noise impact 	Actions which lead to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased noise from transport, commercial and industrial activities • Increased ambient noise levels • Increased noise disturbance to persons
Question: Does the plan help reduce the exposure to environmental noise?		
Actions which have a POSITIVE impact	Actions which have a NEGATIVE impact	Alternative options or ways to mitigate negative impacts
Summary of actions	References	
<input type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral	Key policy documents: The EU Directive relating to the assessment and management of environmental noise (Directive 2002/49/EC, European Union 2003); GB Planning Policy Guidance Note 24 (Office of the Deputy Prime Minister)	

D. Management of Waste

Significance	Examples of actions which would have a positive impact	Examples of actions which would have a negative impact
Waste disposal to landfill and incineration both have negative environmental impacts. The minimisation of waste production will help reduce the environmental impact.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of recycled materials in development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased waste production
<p>Question: Does the policy encourage a reduction in the production of waste through minimisation, re cycling, recovery, re-use etc? Does the policy encourage a high standard of waste disposal?</p>		
Actions which have a POSITIVE impact	Actions which have a NEGATIVE impact	Alternative options or ways to mitigate negative impacts
Summary of actions	References	
<input type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral	Key policy documents: <i>A Waste Strategy for Northern Ireland</i> (Environment and Heritage Service, Department of the Environment)	

E. Management of the Water Environment

Significance	Examples of actions which would have a positive impact	Examples of actions which would have a negative impact
The nature and location of development can impact upon the levels and quality of water supply. In certain circumstances development can lead to the increased risk of flooding.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintaining ground water and river levels Safeguarding water supply quality Decreased use of impermeable asphalt surfaces 	Actions which lead to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased risk of flooding Increased run-off from developed areas
<p>Question: Does the plan help protect natural water resources? Does the plan promote water conservation and minimise use? Does the plan encourage reduction in the production of waste water?</p>		
Actions which have a POSITIVE impact	Actions which have a NEGATIVE impact	Alternative options or ways to mitigate negative impacts
Summary of actions	References	
<input type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral	Key policy documents: <i>Policy for Setting and Delivering Water Quality Targets</i> , (Environment and Heritage Service, Department of the Environment)	

F. Cultural Heritage

Significance	Examples of actions which would have a positive impact	Examples of actions which would have a negative impact
Urban planning can ensure that conservation areas, historic buildings and sites of architectural value remain to add to the aesthetic value of an area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safeguarding listed buildings and conservation areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development which leads to loss of architectural heritage
question: Does the plan encourage conservation of the local cultural heritage?		
Actions which have a POSITIVE impact	Actions which have a NEGATIVE impact	Alternative options or ways to mitigate negative impacts
Summary of actions	References	
<input type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral	Key policy documents: <i>Planning Policy Statement 6, Built Heritage</i> , (Environment and Heritage Service, Department of the Environment)	

G. Transport

Significance	Examples of actions which would have a positive impact	Examples of actions which would have a negative impact
Inefficient use of transport contributes to poor air quality, increase ambient noise and traffic congestion. Access to employment, goods and services in and from socially deprived areas is a key to the regeneration of those areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reducing trip length Reducing the number of motorised trips Increasing public transport share Increased attraction to walking and cycling The provision of gas and electric fuelling points for alternative fuel vehicles Free on-street parking for low-emission vehicles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased parking provision Development which produces barriers to foot and cycle paths Peripheral mono-use development Dispersed community facilities
question: Does the plan encourage a reduction in motorised travel?		
Does the plan encourage the use of public transport, cycling and walking as a viable alternative to the private car?		
Does the plan encourage socially inclusive use of transport and the provision of linkages to socially deprived areas?		
Actions which have a POSITIVE impact	Actions which have a NEGATIVE impact	Alternative options or ways to mitigate negative impacts
Summary of actions	References	
<input type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral	Key policy documents: <i>Regional Transport Strategy</i> (Department for Regional Development); <i>A Better Quality of Life: A Strategy for Sustainable Development for the UK</i> (UK Government 1999)	

H. Resources

Significance	Examples of actions which would have a positive impact	Examples of actions which would have a negative impact
Safeguarding mineral resources contributes to sustainable development because it conserves scarce resources for future generations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protection of mineral resources Use of recycled materials 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unsustainable new development Road building
<p>Question: Does the plan reduce the need for mineral resources and/or increase the recycling and re-use of materials?</p>		
Actions which have a POSITIVE impact	Actions which have a NEGATIVE impact	Alternative options or ways to mitigate negative impacts
Summary of actions	References	
<input type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral	Key policy document: <i>A Better Quality of Life, A Strategy for Sustainable Development for the UK</i> (UK Government 1999)	

I. Environmental quality

Significance	Examples of actions which would have a positive impact	Examples of actions which would have a negative impact
Investment in public and community assets and infrastructure can increase quality of life.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of vibrant and vital urban centres Development of low-energy use buildings 	Actions which lead to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased traffic congestion in urban areas Increased noise Conflict between neighbouring land uses
<p>Question: Does the plan help improve the quality of urban areas? Does the plan encourage the regeneration of run-down urban areas? Does the plan encourage the development of environmentally efficient urban buildings?</p>		
Actions which have a POSITIVE impact	Actions which have a NEGATIVE impact	Alternative options or ways to mitigate negative impacts
Summary of actions	References	
<input type="checkbox"/> Positive <input type="checkbox"/> Negative <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral	Key policy documents: <i>Urban Renewal Strategy</i> (Department for Social Development)	



While the city centre is a vibrant and lively shopping area during the day, it lacks the mix of homes and businesses which help create an area that is alive during the evening.

Summary of effects

Whilst each individual section has been examined it is now important to consider overall effects

Social and Economic Health Considerations			
Housing	Positive <input type="checkbox"/>	Negative <input type="checkbox"/>	Neutral <input type="checkbox"/>
Employment & Economic Growth	Positive <input type="checkbox"/>	Negative <input type="checkbox"/>	Neutral <input type="checkbox"/>
Education	Positive <input type="checkbox"/>	Negative <input type="checkbox"/>	Neutral <input type="checkbox"/>
Poverty	Positive <input type="checkbox"/>	Negative <input type="checkbox"/>	Neutral <input type="checkbox"/>
Safety	Positive <input type="checkbox"/>	Negative <input type="checkbox"/>	Neutral <input type="checkbox"/>
Accessibility	Positive <input type="checkbox"/>	Negative <input type="checkbox"/>	Neutral <input type="checkbox"/>
Social Cohesion	Positive <input type="checkbox"/>	Negative <input type="checkbox"/>	Neutral <input type="checkbox"/>
Recreation	Positive <input type="checkbox"/>	Negative <input type="checkbox"/>	Neutral <input type="checkbox"/>

Environmental Considerations			
Conservation	Positive <input type="checkbox"/>	Negative <input type="checkbox"/>	Neutral <input type="checkbox"/>
Air Pollution	Positive <input type="checkbox"/>	Negative <input type="checkbox"/>	Neutral <input type="checkbox"/>
Noise	Positive <input type="checkbox"/>	Negative <input type="checkbox"/>	Neutral <input type="checkbox"/>
Management of Waste	Positive <input type="checkbox"/>	Negative <input type="checkbox"/>	Neutral <input type="checkbox"/>
Management of the Water Environment	Positive <input type="checkbox"/>	Negative <input type="checkbox"/>	Neutral <input type="checkbox"/>
Cultural Heritage	Positive <input type="checkbox"/>	Negative <input type="checkbox"/>	Neutral <input type="checkbox"/>
Transport	Positive <input type="checkbox"/>	Negative <input type="checkbox"/>	Neutral <input type="checkbox"/>
Resources	Positive <input type="checkbox"/>	Negative <input type="checkbox"/>	Neutral <input type="checkbox"/>
Urban Environmental Quality	Positive <input type="checkbox"/>	Negative <input type="checkbox"/>	Neutral <input type="checkbox"/>



Creating and maintaining attractive, accessible and well-lit bus and train stations encourages the use of public transport.





Quality of Life Matrix

