



MAKING A DIFFERENCE TO
SOUTH BELFAST THROUGH
PARTNERSHIPS & PROJECTS

STRATEGIC PLAN 2020-2023

WHO WE ARE

Forward South Partnership is a charity working to regenerate and sustain a healthy and prosperous South Belfast. We are part of a citywide structure known as the Belfast Area-Partnerships which have led community regeneration initiatives for over 21 years.



WHAT IS OUR VISION

Our vision is to have a strong and sustainable community infrastructure which contributes to a healthy and prosperous South Belfast.



WHAT IS OUR MISSION

Our mission is to contribute to population outcomes by creating and sustaining the conditions through which collaborative working and collective impact can happen. We have an enabling role, supporting coordinated work by local partners and believe regeneration can only occur by working collectively to deliver Community + Economic + Physical + Social Development. We directly operate new initiatives to fill gaps and to test new approaches that deliver innovative opportunities/programmes for the communities in the most disadvantaged areas of South Belfast.



WHERE WE WORK

HERE

FSP works across South Belfast aligned to the Belfast City Council Area and the Parliamentary constituency boundaries as appropriate.

We work with all communities across South Belfast and coordinate the delivery plans for:

Two Neighbourhood Renewal Areas

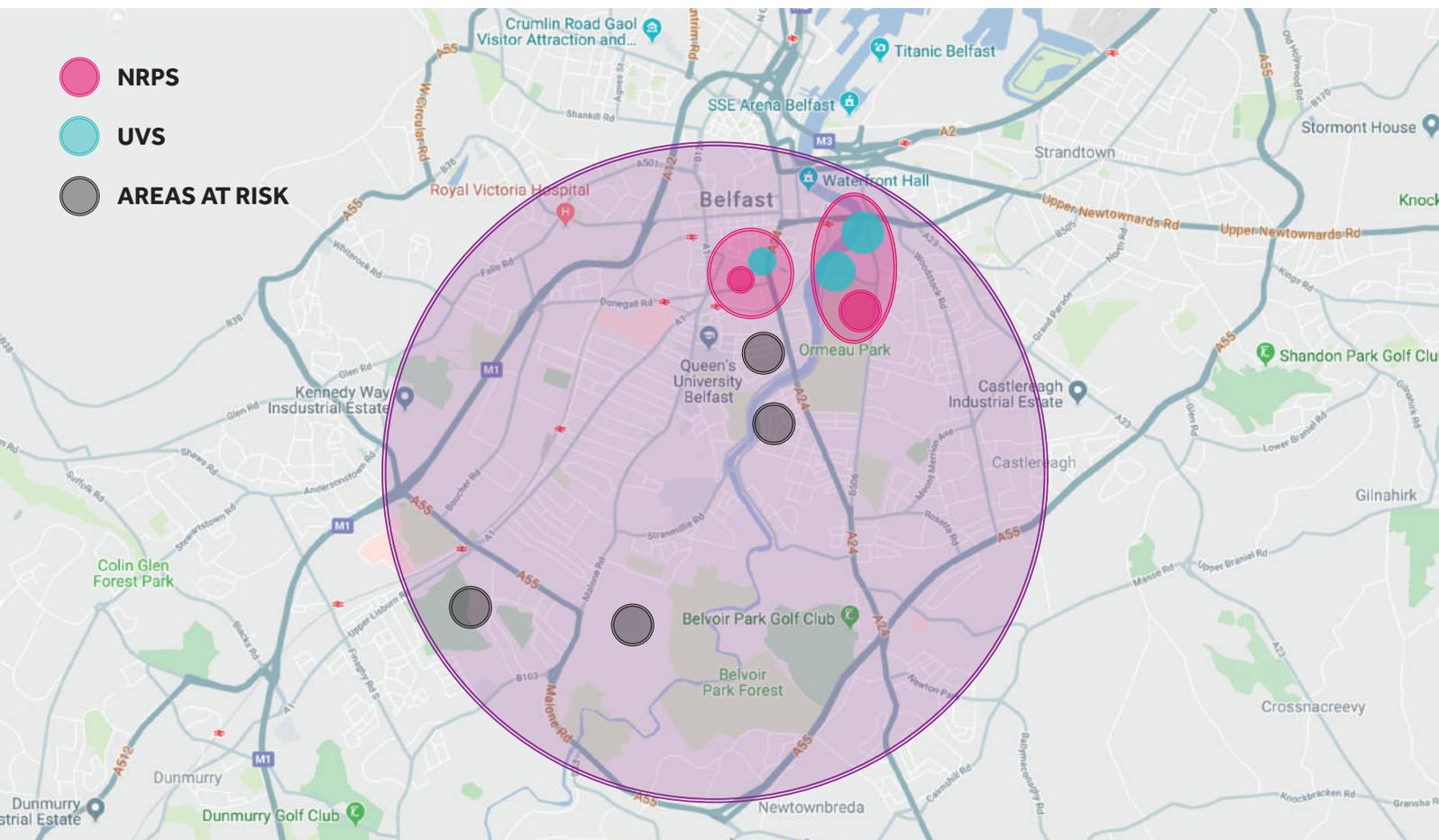
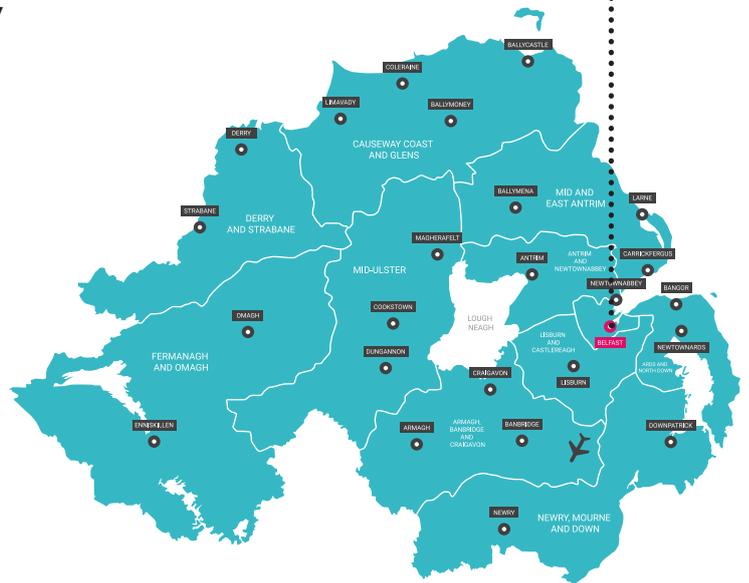
- South West Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership: Sandy Row and the Village
- Inner South Partnership: The Market, Donegall Pass and Lower Ormeau

Three areas in Urban Village South:

The Market, Donegall Pass, Sandy Row

Four areas at risk:

Taughmonagh, Belvoir, Annadale, Holyland/Wider University Area



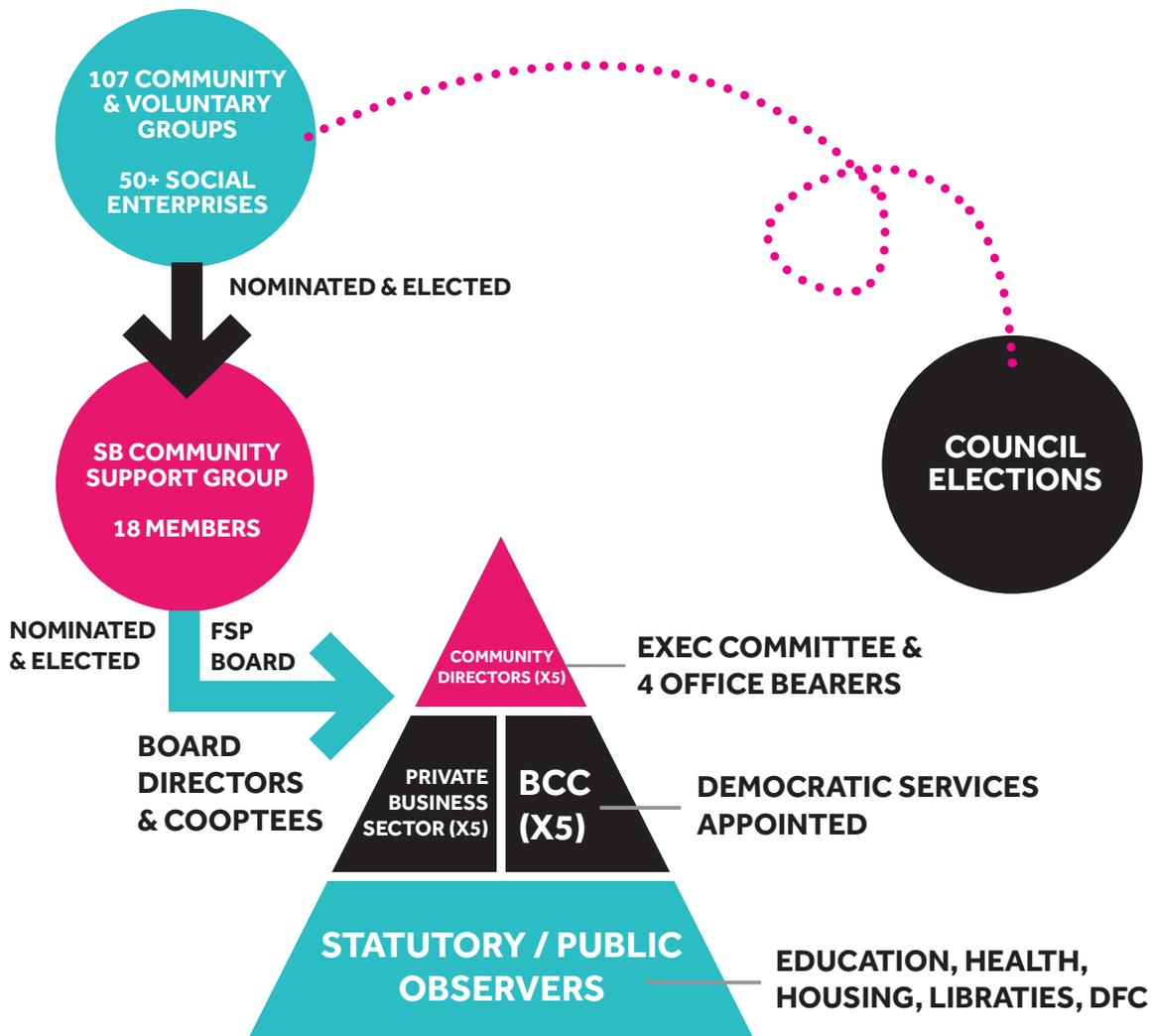
- NRPS
- UVS
- AREAS AT RISK

WHO WE WORK WITH & HOW WE DO IT...

Forward South Partnership Board is run **by the communities** of South Belfast and reports to the Charity Commission for N Ireland. We are governed by 5 community directors who are elected by a network of over 107 South Belfast local community organisations and 5 Belfast city Councillors elected by the local voters and nominated to our Board by BCC Democratic Services. These 10 local people are our Trustees/ Directors who in turn co-opt 5 people from local businesses/ private sector as trustees. Local statutory services provide 5 observers to the Board.

As a Board, we bring community and statutory organisations together to shape collective action through our South Belfast forums:

- Community Support Group (CSG)
- Health Forum
- Economic Forum



OUR VALUES

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Communities to get stronger and do it for themselves

ASSET BASED

Build on the positives: people, ideas, skills, facilities

INCLUSIVE AND DIVERSE

Actively non-party political, pro-actively listening and removing barriers

CONNECTIVE LEADERSHIP

We bring South Belfast together and link it into a bigger picture of Belfast

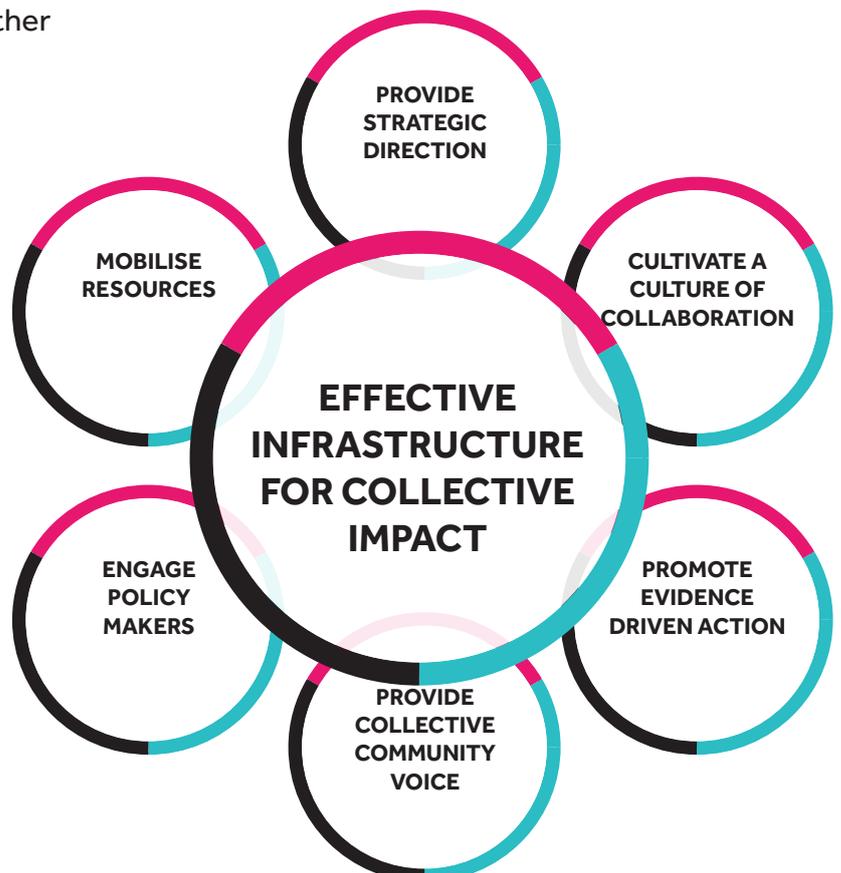


WE ARE A BACKBONE ORGANISATION

Forward South Partnership is the backbone body providing the infrastructure for other players to come together **to create collective impact**.

WE FULFIL **SIX** ROLES (BELOW)

These apply across all our outcomes because outcomes for South Belfast simply cannot be delivered without **collective action** for impact.



OUTCOMES

We have identified eight core outcomes for FSP. These outcomes are conditions of wellbeing for everyone in the communities we serve, irrespective of whether or not they work with us or use our services.

As an outcome, an effective infrastructure for collective impact, underpins our contribution to the delivery of all the outcomes and is the main focus of Forward South Partnership's work. It is the enabler for all the other outcomes and establishes our role as a 'backbone organisation'.

Our outcomes framework shows our key areas of work, the effect it has locally and the contribution it can make to outcomes across South Belfast, the city and beyond.

The outcomes are all aligned and linked to our current working environment – Programme for Government Draft and the Belfast Agenda (*see appendix 1*).



OUTCOME:

SOUTH BELFAST HAS AN EFFECTIVE, DIVERSE INFRASTRUCTURE FOR COLLECTIVE IMPACT

MEDIUM – LONG TERM → 2030

FSP will work with community groups, businesses, public and private sector partners to create change and the conditions for change. South Belfast will have a coordinated, responsive and articulate voice in the community planning/ social regeneration process. This will contribute to the 7 outcomes of the Programme for Government Draft/ Belfast Agenda.

SHORT TERM 2020 – 2023

FSP's inclusive Board structure will act as a backbone body to

1. Provide strategic direction
2. Cultivate a culture of collaboration
3. Promote evidence driven action
4. Build and provide a collective voice.

FSP will engage and influence policy makers to mobilise resources and investment in South Belfast.

FSP will:

- Ensure partners work is more aligned to a shared agenda.
- Build and enable inter-partner trust
- Encourage more community / citizen support
- Ensure funders / policy makers will be more attuned to a shared agenda
- Promote sharing of evidence, information and learning

OUTCOMES 1-4

- **Connected proactive community**
- **Cultural expression and participation for all**
- **Harmonious, safe and diverse communities**
- **A good environment for happy neighbourhoods**

MEDIUM – LONG TERM → 2030

Partners collaborate through a strong backbone organisation which makes a significant contribution to create an effective infrastructure to deliver collective impact

South Belfast communities are strengthened by having strong representative organisations that grow and access skills and advice.

- South Belfast has neutral, inclusive and connected space in the heart of communities.
- Public spaces and assets are mapped and connected promoting safer environments reducing isolation and fear.
- Partners are brought together to promote productive relationships between communities, agencies and other stakeholders with a united message of good relations and community safety.

SHORT TERM 2020 – 2023

Through the South Belfast CSG, continue to build a specialised and collaborative community planning infrastructure which is geographically and thematically relevant. CSG will identify and agree shared priorities which contribute to the BCC community planning process.

- FSP will develop and enhance the role of the South Belfast CSG to deliver a development plan for South Belfast in line with its community priorities
- FSP will provide access to skills and specialist support which smaller organisations can draw on as they need. This shared resource will provide an economy of scale in leveraging skills into smaller, new or less resourced community groups. This will help protect the diversity of the Third Sector in South Belfast.
- Specialisms identified are:
 - Technical assistance
 - Transformative leadership
 - Collaborative Planning
 - Good Relations
 - Influencing Policy
- FSP will coordinate and lead on access and mapping of significant data on the physical aspects of the area
 - FSP will deliver a community-led social regeneration project with the South Belfast Corridor (Transport Hub, Tunnels and the Holyland)
 - FSP will support and develop promotion of good relations and positive behaviour through the development of an inclusive, diverse community structure and inter/intra cultural community led festivals

OUTCOMES 5-6:

- **Healthy people and helpful services**
- **All young people have options**

MEDIUM – LONG TERM → 2030

Better access to health and wellbeing support

Collaboration requires leadership, relationships and confidence. Through South Belfast Health Forum, we plan to develop the conditions where statutory agencies and community/voluntary sector groups can develop skills and relations to codesign projects. This will build capacity, provide better data on health assets, barriers and needs.

SHORT TERM 2020 – 2023

Build a specialised but collaborative health infrastructure in South Belfast to deliver increased access to effective services

- FSP will develop and enhance the role of the SB Health Forum to develop a shared strategic direction
- Develop the collaborative working of the SB Health Forum through the formation of subgroups in line with the following specialisms identified by its members:
 - Dementia Friendly South Belfast
 - Children and young people – early intervention
 - Drugs and alcohol
 - Loneliness and isolation
 - Mental health and emotional wellbeing
- Work with and coordinate the SB Health Forum to gather evidence of current access to health information, services, identify gaps and to work collectively to address these.
- Develop the collective voice of the Forum and its subgroups and link them to policy makers within the health and wellbeing arena e.g. *Integrated Care Partnership, Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership and the Public Health Agency Community Development workstream.*

OUTCOME 7

- Real income options in a sustainable economy

MEDIUM – LONG TERM → 2030

People have greater access to work, there are more enterprises, young marginalised people have greater access to digital skills pathways. South Belfast communities are better connected to urban, tourism, cultural and digital plans

SHORT TERM 2020 – 2023

- Work with other area partnerships across the city to develop collaborations to which will improve educational outcomes and improve access to work-based opportunities in line with Belfast Agenda.
- Revisit, renew and rebuild the Economic Forum to strengthen links and develop a common voice between schools, businesses, associations, initiatives and policy makers in the city
- Support the work of the forum to take collective action, lobby, identify and secure resources to develop a shared economic and tourism strategy for South Belfast
- Coordinate, plan and deliver an annual digital youth event for 250 year 9+10 students. In collaboration with QuB and Belfast MET link post primary schools from across Belfast with tech companies in a 'face to face' engagement.





"We have fostered a greater sense of community and cooperation between organisations, participants, and stakeholders"



"Working together made the Project achievable - we all gave a bit to make it happen and the benefits for the community were greater: a great example of collective impact"



"Through working together South Belfast families were supported on so many different, but complementary, levels"

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