



Limerick Regeneration

Framework Implementation Plan

Delivering safe and sustainable communities


Limerick
CITY & COUNTY
COUNCIL


Comhaltas, Pobal agus Rialtas Áitiúil
Environment, Community and Local Government



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Volume 1

Volume 1 Introduction & Context

Forewords

Executive Summary

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Foreword by the Minister

As a resident of the city, as a public representative for Limerick and in my capacity as Minister for Planning and Housing, I am particularly pleased to launch the Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan. A flourishing mid-west region needs a strong and vibrant Limerick City.

This plan is an integral part of the overall framework which is currently being advanced to deliver effective economic and spatial strategies for the city and the Limerick region. In June 2013 Limerick City & County Council launched its Economic & Spatial Plan which sets out a clear vision of how our city & its environs will develop in the years up to 2030. Delivering regeneration is a crucial part of the ambitious plan to transform our city and our communities.

Over the past five years, structures have been put in place to facilitate consultation with stakeholder groups on wide-ranging issues relating to the development and implementation of social and physical regeneration strategies. This Framework Implementation Plan is entirely focussed on building and delivering sustainable communities. Delivery is key and this framework implementation plan provides the tool-kit to get the job done.

The Office of Regeneration as an integral part of the new Limerick City and County Council has now put in place a robust, workable and measurable implementation plan. It took a lot of time and resources to achieve this outcome. I am pleased with the level of engagement and co-operation between the Office of Regeneration and the communities in framing this plan. The Limerick Regeneration Agencies, led by Chairman John Fitzgerald over a five year period laid the very solid foundations which can now support and sustain regeneration in the communities and the city as a whole.

Regeneration is a live process and needs to be flexible and adaptable over the implementation phase. It will be monitored, measured and evaluated on an on-going basis. This plan will facilitate these actions at every level across all three strands of regeneration. I am conscious too that successful delivery will require a whole of Government approach with all public bodies, the private sector and community organisations working in close collaboration to deliver this programme. To facilitate this, I intend to re-constitute the Programme Delivery Group to ensure consistent and co-ordinated delivery by the relevant Government departments, public bodies and agencies. This holistic, multi-agency approach will ensure that regeneration is sustainable into the future and enable it to generate long-term social and economic benefit.

The main driver of delivery on the ground will be the Office of Regeneration, reporting directly to Limerick City

and County Council. This revised structure has been in place for more than 12 months and has the experience and capacity to ensure focused delivery of individual regeneration projects through an efficient and accountable structure.

Notwithstanding the challenging fiscal climate, my Department has demonstrated a firm commitment to the regeneration of the four regeneration areas over the past five years. This has contributed to the stabilisation of these areas through a substantial acquisition and re-housing programme, a planned programme of demolitions, the purchase of strategic development sites, energy retrofitting to housing and environmental improvement works. In addition, grant funding is provided for a range of social and community infrastructure and social inclusion interventions which have been delivered by a broad collection of State and community organisations. The value placed on the national regeneration programme is explicitly recognised in the Programme for Government and it is the stated objective of my Department to ensure that this important programme is supported in future years. The Regeneration programme is a key driver for change across the city and, as demonstrated by a capital allocation of over €30 million to Limerick city in 2013, my Department's commitment to that process is not in doubt.

The substantial capital investment in regeneration will complement the measures announced by my colleague the Minister for Finance, Michael Noonan, under the Living City initiative, which are intended to provide a stimulus for the rejuvenation of the magnificent Georgian centre of Limerick.

We can look forward with confidence that regeneration will reinvigorate and revitalise communities that have witnessed considerable neglect and breakdown over decades. I am aware that to enable people to participate fully in the rebuilding of their communities they must be given a real opportunity to enter the jobs market. I am particularly pleased to see that social employment clauses are central to delivering the regeneration programme. This innovation has the capacity to present much-needed employment opportunities to disadvantaged communities and will also ensure that regeneration will benefit from the experience and knowledge of skilled workers and young workers across the City.

The journey we are now on is transforming Limerick. With lessons of the past taken on board, we now have the opportunity to lead the way in regeneration at both a national and a European level. In the coming years our experience will prove invaluable as other cities look to redesign their social, economic and urban environment to the benefit of all their citizens. The decision to locate the National Social Innovation Hub in Limerick City will

Jan O'Sullivan TD
Minister of State, Department of Environment,
Community and Local Government with special
responsibility for Housing and Planning



confirm Limerick's growing reputation as a leader in innovative social action.

Many people have contributed to this plan and I thank each of you for your generosity and commitment. It provides us with the tools to chart our progress. I am confident too that the Limerick City and County Council, my own Department and indeed the other Departments, public bodies and Agencies, are ready to face the challenges in delivering this plan as effectively and efficiently as possible and in a way that most benefits Limerick and its residents.

There are pivotal times in the life of a person or of a place when things will never be the same again. I believe this is happening now for Limerick and the plan we are launching today is a significant marker of that change. There is now a new energy and confidence in Limerick, something I haven't experienced before in my years in public life. This transformative spirit is rooted in our communities. They are the people who have maintained our sense of social solidarity, often against immense challenges. Now is the time when all stakeholders need to come together to deliver this implementation plan so that the people of Limerick, and their children, can build the future they deserve.

Foreword

by the City and County Manager

The result of a considerable body of work by numerous stakeholders including – perhaps most importantly – those who live in the areas involved and know them best, the Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan sets out how the shared vision for stronger communities can and will be delivered.

Crucially, this plan has the ongoing commitment of Government with this underlined by an allocation of €28m in the current year. While the steps to be taken go well beyond physical works, this is one of the largest capital investment projects underway in the country at this time. This will generate significant positive spin-offs in terms of economic activity and construction employment.

Carefully aligned with Limerick 2030 – An Economic & Spatial Plan for Limerick, this is very much an action-oriented and evidence-based plan. It is deeply rooted in the specific communities concerned rather than being an ‘off the shelf’ document that could as easily be applied to any other urban setting in Ireland or abroad.

Built around very valuable insights from Dr Eileen Humphreys of the Institute for the Study of Knowledge in Society at the University of Limerick, this is a Limerick plan for Limerick communities and it is Limerick that will win from its successful implementation.

In considering regeneration in Limerick, one is very conscious of building on some great work by John Fitzgerald, Brendan Kenny and the numerous people they worked with over the last seven years. Indeed, while it obviously reflected very different times economically, the Limerick Regeneration Masterplan published in 2008 laid down an important marker and brought an intense focus on addressing the issues that needed to be tackled most urgently.

In this regard, I also want to acknowledge the work done by An Garda Síochána from a policing perspective to help ensure that a small minority could not continue to sully the good name of communities where the vast majority of people are decent and law-abiding. It is important that this work continues to be properly resourced so that the progress made is in no way jeopardised.

In many respects, 2006-2013 could be regarded as the stabilisation period that was needed to stop the situation getting worse in Moyross, Southill, Ballinacurra Weston and St Mary's Park. Now, the challenge is to start things

getting better and to bridge the gaps that still exist between the built environment and the social and economic life of these areas and other parts of Limerick.

No single agency could possibly hope to deliver on the broad range of interventions that are needed in this context and – as might be expected in such a great sporting city and county – we are fortunate in Limerick to have team players willing to roll up their sleeves and work together with our partners at a national and EU level.

This also extends to community leaders in these neighbourhoods who show a great willingness to work with all of the stakeholders to move their areas forward. In many respects, these are the real ‘experts’ on what’s needed locally and their inputs will continue to be vital as the plan is implemented.

This joined up approach and the fact that this plan has been framed in full awareness of the current and forecast economic conditions gives me great confidence that the range of measures – from the relatively minor to the more ambitious – included in this plan will be delivered. The weighty evidence that underpins the plan then indicates we will see results as communities that have lagged behind for too long will be empowered and become far more attractive places to live. Following public consultation on this draft, I look forward to seeing it finalised and fully incorporated into the City and County Development Plans.

Conn Murray,

City & County Manager/CEO, Limerick Local Authorities



Foreword

by the Mayor and Cathaoirleach

Delivering for Limerick

On behalf of Limerick Local Authorities and as elected representatives of the people of Limerick, we are pleased to introduce the Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan.

Built on a people-focused and community-based approach, this blueprint will deliver further positive change for those living in the regeneration areas but also benefit the city and county more widely. Indeed, one of the true tests of a plan like this is that it will leave a lasting legacy of benefits.

Delivering on the ambition in this plan will require a collaborative approach between agencies and the communities involved who have shown great energy and resilience through challenging times.

A long-term plan of this type will also require a shared understanding that what is being done is part of a wider vision with lasting and positive consequences which will have welcome spill-over effects for our gateway city and beyond. For success in delivering improved conditions and quality of life to particular areas will without question bring extended benefits, not just to Limerick itself, but to the wider Mid-West region.

It is particularly encouraging that this plan dovetails closely with other relevant policies and strategies at a Limerick, regional and national level. For instance, it will be implemented in parallel with 'Limerick 2030 – An Economic and Spatial Plan for Limerick' which sets out a wider vision for Limerick.

Evidence from across Europe and beyond underlines the importance of strong and vibrant cities to the regions they are located in. For the Mid-West, it is crucial that Limerick is able to reach its full potential as a social and economic powerhouse for the region. In short, the region will not succeed without Limerick thriving and this plan is part of ensuring that.

In introducing and commending this plan, we pay tribute to the hard work and commitment of all those who have contributed to it and – perhaps more importantly – who will now work to implement it.

As well as the people of Limerick who have increasingly found their voices and engaged with the process of delivering the change they want to see, excellent work continues to be done by the Office of Regeneration at City Hall, the housing departments at Limerick Local Authorities, An Garda Síochána; Probation Service; Health Service Executive (HSE), Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board, Paul Partnership Limerick, the Department

Cllr Kathleen Leddin,
Mayor of Limerick



of the Environment, Community & Local Government and other Government departments, Limerick's higher education institutions and the community and voluntary sector.

The ongoing investment of time and resources from the public, private, community and voluntary sectors will – over time – help build on what has been achieved in recent years. The strides that have been made in Limerick over the last 5 to 10 years should give us greater confidence as we look to take the next steps.

This plan provides an achievable route to delivering what – put simply – will be better and safer places to live and work. Healthy communities aren't created by improved housing or smarter design alone. It is the people that bring those homes and streets to life and Limerick is very fortunate in this regard. It is this combination of careful planning and ambition with great individuals and families taking pride in their place that provides every reason to be confident that this plan will deliver for Limerick.

John Sheahan
Cathaoirleach, Limerick County Council







“

Safe and sustainable communities where people of all ages enjoy a good quality of life, a decent home and feel a strong pride of place. Well serviced and attractive neighbourhoods will be fully integrated with the social, economic and cultural life of Limerick.

”

Executive Summary

Vision – Safe and sustainable communities of opportunity where people of all ages enjoy a good quality-of-life, a decent home and a sense of pride about their place. Well-serviced and attractive neighbourhoods will be physically connected and fully integrated with the social, economic and cultural life of Limerick.

Ambitious but achievable

Geared towards delivering smart, sustainable and inclusive growth and with key deliverables set out under each area covered, the aim of the Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan is twofold –

- To improve the quality-of-life and wellbeing of the communities in the regeneration areas by responding

comprehensively to the problems (physical, social, community safety and economic) that exist, addressing the identified needs of people and adopting a sustainable development approach.

- To promote greater social and economic inclusion in the regeneration areas so that they reach the averages for the wider city and see

increased public and private sector investment. This will be achieved by opening access to training and education opportunities, harnessing and promoting existing resources and making early interventions – recognising that it is often as early as pre-school or at primary school that life courses are set.

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Starting point

There is a recognised need to diagnose and treat the root causes as well as the symptoms of social and economic exclusion in Limerick's regeneration areas – Moyross and St Mary's Park on the city's northside and Southill and Ballinacurra Weston on the southside - so that future generations don't face the same challenges as current and former residents.

As well as offering potential for better lives for those who live in them, these localities represent a valuable untapped asset for Limerick and cover substantial areas all within a short distance of the city centre – albeit with a need for improved access.

Every available socioeconomic indicator shows these areas lag Limerick and Irish national norms for labour market participation, educational attainment, dependency on State payments and community participation while there have also been well-documented issues around crime and anti-social behaviour.

To look at economic participation in a little more detail, the unemployment rate in the four areas has consistently been among the highest in the country –

- St Mary's Park (58%);
- Moyross (57%);
- Southill (47%) and;
- Ballinacurra Weston (43%).

Not coincidentally, more than half the adult population (55%) in St Mary's Park has primary level as their highest educational attainment while the figure is similarly high in the other regeneration areas.

Current issues in the regeneration areas can, then, be summarised as follows –

- Unemployment – especially among young people;
- Poverty;
- Lack of skills to improve employability;
- Early school leaving;
- Physical and mental health problems arising from social exclusion;
- Population decline;
- Lack of diversity in terms of social classes;
- Below average levels of owner occupancy;
- Limited economic activity;
- Poor quality and design of ageing housing stock and public areas;
- Poor mix of land use and over-concentration of standard house types;

- Poor transport connectivity and access;
- Crime and anti-social behaviour;
- Disconnection from the city's social, educational, economic and cultural life.

Following an incident at Moyross in September 2006, the former Dublin City Manager and Limerick-man John Fitzgerald was asked to urgently report to Government on the interventions required. His report was presented in March 2007. In the following year, masterplans were prepared for each of the regeneration areas with these later integrated to become a single Limerick Regeneration Masterplan.

After five years of valuable work – much of it through turbulent economic times – the Limerick Regeneration Agencies functions were transferred in mid-2012 to Limerick City Council which is currently merging with Limerick County Council.

Framed to align with the national and EU policy framework on sustainable cities and communities and informed by all relevant regional and national planning legislation and guidelines, the current Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan has been prepared by the Office of Regeneration based at Limerick City Hall.

While this Office will play a lead role in coordinating delivery of the plan, it will do so in partnership with the communities as well as a range of Irish and European agencies, local community and voluntary organisations and the private sector.

Strengthening pillars

Recognising that no single aspect alone will be effective in delivering the change agenda for the regeneration areas, the Framework Implementation Plan integrates measures that can be summarised as follows –

Physical:

- Removal of infrastructural barriers stifling connectivity;
- Develop connecting routes within regeneration areas;
- Community safety through design and CCTV monitoring;
- New housing construction with mixed unit sizes and types to promote diverse occupancy;
- Renewal and retrofitting of existing housing stock;

- Energy efficiency improvements;
- Social and educational infrastructure – refurbishing existing accommodation and building further capacity and;
- Environmental protection and management with attractive landscaping;
- Improve quality of the public realm.

Social:

- Education and learning initiatives appropriate to each life stage;
- Health and wellbeing of entire population – again with age-appropriate provision;
- 'Ageing well' neighbourhoods to reflect changing demographics and respond to the particular needs of older residents;
- Employability and work interventions for people currently detached from the labour market;
- Targeted support for families with difficulties and youth at risk and;
- Community development, empowerment and capacity building;
- Facilitate tenure and social diversification by improving the provision of private housing.

Economic:

- Sectoral training, work experience and work placements and job creation initiatives;
- Economic engagement platform bringing together all stakeholders and focused on regeneration areas;
- Social innovation/social enterprise hubs with supports for start-ups;
- Niche economic activities that can develop in line with national opportunity sectors such as green technologies;
- Developing a 'knowledge economy' subsector in community development and enterprise as skills are built locally;
- Inward investment to be incentivised with long-term revolving loan financing for new public, social and educational infrastructure and;
- ICT infrastructure, skills training and usage projects to support economic and social development.

With a National Social Innovation Hub and a National CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) Engagement Centre to be created in Limerick with a view to partnering with multinational companies and indigenous Irish firms to pool expertise and tap into their skills, human resources

and knowledge base, the plan also identifies priority themes under each of the three pillars –

Physical:

- Promote healthy communities;
- Require good design;
- Create the environment for a strong, competitive economy;
- Promote sustainable movement;
- Deliver a wide choice of quality homes and tackle dereliction;
- Deliver a multidisciplinary approach to all interventions;
- Support high-quality communications infrastructure;
- Meet the challenge of climate change and flooding;
- Conserve and enhance the natural environment;
- Protect and improve the historic assets.

Social:

Each underpinned by community participation and development, empowerment and community facilities and with a whole of government approach -

- Education and learning;
- Health and wellbeing;
- Ageing well;
- Employability and work and;
- Families and youth at risk.

Economic:

- Focused training that matches real current and future job opportunities;
- More engagement in a structured way to promote economic activity using current and new resources;
- Fostering a culture of social innovation and enterprise in regeneration areas;
- Creation of a programme of civic and economic interventions that help attract, support and grow micro- and community enterprise;
- Development of niche economic activities that will leverage existing enterprise expertise within Limerick's higher education sector;
- Creation of hubs targeting themed economic opportunities in each area;
- Sustained evaluation and research so that Limerick builds a robust knowledge economy with deep expertise in regeneration;
- Improve the infrastructure and institutional

supports to help attract inward investment to regeneration areas;

- Create employment opportunities in the local areas through the regeneration process itself as well as through promoting sustainable enterprises;
- Integrate the regeneration areas more completely within the broader economic and spatial development plans for Limerick and;
- Provide the ICT infrastructure that supports business and advances economic and social development.

Better homes, stronger communities in a revitalised city

How best to provide sustainable neighbourhoods for current and future residents is central to the plan.

Supporting home ownership and the stability it promotes will help create a better balance within communities. The types of housing available within the regeneration areas will widen considerably with a particular focus, for example, on creating environmentally-friendly and intelligently-designed housing for older people.

Greater integration between the regeneration areas and adjacent communities will also be achieved. In addition, it is intended to promote increased provision of new homes by the private sector within and alongside the regeneration areas as and when the housing sector recovers.

All homes that are to be retained in the long term will be refurbished so that there are no units left lagging the new norms in the areas.

Rather than using broad strokes, the framework plan takes a street-by-street approach to analysing the interventions needed so that there is greater precision to what's proposed and all steps are evidence-based with their impact then measurable.

Particular emphasis is being placed on ensuring that improvements deliver lasting benefits and are sustained over time with a measured approach being preferred over radical, higher risk, once-off interventions. Stabilisation and strengthening of the communities is being prioritised with rebuilding to be done in a strategic and considered manner, recognising existing strengths in each area.

The aim is that neighbourhoods will evolve and adapt over time, just as in any vibrant urban area, rather than stand still. The regeneration process also needs to be flexible to adapt to emerging challenges and opportunities without losing focus. The foundation for this will be continued analysis and evaluation so that the impact of various measures is robustly assessed.

The revitalisation of the regeneration areas so that they become more attractive neighbourhoods is vital to Limerick's overall success. A thriving city needs thriving residential areas. It also needs a strong central core that attracts and retains people. In this regard, Limerick will also benefit from the sustainable mixed-use development of strategic sites such as the Opera Centre and Nicholas St on King's Island; renewal of the Georgian quarter; development of a multi-occupancy higher education campus in the city centre and renewal of the city's waterfront as well as the main thoroughfares – O'Connell St, Catherine St and Henry St.

In short, what will be delivered is a city to be proud of with connected and living neighbourhoods that people will actively want to live and work in.

Implementation & Delivery

It is recognised that even the best prepared and most robustly evidence-based plan will be meaningless unless it is implemented holistically over time. Delivery is the key and, in this regard, there is an entire 40-page volume of the Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan devoted to implementation and delivery.

The plan sets out how a multi-level structure will ensure all those who can and must influence delivery are able to do so.

- Within the neighbourhoods involved, structures for community participation and involvement will be enhanced and sustained throughout the lifespan of the plan;
- At this local level, there will also be partnership structures so that the officials from across the public sector that work in the areas on a daily basis have a coordinated forum for meeting and sharing insights;
- Nationally, a group of key officials across government departments and statutory agencies will meet as the Programme Delivery Group with an exclusive focus on where their organisations

- can support delivery for Limerick;
- At a Limerick city level, a partnership to drive the strategy and oversee implementation will be established in tandem with the new Socio-Economic Committee being formed as part of the transfer of local enterprise functions to the local authority structure.

Specific subgroups will then look at key areas of the plan – for example, economic development and social inclusion. Throughout the implementation and delivery phase, there will be a joined up approach across the public, private, voluntary and community sectors with the Office of Regeneration acting as a catalyst for bringing people together to achieve positive outcomes.

This Office will consist of a small Policy and Operations Unit based at Limerick City Hall alongside those delivering physical regeneration works as well as the local authority staff tasked with economic development. In addition, there will be key personnel based at community offices in both the northside and southside regeneration areas.

A Social Intervention Fund will allow the Office of Regeneration to resource projects in the regenerations areas that have a clear strategic value in helping advance the overall plan.

Applying the principle that what gets measured gets done, there will be a large number of very specific performance indicators used to gauge the success of the plan's implementation. These will be based on independent evaluation and monitoring of key data sources, many of them originating with the Central Statistics Office (CSO). This measurement process will look at both what is being delivered and what impact there is so that both outputs and results are rigorously tracked at each phase.



Introduction

1. Introduction

1.1 Process So Far

The Limerick Regeneration Masterplan was published in October 2008 outlining a strategic vision and framework plan for the future of Moyross, Southill, Ballinacurra Weston and St. Mary's Park/King's Island. The Masterplan proposed the demolition of all housing, community and retail facilities and their replacement with new, better quality neighbourhoods. Whilst there is support for the original vision set out in the Regeneration Masterplan of 2008, it is acknowledged that it was developed in a different economic climate when there wasn't the current constraints on public finances. In 2010, Limerick Regeneration Agencies (LRA) commissioned the National Building Agency (NBA), which had not been involved in the original Masterplan process, to examine the vision and framework outlined in the Masterplan and suggest ways in which it may best be implemented given the economic constraints at the time.

The Limerick Regeneration Agencies requested the National Building Agency (NBA) to review the Masterplan prepared for the regeneration areas with a view to setting out the following aims:

- To audit the existing housing stock and advise whether it is possible to retain a certain portion in line with the layouts as contained within the Masterplan;
- To identify possible phasing, decanting and demolition strategies;
- To target specific sites to demonstrate some early phase developments for the long suffering communities.

In 2011, a draft report was prepared by the NBA for each of the regeneration areas setting out a Framework Plan and Implementation Strategy. In June 2012, when the Limerick Regeneration Agencies came to the end of their term of office and the regeneration function was subsumed within Limerick City Council under the Office of Regeneration. The Office of Regeneration has spent the past year re-focussing the regeneration plan, guided by the objectives of the original Masterplan and subsequent draft plans prepared by the NBA with the central aim of achieving balanced sustainable neighbourhoods. The principle of full or large scale demolition has been reassessed with the scale of demolition required to meet the overall objective needing consideration on a house-by-house, area-by-area basis.

1.2 Statutory Boundaries of the Regeneration Areas

It is noted that the maps outlining the regeneration boundaries within the Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016 are inconsistent with those maps which formed part of the 2008 amendment to an establishment order (S.I. No.275/276 of 2007) which defined the regeneration areas for the Northside and Southside of Limerick. For the purposes of the Framework Plans outlined in Volume 2 of this LRFIP, the statutory boundaries as well as the focussed study boundaries for each of the regeneration areas are highlighted.

The Limerick City Development Plan clearly states that the “regeneration programme needs to be fluid” and “evolve with circumstances locally, regionally and nationally.” Therefore, to implement the framework plans in a flexible and sustainable manner, whilst ensuring compliance with planning policy, it is proposed that the boundaries that were formed as part of the establishment orders (which are larger in land area to those adopted within the Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016) are used within this LRFIP to ensure compliance with the Development Plan and Core Strategy policies.

1.3 Aims of the Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plans (LRFIPs)

The aims of the Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plans (LRFIPs) are informed by an analysis of the local situation - the problems, the strengths and the opportunities presented for the city. This analysis is outlined in brief in this volume, supported by more detailed analysis of the situation in the Appendices. The aims of the Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plans are:

1. To improve quality of life and well-being for the communities of the regeneration areas by responding comprehensively to the problems addressed to the needs of people and the places and adopting a sustainable development approach. The strategy addresses the physical, economic, social, community development and community safety dimensions of regeneration.
2. To promote the social and economic inclusion of the regeneration areas into the mainstream life of the city, reducing the divergence between the regeneration areas and median measures for the city as a whole. This means the strategy aims to reduce the social and economic inequalities in the

city. It also aims to improve physical connectivity between the regeneration areas and the city and into the wider region. Opening up access to opportunities for people in the regeneration areas, for instance, in education, training and work, will require harnessing existing resources of the city, including those present in the regeneration areas, and attracting coordinated public and private investment over the next 10 years.

1.4 Overview of the Vision and Strategy

The vision and strategy of the Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plans (LRFIP) are shaped by the analysis of the socio-economic and physical context. The development of the LRFIPs has also been informed by an analysis of the policy context in the key fields of planning, urban design, architecture, environment, social policy and economic policy, taking into account the policy frameworks from EU, through national to local levels. The policy context is reviewed below, in this volume.

The vision for the regeneration areas is to create:

“Safe and sustainable communities where people of all ages enjoy a good quality of life, a decent home and feel a strong pride of place. Well serviced and attractive neighbourhoods will be fully integrated with the social, economic and cultural life of Limerick.”

The strategy for the LRFIPs and the implementation arrangements are based on an integrated territorial development approach. The territorial focus of the LRFIPs is on the regeneration areas not in isolation from, but linked to, the wider economic and spatial strategy for, and cultural life of, Limerick City. This includes a focus on city centre renewal as well as stronger connectivity across the whole metropolitan area and into the region.

The integrated territorial development approach draws on the Europe 2020 strategic framework of smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. The aims of the LRFIP include but are broader in scope than economic growth and inclusion. The focus is on improving quality of life. Quality of life covers a wide range of issues including housing, safety, environmental quality, education, transport, jobs,

Location of Regeneration Areas



1. Introduction

income, health, community, family life and ageing well. Access to services is a key issue for individuals and families resident in regeneration area. Access to services does not only mean the services are there, but they are delivered in a way that the people who need them can benefit from them.

The Limerick Regeneration LRFIPs place strong emphasis on safety, consolidating efforts in policing and the wider criminal justice system to address problems of crime in the city. Crime has impacted particularly negatively on the regeneration areas, affecting the reputation of those communities and the city as a whole. A further objective here is to change perceptions of Limerick in terms of its association with crime. Tackling the problems affecting the regeneration areas comprehensively (physical, economic, social, crime) offers the best prospects for a vibrant and safe city. Working with communities and other stakeholders, is a key part of the strategy to promote community safety.

The strategy, led by the local authority, involves a multi-sectoral partnership approach and working with the local communities. This is supported by a “whole of government” approach. The preparation of integrated plans and the structures for their delivery represents a change from the past and builds on earlier experiences.

Linked to the amalgamation of Limerick local authorities and local government reform, the local authority has the key role in leading the planning and oversight of implementation of the strategy, working in partnership with local stakeholders and with the support of central government. Local implementation arrangements include a strong focus on governance and the establishment of structures for programme management, monitoring and evaluation of the strategy. The Limerick Regeneration Office in the local authority is the overall coordinating and executive structure of the regeneration programme. Effective delivery requires working in partnership with local agencies, the private sector, community and voluntary organisations and involvement of the communities themselves through consultation on the strategy and in the delivery of activities on the ground. The integrated approach to development will allow for thematic concentration on the key issues. This approach can create a critical mass, improve the effectiveness of public investment and have a lasting impact on the problems affecting the regeneration

areas. The social programme, in particular, is structured around a thematic approach. Coordination of mainstream (national, EU), local and philanthropic funds and of public and private investment are critical for efficient investment and in order to achieve sustainable results. In the field of economic development and social inclusion, this can include use of new instruments for financial engineering (e.g., JESSICA fund) supported under the EU Structural and Investment Funds 2014-2020.

1.5 Summary of The Key Challenges and Opportunities

Drawing on the analysis of the socio-economic and physical contextual conditions, the key challenges and opportunities to be addressed in the regeneration areas and within the reference framework of the wider strategy for the city as a whole are as follows:

Social Economic Disadvantage of the City:

- Limerick City has a profile of socio-economic disadvantage. Based on a composite measure of deprivation, the Haase Pratschke Index, Limerick City is the most deprived of the five cities in the State (2011). While the city has been in a relatively more disadvantaged position than other Irish cities for some time, it has suffered a significant loss of jobs in recent years with the current economic recession.

The resilience of the city in the face of the economic downturn

- At the same time, in common with other cities in the State, the analysis of change in the spatial pattern of affluence and deprivation over the recent period (2006-2011) shows the resilience of Limerick City in the face of the economic downturn. All five cities in the State have deteriorated to a lesser extent in terms of profile of deprivation / affluence compared with the average situation across the State as a whole.

Unemployment and Specific Groups Negatively Affected by Unemployment:

- Levels of unemployment in the city are very high generally. Youth unemployment is at an extremely high level and is higher compared with any other city in the State. Specific problems include young people not in employment, education or training (NEETS) and long-term and inter-generational unemployment. Such deeply embedded structural

unemployment problems are particularly acute in the regeneration areas of the city.

Social Exclusion and Poverty, Particularly Concentrated in the Regeneration Areas:

- Social exclusion and poverty including problems in families and child poverty / deprivation is a long-standing problem. These problems particularly affect the regeneration areas and are reflected in: low education in the adult population, early school leaving, poorer attainment in education, lack of work-based skills, unemployment and economic inactivity, welfare dependence, weak family structure, deficits in parenting skills and ill-health.

Demographic Issues (Positive and Negative) and Lack of Population Diversity on the Regeneration Estates:

- Demographic trends within the administrative boundaries of the city show negative or weak population growth. This indicates that the city is not a popular residential option. This population trend in the city contrasts with strong population growth in the suburbs and county. Linked to a range of factors including the regeneration process, the loss of population from the regeneration areas has been particularly acute.
- In line with national trends, the city has an ageing population. While parts of the regeneration areas have a significant proportion of the population now in the older age groups, in general, they have a large proportion of the population in younger age cohorts and in the economically active age groups. This represents an important resource.
- The regeneration areas lack population diversity, in terms of social class composition and cultural diversity (e.g., presence of non-national residents). They also have a relatively high proportion of the population who are members of the Traveller community.

Weak Base of Economic Activity / Lost Opportunities and Lack of Economic Inclusion in Regeneration Areas:

- Low levels of economic activity and a lack of any significant economic base are particular problems in the regeneration areas. This includes lost opportunities and unrealised potential to develop micro-enterprise and innovate with social and community enterprise in these areas. These could provide important new sources of local employment.



1. Introduction

- Poor environmental conditions and key deficiencies in the physical infrastructures, urban design, housing quality and mix in regeneration areas:
- There are problems of poor environmental conditions in the most deprived neighbourhoods. These include dereliction in the housing stock, poor design and quality of open spaces / public realm, lack of community safety and some inadequacies in terms of location of, and access to, community services and facilities. There is a need to re-organise and improve physical provision and access to provision in certain key areas such as education (i.e., the school and broader education infrastructure).
- The low density and dispersed nature of the regeneration areas in tandem with increased distances from facilities and services undermines the provision of commercial facilities and public transport.
- The excessive amount of undeveloped functionless open space within Moyross and Southill detracts from and negatively impacts on the image of the regeneration areas.
- There are deficiencies in the physical and built environment including under-utilised land, buildings and other physical assets (open space). This applies to the city overall and in particular ways in the regeneration areas. In the regeneration areas, the generic deficiencies are combined with a lack of diversity of use in the built / physical environment in terms of mix of residential, commercial, retail, social and community facilities.
- Other specific issues in the regeneration areas are the poor quality of the housing stock in some parts including energy-related inefficiencies, poor ICT infrastructure, poor overall quality of the physical design of estates including design aspects that are not conducive to community safety, poor design to open up access / and fluidity of access within areas and into the city, uniform provision in the types / size of housing units resulting in inefficiencies, poor match to housing needs over the lifecourse and for groups with specific housing needs (e.g., older people, disabled people, people living alone etc.).

Poor Connectivity from Regeneration Areas into the Economic, Social and Community Life of the City:

- A long-standing problem is that the regeneration areas have been “cut off” physically from the city. There are key deficiencies in access infrastructures

(road connectivity, types of routes, “smart” travel options, public transport) across the urban area. Focusing on regeneration areas, this includes access / ease of movement to, and from, regeneration areas into the city and beyond, and within regeneration areas.

- Difficulties of physical access for residents of regeneration areas are exacerbated by social, cultural and economic barriers (e.g., income). Improved access in all of these areas is necessary to support a greater diversity of participation in the wider social, educational, community and cultural life of the city.

High Quality Natural Environment and Heritage (Physical and Cultural), Requiring Protection and Enhancement:

- A high quality natural environment is an important resource and this needs to be protected and enhanced. While this applies to the city as a whole, there are specific issues to be addressed in the regeneration areas. These include attention to areas where the natural environment shows vulnerability (e.g., maintaining biodiversity, flooding linked to climate change and adverse weather patterns). Active interventions are also necessary to protect and enhance the natural landscape including the river, the green spaces and vegetation, river banks, wetlands and walkways.
- The city has an important historic physical and cultural heritage (e.g., the Medieval City, Georgian Limerick, traditions in textiles / design) and, increasingly, there are newer expressions of culture in the city (e.g., sport, fashion and design, inter-cultural heritage). There are specific aspects of the cultural heritage and the cultural life of the city that are of particular relevance to the regeneration areas (e.g., the historic heritage of King’s Island).

Local Resources and Assets that could be Mobilised to Support Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive Growth:

- Significant local resources and capacity in the city that could be harnessed better to promote growth and job creation, impacting positively on the regeneration areas. In particular, there is a strong presence in the city of R&D (third level educational institutions, research bodies, private businesses) and capacity for knowledge transfer to create innovative businesses and high level jobs. The third level educational institutions (University of Limerick, Mary Immaculate College and Limerick Institute of Technology) have research capacity and education

programmes at third and fourth levels in areas including information and communication technologies (ICT), science and technology, green energy (sustainable development), design and creative industries, business including financial services, tourism including tourism marketing, hotels and catering and health and social care.

- At third level, there is a strong focus on “access” programmes targeting groups which are under-represented in higher education, including people from less advantaged socio-economic backgrounds, disabled people and mature people. These programmes include support activities in local communities and with children in primary and second level schools in the city, including regeneration areas.
- The city also has a developed further education and training and post-Leaving Cert education sector, offering programmes with accreditation from FETAC levels 1-3, (for those with lowest education and available in community-based settings across the city), through 4-5 (for qualification to upper secondary level) and levels 6 and 7, (focused on up-skilling / re-skilling including training in skills identified by the Expert Group on Future Skills Needs).
- The city and region also is the location of successful enterprises in both foreign-owned and indigenous industry sectors including high value added enterprises in manufacturing (e.g., health-related and medical technologies, computers, precision engineering, pharmaceuticals etc.) and advanced business services.

1.6 Community Involvement

Local residents have been at the heart of the preparation process of the Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan which is led by the Office of Regeneration within Limerick City Council.

This regeneration framework has been developed with involvement from the local community and key service providers throughout the regeneration process. The two main approaches to community involvement are outlined as follows:

- The establishment of residents' committees' where local residents, representatives of key service providers and community groups meet regularly to discuss the project in detail.
- Public Information Sessions where all residents

from the area were invited to one or more sessions to discuss the proposals for development.

A full report on community and stakeholder consultation undertaken in the development of this plan is attached as an appendix to this document.

1.7 External Review

The process for the preparation of the LRFIP also integrated independent reviews to scrutinise the emerging plan proposals and their potential design, delivery, and impact. The reviews involved a study visit, meetings with the Office of Regeneration and subsequent recommendation reports prepared by the external reviewers.

The expert reviewers included the following specialists:

Professor Peter Wells of Sheffield Hallam University
Peter Wells is professor of public policy analysis and evaluation, and director of the Centre for Regional Economic and Social Research at Sheffield Hallam University. He has extensive experience of research on urban and regional issues, specifically in project and programme evaluation, community involvement, community economic development, voluntary and community sector, local government, Structural Funds and EU regional policy. Prof. Wells was involved in the National Evaluation of the New Deal for Communities programme as a member of the central data team.

National Crime Prevention Through Design Office
Alan Roughneen is a specialist Crime Prevention Officer (CPO) at the National Crime Prevention Unit (NCPU) in the Garda Headquarters, Harcourt Square, Dublin.

The NCPU’s responsibilities include:

- The promotion of crime prevention and reduction
- Research into best practice
- The development of policies and strategies
- Training for CPOs

Reviews took place in November 2012 (*National Crime Prevention Through Design Office*) and in May/June 2013 (*Professor Peter Wells*) when the emerging LRFIP was at an intermediate stage, with sufficient time to respond to recommendations.

1.8 Structure Of The Report

The Framework Implementation Plan is structured into the following key volumes:

Volume 1: Introduction & Context

- Executive Summary
- 1.0 Introduction
[Presents the background to the project]
- 2.0 Policy Context
- 3.0 Baseline Conditions and Analysis
[The purpose of this section is to provide a summary of relevant baseline analyses carried out across the physical, social and economic contexts for the preparation of the Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan (LRFIP)]
- 4.0 Physical Overview and Analysis

Volume 2: Vision & Framework Strategy

- 1.0 Vision
The section presents the social, economic and physical vision for the regeneration areas supported by strategic objectives for future interventions to reinforce the vision to achieve sustainable communities. These strategic objectives will also inform the Implementation and Delivery Strategy in Volume 3: Implementation and Delivery.
- 2.0 Framework Strategy
The purpose of this section is to describe the Physical, Economic and Social Framework Strategy for the regeneration areas, reinforcing the vision set out in Volume 2.0, Section 1.0 and identifying site specific guidance for future interventions to be shaped by.

Volume 3: Implementation & Delivery

- 1.0 Implementation and Delivery
An implementation and delivery strategy is presented for the strategies described in Volume 2.0, Section 2.0 setting out how Limerick City Council will deliver and implement change from a physical, economic and social context.

Appendices

1. Baseline Conditions and Analysis
2. Statement of Community Involvement
3. Compliance with the Core Strategy of Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016
4. Crime Prevention through Design Statement
5. History of Social Housing in Limerick
6. Existing Situation of Regeneration Estates as at December 31 2012
7. Existing Services Infrastructure
8. Cost and Cash Flow Information

Supporting Documentation

1. Draft Natura Impact Report prepared by Openfield
2. Draft Strategic Environmental Assessment prepared by HRA Planning
3. Public Realm and Design Code







Policy Context

2

2. Policy Context

2.0 Existing Policy and Guidance Framework

The Limerick Framework Implementation Plans (LRFIPs) are positioned in the wider context of relevant EU, national, regional, and local level policy frameworks. This fit is critically important for successful implementation and in order to position the regeneration programme to secure mainstream funding to continue with the regeneration process in the city in the medium- to longer-term.

This section presents an evaluation of current orientations of policy in key areas relevant to the LRFIPs. It connects policy frameworks at EU level, to national policies and local level implementation arrangements. Over the last two to three years, the public sector reform agenda has been taking shape, resulting in changes in institutional arrangements and policy priorities in key areas of government policy relevant to the LRFIPs. The public sector reform agenda has been influenced by the current fiscal and economic crisis but also addresses long-standing structural problems.

2.1 EU Level

It is important that the overall approach and content of the LRFIP are in keeping with best practice in the wider European context and that an integrated approach is adopted to regeneration and development of the regeneration areas themselves and the city as a whole. A number of important developments at European level are relevant here, including the Leipzig Charter on sustainable European cities, the role of cities as “engines of economic growth in Europe”, as reflected in the Europe 2020 strategy, and the stronger priority given to sustainable urban development in the EU Structural and Investment Funds (2014-2020)

2.1.2 Leipzig Charter on Sustainable European Cities

The “Leipzig Charter on Sustainable European Cities” was drawn up to facilitate agreement on common principles and strategies for urban development policy across EU Member States. It commits Member States to initiate a political debate on how to integrate the principles and strategies of the Leipzig Charter on Sustainable European Cities into national, regional and local development policies. It further seeks to use the tool of integrated urban development and related governance structures to guide implementation and to promote balanced territorial organisation based on a European polycentric urban structure.

Under the Charter, all dimensions of sustainable development should be taken into account, namely: economic prosperity, social balance and a healthy environment. The Charter recognises that cities cannot fulfill their function as engines of social progress and economic growth unless holistic strategies and coordinated action by those involved in the urban development process, reaching beyond the boundaries of individual cities, are prepared. Specifically, the Charter recommends:

- i) Making greater use of integrated urban development policy approaches - a process in which the spatial, sectoral and temporal aspects of key areas of urban policy are coordinated and where the involvement of economic actors, stakeholders and the general public is essential.
- ii) Modernizing infrastructure networks and improving energy efficiency
- iii) Proactive innovation and educational policies
- iv) Creating and ensuring high-quality public spaces, where a ‘Baukultur’ approach is recommended whereby the sum of all the cultural, economic, technological, social and ecological aspects influencing the quality and process of planning and construction is promoted
- v) Special attention to deprived neighbourhoods within the context of the city as a whole. A policy of social integration which contributes to reducing inequalities and preventing social exclusion is seen as the best guarantee for maintaining security in our cities, including:
 - Pursuing strategies for upgrading the physical environment
 - Strengthening the local economy and local labour market policy
 - Proactive education and training policies for children and young people
 - Promotion of efficient and affordable urban transport.

The LRFIP adopts an integrated urban development approach to regeneration in accordance with the principles of the Leipzig Charter.

2.2 Planning Context

The Limerick City Development Plan is part of a systematic hierarchy of land use and spatial plans, including the National Spatial Strategy and Regional Planning Guidelines. It is informed by the plans and strategies of the Government and other public agencies in general. Through the Planning and Development Act 2000, the following hierarchy of policy in relation to planning is established:

- National Development Plan (NDP);
- National Spatial Strategy (NSS);
- Regional Planning Guidelines;
- County, Borough and City Development Plans;
- Local Area Plans.

The LRFIP represents lower level local planning and thus it is important that its framework sits comfortably within the hierarchy of existing policy. Ultimately this LRFIP will feed up into the City Development Plan and be adopted as part of the development plan process.

2.2.1 National Context

The National Development Plan 2007-2013 (NDP) sets out a programme of integrated investments aimed at underpinning Ireland’s ability to grow in a manner that is economically, socially and environmentally sustainable. It states that the Atlantic Gateways of Cork, Limerick, Galway and Waterford have much initial potential through strengthened individual cities, enhanced connectivity and a collaborative approach to planning and promotion, to develop a second major metropolitan corridor on the island of Ireland.

Perhaps of most interest to the preparation of the LRFIP and the implementation of Regeneration policies in Limerick is the Social Housing Provision and Renewal Sub Programme contained within the NDP. This programme is being targeted at the provision of an expanded range of tailored social housing support and an accelerated programme of renewal and improvement of the existing stock. The aims of the LRFIP are very much in line with the aims of the Sub-Programme which seeks to deliver a greater quantity of social housing options and at the same time to improve the overall quality of this tenure. Thus in line with the NDP, the LRFIP commits to delivering high quality development in mixed community settings with proper attention to the planning and design of new housing to ensure that developments do not



2. Policy Context

contribute to or reinforce social segregation. The National Spatial Strategy (NSS) is a 20-year plan which aims to promote a better balance of population, jobs and development between the regions. It has identified a number of Gateway Cities including Limerick, which are the focus for population and economic growth in their respective regions. It gives effect to the development of Gateways like Limerick as national and regional engines of growth and establishes a coherent hierarchical, spatial structure. Some of the key aspects of the NSS which have influenced the LRFIP are the:

- Spatial structure set out in the strategy in relation to the Mid-West region including the designation of the Limerick/Shannon Gateway;
- Role of Gateways and the need for critical mass;
- Role of linkages in terms of good transport, communications and energy networks;
- Suggested range of policy responses to strengthen communities;
- The need for effective integration of land use and transportation policy within the spatial structure of urban areas.

The Atlantic Gateways initiative is based on the NSS and aims to mobilise the gateways of Waterford, Cork, Limerick and Galway through interaction and collaboration to create a critical mass in the regions to balance that of Dublin.

“Sustainable communities are places where people want to live and work, are environmentally sustainable and contribute to a high quality of life for residents”. This is a key message in *Our Sustainable Future*, a Framework for Sustainable Development for Ireland (2012), which seeks to guide social inclusion, sustainable communities and spatial planning in Ireland. The report highlights how developing sustainable communities involves a range of social issues such as improving social inclusion and reducing poverty. This is a key guiding principle in the preparation and implementation of the LRFIP, which focuses as much on the social pillar as it does on the physical and economic pillars. The report further highlights why communities must be enabled to identify and address social and economic issues in their own areas and promotes the involvement of local communities in advancing sustainable communities. This approach is very much adopted in the LRFIP and supports the mechanism for extensive ongoing consultation with the regeneration communities.

Finally the report notes that the residential sector is a major contributor to national greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions with the EPA forecasting that the sector accounts for 12% of total national emissions over the 2008-2012 period. The report states that in order to meet our climate change targets, all housing will need to be designed or retrofitted to cost-optimal standards. This is a key guiding principle within the LRFIP and has influenced the proposed retrofit strategy detailed in the plan.

There are a number of other relevant National Guidelines which have been issued by the Minister and which have influenced the overall direction of the LRFIP. Accordingly in setting out the overall implementation strategy and associated objectives, the LRFIP has considered, *inter alia*, the following guidelines:

- Architectural Heritage Protection: Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2011)
- Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas (2008)
- Urban Design Manual – A Best Practice Guide 2008 Quality Housing for Sustainable Communities (2007)
- Sustainable Urban Housing: Design Standards for New Apartments (2007)
- Delivering Homes, Sustaining Communities (2007)
- Landscape and Landscape Assessment: Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2000)
- The Planning System and Flood Risk Management Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2009)
- Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland – Guidance for Local Authorities
- Strategic Environmental Assessment Guidelines Housing Policy Statement (2011)
- Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (2013)

2.2.2 Regional Context

Within the policy framework of the NSS and the Atlantic Gateways Initiative, the Mid West Regional Planning Guidelines 2010 - 2022, (RPGs) sets out a detailed development strategy for the Mid-West region. The RPGs recognise the impact of the current economic downturn, emphasising the need to focus development in the locations with the greatest potential. To achieve this, a stronger central core is needed that will drive growth in the wider region. As such, the RPGs prioritise the development of the Gateway and Hub to achieve the critical mass and value-added investment which the wider region requires.

The RPGs identify a ‘zone’ based strategy for the region and proposes that the identified zones be developed in ways that reflect their particular characteristics. Zone 1 which includes Limerick City is the core area of the region and one of the key requirements for this zone as set out in the RPGs is to consider how residential development will be accommodated on brownfield and redevelopment sites as well as in greenfield locations. The LRFIP seeks to deliver on this key requirement by regenerating existing residential units and communities within the existing urban fabric and settlement.

The Draft Mid-West Area Strategic Plan (2012) (MWASP) is a Planning, Land Use and Transportation Strategy, currently being developed to provide a comprehensive integrated transport and land-use plan in the Mid-West Region for the next 30 years. The plan stresses that the city must be an attractive place to live, work and visit so that it can function as the focus of the region and requires revitalization to achieve this. Quality of life is essential and in cities it is derived from a range of components. These include the availability of employment; access to social, cultural and amenity facilities; good public transport and a well-planned living environment, including public realm, which is fit for purpose. The MWASP states that responding to this challenge, amongst other things, will require progress on the Regeneration Programme. It also refers to the importance of the Regeneration Programme in achieving population targets for the city and the need to support the development of “Central Limerick” relative to “Suburban Limerick”.

The Limerick and Clare Joint Housing Strategy, 2011-2017, prioritises the Limerick/Shannon Gateway, followed by Ennis, as the primary locations in the region for residential development. In the Gateway, the growth of the city is prioritised to rebalance recent patterns of development which saw significant population increase in the Limerick suburbs. The Strategy acknowledges that the NSS and RPG population targets are ambitious, particularly as there has been a sudden slowdown in housing output. The Strategy states that the Regeneration Programme in particular is critical to redirecting population growth into Limerick City and to the success of the Gateway overall. It finds that insufficient growth in the regeneration areas would have serious implications for the implementation of regional and national policy.

The Retail Strategy for the Mid West Region, 2010 - 2016, states that Limerick City Centre has fallen behind other cities in the State and no longer performs to its Tier 1 Status in the shopping hierarchy. The Strategy highlights that if the city centre is not prioritised as a retail destination, it will accelerate the broader deterioration of the city. Limerick City Centre is in urgent need of comprehensive retail development to prevent further erosion of its retail position and stimulate the wider regeneration of the city. The Strategy seeks to re-establish Limerick City Centre at the top of the regional hierarchy as the preferred location for new retail development in the Limerick Metropolitan Area.

The Retail Strategy however also identifies lower tier retail development within identified District Centres throughout the city and highlights Roxboro as such a centre. It specifically refers to this District Centre in the context of ongoing regeneration in the area and states that “in the short term, it is possible there may be pressure for the regeneration of the Roxboro Centre, which should be supported in accordance with the growth strategy outlined in the regeneration programme, provided that it does not significantly increase the amount of retail floorspace nor alter the mix between convenience, comparison and services floorspace”. Outside of Roxboro District Centre, other centres with potential for retail development within the regeneration areas are the neighbourhood centres. These offer potential to accommodate a local catchment and provide top-up shopping facilities.

The main aim of the Limerick and Clare Sports and Physical Recreation Strategy 2012 is to develop a framework to coordinate the objectives and targets of key stakeholders in a cohesive and integrated plan for the area and to work together in ensuring the provision, management and use of quality facilities and services for everyone, including future generations. The strategy is sub-regional and high-level in its approach, and does not, therefore, focus on community-based or community-level facilities although it does recognise their importance. The need to provide for those who are in danger of being marginalised and excluded is promoted within the strategy and it is acknowledged that most organisations have regard to this need when

developing strategies. The LRFIP has adopted a ‘life-cycle’ approach in consideration of recreational requirements in the regeneration areas to inclusively provide for all groups in society. The provision of recreation and sports facilities is an integral part of the LRFIP.

2.2.3 Local Context

Whilst there are a number of policy documents at local level influencing development within the city and which have guided the LRFIP in its overall approach, there is only one statutory document with legal effect guiding and controlling development, namely the Limerick City Development Plan 2010 – 2016 (CDP). It is therefore imperative that the framework of the LRFIP sits comfortably within the City Development Plan and that its implementation strategy is ultimately adopted as part of the development plan process.

The CDP sets out Limerick City Council’s policies for the development of Limerick City to 2016 and beyond including the regeneration areas. The CDP confirms that up to 70% of the increase of the population for the Limerick/Shannon Gateway has been allocated to Limerick City thereby mandating the need to support considerable future public investment in regeneration in the city. The CDP proposes to increase population by 21,450 persons by 2022, thereby necessitating the provision of an additional 9,149 residential units. Existing undeveloped land in the city (excluding regeneration areas) has the potential to accommodate 5,678 units and the CDP states that the regeneration areas have an indicated capacity of 4,400 additional units (133 hectares). The CDP states that “given the compactness of the city it is not possible to prioritise areas other than the regeneration areas” and has committed to the provision of 2,000 additional units prior to 2016 with the balance of 2,400 provided in the period after that. Whilst the delivery of 2,000 new residential units within the regeneration areas prior to 2016 is not likely, having regard in particular to the current economic situation, the LRFIP seeks to ensure that it continues to facilitate the provision of such units and puts in place suggested mechanisms to stimulate private development within the regeneration areas. The CDP strongly supports ongoing regeneration in the city and the work of all of

those involved. It has two strong policies which seek to support the implementation of the Regeneration Programme in a coordinated and sustainable manner and to co-operate with the Regeneration Agencies (now the Office of Regeneration) and the other agencies in the region to deliver the goals and objectives set out in the Regeneration Programme (policy RG1). It also seeks to zone the regeneration areas in a flexible manner to facilitate the delivery of the Masterplans (policy RG.2). It highlights that the delivery of a much stronger social mix is paramount to the success and sustainability of the new housing estates in the regeneration areas and acknowledges that such a mix has to be greater than just mixed tenure. The CDP states that it hopes to change the tenure structure within the regeneration areas from its existing status of 60% private ownership and 40 %¹ rental to 80% private ownership to 20% rental (page 55 of the CDP).

The CDP is clear in its support for regeneration stating that “it will offer sufficient flexibility that will allow the Masterplans to be implemented in a coordinated and sustainable manner” (pp.56). Furthermore it specifically requests that LRFIPs are prepared for the four areas setting out the key priorities that will guide development in the future. Whilst it acknowledges that the priorities shall differ for each of the areas it does request that a number of principles are incorporated into the LRFIP including the requirement for environmental assessments, economic strategies, permeability plans, design codes and sustainable energy zones. The LRFIP has been prepared having regard to these requirements (with the exception of a sustainable energy zone²) and incorporates the necessary strategies, codes and plans to provide for a holistic document in accordance with the CDP. In addition to the principles referenced above, the CDP also sets out a number of local objectives that shall be addressed within the LRFIP for each of the four regeneration areas. Whilst the objectives are specific to each area, they are very much focused on the four pillars promoted within the LRFIP including economic, social, physical and environmental issues. These objectives have been assessed in the context of available funding and the current economic climate and have been incorporated into the LRFIP in so far as possible. In any case, a number of the objectives stated

1 Small Area Population Statistics CSO 2011
2 It was an objective in Chapter 7 of the Limerick City 2010-2016 Development Plan that the regeneration area, or a portion of it, should be established as a Sustainable Energy Zone. As Limerick City was not one of five the Authorities chosen for this program and the programme has since closed, the Office of Regeneration will nevertheless endeavour to increase the environmental performance of the proposed refurbishment project through the Better Energy Communities Program from SEAI. The Better Energy Communities Programme is the national upgrade programme to retrofit Ireland’s building stock and facilities to high standards of energy efficiency, thereby reducing fossil fuel use, running costs and greenhouse gas emissions. The purpose of this program is to test new and innovative approaches to achieving high quality and efficient delivery of improvements in energy efficiency within Irish communities. We will work with SEAI to show how we can develop our refurbishment program in innovative ways to fit the criteria of this program.

2. Policy Context

in the CDP have already been carried out in the development of the LRFIP including the preparation of a Flood Risk Assessment for King’s Island, the development of amenity strategies and the wider consideration of social issues and deliverables.

The Limerick City Centre Strategy 2008 looks at a number of themes with the aim of enhancing and improving the city centre, including access and movement, urban design, urban living, heritage and culture and environmental management. It has compartmentalised the central area structured around the city centre into four different zones. The only zone to touch the regeneration area is the Medieval Zone adjoining St. Mary’s Park. It does not however include St. Mary’s Park. The Strategy clearly states that “although the Regeneration Areas fall outside the scope of the defined ‘City Centre’ Limerick City Council recognises the necessity for clear co-ordination and will seek to work with the regeneration agencies (now the Office of Regeneration) to ensure that the focus areas are clearly linked with the city centre and fully benefit from the service, amenities and public transport links intended to be provided as part of this strategy”. The LRFIP is focused on introducing measures to achieve not only greater permeability within the regeneration areas but also greater connectivity with adjoining areas and the city centre and has thus had regard to such relevant proposals within the City Centre Strategy.



2. Policy Context

2.3 Economic Context

2.3.1 Eu Structural and Investment Funds (2014-2020)

In EU Structural and Investment Funds (2014-2020), there is a stronger emphasis on urban and regional development, the role of cities as engines of growth and the importance of vibrant and inclusive urban centres. These priorities are linked to objectives of the Europe 2020 Strategy and targets (as outlined below). Implementation of local development is supported in the new phase of EU Structural Funds and new instruments have been introduced namely: Community-led Local Development and the Integrated Territorial Investment Instrument and a stronger emphasis on “financial engineering” using loan or investment funds rather than grant funding. The instrument to support urban development and regeneration is known as JESSICA (Joint European Support for Sustainable Investment in City Areas). It is an initiative of the European Commission developed in co-operation with the European Investment Bank (EIB) and the Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB). EU Member States can choose to invest some of their EU structural fund allocations in revolving funds to help recycle financial resources to accelerate investment in Europe's urban areas. In the EU Structural and Investment Funds at local level, the emphasis is on integrated approaches implemented via a common strategy and multi-stakeholder partnership. The local area-based strategy should respond to local needs and potential and involve a process of community participation.

2.3.2 Infrastructure and Capital Investment 2012-2016: Medium Term Exchequer Framework

The Infrastructure and Capital Investment 2012-2016: Medium Term Exchequer Framework provides details of the funding that will be provided up to 2016. This framework has temporarily replaced the NDP due to the financial crisis. It has limited allocation of funding but it does commit to continue to provide funding to any project that is already at contract stage. In the case of Limerick, this includes King John's Castle and Limerick Riverside development in the city. The framework also makes a commitment to continue to provide funding for the Limerick regeneration areas. Though one-off projects may be announced, any project that is not specifically mentioned within this framework will not receive funding.

2.3.3 Action Plan for Jobs, 2013 Department of Jobs, Enterprise & Innovation

The Action Plan for Jobs outlines a broad range of initiatives that provide the policy context for key issues that will support the delivery of an economic strategy for Limerick Regeneration. This 2013 Plan is centred on seven “Disruptive Reforms”, described as “high-impact measures” (and 333 actions across Government departments). The “Disruptive Reforms” are mainly medium- to longer-term measures targeting new sectors with potential for job growth (ICT, energy), opportunities for business development (e.g., on-line trading) and including one measure targeting the long-term unemployed. In the context of proposed economic regeneration programmes, the following support the fundamental objectives of the LRFIP.

- JobsPlus – an introduction of new incentives to encourage businesses to recruit long term unemployed people.
- Youth Employment package – aimed at ensuring young people who are not working or studying receive an offer of employment, continued education, an apprenticeship or a traineeship.
- Application of National Pension Reserve Fund to support SMEs to include SME Equity Fund, SME Turnaround Fund and the SME Credit Fund.
- Creation of a Microfinance loan fund scheme to enable access to alternative funding sources for micro-enterprises.
- Establishment of a Centre of Excellence for Micro-Enterprise and Small Business.
- Devising a Government Policy Statement on Entrepreneurship that will also include a focus on Youth Entrepreneurship and Female Entrepreneurship.
- Maximising procurement opportunities that will include the examination of inclusion of Social Clauses in future procurement.
- Development of a National Plan for Corporate Social Responsibility.
- Programme for the Competitiveness of Enterprise and SMEs to promote more dynamic and internationally competitive SMEs by providing targeted support to the sector.
- Greater focus placed on the manufacturing value chain and services that support it.
- ForfÁS review of social enterprise and role in supporting local employment.

2.3.4 Expert Group on Future Skills Needs, April 2013

The Expert Group on Future Skills Needs (EGFSN) advises the Government on future skills requirements and is a group comprised of representatives of business, employees, education, training, Government departments and State agencies. The EGFSN Statement of Activity 2012 outlines projected skills needs at national and sectoral levels, priority education and training requirements in addition to advising Government on the content, delivery and outcomes of education and training programmes. Among the key sectors for prioritisation by the EGFSN were Cleantech, Sustainable Building, International Business Services, Food & Drink, Tourism and Cultural which are consistent with the sectoral focus in the economic strategy for regeneration. The focus on green economy skills and niche food and beverage skills complies with the training and employment focus proposed in LRFIP.

2.3.5 National Digital Strategy, June 2013, Department of Communications and Natural Resources

Government's new National Digital Strategy (NDS), “Doing More With Digital” (2013) highlights the importance of digital industries to the national economy. Based on research commissioned as part of the development of the new digital strategy, digital industries now account for 4.4% of GDP and support 95,000 jobs. As such, the sector is as important in terms of jobs as agriculture, forestry and fisheries and is just slightly smaller in scale than financial services. Digital is shaping Ireland's future at a faster rate. The National Digital Strategy is seen as an important first step in broadening the focus from solely looking at connectivity to creating a vision and building momentum on digital adoption. This involves bringing together different public and private sector activities in the digital domain. The launch of the strategy marks a “whole of government” approach to digital. The strategy focuses on the role of Government and of society in general in fostering digital engagement. It highlights the social and economic benefits that can accrue from this. The NDS emphasises the importance of “getting more people on line”, getting small businesses involved in trading on-line, roll-out of education programmes in digital skills, jobs requiring digital skills and e-Inclusion. Initiatives to further promote to e-government and e-Health are also included.

The initial phase of the National Digital Strategy is focused on:

1. stimulating the indigenous economy by helping small Irish business to expand on-line,
2. support in preparing the next generation for future jobs and,
3. making sure everyone in society benefits from digital.

Key initiatives in the National Digital Strategy include:

Indigenous Businesses and Jobs: Indigenous small businesses, such as taxi drivers, hairdressers, restaurants and local shops servicing the local domestic market, are seen as the backbone of communities, provide essential local employment. While internet-based trading is proven to help small business to grow, many such businesses have no significant on-line trading presence. Linked to this, under the National Digital Strategy, Government is launching the Trade On-Line Voucher Scheme providing vouchers, up to €2,500, to 2,000 small businesses. These funds are to help them get the resources, training and expertise needed to develop an on-line trading presence.

Education: In the modern workplace, knowledge of how to perform a variety of tasks on-line is growing in importance. Across Europe only 1 job in 10 will not need a digital skill by 2015. To improve digital skills from a young age, cooperation across government has enabled 100Mbps broadband to be made available to every second level school in the country. This is seen as the foundation for developing a range of interventions to support schools and teachers learning from each other, sharing best practice, and facilitating young people using digital technology.

Inclusion: Experience has shown that with the right support and training, even the oldest people in the population have the ability to harness the potential of the internet and improve their quality of life. The NDS commits to halving the number of non-liners by 2016, bringing an additional 288,000 people into the digital community. Schemes such as BenefIT4 will provide €1.4m in funding for these types of training programs in 2013 alone, reaching 24,000 people in locations across Ireland.

2.3.6 Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016

The Limerick City Development Plan highlights the focus that will be placed on areas of regeneration as part of the overall Economic Development Strategy. The Plan has highlighted many advantages of developing these areas as part of the overall economic strategy. These include the optimisation of existing infrastructure and local resources and the proximity of residential or mixed use areas to key economic assets that will provide employment. Other key objectives include the development of Business Improvement Districts, attention to derelict sites and provision of supports to facilitate development.

2.3.7 Supporting Economic Recovery and Jobs Locally, Department of Environment, Community and Local Government 2012

The Supporting Economic Recovery and Jobs Strategy outlines measures being taken by Local Authorities to assist enterprises in the areas of business charges, local enterprise support and economic growth. In association with the sectoral strategy, over 2,000 separate actions and enterprise supports were identified as the basis for future planning that included economic development strategies and promotion, financial incentives and the provision and maintenance of enterprise infrastructure. It is also proposed to establish Socio-Economic Committees in each local authority to bring a greater coherence and oversight to the range of local and community development interventions – this is also addressed below in relation to local government reform.

2.3.8 Local Government Reform / Alignment with Local Development Companies

Proposals to strengthen local democracy and local government and to align local government with local development are being progressed. The detailed proposals of government were presented in Putting People First, Department of Environment Community and Local Government, and the Final report of the Local Government / Local Development Alignment Steering Group (October 2012.)

Focusing on the local Limerick situation, a new single local authority to replace Limerick City and County Councils is being created. The re-organisation linked to the amalgamation will be completed by the time of the election of a single authority in mid-2014. Under the dual manager for Limerick City and County Councils, convergence of policies and practices is

progressing, the Economic Development Directorate has been set up, a new Office of Regeneration established under the Director of Service, Home and Community and a new management structure for joint City and County-wide service delivery is in place.

In terms of the broader reform of local government, key proposals include the development of a national local and community development policy which will set out national priorities and a framework for a cross-government approach at local level. This is combined with setting up an Inter-Departmental Group to support the development of that policy and a “whole of government approach” to local and community development. This includes a coordinated approach in planning budgets and targeting resources. An important emphasis is for local government to take on a greater role in economic, social and community development, extending the functions of local government into new areas.

Key instruments for planning and implementation of the policy locally are:

- The development of five-year County/City local and community plans covering all state-funded local and community development interventions.
- The setting up of a Socio-Economic Committee (SEC) in each county / city council, established on a statutory basis and comprising representatives of the local authority, state agencies, local and community partners and other stakeholders. The City / County Development Boards are to be disbanded with some of their functions transferred to the SECs and some into the local authority.
- New Local Enterprise Offices (LEOs) will be integrated with local authority business support units to create a one-stop-shop for business support.
- In the reform of local structures and planning, consideration is to be given to how the new / reformed structures can act as implementation mechanisms for EU Structural Funds in local development (e.g., LEADER in rural areas, and integrated urban development, use of financial engineering instrument for investment in infrastructure and other projects in cities, namely JESSICA) in the forthcoming period of EU Structural and Investment Funds 2014-2020. All of these proposed changes and potential to develop new opportunities have been taken into consideration in the preparation of LRFIPs.

2. Policy Context

2.3.9 Limerick 2030 – An Economic and Spatial Plan for Limerick, 2013

The new economic and spatial plan for the city, ‘Limerick 2030 – An Economic and Spatial Plan for Limerick’ (June 2013) sets out a number of objectives to change the infrastructure of the city centre and deliver a new vision for Limerick as a leading centre for commercial investment in the Mid-West region. The plan is published as a draft document for public consultation. It is intended to incorporate the plan into the Limerick City and County Development Plans. The cost of delivering the plan is estimated at €250 million, mainly based on private investment. It is estimated to have the potential to deliver 5,000 new jobs in the city centre and some 12,000 full-time equivalent jobs overall. The Limerick 2030 plan is structured around three main elements; an Economic Strategy, a Spatial Strategy and a Marketing Plan.

The Economic Strategy aims to position Limerick to capture a greater share of knowledge-based investment, supporting innovation, enterprise and new start ups. It aims to capitalise on existing strengths including the presence of three Higher Education institutions in Limerick (University of Limerick, Mary Immaculate College, Limerick Institute of Technology), the city’s ICT and digital assets and its reputation for knowledge and technology-based businesses.

The Spatial Strategy aims to transform “the look” of the city centre through a number of “transformational” city centre projects. It is especially focused on developing the city centre’s retail potential as the prime shopping location in the region. It aims to reposition to city as a desirable place to do business, and attract new investment and enterprises into high quality and flexible space in the city. Amongst the transformational projects included in the plan are the following:

- A renaissance of Limerick’s waterfront and the creation of an iconic destination building ‘The Limerick Cultural Centre’.
- ‘Great Streets’ – the transformation of the three main streets; O’Connell Street, Catherine Street and Henry Street; re-development of the Arthur’s Quay area to create a new city square;
- Refurbishment of Cruises Street and expansion of the shopping area (Penneys / Debenhams) there; creation of a new City Square/Plaza in the heart of the city.

- A city centre higher education campus to include facilities from LIT, UL and MIC as well as the development of the Opera Centre site as a location for new business and an Innovation Hub. This will be closely aligned to the city’s colleges providing space and support for fledgling businesses.
- Restoration of the Georgian Quarter.
- Renewal of Colbert Station creating better links with city centre facilities through a new public transport interchange.

The Marketing Plan will include coordinated efforts across all sectors to rebrand and sell Limerick while challenging existing perceptions of the city. This includes highlighting Limerick as a resilient, attractive and forward-looking city, with academic energy and an edge in industry, culture, leisure and sport.

The objectives of the Limerick 2030 strategy include creating conditions for long-term growth and maximizing the local employment impact from the development and regeneration of the city. It has obvious strong links to the LRFIPs, targeting the regeneration of the most disadvantaged estates in the city. Opening up new opportunities in terms of local employment, education, and cultural life in the city could create favourable conditions for reducing disparities within the city, integrating the estates into the economic, social and cultural life of the city.

2.4 Social Context

2.4.1 Social Inclusion

The Government’s **National Action Plan for Social Inclusion (2007-2016)** together with social inclusion elements of the National Development Plan (2007-2013) and, the latest social partnership agreement, Towards 2016, are the key policy documents detailing government’s strategy and targets to support social inclusion for groups who are most vulnerable in society. However, these policies were published and targets for achievement of outcomes set in a different context (pre-recession) to that which now prevails. In terms of the orientation of social inclusion policy, key features are:

- the adoption of the life-cycle approach – i.e., recognising the needs of people at different ages but also cumulative effects (e.g., of deprivation) over the life-course
- promotion of a more joined-up and multi-disciplinary approach to policy making and
- the coordination of inputs from a wide range of players and integrated service delivery.

The goals of the **National Plan for Social Inclusion 2007-2016** are presented in terms of reaching specific poverty reduction targets by 2012 (interim target) and 2016 specific high level goals and corresponding targets are set for each stage of the life-cycle. The stages of the life-cycle are identified as: children (education-focused), people of working age (employment and participation focused), older people (community care services to maintain health and well-being and to support independence and activity into old age) and people with disabilities (employment and participation). High level goals and targets for poverty reduction are also set in relation to communities (housing, health and integration of migrants).

The approach to meeting the poverty target (overall and specific by life-cycle / group) is based on the three inter-connecting themes of income support, activation and services. Progress on the national poverty target was negatively affected (and partially reversed) in 2009/2010 linked to the impact of the economic recession particularly the rise in unemployment. Taking into account the severity of the economic crisis and that a new phase of strategic planning and programming is in development at EU level, new

priorities and targets are set for the forthcoming period (2014 to 2020). These are adopted within the broader framework of the Europe 2020 Strategy (the newest statement of strategic direction and priorities at EU level). With the onset of the economic crisis, Government has prioritised the following (National Reform Programme³ , Department of An Taoiseach, 2012):

- To protect the most vulnerable from the worst impact of the crisis;
- To reform income supports for children and people of working age;
- To strengthen activation policy to support people back into work.

The **National Reform Programme for Ireland (updated in 2012)** has identified targets for Ireland with reference to the Europe 2020 Strategy – in relation to poverty reduction, revising those set originally in 2007. In 2012, Government set sub-targets for reducing poverty in jobless households, as part of the national social target for poverty reduction (National Social Target for Poverty Reduction, October 2012, Department of Social Protection). The national level indicators are aligned with those set at EU level, as all EU Member States are required to set their own poverty target as part of Europe 2020 Strategy.

The **National Social Target for Poverty Reduction** in Ireland seeks to reduce consistent poverty to 4% by 2016 (interim target) and to 2% or less by 2020. This is from a baseline in 2010 of 6.2%. Ireland’s contribution to the EU poverty target under Europe 2020 is to lift a minimum of 200,000 people out of the risk of poverty or exclusion by 2020 (representing 1% of the EU level target) taking 2010 as the baseline year. In the Ireland, new sub-targets for reducing poverty among children and jobless households (i.e., measured using household work intensity) will be set because of the higher risk of consistent poverty⁴ amongst these groups and their importance in overall social and economic policy. The sub-target related to children in poverty is based on narrowing the differential in consistent poverty between children and adults; the sub-target related to poverty reduction in jobless households is to reduce the concentration of the population in consistent poverty in these households. At EU level, the Europe 2020 Strategy sets out the priorities and targets in areas of social policy and economic development, to be achieved for the EU and

Member States. Europe 2020 is a ten-year growth strategy addressed to overcoming the economic crisis as an immediate priority and the shortcomings of the growth model with a view to creating conditions for a more competitive economy with higher employment levels. The strategy is centred on delivering growth that is “smart”, through more effective investments in education, research and innovation, “inclusive”, by tackling job creation and poverty reduction, and “sustainable”, through a move towards a low carbon economy. It is centred on five goals with high level targets set for each goal: employment, innovation, education, social inclusion and poverty reduction and climate change / energy.

The strategy also includes seven “flagship” initiatives in the following areas: innovation, the digital economy, industrial policy, employment (agenda for new skills and jobs), youth (education, transition to work, responding to high rates of youth unemployment), poverty (including improved access to work, social security, essential services such as healthcare and housing, etc. and education, social innovation, new partnerships between public and private sector). Targets set at EU level are translated into national targets in each EU Member State, reflecting different situations and circumstances. EU level targets related to the five goals and Irish targets set⁵ are shown in the Table 1.1.

Thus the target for Ireland in its National Reform Programme is set at 60% by 2020. Ireland is just above the target for school drop-out rates (10.5%) and has set its target for this indicator at 8%.

In terms of policy responses to meet these targets relevant to the LRFIP, the employment priority and targets are addressed in Government’s Action Plan for Jobs 2012/2013 and Supporting Economic Recovery and Jobs Locally, as outlined above, and Pathways to Work 2012 initiative (outlined below). In relation to early drop-out from education, the key measures are contained in Government’s action plan (2005) for DEIS (Delivery of Equality of Opportunity in Schools) and other recent initiatives including the National Strategy to Improve Literacy and Numeracy amongst Children and Young People (2011). In terms of poverty and social exclusion, policy responses to the crisis of unemployment are particularly relevant (e.g., the priority given to long-term unemployed, changes in

3 The National Reform Programme outlines to the European Commission the progress the State has made to date in achieving national Europe 2020 targets.
4 “Consistent poverty” is the official Government approved poverty measure used in Ireland. It was developed independently by the Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI). This measure identifies the proportion of people, from those with an income below a certain threshold (less than 60% of median income), who are deprived of two or more goods or services considered essential for a basic standard of living.
5 Source: National Reform Programme for Ireland, (updated 2012), Department of An Taoiseach.

2. Policy Context

social protection to better support the transition from welfare to work, and the strong focus on activation measures), as well as social protection policies / income support, initiatives in education (e.g., reduction in early school leaving, back to education initiatives, access to third level) and services to children and families, older people and people with disabilities.

Five High Level Targets: Definition	EU Level (EU Wide)	Ireland
Employment: increase in the employment rate (%) for men and women aged 20-64 years	75%	69-71%
R&D / Innovation: combined public and private investment levels in this sector as % of GDP	3%	2%
Climate Change / Energy: (i) Reduction in greenhouse gas emissions % lower than 1990 (ii) Increase in % of energy from renewables (iii)% increase in energy efficiency	20% or even 30% if conditions are right 20% 20%	20% 16% Move towards 20%
Education: (i) Reduction in the school drop-out rates (%) (ii) Increase in rates (%) of 30-34-year-olds completing third level education	Early school leaving: Below 10% Third level education 30-34 year olds: At least 40%	Early school leaving: 10.5% in 2010, target 8% Third level education 30-34 year olds: 60%
Poverty / Social Exclusion: Reduction in the number of people in or at risk of poverty and social exclusion	20 million fewer people in / at risk of poverty	200,000 fewer people in / at risk of poverty

Table 1.1: Targets set at EU level are translated into national targets



2. Policy Context

2.4.2 Activation of the Unemployed

Major reforms are taking place in activation of the unemployed. Many of the reforms are also linked to reforms in the further education and training sector (addressed below) and social protection. The impetus for the reform came from the challenges presented by the economic crisis including the extremely high rates of unemployment and increased demand for further education and training which could lead to “pathways to employment”. The reforms are also guided by the needs of the economy (to develop in new areas of market demand) and weaknesses of effectiveness and coherence of the system of activation and training in place that was in place over many years, the latter centred on the role of FÁS.

Government policy on labour market activation was elaborated in the Pathways to Work initiative (February 2012) working in tandem with Government’s Action Plan for Jobs (2012, 2013), as described above.

A key objective of labour market activation policy is “to prevent the drift into, and reduce, long-term unemployment”. Long-term unemployed people have greater difficulties of re-entry to work and a higher risk of poverty and social exclusion. The approach is to engage with every unemployed person, particularly, those at risk of long-term unemployment to provide them with a pathway to work. Pathways to Work has five strands:

- I. More regular and on-going engagement with the unemployed
- II. Greater targeting of activation places and opportunities
- III. Incentivising the take-up of opportunities
- IV. Incentivising employers to provide more jobs for people who are unemployed, and
- V. Reforming institutions to deliver better services to the unemployed.

Various targets were set, including targets for moving long-term unemployed people into work by 2015 (75,000), reducing the average time spent on the Live Register from 21 months to less than 12 months by the end of 2015, by working with employers, increasing the proportion of vacancies filled by the Department’s employment services from the Live Register (to 40% by 2015) and ensuring that each person in receipt of job-seeker payment fulfils their personal responsibility “to engage fully with the employment and training supports provided by the State, as a pre-condition for

receipt of their welfare payments” (Pathways to Work: Government Policy Statement on Labour Market Activation, February 2012).

To inform the targeting of resources on those groups most at risk of long-term unemployment as well as those who would benefit most from interventions, the Department of Social Protection with the Economic and Social Research Institute has developed the Probability of Exit (PEX) profiling model. A “one-stop-shop” approach linking activation (employment services, access to training / further education and employment placement) and welfare entitlements centred on the Intreo model (activation services) and PEX is envisaged with full roll-out / implementation to local labour / NEES offices. A stronger relationship between DSP and employers is also part of the approach with a view to identifying, accessing and providing a good match of candidates to vacancies.

Further aspects of the approach are:

- A greater focus on supporting people to keep them close to the labour market, taking into account areas of emerging skills needs identified through the work of the Expert Group on Future Skills Needs and other relevant data;
- “A systematic approach to the evaluation of programme impacts ... informed by the development of standardised data collection and reporting requirements and the sharing of data between relevant Government Departments and agencies” (Pathways to Work: Government Policy Statement on Labour Market Activation, February 2012);
- Working with a mix of policy instruments including: employment services (interview, career / job advice, job placement, job recruitment), education and training, incentives / wage subsidies to employers and reforms of the welfare system to incentivise the transition to work.
- Exploring the potential for payment for activation service interventions contingent on outcomes achieved for unemployed people.

2.4.3 Further Education and Training

Reforms in the Further Education and Training (FET) sector are strongly connected with the activation agenda. Focusing on institutional reforms in education, training and activation, FÁS (the national training and employment agency) is being disbanded and its services will be delivered by other agencies. In

January 2012, FÁS employment services were transferred to the newly-created National Employment and Entitlements Service (NEES), now known as Intreo Offices, Department of Social Protection. An important objective of this reform is to promote greater integration of passive (social protection / welfare) and active labour market policies.

On the Further Education and Training (FET) side, SOLAS (a new Further Education and Training Authority) is being established to replace FÁS (announced July 2011). An implementation plan is developed so that arrangements are put in place during 2013 to facilitate the transfer of funding for Further Education and Training to SOLAS in 2014. SOLAS, operating under the responsibility of the Department of Education and Skills, is tasked with overseeing funding and providing policy direction for the wide range of quality further education and training programmes and promoting greater integration within the sector. Additional reforms in the FET sector include the merger of Vocational Education Committees and the reduction in the number in the state from 33 to 16 Education and Training Boards (announced June 2011). Education and Training Boards (ETBs) have an expanded role compared with the VEC in the delivery of further education and training. Limerick City, Limerick County and Clare County have been merged to form the Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board (LCETB). Institutional arrangements for an integrated further education and training sector – i.e., SOLAS, operating with a network of ETBs - will be fully in place by the end 2013 or early in 2014. The reformed FET sector will prioritise unemployed people, particularly long-term unemployed people, in keeping with government’s “Pathways to Work” initiative. However, the FET sector will promote access to all learners – unemployed people, people in employment, school leavers including early school leavers, people with disabilities, people changing careers / jobs and part-time learners.

Key principles informing the development of SOLAS and the new integrated FET sector are as follows:

- Learner centred provision including flexibility in service delivery options.
- Outcome-based delivery including the development of appropriate measurement and data collection system by SOLUS which provide learner feedback and monitor progression into work placements, further education etc.

- Clear strategic direction in policy which must be evidence-based and allow for the appropriate prioritisation of scarce resources.
- Integrated and co-ordinated provision across the FET sector, greater co-ordination with the National Employments and Entitlements Service (Intreo Offices) in relation to the unemployed and greater co-operation with the higher education sector to facilitate progression to third level.

An important part of the existing system in VECs, particularly relevant to disadvantaged populations with low levels of educational qualification, is the Adult Education Guidance and Information Service (AEGIS), funded by the Department of Education and Skills. This service, reaching into communities, is important in getting people back into learning.

Key trends in FET are:

- The provision of shorter and more focused education and training courses and the use of on-line and blended learning, to increase the volume of provision and improve flexibility vis-à-vis learners and efficiencies in provision.
- The need to focus specific resources and provide additional supports to those furthest from the labour market is also acknowledged (e.g., via measures / support services offered by Local Development Companies).
- Delivery of the further education and training component based on a wider range of providers in the public, private and community / voluntary sector (rather than overwhelming reliance on a state training agency / public provision) and use of open calls / tendering.

Focusing on those in the population with adult literacy difficulties, the National Adult Literacy Agency (NALA)⁶ acknowledges the policy commitment and increased resources in further education in recent years, but also identifies some limitations in choice and weaknesses in the overall FET system to address the needs of this group , namely:

- Part-time courses offering insufficient tuition time (only two hours’ tuition per week) to make sustainable gains;
- Insufficient accreditation offerings at Levels 1 and 2. For example, according to FETAC, 42% of VECs do

not offer this level of accreditation, whilst these levels are not available at all from other statutory providers.

- Providers reluctant to adopt blended learning opportunities;
- Limited integration of literacy across the curriculum in further education and training;
- Limited joined-up thinking between providers in relation to the literacy needs of clients.

These new orientations in policy and new initiatives and approaches in activation policy have been taken into consideration in developing the strategy and the detailed programme of action in LRFIPs (i.e., in the social programme and economic regeneration strategy).

2.4.5 Education of Children and Young People

Key measures for addressing the educational needs of children and young people from disadvantaged communities are contained in Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools (DEIS), National Action Plan, 2005. Measures under DEIS are addressed to children from pre-school (aged 3 years) through primary and second level education (up to 18 years) and are described as “one element of a continuum of interventions ... which include second-chance education and training .. access measures for adults to support increased participation by under-represented groups in further and higher education and the on-going development of provision for pupils with special educational needs”.

The 2005 DEIS Action Plan for Educational Inclusion provides the framework for implementation of a support programme to address educational disadvantage, the key elements of which are: (i) a standardised system for identifying, and regularly reviewing, levels of disadvantage and (ii) an integrated School Support Programme (SSP). The DEIS School Support Programme brings additional resources to schools located in most disadvantaged areas.

Key measures implemented within this framework include: integration of both the Home School Community Liaison Scheme and the School Completion Programme into the SSP framework; targeted measures to tackle problems of literacy and numeracy which include family literacy, early

education, primary and second-level education and the role of the local authority library system; in schools in most disadvantaged urban communities (DEIS Band 1 schools in urban areas), maximum class sizes of 20:1 in junior classes (infants through second-class) and 24:1 in senior classes (third through sixth-class); promotion of greater curricular choice and an enhanced role of information and communication technologies (ICTs); promotion of increased access to third-level for students from disadvantaged backgrounds, in co-operation with the National Office for Equity of Access to Higher Education; enhanced professional development for principals, teachers and other personnel in schools and a stronger focus on integration of services and partnership working in the community.

While the evidence indicates that progress is being made in terms of improving standards of attainment in DEIS schools, at individual and school levels⁷ , educational underachievement and early school drop-out remain at higher levels for children from socially disadvantaged communities compared with children not resident in such communities. For instance, two-thirds of pupils in the most disadvantaged schools achieve at or below the 20th percentile on standardised tests (compared to 20% nationally), and performance declines as pupils progress through the school.⁸

With the publication of Government’s Literacy and Numeracy and Learning for Life: The National Strategy to Improve Literacy and Numeracy Amongst Children and Young People 2011-2020⁹, improvements in literacy and numeracy have high priority. This strategy includes specific reference to the role of DEIS in improving outcomes for children and young people in most disadvantaged communities and alternative educational provision including Youthreach. The importance of early childhood education and family literacy initiatives as well as the role of parents and the link between parental educational attainment and education outcomes for their children) are also stressed. Targets are set for improved attainment, to be realised by 2020.

6 NALA submission (February 2011) on: the contribution the further education sector, and in particular adult basic skills provision, might make to meeting the Skills Strategy objectives, taking into account the resource constraints of the National Recovery Plan 2011-2014, and the role of further education and adult basic skills provision within the overall further education and training sector.
7 Weir, S. (2011) A Report of the First Phase of the Evaluation of DEIS. Dublin: Educational Research Centre, St. Patrick’s College, Dublin 9.
8 National Economic and Social Council (2008). The Irish Economy in the Early 21st Century. Dublin: NES
9 DES (2011) Literacy and Numeracy and Learning for Life: Full report. (http://www.education.ie/en/Publications/Policy-Reports/lit_num_strategy_full.pdf)

2. Policy Context

2.4.6 Children and Families

A new Children and Young People's Policy Framework is in development in 2012-2013, Department of Children and Youth Affairs. This builds on the three goals of the first National Children's Strategy: Our Children - Their Lives (2000-10), namely: (i) children will have a voice in matters that affect them; (ii) their lives will be better understood and (iii) they will receive quality supports and services to promote all aspects of their development.

The new policy framework will provide "a seamless, whole-of-childhood approach to policy making" and focuses on key developmental periods for children and young people, namely:

- Prenatal, infancy, early childhood (0 to 6 years)
- Middle childhood years (6-12 years)
- Adolescence and early adulthood (12 plus years).

Existing policies in relation to children focus on promoting a whole child/whole system approach; and better outcomes for children and families. In terms of "better outcomes", national service outcomes for children and young people are identified in government policy, as follows: children are economically secure, healthy both physically and mentally, supported in active learning, safe from accidental and intentional harm, secure in their immediate and wider physical environment, part of positive networks of family, friends, neighbours and community and included and participating in society (The Agenda for Children's Services: A Policy Handbook, Office of the Minister for Children, Department of Health and Children, 2007). The national policy framework also identifies five essential characteristics of services to be achieved, namely:

- Connecting with family and community strengths.
- Ensuring quality services.
- Opening access to services.
- Delivering integrated services.
- Planning, monitoring and evaluating services.

In order to enhance the status and improve the quality of children's lives, the key emphases in policy are: a focus on prevention, early intervention, community service provision, out-of-home care when needed and child protection (Children First – Child Protection Guidance).

With the establishment of the new Department of Children and Youth Affairs (DCYA) in June 2011 and the

proposals to roll out the new Child and Family Support Agency (Report of the Task Force on the Child and Family Support Agency, July 2012), there is a stronger effort to drive "coordinated actions across a range of sectors, including health, education, youth justice, sport, arts and culture". Responsibility for child protection, child welfare (HSE), youth justice (Department of Justice and Equality), early years education and National Education and Welfare Board (DES) and the Family Support Agency (Department of Social Protection) have been transferred to the Department of Children and Youth Affairs, to promote greater integration in policy and delivery of services to children and young people. The model of the new Child and Family Support Agency (CFSA), as recommended by the Task Force, identifies services to be directly delivered by the Agency and inter-face services – services provided by other agencies / organisations which will be aligned with the Child and Family Support Agency "in a defined and structured way".

The proposed direct or core services to be provided by the CFSA are as follows:

- Public Health Nursing addressed to children;
- Community-based Speech and Language Therapy for children, including Speech and Language Therapists that are part of specialist teams such as the Children and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) and Assessment, Consultation and Therapy Service (ACTS);
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS);
- Psychology services to children;
- All Domestic and Sexual Violence Services, with the exception of Sexual Assault Treatment Units;
- The National Education and Welfare Board;
- Children's Detention Schools (it was recommended that these are directly managed by the new Agency).

It was recommended that a structured interface be maintained with Garda Youth Diversion Projects. While Young Person's Probation should remain within the remit of the Department of Justice and Equality, it was recommended that its potential inclusion in the remit of the CFSA should be reviewed later. Hospital social workers in maternity and paediatric hospitals should continue to be based in the hospitals but it was recommended they be employed by the Agency, and receive continuous professional development under the CFSA.

Key principles underpinning the service models of the CFSA were identified by the Task Force. They include:

- A child centred model where children are consulted and involved in matters and decisions that affect their lives;
- The provision of services to support families at all levels along a continuum, drawing on the levels or hierarchy of needs as identified in the Hardiker model (from Level 1, all children to Level 4, children at the highest levels of need);
- A focus on strengthening services at universal level with a view to preventing problems from arising in the first instance and intervening to manage problems at the earliest opportunity.
- An emphasis on early intervention, community based services and the promotion of an integrated service delivery model.
- Strengthening the role of Children's Services Committees (CSCs) whereby CSCs are identified as the key interface between core CFSA services and other services, including universal services. The CSCs are expected to provide the structure and mechanism at local level for interagency working, planning, co-ordinating and overseeing delivering of services.
- A service delivery model with clear and consistent referral pathways for children and families, based on their assessed needs and with responses appropriate to meeting these needs.
- The use of standardised assessment procedures and protocols to support the development and use of various pathways, linking with Children First (child protection) processes and procedures, as a key referral point from universal services.
- A system of information sharing between core CFSA services and other services.

2.4.7 Youth Justice

Policy related to youth justice focus on a children and young people who are particularly vulnerable – i.e., children at risk of or with a history of offending who find themselves in the criminal justice system. The overall statutory response to children and young people offending is contained in the Children's Act 2001 (as amended) where a "twin-track" approach is provided – i.e., a child welfare and a justice approach. Following a review of the youth justice system (Review of Youth Justice, 2005), Government agreed a programme of reforms including changes to legislation and the establishment of the Irish Youth Justice Service (IYJS) in the Department of Justice,

Equality and Law Reform, working closely with the Office of the Minister for Children. With recent institutional changes, IYJS operates as an executive office within the Department of Children and Youth Affairs (DCYA) and is staffed by officials from DCYA and the Department of Justice and Equality. It has responsibility for leading and driving reform in the area of youth justice.

The IYJS focuses on diverting children from crime and the criminal justice system, promoting restorative justice, enforcing community sanctions, facilitating rehabilitation and, as a last resort, providing for detention (National Youth Justice Strategy 2008-2010). The main direct interventions to respond to children and young people offending or at risk of offending are:

- Garda Youth Diversion Programme / Garda Youth Diversion Projects for young people at risk of offending or further offending;
- The Probation Service (Young Person’s Probation) for young people appearing before the courts for offending behaviour and
- Children’s Detention Schools for those young people whose offending is either repeat or serious in nature.

High level goals of the Irish Youth Justice Service (National Youth Justice Strategy 2008-2010) are as follows:

- To provide leadership and build public confidence in the youth justice system;
- To work to reduce offending by diverting young people from offending behaviour;
- To promote the greater use of community sanctions and initiatives to deal with young people who offend;
- To provide a safe and secure environment for detained children which will assist their early re-integration into the community;
- To strengthen and develop information and data sources in the youth justice system to support more effective policies and services.

The Review of Youth Justice (2005) identified a number of areas for improvement including: that the youth justice area would benefit from an increased emphasis on preventative measures/early intervention; insufficient integration of services/inter-agency co-operation exists at present; and addressing the data / research deficit.

These areas have been part of the reform programme in youth justice. With the creation of the new Department of Children and Youth Affairs (2011) and in the proposals for setting up the CFSA, as described above, a more “joined up” and harmonised approach in policies, a strong emphasis on preventive measures and policies underpinned by research are being progressed.

At local level, IYJS is working in partnership / cooperation with the wide range of agencies / services with a role in service provision to children and families, within the broader framework of Children’s Services Committees. As well as engagement in planning and coordination at this level, the CSC is also involved initiatives in restorative justice (led by Youth Justice). The Probation Service (Young Person’s Probation) works in partnership with communities, local services and voluntary organisations, to reduce offending and to make communities safer. Community-based probation projects have the key role in supporting re-integration of offenders including employment placement, accommodation, drug treatment, education and training, restorative justice initiatives and other services.

In terms of proposed / new developments, a new residential facility is planned for children in detention (2015) to replace the existing detention schools; the use of a risk assessment tool (Youth Level of Service/Case Management Inventory) is being applied from 2010; and a new behaviour management training programme was also rolled out from 2010. Within the framework of Garda Youth Diversion Projects, there is a stronger focus on education and employability skills linked to personal development to support integration to the mainstream (education, training, work opportunities).

2.4.8 Health

In health, significant reforms are also proposed. The Programme for Government proposed the introduction of a Universal Health Insurance with equal access to care for all, a strong emphasis on the development of primary care and removal of services from hospitals into Primary Care Teams, centred on GP practices, and the further development and roll-out of community-based models of care.

Proposals outlined in the Programme for Government have been further elaborated in the Future Health – A

Strategic Framework for Reform of the Health Service 2012–2015. The core of the health reform programme is a single-tier health service, supported by Universal Health Insurance (UHI). Key features of the proposed system include: that the population will have equal access to healthcare based on need, not income; universal primary care, with GP care free at the point of use for all; social care services will be outside of the UHI system but integrated around the user; and the service will remain, fundamentally, publicly provided. The reforms in social care, for instance, are intended to help older people and people with disabilities to live in their homes for as long as possible rather than go into residential care. Future Health sets out “the building blocks required” prior to the introduction of UHI including key actions that need to be taken. Future Health is built on four pillars of reform.

- I. Health and Wellbeing: with a new focus on the need to “move away from treating ill people, to concentration on keeping people healthy”.
- II. Service Reform: This is intended to move services “away from the current hospital-centric model of care towards a new model of integrated care which treats patients at the lowest level of complexity .. and as close to home as possible”.
- III. Structural Reform: Key concerns of the reform here are to promote good governance, avoid duplication and ensure a strong regional focus in managing performance and delivering value for money.
- IV. Financial Reform: this is oriented to ensuring that the financing system is based on incentives that are “aligned to fairness and efficiency, while reducing costs, improving control and also improving quality”.

2.4.9 Older People

Healthy ageing, increasingly, is a global priority in the field of health promotion. Since the 1990s, the World Health Organisation (WHO), Ageing and Health Programme (1995), views ageing within a life-course perspective – i.e., ageing is not confined to an age group of people defined as “elderly”. The WHO Programme aims to achieve a sustained and continuing improvement in the health status and well-being of older persons. The WHO’s Active Ageing Policy Framework (WHO 2002) has influenced the strategic framework of such programmes in national contexts including Ireland.

In Ireland, the health strategy, Quality and Fairness: A Health System for You (Department of Health and

2. Policy Context

Children 2002) is based on the principles of equity, people-centredness, quality and accountability and set out four national goals: (i) better health for everyone; (ii) fair access; (iii) responsive and appropriate care delivery and (iv) high performance. In terms of services for older people, the strategy envisaged more coordinated public services provision, integrated care and more flexible community support services including funding for community groups to facilitate volunteers in providing support services for older people and informal care giving; and regional advisory panels / coordinating committees for older consumers and their carers to give older people a voice.

With the broader health system again under major reform, the role of primary care and the need for integrated models of care are strongly emphasised. However, in current times of austerity, all aspects of services are affected by expenditure cuts including community-based services such as home help.

Specific issues of key importance in policy in relation to health and well-being of older people are as follows:

- Community-based independent living and care is a priority, drawing on informal networks of family and community, community-based and voluntary organisations and statutory services.
- Independent ageing requires holistic and integrated approaches to provision, moving beyond health to include social, economic and community infrastructure at local community level. Security, housing (type, quality, tenure) transport and access to essential services are key issues. Community-based and integrated care models, however, require developed and responsive local delivery mechanisms.

2.5 Housing Context

2.5.1 Delivering Homes, Sustaining Communities 2007

This document presents a vision of the future of housing up to 2027. The clear aim is to obtain more effective delivery in ways that ensure that individuals in need of support are offered options tailored to their needs. It highlights how use must be made of the country's land resources in the construction of new housing schemes by integrating housing provision with necessary transport and other physical infrastructure, social infrastructure and amenities. The concept of a "life-cycle approach", where social services are tailored to meet needs as they change over a person's lifetime, is a key underpinning of the document. The document sets out a range of actions to achieve the vision and these actions have been considered in the preparation of the LRFIP in so far as they relate to urban design, housing design and quality. The document also influences the approach promoted in the LRFIP relating to tenure diversification and the support schemes available for social housing tenants seeking home ownership. The supporting best practice guidance document titled 'Quality Housing for Sustainable Communities, 2007' is intended to assist in the implementation of the policies set out in this document. The aim of the Guidelines is to identify principles and criteria that are important in the design of housing and to highlight specific design features, requirements and standards that have been found, from experience, to be particularly relevant. This document is heavily referenced in the LRFIP and has significantly influenced the overall approach to development and refurbishment in the LRFIP.

2.5.2 Towards 2016: Community and Housing

This ten year framework for social partnership focuses on four main areas to achieve the objectives of creating sustainable communities. It seeks to:

- Continue improvements in the quality of houses and neighbourhoods;
- Tailor housing services to those who cannot afford to meet their own housing needs;
- Develop inter-agency cooperation where there is a care dimension; and
- Maintain the impetus for the delivery of housing at affordable prices to the market.

The approach seeks to ensure that all housing is seen as being on an equal footing whether provided fully by

the State or supported in some way. The document states that a critical factor in determining housing interventions is the requirement for a clear perspective as to the scale and nature of need, including local variations. In framing responses, account should be taken of individual and family circumstances and each person's position in the life-cycle. It promotes the life-cycle approach which places the individual at the centre of policy development and delivery by assessing the risks and the supports available at key stages of the life-cycle. The holistic approach of the LRFIP which examines social, economic and physical requirements within the regeneration areas is very much in accordance with the approach set out in this document.

2.5.3 Housing Policy Statement 2011

The vision for the future of the housing sector in Ireland is "based on choice, fairness, equity across tenures and on delivering quality outcomes for the resources invested". The overall strategic objective of national housing policy is "to enable all households access good quality housing appropriate to household circumstances and in their particular community of choice".

The Housing Policy Statement issued in response to the current economic climate now recognises the high and often disproportionate value placed on owner-occupation that has been so detrimental to Ireland's economy. It also recognises the need to restructure the social housing investment programme to allow for the delivery of new social housing through more flexible funding models. The main focus in terms of supports provided by Government will be on meeting the most acute needs. Whilst the social housing leasing initiative and, in particular, the Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS), will continue as long-term social housing supports, the Government is also fully committed to developing other funding mechanisms that will increase the supply of permanent new social housing. Such mechanisms will include options to purchase-on-lease agreements, build-to-lease, and the sourcing of loan finance by approved housing bodies (housing associations) for construction and acquisition.

State-provided housing supports are prioritised towards meeting “the most acute housing needs”. Key measures outlined in the housing policy statement document are as follows:

- More equitable treatment of housing tenure. The hierarchical structure of housing tenure and the value-judgments that under-pin this - with home-ownership at the top and state support for rental at the bottom (rent supplement / social housing tenancies) – is seen to have an important role in leading the housing sector, the economy and the wider society to its current position, contributing to inequality and financial distress on certain home owners.
- Maximising the delivery of social housing supports within the resources available, with the main focus here on meeting the most acute needs. The restructuring of the social housing investment programme will allow for the delivery of social housing provision through more flexible models including leasing and the Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS) – the use of which has grown substantially in recent years and is now a form of social housing. Such schemes will form part of long-term social housing support.
- Transfer of responsibility for long term recipients of rent supplement to local authorities.
- Working with new mechanisms for the delivery of permanent social housing. In addition to social housing leasing and the RAS, funding mechanism to increase permanent social housing will include: options to purchase-on-lease-arrangements, build-to-lease, sourcing loan finance by housing bodies, and pursuing options for sourcing residential units as social housing from NAMA.
- The standing down of all affordable housing schemes. As housing has become more affordable in the current housing market, and linked to the disproportionate value placed on home ownership historically and the impact of that, it is considered that there is no need for the State to continue to support “affordable” housing programmes.
- Publication of Housing Strategy for People with Disabilities
- Delivery of housing supports for households with special needs and homelessness. The framework includes supports for older people, the availability of housing adaptation grants, provision of Traveller-specific accommodation and interventions to alleviate homelessness.
- Creating an enabling regulatory framework to

support the increasingly prominent role of the voluntary and cooperative sector in housing delivery. This sector is considered to have an important role in overcoming vertical segregation in housing and has good potential to promote mixed tenure communities by providing housing for sale, for rent and social renting.

- The implementation of measures to tackle anti-social behaviour across all housing tenures.

The Policy Statement acknowledges the direct causal link between the mono-tenure approaches adopted in the past and the extremes of deprivation found now in some social housing estates. It refers to existing problems in urban centres such as Limerick and states that housing supports should be better aligned with broader supports for the physical, social and economic renewal and rebirth of these areas. Whilst market conditions do not support the PPP model at present, the Statement refers to the greater reliance than ever on the Exchequer to support regeneration projects. The objective is to improve the quality of existing social housing stock through regeneration and improvement works programmes, and the return of vacant stock to effective use within the shortest timeframes possible. These are core objectives of the LRFIP which is fully aligned with the new policy direction outlined in and shaped within the Housing Policy Statement 2011.

2.6 Environmental Context

Significant new legislation relating most notably to planning and environmental protection has been enacted in recent years. Such legislation has had a significant influence on the regeneration programme and is also heavily influencing future development in the city.

2.6.1 Strategic Environmental Assessment

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is the process by which environmental considerations are required to be fully integrated into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes, and in this case the preparation of the LRFIP. Article 1 of the EU Directive states “The objective of the SEA process is to provide for a high level of protection of the environment and to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of specified plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development, by ensuring that, in accordance with this Directive, an environmental assessment is carried out of certain plans and programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment”. The SEA process is integrated into the preparation of the LRFIP by:

- Carrying out consultations with the prescribed environmental authorities;
- Preparing an Environmental Report in conjunction with the preparation of the LRFIP;
- Integrating environmental considerations, physical regeneration measures and the formulation of high level objectives;
- Publishing information on the decision;
- Monitoring the significant environmental effects of the implementation of plans/ programmes.

The Strategic Environmental Assessment process is an iterative process, carried out in conjunction with the preparation of the LRFIP. The principal reason for doing so is to ensure that negative environmental impacts are highlighted at an early stage enabling them to be effectively ‘designed out’ as soon as possible. The result is a LRFIP which will have had due regard to the environmental issues pertaining within the area. It should be noted that results from the SEA process will be fully considered and integrated into the preparation and making of the LRFIP. The SEA Report will highlight the significant environmental issues which need to be addressed and monitored over the lifetime of the plan. These will include, *inter alia*,

2. Policy Context

groundwater and surface water quality, the protection of water supply, wastewater treatment and flooding.

2.6.2 Habitats Directive Assessment

The EU Habitats Directive, 92/43/EEC, provides the legislative framework for the protection of habitats and species throughout Europe through the establishment of a network of designated conservation areas known as the Natura 2000 network. The Natura 2000 network includes sites designated as Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), under the EU Habitats Directive and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) designated under the EU Birds Directive. In general terms, these sites are considered to be of exceptional importance in terms of rare, endangered or vulnerable habitats and species within the European Unit. There are twenty four Articles contained within the Habitats Directive. Article 6 is viewed to be one of the most important as it determines the link between land use and conservation.

It requires competent local authorities to carry out an 'Appropriate Assessment' (Habitats Directive Assessment) of plans and projects that, either individually or in combination with other plans and projects, are likely to have a significant effect on European designated sites (Natura 2000 sites), and includes the preparation of the LRFIP. This is to ensure that the favourable conservation status of the Natura 2000 network, both within and outside the Plan area, is maintained.

A Natura Impact Report is currently being prepared to:

- Provide a strategic approach to mitigation which may result from the development scenarios presented under LRFIP;
- Provide a framework within which future development projects arising from LRFIP can be advanced, particularly as they are progressed to the development stage in accordance with Article 6.3 of the European Union (EU) Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC).

The findings and mitigation recommendations of the NIR will influence and guide the LRFIP and where appropriate, will be incorporated within the LRFIP.

2.6.3 Water Framework Directive

The Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC) (WFD) establishes a framework for the protection of all surface waters and groundwater at EU level and aims to achieve a good ecological status (or a good ecological potential for heavily modified water bodies) and a good chemical status by 2015. In meeting the requirements of the WFD, the Shannon River Basin Management Plan 2009 – 2013 (SRBMP) has been prepared. This is a management plan designed to protect and improve the water quality of the river basin both in terms of surface and ground water. It identifies the possible sources of pollution and through the mandatory measures of the Water Framework Directive has identified actions necessary in order to improve the water quality of the region. Any potential impacts from future development on waters have been mitigated through the consideration of objectives established in the SRBMP and the application of such objectives against consideration of proposals within LRFIP to ensure sustainable development.

2.6.4 Towards a New National Climate Policy: Interim Report of the NESC Secretariat 2012

This report acknowledges that the ability to achieve climate policy objectives sustainably is also critically influenced by spatial planning and development. Whilst changes to the spatial pattern of development do not have much impact on emissions in the short-term, the report acknowledges that they do have a large impact over time. In promoting sustainable neighbourhoods the report identifies five key principles of sustainable housing and development including:

- Sustainable Urban Densities;
- Consolidated Urban Areas;
- Compact Urban Satellites;
- Rapid Communication Networks;
- Sustainable Rural Settlement.

These principles are promoted in the LRFIP particularly having regard to the planned physical regeneration framework and the objective to make the most efficient use out of existing valuable urban land. The proposed refurbishment programme seeks to contribute to the reduction sought in national emissions generated by residential development by refurbishing and retrofitting to cost-optimal standards.

2.6.5 Mid-West Climate Change Strategy 2012

The aim of the Climate Change Strategy for the Mid-West Region is to clearly identify the solutions to the challenge of reducing energy related emissions and to outline the actions to be taken to meet the requirements under the Kyoto Protocol. The strategy identifies renewable energy, transport, built environment and industrial/commercial development as key sectors where action needs to be taken. Unsurprisingly within Limerick City (2004) the transport sector had the highest consumption in energy terms at 36% and accounted for 28% of CO₂ emissions. However, the residential sector was found to be the highest contributor in terms of emissions, at 30% of CO₂ emissions. The strategy promotes residential energy performance over and above national targets to address the high emissions in the residential sector. These principles are promoted in the LRFIP particularly having regard to the planned physical regeneration framework which includes a substantial refurbishment programme.

2.6.6 Smarter Travel: A Sustainable Transport Future. A New Transport Policy for Ireland 2009 - 2020

Smarter Travel is the government policy which sets out a long-term plan to achieving a sustainable transport system for Ireland. The plan outlines how this can be achieved through a range of actions such as encouraging modal shift away from the car, promoting fuel efficiency and new technology, and improved planning. The plan recognises that current transport and travel trends in Ireland are unsustainable, and that if we continue with present policies, congestion will get worse, transport emissions will continue to grow, economic competitiveness will suffer and quality of life will decline. The key targets of smarter travel are to reduce work-related commuting by car from 65% to 45%, and increase other modes such as walking, cycling, public transport and car to 55%. The document acknowledges that the focus of smarter travel reform should primarily deal with major urban centres where greater benefit may arise from investment. Although car ownership in the regeneration areas is low and the percentage of people travelling by foot and on public transport is well above the national figure, there are opportunities to increase other modes of transport such as cycling. Connectivity and accessibility are also other issues which the LRFIP must address in the context of Smarter Travel.



2. Policy Context

2.6.7 Limerick City – Ireland’s Smarter Travel Demonstration City 2012 – 2016

Limerick City has been designated as one of three Smarter Travel Demonstration Areas in Ireland. The city is due to receive funding of €9 million over the next five years to roll out a wide range of measures and interventions targeted at encouraging people to use more sustainable modes of transport and to engage in transport planning. The central aim of Limerick Smarter Travel is to reduce car usage from 51% to 37% by 2016 while increasing cycling from 3% to 14%. The key objective of the Limerick Smarter Travel proposal is to connect four key hubs within the boundaries of Limerick City and Limerick County, getting citizens in these areas to use sustainable modes of transport. The four key hubs are Castletroy, Corbally, the city centre, and Southill. Whilst it is acknowledged that car ownership within the regeneration areas is low and the use of public transport, particularly in Southill, is high, there still remains significant opportunities to not only further increase the numbers of people traveling on foot or using public transport, but also to reconnect the regeneration areas with the city. As a result the LRFIP has had strong regard to the proposed measures outlined under this programme.

2.7 Evaluation of Policy & Strategies

An overview of policy at EU and national level presents the strategic policy context of the LRFIP and these factors have been taken into consideration in preparing the overall strategy. A key finding is that policies are in a state of reform. This is strongly linked to the impact of the economic and fiscal crisis but also to other factors (beyond the crisis) including the challenge to work towards a new growth model. The policy context covers a wide range of sectoral policy fields and the overall picture is one of complexity. Key conclusions emerging from the review in terms of trends in policy are as follows:

- EU-level strategy and policy provides the macro level framework. Increasingly, policies at this level have a direct impact on national policies in terms of goals (and corresponding targets) and the approaches adopted in policy.
- The Infrastructure and Capital Investment 2012-2016: Medium Term Exchequer Framework provides a commitment to continue to provide funding for the Limerick regeneration areas.
- National policy seeks to deliver a greater quantity of social housing options and at the same time to improve the overall quality of this tenure.
- The concept of a “life-cycle approach”, where social services are tailored to meet needs as they change over a person’s lifetime, is a key underpinning provision of social housing in Ireland in current national policy. The life-cycle approach is also applied in social inclusion policy.
- Communities must be enabled to identify and address social and economic issues in their own areas and be actively involved in promoting and advancing sustainable communities.
- At a regional level the Regeneration Programme is seen as a critical component in redirecting population growth into Limerick City.
- Limerick City as a whole must be revitalised to become an attractive place to live, work and visit so that it can function as the urban centre of the focus of the region. There are many strategies in place at a regional and local level to deliver this revitalisation. Limerick 2030 is the most recent articulation of the vision for Limerick City, aiming to reposition the city as a leading centre for commercial investment, retail and education in the Mid-West region. As well as bringing shoppers, businesses and jobs and educational opportunities back into the city, the plan aims to develop the city as a destination for visitors linked to transformation of the city centre and capitalisation on its cultural heritage, cultural industries and sport.
- The Limerick County Development Plan is very clear in its support for regeneration stating that “it will offer sufficient flexibility that will allow the Masterplans (2008) to be implemented in a coordinated and sustainable manner”.
- The Limerick County Development Plan seeks to change the tenure structure within the Regeneration Areas from its existing status of 60% private ownership and 40% rental to 80% private ownership to 20% rental.
- There is a need for better integration of land use and transport planning in the city and there is significant potential for the regeneration areas to benefit from a number of Smarter Travel Initiatives in the city, in particular Southill.
- Significant new legislation relating most notably to environmental protection has had a significant influence on the regeneration programme and is also heavily influencing future development in the city.
- The LRFIP represents lower level local planning and thus it is important that its framework sits comfortably within the hierarchy of existing policy.
- The role of cities as “engines of economic growth” and sustainable urban development have stronger focus in EU and national policies. The approach is based on integrated territorial approaches and a common local strategy. The strategy should address in a balanced and holistic way the social, economic and environmental challenges, involve a multi-stakeholder approach and robust local governance structures,
- Social policies continue to place a strong focus on promoting social inclusion and poverty reduction. New targets are set for poverty reduction by 2020. This includes a sub-target to reduce child poverty. The more difficult conditions for achieving poverty reduction with the current economic recession are also acknowledged.
- The well-being of children and families including reduction of child poverty, as stated above, and achieving better outcomes for children have a strong focus in national policy. A key proposal relates to the setting up a new Child and Family Support Agency to drive this effort. The new agency will bring services currently under the remit of different departments and agencies (health, education) into a single unified structure and will aim to produce stronger integration of

services for children. At local level, Children's Services Committees are expected to play a key coordinating role.

- Employability and work are clearly identified at all policy level (EU, national, local) as the key route out of poverty and exclusion. Current policy especially targets the long-term unemployed and households with low work intensity.
- Taking advantage of opportunities provided by digital technologies / industries is a further policy priority. Getting more small businesses involved in trading on-line, greater absorption of digital by all age groups in the population (more off-liners on-line) through education programmes at all levels and roll-out of ICT infrastructure to support this, e-health, e-government and e-inclusion are all promoted.
- There is strong focus on addressing needs of people affected by social disadvantage (a needs-based approach) including the development and use of common assessment tools (e.g., in relation to children), flexibility to address different needs (e.g., of adult learners). Developing plans to address problems but also drawing on individual / family / community strengths and monitoring progress by adopting the "pathways" approach (e.g., in activation policy, in further education and training, in management of chronic illnesses in health) are key elements of policy processes. These types of processes apply across a wide range of social policies (health, children, further education and training) and employment / activation policy.
- In relation to specific groups / individuals, greater user involvement is promoted, for instance, in health, policies in favour of older people, children, education and adult learning. Stronger engagement of citizens and communities in decision-making is a feature of new approaches to local and community development. These apply in the roll out of community-based planning models linked to the reform of local government and in specific areas including estate management.
- Social policy demonstrates a strong focus on preventive action and early intervention to prevent more serious problems arising over time: for instance, in relation to children and families, children / young people at risk of offending, older people at risk, etc. This orientation in policy is linked to the development of high quality universal services.
- Targeting resources for remedial actions to deal

with problems for those groups with the most acute needs (e.g., in family support, youth justice, young people who are at risk of drop out from school, housing, etc.) are further features across social policy and in housing policy.

- There is a strong focus on the need for improved coordination and integration across policy fields. This applies at all stages of the policy process: in planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. Further impetus is given to this priority at national level in some areas of policy (e.g., new inter-departmental structure in local development, new national policy framework in local development, the setting up of the Child and Family Support Agency) and also at local level (e.g., the creation of SECs in local government reform, strengthening the role of Children Services Committees in coordination and planning of interventions in favour of children and families). There is also a stronger focus on evidence-based policy making.
- There is an increasing emphasis on finding new solutions to problems, on social innovation and on drawing on the assets / resources that are available in local communities in more effective ways. This is reflected in new approaches in housing policy, in enterprise and employment policy (job creation) and local development.
- In general, there is a focus on improved governance, stronger accountability and transparency in the use of public money, better management practices and showing evidence of results achieved under publicly-funded interventions.







3

Baseline Conditions And Analysis

3. Baseline Conditions and Analysis

Baseline Conditions and Analysis

Limerick City, the fourth largest city in the State, has a population of 57,106 persons.¹ The defined regeneration areas occupy almost 3% of the land area of Limerick City² and accommodate 11% of the total population of the city. The LRFIP aims to eliminate the poor physical and, in particular, housing conditions currently prevalent in many parts of the regeneration areas. However, a suite of social and economic interventions is also needed to address the deeply embedded socio-economic problems of the areas. Such interventions will continue to be required long after the completion of physical regeneration and sustaining the outcomes once programme funding ends depends on developing an effective exit strategy that secures commitment and funding from mainstream providers.

This chapter provides an overview and analysis of the existing physical, economic and social conditions within and affecting the regeneration areas. This information is used to devise and frame subsequent chapters in the LRFIP in particular the Framework Implementation Plan. Data are drawn from analysis of the census data, official statistics, Limerick City Council housing databases and other sources including recent research on social / socio-economic conditions in the city, with a specific emphasis on the city's regeneration areas. Whilst this chapter provides an overview of the pertinent conditions applicable at this time further detail and relevant background information, including the approach and data sources are contained in Appendix 1 of this document.

3.1 Existing Conditions

Limerick City is facing serious economic challenges, in part linked to the deep economic crisis. All areas of the State have been affected negatively by the economic crisis. The analysis of the spatial distribution of affluence and deprivation in the state shows that the main urban centres – the five cities - have fared better than other areas of the country, showing resilience in the face of deep crisis. While Limerick City has fared better than the average for the State in terms of absolute change in affluence / deprivation, it has fared the worst of the five cities.

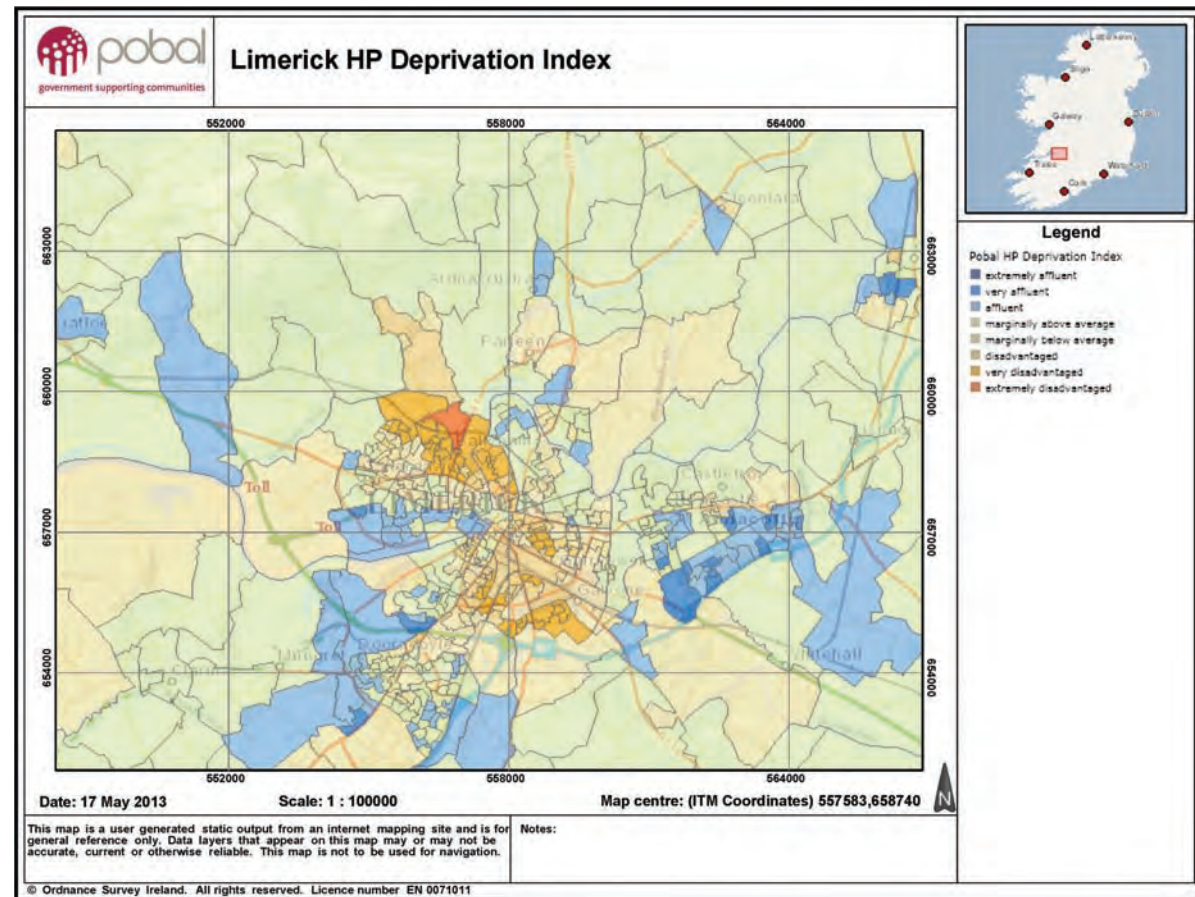


Figure 1.1: Pobal HP Relative Affluence / Deprivation Index Map: Limerick

¹ This relates to the administrative area of Limerick City. In other parts of this analysis, different units of territory are used where relevant, namely Limerick City and Suburbs / Limerick Metropolitan Area.
² Limerick City is defined as per the area (28.4sqkm) provided in the Census of Population 2011.

3.1.1 Population Change and Age Structure

The trend in population change in Limerick City (not including the suburbs) since the mid 1990’s has been one of population loss. The population of the city decreased by almost 4.5% in the preceding five year period and nationally this decline was the most significant amongst the five major urban centres³.

The economic crisis has impacted in terms of change in the structure of the local economy and loss of jobs in sectors that, traditionally, have been very important in the city (e.g., manufacturing). The impact of the crisis is especially reflected in the large numbers out of the work and the high unemployment rates in the city for both males and females. Job losses have affected various sectors of the economy especially manufacturing, construction, technical / scientific and business services and, based on analysis of the overall national situation, have occurred at higher and lower occupational skill levels. Young people have been particularly badly affected by unemployment with those in the youngest age cohorts in the labour force showing extremely high rates of unemployment.

Youth unemployment rates in Limerick City are higher than the national average. The profile of the local economy and its history indicates the need to focus on creating new sources of jobs generally in the city and to focus this effort at various levels of qualification and skill in order to create new opportunities for those people out of work. This includes the creation of entry level jobs for young people, to enable their transition into the world of work. In line with higher than average trends across the city, over 16% of the total population in the four regeneration areas is aged between 15 and 24 years, highlighting the significant

potential to direct a large proportion of the population into gainful employment over the next ten years. The regeneration areas have a higher than average (32%) Youth Dependency Rate (St. Mary’s Park 39%; Southill 35%; Moyross 39%) with the exception of Ballinacurra Weston which has a rate of 29%. In contrast the Elderly Dependency rate is somewhat different and is particularly varied across the regeneration areas.

Whilst the Elderly Dependency Rate in Southill and Ballinacurra Weston (18%) is slightly below that for the city (19%) the rate in St. Mary’s Park is high at 21%. When examined in conjunction with the Youth Dependency Ratio, the overall dependency ratio in St. Mary’s Park is highest overall at 60%. Moyross, in contrast to the other three regeneration areas and in marked contrast to the city and national rates, has an extremely low Elderly Dependency Ratio of only 8.4% demonstrating the presence of a strong working age population.

The dominant population within the Regeneration Areas is of Irish origin. Whilst Southill comprises primarily an Irish population (98.5%) it has the largest Traveller population of all of the Regeneration Areas (2.8%) followed by Moyross (1%). This demonstrates the ‘closed nature’ of the population type in the regeneration areas in contrast to the structure of the wider metropolitan area where non-Irish residents account for over 15% of the total population.

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3.1.2 Economic Structure and Change

The economic problems of the city have an important impact on the social context. Of the five cities and suburbs, Limerick has the lowest labour market participation rate (56.7%) while Dublin City and suburbs has the highest (63%), followed by Galway City and suburbs (61.6%) Unemployment, especially long-term unemployment, is one of the highest risk factors of poverty and social exclusion. The analysis of the current situation and trends in the most disadvantaged areas of the city, especially the regeneration areas, is indicative of deeply structural economic and social problems. Analysis of trends shows that these problems have been in evidence for a long time. In the most disadvantaged areas of the city, a very high proportion of the population has no recent history of work.

Age Group	St. Mary’s Park	Southill	Ballinacurra Weston	Moyross
Under 15	212	573	110	622
15 – 24 years	130	372	88	419
25 – 64 years	408	1213	293	1193
65+ years	113	283	70	137

Table 1.2: Age Structure in Regeneration Areas at Small Area Population Statistics (SAPS) level

3 Dublin, Cork, Limerick, Galway, Waterford

3. Baseline Conditions and Analysis

The proportion of people over 15 years of age at work in the regeneration areas is significantly lower than the proportion of the population over 15 years of age at work in the city (39%) and the State (58%). In terms of actual numbers at work, the overall unemployment rate stands at 52%. Unemployment rates are highest in St. Mary’s Park (58%) and Moyross (57%), followed by Southill (47%) and Ballinacurra Weston (43%).

The most disadvantaged estates currently are characterised by an extremely high level of dependence on social welfare rather than salaries / wages from work as the main source of income. Recent research to map baseline conditions in types of neighbourhoods in the city included a focus on the income base of households (2010 data). The findings confirm that social welfare payments, by far, are the largest source of household income in the regeneration areas.

3.1.3 Educational Attainment

The low level of educational qualification of the adult population in the most disadvantaged estates is a serious structural problem, affecting access to opportunities in many areas of social, civic and economic life including employment. Low education of parents also negatively impacts on aspirations and children’s educational attainment as well as other outcomes including health.

In direct contrast to the State figure of 16%, over half the adult population in St. Mary’s Park, (55%) has primary level education as their highest level of qualification while this is just under 50% in O’Malley / Keyes Park, Southill. At the other end of the spectrum, the proportion of the adult population with third level education in the regeneration areas is extremely low – lowest in St. Mary’s Park (1%) followed by O’Malley / Keyes Park Southill (4%) - and much lower than the average for the State (31%).

There are further specific problems in evidence in the school population and education of children and young people. Declining enrolments, for instance, is a characteristic of schools in the most disadvantaged areas of the city (DEIS schools) along with high rates of absenteeism. Retention rates in school for young

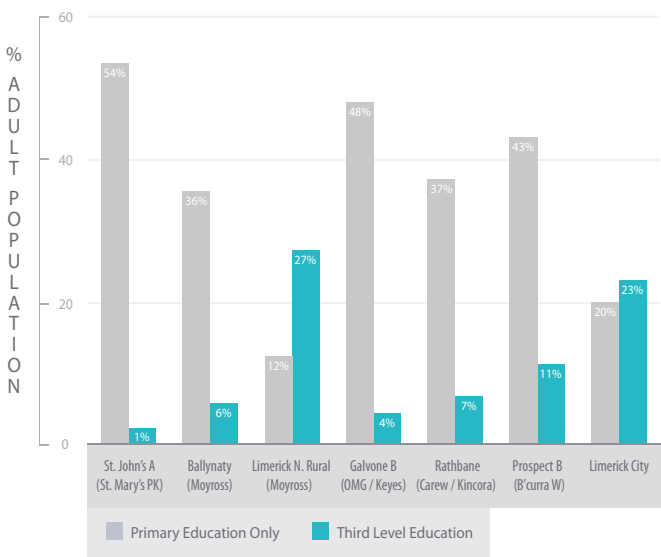


Figure 1.2: Adult population with primary level only education and with third level education: Regeneration Areas, Limerick City and the State 2011
Source: Haas Pratschke Index, 2012 drawn from Census 2011

Sector	St. Mary’s Park	Southill	Ballinacurra Weston	Moyross	City	State
At work	24%	27%	32%	26%	39%	51%
Looking for first regular job	0.6%	1.4%	2%	2.3%	1.20%	0.9%
Unemployed	31%	24%	22%	32%	14%	11%
Student	8%	10%	11%	10%	14%	11%
Looking after home/family	9.80%	12%	8%	12%	9%	9.5%
Retired	16%	12%	12%	7%	14%	12%
Unable to work due to permanent sickness or disability	10%	13%	12%	11%	7%	4%
Other	0.7%	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%	0.80%	0.2%

Table 1.3: Labour force structure: Limerick Regeneration Areas (based on Small Area Population Statistics, SAPS), 2011
Source: CSO 2011

people to Junior Cert and Leaving Cert qualification are significantly lower in schools in Limerick City compared with Limerick County and all counties in the State. Progression rates to third level education post Leaving Cert from schools in the disadvantaged areas (DEIS schools) are also significantly lower than those from schools in average and more affluent areas of the city (non DEIS schools). Unless young people leaving school early transfer to alternative education and training options, these young people are most at risk of social exclusion.

3.1.4 Health and Well Being

In terms of population health, residents of areas that are relatively more disadvantaged show a profile of poorer physical and mental health compared with residents of average and more affluent areas. This applies across all age groups in the population – children and young people, adults (parents) and older people and can have a direct economic impact. There is a significant number of people over 15 years in the regeneration areas that cannot work due to sickness/disability. The percentage of people that cannot work in Southhill due to sickness / disability (13%) is over three times that of the State figure, followed by Ballinacurra Weston (12%), Moyross (11%) and St. Mary’s Park (10%).

Rates of long-standing illness and psychological or emotional conditions are considerably higher in regeneration areas compared with average areas of the city. The difference or gap in mental health status between residents of the most disadvantaged areas and the average population is particularly large. Poor mental health is associated with wide-reaching negative impacts on individuals and families – for instance, on physical health and well-being but also on capacity to engage in social, civic and economic life. The direction of causality can work both ways and there are strong inter-dependencies. Poor parental (maternal) mental health is associated with negative outcomes for children including poorer level of educational attainment as well as emotional and behavioural problems in children.

The regeneration areas also exhibit higher levels of disability amongst its population particularly when compared to the national figure of 13%. Southhill has the highest disability figure at just over 23% of its population followed by Moyross and Ballinacurra Weston at 21% and St. Mary’s Park at 20%. Whilst the

Elderly Dependency Rate in Southhill and Ballinacurra Weston (18%) and St. Mary’s Park (21%) may somehow justify the levels of disability in those areas, the low elderly dependency ratio of only 8.4% in Moyross is completely at odds with its disability figure of 21%.

Children living in the most disadvantaged areas of the city have a profile of significantly higher rates of emotional / behavioural and attention difficulties compared with an average population of children. While the detailed analysis was not presented here, children from these areas have more exposure to childhood traumas, the families have a greater intensity of problems (including financial difficulties, addictions, etc.) and there are greater deficits in parenting practices compared with children living in average areas of the city. The families also live in less safe and poorer quality social and physical environments including more exposure to anti-social behaviour.

In terms of social capital, neighbourhoods in Limerick City, including those that are most socially disadvantaged, show many positive aspects including a strong sense of belonging to community and networks of social support from extended family, friends and neighbours. The most disadvantaged communities in the city, however, show weaknesses in certain aspects of social capital reflected in deficits of trust in people in general, negatively affecting cohesion of the communities and the city in general.

3.1.5 Justice / Criminality

Of course community safety is a key issue particularly in the southside regeneration areas of the city. With the additional Garda resources allocated to the city (100) under the regeneration programme, there has been a positive impact on addressing the problem of serious criminality in the city, bringing the city to a level of “normal” policing. The data on incident statistics across a range of incidents of crime with reference to the regeneration areas show a reduction in reported crime, while other relevant statistics (e.g., search of premises, person) show higher levels of policing particularly drug-related policing. There has been a drop in all incidents of recorded crime in the regeneration areas, especially in the most serious crimes. Gardaí issued more anti-social behavioural orders in 2009/10 compared with 2007/08. Lower level criminality and especially anti-social behaviour, harassment / abuse, intimidation, joy riding and crimes to property remain as serious problems on the regeneration estates.

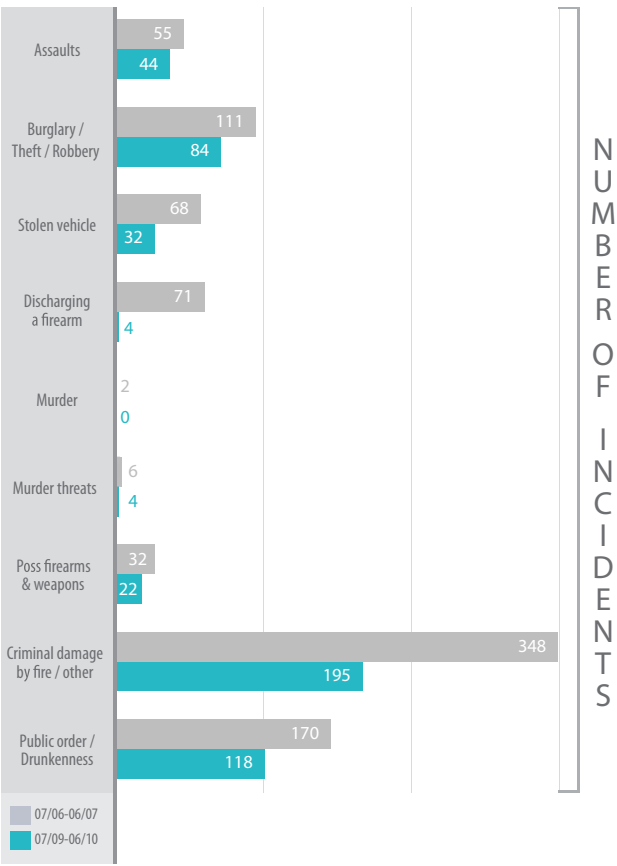


Figure 1.3: Selected incidents of crime 2006/07 and 2009/01: All Regeneration Areas
Source: An Garda Siochana, Southern Region

3. Baseline Conditions and Analysis

3.1.6 Housing and Households

Limerick City is known to have strong concentrations of social housing constructed as large housing estates in certain parts of the city. This has produced the strong concentrations of poverty and social disadvantage which has proved to be a particularly difficult problem for the city. Over time, the proportion of housing in local authority ownership has decreased but the problems of the larger local authority estates did not reduce over time.

In comparison to housing nationwide, Limerick City has an ageing house stock and this is particularly evident in the regeneration areas. The 2011 Census figures confirm that just under 4% of all housing has been constructed since 1990 and 25% of the housing stock was constructed prior to 1960. It also confirms that St. Mary’s Park has the oldest housing stock followed by Ballinacurra Weston. Moyross in contrast has a relatively new housing stock with 65% of its houses constructed between 1971 and 1990. However it is important to note that the CSO information does not necessarily correlate with the actual data on house construction retained by Limerick City Council which confirms that St. Mary’s Park was constructed between 1935 and 1937 with two additions in 1998 and 2002 and all development occurred in Moyross between 1975 and 1986. Thus housing within the regeneration areas is in fact a lot older than the figures presented in Census 2011.

The age of housing within the regeneration areas has a bearing on the ownership status of the properties. Owner-occupied houses within the four regeneration areas are generally comparable with the citywide figure of 60%, but well below the State figure of 69%.

The areas with the highest rates of home ownership, however, are also amongst the most deprived. As such, tenure mix is not always a good indicator of social mix. In contrast private landlord rentals within the regeneration areas are more on a par with the State figure of just over 8%, compared to the exceptionally high figure in the city of 24%. The other dominant form is local authority-rented housing which is well above the State figure of almost 8% and the citywide figure of just over 12%. Moyross has the highest number of local authority rented houses within the four regeneration areas (64%) almost double that of St. Mary’s Park and Southill. Ballinacurra Weston has significantly lower rate of local authority rented housing at 24%.

House type is generally one of the main factors underpinning household and family structure although this is not always the case within the regeneration areas as the analysis below indicates. With the dominant type of construction in the regeneration areas of house format one would expect the family size to comprise three to four people. However, almost 50% of the total households comprises two persons or under with almost 24% in single occupancy. Whilst the average household size within the regeneration areas (2.4) is slightly below the national figure of 2.7, these figures suggest under occupancy of houses within the regeneration area and as a result under-utilisation of valuable and scarce urban land.

Another significant contrast in the social geography of urban areas relates to household structure. Across the regeneration areas the single parent family dominates the household type with the exception of Ballinacurra

Weston where there is a significant proportion of one person households (29%).

These statistics need to be correlated with the housing need within the regeneration areas. With housing vacancy levels in the city (12%) less than the State (15%), the absolute numbers in housing need are also higher (2,669 in 2011). With higher than average houses in single occupancy, needs arising from the elderly population and single parent families, the household formation estimates would be for smaller dwelling types. An analysis of data from the Limerick City Council Housing List would also suggest that overcrowding⁴ within the regeneration areas is generating a need for additional houses although this data appears to conflict with the CSO data on household structure and under – occupancy referred to earlier. The Limerick City Council housing waiting list database as of May 2013 estimates that there is a need for over 160 houses within the regeneration areas arising from existing overcrowding.

3.1.7 Transport

Access to reliable and economic means of transportation has become increasingly important for individuals and households. As the regeneration areas have relatively low labour force participation rates, a high proportion of travel is not work-related, but rather involves school children, thereby resulting in short travel distances.

The relatively short distance travelled to work / school each day is reflected in the high percentage of the population that travels on foot or by bicycle with figures in the regeneration areas well above the citywide figure of 33% and more than double the

House Ownership	St. Mary’s Park	Southill	Ballinacurra Weston	Moyross	City	State
Owner Occupied	55%	64%	59%	33%	59%	69%
Renting from Private Landlord	5.1%	7.5%	10%	5%	24%	8%
Rent from Housing Body	0.6%	0.5%	0.4%	3%	1.3%	0.9%
Local Authority	35%	35%	24%	64%	12%	8%

Table 1.4: House ownership in Regeneration Areas (based on Small Area Population Statistics, SAPS), 2011
Source: CSO 2011

4 The estimate of over-crowded households is derived from Limerick City Council’s Housing Waiting List (as at May 2013). For the purposes of this analysis, a household is considered overcrowded if a person currently resident within the regeneration areas applies for housing in the regeneration area where they reside.



3. Baseline Conditions and Analysis

national figure of 17%. Of course these figures are also supported by the high number of households with no cars (St. Mary's Park 57%, Southill 43%, Ballinacurra Weston 58% and Moyross 50%). The use of public transport is generally higher in the regeneration areas than the city-wide figure of almost 7% but generally falls below the national figure of 13% with the exception of Southill (14%). The high level of public transport usage (bus) in Southill may be explained by the regular bus service operating in the area and may provide some evidence to suggest that supply side improvements in the bus service may help to induce a greater level of usage.

3.2 Key Emerging Issues

The foregoing analysis has highlighted a number of key issues in terms of structural economic deficiencies, extensive social problems, and physical planning across the regeneration areas which are exacerbating an already challenging economic situation. It also provides an analysis of the context of the most disadvantaged areas of the city, particularly focused on the regeneration areas. A number of key issues have emerged from the analysis which will directly influence the overall direction of the LRFIP and which will require targeted measures to mitigate against further problems.

The following is a summary of data which is described in detail in Appendix 1. Key emerging issues to consider with specific reference to the regeneration areas include:

- With above average rates of population in the 15 to 24 age category there is significant potential to direct a large proportion of the population into gainful employment over the next ten years.
- The number of people at work (over 15 years of age) in the regeneration areas is significantly lower than the number of those at work in the city (39%) and the State (58%). Unemployment rates in the regeneration areas are well above (more than double) those of the city, on average.
- The percentage of people that cannot work in Southill due to sickness / disability (13%) is over three times that of the State figure, followed closely by Ballinacurra Weston (12%), Moyross (11%) and St. Mary's Park (10%).
- Only 10.5% of the workforce is engaged in vulnerable sectors (manufacturing and construction), well below the national figure (16%).
- With only 3% of the population over the age of 15 with a Higher Certificate, Degree or Postgraduate Degree qualification, the regeneration areas have a very low educational qualification base. This will present serious challenges in the "tight" and competitive local labour market and in the modern economy in general.
- The regeneration areas have an ageing house stock and according to the CSO under 4% of all housing has been constructed since 1990 and 25% of the housing stock was constructed prior to 1960.
- Private landlord rentals within the regeneration areas are more on a par with the State figure of just over 8%, compared to the exceptionally high figure in the city of 24%. This could indicate potential for an increase in this type of house ownership in the regeneration areas.
- Almost 50% of the total households in the regeneration areas comprises two persons or under with almost 24% in single occupancy which suggests under occupancy of houses within the regeneration areas and as a result under-utilisation of valuable and scarce urban land.
- In contrast to the previous statistics, the Limerick City Council Housing Waiting List confirms that as of May 2013 there is a need for an additional 162 houses within the regeneration areas arising from existing overcrowding.
- The single parent family dominates the household type at 26% of all households in the regeneration areas, well above the State figure of 13% and the 14% of population in Limerick City. Over 60% of any households with children under 15 years in the regeneration areas are lone parent households.
- Almost 73% of the population within the regeneration areas travels less than two miles (30 minutes) to work/school/college thereby highlighting the availability of employment and educational establishments in proximity to the regeneration areas.
- The relatively short distance traveled to work / school each day is reflected in the high percentage of the population that travels on foot or by bicycle which is more than double the national figure of 17%.





Physical Overview And Analysis

4



Overview of the Physical Context

This section of the report presents a summary of the existing physical context, its challenges and opportunities with the objective to develop a vision and framework plan for the regeneration areas of Moyross, St. Mary's Park, Ballinacurra Weston and Southill.

4.1 Moyross

4.1.1 Study Area

Moyross lies to the northwest of Limerick City. The Knockalisheen Road provides the main access to Moyross at two points, the first and main access point at Watch House Cross which is at the southern-east corner of Moyross with the second approximately 750 metres further north on the same road into Castle Park, the most northerly point. There is a third access point via the Monabraher Road to the Ballynanty. The Moyross regeneration boundary covers an area of approximately 200 hectares (494 acres) and spans almost 2 kilometres from west to east and 1.8 kilometres north to south.

Delmege Estate in Moyross



Delmege Estate in Moyross



Figure 1.4: Moyross in Context

4. Physical Overview and Analysis

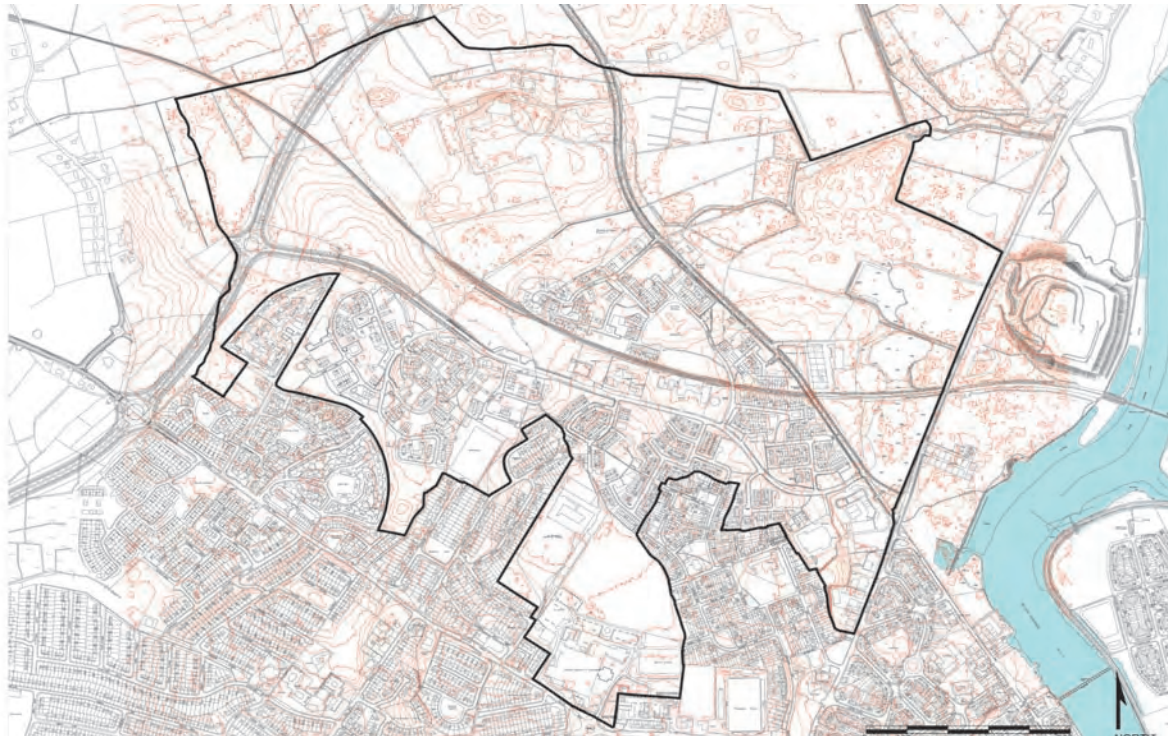


Figure 1.5: Contour Map

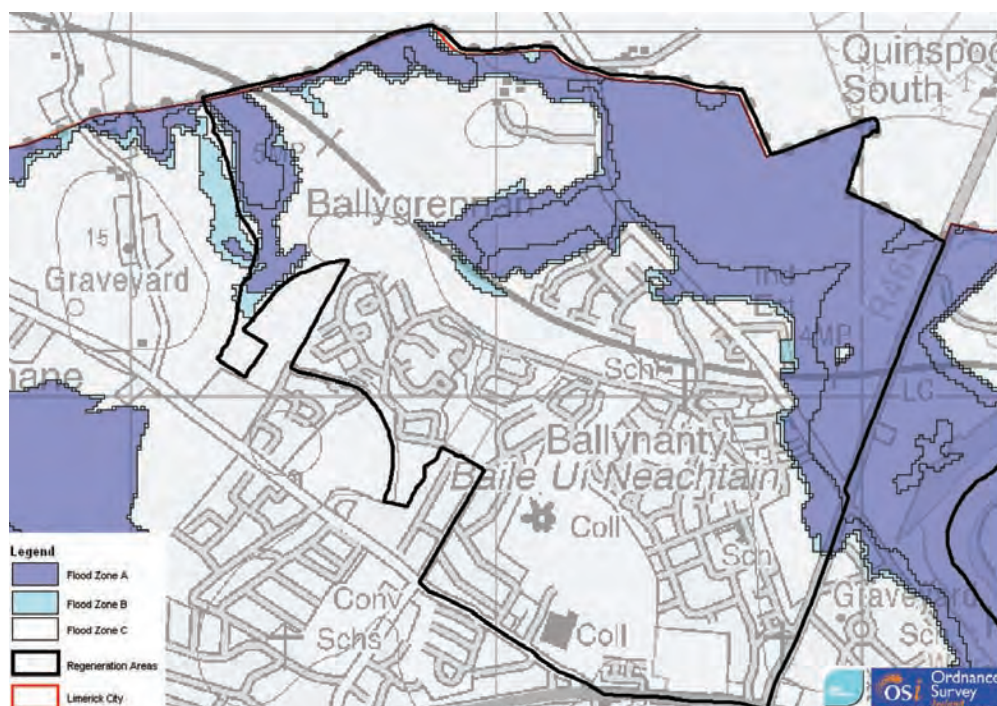


Figure 1.6: Flood Risk Map

4.1.2 Existing Physical Context

Land Use

The predominant land use in the regeneration area of Moyross is residential. As stated in the baseline analysis, the houses in this area generally consist of low density, Council developed estates dating from the 1970s. Other land-uses prevalent in the area are community focussed and consist of Watch House Cross to the south-east which is a designated District Centre as documented in the Retail Strategy for the Mid West Region 2010-2016.

The District Centre contains a food store; SuperValu, pharmacy, library, hairdressers and take-away outlets. Within the heart of the regeneration area is the existing community hub which contains the Corpus Christi Church, Corpus Christi Primary School and the Moyross Community Centre.

Housing Size and Conditions

Moyross was constructed from 1974 to 1987 and this makes the housing stock found here to be the newest units out of the four regeneration areas. Today, the condition of the building stock varies significantly, with a number of areas containing well maintained houses and other areas displaying high levels of dereliction. In terms of design, the majority of houses are two-storey, two-bay structures with small front gardens or paved parking areas entered via individual gates, with linear gardens to the rear. A typical house layout (approx 80m²) in Moyross consists of a ground floor layout of a kitchen/dining area, a living area. The upper floor consists of 3 bedrooms and a bathroom. These houses are typically red brick cavity wall-terraced or end-terraced houses with replacement double glazed windows, a gas boiler and open fire for heating. Further information on the works required to achieve an acceptable energy rating are described as part of the refurbishment strategies for each of the regeneration areas in Volume 2.

Public Realm

In terms of public realm, Moyross is characterised by the following physical features:

- Poor accessibility with adjacent neighbourhoods which has resulted in Moyross becoming physically, economically and socially isolated
- Over-provision of underutilised public open space
- The quality of the public realm is compromised by the tethering of horses
- Several under-used and vacant infill housing sites,

which currently detract from the overall appearance of the estate

- Due to the demolition of some blocks to date, the layout of the houses provide exposed boundaries which provide little in the way of natural surveillance. This undermines the safety and security of the area.

4.1.3 Topography

The topographical area consists of flat to gently sloping ground with gradually increasing height as the study area moves north.

4.1.4 Flooding and Drainage

A desktop study was carried out to determine the flooding risks involved within the study area. The northern boundary of the study area is largely bound by a tributary of the Crompaun River. Information from the Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016 Flood Risk Mapping indicates that a significant portion to the northern boundary of the study area along the tributary is prone to flooding. To the east of the study area is a significant area of wetland, known as Knocknalisheen Marsh, which is also prone to flooding. This area drains to the River Shannon, to its east. This wetland at Knocknalisheen is designated as a proposed National Heritage Area (pNHA) and a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) for its wetland habitats.

4.1.5 Geology

Information from the Geological Survey of Ireland shows that the Moyross area is underlain by Dinantian Pure Bedded Limestones which is defined as a dark fine limestone and calcareous shale.

4.1.6 Groundwater Vulnerability

Groundwater vulnerability within the study area is mainly “High to Low.” “Extreme” small pockets exist to the north and northeast of the study area where rock is near the surface.

4.1.7 Soils

The GSI (Geological Survey of Ireland) Teagasc Sub- Soil database demonstrates that soil types found within the study area range from Marine/Estuarine Silts and Clays, Till derived from Limestone, Made Ground and Bedrock. Active bedrock as shown to the northeast of the site might result in subsidence or instability of the ground surface.

Made ground is also present within the study area to

variable depths and is associated with prior road construction and other development construction. There are two closed landfill sites within the Moyross area. The Long Pavement site covers an area of approximately 2.4 hectares. The site is immediately adjacent to the River Shannon just outside the boundary of the Regeneration area.

On the western side of the Long Pavement Road (R464) opposite the Long Pavement landfill is an earlier landfill site extending over 17.7 hectares (pre 1984 landfill). The site has been covered with topsoil and is predominantly covered with grassland with some small trees and bushes. An area near to the Long Pavement Road was filled and graded to form a soccer pitch. This area is now overgrown, relatively uneven and not presently in use.

A strategy for the Long Pavement Landfill Restoration was prepared in 2000 by ARUP and Partners and remedial works have been completed recently, licensed by the EPA W0076-1. Key activities included collection

and flaring of landfill gases, collection and treatment of leachate, permanent capping of the landfill and landscaping works that will see new wetlands being constructed and the area converted into a recreation and amenity area.

4.1.8 Water, Sewerage and Drainage Infrastructure

All main services such as water, sewage, gas, Eircom and electricity are available in the area. An infrastructural survey was carried out by Tobin Consulting Engineers to ascertain the extent and location of existing services in Moyross and this information is contained within Appendix 7 of this document. All services are available adjacent to the site in the footpaths along the surrounding roadways. However, some services such as surface water sewers traverse sites scheduled for proposed replacement housing in the short term. The cost of redirecting these services have been accounted for at the planning and cost appraisal stage.

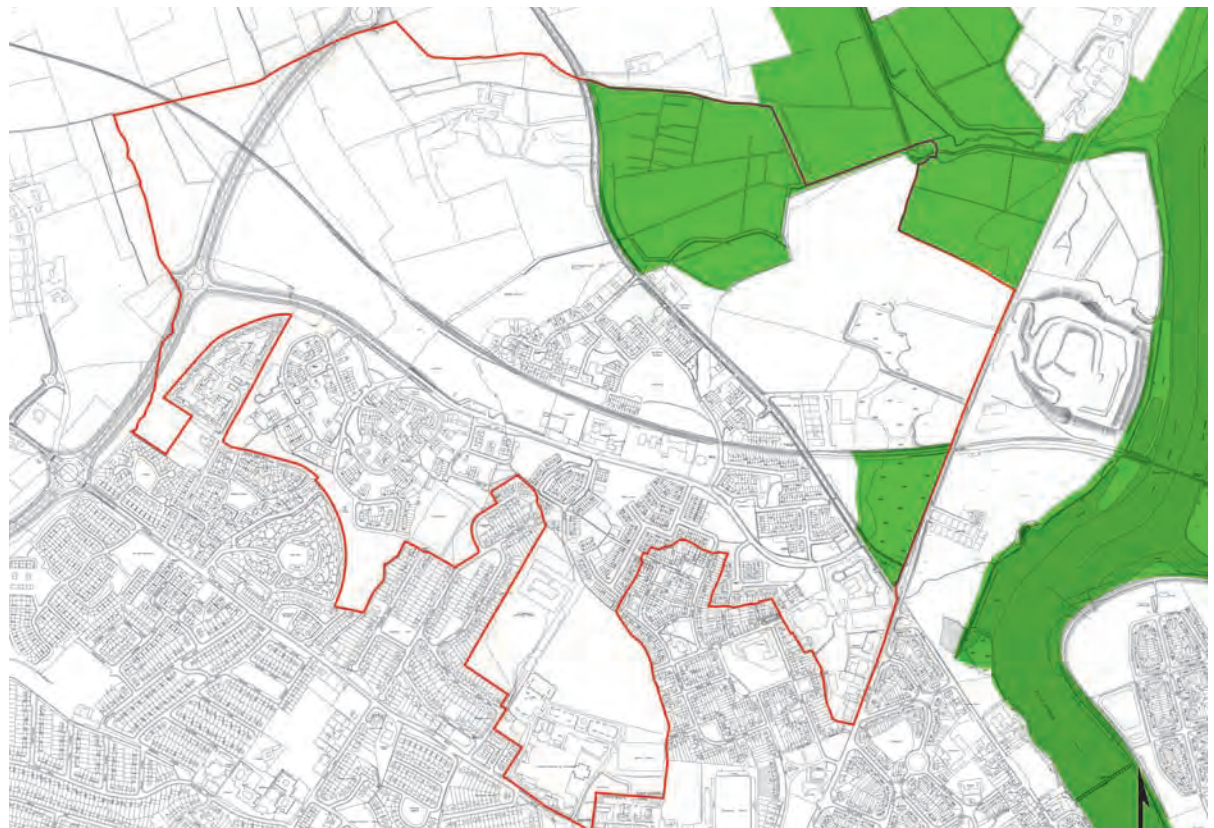


Figure 1.7: Extent of SAC

4. Physical Overview and Analysis

4.1.9 Special Area of Conservation

The Lower River Shannon, Special Area of Conservation (SAC) (code 002165) is designated under the EU Habitats Directive. Parts of this designation skirt the study area along the Knockalisheen Road.

4.1.10 Natural Heritage Area

The Knockalisheen Marsh (code 002001) is designated as a proposed Natural Heritage Area (pNHA). The site is situated mostly within Co. Clare but extends to the

north of Limerick City along the Knockalisheen Road. The site consists of grassland that slopes gradually to a wetland area which then drains into the River Shannon.

The upper part of the site consists of pastures while the lower parts near the river are extremely wet and consist of wet grassland and fen communities which are considered species rich. The site is considered important as a good example of grassland/wetland,

with high plant species diversity which is an increasingly scarce habitat, especially close to a large city. In addition, the site serves as feeding ground for common wading species such as snipe. Invasion species such as the Cherry Laurel and Japanese Knotweed can have a hugely detrimental effect on habitats. In the absence of intervention, the advance of these species can destroy surrounding habitats and ecology.

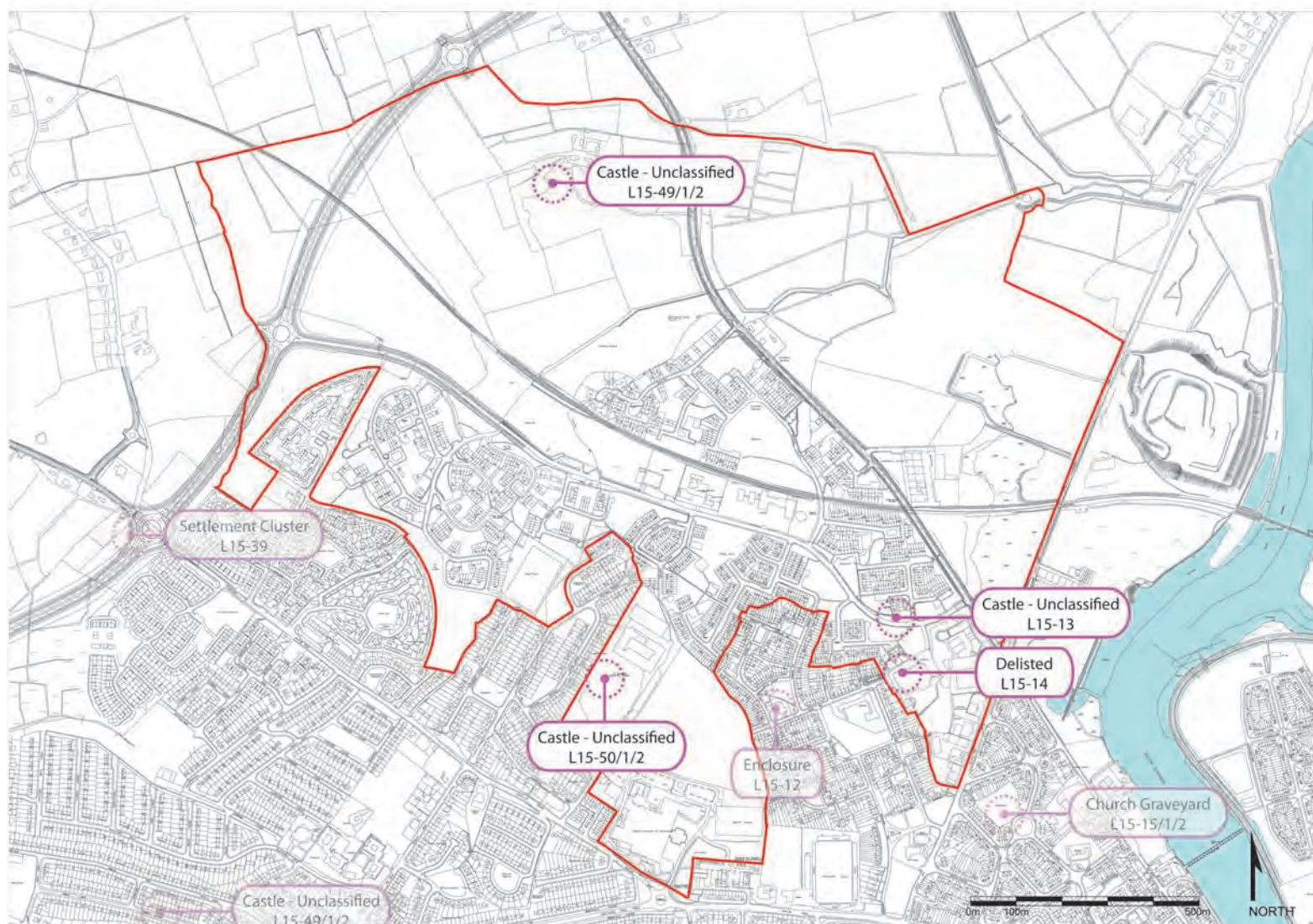


Figure 1.8: Extent of RMP Locations

4.1.11 Record of Monuments and Places

The Archaeological Assessment shows a small number of known archaeological sites distributed across the regeneration area.

The study identified three Recorded Monuments and one delisted site within the regeneration area, consisting mainly of mid to late medieval habitation or castle sites. All the Recorded Monuments have

statutory protection and should be regarded as constraints. Consultation with the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht (DAHG) is required from the outset to determine suitable buffer zones. However, it should be noted that none of the RMP sites within the Assessment Area have been designated as being of National Importance and thus of National Monument status.

The majority of RMP sites within the study area appear to date from the mid to late medieval periods and represent castle or fortified buildings and associated settlements. The locations of the records identified in Figure 1.8 may represent an estimation and as such there is potential for encountering these features anywhere in the general vicinity.

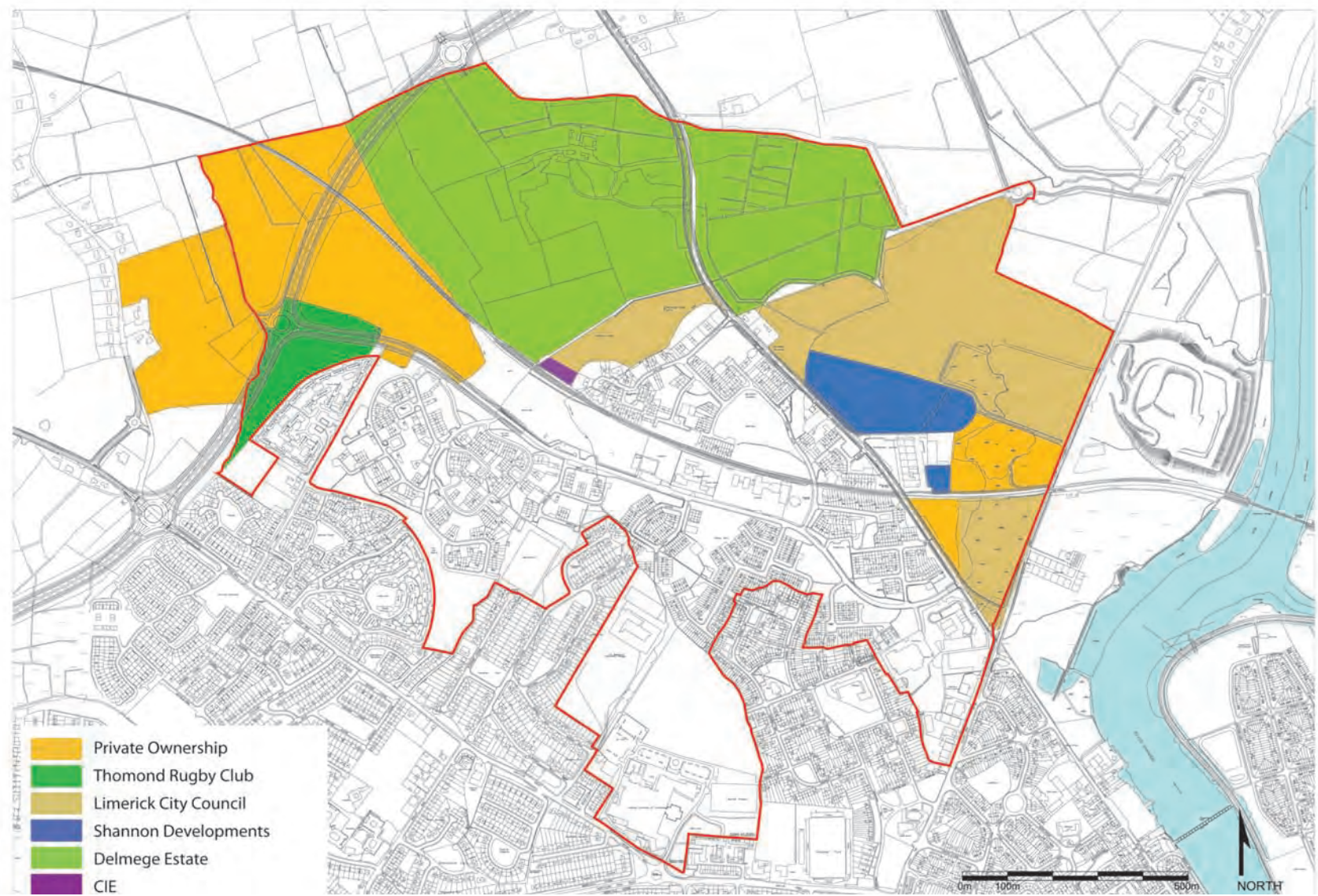


Figure 1.9: Land Ownership

4. Physical Overview and Analysis

4.1.12 Existing Movement

Perhaps the biggest single movement issue for Moyross is the lack of connectivity between it and the surrounding neighbourhoods. Even within the study area, it is difficult to get about given the illegible block layout with each sub estate consisting of large cul-de-sacs. This situation is at the heart of most of the major movement problems of the area. Given this lack of permeability into and across the study area, access to employment and services is poor contributing to its social-economic problems.

4.1.13 Public Transport

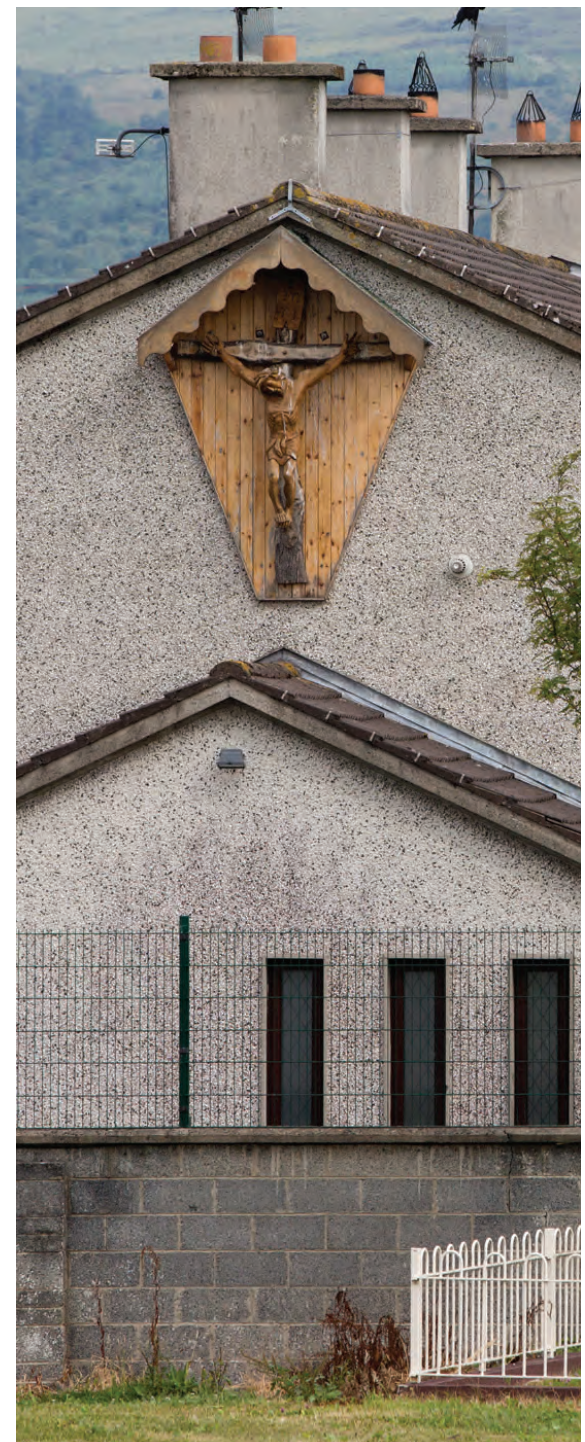
Section 3.1.7 Transport of Section 3.0 Baseline Conditions and Analysis highlights that in common with other regeneration areas, Moyross exhibits low levels of car usage with a high percentage of private households having no car (50%) and a high use of public transport (11%), above the city average (7%).

Therefore, the continued provision of a good quality public transport system will be essential for the regeneration of the area. There are two Bus Eireann routes which provide a frequent public transport system to and from Limerick City Centre – including



Figure 1.10: Extent of Open Space

Delmege Estate in Moyross



the 302 with approximately 15 services daily (Ennis Road/Thomond Park, LIT, Caherdavin) and the 303 (Pineview/Craeval - City Centre) with approximately 8 services daily.

4.1.14 Open Space Provision

The 2008 Masterplan identified the River Shannon and its rich riparian and wetland habitats as a key strength of the Moyross area. There are significant areas along the River Shannon corridor, in close proximity to Moyross, which are designated as a proposed Natural Heritage Areas (pNHA) and Special Area of Conservation (SAC), including some of the

wetlands that lie between Long Pavement Road and the Knockalisheen Road. There are also two landfill sites in the area, as previously discussed on either side of Long Pavement Road and much of this area is susceptible to flooding.

Figure 1.10 shows the existing open space provision within Moyross. The regeneration areas contain large amounts of passive open space, much of which is underutilised and also open space that is not readily distinguishable as either public or private. There is also an under-provision of active play facilities for those under the age of 15.

4.1.15 Planning Context

Limerick City Development Plan, 2010 - 2016

The Limerick City Development Plan sets out Limerick City Council’s policies for the development of Limerick City to 2016 and beyond. The following policies specifically deal with regeneration and the Moyross area:

- To protect the integrity of all Natura 2000 sites in the vicinity. In this regard the development proposals developed shall be subject to HDAA and SEA.

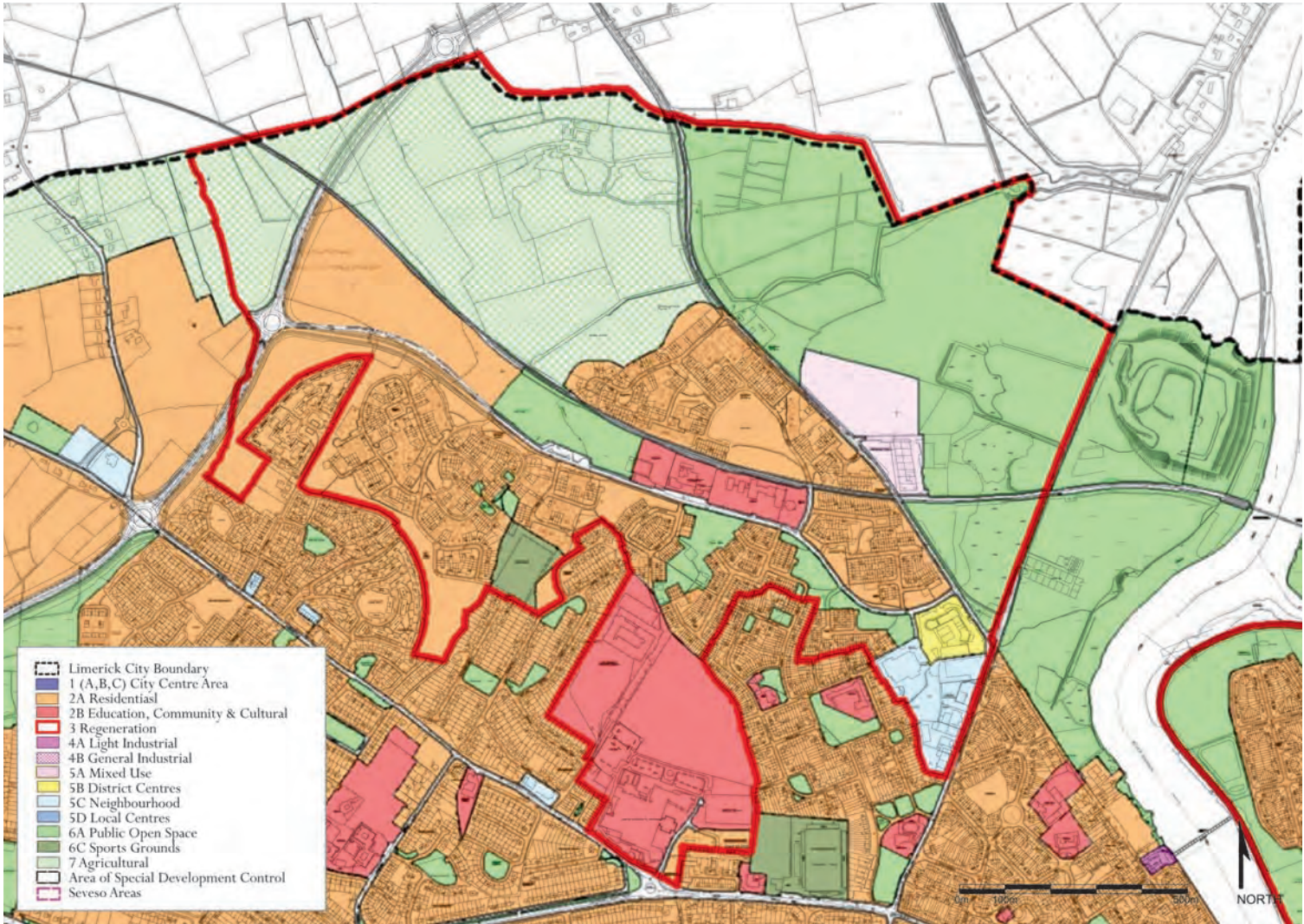


Figure 1.11: Land Use Zoning map extracted from the Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016

4. Physical Overview and Analysis

- To protect the existing biodiversity of the area and to provide interpretation for the public.
- To develop a large public park that connects the river Shannon, Moyross and Caherdavin for a range of active and passive recreational uses.
- To create a civic area of suitable scale in Moyross that can act as a focal point for community, civic and educational facilities including a rail station.
- To promote Watchhouse Cross as the District Centre for the area of Moyross, Kileely, Ballynanty and Parteen in accordance with the Mid West Retail Strategy.
- To complete the northern distributor road and to provide access from it to Moyross.
- To provide for greater linkages between Moyross and the adjacent areas to the west including the educational institutions.
- To protect the existing alignment of the Limerick/Galway rail line.
- To the east of Moyross is a significant area of wetland, known as Knocknalisheen Marsh, which is prone to flooding.
- Proposed bridges or culverts crossing the Crompaun River or its tributaries, as part of the physical framework plan for Moyross, will be subject to the approval by the Office of Public Works.
- Surface water run-off from any proposed development will be subject to pollution control and attenuation before it is discharged to the receiving water. Regard should be given to Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems Principles (SUDS).
- All future developments shall have regard to the Flood Risk Management Guidelines (DEHLG/OPW), Shannon Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management (forthcoming) and SEA.

Special Area of Conservation

A key challenge in Moyross is to ensure that any development, proposed as part of the LRFIP, does not have a negative impact on the water quality and habitats within Moyross or downstream of the area.

Records of Monuments and Places

Although there are no identified sites of cultural heritage within Moyross, there is always the possibility of subterranean archaeological remains. This presents a challenge for future development within the area. Therefore consultation with the Department of Arts, Heritage & the Gaeltacht (DAHG) is required at project level and, if required, an on-site archaeologist will monitor excavation works at project level stage.

Physical Character

The following key challenges exist in Moyross in relation to the physical realm:

- Poor accessibility with adjacent neighbourhoods which has resulted in Moyross becoming physically, economically and socially isolated
- Over-provision of underutilised public open space
- The quality of the public realm is compromised by the tethering of horses
- Several under-used and vacant infill housing sites, which currently detract from the overall appearance of the estate
- Due to the demolition of some blocks to date, the layout of the houses provide exposed boundaries which provide little in the way of natural surveillance. This undermines the safety and

security of the area

Opportunities

Movement

Efforts to open up adjoining residential areas is key and will require consultation with stakeholders and residents within the area. The extension of Moyross Avenue westwards to Coonagh, to link to the strategic northern distributor road is a strategic opportunity which will increase connectivity as well as open up the potential for inward private investment which in turn will facilitate tenure diversification.

Open Space

Much of the existing amenity land, north of the railway line, is in public ownership and provides an opportunity to create an integrated linear park with active play facilities for all age groups which would be of regional significance. Furthermore, the delivery of this would contribute greatly to the identity of Moyross.

Topography

There is an opportunity to design sensitively within areas that have challenging topography to maximise sightlines and views within and from outside the area.

Flooding and Drainage

A key opportunity exists to preserve the wetlands Knocknalisheen Marsh in its present location for passive amenity. It will be necessary to avoid impacting on the existing ground water levels at this location.

Special Area of Conservation

There is an opportunity to sensitively incorporate sites with statutory environmental designations as part of the an integrated linear park. An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) was carried out in relation to the Coonagh-Knocknalisheen bypass and the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was assessed by An Bord Pleanála (ABP). The planning application has been approved and there is an opportunity to incorporate key conditions, mitigation measures into the physical framework plan for Moyross.

Physical Character

There is an opportunity to:

- Restructure the existing layout to address gap sites
- Develop existing poor quality frontage sites and vacant land to improve visual quality

4.1.17 Key Challenges and Opportunities for Moyross

Challenges

Movement

A key challenge for the LRFIP will be addressing the severance experienced by residents of Moyross, as well as the lack of permeability and legibility within it. The low density and dispersed character of Moyross impacts on the viability of the existing public transport provision.

Open Space

The regeneration areas contain large expanses of passive open space, much of which is underutilised and also open space that is not readily distinguishable as either public or private. This presents a key challenge to Moyross. Much of the open space is poorly overlooked with a lack of active frontage (eyes on the street) which exacerbates anti-social behaviour. There is also an under-provision of active play facilities for those under the age of 15.

Topography

The topography of some sites, within Moyross, is challenging and will need to be approached through thoughtful design.

Flooding and Drainage

The following challenges exist within Moyross in relation to flooding and drainage:





- Consider intensive interventions to remove units to improve legibility and permeability
- Address existing poor housing conditions
- Address the lack of integration between areas of new and existing housing
- Remove environmental black spots to the rear of blocks
- Develop streetscape improvements to enhance the public realm and create pedestrian friendly environments
- Provide additional soft landscaping to soften the existing hardness of the public realm
- Introduce new frontage development to non-overlooked routes

4.2 St. Mary's Park

4.2.1 Study Area

King's Island extends over an area of 170 acres and is bounded on the east by the River Abbey and on the west by the River Shannon.

The study area occupies an attractive island site to the north-east of Limerick City centre. Historically, King's Island would have been an important location at the divergent point of the Shannon and the Abbey Rivers. Today, it represents an important asset to the city, particularly in terms of its ecological importance, archaeological significance, and tourism potential. However, it also functions as an important residential and community environment, containing the large housing estate of St. Mary's Park to the north and numerous terraces of houses to the south. There are a number of modern apartment blocks to the south of the island, in proximity to the riverfront.

4.2.2 Existing Physical Context

Land Use

King's Island is an area which contains a variety of land uses including residential, administrative, ecclesiastical, educational, retail, business and tourism. While the southern part of the island is a lively area with a mix of land uses, the area to the north is predominantly residential and due to its poor transport connections, is disconnected from the rest of the city. This has resulted in the isolation of St. Mary's Park.

Nicholas Street is the core town centre street with retail opportunities, connecting the southern part of King's Island to the Castle. It is an important thoroughfare in the regeneration of the area. However,

at present, there are numerous vacant and under-utilised sites and buildings along this street. In terms of community facilities and amenities in the area, there is an upgraded community centre in to the south-west of the island and two playing pitches (Star Rovers) to the east (on short term lease from Limerick City Council).

Although there are extensive areas of open space to the south, it is generally low-lying and liable to flooding. There is, however, a river-side walkway on three sides of the island which has been upgraded from Verdant Place, along the western, northern and eastern shores of King's Island. The recent opening of a new community crèche (2011) adjacent to the Military Cemetery has improved the level of childcare educational facilities in the area. Existing educational facilities include a boys and girls primary school, and two Gael Scoileanna located to the south of the island.

There is a Garda station in Mary Street that has restricted opening hours and is in poor physical condition. The County Courthouse and District Court are located to the west of the island, in proximity to City Hall which houses the offices of Limerick City Council. King's Island features a delicate ecological environment which has been designated as a Special Area of Conservation.

In addition, the island has a significant architectural and archaeological heritage, containing the remains of the Limerick City Walls and a number of surviving buildings from the 12th and 13th Centuries including King John's Castle and St. Mary's Cathedral. The southern portion of King's Island is regarded as the historic core of Limerick City and consequently has strong tourism potential.



Figure 1.12: St Mary's Park in Context

4. Physical Overview and Analysis

Housing Size and Conditions

St. Mary's Park was constructed in 1935 and this makes the units located here the oldest out of the four regeneration areas. Today, the condition of the building stock varies significantly, with a number of areas containing well maintained houses and other areas displaying high levels of dereliction. In terms of design, the majority of houses are two-storey, two-bay structures with small front gardens or paved parking areas entered via individual gates, with long, linear gardens to the rear. A typical house layout (approx 60m²) in St. Mary's Park consists of a ground floor layout of a kitchen/living area/dining area, a bedroom with a single-storey extension to house a bathroom. The upper floor consists of 2 bedrooms. These houses are laid out in terraced blocks (6 blocks in total with a terraced street to the east of St. Munchin's Street) of four to five structures.

The general house construction type within St. Mary's Park consists of mass concrete with no insulation, which perform poorly against current energy performance specifications. Further information on the works required to achieve an acceptable energy rating are described as part of the refurbishment strategies for each of the regeneration areas in Volume 2.

Public Realm

In terms of public realm, St. Mary's Park is characterised by the following physical features:

- Poor accessibility which has resulted in St. Mary's Park becoming physically, economically and socially isolated
- Unattractive public realm with an over-dominance of hard surfaces with limited soft landscaping
- Several under-used and vacant housing sites, which currently detract from the overall appearance of the estate
- Severe environmental black spot to the east of St. Munchin's Street where a strip of land has been used as a landfill site and filled with domestic refuse
- The layout of the houses to the east of St. Munchin's Street backs onto the landfill therefore providing little in the way of natural surveillance. This has potentially exacerbated the issue of illegal dumping

4.2.3 Historical Character Today

The most frequently used image to represent Limerick City is that which captures the view of King's Island

from the west bank of the River Shannon, taking in King John's Castle, Thomond Bridge and St. Mary's Cathedral. This is the oldest part of the city and today is commonly referred to as its 'medieval core'. A number of significant buildings survive from 12th and 13th Century Limerick (in particular the aforementioned castle and cathedral), as well as some remaining extant stretches of the City Wall, which was dismantled in the 1760s. These structures lend an air of grandeur and magnificence to King's Island, making it a distinctive element of the Limerick cityscape.

However, aside from the above mentioned structures, much of King's Island's medieval character has been eroded in the past century. Although traces of the medieval streetscape remain, the majority of the area's medieval buildings have disappeared. The ruins of buildings such as Fanning's Castle (RMP: Castle Tower House L1005-017004, and RPS015) on Mary's Street, and the house containing a carved stone fireplace (RMP: House L1005-017123) on Nicholas Street, are isolated clues to the appearance of the older city. There is also a military cemetery at the southern edge of St. Mary's Park. This is not marked on the 1st edition six inch Ordnance Survey (1840-1) of the area, so it is likely that it post-dates this map. However, it is referred to in a book dating to 1866 (Lenihan, M, Limerick: Its History and Antiquities, Ecclesiastical, Civil, and Military, 1866), indicating that it dates from the mid Nineteenth Century. In general this cemetery was reserved for the burial of soldiers and ex-soldiers who had no family links in the city or county. There are an estimated sixty burials in the cemetery.

Current Protection for Architectural & Archaeological Heritage

There are currently 28 structures on the RPS. In addition, 10 structures are currently on the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) of Limerick City, but are included under the existing RPS.

Other Statutory Mechanisms

It is evident that there is an adequate level of statutory protection afforded to the built heritage of King's Island. However, there is no Architectural Conservation Area (ACA) in place in King's Island at present. An ACA is defined as 'a place, area, group of structures or townscape, taking account of building lines and heights, that is of special architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social or technical interest or that contributes to the appreciation of a protected structure, and whose



Figure 1.13: Existing Land Use



Figure 1.14: Current Protection for Architectural & Archaeological Heritage

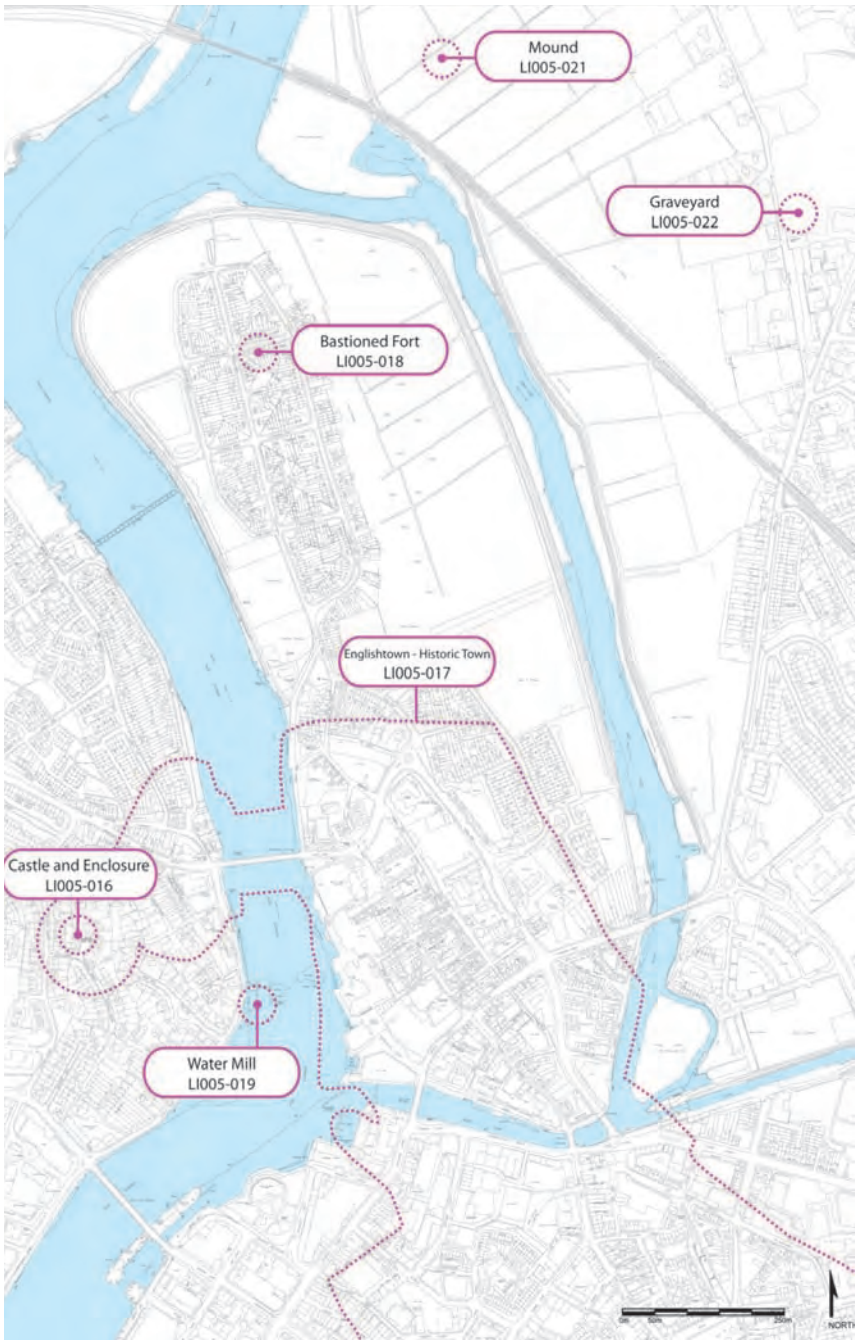


Figure 1.15: Zone of Archaeological Potential

▼ Sunset around Nicholas Street, Limerick



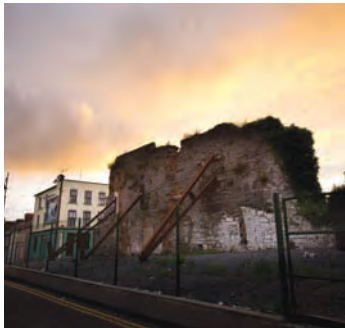
▼ Island View Terrace, St. Mary's Park



▼ Island View Terrace, St. Mary's Park



▼ Nicholas Street, Limerick



▼ Island View Terrace, St. Mary's Park



4. Physical Overview and Analysis

character it is an objective of a development plan to preserve' (Architectural Heritage Protection Guidelines 2004, DoEHLG).

However, the south-western portion of King's Island has been included in the Area of Special Planning Control (ASPC) designation. An ASPC is defined as follows as "all or part of an architectural conservation area [which] is of special importance to, or as respects, the civic life or the architectural, historical, cultural or special character of a city or town in which it is situated [and which requires preparation of a] 'scheme' "setting out development objectives for the preservation and enhancement of that area, or part of the area." (Section 84 (1), 2000 Act).

Zone of Archaeological Potential

The Records of Monuments and Places map for Limerick (L1005-017) shows that there is a significant amount of archaeology located within the Zone of Archaeological Potential. By and large, this zone follows the line of the medieval core of the city. In this archaeological zone, remains lie within a metre of the modern surface, and these strata can be present to a depth of 3 to 4m in places. In addition to the Medieval Core Monuments there are numerous sites located outside the Zone of Archaeological Potential in the outer suburbs of the city. These are also listed in the Sites and Monuments Record which is an appendix to the Limerick City Council Development Plan (see Figure 2.14). A soon to be published good practice guidance publication, commissioned by Limerick City Council titled "Development and Archaeological Study of King's Island and Limerick" (DASKIL), sets out archaeology and development objectives for the enhancement and preservation of archaeology on King's Island now and into the future.

4.2.4 Existing Movement

King's Island, as the name suggests, is bounded by water on all side. The River Shannon bounds the Island to the west, The Abbey River to the east and south and the confluence of the two rivers bounds the island in the north. The island is situated to the north within the Limerick City Centre environment. There are four main access/egress routes connecting King's Island to the rest of Limerick, all of which are located within the southern half of the Island.

The Island Road and Castle Street form part of the N7 route through the area. This route is heavily trafficked

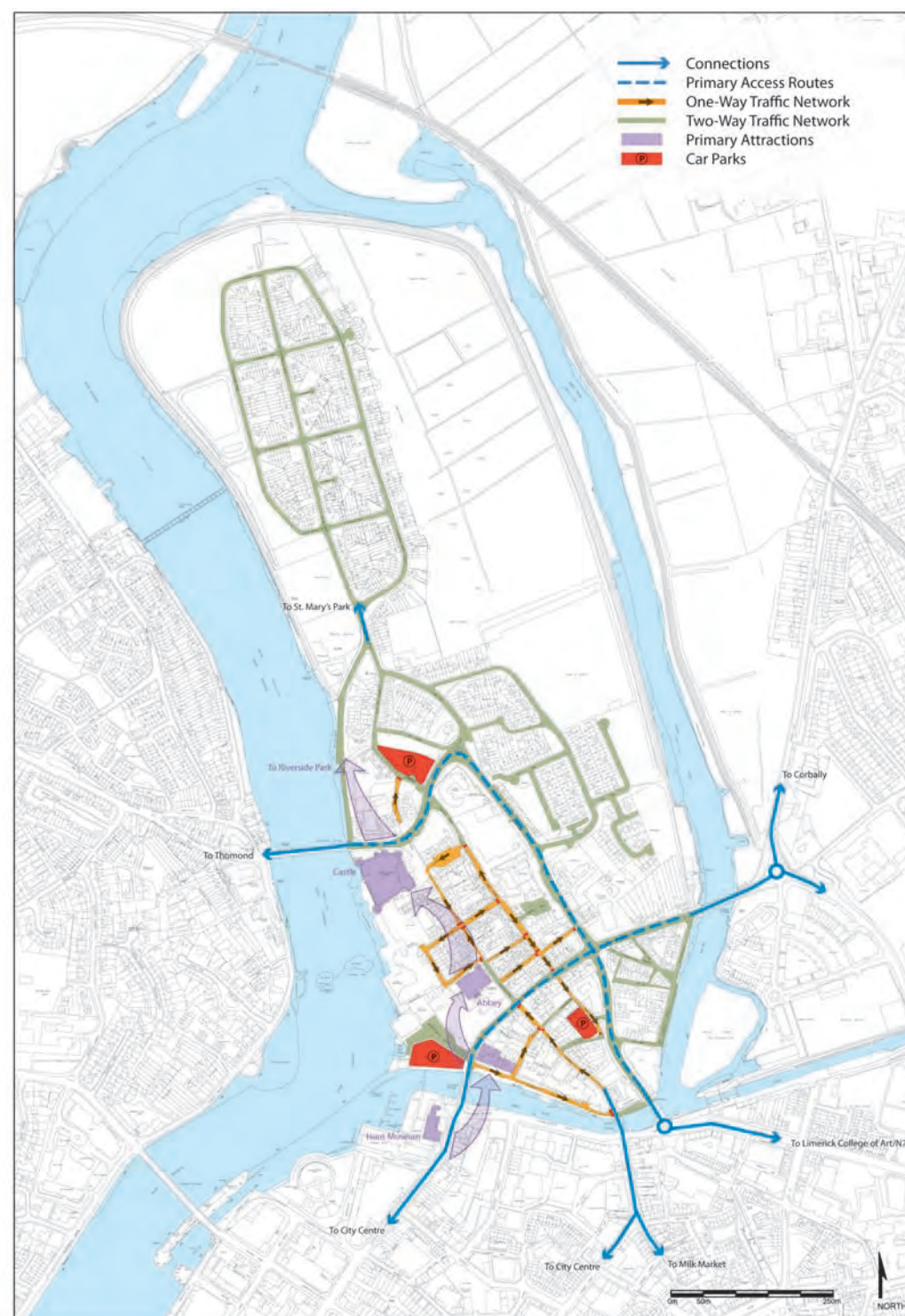


Figure 1.16: Existing Movement

and essentially dissects the north of the island from the south. There is a one-way vehicular system in place within much of the medieval quarter, as the streets are narrow in keeping with the traditional medieval street layout. This is shown on Figure 1.15.

Access to St. Mary's Park is limited to one main entrance from Island Road Roundabout and three other older access routes culminating in essentially one access point at St. Ita's Street to a large cul-de sac. This has resulted in isolating the northern half of the Island.

Public Transport

Section 3.1.7 Transport of Section 3.0 Volume 1 Baseline Conditions and Analysis highlights that in common with other regeneration areas, St Mary's Park exhibits low levels of car usage with a high percentage of private households having no car (57%) and a generally high use of public transport (6%) which is slightly below the city average (7%). This could be explained by the location of St. Mary's Park within close proximity of the city centre (approx 800m) which suggests that the current bus service provision is adequate compared to the other regeneration areas.

4.2.5 Environmental Considerations

The Lower River Shannon Special Area of Conservation (SAC) surrounds King's Island.

The Lower River Shannon Special Area of Conservation (SAC) surrounds King's Island and, as shown in Figure 1.16, the results of the environmental study carried out on this area reveals indicative habitats. This study found that to the east of the St. Mary's Park estate there is a strip of re-colonising bare ground – ED2. This area has been subject to grazing, dumping and infill and is higher in elevation than the adjacent wet area.

While this habitat can be species rich it is mostly colonised by opportunistic plants that are common and widespread. This area is associated with foraging birds and, during the summer, is likely to attract butterflies and other insects. The habitats and species here are of moderate biodiversity value and are not associated with the SAC or its qualifying interests. It is adjacent to, but outside the SAC boundary.

The stretches of the Shannon and Abbey Rivers surrounding King's Island are lowland/depositing river – FW2 and constitute the primary feature

of the SAC. An Otter *Lutra lutra* was observed swimming in the river along with Mute swan *Cygnus olor*, Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus*, Greylag goose *Anser anser*, Grey heron *Ardea cinerea*, Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo* and Little grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis*. The Otter is listed on Annex II of the Habitats Directive and is one of the SAC's qualifying interests.

Along the river banks, and fringing almost the entire island, there is a strip of riparian woodland – WN5. It is dominated with Willow *Salix* sp. with occasional Alder *Alnus glutinosa* and Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*. On the island's western shore this fringe is narrow and in some places there is open grassland (with Creeping buttercup *Ranunculus repens* and Reed canary grass *Phalaris arundinacea*). This area is wet grassland – GS4 and is a part of the rivers' floodplain. However on the eastern shore it is much more developed and uninterrupted. This habitat is an example of the Annex I priority type Alluvial forests (91E0) and is one of the rarest native woodland types in Ireland (Little et al., unknown year). It is of high biodiversity value and home to a range of woodland species as well as being vital for the preservation of water quality and the prevention of bank erosion.

It can be seen that the area designated as SAC is important for qualifying interests such as freshwater fish, otter and riparian woodland, but also for features outside the qualifying interests – particularly wintering wetland birds, but also kingfisher and possibly an Annex I wetland habitat (hydrophilous tall herbs). These habitats perform important functions in the regulation of water flow and the moderation of water quality as well as being valuable for the maintenance of biodiversity in general.

Illegal Dumping, Island Fields, St. Mary's Park.



Hand Ball Alley, St. Mary's Park.



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Island Fields, St. Mary's Park



Island Fields, St. Mary's Park



Island Fields, St. Mary's Park

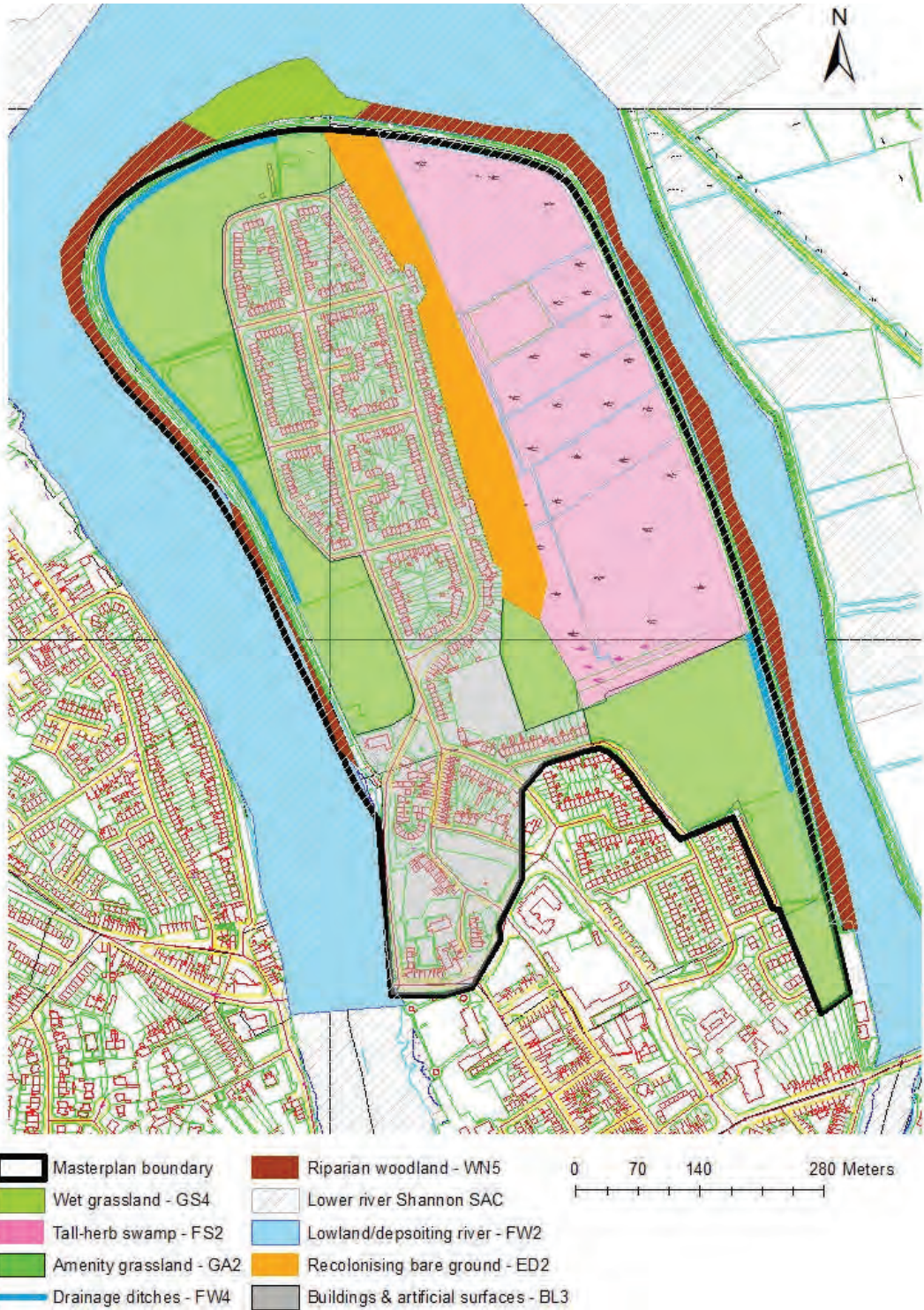


Figure 1.17: Environmental Characteristics of St. Mary's Park

4.2.6 Flooding

St. Mary's Park & Kings Island is an island formed by the waters of the River Shannon and Abbey River. The Abbey River is actually a split of the River Shannon. Both the River Shannon and the Abbey River are tidal in the vicinity of the site of the proposed development and therefore susceptible to both fluvial and coastal flood risk.

There have been a number of instances of flooding in Limerick City centre, including parts of King's Island in the past. The most recent of these events occurred in 1999, 2002 and 2009. The maximum water level observed was in December 1999 where levels were reported to be of the order of 4.4m in the Abbey River. These floods arose from a period of prolonged rainfall, a spring tide and a storm surge which added 1.3m to the tide.

The Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016 Flood Risk Map adjacent indicates that the subject site is at risk from flooding with Flood Zone A (high probability of flooding) highlighted in dark blue in Figure 1.18. All proposed infill developments will be subject to the requirements of the guidance document "The Planning System and Flood Risk Management 2009" prepared by the Department of Environment Community and Local Government and the Office of Public Works

The guidelines require the planning system at national, regional and local levels to:

- Avoid developments in areas at risk of flooding, particularly floodplains, unless there are proven wider sustainability grounds that justify appropriate development and where the flood risk can be reduced or managed to an acceptable level without increasing flood risk elsewhere.
- Adopt a sequential approach to flood risk management when assessing the location for new development based on avoidance, reduction and mitigation of flood risk, and incorporate flood risk assessment into the process of making decisions on planning applications and planning appeals

There is a lack of substantive flooding data within the four regeneration areas. At this point in time there are no officially publishable Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management studies (CFRAMS). However it is understood that a draft CFRAMS may be available in 2014. Furthermore, The OPW recently

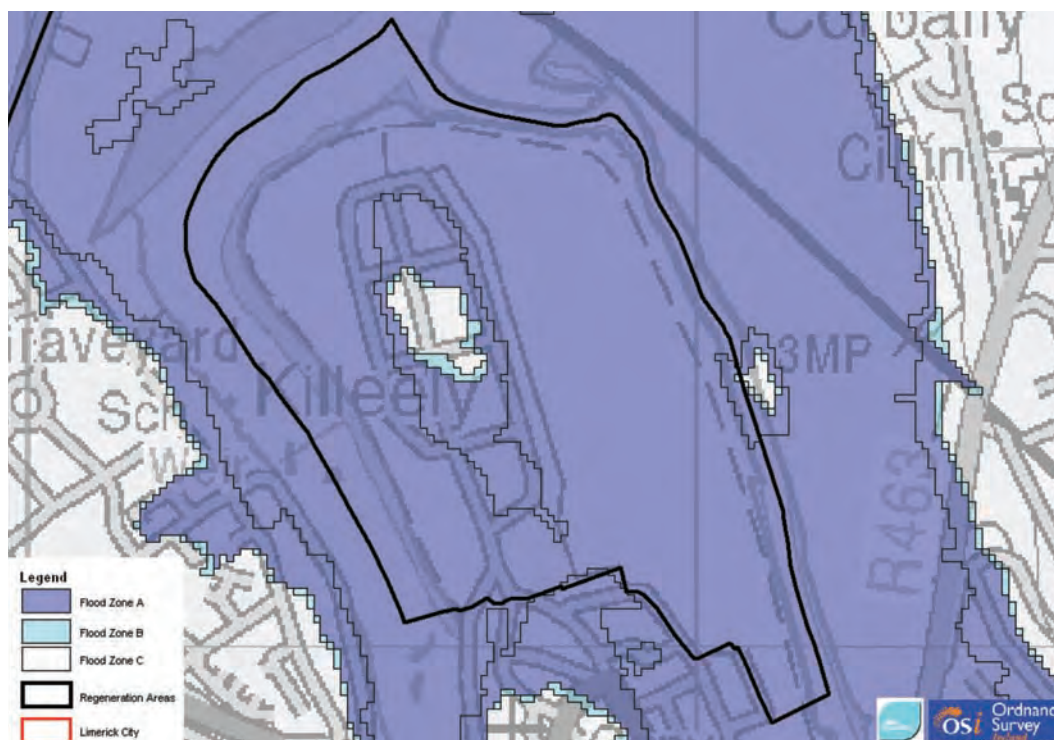


Figure 1.18: Flood Risk Map of St. Mary's Park extracted from the Statutory Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016

4. Physical Overview and Analysis

commissioned a study to assess coastal flooding and erosion extents in Ireland, known as the Irish Coastal Protection Strategy Study (ICPSS). This study has produced predictive flood maps and levels for flood events with various probabilities of occurrence. The information has not yet been published by OPW. As stated in the Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016 “until such time as comprehensive information and guidance is available on flooding in the city, a flexible approach is required to take account of flood risk to ensure that appropriate measures are taken wherever the need arises”.

4.2.7 Water and Drainage Infrastructure

St Mary's Park is currently serviced by 3 inch cast iron water main network (which date from the 1930s). The network is insufficient to meet the current demands and fire flow standards. In a report dated from 2004, when St Mary's Park consisted of 459 houses (as opposed to 389 units in 2012), water usage in St Mary's Park was in excess of 600m³/day. Based on a typical consumption rate of 135 litres per person per day by 459 gave an expected usage of 183m³/day, significantly under the actual usage in the estate. The level of water leakage in the estate is in excess of 200%, well above the city-wide level of 46% and the desired level of less than 30%. Limerick City Council is committed to upgrading and sustainably developing the water and drainage infrastructure for St Mary's Park, subject to the availability of finance.

4.2.8 Sewerage Infrastructure

Following the completion of the Limerick Main Drainage Scheme, Phase 1, the City and its Environs is now served by a modern sewer infrastructure. The Limerick Main Drainage infrastructure was designed in 1999 to meet the current and foreseeable need of the City and contiguous areas but the City Council is mindful that continued upgrades to both the foul and surface water drainage systems in the city will be required. A key objective of Limerick City Council is the development of Limerick Main Drainage Phase 2 which will involve assessing the capacities of the current plant, delivering a strategy for reducing the quantity of surface water infiltration into the foul network and extending the network, subject to the availability of finance. The main sewerage system in St Mary's Park is deemed as adequate by Limerick City Council and a key objective as part of any development proposal would be to provide a high quality sanitary wastewater collection and treatment system to meet the existing and future demands.

Island Fields



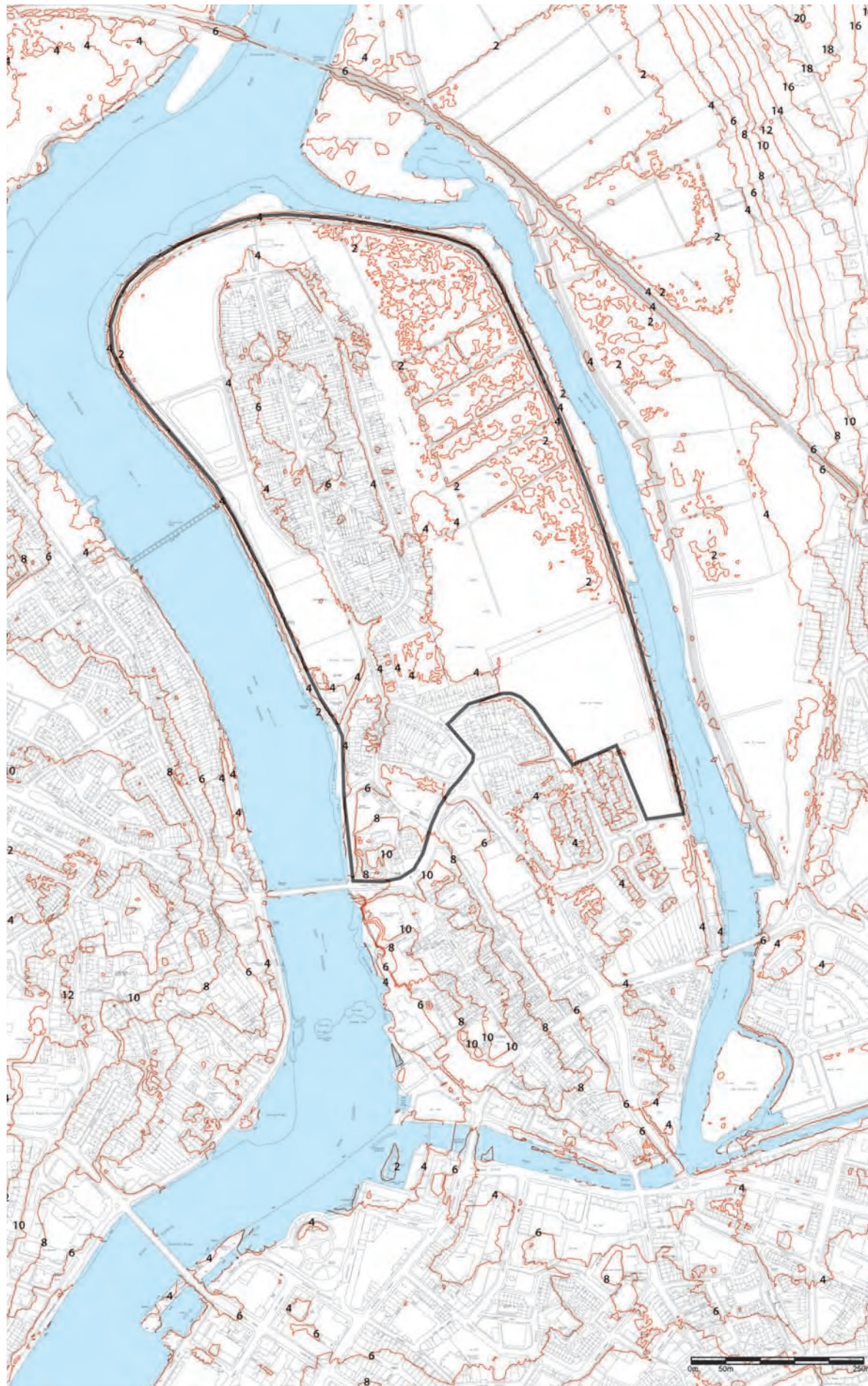


Figure 1.19: Contours of St. Mary's Park

4.2.9 Soils and Geology

The GSI (Geological Survey of Ireland) Teagasc Sub-Soil database demonstrates that the soil type found within the study area consists of 'made ground' and "Till derived chiefly from limestone". Made ground is natural soil altered, partly with fill materials and is associated with prior construction.

4. Physical Overview and Analysis

4.2.10 Existing Open Space & Amenity

Open spaces can provide a variety of functions, including active recreation (pursuits such as football, basketball, athletics, etc.) and passive recreation (activities such as strolling, dog walking and birdwatching). Other important elements include visual amenity (important landscape views), ecology (bird and wildlife habitat, biodiversity of plant species), drainage management (particularly stormwater control) and socio-economic needs (such as meeting places).

Passive Open Space

Within King's Island, there are ample amounts of passive open space areas which are accessible to the public and provide a worthwhile visual setting. However, there are some areas of underutilised and undeveloped passive open space that offer little in terms of passive recreation facilities, aside from the earthen embankment topped with a footpath which surrounds three sides of the island.

Much of the land (in particular the north-eastern portion) is covered by the candidate Special Area of Conservation (cSAC - Lower River Shannon) designated under the EU Habitats Directive. It comprises fresh water wetland which floods in winter and slowly drains during spring and summer. Species of interest are also to be found adjacent to the Abbey River. Towards the south of the island, there are a number of areas of green open space which offer amenity value. To the south of King John's Castle is an area of landscaped green space which is used as an informal meeting area, for picnics and other passive recreational uses.

Active Open Space

Existing areas of active open space include a handball alley set in an area of open space to the north of the island, and a large soccer pitch to the east. In addition, there is a community centre set within its own grounds to the west of the island. Athlunkard Boat Club is located to the east of the island, adjacent to Athlunkard Street. Given the amount of public open space in King's Island at present, it would appear that the area is significantly under-resourced in terms of active recreational facilities and areas according to quantitative recommendations outlined in best practice guidelines¹. This is discussed in more detail in Volume 2 Open Space Strategy.

Hard Surface Public Spaces & Thoroughfares

There are a number of well maintained and attractive hard surface public spaces and thoroughfares within King's Island. These are mainly concentrated along the riverside area to the south-west of the island.

1. The area leading from Church Street, features an attractive terrace of Georgian houses and leads into a public space positioned at the entrance to King John's Castle. This public space consists of a hard surface area containing public seating, green landscaping public sculpture, and flagpoles.
2. The area from Castle Lane to the rear of City Hall. This area contains paving, railings along the riverside, public lighting, green spaces and public sculpture.
3. The area focused on St. Mary's Cathedral, from St. Augustine Place, which features large stone steps, leading to Merchant's Quay. This area features landscaping, paving and public sculpture, however the amount of on-street car-parking detracts from this setting and the cars become barriers to pedestrian fluidity.
4. The area running from Matthew Bridge to Baal's Bridge along the length of George's Quay. This is an attractive, pedestrianised space which enjoys a high level of footfall. Further down the quay is a marina. The mature trees, riverside seating and mix of architectural styles combine to make this an interesting and inviting space.

Significant Trees

Trees are important from an urban context, not just from an ecological perspective and can add a vertical, softening dimension within the streetscape. Important existing trees and treelines are located:

- Along George's Quay,
- Merchants Quay and within the grounds of St. Mary's Cathedral.

Figure 1.19 outlines the key areas of open space in Kings Island and some of the more notable environmental features, particularly tree groups.

Hand Ball Alley, St. Mary's Park.



Hand Ball Alley, St. Mary's Park.



Hand Ball Alley, St. Mary's Park.



¹ At present there is no legislation that sets out precisely how much outdoor space is made available per child. However, it is suggested in the publication 'We Like This Place. Guidelines for Best Practice in the Design Of Childcare Facilities' written by the National Children's Nurseries Association on behalf of the Equal Opportunities Childcare Programme (EOCP) 2000- 2006, that a minimum of 9m2 of uninterrupted outdoor space per child should be provided.

Illegal dumping, Island Fields, St. Mary's Park

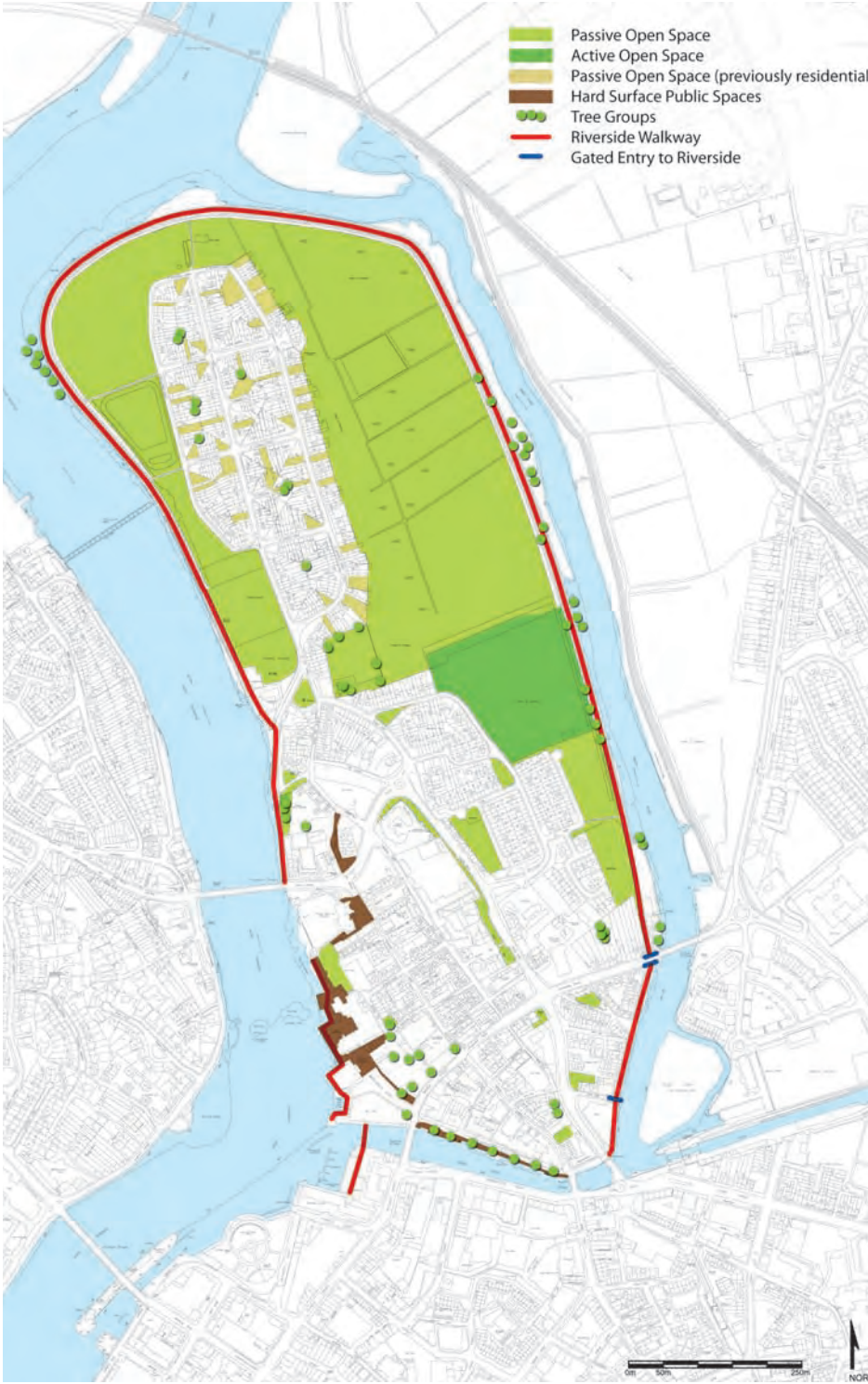


Figure 1.20: Open Space and Amenity

4. Physical Overview and Analysis

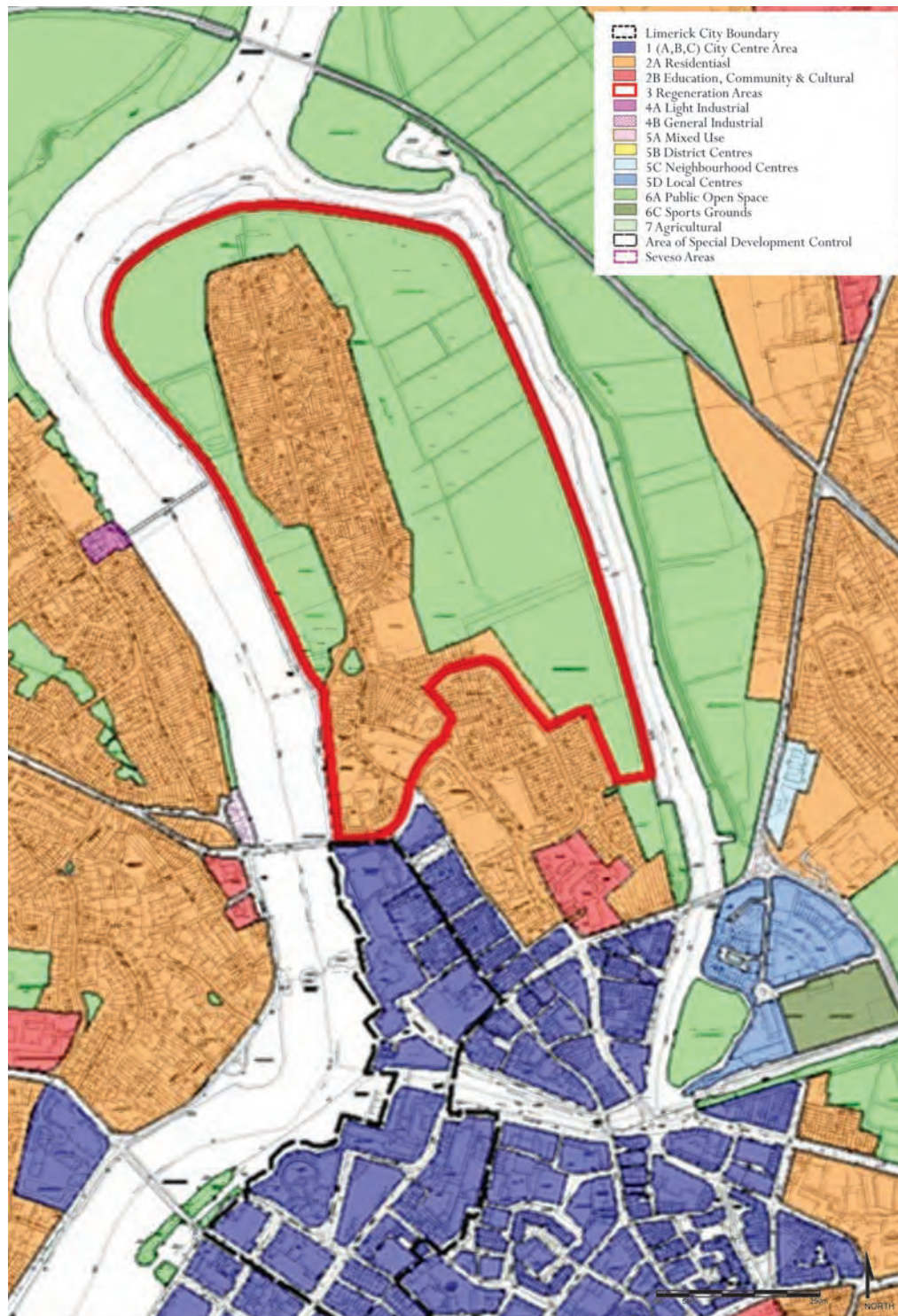


Figure 1.21: Ballinacurra Weston in Context

4.2.11 Planning Context

The following policies specifically deal with regeneration and the King's Island & St. Mary's Park area:

Policy RG.1: Implementation of Regeneration

It is the policy of Limerick City Council to support the implementation of the Regeneration Programme in a coordinated and sustainable manner and to co-operate with the regeneration agencies and the other agencies in the region to delivery the goals and objectives set out in the Regeneration Programme (page 7.4).

Policy RG.2: Zoning

It is the policy of Limerick City Council to zone the regeneration areas in a flexible manner to facilitate the delivery of the masterplans (page 7.3). Fig. 1.2 shows the land use zonings for King's Island & St. Mary's Park, with the thick red boundary line indicating the Regeneration area. (A, B, C) City Centre Area.

This zoning is applicable to the southern portion of King's Island. It is broken down into three different zoning categories, two of which are relevant to the study area

- Objective ZO.1 (B) City Centre Commercial Area (CCCA) and Objective ZO.1(C) Inner City Residential Neighbourhoods (see Fig 1.3).

Objective ZO.1 (B) City Centre Commercial Area (CCCA)

- To support the retention and expansion of a wide range of commercial, cultural, leisure and residential uses in the commercial core area, (apart from comparison retail uses).

Objective ZO.1(C) Inner City Residential Neighbourhoods

- To reinforce the residential character of inner city residential neighbourhoods, while supporting the provision and retention of local services, and civic and institutional functions.

The City Development Plan stated specific key local objectives that the King's Island Framework Plan should address, these include;

- To protect the integrity of all Natura 2000 sites in the vicinity. In this regard the development proposals developed shall be subject to HDAA and SEA.

To prepare a flood risk assessment for King’s Island and the general catchment to determine the long term flood remediation solution for King’s Island and to identify lands for future development subject to HDAA.

- To develop a strategy to integrate King’s Island into the city centre core through selective site redevelopment and improved connections.
- To examine the potential of improved/new multi modal connections to the adjacent area.

The following policies are relevant to Limerick City as a whole and could have a bearing on development within King’s Island & St. Mary’s Park.

Policy ACT.8 (Requirement for Arts & Cultural Infrastructure)

It is the policy of Limerick City Council to require Arts and Culture Infrastructure to be integrated into large scale re-development of key sites in the city centre area which include lands in the Georgian Quarter, the Medieval Quarter, the Riverside Area, in or near John’s Square, the Railway Area and the Docklands.

Policy ACT.22 (Maritime Heritage)

It is the policy of Limerick City Council to promote the maritime heritage of the city.

Policy ACT.25 (Creative Spaces)

It is the policy of Limerick City Council to facilitate the establishment of incubators for start up creative businesses within the city in conjunction with all interested bodies.

Policy ACT.31 (King John’s Castle)

It is the policy of Limerick City Council to facilitate the redevelopment of King John’s Castle and Nicholas Street as a tourist destination.

Policy ACT.36 (Cultural Quarters)

It is the policy of Limerick City Council to promote and develop cultural quarters in the city and in particular, John’s Square, the Georgian Quarter, the Commercial Core, the Medieval Quarter and the Docklands.

Policy BHA.4 (Protection of Limerick’s Historic Street Pattern & Medieval Plot Widths)

It is the policy of Limerick City Council to protect Limerick’s historic street pattern, and in particular, seek to conserve and enhance the laneways within the

setting of the streetscape and seek to retain and protect historic building lines and traditional plot widths where these derive from medieval origins.

Policy BHA.5 (Survey of Medieval Remains)

It is the policy of Limerick City Council to require a detailed Archaeological Survey of buildings proposed for demolition, where in the opinion of the City Council medieval fabric may be present

4. Physical Overview and Analysis

4.2.12 Key Challenges and Opportunities for St. Mary's Park

Challenges

Flooding

A key challenge in St Mary's Park is the designation of the majority of the area under Flood Zone A. Residential use is classed as a highly vulnerable use within this area and new build residential development is not permitted except in exceptional circumstances.

Special Area of Conservation

The following key challenges exist in St Mary's Park in relation to the statutory environmental designations: These include:

- Potential disturbance to birds as a result of amenity use of lands adjacent to the wetland;
- Potential loss and fragmentation of habitat resulting from the construction of new replacement housing, streets and connecting bridges.
- The educational value of the environmental designations has not been maximised upon.

Movement

A key challenge in St.Mary's Park is the lack of permeability to the north of the island, which have resulted in this area becoming socially and economically isolated.

Open Space

A deficiency that exists in St.Mary's Park is the lack of active play facilities for those persons under the age of 15 years and this issue has been raised at public consultation meetings by the residents of St Mary's Park. Furthermore, the following key challenges exist:

- Poor condition of existing recreational facilities such as the handball alley and lack of a modern clubhouse and changing facilities at the soccer pitch
- Lack of non-sporting related open space recreational amenities
- Gated access to some parts of the riverside walkway to the east of the island
- Presence of under-utilised environmental assets, e.g. cSAC wetlands
- Lack of public seating, particularly adjacent to St. Mary's Cathedral.

Historic Character

Stakeholders such as Limerick City Council, Shannon Development and Limerick Civic Trust have been instrumental in promoting the historic image of King's Island. Yet, in terms of the overall character of King's Island architectural heritage, and the management of its archaeological heritage, considerable challenges remain. These include:

- Lack of maintenance, repair and care of the overall historic fabric
- Significant number of derelict sites in key locations, particularly along Mary Street, and vacant properties, particularly along Nicholas Street
- Presence of under-utilised historic assets, e.g. upstanding remains of Fanning's Castle, and remains of house with carved stone fireplace on Nicholas Street
- Use of inappropriate materials on historic facades, e.g. uPVC windows and doors, plastic signage & shop fronts
- Visual problems caused by proliferation of uses such as fast-food outlets, convenience stores and amusement centres.

Physical Character

The following key challenges exist in St. Mary's Park in relation to the physical realm:

- Poor accessibility which has resulted in St. Mary's Park becoming physically, economically and socially isolated
- Unattractive public realm with an over-dominance of hard surfaces with limited soft landscaping
- Several under-used and vacant infill housing sites, which currently detract from the overall appearance of the estate
- Severe environmental black spot to the east of St. Munchin's Street where a strip of land has been used as a landfill site and filled with domestic refuse
- The layout of the houses to the east of St. Munchin's Street backs onto the landfill therefore providing little in the way of natural surveillance. This has potentially exacerbated the issue of illegal dumping

Key Opportunities

Movement

It is recognised that optimal access to the entire King's Island area, and increased permeability within the area, are critical for its future growth and

management. A key opportunity exists to:

- Improve permeability to the northwest and southeast of the island to facilitate the regeneration St. Mary's Park. This will allow for the creation of more balanced and sustainable living environments. The tourism base of St. Mary's Park and King's Island will also benefit from better connectivity and accessibility.

There is an opportunity to increase permeability in the south of King's Island, particularly around Merchant's Quay where the presence of numerous car parks act as a barrier to permeable pedestrian movement.

Open Space

There is an opportunity to retain existing treestands and notable landscape features and incorporate into future development proposals where possible and practical so as to give a certain sense of maturity to the existing environment.

Flooding

Any new housing will need to robustly satisfy the sequential approach and justification test as outlined in the Flood Risk Management Guidelines 2009 for proposed replacement housing use in St Mary's Park.

Special Area of Conservation

A key opportunity exists to minimise potential environmental impacts by careful planning and design of the final proposal. Furthermore, a key opportunity exists to develop environmental training, ecology awareness and eco-tourism within the statutory environmental designations of St. Mary's Park whilst protecting the integrity of the designations.

Historic Character

There is an opportunity to:

- Consider the introduction of an ACA in King's Island – particularly within the environs of Nicholas Street. Such a mechanism would ensure that the varied historic character of what is widely acknowledged to be the oldest part of Limerick city is further safeguarded.
- Ensure that the good practice guidance enshrined within the upcoming publication, "Development and Archaeological Study of King's Island and Limerick" (DASKIL) is mandatory as part of any planning application. The document will provide good practice guidance setting out archaeology and development objectives for the enhancement



4. Physical Overview and Analysis

and preservation of archaeology on King's Island now and into the future.

Physical Character

There is an opportunity to:

- Restructure the existing layout to address gap sites
- Develop existing poor quality frontage sites and vacant land to improve visual quality
- Consider intensive interventions to remove units to improve legibility and permeability
- Address existing poor housing conditions
- Address the lack of integration between areas of new and existing housing
- Remove environmental black spots to the rear of blocks
- Develop streetscape improvements to enhance the public realm and create pedestrian friendly

environments

- Provide additional soft landscaping to soften the existing hardness of the public realm
- Introduce new frontage development to non-overlooked routes

4.3 Ballinacurra Weston

4.3.1 Study Area

The regeneration area of Ballinacurra Weston extends over an area of 14.46 hectares and is located in a suburban residential setting to the south-west of Limerick City Centre. The River Shannon and the Limerick Docklands are situated to the west of the study area at a distance of 1,200 metres. Limerick Railway Station is also an approximate 1,000 metre journey away. There are a number of significant land uses located adjacent to the regeneration area, including Portland Park to the south-west, Caledonian Park to the east and Sarsfield Barracks to the north-west. There are also a number of institutional uses located in close proximity including a large school complex (Our Lady of Lourdes) to the immediate south-west and Mary Immaculate College to the west. A large development of student apartments – 'City Campus' – is located to the north-east of the study area.

Almost 300 metres to the south-east of Ballinacurra Weston is the regeneration area of Southill, which is characterised by a similarly constrained physical layout and a comparable set of socio-economic problems. The Roxboro roundabout – which is surrounded by a mix of land uses including a hotel, supermarket and the LEDP enterprise centre – is located to the east of the study area, at a distance of 1000 metres (10-12 minutes).

Despite the study area's strategic location in the southern fringe of Limerick City Centre, it remains disconnected from its urban surroundings. The reasons why Ballinacurra Weston has failed to successfully integrate into this environment are manifold. Undoubtedly, the complex socio-economic profile of the area has prevented it from progressing and developing in accordance with neighbouring residential areas.



Figure 1.22: Ballinacurra Weston in Context

4.3.2 Existing Physical Context

Land Use

The predominant land use in the regeneration area of Ballinacurra Weston is residential. As stated in the baseline analysis, the houses in this area generally consist of low density, council developed estates dating from the 1950s. However, the estate of Clarina Park – one of the worst affected areas in terms of estate management crime and anti-social behaviour – was developed as a cul de sac in the 1990’s. All of this development has been demolished in recent times.

Other land-uses prevalent in the area are community-focussed and consist of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church and parochial house to the south-west, with the community centre, crèche and credit union located alongside to the west. Adapt House Women’s Refuge Centre provides services which include emergency refuge, education and training and information and help in relation to housing, finance and legal options. To the immediate east of the regeneration area, opposite the junction of Lenihan Avenue and Hyde Road, there is a small cluster of convenience retail units. At Punches Cross – which is located outside of the regeneration boundary – there is a

neighbourhood centre comprising a large Spar outlet, a butchers, off-licence and pharmacy. In the immediate vicinity, to the east, there is a large supermarket (Lidl), a building supplies outlet (Chadwicks) and a modern office development. There is also a hotel-conference centre (Patrick Punch) located adjacent to the study area on the Ballinacurra Road. These types of uses are important for the overall vitality of the regeneration area. The ESB site forms a substantial presence to the north-west of the area, occupying 2.92 hectares of land. It is outside of the regeneration boundary, but directly borders the housing estates of Weston Gardens and Beechgrove Avenue. The use of this site can be classified as ‘Light Industrial’. The structures on this site comprise three warehouse buildings of varying sizes, a large office block and a substantial paved area which is used for storage and vehicle parking.

Housing Size and Conditions

Today, the condition of the building stock varies significantly, with a number of areas containing well maintained houses and other areas displaying high levels of dereliction. There are also some incidences of burnt-out houses. In terms of design, the majority of houses are two-storey, two bay structures with small front

gardens or paved parking areas entered via individual gates, with long, linear gardens to the rear.

A typical house layout (approx 60m²) in Ballinacurra Weston consists of a ground floor layout of a kitchen and living area with an extension to house a bathroom. The upper floor consists of 2 bedrooms. These houses are laid out in terraced blocks of four to five structures. To the north-east of the regeneration area, in Clarina Park, more modern types of houses were found (two-storey and bungalows). However, this park has now been completely demolished.

The general house construction type within Ballinacurra Weston consists of mass concrete, which perform poorly against current energy performance specifications. Further information on the works required to achieve an acceptable energy rating are described as part of the refurbishment strategies for each of the regeneration areas in Volume 2.

Public Realm

In terms of public realm, Ballinacurra Weston is characterised by the following physical features:

- Poor accessibility and/or awareness of routes



Figure 1.23: Ballinacurra Weston Walking Catchment

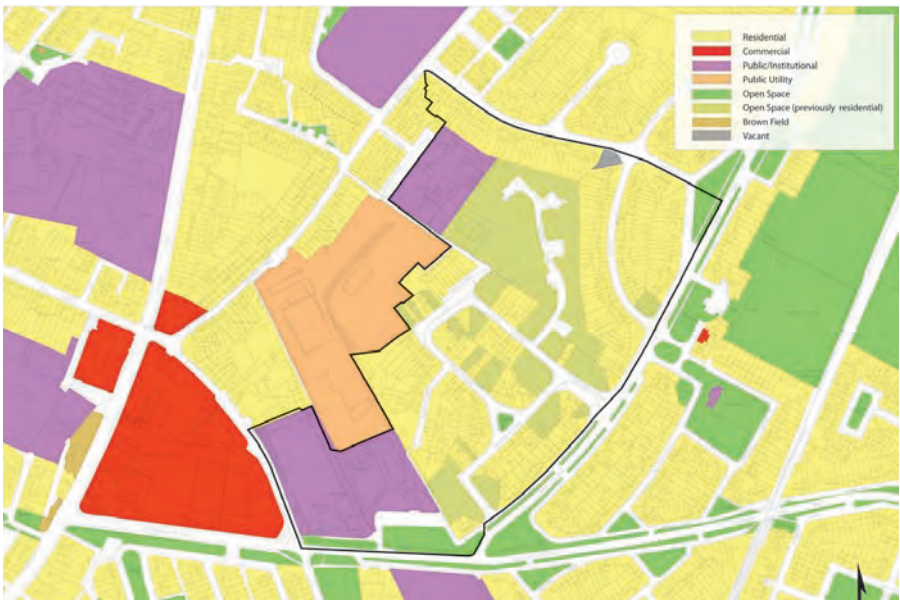


Figure 1.24: Existing Land Use

4. Physical Overview and Analysis

▼ Clarina Park and Alley Lane, Ballinacurra Weston



▼ Clarina Park and Alley Lane, Ballinacurra Weston



▼ Clarina Park and Alley Lane, Ballinacurra Weston



to key locations due to the cul-de-sac layout of the area

- Unattractive public realm with an overdominance of hard surfaces (especially to Byrne Avenue) and rock armoury with limited soft landscaping
- Poorly overlooked pedestrian routes
- A significant amount of vacant land within the regeneration area at the site formerly occupied by Clarina Park
- Several under-used and vacant housing sites, which currently detract from the overall appearance of the estate.

4.3.3 Historical Context

Archaeological Heritage

The National Monuments map indicates that there are no statutory protected archaeological sites, monuments or places within the regeneration area of Ballinacurra Weston. The area also falls outside of the Zone of Archaeological Potential identified for Limerick City in the LCCDP 2010-2016.

Built Heritage

There are no structures within the regeneration area of Ballinacurra Weston on the Limerick City Record of Protected Structures (RPS). Similarly, none of the structures within the study area feature on the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) compiled for Limerick City. However, two of the four designated Architectural Conservation Areas (ACAs) under the LCCDP 2010-2016 occur in proximity to Ballinacurra Weston. The ACAs at Ballinacurra Road and O'Connell Avenue are intended to safeguard the architectural character of these residential areas.

Hence, any new development within the regeneration area may need to be respectful of the wider residential environment in which it is situated, particularly with regard to the height of new structures and the palette of materials employed. Analysis of the historic Ordnance Survey maps suggests that the area of Ballinacurra Weston now earmarked for regeneration was, in previous centuries, composed of open fields. In the early Nineteenth Century, the land in the study area was significantly free from development and was situated immediately outside the municipal boundary of Limerick City.

In addition, two parallel routes running in a north-south direction also traversed the site. These are no longer present today. It is apparent that by the early

Twentieth Century, the north-eastern corner of the area was in use for quarrying and the production of lime. It would appear that at this date, the quarry was quite active, with a significant amount of excavated ground being present. By this date, significant development had occurred along the Rosbrien Road to the north-west of the study area. The terraces of Ryan's Cottages and Mountvincent were complete, with Rosbrien Terrace also under construction. The Rosbrien – Greenfields Road forms a substantial presence at this date, running along the western boundary of the study area. It can be seen that the bulk of the land in Ballinacurra Weston is still free of development at the turn of the Twentieth Century. Hence, the construction of social housing at Ballinacurra Weston in the 1950s represents the first major use of the site.

4.3.4 Existing Movement

Traffic Movement

The regeneration area of Ballinacurra Weston is located in a built-up urban environment with good connections into the centre of Limerick City. O’Connell Avenue (N20), which joins up with the city’s main thoroughfare – O’Connell Street – is located to the north-west of the study area, and the Hyde Avenue/Road, which skirts the south-eastern regeneration boundary, leads to Limerick Train Station. Located to the south of the regeneration area are attractors such as the Mid-Western Regional Hospital and the Crescent Shopping Centre.

Therefore, the area is located within the context of a number of major transport axes which carry large volumes of traffic on a daily basis. The regeneration site itself is directly bordered by transport routes on all sides. To the west is the Rosbrien Road, to the north is Prospect Hill, to the east is Byrne Avenue and to the south-east is the Hyde Avenue/Road. While access to Hyde Avenue/ Road from the regeneration area is reasonable, access to the Rosbrien Road/Prospect Hill via Alley Lane is particularly poor, with there being only one road in and out. This road is quite narrow in size and only runs a short distance. It does not offer access to the entire regeneration area, thereby effectively severing connections to the area from the Rosbrien Road. The situation of the ESB site along this road further compounds this severance, with the large landholding acting as a barrier to vehicular and pedestrian permeability in the area. The road which runs between the study area and the Punches Cross site only accommodates one-way traffic.

Within the regeneration area internally, movement is quite restricted. The area features a number of cul-de-sacs and circuitous roadways which impede the easy flow of pedestrians and vehicles. In addition, the steep topography of the site further hampers circulation. This is particularly apparent to the east of the church, where a narrow laneway, approached by a flight of steps, is used as an access route from the Beechgrove housing estate. This design of this laneway, which is surrounded by high walls, is not a people-friendly space, and would appear to only encourage anti-social behaviour in the area rather than facilitate safe access to the church. Closure of the lane is currently being sought by the residents.



Figure 1.25: Existing Movement

4. Physical Overview and Analysis

Public Transport

Section 3.1.7 Transport of Section 3.0 Baseline Conditions and Analysis highlights that in common with other regeneration areas, Ballinacurra Weston exhibits low levels of car usage with a high percentage of private households having no car (58%) and a generally high use of public transport (9%) which is higher than the city average (7%).

Therefore, the provision of a good quality public transport system will be essential for the regeneration of the area given the existing demand levels. The area is well served by bus operators, however no bus routes currently pass through the regeneration area. There are three Bus Eireann routes which provide transport to and from Limerick City Centre – Ballinacurra Weston, including the 312 and the 304 (Punches Cross – O’Connell Avenue area) and the 304A (Hyde Road).

Existing facilities for cyclists are inadequate. In this regard, it is positive to note that the Ballinacurra Road–O’Connell Avenue area has been earmarked for redevelopment under the Limerick City Council Green Route Corridors scheme.

4.3.5 Environmental Considerations

The topographical character of the regeneration area of Ballinacurra Weston is defined by noticeably undulating lands. The most elevated part of the study area occurs to the north-east in proximity to the Adapt House complex, with the highest recorded point being 20 metres above ordnance datum (AOD). The topography rises from 8 metres on Hyde Avenue (in the east) to 22 metres on Prospect Hill, giving an overall level difference of 14 metres. The fact that there was once a quarry sited to the north-east of the study area further exacerbates level differences at this location.

As was indicated on the historic Ordnance Survey maps, there was previously a quarry located to the north-east of the Ballinacurra Weston regeneration area. This quarry is no longer present today.

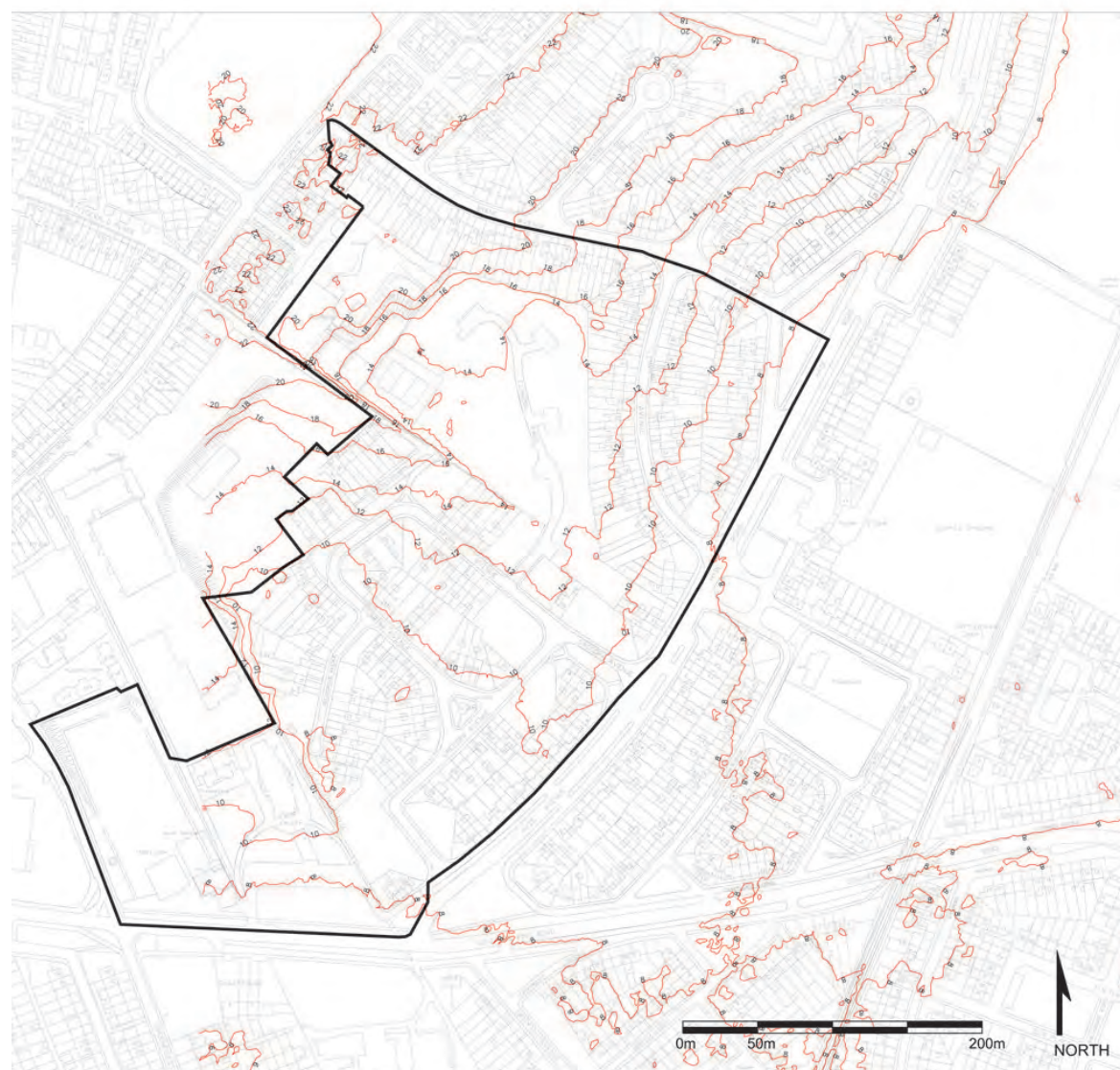


Figure 1.26: Existing Contours

4.3.6 Soils

The GSI (Geological Survey of Ireland) Teagasc Sub-Soil database demonstrates that soil types found within the study area include a mix of Made Ground and Bedrock. Active bedrock is evident to the north-east of the regeneration area which might result in subsidence or instability of the ground surface. Made ground is present within the study area and is associated with prior road construction and other developments.

4.3.7 Groundwater Vulnerability

Groundwater Vulnerability within the study area was found to be mainly “High to Low.” An “Extreme” pocket where rock is near the surface exists to the north-east of the study area, near the Adapt House complex.

4.3.8 Flooding & Drainage

Information from the Limerick City Council Development Plan 2010-2016 Flood Risk Mapping indicates that there are no Flood Points within, or in very close proximity to the regeneration area at Ballinacurra Weston. The nearest area which has flooded in recent times is located to the south of the study area adjacent to Portland Park. This area is described as having ‘Benefiting Lands’ which typically indicates low-lying land near rivers and streams that might be expected to be prone from flooding. To the north of the study area, the South Circular Road is also indicated as being a Flood Point where more than one flood has occurred.

Areas prone to flooding as indicated in the Limerick City Development Plan suggest that there are no flood zones located immediately adjacent to the study area.

4.3.9 Water, Sewerage and Drainage Infrastructure

All main services such as water, sewage, gas, Eircom and electricity are available in the area. An infrastructural survey was carried out by Tobin Consulting Engineers to ascertain the extent and location of existing services in Ballinacurra Weston and this information is contained within Appendix 7 of this document. All services are available adjacent to the site in the footpaths along the surrounding roadways.

Clarina Park and Alley Lane, Ballinacurra Weston



Clarina Park and Alley Lane, Ballinacurra Weston



Clarina Park and Alley Lane, Ballinacurra Weston



4. Physical Overview and Analysis

4.3.10 Existing Open Space & Amenity

Current amenity and public open space provision within the regeneration boundary of Ballinacurra Weston is poor. In terms of amenity uses, the complex to the west of the church contains the area's only community facilities. This consists of a community centre, crèche and credit union. However, the housing estates in the area appear to be well served in terms of private open space, with the majority containing long back gardens, as well as space to the front (semi-private open space) which generally consists of grass areas, but in some cases has been paved over to accommodate carparking. The largest expanses of open space in the area at present include the piece of land to the rear of the community centre and the area

of ground to the south of the Adapt House complex. With regard to the site to the rear of the community centre, the recent provision of a number of active open space areas, including a seven-a-side pitch, with two areas of passive open space – consisting of a garden for older people and a garden for the crèche – have enhanced significantly the area's amenity provision. The other area of significant open space – at the former site of Clarina Park – located to the northeast of the study area presents problems in terms of anti-social behaviour due to the lack of surveillance and security in the area.

The study area is well served by open spaces located in the wider surrounding area. Portland Park, located to

the south, is a large area of passive open space, which provides ample parkland amenity. To the immediate east of the regeneration area is Caledonian Park, which contains a number of large sports grounds, thus providing important active open space areas. However, internally, the study area is very poorly served by meaningful public open spaces. In terms of environmental features, there are a number of mature trees in the study area. The most significant tree groups occur at different intervals to the north of the area, particularly to the rear of Adapt House and to the rear of the Beechgrove estate. There appears to be large trees in the back gardens of many of the houses, particularly in the estates of Lenihan Avenue, Clarina Avenue and Crecora Avenue.



Figure 1.27: Existing Open Space and Amenity

4.3.11 Planning Context

The City Development Plan stated specific key local objectives that the Ballinacurra Weston Framework Plan should address, these include:

- That a new connection be made between the Childers Road and Hyde Avenue.
- That a neighbourhood centre be developed along the frontage of Childers Road and Ballinacurra road.

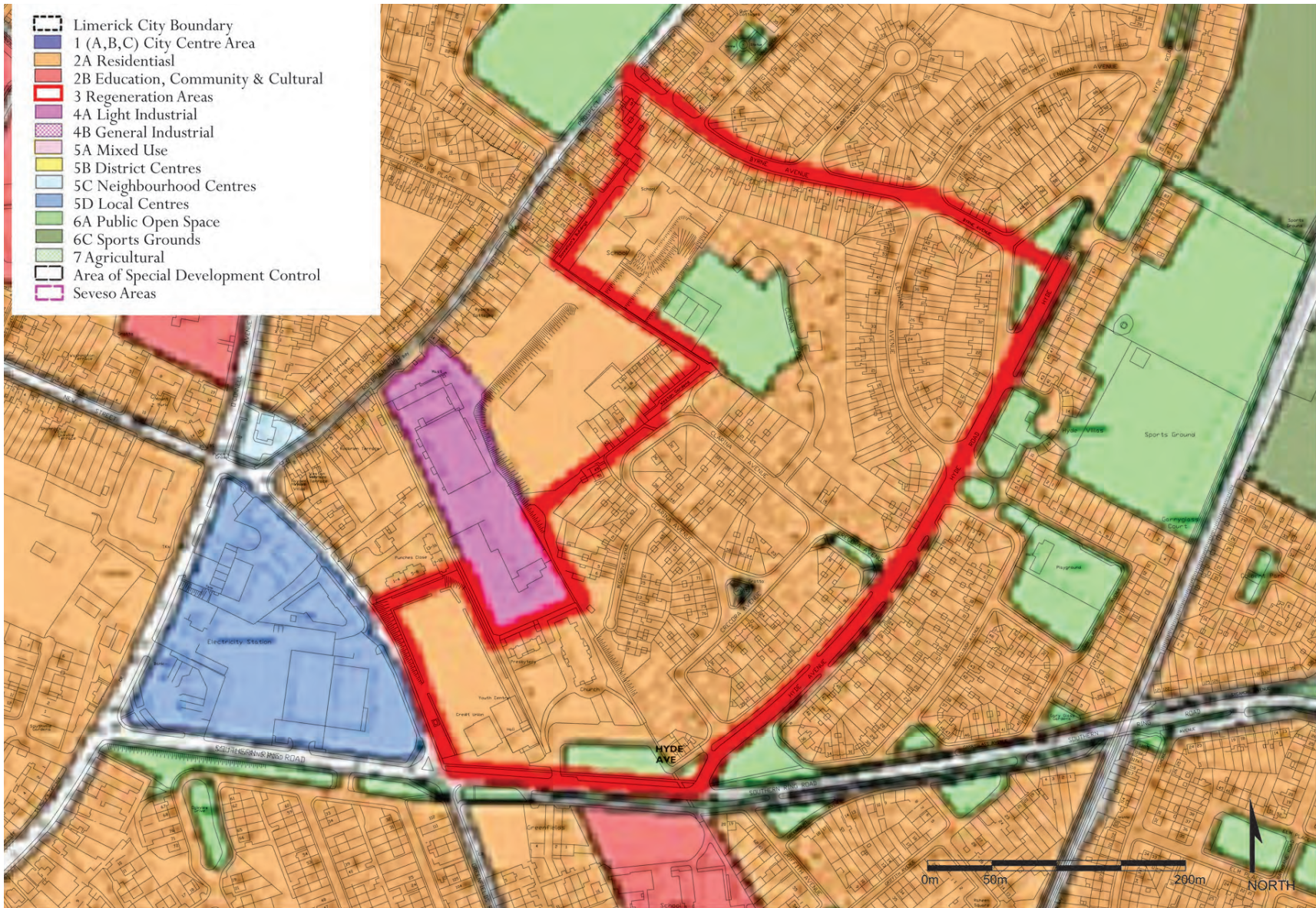


Figure 1.28: Land Use Zoning Map Extracted from the Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016

4. Physical Overview and Analysis

4.3.12 Key Challenges and Opportunities

Challenges

Land Use

Due to the demolition of Clarina Park, there is a significant amount of vacant land within the regeneration area. A key challenge is to identify interventions for the land in the short to medium term to ensure its protection from anti-social activities.

Movement

The following key challenges exist within Ballinacurra Weston:

- Within the regeneration area internally, movement is quite restricted. The area features a number of cul-de-sacs and circuitous roadways which impede the easy flow of pedestrians and vehicles.
- In addition, the steep topography of the site further hampers circulation.

Open Space

Much of the internal open space within Ballinacurra Weston is poorly overlooked. A key challenge is to provide functional, safe and well overlooked open spaces within the estate.

Topography

The following key topographical challenges exist within Ballinacurra Weston

- East of the church site
- Eastern side of Rosbrien Road leading into the site of the community centre
- To the south of Adapt House
- The rear gardens of Beechgrove Avenue (backing onto the ESB site)
- Clarina Park to the rear gardens of Byrne Avenue.

Physical Character

The following key challenges exist in Ballinacurra Weston in relation to the physical realm:

- Poor accessibility and/or awareness of routes to key locations due to the cul-de-sac layout of the area
- Unattractive public realm with an overdominance of hard surfaces (especially to Byrne Avenue) and rock armoury with limited soft landscaping
- Poorly overlooked pedestrian routes
- A significant amount of vacant land within the regeneration area at the site formerly occupied by

- Clarina Park
- Several under-used and vacant housing sites, which currently detract from the overall appearance of the estate.

Opportunities

Land Use

A key opportunity exists to strengthen the existing neighbourhood centre at Punches' Cross to ensure its vibrancy and vitality for the residents of Ballinacurra Weston.

Movement

Efforts to promote greater local connectivity to adjoining residential areas is a key opportunity and will require consultation with stakeholders and residents within the area. The extension of a link north-eastwards through Clarina Park to Byrne Avenue south-eastwards towards Lenihan Avenue will increase connectivity. Strengthening the existing access at Alley Lane is also a key objective.

Open Space

There is an opportunity to protect the existing mature treestands at the following locations:

- to the rear of Adapt House
- to the rear of the Beechgrove estate

There is an opportunity to design new buildings to overlook open spaces and ensure safety and security of the public realm

Topography

The topography of some sites within the estate is difficult and there is an opportunity to sensitively design new development to respect and protect sightlines and views within and from outside the area.

Physical Character

There is an opportunity to:

- Restructure the existing layout to address gap sites
- Develop poor quality frontage sites and vacant land to improve visual quality
- Consider intensive interventions to remove units to improve legibility and permeability
- Address existing poor housing conditions
- Address the lack of integration between areas of new and existing housing
- Remove environmental black spots to the rear of blocks
- Develop streetscape improvements to enhance the

public realm and create pedestrian friendly environments

- Provide additional soft landscaping to soften the existing hardness of the public realm
- Introduce new frontage development to non-overlooked routes



4. Physical Overview and Analysis

4.4 Southill

Southill is located in the southern fringe of Limerick City centre. The Masterplan aims to 'redefine the south city as a distinctive and popular neighbourhood. This new image and identity will transform Limerick's Southside into a place where people will aspire to live and feel that they belong, and help secure long term regeneration in the area'. Despite a distance of less than 1.5 km from the Roxboro roundabout to the city centre, the area is poorly connected to the city with one principal access road (R511) due to the severance effect of the railway line. This key route is in need of improvement and upgrade.

4.4.1 Existing Physical Context

Land Use

The predominant land use in the regeneration area of Southill is residential. As stated in the baseline analysis, the houses in this area generally consist of low density, council developed estates dating from the 1960s.

The estates incorporate four residential areas, namely Carew Park, Kincora Park, Keyes Park and O'Malley Park, with a hotel, commercial and retail outlets, the Limerick Enterprise Development Park (LEDP) complex, Roxboro Shopping Centre, Galvone Industrial Estate, Southill House (Community and Enterprise Campus), schools and community buildings, Rathbane Golf Club, football clubs and areas of open space.

There is significant vacancy within the Galvone Industrial Estate as is detailed from Figure 1.30 Existing Land Uses. As older manufacturing units became obsolete and closed within the Galvone Industrial Estate, new industrial opportunities were provided elsewhere. What remains, in general, are smaller industrial enterprises and storage/distribution facilities. Antisocial behaviour, may be amongst the causes which has prevented any serious re-investment in the estate.

Housing Size and Conditions

Southill was constructed in various phases from 1966 to 1989. Today, the condition of the building stock varies significantly, with a number of areas containing well maintained houses and other areas displaying high levels of dereliction.

A significant amount of demolition work has occurred within O'Malley and Keyes Parks, which contained a significant amount of dereliction and burnt out



Figure 1.29: Southill in Context

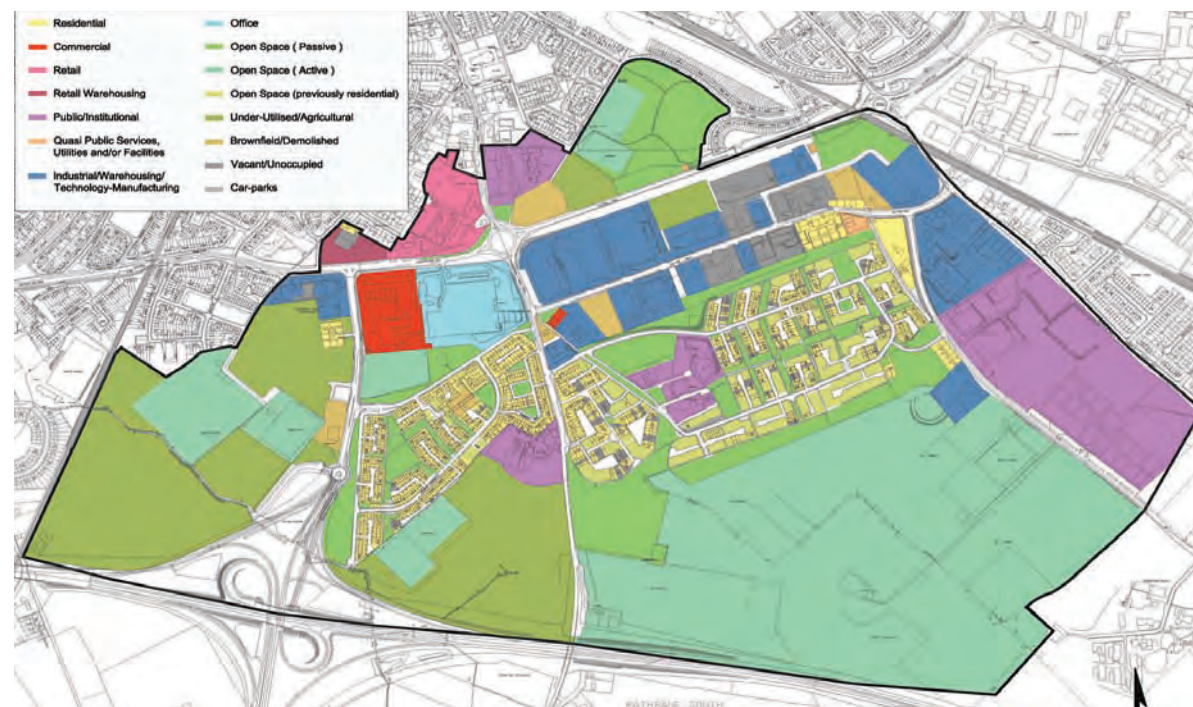


Figure 1.30: Existing Land Use

houses. The image of this area needs to be radically altered to ensure successful regeneration. In terms of design, the majority of houses are two-storey, two bay structures with small front gardens or paved parking areas entered via individual gates, with linear gardens to the rear.

A typical house layout (approx 78m²) in Southill consists of a ground floor layout of a kitchen/dining area and a living area. The upper floor consists of 3 bedrooms and a bathroom.

These houses are typically red brick cavity wall-terraced or end-terraced houses with replacement double glazed windows, a gas boiler and open fire for heating. Further information on the works required to

achieve an acceptable energy rating are described as part of the refurbishment strategies for each of the regeneration areas in Volume 2.

Public Realm

In terms of public realm, Southill is characterised by the following physical features:

- Poor accessibility with adjacent neighbourhoods which has resulted in Southill becoming physically, economically and socially isolated
- The Radburn² layouts that characterise Southill create a place that is difficult to navigate
- Poorly observed rear courts (as part of the Radburn layouts)
- Poorly observed and confusing pedestrian routes
- Over-provision of underutilised public open space

- Previous demolition activity in O' Malley Park has left significant areas of open space without a clear role or function, which have become hotspots for dumping and grazing of horses
- The quality of the public realm is compromised by the tethering of horses
- Several under-used and vacant infill housing sites, which currently detract from the overall appearance of the estate
- Due to the demolition of some blocks to date, the layout of the houses provide exposed boundaries which provide little in the way of natural surveillance. This undermines the safety and security of the area



Figure 1.31: Existing Land Use

² Radburn layout are layouts designed to separate housing from the roads and footpaths and therefore the housing appears front-to-back with a lack of through-routes and clear movement for both pedestrians and car users. This creates a neighbourhood which can be difficult to police and to manage successfully.

4. Physical Overview and Analysis

4.4.2 Existing Movement

Southill, as identified by the Masterplan, is bounded by the railway line to the west. John Carew Road runs in a north/south direction and forms a T-Junction with Childers Road. There is a single access point from John Carew Road into Carew Park and Kincora Park estates. However this is only accessible to traffic travelling out of the city. A further access point from John Carew Road accesses the hotel and commercial area located at the corner site of the junction with the Childers Road. Childers Road runs in an east/west direction, to the north of it lies the Roxboro Shopping Centre and further residential dwellings of Janesboro, to the south the LEDP offices. Roxboro roundabout forms the four-way intersection between the Roxboro Road and the Childers Road, which continues on in an east/west direction.

The Roxboro Road runs in a north/south direction from the Roxboro Roundabout and gives access to the Galvone Industrial Estate, Keyes Park and O'Malley Park on the east and Kincora Park and Southill House on the west. The Roxboro roundabout, in its current condition, is design predominantly for the movement of the vehicle.

The Rosbrien Interchange (M7) in the southwest corner adjacent to the site, in its current design, only allows for vehicular traffic coming from the west to access the Southill area.

Inbound access from the south (M20) or east (M7) to Southill is a crucial element of the regeneration process. This could severely restrict the viability and vitality of the Southill area. Local movement, as is highlighted on Figure 1.30, is restricted due to the cul-de-sac nature of existing developments. Three existing bus routes currently serve the area. Limerick City Council has also carried out a comprehensive Corridor Selection Study and has identified three Green Route Corridors linking the outskirts of Limerick City with the City Centre. The eastern corridor runs along the M7 connecting to the Childers Road, which runs in a north-south direction connecting to the Kilmallock Road Roundabout and continuing on into town. The Kilmallock Roundabout skirts the north-eastern point of the Southill area therefore connections and pedestrian routes need to be made available from Southill to this junction in order to avail of and utilise the proposed green routes infrastructure. Another future option in promoting a direct strategic transport

connection would be to connect the proposed Eastern and Southern Corridors, continuing along the Childers Road, servicing the entire Southill area and connecting to the Ballinacurra Road at the western end of the Childers Road. This will have a positive effect on the economic potential³ (faster and more reliable work journeys, productivity gains, increased potential for clustering of activities) of strategic sites within Southill at the Galvone Industrial Estate.

The Roxborough Road and the Roxboro roundabout are predominantly designed for the movement of vehicles which isolates Southill from its wider physical context. It is a key objective of the LRFIP to create a traffic-calmed street where the needs of pedestrians, cyclists and public transport users are prioritised. The existing Childers Road contains, to its southern edge, a large isolated industrial area with no direct connections. The future image of the Childers Road needs to be carefully considered through new uses and development typologies with active frontage, increased permeability and landscaping improvements. This will assist in de-isolating Southill from its wider physical context.



Figure 1.32: Existing Movement

▼ Larkin Drive, O'Malley Park, Southill



3 Department for Transport (UK) (2005), Transport, Wider Economic Benefits, and Impacts on GDP, Technical Paper.

Public Transport

Section 3.1.7 Transport of Section 3.0 Baseline Conditions and Analysis highlights that in common with other regeneration areas, Southill exhibits low levels of car usage with a high percentage of private households having no car (43%) and a very high use of public transport (14%) which is higher than the city average (7%). Therefore, the continuing provision of a good quality public transport system will be essential for the regeneration of the area given the high usage.

4.4.3 Topography

The topographical area consists of undulating lands. The most elevated part of the Southill regeneration area is O'Malley Park to the east, including lands in the vicinity of St. Enda's Community College. From Southill House and O'Malley Park the gradients fall towards Rathbane Golf Course, and Barry's Field where low lying lands exist. The gradient within the Galvone Industrial Estate rises to the east.

4.4.4 Geology

Based on the available information from the Geological Survey of Ireland. Southill is shown to be underlain by Dinantian Pure Bedded Limestones which is defined as a dark fine limestone and calcareous shale.

4.4.5 Soils

The GSI (Geological Survey of Ireland) Teagasc Sub- Soil database demonstrates that soil types found within the study area range from Marine/Estuarine Silts and Clays, Till derived from Limestone, Made Ground and Bedrock.

An old limestone quarry is located within Southill, south of Keyes Park and east of Roxboro Road and was previously used as a landfill for domestic waste. It was closed in 1987. A preliminary investigation was carried out for leachate and gas emissions and the landfill has been registered on the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) database in compliance with legislation. A thorough investigation has never been carried out as funding is not available and the council has no plans to do this. The landfill would need to go through this process in order to be certified by the EPA. The outcome of which would probably require a more substantial cap.

The groundwater map for Southill indicates that vulnerability within the study area to be mainly “High

to Low.” “Extreme” small pockets where rock is near the surface exists to the north and northeast of the study area.

4.4.6 Flooding & Drainage

A desktop study was carried out to determine the flooding risks involved within the study area. Information from the Office of Public Works' National Flood Hazard Mapping indicates that a couple of small areas can be prone to some localised flooding as indicated in figure 1.32. The issue of localised flooding will be adequately dealt with during redevelopment through the incorporation of sustainable urban drainage systems (SUDs). The Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016, does not indicate any areas within Southill that are at risk from flooding. Surface water run-off from any proposed development will be subject to pollution control and attenuation before it is discharged to the receiving water.

4.4.7 Water, Sewerage and Drainage Infrastructure

All main services such as water, sewage, gas, Eircom and electricity are available in the area. An infrastructural survey was carried out by Tobin Consulting Engineers to ascertain the extent and location of existing services in Southill and this information is contained within Appendix 7 of this document. All services are available adjacent to the site in the footpaths along the surrounding roadways. However, some services such as surface water sewers traverse sites scheduled for proposed replacement housing in the short term. The cost of redirecting these services have been accounted for at the planning and cost appraisal stage.

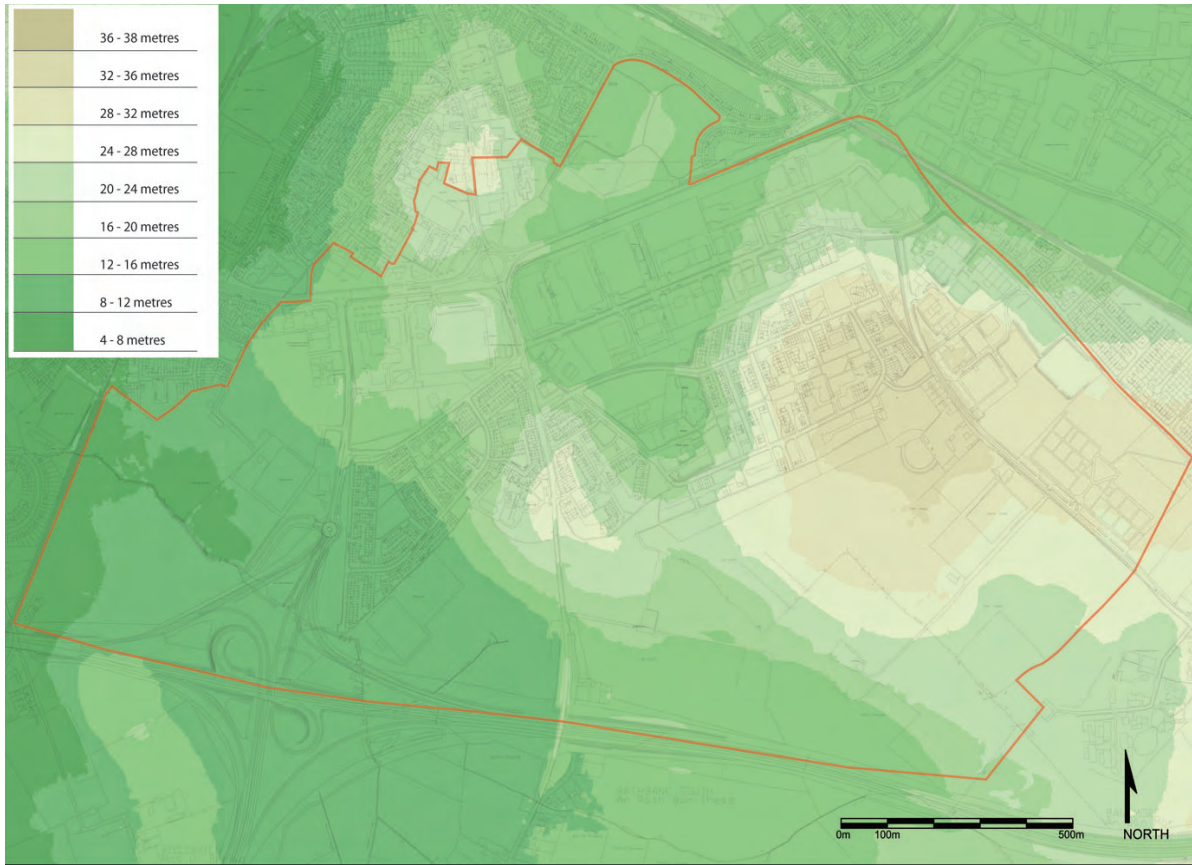


Figure 1.33: Existing Contours

4. Physical Overview and Analysis

4.4.8 Environmental Parameters

Southill is an urban edge location, leading from an area characterised by suburban residential development towards open countryside with the M7 route acting as the boundary to this division. Figure 1.33 sets out the overall environmental parameters in Southill including trees and hedgerows, wetlands, drains and ditches, architectural and archaeological heritage features. There are no identified statutory environmental designations.

Southill House demesne located along the Roxboro Road contains significant mature tree groups consisting of Holm's Oak, elm trees, sycamore, yew and some hawthorn and holly with evidence of a rookery creating a scenic landscape. Smaller clusters or bands of trees are noted at other locations within Southill. They are located at:

- at the primary school by O'Malley Park,
- the boundary of the Golf Course,
- St. Enda's School,
- the eastern end of the Galvone Industrial Estate.

4.4.9 Architectural Heritage

Southill House is listed on the NIAH survey, providing a range of services to the community, small enterprise development including businesses based on cooperative/social economy projects. It would be important to retain the setting and curtilage of the house.

4.4.10 Archaeological Heritage

There are a number of local sites of archaeological heritage within Southill most of which are located along the southern boundary by the M7 route and have been dealt with in the M7 Environmental Impact Statement report. One other site of archaeological heritage is located to the northeast of the existing golf course. It should be noted that all monuments recorded have to some degree been encroached on by existing built interventions.

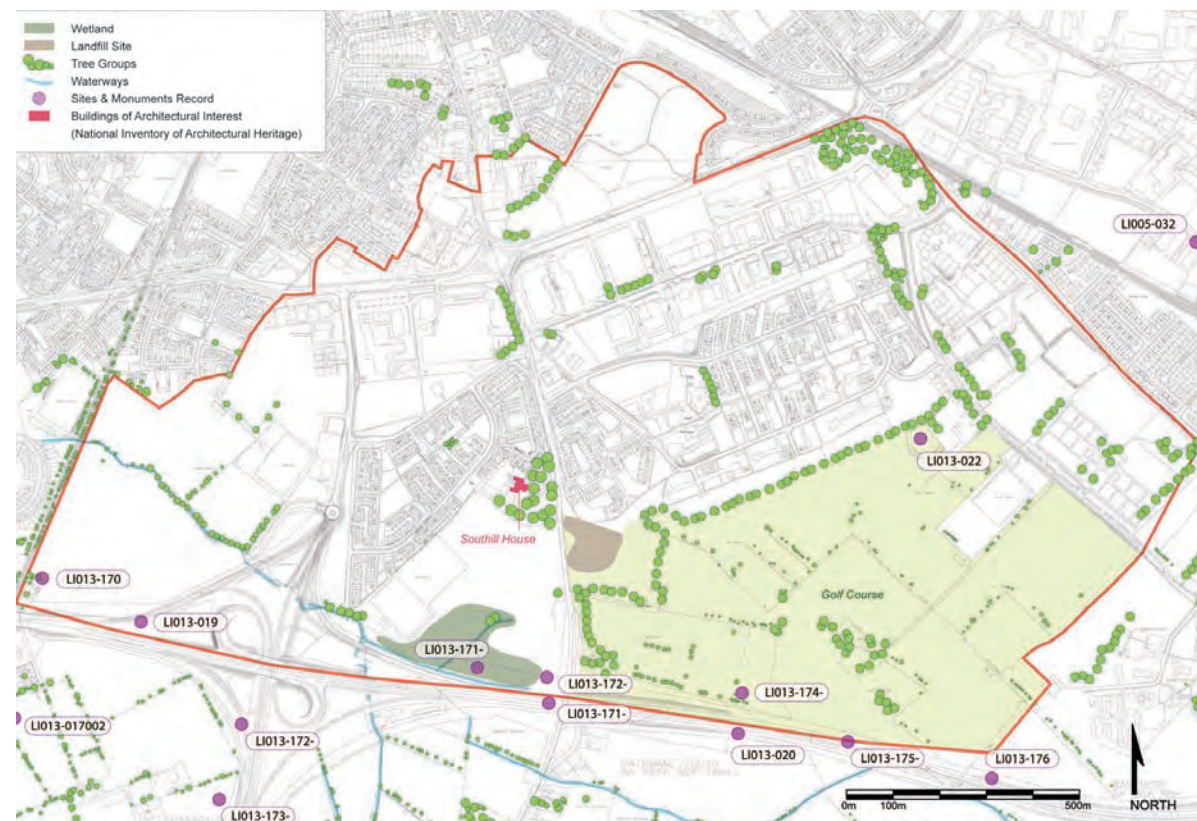


Figure 1.34: Environmental Parameters

Valley View Green Area not accessible by car,
O'Malley Park, Southill



Valley View Green Area, O'Malley Park, Southill



4.4.10 Existing Open Space

Figure 1.34 outlines the passive and active open space within Southill. Current passive/parkland open space quality is poor within Southill. The open spaces have little or no amenity function, being disjointed and suffering from a perceived lack of safety. A number of spaces have been boarded up and closed off for access and in general the area is bereft of facilities such as seating, playgrounds etc. There is a need for a considered inclusive open space strategy for the regeneration areas.

There are a number of sports pitches within Southill that have varying degrees of auxiliary facilities such as changing rooms, gyms, etc. There is a pitch on lands south of the Maldron Hotel with no facilities and Kennedy Park to the north provides pitches and walkways offering good links to the school. St. Enda's School in the east provides sporting facilities by way of playing fields, there is also a gym and swimming pool which closed in 2010. Rathbane Public Golf Club provides a strong, positive amenity for the area.

Carew Football Club have their facilities within Barry's Field and Hogan Park to the west is a currently under utilised stadium, with a local club operating out of the stadium.



Figure 1.35: Existing Open Space

4. Physical Overview and Analysis

4.4.11 Planning Context

The following are the local objectives set out in the Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016 that the Southill Framework Plan shall address:

- The re-establishment of the N7/N20 Rosbrien interchange into Southill to establish Southill as a gateway to the city centre.
- To develop the Roxboro Shopping Centre and adjacent lands as a mixed use district centre in accordance with the Retail Strategy
- To develop the existing commercial and industrial lands along the south boundary of the Childers Road for mixed use employment related development.
- To develop a mobility strategy for the area connecting the residential zones to the district centre and employment zones and amenity area.
- To develop a new educational campus to serve the needs of the entire area.
- To develop an amenity strategy for the area.
- To establish the need for additional local shopping facilities throughout the area.
- To identify strategic sites for the construction of landmark/gateway buildings.
- The framework plans shall be approved by the City Council and they shall form the basis of a variation to the zoning proposals contained in this plan.

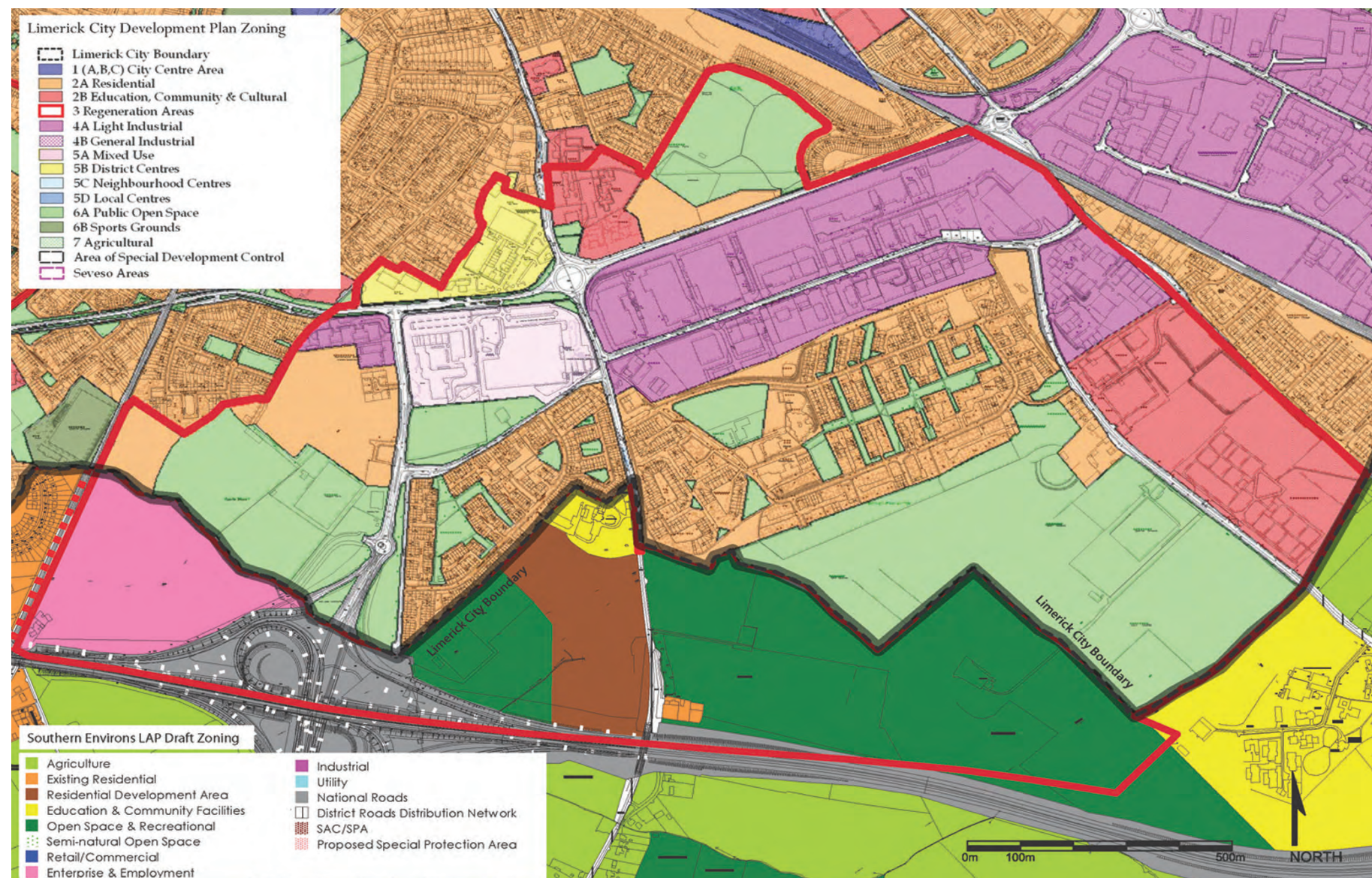


Figure 1.36: Land Use Zoning Map extracted from the Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016

4.4.12 Key Challenges and Opportunities

Key Challenges

Land Use

The following key challenges in relation to land use exist within Southill:

- How to encourage development of the fallow areas in O'Malley and Keyes Park that once contained housing in the short-medium term.
- How to promote the revitalisation of the Galvone Industrial Estate, especially to the eastern end and which consists of lands outside public ownership.

Movement

The following key challenges in relation to movement and permeability exist within Southill:

- The lack of strategic access into Southill from the M7 motorway. This greatly limits possible opportunities to attract employment into the area and acts as a barrier to permeability.
- Roxboro roundabout represents a key challenge to pedestrian and cycle movement.
- The existing cul-de-sac- layout of the estates and limited ingress and egress points presents a key challenge to internal permeability.
- The lack of connectivity to the wider area, including the University of Limerick to the northeast, presents a key challenge

Open Space

The following key challenges in relation to open space exist within Southill:

- Routes and open spaces faced by rear gardens, which provide no 'eyes on the street' thus facilitating anti-social behaviour.
- The perceived lack of safety within existing public open spaces.
- The lack of active play facilities for children under 15 years old within each of the estates.

Soils

The following key challenge in relation to soils exist within Southill:

- The landfill located south of Keyes Park presents a key challenge to future development, even low intervention development. Certification from the EPA is required prior to any development taking place.

Physical Character

The following key challenges exist in Southill in relation to the physical realm:

- Poor accessibility with adjacent neighbourhoods which has resulted in Southill becoming physically, economically and socially isolated
- The Radburn layouts that characterise Southill create a place that is difficult to navigate
- Poorly observed rear courts (as part of the Radburn layouts)
- Poorly observed and confusing pedestrian routes
- Over-provision of underutilised public open space *
- Previous demolition activity in O' Malley Park has left significant areas of open space without a clear role or function, which have become hotspots for dumping and grazing of horses
- The quality of the public realm is compromised by the tethering of horses
- Several under-used and vacant infill housing sites, which currently detract from the overall appearance of the estate
- Due to the demolition of some blocks to date, the layout of the houses provide exposed boundaries which provide little in the way of natural surveillance. This undermines the safety and security of the area

Key Opportunities

Movement

There is an opportunity to increase permeability between Southill and the wider district at the following locations:

- From Keyes/O Malley Park to the Childers Road
- From the existing M7 motorway to Southill (a number of options will need to be tested for viability in consultation with the Roads Office and NRA)
- From Bawnmore Road eastwards to the University of Limerick

There is an opportunity to increase permeability within Southill at the following locations:

- Through Carew Park
- From Collins Avenue to Kincora Park
- South of Southill House connecting Collins Avenue to Maigne Way
- Connecting Collins Avenue to Southill Area Centre south of Keyes Park

Open Space

There is an opportunity to:

- Exploit significant views across the city from Southill House and lands in the vicinity that command an elevated position.
- Retain existing treestands for screening purposes at:
 - Southill House
 - the primary school by O'Malley Park,
 - the boundary of the Golf Course,
 - St. Enda's School,
 - the eastern end of the Galvone Industrial Estate.
- There is also an opportunity to develop a comprehensive assessment of recreational facilities within the district leading to a consolidation of facilities.
- There is an opportunity to develop options to design new buildings to front open space and maximise the potential for overlooking, thus ensuring the area's safety and security.

Topography

There is a key opportunity to exploit existing viewpoints and topography at key locations within Southill.

Historic Character

There is an opportunity to:

- Retain and protect the setting and curtilage of Southill House.

Physical Character

There is an opportunity to:

- Restructure the existing layout to address gap sites
- Develop existing poor quality frontage sites and vacant land to improve visual quality
- Consider intensive interventions to remove units to improve legibility and permeability
- Address existing poor housing conditions
- Address the lack of integration between areas of new and existing housing
- Remove environmental black spots to the rear of blocks
- Develop streetscape improvements to enhance the public realm and create pedestrian friendly environments
- Provide additional soft landscaping to soften the existing hardness of the public realm
- Introduce new frontage development to non-overlooked routes

Volume 2

Volume 2 Vision & Framework Strategy

- 1.0 Framework Vision
- 2.0 Framework Strategy



Framework Vision

1. Framework Vision

1.1 Framework Vision

Drawing on the analysis of the local situation – the problems, the strengths and the opportunities presented for the city - the aims of the Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plans (LRFIPs) are:

1. To improve quality of life and well-being for the communities of the regeneration areas by responding comprehensively to the problems addressed to the needs of people and the places and adopting a sustainable development approach. The strategy addresses the physical, economic, social, community development and community safety dimensions of regeneration.
2. To promote the social and economic inclusion of the regeneration areas into the mainstream life of the city, reducing the gaps between the regeneration areas and the average for the city as a whole. This means the strategy aims to reduce the social and economic inequalities in the city. It also aims to improve physical connectivity between the regeneration areas and the city and into the wider region. Opening up access to opportunities for people in the regeneration areas, for instance, in education, training and work will require harnessing existing resources of the city including those present in the regeneration areas and attracting coordinated public and private investment over the next 10 years.

The vision for the regeneration areas is to create

"Safe and sustainable communities where people of all ages enjoy a good quality of life, a decent home and feel a strong pride of place. Well serviced and attractive neighbourhoods will be fully integrated with the social, economic and cultural life of Limerick."

The strategy for the LRFIPs and the implementation arrangements are based on an integrated territorial development approach. The territorial focus of the LRFIPs is on the regeneration areas not in isolation from, but linked to, the wider economic and spatial strategy for, and cultural life of, Limerick City. This includes a focus on city centre renewal as well as stronger connectivity across the whole metropolitan area and into the region.

The integrated territorial development approach draws

on the Europe 2020 strategic framework of smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. The aims of the LRFIP include, but are broader in scope than, economic growth and inclusion. The focus is on improving quality of life. Quality of life covers a wide range of issues including housing, safety, environmental quality, education, transport, jobs, income, health, community, family life and ageing well. Access to services is a key issue for individuals and families resident in regeneration areas. Access to services does not only mean the services are there, but they are delivered in a way that the people who need them can benefit from them.

The LRFIPs place strong emphasis on safety, consolidating efforts in policing and the wider criminal justice system to address problems of crime in the city. Crime has impacted particularly negatively on the regeneration areas, affecting the reputation of those communities and the city as a whole. A further objective here is to change perceptions of Limerick in terms of its association with crime. Tackling the problems affecting the regeneration areas comprehensively (physical, economic, social, crime) offers the best prospects for a vibrant and safe city. Working with communities and other stakeholders is a key part of the strategy to promote community safety. The strategy, led by the local authority, involves a multi-

sectoral partnership approach and working with the local communities. This is supported by a "whole of government" approach. The preparation of integrated plans and the structures for their delivery represents a change from the past and builds on earlier experiences.

Linked to the amalgamation of Limerick local authorities and local government reform, the local authority has the key role in leading the planning and oversight of implementation of the strategy, working in partnership with local stakeholders and with the support of central government. Local implementation arrangements include a strong focus on governance and the establishment of structures for programme management, monitoring and evaluation of the strategy. The Limerick Regeneration Office within the local authority is the overall coordinating and executive structure of the regeneration programme. Effective delivery requires working in partnership with local agencies, the private sector, community and voluntary organisations and involvement of the communities themselves through consultation on the strategy and in the delivery of activities on the ground. The integrated approach to development will allow for thematic concentration on the key issues. This approach can create a critical mass, improve the effectiveness of public investment and have a lasting

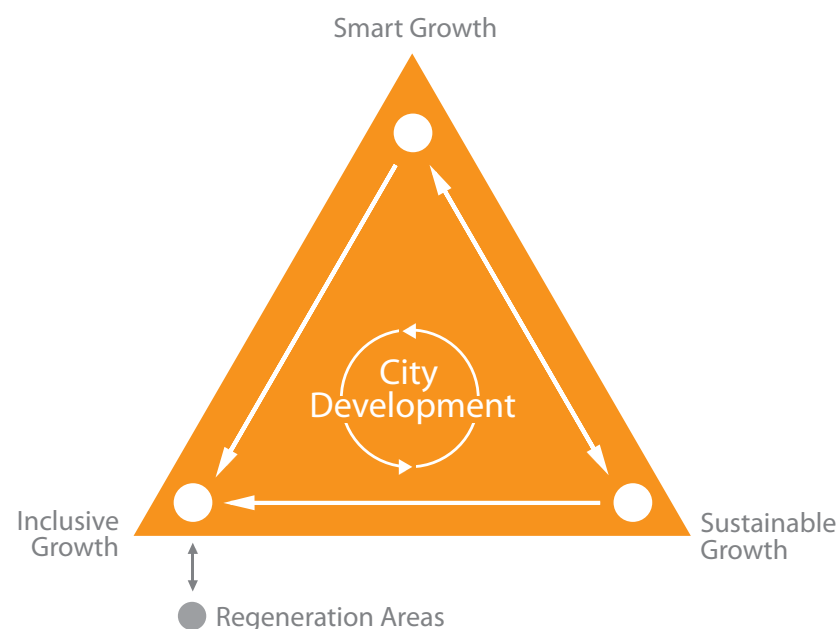


Figure 1.1: Overall strategy for the integrated territorial development

"After opening up the road to Coonagh roundabout employment is our greatest need in the community. The lack of that road to link our community to the outside areas has been the greatest disadvantage we have suffered from the beginning of Moyross"

Moyross Resident

”

DELMEGE PARK

1. Framework Vision

impact on the problems affecting the regeneration areas. The social programme, in particular, is structured around a thematic approach. Coordination of mainstream (national, EU), local and philanthropic funds and of public and private investment is critical for efficient investment and in order to achieve sustainable results. In the field of economic development and social inclusion, this can include use of new instruments for financial engineering (e.g., JESSICA fund) supported under the EU Structural and Investment Fund.

The development prospects for the city as a whole will need to link the dimension of **smart, sustainable and inclusive growth**, based on addressing the problems / barriers to progress including poverty and social exclusion in the most disadvantaged estates, improving the physical, social and economic infrastructures and services to support development, and mobilising the strengths and assets of the city.

Smart Growth is centred on jobs in new high value-added sectors in the knowledge economy, businesses based on advanced technologies in manufacturing, design, ICT on an on-going process of higher skills development; and investment in R&D and innovation and in the physical infrastructures to support this. In the local economy, there is a spectrum of economic development possibilities from Smart Growth through to Inclusive Growth. Intermediate stages along this spectrum emphasise strengthening the competitiveness of the local economy and SMEs. This can include developing in intermediate sectors with potential as new sources of employment in the city (tourism, heritage, cultural industries, back office business and customer services) supported by a process of up-skilling / re-skilling and lifelong learning.

An Inclusive Growth strategy is most appropriate to addressing the problems and realising the potential of the regeneration areas of the city. Taking into account the socio-economic profile of the regeneration areas, the strategy will develop from a low base of economic activity and a capacity building approach. It will progress to work into intermediate level development opportunities in the local economy. Inclusive Growth prioritises groups distant from the labour market (e.g., very long-term and inter-generational unemployed, young adults with low education and no experience of work, young offenders or young people at high risk of offending, lone parents) and neighbourhoods with complex social, economic and physical problems.

Further education, workforce training, work placement/ work experience and access to jobs are the key routes to improved employability and work. Training in new sectors prioritised for development in the local labour market include: green energy, tourism, technology, ICT, new skills in renovation / construction, health and social care, education / para-education, and entrepreneurship. These sectors could offer good possibilities for economic inclusion. Investment in groups disadvantaged in the labour market include preventive actions to address early school leaving, improve attainment in school (literacy, numeracy), health and well-being, and support for children and families at highest risk of poverty and exclusion (parenting, family support).

Sustainable Growth focuses on building a more competitive, low carbon economy that makes efficient and sustainable use of resources. It concerns protecting the environment, reducing emissions to achieve climate change goals and preventing bio-diversity loss. It also concerns strengthening resilience and capacity to deal with climate change risks, developing and rolling out new green technologies and production methods. As well as being an important strategy in its own right, Sustainable Growth offers new possibilities to support regeneration. It is particularly relevant to the physical environment but also can be promoted in education, training, enterprise and employment (e.g., training and employment in green energy, improved energy efficiency in retrofitted housing and public buildings, business / enterprise opportunities in green energy, construction-related enterprises). Sustainable Growth supports the objective of improved connectivity across the urban area through the Smarter Travel initiative in Limerick City. It also offers opportunities for engagement of local people and communities in environment protection issues (e.g., from local “clean ups” and campaigns, to stronger awareness of, and engagement in, environmental issues).

1.2 The Sectoral Pillars of the Framework Implementation Plans

The specific objectives of the strategy and associated interventions in the Framework Implementation Plans are structured around three pillars: Physical, Social and Economic. These are developed in detail in the following chapters, accompanied by maps and drawings in relation to the physical interventions.

A summary of the types of interventions pursued under the three pillars is shown in table 1.1:

Within the body of interventions, certain “flagship” initiatives are proposed. These are larger-scale strategic interventions. They include the programme of housing stock renewal and new build in the physical pillar, activities in the social pillar being developed and tested in regeneration areas that can be scaled up and replicated in other areas if successful, and new interventions in the economic pillar including a proposed National Social Innovation Centre.

1. Physical	2. Social	3. Economic
1.1 Removal of infrastructural barriers to connectivity	2.1 Education and learning initiatives over the lifecourse	3.1 Sectoral training, work experience / work placement and job creation
1.2 Develop connecting streets within regeneration areas to outside areas	2.2 Health and well-being of the population (child, adult, older people, special groups)	3.2 Economic engagement platform focused on regeneration areas (multi-stakeholder)
1.3 Improve community safety and perception of safety via design and CCTV monitoring	2.3 Ageing well neighbourhoods	3.3 Social innovation / social enterprise hubs (support services and new enterprises) including a National Social Innovation Centre
1.4 New housing construction, mixed unit size & type to support diversity	2.4 Employability and work interventions for groups distant from the labour market	3.4 Niche economic activities (working up to intermediate and smart and sustainable growth sectors such as green technologies)
1.5 Renewal / retrofitting of existing housing	2.5 Targeted support for families with difficulties and youth at risk	3.5 Developing a “knowledge economy” sub-sector in community development and community enterprise
1.6 Energy efficiency improvements in buildings	2.6 Community development, empowerment and capacity building	3.6 Inward investment / long-term revolving loan financing for new public / social and educational infrastructure
1.7 Social and educational infrastructure renewal / adaptation and new build		3.7 ICT development to support economic and social development objectives
1.8 Landscape / environmental protection and management		

Table 1.1: Types of interventions by pillars of the LRIFIP

1. Framework Vision

1.3 The Integrated Approach and Cross-cutting Priorities

A defining characteristic is the integrated approach adopted in the development of the Framework Implementation Plans (LRFIPs). This integrated approach in planning is carried through into implementation, and indeed is required for effective implementation. The scope for integration across the pillars of the LRFIPs is illustrated below in Figure 1.2. For instance, investment in the renewal of existing housing in the regeneration areas will not only improve the housing stock, improve resource efficiency but also offers new opportunities for education and training in skills in demand in the labour market, jobs and income.

The three sectoral pillars are underpinned by the following cross-cutting priorities:

- Policing, justice and community safety. Reflecting continuity with the experience of regeneration to date, this is “fundamental to creating the conditions for other interventions to be successful” –across the three pillars - “and for restoring the confidence of local communities” (Fitzgerald 2007).
- Community: based on participation and empowerment to engage in decision-making and neighbourhood planning, drawing on a community development model, engagement in developing / implementing local community facilities and local service delivery.
- The Government /public sector reform agenda and a “whole of government” approach.

The purpose of the following section is to describe the Social, Economic and Physical Framework Strategy for the regeneration areas, reinforcing the vision set out in Section 1.0 and identifying site specific guidance for future interventions.

The structure of the following section is outlined as follows:

- 2.1 Social Framework Plan
- 2.2 Economic Framework Plan
- 2.3 Physical Framework Plan



Figure 1.2: Integration of the Physical, Social and Economic Pillars





Framework Strategy

2



2. Framework Plan

2.1 Social Framework Plan

This section describes the objectives and strategy of the social programme, the scope for action and expected results. The social programme is structured around five vertical themes and three cross-cutting or horizontal themes. For each theme, the objectives are specified, the key agencies are identified and experience of support from regeneration to date is summarised. This is followed by a description of the scope for action and scope for funding support from the regeneration programme (2012-2016) and progress and result indicators. Due to commitments to continue to fund certain activities in social regeneration from the previous programme, there is strong continuity into this programme from the earlier experience of regeneration (2007-2011).

2.1.1 Objectives and Strategy

The objectives of the social programme are as follows:

1. To improve the quality of life of residents in the regeneration communities, focused on improving health and well-being of the population, closing gaps in health with the average population, improving the social environment and safety on the estates, stabilising community life and supporting civic engagement in the community.
2. To address needs of the population so that they can access opportunities, closing gaps with the average population. This covers improved access to economic and social opportunities linked to preventive interventions in early years, interventions to improve attainment in education from the earliest stages and access to further education, training and work.
3. To improve the coherence of service provision across the statutory and voluntary / community sector, with a view to improving effectiveness in responding to needs of the population and to achieve better value for money invested by the totality of the services.

This programme is developed based on a goal-oriented and problem-solving approach. It is addressed to people at different levels:

1. Individual Strategies: in terms of educational attainment, access to training and qualification, employment, health and well-being.
2. Family Well-Being Strategies: focused on outcomes associated with stable families where children are healthy physically and mentally, are supported in active learning, are safe from harm and secure in

their immediate and wider environment, are economically secure, are part of well-functioning networks of family, friends, neighbours and the community and are included and participating in society (service outcomes for children, The Agenda for Children's Services: A Policy Handbook, Office of the Minister for Children, Department of Health and Children).

3. Community Cohesion: such that there is on-going support to stabilise and build capacity and organisation of the communities. This is so that the communities can be involved in decisions that affect them, and can participate in building up the range and quality of community-based services and facilities, appropriate to needs. Community safety is an important priority.

The strategy is based on an approach that helps people to solve problems they encounter, identify what they are striving for (goals) and help them to achieve their objectives. In keeping with best international practice, it draws on a strengths-based approach and resilience model, developed from coping with challenges and positive adaptation in the face of adversity. This applies at the different levels: individual, family and community. Strengths-based practice involves a shift from "a deficit approach", which emphasises problems, to a positive partnership with individuals, families and communities. Resilience focuses on the individual / family / community strengths and resources and is often contrasted with risk-based approaches. However, both approaches (strengths and risks) are complementary and necessary. Identifying risks and working with those at risk is only of benefit to the extent that interventions reduce the risks, or help individuals to cope in spite of them.

2.1.2 Assumptions

The recent period (2007-2012) has been characterised by significant changes in the contextual conditions in the State, the city and the regeneration communities and in policy and institutional changes, as described in the section dealing with the Strategic Policy Context also in the Baseline Analysis of Socio-Economic Conditions elsewhere in the report. There is now a less favourable landscape in terms of availability of public funding. Key assumptions underlying this programme are as follows:

1. Following from the significant loss of population from the regeneration estates, the population and the scale of the estates are smaller but the problems of poverty and exclusion remain and may be even

more concentrated. The dispersal of population with the regeneration process has added some uncertainty and potential difficulties in terms of how services to those in need / at risk of social exclusion in the city can be delivered most effectively.

2. The additional funding for the social regeneration programme is relatively small and time-limited (€3 million for social interventions per year up to 2016) especially compared with mainstream public funds in education, health and other areas of social policy. The additional funding for social regeneration is "seed" funding or funding provided in a supportive role and is not sufficient in scale or appropriate to be used as a substitute for mainstream funding.
3. The wider public funding situation is difficult, where all areas are subject to, and at risk of, expenditure cuts. If additional funding for regeneration only compensates for expenditure cuts in existing interventions in regeneration areas, it cannot have the added value expected.
4. The significant funding and most important impact on the social problems must come from the mainstream programmes, particularly in education, health and labour market policy, with the criminal justice system continuing to play an important role in stabilising the communities. Maintaining the current commitment to the policing effort in the city is of critical importance.
5. Public sector reform and changing institutional arrangements are part of the picture. Major institutional reforms including the following are particularly relevant to the social programme: the reform of local government and alignment of local development with local government; new local delivery mechanisms integrating services for children and families linked to the setting up the Child and Family Support Agency and strengthening the planning and coordination role of the Children's Services Committee; the amalgamation of VECs (Limerick City, Limerick County and Clare County) and creation of the new Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board (LCETB); reforms in adult education and training to deliver an integrated Further Education and Training (FET) sector; the creation of the new agency SOLAS to replace FÁS, with SOLAS operating under the aegis of the Department of Education and Skills and taking on a strategic role in the coordination and funding of FET;

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the integration of the labour market activation system with social protection with the creation of the National Entitlements and Employment Service (NEES), now known as Intreo.

6. Taking into account the goal- and results-based focus the programme, progress indicators for monitoring and evaluation relate to whole programme input across government (the “bigger picture”) and not just the additional funds provided via the local authority for regeneration. Result indicators for the programme are identified, and these relate to what can be achieved from the “whole of government approach”. In principle, monitoring indicators should be drawn from the existing systems – i.e., those used to report on service delivery into the various government departments. However, for this social programme, reporting on the key indicators needs to be coordinated such that a reporting mechanism is in place to map progress with the overall situation at local level. Indicators for the evaluation of impact can be drawn from a combination of secondary sources (statistical sources, collection of administrative data) as well as primary data gathering as part of programme evaluation.
7. The current economic situation and prolonged impact of the recession are key factors that will affect any impact on unemployment and the problem of low work intensity / worklessness in the regeneration areas. With recession, high unemployment and changing skill requirements in the local labour market, it is extremely important to impact positively on improving qualification and acquiring new skills to enhance employability of those who are furthest from the labour market. It is also crucial to strengthen efforts to create new sources of jobs in the local labour market. This is a strong focus of the economic strategy for the city. Impact on employability for this group, most distant from the labour market, is a key objective of the social programme.

2.1.3 Priority Themes and Expected Results

There are eight priority themes in the programme. The following are constructed as the four “vertical priorities” of the social programme:

1. Education and Learning
2. Health and Well-being
3. Ageing Well – Health and Well-being of Older People

4. Employability and Work
 5. Families and Youth At Risk
- The first three priorities – Education and Learning, Health and Well-being and Ageing Well – focus on preventive and early intervention strategies. The fourth priority – Employability and Work – is addressed to the deeply structural employment problems including long-term unemployment and long histories of lack of work (e.g., inter-generational unemployment) which particularly affects the regeneration areas and youth unemployment. The fifth priority – Families and Youth at Risk – is addressed to improving outcomes for families and young people with complex problems and at high levels of need.

These five vertical priorities are constructed upon three cross-cutting themes which are the foundations of the strategy, across the physical, social and economic pillars.

6. Community: based on participation and empowerment to engage in decision-making and neighbourhood planning, drawing on a community development model, engagement in developing / implementing local community facilities and local service delivery.

7. Policing, Justice and Community Safety.
8. The Government /public sector reform agenda and a “whole of government” approach.

Two of these cross-cutting themes – Community Participation, Empowerment and Civic Engagement and Whole of Government Approach - support an integrated approach across the FIP as a whole. The Policing, Justice and Community Safety Priority is required to create the conditions for other elements of the FIPs to work.

The expected results of the social programme are:

- Stable communities which are safe, characterised by a positive community spirit and good quality of life;
- Improved access to opportunities for advancement / self-improvement for the population of the regeneration areas and evidence of “closing” the gaps with the average population – i.e., reducing inequalities across the city as a whole.

The strategy is presented in Figure 1.

Priority themes 1-5 are presented in the remainder of this section. Priority themes 6, 7 and 8 are presented in the next section which is addressed to horizontal objectives and integration.



Figure 1.3: Priority themes

2.1.3.1 Priority 1: Education & Learning

This theme is addressed to education and learning at different stages of the lifecourse. The emphasis is on a preventive approach from the early years, through childhood and into early adulthood in mainstream education. It also focuses on return to education and adult learning drawing on a lifelong learning approach.

Objectives

Objectives are as follows:

1. To support learning in early years and improve school readiness of children on starting school;
2. To reduce absenteeism of pupils in mainstream school (primary and secondary);
3. To improve retention rates in secondary school to Junior Cert and Leaving Cert levels;
4. To improve educational attainment levels of pupils in primary school, focused on literacy and numeracy, and in secondary school;
5. To address social, emotional and behavioural issues that prevent school children from progressing in school / in their learning;
6. To improve capacity for learning in the adult population and key competencies (literacy, numeracy, use of ICT, social competencies) targeting those who have left school without qualification and address to employability, activation and work;
7. To improve capacity for education and learning and qualification levels in the adult population, targeting those who have left school without qualification to improve capacity to function in modern society and encourage / assist children with their education and learning;
8. To further develop the capacity of the education infrastructure and services in local communities at all levels, and integration in service provision in education and other relevant services.

Experience to Date

There is a developed educational infrastructure in the city /suburbs and within commuting distance of the city and in the disadvantaged communities of the city including the regeneration areas. A key issue with schools in the regeneration area and other DEIS schools in the city are declining enrolments linked to demographic change, loss of the population of families

from the regeneration areas, parental choice and other factors affecting enrolment in city schools.

Specific programmes including the additional resources linked to DEIS schools are described in the review of the policy context. As well as mainstream services to improve attendance and connect with parents under DEIS (e.g., Home School Community Liaison, National Education and Welfare Board) and the School Completion Programme, community-based programmes run by voluntary / community organisations provide a range of additional supports. For instance, Home School Community Liaison and the School Completion Programme support parents and encourage children to stay at school, make a successful transition from primary to secondary school and into further education and training and / or third level education on leaving school. Schools, community centres and other sites in the regeneration areas (e.g., the Limerick Enterprise Development Partnership on the southside, the Learning Hub on the northside) provide additional facilities and services, including homework clubs to extend the school day, and enhance learning. These services involve volunteers and mentors to assist pupils in their learning. There are also services providing therapeutic input, for instance, to address behavioural problems in children which prevent them from engaging in school. The objective here is support and successful re-integration to mainstream school.

For younger children, there is an infrastructure of community-based childcare and pre-schools offering full day and sessional childcare throughout the disadvantaged areas of the city including the regeneration areas. New crèche facilities were developed on both the northside (Moyross, King's Island) and southside (Southill) in recent years with capital investment under the Equal Opportunities Childcare Programme (managed by Pobal and with EU funding support). Childcare facilities and pre-schools are often co-located or in close proximity to primary schools, or located in community centres and Family Resource Centres. The Limerick City Childcare Committee has a role in the development of a comprehensive range of quality child-centred childcare services accessible to all.

With the recent award of a substantial grant (Music Generation Limerick City), Limerick City Music Education Programme will be rolled out over 2013-2015

and beyond. Objectives of this initiative include the development of a strong culture of city-wide music participation and Continued Professional Development programmes for all providers to ensure a pool of skilled music tutors. Music programmes will be offered to all children in the city – from pre-school, through music education in primary and secondary schools. There is a specific strand of music education in community settings, targeting regeneration areas / areas of social disadvantage. The programme in disadvantaged areas will involve working on music education with DEIS schools and in other community settings and activities such as band incubation and ensemble programmes in youth / community centres.

In terms of adult learning, again there is an infrastructure of provision including community-based adult learning provision supported by Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board (LCETB), and hosted by a range of community / voluntary organisations in venues such as community centres. The Adult Education Information and Guidance Service provides information on educational opportunities, career options and advice on career planning. The Adult Education Services in the city provide a range of full-time and part-time courses and learning support, operating from two main locations in the city and some go outreach centres. For instance, there are well-developed services on the northside including the Adult Education Group Moyrross, St. Mary's Community Adult Education Centre, St. Mary's CDP and, on the southside, including the Limerick Community Education Network.

Types of activities / programmes in this area supported to date by the Regeneration Programme in partnership with other players include:

- Retention of the local Department of Education and Skills office in Limerick City and the dedicated role of this office in coordinating the education response to regeneration;
- The retention of additional teacher (ex-quota) in schools serving regeneration areas linked to the high level needs of this school population;
- Opening up school premises for after-school activities, infrastructure improvements in schools, equipment and resources, assisted by funding from Dormant Accounts, led by the Department of Education and Skills (DES) into 22 DEIS schools in the city (now 21 with recent school amalgamations);

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- Support for literacy and numeracy initiatives in DEIS schools (of which there are many – such as Reading Recovery, Doodle Den) with evaluations showing very promising results in some cases;
- Start Right Limerick, which is part of the National Early Years Access Initiative (NEYAI). Start Right aims to improve the capacity of parents, families and services to work collaboratively to improve the health and well-being of children, with a particular focus on learning and development;
- Promotion of improved quality of practice in early pre-school education through the implementation of Sólta – the National Quality Framework for Pre-school Education;
- Small-scale funding for additional activities in schools in regeneration areas;
- Support for homework clubs and learning infrastructure and services in the community / outside of school which extend the school day. This includes the Learning Hub, offering a ranging of learning opportunities using a variety of methods, events and providing a context where children and young people benefit from a socially-mixed environment;
- Summer camps and activity programmes out- of-school;
- Support for the Incredible Years programme. The Incredible Years (IY) programme is an international, early intervention programme targeting children, ranging in age from young infants to ten year olds, who are exhibiting social, emotional and behavioural difficulties. Incredible Years consists of three types of programmes aimed at parents / guardians, children and teachers. Each of the programmes aims to achieve long-term positive impacts on children's behaviour. Since 2007, IY programmes are being implemented in Limerick City through a multi-agency Strategic Steering Group, comprising representatives of the PAUL Partnership, the Health Service Executive (HSE), Department of Education and Skills (DES), Mary Immaculate College (MIC), Limerick Regeneration, National Educational Psychological Service (NEPS), Barnardos, St. Vincent de Paul (SVP), Limerick Social Services Centre (LSSC) together with local community groups, Family Resource Centres and DEIS primary schools.
- Alternative learning approaches (creative, vocational training skills) with integrated therapy (e.g., Blue Box Creative Learning) and support for interventions such as behaviour management for pupils with such difficulties (e.g. Cois Céim at

LEDP), offered in cooperation with schools and home;

- Additional support for adult education including support for coordinators in the regeneration areas and local education committees.

Most of these types of initiatives – homework clubs, new approaches to learning, community-based programmes of adult education - pre-date the regeneration programme in place from 2007. They were given additional impetus and support under the social pillar of this programme 2007-2011.

Education & Learning: Description of Activities

Four types of activity, to be supported under this programme, are identified below.

1. Early Years Learning and School Readiness

The evidence suggests that it is very important to intervene as early as possible in the life of a child to ensure that children achieve the normal developmental milestones and are ready to engage with learning when they start school. Difficulties in terms of oral language acquisition and emotional, behavioural and social problems are serious impediments to normal progression. The evidence indicates that early intervention, starting at the pre-school stage, shows the best return on investment.

Key Partners / Agencies

Activities are centred on community crèches, pre-schools and community-based childcare facilities, in the work of professionals in health and clinical therapies (e.g., Speech and Language therapy) and in family settings.

With the setting up of the new Child and Family Support Agency (CFSA), the local delivery model for integrated services to children and families under the new national agency will need to be specified locally and developed. The Limerick City Children's Services Committee is the key coordinating structure. The Start Right Programme is now operating in the regeneration areas in the southside of the city. The partnership of collaborators involves: HSE, Mary Immaculate College, Limerick City Childcare Committee, PAUL Partnership, Supporting Social Inclusion and Regeneration in Limerick (SSIRL) and Limerick Regeneration. The roll-out of the Music Generation Limerick City, led by LCETB, is multi-stakeholder-based and includes participation of crèches, pre-schools, schools and community organisations.

Scope of Action

The scope of action in Early Years involves mainly the roll-out and piloting of key initiatives and, drawing on the learning from these, transfer of good practice to other settings in the city where there is profile of social disadvantage and child poverty.

- 1) Start Right: this is providing an holistic demonstration model based on improved quality of practice in early years services and collaboration across service providers based on Local Child Support Teams. Start Right is one of eleven projects launched in 2011 and supported under the National Early Years Access Initiative (NEYAI). This is funded from a mix of sources including Government, philanthropic and other charitable sources and is managed by Pobal. The Limerick project is also supported by SSIRL (grant under the Programme Innovation and Development Fund for children, coordinated by the Limerick City CSC). There is an expected commitment to planning and funding for sustainability of the model. The focus of Limerick Start Right is: (i) training and supporting childcare staff to meet Sólta standards; (ii) intensive out-reach work with parents and children and (iii) on-going independent evaluation. With funding for the southside pilot covered from existing sources, good practice from the model can be developed and rolled out to northside regeneration areas including Moyross and St. Mary's Park and other parts of the city and county.
- 2) A Full Service Extended School model is being developed on the southside (St. Kieran's school project). The Full Service Extended School in Limerick (St. Kieran's) involves school amalgamations and a new school build supported from mainstream Department of Education and Skills (DES) for the capital project and philanthropic sources. This is also a strategic project supported in the framework of the Programme Innovation Development Fund, SSIRL (Supporting Social Inclusion in Regeneration in Limerick) to the children's consortium, coordinated by the Limerick City Children's Services Committee. The project is mainly centred on extended services provision on-site linked to the school. These include services to support early years development in health (primary care), childcare and education (pre-school) with links to parental education (adult learning) and well-being (health needs). In terms of wider experience, a Full Service

Extended School (FSES) initiative was launched by the UK Department for Education and Skills (DfES) in 2003. Schools involved in this initiative provide a comprehensive range of services, including access to health services, adult learning and community activities as well as study support and 8am to 6pm childcare. The models implemented in the UK displayed the following common features: a focus on overcoming pupils' "barriers to learning"; a recognition that these were related to what were seen as family and community problems; the development of additional provision to overcome the barriers; the deployment of additional staff and partnerships to deliver the provision; the "bending" of multiple funding streams to support provision; and a tendency for schools to "go their own way" (i.e., responsive to local circumstances) in pursuing their aims. These are the key principles underlying the development of the model in the southside regeneration area. Evaluation of the UK model showed benefits / relative successes including positive impact on pupils' attainment, engagement with learning, family stability and enhanced life chances, better relations with local communities and an enhanced standing of the school in its area.¹ Generally, they were "high costs / high benefits" projects.

- 3) Support to develop stronger links between formal and non-formal early years' providers in regeneration areas. This should help roll-out and embed best practice models, address gaps in service provision and promote better outcomes for children and families.

2. School Attendance and Retention

High rates of absenteeism from school and poorer rates of retention in school in the city to Junior Cert and Leaving Cert are identified as key problems, as outlined in the analysis of the socio-economic context. Pupils from socially disadvantaged communities show poorer levels of attainment in schools (DEIS Band 1 schools) compared with pupils from average / more advantaged social backgrounds. They can also experience more difficulty in the transition from primary to secondary school, especially if attainment is poor on leaving primary school.

Factors influencing attendance and retention include issues related to the individual pupil, the home / family, the school environment and the wider community.

Key Agencies / Partners

This activity is centred on schools and falls within the remit of existing programmes / services namely Home School Community Liaison (HSCL), School Completion Programme (SCP) and National Education and Welfare Board (NEWB). It is proposed that the HSCL and NEWB are brought under the remit of the new Child and Family Support Agency. Locally, the Limerick City Children's Services Committee has a key coordinating role.

Colleges providing further education and training post - Leaving Cert together with third level institutions in the city (University of Limerick, Mary Immaculate College, Limerick Institute of Technology) also engage in programmes to encourage second level students to stay on at school and make transitions after completion of second level into FET options and third level education. Such programmes involve third level students as volunteers (role models, tuition support etc.).

At the level of delivery, schools, colleges and community / voluntary organisations are key partners. The PAUL Partnership has provided coordination and implementation support in some activities for young children in primary school (e.g., Incredible Years). Depending on the issues affecting attendance and retention, referrals and access to services currently within the remit of the HSE (child psychology, child and young people's psychiatric services) are also relevant. Again, it is recommended that these services to children and families are brought under the remit of the new Child and Family Support Agency (CFSA), as outlined in the Policy Review.

Scope of Action

- 1) Improved access to services to address emotional and behavioural difficulties and other problems in pupils. These include community-based services, delivered by organisations mainly funded by the HSE, as well as mainstream services in health, located in Primary Care. The local delivery model here can draw on the concept and practice under the Full Service Extended School model, being developed on the southside of the city (St. Kieran's project). Such initiatives are especially appropriate where primary care and education services are co-located on the same site or are adjacent to each other (Moyross / Ballynanty Health Centre and Corpus Christi School, King's Island Primary Care

Centre and the amalgamating boys and girls school, St. Mary's.

- 2) Services / programmes to improve parenting of school-age children and strengthening home-school liaison strategies and practices addressed to promoting good behaviour and emotional well-being in children. An example here is the Incredible Years programme where there has been investment in training, implementation and evaluation under the Limerick Regeneration Programme (2007-2011) and which has shown good results.
- 3) Additional learning support to improve attainment in school and support for those at risk of poor attainment and school drop-out. This includes after-school / out-of-school provision to support learning matched to needs, and collaborative programmes with voluntary sector and educational bodies / schools in the planning and delivery of such programmes.
- 4) Education and well-being programmes including music in schools (Music Generation Limerick City) and sport / physical activity in schools. Such programmes can add value in terms of learning and also lead to personal and social development, improved self-esteem, sense of achievement and community.

3. Literacy, Numeracy and Educational Attainment in School

While there is evidence of improvement in attainment linked to the additional resources attached to DEIS schools, based on the national evaluation of DEIS in primary schools, the evidence indicates that levels of attainment in schools in the most disadvantaged communities have remained well below the average. Low levels of school attainment are amongst the barriers to accessing opportunities to progress in education, through second level to Junior Cert, Leaving Cert and Leaving Cert Applied, and progression into post leaving cert courses, third level options and into employment.

Scope of Action

- 1) Literacy and numeracy programmes in mainstream school, working with programmes and methods that show most promising results. These should be matched to needs of individuals / groups of learners. There are a variety of programmes currently operating in DEIS schools

¹ See evaluation report: Cummings, C., A. Dyson et al. (2007) Evaluation of the Full Service Extended Schools Initiative: Final Report. Research Report RR852. Department of Education and Skills, UK. <https://www.education.gov.uk/publications/eOrderingDownload/RR852.pdf>

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based on different pedagogic methods. These are being implemented by teachers in schools, and reinforced in educational activities using after / out-of-school and community-based learning models.

- 2) With the development and eventual roll-out of the Full Service Extended School Model (the St. Kieran's Project on the southside) additional supports will be provided in this school environment. Provision of additional support to address needs of children should improve capacity for learning amongst pupils. Family support should foster greater stability and personal development so that children are more likely to achieve at their potential. A Family Literacy / Learning programme is also developed (under the children's consortium, coordinated by the Limerick City CSC) which aims to bridge the gap between parents and children and develop the competencies and skills in parents to support their children in learning. This includes speech and language (oral) as well as written literacy development. Such practices can be developed / implemented in other schools in disadvantaged communities through new partnerships, "bending" existing programmes to better meet the needs and attracting additional resources. The current level of funding in the social regeneration programme, delivered by the local authority, is not sufficient to resource an extended service provision model in (DEIS) schools across the disadvantaged communities and can only be used to intervene in a supportive capacity.
- 3) Literacy programme in DEIS Schools in the city, drawing on the literacy initiative supported under the SSIRL Programme Innovation and Development Fund (children's consortium, coordinated by the Limerick City CSC). The literacy initiative, implemented in cooperation with the Limerick Education Centre and Mary Immaculate College, focuses on Continued Professional Development of teachers.
- 4) Homework clubs, after-school activities – for primary and secondary school children – and out-of-school educational / learning activities (e.g. summer camps, activity programmes, music education programmes) using schools and other community-based settings. Current arrangements often involve staffing by Community Employment Scheme workers and / or volunteers (e.g., parents, third level students and peer supported learning).

They require planning and coordination of provision as well as access to facilities and some additional resources. Additional support under this programme can include: support to reach the target groups more effectively; support for training, information and advice for volunteers; support for work placements / work experience in education support and para-educational activities linked to skills training for unemployed people / young people. (See the Employability and Work priority below).

4. Adult Education and Community Learning

Low levels of educational attainment, negative experiences in education and weak foundations for learning in the adult population in the regeneration areas are barriers to access to opportunities and social mobility. The profile of low-level education also affects parents' aspirations for their children's progression in education and their life chances in general, as well as many other aspects of life (health, linked to poorer health literacy, participation in community organisations and voluntary activities, information seeking behaviour on issues that affect quality of life).

Key Agencies / Partners

Limerick and Clare ETB (formerly City of Limerick VEC) and SOLAS. With the institutional reforms in labour market activation and social protection and creation of the National Employment and Entitlements Agency (NEES) / Intreo offices, there are stronger links with social protection / welfare provision as well as across the Further Education and Training (FET) sector as a whole, as described in the Policy Review. In the context of the disadvantaged population of the regeneration areas, other key players are: the Local Employment Service, the PAUL Partnership (supporting second chance education, vocational training, Community Employment, access to employment) linked to Government's labour market activation agenda; community and voluntary sector organisations providing adult education in community-based settings; the Limerick Community Education Network; alternative education provision such as Youthreach; community / voluntary organisations providing vocational training such as projects like Community Leadership Arts and Sports Programme (southside); and youth work and youth justice projects with education (e.g., Leaving Cert Applied) and vocational training elements (FETAC / NFQ-based qualification).

Scope of Action

Changes are being introduced in the delivery of adult education and training, as outlined in the Policy Review, some of which may present difficulties for the target population. Changes are linked to the challenges presented by the large increase in the numbers unemployed who require up-skilling / reskilling. Additional places are created on programmes in further education and training and capacity increased in part by offering shorter and more intensive programmes and making greater use of "blended" learning options. There is also a stronger focus on qualification and progression, operating from a higher base of qualification (e.g., from level 5-6 on the Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI) framework / FETAC)². However, people who are at the lowest levels of education and skills require more rather than less intensive support.

Scope of action here is centred on offering full-time and part-time further (adult) education and learning support including guidance and counselling, rolled out in community-based settings. This is a core activity of the LCETB (e.g., part-time programmes in adult literacy and numeracy, community education, work place-based learning, Back to Education Initiative). Actions here draw on models developed in communities for adult learning including, for instance, the work of the Limerick Community Education Network, targeting adults with low levels of educational attainment. Additional support will be required to enable the target population – adult learners with a profile of low education - to adapt to trends in current practice including the stronger focus on blended learning and engagement with new platforms for learning (web / ICT-based). Types of action that could be supported are as follows:

- 1) Community-based outreach (including non-formal) in order to engage with the target group - i.e., adult learners with low education and specific sub-groups that face additional disadvantaged, e.g., members of the Traveller community, people with disabilities, lone parents especially young lone parents with low-level education. A specific initiative could be developed for young mothers for instance, working with this group to bring them into a pathway of learning and qualification. Raising the educational level in this group and their orientation towards learning is likely to have a positive impact on the capacity of mothers to support their children in education and aspirations

² The new Authority, Quality and Qualification Ireland (operating under the aegis of the Department of Education and Skills) is being created by an amalgamation of three bodies that have both awarding and quality assurance responsibilities: the Further Education and Training Awards Council (FETAC), the Higher Education and Training Awards Council (HETAC) and the National Qualifications Authority of Ireland (NQAI). The new Authority has assumed all the functions of the three legacy bodies as well as the quality assurance function of the Irish Universities Quality Board (IUQB). It will also have new or newly-statutory responsibilities in particular areas.

- for their children in education as well as orientation towards the labour market.
- 2) Guidance and counselling service to support adults at greatest risk of social exclusion to engage with education and training and support return to education and qualification. Goal-setting and planning for achievement of education, personal development and, where appropriate, career development outcomes are part of the service.
 - 3) Participation in education leading to qualification by adult learners. For those most excluded, the focus of qualification could be at QQI / FETAC 1-4 level (from basic up to Junior Cert level) and 5-6 (up to Leaving Cert). Progression is also part of the approach involving pathways to further education and training, further qualification and acquisition of skills in new areas of market demand (ICT, technology, healthcare and social care, tourism, sport and recreation, digital and multimedia, horticulture, etc.). For instance, in an initiative targeting young mothers (as suggested above), this could include education and training on information and communication /digital technologies. It could be developed with a strong practical focus to bring “parents on-line” such that they can progress into “blending” learning options more easily, assist and supervise their children’s use of the internet and their accessing of information online to support them in various aspects of everyday life, for instance, on health, parenting etc.
 - 4) Local partnership, capacity building (planning, monitoring, managing programmes) and support to networks in further (adult) education to support learning (amongst providers as well as adult learning) and the wider application of good practice.

Scope For Funding Support

The social regeneration programme can provide for the following types of expenditure:

- Funding to support the roll out to communities of improved practice in early years learning and child development and for more intensive work with parents and children including peer support (e.g., parent-to-parent).
- Additional funding for school-based and community-based services such as evidence-based parenting and behavioural / emotional well-being programmes such as Incredible Years.

- Supplementary funding for after-school / out-of-school activities that extend the school day and services in schools which show evidence of success in supporting learning and improved attainment (literacy, numeracy, tuition in subjects). The social regeneration programme, however, is in a supportive role here.
- Funding for additional services to improve the reach and engagement with the target population (and specific sub-groups) in learning. This could include new methods of outreach / working with adult target groups (e.g., young lone parents with low education) and pupils or new approaches to build trust and rapport, new approaches to learning with the target population. These cannot replace existing services and will need to take into account the re-location of specific services for children and families to the new structure of the Child and Family Support Agency (CFSA).
- Small-scale funding to support exchange of experience on methods to improve attendance and retention (rewards, sanctions) and teaching and learning in schools, cooperation and networking across schools and other providers (sharing resources, extending best practice) and peer support (parent-to-parent; pupil-to-pupil) and mentoring schemes.
- In adult education, funding can support additional and more appropriate outreach activities, new methods to develop learning, to improve guidance / counselling to meet the needs of the target groups, to up-skill / support the learning / education of service providers, and to strengthen partnerships, learning networks and capacity in community-based settings.

Progress/Results Indicators

Activity / output indicators:

- Number of participants engaging with programmes / services supported and, where possible, as a percentage of the target population (e.g., of the school population)
- Number of assessments (e.g., assessment of needs for specialist services, common assessments)
- Number of individual education plans (which could be part of a more comprehensive plan across various services).

Indicators could be based on monitoring data / statistical data collected across schools and other providers.

Results indicators related to institutions and capacity building:

- Evidence of improved quality of practice embedded in institutions such as crèches, schools, community-based organisations.

Indicators will need to be explored based on research

Result indicators related to the target population:

- Rates of emotional and behavioural difficulties in children and young people with reference to an average population (Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire)
- Evidence of improved parenting practices (disciplinary strategies) and parental control
- Evidence of improved relationships between parent(s) and child in the family setting
- Evidence of school readiness – emotional and behavioural difficulties profile and language acquisition on starting school

Indicators will need to be explored based on periodic research

- Rates of absenteeism over 20 days
- Rates of retention to Junior Cert and Leaving Cert / Leaving Cert Applied
- Attainment rates in primary school based on results of standardised tests, anonymised
- Attainment rates on leaving secondary school and rates of progression to third level and FET options
- Achievement of qualification and level of qualification (QQI / FETAC framework)

Indicators could be based on monitoring data / statistical data collected across schools (DES)

- Confidence / self-esteem / personal development
- Changed expectations
- Reduced social isolation

Indicators will need to be explored based on periodic research and / or from review conducted by providers.

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2.1.3.2 Priority 2: Health and Well-Being

This theme is addressed to health and well-being over different stages of the lifecourse from birth into old age. It addresses health in the broadest sense encompassing the World Health Organisation (WHO) definition of health as “a complete state of physical and mental health and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity”. The social environment of neighbourhood (community safety and social capital / social cohesion), the family situation and economic factors (income and resources) have an important impact, particularly on mental health. Again, drawing on the WHO perspective, mental health is not just the absence of mental disorders. It is defined as “a state of well-being in which every individual realises his or her own potential, can cope with the normal stresses of life, can work productively and fruitfully, and is able to make a contribution to her or his community”. Drawing on the social determinants of health perspective, there are many factors that can impact on health including level of education, income, employment / unemployment, early childhood development, housing, transport, health services and the quality of the environment of neighbourhood. The physical environment including the presence of recreation and play facilities can impact on preventive health strategies (lifestyle) and physical health. A problematic social environment of neighbourhood, income poverty and problems in the family can impact negatively on stress and mental health.

Objectives

Objectives are:

1. To promote improvement in the mental health and well-being of the target population.
2. To build the capacity of individuals, families and the community to improve and manage their health by promoting lifestyle practices associated with better physical and mental health (diet, exercise, smoking, drinking, drug-taking and other risk behaviours).
3. To support early diagnosis of problems (mental and physical health problems, behavioural problems, addictions) by improving access to appropriate services mainly located in primary care and accessible in the community.
4. To support improved access to services for treatment of problems of addiction and physical and mental health issues and support to manage health. This includes a strong emphasis on the recovery model in mental health.

5. To build local capacity in the services in communities to support health and well-being including community participation in primary care.

Experience to Date

Mainstream services in health located in or adjacent to the regeneration areas are delivered from the health centres / primary care services working out of Moyross / Ballynanty Health Centre and the new King’s Island Primary Care Team / Health Centre on the northside and Southill Health Centre and Rostown Health Centre (city centre) on the southside. General Practitioners (GPs) and Public Health Nursing are the key universal services and also provide gateway services to specialist care. Health centres also house Community Welfare Officers (previously in HSE and now under the remit of the Department of Social Protection) providing access to Supplementary Welfare Allowance and other services such as Adult Counselling, access to addiction services / counsellors, social care workers. Community centres including Family Resource Centre, Community Development Programme offices also provide facilities / services to promote improved health and well-being. Community arts, music and other types of programmes in community settings also support improved health and well-being. Access to services in health does not only mean that services are located in or near communities but that the population can benefit from them.

Types of activities and programmes in health and well-being supported to date by the Regeneration Programme in partnership with other players include:

- Health Impact Assessment across the Regeneration Masterplans and a specific health impact assessment related to youth.
- Small-scale funding to community and voluntary organisations and sports’ clubs to support wider participation in sport and physical activities involving all age groups from young children, through teenagers, adults and older people.
- Small-scale funding for social and recreational activities promoted by groups of older people (e.g. Senior Citizen’s clubs).
- Engagement in developing responses to the problem of youth mental health and planning for youth mental health provision (e.g., work in cooperation with Headstrong / Jigsaw).
- Engagement in developing responses to the problem of youth mental health (e.g., discussion / work in cooperation with Headstrong / Jigsaw).

- Support for additional workers and volunteers to respond to problems of social isolation, poor mental health, family problems through new outreach services (e.g. Moyross Community Companions and Limerick Social Services Centre Family Support Initiative in Southill and Weston).
- Additional resources to provide counselling to adults, in partnership with the HSE.
- Promotion of the roll-out of Primary Care and enhancement of Primary Care Teams in the regeneration areas.

Description of Activities

Three types of activity will be supported, as follows:

1. Public Health

Public health is the “science and art of preventing disease, prolonging life and promoting health through organised efforts and informed choices” (Donald Acheson 1988). An effective public health strategy is most important “to help people live healthier and more fulfilling lives and to create social conditions that ensure good health, on equal terms for the entire population” (James O’Reilly 2011). It is characterised by a whole population (universal), preventive and early intervention approach. A public health strategy addresses: disease prevention including, for instance, immunisation take-up and participation in health screening; health promotion (positive choices relating to lifestyle including diet and physical exercise, breastfeeding, nutrition and negative factors that harm health including alcohol, drugs and violence); and assessment and planning to address the complex factors (social, economic, environmental) that affect health and reproduce health inequalities.

Promoting positive mental health is a preventive strategy for good health and well-being. Many people suffer episodes of mental illness over their lives but recover and no longer have the symptoms. Promotion of the “recovery model” in mental health services means that people can live fulfilling and productive lives, living with mental ill-health conditions if they receive an appropriate mix of treatments and are supported and empowered in managing their illness³. Addressing health inequalities is connected with tackling complex problems of poverty and inequalities in society and, as such, includes interventions in many domains including raising employment, income and education levels in the population. As outlined in the socio-economic analysis of baseline conditions, the evidence shows strong inequalities in health between

³ For instance, in “A Vision for A Recovery Model in Irish Mental Health Services: Discussion Paper” published by the Mental Health Commission Ireland (December 2005), the meaning of the recovery model and various definitions of it are reviewed. A recovery approach involves: “supporting an individual in their own personal development, building self-esteem, identify and finding a meaningful role in society”. A person with mental illness can recover “even though the illness is not cured and that the process of recovery can proceed in the presence of continuing symptoms and disability.”

the population of the regeneration areas of the city and the average population and in all sections of the population – children, adults and older people. There is also considerable evidence that members of the Travelling community have poorer health status over the lifecourse, compared with the average population.

Key Partners / Agencies

Activities are located in health centres and in community settings including: community crèches, pre-schools, schools, community centres, day centres / rehabilitation centres, youth work settings, Family Resource Centres and youth justice projects.

The key agency is the HSE (health promotion, Public Health Nursing, GPs and other health professionals in Primary Care). The links to other factors that affect health (education, employment, environment) bring in other players including the local authority (environment, public space and recreation), Department of Education and Skills, youth services, Limerick Sports Partnership and the PAUL Partnership.

The Limerick City CSC is the key coordination structure for activities related to children and families.

Scope of Action

- 1) Health education and health promotion activities in the community with the key messages (lifestyle, harmful practices, substance misuse, risk behaviours, immunisation, health screening, exercise and nutrition) developed and delivered in ways that are appropriate to the target population. These activities should be addressed to different sections of the population (children, young adults, expectant mothers, women, men, older people) and delivered in partnership with health professionals in community settings.
- 2) Activities to promote positive mental health appropriate to the target population and delivered in partnership with health professionals in community settings. These can include: promoting awareness and understanding of positive mental health (including self-esteem, the ability to solve problems and to deal with stressors) and addressing the issue of stigma; greater understanding of preventive strategies (e.g., stress management); coping with specific stressors (bereavement, addiction, unemployment etc.); and promoting understanding of the recovery model in mental illness.

- 3) Small-scale community-based sport and recreational activities including the arts, music and dance, physical activity developed and implemented by local community and voluntary organisations.
- 4) Support to improve access to treatment programmes for individuals with problems of addiction. This can include information on services and outreach in community settings to support referrals to services.
- 5) Local partnership and capacity building (planning, monitoring, delivery of local programmes, education and training to support professional development focused on community providers) in health awareness, health promotion, to improve access to services in Primary Care and in sport and recreation.

B. Child and Youth Mental Health

Positive mental health and earliest possible intervention to address problems are crucial to normal child development, progression in education, participation in normal social life with peers, family, in the community and in society in general. Social deprivation, exposures to traumatic events, early exposures to aggressive behaviours and neglect increase the risks of emotional and behavioural problems in children and, if not addressed, lead to longer-term physical and mental health and other problems over the lifecourse.

Key Agencies / Partners

HSE is the main player. Certain services for children and families currently in the HSE (Public Health Nursing related to children and families, Speech and Language Therapy, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services, Psychology Services) are expected to come under the remit of the Child and Family Support Agency (CFSA) as well as services currently in the realm of education (National Education and Welfare Board) and in the area of justice (Children's Detention Schools). This draws on recommendations of the Report on the Task Force on the Child and Family Support Agency (July 2012) – as outlined in the Policy Review.

In Limerick regeneration areas, a community “wrap-around” service for 0-3 year olds and a Full Service Extended School Model, focused on integrating early and primary education and services in health / primary care, as described above, are being developed on the

southside of the city, with support from SSIRL Programme Innovation and Development Fund. Headstrong / Jigsaw, described as a youth-friendly service development model, based in the community, has completed a planning process for the setting up of a new service for Limerick. Features of the service model are: integration with primary care and the specialist mental health system and commitment from the local HSE; an inter-agency approach; a local assessment and systematic planning process; youth participation; and an information management system for monitoring and evaluation of outcomes drawing on an evidence-based practice approach.

The Limerick City CSC is the key coordination structure.

Scope of Action

- 1) Roll-out of the southside projects (Full Service Extended School model; community “wrap-around” for early years) to contribute to improving the mental health and well-being and education and learning in children from the early years (0-6 years) into middle childhood (6-12 years). Positive infant mental health is strongly connected with emotional attachment to the parent (especially the mother) and parental well-being. There are links here to the investment already made in implementation of the Incredible Years programme, delivered in schools and in other community-based settings.
- 2) Support to extend practice from the southside demonstration models into appropriate sites in other communities in regeneration and other areas of the city where there is a profile of severe social disadvantage and child poverty. This is especially appropriate where there are possibilities to co-locate / or where there is close proximity to health centres with multi-disciplinary Primary Care Teams in Moyross / Ballynanty and King's Island Health Centres.
- 3) New methods to reach the youth population and the development of user-friendly community-based services to address the mental health needs and promote well-being of young people. This is based on a youth-focused integrated model of service provision, Headstrong / Jigsaw. The social regeneration programme can only act in a supporting role with the major input in terms of resources for operational costs and clinical posts coming from the HSE.

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- 4) Local partnership and capacity building (planning, training and professional development, support to embed practices, monitoring / tracking outputs and results) in child and youth mental health and well-being promotion.

C. Adult mental and physical Health

Adult health and well-being are affected by many factors. Drawing on a social determinants of health approach, these include poverty, long exposures to social deprivation, emotional and family stress often linked to lack of economic resources, social isolation, lifestyle factors and environmental (e.g., poor housing and quality of the physical environment) and social conditions of the neighbourhood. This includes exposures to anti-social behaviour, fear and lack of community safety.

Key Agencies / Partners

The key agency is the HSE, Primary Community and Continuing Care, with the particular focus on primary care / local health centres and access to specialist services (e.g., in chronic illness management, palliative care, psychiatric services). As there are many determinants of health (including social, economic and environmental factors), other agencies have a role including the local authority in relation to the physical and social environment of neighbourhood, the Gardaí (community safety), public transport and voluntary / community sector organisations engaged in delivery of social and community services in health, welfare and social care.

Social Protection (NEES / Intreo offices) as part of a more integrated labour market activation services (with LCETB and SOLAS, formerly FÁS) also have a role linked to supplementary welfare entitlements. In addition, a significant proportion of the staffing of social and community services comes from active labour market schemes in Community Employment and TÚS. Potentially, addressing needs in the communities in social care may offer training and employment opportunities to unemployed people (and links to the Employability and Work priority, below).

Scope of Action

The scope of the social regeneration programme is mainly in a supportive role (influencing and advocacy) and indirectly promoting improved health and well-being. For instance, action to build capacity of the community to “have a voice” and engage in decision-making is relevant to improving service provision in

primary care to match local needs (see Priority 3 below in relation to Ageing Well); environmental improvements including improved housing, open space and facilities for recreation are likely to have a positive impact on health including mental health; action to improve community safety and estate management, impacting to reduce fear of crime and anti-social behaviour, are likely to have a positive impact on adult health including mental health; interventions to support families with multiple problems are likely to impact positively on health, particularly mental health. Interventions to support families and youth at risk are addressed mainly below under Priority 5.

Actions that could be supported under the social regeneration programme include:

- 1) Activities involving cooperation with health professionals, especially in Primary Care, and community-based and voluntary organisations to build awareness of services in health (primary care and specialist health services), social care and social support and to provide information and advice, if appropriate, on how to access such services.
- 2) Activities, also in cooperation with health professionals (especially in Primary Care) and community-based and voluntary organisations to support people and families living with disabilities, chronic illnesses and mental ill-health to better manage their conditions – for instance, supporting the development and tracking of care plans and pathways to recovery in community settings. It could also include setting up / participation in support groups related to management of, and coping with, specific health conditions (e.g., cancer, diabetes, caring for people with dementia). The approach is to work towards empowerment, supporting people to live as full and productive lives as possible while living with illness.
- 3) Actions to improve educational opportunities and qualification in healthcare and social care in the community and amongst staff / volunteers of community-based organisations. This could include use of new technologies in health care management and education / training to support better management of specific health conditions
- 4) Capacity building and partnership in community-based settings, as identified above under Public Health, to promote input of communities and groups (e.g., women’s health, men’s health) to

decision-making on services and models of service delivery in health in local communities.

Scope for Funding Support

The social regeneration programme can provide for the following types of expenditure:

- Additional funding for the start-up (e.g., planning, partnership-building) of programmes to support improved infant, child and adolescent mental health delivered in cooperation with the mainstream services in health and child and family support.
- Funding for additional services to improve the reach and engagement with target populations in the regeneration areas – i.e., young people, groups at higher risk such as men living alone, and young single parents.
- Small-scale funding for the development and delivery of targeted health promotion activities, delivered in community settings.
- Funding to improve community-based support to manage ill health for people and families living with disabilities and chronic health conditions.
- Local partnership and capacity building (planning, monitoring, training, community participation) in health promotion and service delivery in the community.

Progress / Results Indicators

Activity / output indicators:

- Number of participants engaging with programmes / services supported and, where possible, as a percentage of the target population.
- Number of assessments (children / families / adult individuals) for specific health needs
- Number of care plans for illness management (individuals)

Indicators should be based on monitoring data / statistical data collected from service providers.

Result indicators related to institutions and capacity building:

- Evidence of improved practice (outreach, assessment of needs, planning, stronger partnerships) embedded in institutions including Primary Care Teams and voluntary and community organisations

Indicators will need to be explored based on research.

“I was on a residents forum and on regeneration committee for 6 years. I lost hope. For the first time, I feel we are being spoken to honestly”

Ballinacurra Weston resident

”



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Result indicators related to the target population:

- Rates of diagnosed long-standing (chronic) physical and mental ill health problems for groups in the population (children and young people, adult population)
- Suicide / para-suicide and self-harm rates

Indicators should be based on monitoring data / statistical data collected from HSE.

- Rates of emotional and behavioural difficulties in children and young people (survey-based assessments) compared with the average child population
- Self-assessed health – percentages in very / poor / fair health versus good / excellent health (census and survey)
- Rates of diagnosed long-standing illnesses (census and surveys)
- Self-assessed physical and mental health (community surveys)

Indicators will need to be explored based on periodic research and also using secondary data from the census and other sources.

- Confidence / self-esteem / personal development
- Reduced social isolation

Indicators will need to be explored based on periodic research and / or from review conducted by providers.

2.1.3.3 Priority 3: Ageing Well – Health and Well-Being of Older People

Supporting active and healthy ageing is an important priority of all advanced societies linked to the phenomenon of ageing populations. Promoting Limerick as an age-friendly city with age-friendly neighbourhoods and communities is a priority of the local authority, drawing on the national initiative of “Age-Friendly Counties”. The aim of the national initiative is to develop an “age friendly county programme” in all local authority areas in the State. Age-friendly strategies address a broad agenda and involve a multi-stakeholder approach (statutory, voluntary organisations, the business community, academic institutions and older people themselves). Age-friendly neighbourhoods focus on how the needs and experiences of older people are addressed in terms of the physical built environment, housing, transport, access to services including shops, amenities, leisure and essential public services including health and social care, safety and security of

place and the presence of places to socialise / mix. The Age-friendly agenda also concerns older people inputting to planning and decision-making on services, giving older people “a voice”, in order to address needs, support independent living in old age and provide opportunities to participate in society.

Objectives

The objectives of this priority are:

1. To support and promote the ageing well agenda in the city by creating a forum and opportunities for older people to engage in all aspects of planning and decision-making related to the needs and well-being of older people, meeting current and future challenges of an ageing population.
2. To support planning and implementation of programmes to address, in particular, the needs of vulnerable elderly people. These include elderly people living in the most disadvantaged areas of the city.
3. To support good health and well-being of older people by promoting community-based access to health and social services, appropriate housing, and safety and security. This should address the issue of changing health needs of elderly people as they age while at the same time, supporting independent living and autonomy of older people for as long as possible.
4. To create conditions and promote opportunities for social connectedness and, maintaining the independence of older people.

Experience to Date

There is considerable experience in the disadvantaged communities in the city of addressing needs and supporting the well-being of older people. Services comprise a mix of statutory (public health nursing, home help, housing adaptations) and voluntary services (day centres, meals, social activities, sport and recreation, transport, emergency call / security, repair and care) with funding support from Government and other sources. Community centres, Family Resource Centre, Community Development Programme offices are important providers. Private services (care, nursing home care) are also available to varying extents. Types of activities supported under the Regeneration Programme 2007-2011 included: social and recreation activities for older people, proposals / plans for sheltered housing for older people, promoting the community safety agenda involving a multi-agency

approach including community Gardaí and the local authority.

Description of Activities

Two types of activities will be supported, as outlined below.

A. Planning for an Age Friendly City and Neighbourhoods

The focus here is on planning for an “age-friendly” city and “age-friendly” neighbourhoods, with the involvement of older people. While this is framed to take a strategic / longer-term perspective, it will also seek to address immediate / short-term needs of older people. It will focus on the social inclusion of older people especially those older people resident in the most disadvantaged areas of the city.

Key Agencies / Partners

The local authority will take the lead on the broader agenda of “ageing well”, drawing on the model of the “Age-Friendly Counties Programme” involving an Alliance of stakeholders, as described below.

Scope of Action

- 1) Development of the programme for the age-friendly city and age-friendly neighbourhoods, drawing on the Age-friendly County Initiative, i.e.: (i) setting up an Alliance of senior managers across the local authority, health services, Gardaí, business community, voluntary organisations, academic institutions and representatives of older people; (ii) consultations with older people and their representative organisations, formation of an older person’s forum and the development of a draft strategy reflecting the priorities of older people and the key stakeholders; (iii) finalisation of the draft strategy, setting up a process to support and review implementation and affiliation to the “WHO Global Network of Age Friendly Cities and Communities”. An initiative along these lines is being advanced in the city (with support from SSIRL to the Older People’s Consortium under the Programme Innovation and Development Fund), focused on the needs of older people in the most disadvantaged areas of the city. This initiative aims to bring the voice of older people into decision-making on infrastructure and services development in the city and on issues that they consider important to their well-being and autonomy (e.g., safety and security, public transport connections to key services, retention of

services used by older people, etc.).

- 2) This agenda can also address issues such as ageism, family support (e.g., grandparent-headed households, problems in their adult children’s households such as addictions, access to grandchildren, grandchildren in foster care, etc.), access to education and support for learning (e.g., information and communication technologies), support for the roll-out of e-health and use of technology to support management of health conditions, older people and employment, older people’s rights, and older people as a resource in their communities. “Get Vocal”, coordinated by the PAUL Partnership, is a relevant initiative here.
- 3) Actions to support older people will also link with proposals for the development of sheltered housing integrated with other services for older people in the regeneration areas.
- 4) Support for capacity building and partnership in the multi-stakeholder approach.

B. Specific Actions to Support Health & Well-Being of Older People

This activity focuses on specific actions to address identified needs of older people and social connectedness. It should especially target older people resident in regeneration areas and vulnerable elderly.

Key Agencies / Partners

The HSE, Primary Continuing and Community Care, Older People’s Services is a key partner, working in cooperation with community and voluntary organisations. Other partners could include, for instance, providers of education and learning services for older people (LCETB, voluntary organisations, schools), organisations engaged in the development and application of new technologies in health care (academic institutions), organisations supportive of inter-generational initiatives (schools, youth services, sports services and clubs).

Scope of Action

- 1) Activities to support the social connectedness of older people in local communities and across the city including social, leisure and recreational activities that involve older people from different types of neighbourhoods in Limerick City.
- 2) Activities to support the involvement of older people in education and learning including

practical courses that can improve their quality of life (e.g., use of computers, email, internet, mobile ‘phones, healthy lifestyles, etc.), in health and well-being initiatives (as outlined above under Priorities 1 (Education and Learning) and 2 (Health and Well-being) and Priority 5 (Families and Youth at Risk). In the case of older people, these can relate to services that address needs such as use of technology in health care management, safety and security. In significant initiatives (e.g., projects identified from the strategy planning process under Activity 1), regeneration will act in a supportive role, and not as the main driver or funder of such initiatives.

- 3) Information, support and advice services, specifically developed to meet the needs of, and sensitive to information-seeking approaches applied by, older people (e.g., face-to-face, ‘phone, available in community settings).
- 4) Activities to promote /support inter-generational relationships and solidarity. These could include activities in the arts and culture, local history, music and voluntary activity.

Scope of Funding

The social regeneration programme can provide for the following types of expenditure:

- 1. Additional funding to support the process (e.g., planning, partnership-building, involvement of older people, research and information gathering) of the age-friendly city and age-friendly neighbourhoods programme.
- 2. Funding for additional services to improve the reach and engagement with the target population (older people) in the regeneration areas and in other communities in the city.
- 3. Small-scale funding for specific activities to support the well-being of older people including inter-generational initiatives delivered in community settings.

Progress / Result Indicators

Activity / output indicators:

- Number of participants engaging with programmes / services supported and, where possible, as a percentage of the target population (older people)

Indicators should be based on monitoring data / statistical data collected from service providers

Result indicators related to institutions and capacity building:

- Evidence of good practice (outreach, assessment of needs, planning, partnerships, user involvement) in the age-friendly city / neighbourhoods programme.

Indicators will need to be explored based on research

Result indicators related to the target population:

- Rates of diagnosed long-standing (chronic) physical and mental ill health problems in older people

Indicators should be based on monitoring data / statistical data collected from HSE

- Self-assessed health – percentages in very / poor / fair health versus good / excellent health (census and survey)
- Self-assessed physical and mental health (surveys)
- Sense of safety and security in the neighbourhood
- Ease of access to essential services
- Take-up and quality assessment of key services (health, social care, transport)

Indicators will need to be explored based on periodic research and also from the census

- Reduced social isolation
- Autonomy in decision-making
- Independence
- Quality of life
- Inter-generational solidarity

Indicators will need to be explored based on periodic research and / or from review conducted by providers.

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2.1.3.4 Priority 4: Work and Employability

Low work intensity of households and social welfare dependence are key features of households in the regeneration areas. While the focus is often on the environmental conditions of the neighbourhoods, poor conditions of place are the consequences rather than the causes of the social and economic forces which foster deprivation. Histories of long-term unemployment and worklessness result in a lack of resources and economic security for families. Changes in the types of jobs and skills demanded in the local economy have considerably reduced demand for an unskilled / low skilled labour. Low consumer demand and a weak domestic economy have resulted in a lack of jobs in lower level services and occupations that traditionally provided opportunities for entry level jobs for young people / first time job seekers and those with lower levels of education. Weak labour market demand / lack of jobs combined with high levels of unemployment, as outlined in the analysis of the socio-economic context, increase the competition for available jobs. The current situation of large number of unemployed people in the city also increases the demands on the labour market activation system (referrals, job search, training, work placement provision) and the competition for places on training programmes and work placement schemes. Young people are particularly badly affected by unemployment, especially those in the youngest age categories with low levels of education and likely to be early school leavers. Low levels of educational attainment, discrimination in the labour market linked to stigma of place, poor motivation and orientation towards the labour market, social stressors / crises in family life, problems such as addiction, history of criminality and lack of personal and social competencies are significant barriers to entry to schemes to promote employability and work for significant sections of the population of the regeneration areas. Other barriers could relate to criteria for entry to labour market activation schemes (e.g., being on the “live register”, age criteria applied in entry to schemes etc.).

There are strong links between this priority and the economic pillar of the FIP. The economic pillar of the FIP, in turn, is linked to the strategy for the city where a key challenge is to create new sources of jobs in the local economy (i.e., improve conditions on the demand side of the labour market). Creating new sources of jobs in the local economy, in itself, will not bring sections of the population with long exposures to economic exclusion into the labour market. There are also strong links

between this theme and adult education and community learning (Priority 1, Education and Learning). Specific interventions are required here which, generally, follow the “Pathways to Work” approach, as outlined in the Government Policy Statement on Activation, February 2012 and 2013, and described in the Policy Review.

Objectives

Objectives are as follows:

- 1) To promote improved employability of people of working age in the target population. This encompasses employability in the broadest sense covering personal development / improved motivation towards the labour market, key competencies and skills required in the labour market, and qualification.
- 2) To develop labour market activation and access to employment initiatives for the target population.
- 3) To promote stronger cooperation and collaborative partnerships between activation services (LCETB and SOLUS (formerly FÁS), LES, PAUL Partnership and Intreo offices) and community and voluntary organisations on-the-ground with capacity to reach groups distant from the labour market including targeted interventions for specific groups – in particular, young people who have left school early without qualification and are unemployed or not in employment, education or training (NEETS), long-term unemployed men; women with no or little experience of work including lone parents and who may be economically “inactive”.
- 4) To support people through employability pathways, through on-going access to continuing / further education, training and mentoring including support in employment settings.
- 5) To link employability with jobs developing in the local labour market, including community and new start-up enterprises, jobs in construction linked to the physical regeneration and other employment opportunities in the city, and support the target group to enter such jobs.
- 6) To develop links and work pro-actively with enterprises / businesses and other sources of employment (public and voluntary bodies) within and outside of the target areas with a view to opening up access to work experience / work placements, internships and permanent job placements.

Experience to Date

Experience in the regeneration communities of support to employability and work include services supported by the PAUL Partnership (second chance education, training for work), advice and support services to unemployed people provided by the Local Employment Services, FÁS-supported training initiatives including sectoral skills training for the unemployed in areas including catering and construction at LEDP, Local Training Initiative programmes, occupational skills training in community-based projects including Young People’s Probation Projects (addressed in Priority 5, Families and Youth at Risk below), Jobsclubs (northside and southside) enterprise-related activities of Southill Cooperative, LEDP, St. Mary’s AID and enterprise units in Moyross. Community Employment Schemes have been widely used (training and work experience) and are extremely important for running services in communities provided by community-based organisations. The Royal Cinema: Film and Media Training Centre (based on the redevelopment of the Athenaeum Hall, Upper Cecil Street in the city centre) is a proposed new initiative to provide digital media education and training for learners across the city, including the regeneration areas, and the region, and to act as a centre for the development and exhibition of new digital media, arts and film. This initiative and other projects in city centre development, as proposed under Limerick 2030: An Economic and Spatial Plan for Limerick, could offer new opportunities for the employability strategy for the workforce of the regeneration areas.

Other relevant established initiatives include the work of LCETB’s (formerly the Limerick City VEC’s) Prison Education Unit and the pre-release prisoner education programme.

Only a limited range of actions to support employability, employment and enterprise were taken under the Regeneration Programme 2007-2011. These focused on:

- Youth Soccer Training FETAC Level 5 course promoted by FÁS, LCVEC (now LCETB) and the Football Association of Ireland (FAI) to provide a unique blend of educational and football development for talented young players who are employed, the majority of whom are recruited from regeneration areas. Retention rates are good. The outcomes include participants going on to

play football at international and League of Ireland level and a significant cohort finding employment in sport and leisure or proceeding to third level to study sport;

- CLASP, Community Leadership in Arts & Sport Programme FETAC Level 4 course promoted by FÁS, VEC (now LCETB) and Limerick Southside Ltd. to provide individuals, from predominantly regeneration communities, with the opportunity to gain leadership qualifications in sports and the arts to enable them to take an active role in their community and society as a whole;
- Dedicated Enterprise Officer, based on cooperation between the PAUL Partnership and Limerick City Enterprise Board;
- Support to establish an integrated employment service on the northside involving cooperation between Limerick Regeneration Areas, FÁS and the PAUL Partnership;
- Activities to promote community enterprise in St. Mary's Park, by St. Mary's AID;
- Summer camps at LIT, employing students;
- Vocational training for some groups (e.g. older homeless men) in the Wooden Boat Building School (LEDP);
- Other activities were suggested early in the programme including local employment linked to the jobs in construction likely to materialise with the physical re-build of the estates and a community training centre on the northside. However, these did not come to fruition over the course of the regeneration programme (2007-2011).

Description of Activities

Two linked activities will be promoted under the social programme with a strong connection to the economic pillar of the FIPs. The focus will be on working effectively with the evolving labour market activation initiatives launched by government targeting the long-term unemployed and young people who are unemployed. Youth unemployment is at an extremely high level in the city. Young people with low education and at high risk of economic and social exclusion will be targeted particularly under the FIPs. The bulk of the resources to support employability and work are expected to come from mainstream labour market activation programmes and local services currently in place. Under this priority of the social pillar, the focus is on addressing the additional barriers to employment faced by people of working age, targeting those most

disadvantaged in the labour market with a strong focus on residents of regeneration areas.

A. Labour Market Intervention Programme – (i) Northside and (ii) Southside

In the current climate of high unemployment in Limerick City, it will be extremely difficult to impact on the historic high levels of unemployment and long-term unemployment in the most disadvantaged areas of the city. As well as very high rates of unemployment, there are large numbers of female-headed households who are lone parents in receipt of benefits and not in the labour force (inactive). As outlined in the socio-economic analysis, a relatively high proportion is unable to work due to illness or disability. Activation of the long-term unemployed on Jobseekers' Benefit / Job Assistance with low qualification and under 35 years old is the priority target group of Government's "Pathways to Work" initiative. Addressing the problem of youth unemployment, especially targeting NEETs and applying the "youth guarantee" approach (offering support to NEETs within four months of leaving school) is also a strong priority of government.

Under this priority theme, a labour market intervention programme, targeting most disadvantaged groups in the labour market, will be developed on the northside and southside of the city, prioritising long-term unemployed and young unemployed people in the regeneration areas. Initiatives in adult education will also target inactive groups, particularly, lone parents with low education and a lack of work-related skills and work experience. Access to local and affordable childcare is an important issue for this sub-group. Taking into consideration the local economic context and the typical profile of unemployed and inactive people living in the most disadvantaged areas of the city, the main impact expected is on employability (orientation towards the labour market, development of core / generic skills), referrals into employability pathways (further education and training) and experience of work in schemes such as Community Employment, TÚS, Labour Market Education and Training Fund, Jobclubs and the Back to Education Initiative. Entry into sustainable employment including jobs in the social economy, social enterprise and mainstream economy will be a "bonus". A coordinated approach to working proactively with potential employers, to open up access to work placement and employment opportunities, is required across the social and economic pillar of the FIPs. In terms of skills, for

younger people and those recently unemployed in construction, the national focus on skills training in renewable "green" energy and the local "Cleantech" initiative at LEDP are particularly relevant in skills training for this target group as well as a focus on jobs in tourism, catering and other services (e.g., call centres). Skills training oriented to specific crafts in construction linked to renovation of historic buildings in the city (e.g., Georgian Limerick) could also be appropriate.

Key Agencies / Partners:

The key agencies are LCETB and SOLAS, formerly FÁS, PAUL Partnership, Local Employment Service, local social welfare offices (NEES / Intreo offices), City Enterprise Board / Limerick City and County Council Economic Development Directorate. These bodies will need to work in, and partnership with community and voluntary organisations, businesses and other employers in the city including social enterprises and cooperatives.

In the case of most vulnerable sub-groups, agencies including the Probation Service, Young People's Probation and HSE (family support, addiction) / new Child and Family Support Agency (CSFA) are also relevant. This group is addressed below under Priority 5 (Families and Youth at Risk).

Scope of Action:

The scope of action involves working effectively with the labour market activation system, Government's Action Plan for Jobs, the "Pathways to Work" initiative and "youth guarantee" approach to better meet the needs and support employability of the target population - the long-term unemployed, young people not in employment, education or training (NEETs) – prioritising the regeneration areas or these target groups (long-term unemployed, NEETs) who, until relatively recently, were resident in the regeneration areas. Initiatives can draw on lessons from recent national evaluations⁴.

The main action here is a labour market intervention programme with a northside and southside dimension, adopting "the pathways the work" approach and linked to the proposals for community-based training centres and support for employment initiatives under the economic pillar of the FIP, as well as new opportunities for training and work arising from

4 Evaluation of the Labour Market Activation Fund (LMAF) 2010: Final Report 2012, prepared by PA Consulting; Activation in Ireland: An Evaluation of the National Employment Action Plan. Prepared by the ESRI, 2011; Literacy, Numeracy and Activation Amongst the Unemployed, Prepared by the ESRI, 2012.

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implementation of the physical pillar of the FIPs. Additional support and customisation of existing and new schemes will be provided under the social regeneration programme to help address the additional barriers to employment faced by the target groups. Such barriers could relate to aspects of eligibility for active employment schemes (e.g., a requirement to recruit people only aged 25 years and over). There are also strong links between actions under this theme to improve employability and those specified above related to adult education and community learning. In the case of lone parents, in particular, there are links to community-based childcare interventions (Priority 1 Education and Learning). Access to, and progression in, adult education can be an important part of the pathways approach. There are connections here to the activity proposed above, focused on bringing young women lone parents into adult education and learning.

Types of action to be supported under the social regeneration programme are as follows:

- 1) Flexible training programmes which include core skills development, followed by vocational training (employable skills) with integrated literacy and numeracy and personal development components. The vocational component will include programmes with a specific sectoral / occupational focus and could include: green technologies, catering, tourism, healthcare and social care, sports and recreation, craft skills in construction and could involve new types of apprenticeships. For instance, new apprenticeships involving training combined with learning on the job could be particularly appropriate for young unemployed.
- 2) Community-based outreach, including non-formal methods (using word-of-mouth, working with community services that provide access to the target population) and facilitate engagement. Ideally, this should lead to a single point of access to information – one for the northside and one for the southside - on opportunities, eligibility and benefits. It will involve working closely with local social welfare offices (NEES / Intreo) and the LES with responsibility for activation, FAS/SOLAS, LCETB (training and adult education) as well as community and voluntary organisations including those engaged in providing childcare.
- 3) Additional advice / guidance and mentoring support. This will be linked to developing for each participant a progression action plan and

“pathway” to improved employability (further education, training, other services as appropriate) and ultimately access to employment. Additional guidance / support could be developed to promote good attendance at training / further education / work placement, to avoid drop-out and, in the event, of the intervention being inappropriate /unsuitable, to help find other options for the participant.

- 4) Work proactively with local employers, public service organisations, community and voluntary sector to identify skills needed and opportunities for work. This relates to various work options: work experience, casual / part-time work, current job vacancies in the mainstream labour market, social employment and social enterprise. This will also require liaison with the National Employment and Entitlements Services (NEES)/ Intreo offices linked to government policy to increase the percentage of vacancies filled by people on the Live Register, and to clarify / deal with any issues regarding eligibility and entitlements to welfare (primary and secondary benefits). As outlined above, opportunities will also be pursued linked to the roll-out of the FIPs - physical, economic and social plans - such that “needs” can be linked to new sources of employment in the city in general and in the regeneration communities. These could be in areas such as: environmental improvements, construction and renovation including improved insulation, recycling; caring / social care; horticulture / food production; catering; heritage, culture and tourism; para-educational activities (play); out-of-school support programmes.
- 5) Support for work placement (work experience, short-term and longer-term placement) and jobs for those engaged in or who have completed training and activation. This will include working with employers and / or individual participants to embed the placement with the employer, even if the work performance of the individual placed is not entirely satisfactory initially.
- 6) Local partnership and capacity building (outreach strategy, information strategy, planning provision, managing implementation of the labour market programmes, monitoring outputs, tracking results).

B. Addressing Additional Barriers to Economic Inclusion: Most Vulnerable Groups

While long-term unemployed people in the target areas face serious barriers to access to employment, there are specific sub-groups within that population who are presented with additional difficulties. These include: young people at risk of, or with a history of, offending behaviour; people coming out of drug / alcohol rehabilitation programmes and /or struggling with addictions; young adults on the margins, for instance, who may not have attended school since their early teens, are homeless or effectively homeless; Travellers; people with a history of mental health problems; and people with disabilities which have prevented them from participating in employability or work programmes.

The recent baseline study of the regeneration areas⁵, for instance, shows high proportions of the population with complex problems including family members in prison, addiction problems as well as unemployment, low education and low incomes, as outlined in the analysis of the socio-economic context. This vulnerable group in the labour market is likely to include larger numbers of males but will also include females. Mostly, they lack a stake in society. Some may be operating outside the social welfare system (i.e., some young people not in education, employment or training), and some may be seen as a key source of the problems in their community (e.g., involved in anti-social behaviour, vulnerable to involvement in crime). Working more effectively to integrate residents with this profile is an important part of the strategy to stabilise the communities. However, being effective here will require special skills to build connections with, to engage with the target population and to work to support improved employability (education, training, work). This is likely to be a slow process. It will require links with key players including: Probation Services; Young Person’s Probation community-based projects (Céim ar Chéim, Southill Outreach, Probation and Linkage in Limerick Scheme, PALLS); Garda Diversion Projects; the Prison Service; Prisoner support programmes (Bedford Row, LEDP’s Prisoner Support Programme); the Gardaí (Community Gardaí) and, depending on needs, other services in family support, mental health, addiction etc. The wider needs of these groups will be addressed under Priority 5 (Families and Youth at Risk) below.

⁵ Humphreys, E., D. McCafferty and A. Higgins (2012). *How are our Kids? Experiences and Needs of Children and Families in Limerick City with a Particular Emphasis on Limerick’s Regeneration Areas*. Limerick City Children’s Services Committee

Scope of Action

- 1) Outreach, similar to that described above, targeted on most vulnerable groups and inter-agency cooperation in relation to referrals, access and support services. Some of the outreach is likely to require an informal approach (and not just formal referral processes) and a more intensive approach in supporting individuals. It is expected that even with intensive efforts, some will not effectively engage and it will be a slow process. However, with some successes and new role models emerging, encouragement and peer support will be provided to others.
- 2) Additional advice / guidance and support linked to developing an holistic support plan for the participant which includes an employability dimension. This, for instance, may be part of an after-care support in cooperation with Probation Services, Young Person’s Probation, family support in cooperation with the HSE (Child and Family Support Agency), mental health care management, accommodation, re-integration following exit from addiction services etc.
- 3) Specific activities to promote and encourage engagement in employability initiatives. This could include using guest speaker events / role models from the community and elsewhere, site visits to education, training and support projects and work settings, “taster” training, use of dedicated “key worker” with specific clients, mentors or “buddy” to support them in training and work placements.
- 4) On-going support to participate in the employability actions identified above in the northside and southside community settings – i.e., further education, training, work placement. This will draw on a similar range of supports including key worker, mentor, or “buddy”.
- 5) Coordinated approach in developing linkages and working with employers across various providers of employability services to vulnerable groups, with a view to identifying and supporting temporary work placements as well as mainstream employment opportunities. A coordinated approach is required in order to reduce the potential for employability services competing with each other for the same pool of employers and placements. In view of current conditions in the local labour market, developing placements and the support and good will of potential employers will be required.

Participation in education and training activities will be developed within the broader framework of the programme for the long-term unemployed and young unemployed as outlined above. Indeed, separate provision of education / training may not be necessary / not appropriate for some sub-groups. This is in keeping with national policy not to continue with separate training provision for groups such as Travellers (e.g., Senior Traveller Training Centres) but rather to work with an integrated model of provision.

Scope for Funding Support

The main source of funding for the employability programmes are the mainstream services in labour market activation, further education and training. Funds available under the social regeneration programme are for additional activities to help address the specific barriers to employability and employment faced by the long-term unemployed and particularly vulnerable groups. It can provide for the following types of expenditure:

- Funding for additional services to improve the reach and engagement with the target population – i.e., targeted and more intensive outreach, specific events to encourage and support participation.
- Funding for additional advisory / guidance and support services including group work, peer

support networks, mentoring and continuity of such support into placement and after-care in employment settings.

- Funding to engage in activities to strengthen partnerships across the main players – which can including a large number of potential partners, depending on the target group / barriers addressed - learning networks and capacity in community-based settings and amongst (potential) employers.

Progress and Results Indicators

Activity / output indicators:

- Number of participants in the labour market intervention programmes (northside / southside / most vulnerable groups)
- Number of “pathways” plans prepared (participants)
- Number of participants completing support programmes

Indicators based on monitoring data collected from service providers in labour market activation

Result indicators related to institutions and capacity building:

- Capacity building of institutions in terms of better collaboration, more effective outreach, sustained

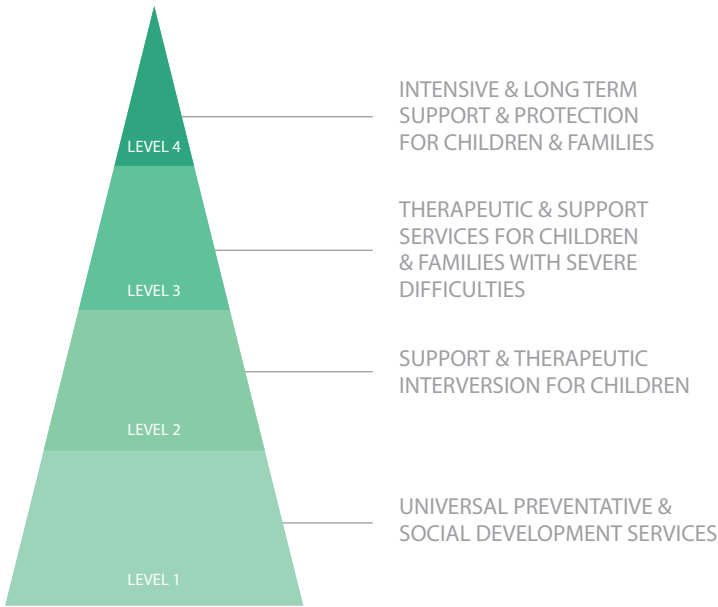


Figure 1.2: Hardiker Model of Needs and Service Interventions

St Mary's Park Resident



- engagement with the target population
- Links with employers / employer engagement / employer commitment to placements (numbers)

Indicators explored based on research / evaluation

Result indicators related to the target population:

- Number achieving qualification and level of qualification from adult learning (NFQ framework) and vocational training
- Number progressing to employment on exit from the intervention (full-time / part-time)
- Number in employment / placement six months after completion of the intervention
- Number progressing to further education and training
- Confidence / self-esteem / personal development
- Changed expectations
- Reduced social isolation

These indicators will need to be explored from the tracking systems in place, follow-up surveys and evaluation research.

2.1.4.5 Priority 5: Families & Youth At Risk

This theme is addressed to family support and young people, focusing on families at higher levels of need and young people at risk. Early intervention and preventive action to promote positive outcomes for children and families are addressed in different ways under other priority themes of the programme – namely in Priority 1, Education and Learning and Priority 2, Health and Well-Being. Interventions under the Employability and Work priority are also relevant in that improved profile of education, skills and work for parents and young people can improve economic security and bring other benefits (structure to family life and role models). Interventions under the first two themes in particular are directed to strengthening universal services in accessible community-based settings – namely, schools, primary health care teams, crèches – which are “the critical interagency interfaces for services to children and families” (Report of the Task Force on the Child and Family Support Agency, 2012).

Analysis of the experiences and needs of children and families in Limerick, as outlined in the socio-economic analysis, showed widespread problems of poverty and social exclusion and extensive gaps between families in the regeneration areas compared with the average population. These “gaps” apply across a range of

outcome indicators (education, health, economic security, safety, environment)⁶. The analysis also showed a strong prevalence of families with complex problems. Families with complex problems and young people at risk have proved to be a most difficult problem to address in social regeneration. Some families at risk are well-known to the services while others with serious difficulties of poverty, social isolation and finding it difficult to cope remain “under the radar”. Further factors are distrust of State services in general, particularly, services with responsibility for child protection and child welfare and a lack of confidence in the State authorities / agencies to deal effectively with these issues and the problem of anti-social behaviour on the estates.

Families and young people targeted under this priority theme are those at the higher levels of need, using the Hardiker scale to define thresholds of needs and corresponding levels of service intervention (1=universal to 4, highest level of need requiring most intensive support).

This priority theme also includes restorative justice and restorative practice interventions, comprising a preventive strand based on education / activities in schools (professional development of teachers and relevant agencies) and a targeted strand for young people who have come before the Courts. A Restorative Practice Demonstration programme, is promoted by the consortium of stakeholders in children’s services, supported under the Programme Innovation and Development Fund, SSIRL.

The approach under this Priority is to respond to families in difficulties who are at high levels of need (remedial interventions) within a broader framework of preventive strategies in education, health, community-based recreation, leisure and universal child and youth services and early intervention (addressed in Priorities 1 and 2). In line with national policy, it will seek to address problems in families / children’s well-being based on a whole family / whole community approach. Child protection has the highest priority in national policy (Children First). Child protection may require temporary or longer-term placement in alternative care arrangements due to problems such as addiction, illness, lack of parenting capacity and abuse. Poverty and in some cases debt are further critical issues in child welfare.

Dealing more effectively with problems in families at the highest level of need should help stabilise communities. Combined with other measures to build community engagement and capacity, successes here should generate more positive community social capital and a social context that enforces pro-social and civic behaviour. An important aspect here is to support improved community safety.

Objectives

Objectives are as follows:

- 1) To promote improved family functioning, improved parenting capacity and better outcomes for children and families with a profile of complex social problems and at greatest risk of social exclusion and poor child welfare.
- 2) To improve the efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery to families with a profile of complex social problems, drawing on the essential service characteristics to support better outcomes for children and families, as identified in national policy.⁷ This could include adding new services if needed, as well as adapting existing services supported under mainstream programmes.
- 3) To improve outcomes for young people (adolescents) at high risk of social exclusion and who may be engaged in or at high risk of offending behaviour.
- 4) To build capacity and partnership across the key stakeholders, with a view to improving quality in service delivery and integration in planning, implementation and evaluation of services to children and families at highest levels of need.

Experience to Date

There are numerous services providing family support and services for children and young people focused on youth at risk, and targeting the population of the regeneration areas. Targeting is effected either by services being located in regeneration areas or because of the large caseloads of families drawn from the regeneration areas.

The mainstream agency is HSE, Children and Family Services, with social workers being the key frontline service. Voluntary organisations are important providers of services to children and families at risk. Their role has evolved linked to their capacity to reach the target population; and, typically they have better rapport and there is less mistrust of voluntary

⁶ Humphreys, E., D. McCafferty and A. Higgins (2012). *How are our Kids? Experiences and Needs of Children and Families in Limerick City with a Particular Emphasis on Limerick’s Regeneration Areas*. Limerick City Children’s Services Committee
⁷ Connecting with families and community strengths; Ensuring quality services; Opening access to services; Delivering integrated services; Planning, monitoring and evaluating services

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compared with statutory organisations with responsibility for child protection and child welfare. Family support services provided by voluntary and community sector organisations typically operate via referrals from HSE and are (part)-funded by HSE operating under local service agreements.

Focusing on family support, some services are run by specialist national charities including: Barnardos Family Support Project serving family experiencing difficulties throughout the city, operating on the northside (St. Mary's Park and Moyross) and the southside (Southill and Ballinacurra Weston); Sophia Housing, Southill offering intensive family support, tenancy sustainment and advocacy; RESPOND! Suimhneas, based in Moyross, offering sheltered accommodation for mothers and children who are homeless often due to domestic violence; Extern, based in Moyross but servicing a wider population, targeting children / young people up to age 17 years who are assessed at high levels of need and providing support programmes working with children and parents; Youth Advocate Programme Ireland targeting young people and their families at high risk living in Limerick City and County. The model, similar to Extern, is described as a strengths-based and intensive support model which aims to keep young people in their community and out of care / custody. The Northstar Family Support project, operating at Watch House Cross, offers support services including information, counselling, peer support to families affected by a family member's addiction problem to drugs and / or alcohol. Family Resource Centres, operating out of Southill and Ballynanty, aim to address social disadvantage in community settings by supporting the functioning of the family unit, providing services to lone parents, families, women, men, young people and elderly people. The Southill Domestic Abuse project offers one-to-one support and peer support to women experiencing domestic abuse. Broader-based universal services in the communities which provide elements of family support (but not intensive specialist help) include Community Companions Moyross and the Limerick Social Service Centre, Southill and Weston Family Support Initiative.

Focusing on young people at risk, the HSE again has a key role here, as outlined above. The Irish Youth Justice Service, working in cooperation with other stakeholders including the DES, HSE, An Garda Síochána and community-based organisations, is also a key player. A similar model of running services in

cooperation with community / voluntary organisations applies to projects supported by the Irish Youth Justice Service and Young Person's Probation. The main method of access is through referrals from key agencies but sometimes through school, parents or self-referrals (e.g., to Garda Youth Diversion projects). Youth Forums have been set up in the city to provide a structure to support integration and information sharing across the key stakeholders in relation to young people at risk. In terms of key projects / services in place:

- There are five Garda Youth Diversion (GYD) Projects in Limerick, operated by An Garda Síochána and community-based organisations. Three are based in the regeneration areas: Corpus Christi Youth Development Group, Moyross; King's Island GYD; LSCYI Southill and two in other locations in the city (Ballynanty Youth and Irishtown Youth, St. John's Square). GYD projects offer diversionary activities for children drawn into the criminal justice system so that they will avoid this in the future. GYD projects have an enhanced employability dimension (access to education, training, personal development, job access). There is also a stronger focus on planning services based on an analysis of data on reported youth crime from the PULSE crime data analysis system in the locality they serve and a stronger partnership approach.
- Young Person's Probation (YPP) projects in Limerick are as follows: – Céim ar Chéim in Moyross and Southill Outreach which are community-based organisations. Céim ar Chéim, Moyross offers qualification-based education and training programmes for young offenders referred from the Courts / Juvenile Liaison Officers, youth at risk identified by the Gardaí, schools, National Education and Welfare Board, HSE and early school leavers. It also offers a social education programme, behaviour modification, drug and alcohol awareness and other support services. Southill Outreach targets young people aged 12 to 18 years, working with referrals from YPP and residential institutions (highest level of support) and through outreach work on the street.
- Le Chéile Restorative Justice Project is part of nationwide project working in cooperation with YPP. Le Chéile Limerick works with young offenders in the city, including the regeneration areas. In restorative justice, it brings together the offender, the victim and others as appropriate, supported by a facilitator. The restorative justice options are

based on expressing the harm done and discussing / agreeing reparation. It is also developing a volunteer base and mentoring service. Probation and Linkage in Limerick Scheme (PALLS) is a new training centre for ex-offenders referred by the Probation Service and established in partnership with Limerick Regeneration. As well as training for employability and access to employment, services seek to address anti-social attitudes and behaviours.

- Special schools for children at risk, often with a history of minor offending, are also part of the provision for this target group (St. Augustine's Sexton Street, St. Canice's Mulgrave Street).
- Facilities and services in youth work including clubs, sports, art, dance, drama, and education facilities are available in the regeneration areas promoted by Limerick Youth Services and based in the communities. As well as the city centre location (Henry Street), services for youth in regeneration areas operate from: the Factory, Southside Youth Space (Fulflex), Southill Area Centre, Westend Youth Services, Our Lady of Lourdes, Northside Youth Café and in King's Island (Nicholas Street). While these include mainstream /universal services for youth, linked to location in the regeneration areas and the profile of the young population, they also offer services targeted on young people with difficulties (e.g. counselling, homework support, links to Garda Youth Diversion etc.). They all have a strong volunteer base.
- The Limerick Sports Partnership is a one-stop-shop for sport and physical activity opportunities in Limerick. It provides information, advice and grants for club/community links, education and training opportunities including mentoring in club governance, as well as planning and implementation of sustainable activities with a particular focus on disadvantaged young people. Programme examples include Way to Go Kids nutrition and physical activity programme for overweight children and their parents, VIP Volunteer Inspired Programme for young adults wishing to gain sports leadership qualifications and the confidence to directly deliver sport in their communities (many progress to third level education as a result of this intervention). Sport is regarded as a powerful tool for engaging young people, building their self-esteem, developing teamwork and leadership skills and providing positive opportunities for integration through activities such as inter-community tournaments.

Types of activities and programmes in family support and youth at risk supported to date by the regeneration programme (2007-2011) in partnership with other players include:

- The Local Assessment of Needs System (LANS), a strategic project of Limerick City Children's Services Committee, which promotes multi-agency work addressed to children with needs at levels 2-3 on the Hardiker scale. It is an "early warning" / preventive system; it has integrated a Common Assessment Framework and is developing an information / data sharing system.
- Extension of capacity of family support programmes managed by voluntary bodies. These include Extern, receiving a grant to double its capacity, the North Star Family Support Project and Sophia Housing.
- Support for new universal services in regeneration areas which include support for families (Moyross Community Companions, Limerick Social Services Centre Southill and Weston Family Support Initiatives).
- Funding to existing community-based voluntary organisation to develop new or enhanced services such as outreach in Céim ar Chéim; Bedford Row Family Project (prisoner focus), Southill Domestic Abuse and Family Resource Centres.
- More substantial funding into Probation-led projects including the establishment of PALLS and Restorative Justice / Restorative Practice.
- Funding to support the development of youth facilities and services in regeneration areas including the Southill Youthspace, The Factory and the Northside Youth Café.
- Funding for new / additional projects such as those offered by the Irish Horse Welfare Trust (equine care, targeting disadvantaged young people and developed in cooperation with community-based organisations), Cois Céim (a support service for young people with behavioural problems in school to help them address their problems and reintegrate to mainstream school) and AK Illen Wooden Boatbuilding School at Limerick Enterprise Development Partnership (LEDP) and in Moyross.

Families & Youth at Risk: Description of Activities

Three activities will be promoted under this priority of the social regeneration programme. They are strongly inter-connected. The targeted interventions identified here need to work effectively with the universal and

preventive actions in Priority 1, Education and Learning and Priority 2, Health and Well-Being above, to support better outcomes for children and families. There are also strong connections between activities focused on Families and Youth at Risk and Priority 4, Employability and Work. Improved effectiveness and better outcomes here will improve conditions for Community and Civic Engagement (Priority 7) and support and contribute to the Policing, Justice and Community Safety Priority.

A. Assessment of Needs & Intervention Pathways for Family Support

Criticisms of services in child and family support are that they are too fragmented; they reach too few children and families in need, they intervene too late in the life-cycle (children are older) and too late after the on-set of problems, and there is a lack of follow-up to monitor and sustain outcomes through appropriate after-care. There are also criticisms that family support and children and youth services including services in education settings can "take over the parenting role" and may not pay enough attention to developing responsible parenting and empowering parents. Actions under this theme must be structured to respond better to the complex needs of the target group and to address these criticisms. Working in a multi-agency context within the coordination structure of the Limerick City CSC, investment has been made in developing the Local Assessment of Needs System (LANS). This has included training of personnel in relevant statutory and voluntary / community organisations in the Common Assessment Framework (CAF) and a data management system. However, engagement with the LANS and the CAF is voluntary. The test of the LANS will be improved capacity in the service infrastructure to support children and families at risk and produce better outcomes.

Key Agencies / Partners

HSE-led, operating in a multi-agency context involving all agencies with a role in the provision of services to children and families and relevant community and voluntary sector providers. With the creation of the Child and Family Support Agency (CFSa), key statutory services in education and health including domestic violence services will come within the remit of the new agency while more structured interface with services such as Garda Youth Diversion and Young Person's Probation is expected. The CSC is the key

planning and coordination structure.

SSIRL, Programme Innovation and Development Fund is providing support for capacity building of the Children's Services Committee, addressed to improved service coordination, development of the evidence-base for an action plan for children and a Quality Assurance Framework in service provision for children and families.

Scope of Action

- 1) Continued support for the development and implementation of the LANS and embedding it more widely in organisations providing services to children and families. This includes wider use of the Common Assessment Framework by statutory and voluntary organisations providing services to children, with support provided (training, advice) and improved inter-agency data sharing.
- 2) For each child assessed as falling within specific thresholds of need on the Hardiker Scale 2-4, preparation of an integrated pathway of care plan for service provision corresponding to needs. This includes assessment of need based on common / specialist service response options including services in the statutory and voluntary sector, referral / timeframe for service delivery, monitoring of progress in the service responses, review of the care pathway and aftercare provision. Aftercare should include stronger engagement with the universal / preventive services in health and education and employability identified under other themes of the plan. The principles of whole family and whole community approach also apply here.
- 3) Continued support for additional family support services delivered by voluntary / community organisations under local service agreements with the HSE / Child Family Support Agency. Drawing on past experience, additional capacity may be required to deal with the volume of cases requiring support and / or measures added where gaps in existing services to address needs are identified. In order to address fragmentation, individualised family support plans must be based on a "one child / one family / one plan" approach with a single point of contact identified for the family. In cooperation with the lead agency (HSE / Child and Family Support Agency), planning for sustainable funding of such targeted services is a priority.

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- 4) Development and roll-out of the Quality Assurance Framework by the Children's Services Committee and assistance, if needed, in developing the evidence base in action planning for children and families (training, capacity building, research, technical support). As part of planning and review of performance, aggregated monitoring data related to service delivery and outputs (assessments, referrals, take-up, completion) and results /outcomes will be reviewed systematically and fed into on-going planning.

B. Improved Outcomes for Youth at Risk

Improving outcomes for youth at risk is a key challenge. These are the children and youth for whom families, communities and universal service provision have failed to provide a context of safety, security and access to resources for normal childhood experiences and to make the successful transition to adulthood. These children / young people typically have difficulties at school and are at highest risk of poor educational attainment and school drop-out. Over the years, the age of on-set of problems including offending behaviour has reduced (children engage in offending and anti-social behaviour at younger ages compared with the past). With most troubled young people, in the absence of effective support, the number and seriousness of offences increases over time. Some find themselves before the Courts and, in few cases, in detention and special care arrangements. While boys have higher rates of offending than girls and have a profile of greater difficulties, girls are also affected by offending behaviour. A further important aspect is victimisation. Young people with a history of offending are often victims of offences, especially violence (bullying, physical assault) and are often exposed to aggressive and violent behaviours including violence within the family.

Key Agencies / Partners

Irish Youth Justice / Young Person's Probation, An Garda Síochána community Gardaí / Garda Youth Diversion, working with services in education and training (schools, LCETB, SOLAS, formerly FÁS), health and family support (HSE / Child and Family Support Agency) and community-based organisations. The Children's Services Committee is the key planning and coordination structure. Funding is available from SSIRL to the consortium for children to support a Restorative Practice Demonstration Model.

Scope of Action

- 1) Additional / new methods of outreach to improve effectiveness in the reach of young people at risk. This includes "out of hours" outreach activities (evenings and weekends) when problem behaviour may be more likely to occur. Outreach should be directed to bringing children at risk into diversion activities as early as possible after the on-set of problems – linked to the "early warning" system which is a key objective of the Local Assessment of Needs System (LANS) / Common Assessment Framework (CAF). Outreach needs to work in tandem with the referral systems which apply across statutory and voluntary organisations, as outlined above. Consent and engagement with the parents / the family needs to be addressed and the model of the integrated pathway of care applied with on-going risk assessment and tracking applied, as outlined above.
- 2) Support to apply best practice in the development of re-integration plans and enhanced services for young offenders. These should include behaviour modification programmes, social and personal development to help young people make positive choices, working in group settings on a one-to-one basis. An holistic approach to re-integration is required and this will take different pathways depending on individual characteristics (age) and profile (history, type and intensity of problems), the wider family situation and social relationships with friends and in the community. A whole family approach, similarly, should be taken if appropriate. Other care options should be applied if this is not appropriate in the interest of child protection / child welfare. A strong focus on education should be applied in all re-integration plans to support re-engagement with learning in school or other settings depending on needs including age. For those in their older teens and early twenties, employability (training, orientation to work, work experience, placements) is a key element of re-integration. Enhanced aftercare provision, to help prevent re-offending and support positive re-integration into community and society are further elements. This could include commitment on the part of the young person / parent to engage with specific universal services, for instance, to develop learning, manage health, improve parenting, and engage with sport / leisure / arts / music. This should, in turn, help to re-engage with positive peer networks and in the community. On-going

mentoring could support aftercare.

- 3) Restorative Justice, Le Chéile model: Targeted Strand. This is targeted on young offenders, as described above, in order that young offenders understand the impact of their offending behaviour on the victim, their families and community and make reparation. The initiative aims to divert offenders from further criminal activity and support participation in rehabilitation / empathy programmes to address the causes of the offending behaviour. The project also involves training of volunteers (e.g., to sit on victim impact panels) and has a strong volunteer base.

C. Supporting Youth: Connecting and Participating in Community and Society

Promoting participation of young people in community life, supporting positive networks of friends and peers and across the generations are important to sustain better outcomes for children and stable cohesive communities. Being part of positive networks is particularly important for children and young people coming out of rehabilitation and offender re-integration programmes. Giving children and young people a voice is a further important objective of national policy in favour of children and young people.

Key Agencies / Partners

Limerick Youth Services, Limerick Sports Partnership, voluntary and community-based organisations running educational, sports, recreation / leisure and other activities for children and young people, schools, Irish Youth Justice Service / Probation. The Children's Services Committee has a key role in overall planning and coordination structure in service provision for children and families. A Restorative Practice Demonstration Model which involves a preventive intervention in schools and other agencies is being supported under the Programme Innovation and Development Fund (SSIRL), to the consortium of stakeholders engaged in improving outcomes for children.

Scope of Action

- 1) Youth facilities and services with extended provision (evenings and weekends). Additional support can make better use of the investment in facilities for young people in the regeneration areas / other areas of the city. Promoting integration of young people from the regeneration areas into city-wide youth activities / and provision

- in mixed social settings is also appropriate. This is to facilitate relationships between young people across communities in the city and more diversified social networks in peer groups. This could generate better relationships and friendships across social groups in the city and create positive peer influences and connection to new opportunities. Activities such as sport, music and the arts are particularly relevant here.
- 2) Promoting participation of young people from disadvantaged communities in fora which seek to give young people a voice in society and in relation to decision-making on local service provision. Comhlaire na nÓg / a local youth council is a relevant structure here.
 - 3) Wider roll-out and embedding of the preventive strand of the Restorative Practice initiative, managed through an interagency partnership – a sub-group of the Children’s Services Committee. This is education-based, delivered in schools focused on a whole school approach and agencies working into and out of selected schools. In the development phase, this was focused on four second level schools in the city and offered training to staff in restorative practice. In the next phase, the model can be extended to other schools and relevant agencies.
 - 4) Provide a small grants fund to groups of young people to support them in developing and implementing ideas that contribute to the fabric of their community. Decisions on this fund should be made by young people for young people.

Scope for Funding Support

The key source of funding for families and children at risk are the mainstream programmes / services currently falling within the statutory responsibility of the HSE (to be transferred to the Child and Family Support Agency) and the Department of Justice and Equality (young offenders / diversion of children from offending). A further important source of funding is the LCETB (for educational elements) and formerly FÁS (on training). In terms of funding for youth work, key sources are the various grant programmes under the Department of Children and Youth Affairs: Special Projects for Youth (focused on socially-disadvantaged youth), Young People’s Facilities and Services Fund, Youth Service Grant, Youth Information Centres). Mostly, these grants are administered through the VECs (now the ETBs) to fund operations of the mainstream

youth services, youth projects in community and action centres. At national level, the Young People’s Facilities and Services Fund co-funds local development officers with the GAA, FAI and IRFU to work in the regeneration areas. The recent grant, Music Generation Limerick City, for a programme of music education in the city is a further important source of additional resources. Limerick City Sports Partnership provides resources including information and advice on the governance of sports clubs, as well as planning and implementation of activities.

- Funding under the social regeneration programme is for additional activities to support / improve the effectiveness of mainstream provision. It can provide for the following types of expenditure:
- Funding for additional services to improve the reach and engagement with the target population – i.e., targeted and more intensive outreach.
 - Funding for additional services which address gaps in services enhancing in-service care and after-care provision (advice, group work, peer support, mentoring).
 - Funding to build capacity of agencies / partnerships to better respond to the needs, for planning and developing services and to support monitoring and tracking of participation and outcomes.

Progress and Results Indicators

Activity / output indicators:

- Families and children at Risk
- Number of child protection referrals (gender / age profile)
- Number of child welfare referrals (gender / age profile)
- Number of participants with completed assessments (common / specialist / risk assessment)
- Number of care / integrated pathways plans (participants / families)
- Number of participants (families / children) completing support programmes

Indicators based on monitoring data collected based on HSE records and records of other relevant service providers

Children / Young People at risk of offending:

- Number of referrals to Youth Diversion and percentage admitted to Diversion Programme (gender / age profile)

- Number of referrals unsuitable for Diversion Programme (and reason why)
- Case decisions as a percentage of total referrals to Diversion Programme

Indicators based on monitoring data collected by GYD projects and reported on an annual basis

- Number of restorative justice referrals and number in targeted restorative justice programme (gender / age profile)
- Numbers of people trained in restorative practice
- Number of schools / agencies involved in restorative practice (preventive programme)
- Number of young people reached in Restorative Justice, targeted and preventive (gender / age profile)

Indicators based on records / monitoring data from Le Chéile Limerick

Children / Young Offenders:

- Number of young persons’ assessment requests prepared (pre-sanction reports / community service reports / pre-sanction requests to consider community service)
- Number supervisions of young persons (orders for supervision / community service orders / orders for supervision during deferment of penalty / family conference referrals)

Indicators based on records / monitoring data from Irish Youth Justice / Young Person’s Probation Service

Youth

- Number of young people regularly using or participating in a service / facility / club (average numbers attending)

Indicators based on records / monitoring data from Youth Services

Result indicators related to institutions and capacity building:

- Evidence of best practices embedded in organisations (e.g. use of the Common Assessment Framework)
- Evidence of improved data sharing
- Evidence of improved inter-agency / partnership working (referral processes, coordinated planning, coordinated service delivery, coordinated tracking)

Indicators based on research / evaluation

“Very impressed with a lot of the plans. As a community we need to see progress. We need to see an improvement in the appearance of Southhill. If the community wants to move forward we need to keep the people in southhill and not move them out. We need to see some building work to start.”

O'Malley Park / Keyes Park Resident

”



Result indicators related to the target population:

- Families and children at risk
- Evidence of improved parental responsibility (e.g., monitoring and disciplinary strategies)
- Evidence of reduced exposure of child to risks (harm, drug / alcohol abuse / neglect)
- Evidence of improved relationships within the family
- Evidence of re-integration to mainstream (e.g., school, work, peers, community)
- Evidence of participation in community / society (involved in clubs, sport, civic activities)

Indicators based on research including community-based surveys

Child Health:

- Health status of the child (very / poor to excellent health)
- Rates of diagnosed chronic physical illnesses
- Rates of diagnosed chronic mental illnesses / behavioural / learning difficulties
- Profile of strengths and difficulties in children, percentage in “borderline” and “abnormal” ranges of difficulties compared with an average population

Indicators based on statistical data available from secondary sources and research (Strengths and Difficulties in children)

Learning / Education:

- Rates of absence of child for over 20 days from school
- Rates of attainment in literacy and numeracy compared with the average based on standardised tests
- Rates of retention in school to Leaving Cert•
- Rates of progression from school to college / PLC course / training / work
- Levels of parental education in terms of highest educational qualification
- Rates of parental participation in further education

Indicators will draw on statistical data available from secondary and administrative sources (e.g., anonymised records across schools).

Safety:

- Rates of exposures to conflict in the home and exposures to specific issues including drug use
- Rates of victimisation – bullying in school / community, harassment / assault, theft
- Rates of specific neighbourhood problems (e.g. anti-social behaviour) and safety issues (crime, dereliction)
- Local crime statistics

Indicators based mainly on research. Local crime statistics from secondary sources (Garda Síochána).

Economic Security:

- Household income sources and adequacy of income (great difficulty making ends meet / very easy to make ends meet)
- Employment rates
- Unemployment rates

Indicators based on research and statistical data from secondary sources

Part of positive networks of family, friends, neighbours and community:

- Parental affection and quality of parent child relationship
- Extent to which parents and children have close relationships with extended family
- Social trust of people in the neighbourhood
- Extent of support from family, neighbours and friends
- Rates of involvement in voluntary / community organisations
- Rates of involvement in clubs, sport and community-based activities.

Indicators based on research focused on community-based surveys

Youth Offending Behaviour

- Number of anti-social behaviour orders
- Number of defendants (young people)

Indicators based on secondary sources (Garda Síochána and Irish Youth Justice)

Young Offenders

- Number achieving qualification and level of qualification from offender re-integration (QQI / FETAC framework) and vocational training
- Number progressing to employment (full-time / part-time) on exit from the intervention
- Number in employment / placement six months after completion of the intervention
- Number progressing to further education and further training

These indicators will need to be explored from the tracking systems in place, follow-up surveys and evaluation research

- Evidence of improved family functioning (assessment tool)
- Confidence / self-esteem / personal development (individuals)
- Changed expectations (individuals and families)
- Reduced social isolation (individuals and families)

These indicators will need to be explored from the tracking systems in place, follow-up surveys and evaluation research.

2.1.3.6 Summary of the Priority Themes, Activities and Key Players

The structure of the social programme, reflecting the hierarchy of the objectives, and the five priorities themes are shown in Figure 1.4

This shows that the programme has a mix of preventive activities (to prevent serious problems arising later) and remedial / structural activities (intervening to address problems that are in evidence, focused on deeply structural / most acute problems). The groups in the population addressed by the social programme focus on a lifecourse approach, generally, and targeting groups with the most acute needs (long-term unemployed, vulnerable groups most distant from the labour market, lone parents with low education, youth unemployed focused on NEETs; problem families, children at risk with high level needs, young offenders / youth at risk of offending). Thematic priorities showing strong links / integration across the priority themes are also shown in Figure 4.3.

Community participation and empowerment and a “whole of government approach” are two cross-cutting priorities, under-pinning the priorities of the social programme, supporting programme integration. The

2. Framework Strategy

Policing, justice and community safety priority aims to create conditions to stabilise and build the confidence of the communities and is also at the foundations of the whole programme. These priority themes are elaborated below in next section.

A summary of the priority themes, activities and key projects, as elaborated above, together with the agencies responsible for delivery is shown below under Implementation Arrangements. The key statutory agencies responsible for implementation of the social programme are the HSE (children and families, health especially primary care), Department of Education and Skills (schools, adult education, further education and training), Department of Social Protection (employment and welfare entitlements) and Irish Youth Justice Service (diversion of young people from crime, youth offending) with important roles here for the Garda

Síochána and Young Person’s Probation. With institutional reform in services to children and families, the Child and Family Support Agency and the Limerick City Children’s Services Committee (CSC) will take on key roles. The Education and Training Boards and local labour market services (National Employment and Entitlements Service / Intreo Offices) will have a key role in activation / employment policy.

Programme Strategy: Horizontal Objectives and Integration

This section focuses on cross-cutting or horizontal themes of the social programme, including the important issue of integration.

This horizontal dimension addresses the key themes:
6. Community: based on participation and empowerment to engage in decision-making and

neighbourhood planning, drawing on a community development model, engagement in developing / operating local community facilities and local service delivery.

7. Policing, justice and community safety.

8. The Government reform agenda and a whole of government approach.

These themes are described as the “foundations” of the strategy encompassing the social, economic and physical pillars of the FIPs. Community participation and empowerment and the whole of government approach support integration across the vertical themes of the social programme – Education and Learning; Health and Well-Being; Employability and Work; Ageing Well: Health and Well-Being of Older

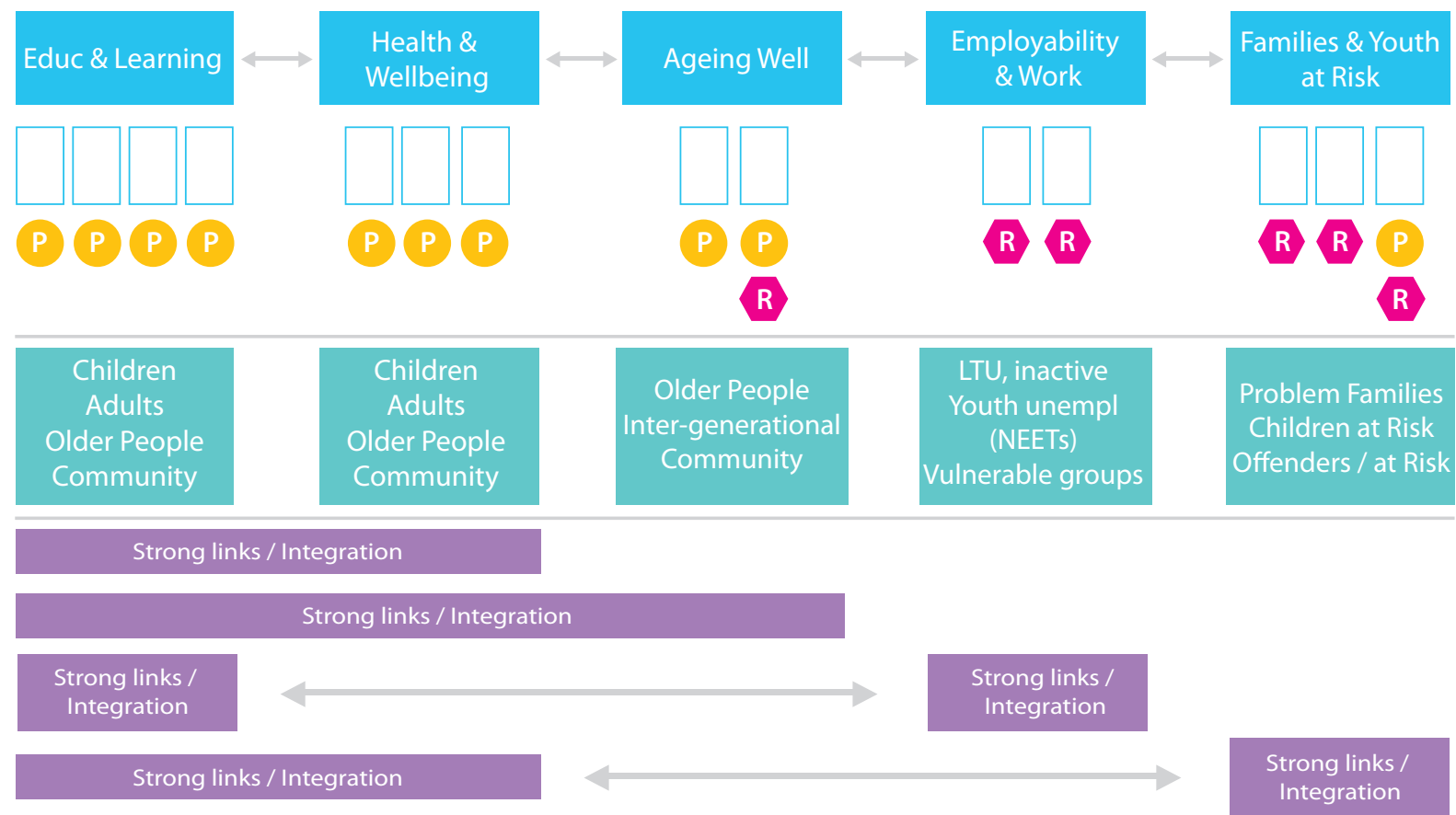


Figure 1.4: Structure of the Social Regeneration Programme, Target Groups and Integration

Note: P=Preventive strategy; R=Remedial / Structural

People; and Families and Youth at Risk - and indeed the wider FIPs Policing, justice and community safety represent the investment required, particularly in terms of retention of resources for effective policing, in order to create the conditions for other aspects of the FIPs to work.

Integration Across the Priority Themes of the Social Programme

The delivery of an integrated approach to respond to the multi-dimensional nature of the social problems is a key focus of this programme. The activities to address the needs are presented thematically under the five (vertical) priorities of the social programme, as described above. Integration of activities within the pillars (e.g., adult and parental learning) supporting literacy, numeracy and attainment of children in school) and across the priority themes (e.g., education and learning working in tandem with health and well-being interventions) are crucial to effectiveness.

It is critically important to work to implement **all activities** across the social programme in a coordinated and integrated way in order to impact positively on the problems. Acting on one or few types of activity only is not likely to be an effective intervention strategy. Indeed only working with single issue interventions could undermine or dissipate potentially good outcomes coming from specific interventions. For instance, if most of the focus is placed on early years learning and attainment in school for children and low parental levels of education are not addressed at the same time, the impact of the support to children will not achieve its potential or may be undermined by the low education and weak capacity of parents to support their children in education. Similarly, if there is a strong focus on employability and work for adults (parents) and the needs of children are not considered and addressed at the same time (childcare, supervision of children at home, homework, school attendance), the impact on families of any improvements in parental employability / work could indeed be negative.

Table 1.2 illustrates the potential for integration and links between activities across the (vertical) priorities of the social programme. For instance, it illustrates that activities to support Early Years Learning and School Readiness should be integrated with actions under Adult Education and Community Learning to address low levels of parental education (all activities within the priority, Education and Learning); under

Health and Well-Being, for instance, actions to address problems of child and youth mental health need to work hand-in-hand with actions to improve adult health especially adult mental ill-health. There are many links between activities in Education and Learning and Health and Well-Being (both focused mainly on preventive interventions and based on a universal approach to provision). For instance, the Full Service Extended School model will specifically aim to link improved educational attainment of children to good child mental health, and support for, and improved capacity of, parents.

There are also strong links between these two preventive priorities and activities under Families and Youth at Risk. Targeted interventions to support families and youth at risk need to be supported by the preventive interventions in Education and Learning and Health and Well-Being to support, for instance, re-integration to school and to address and manage health problems as part of after-care to sustain positive outcomes.

There are also links between improved Employability and Work opportunities for parents and, if needed, additional targeted support for families with a profile of higher level needs – i.e., formal assessments and an intervention pathway plan for family support.

Activities in the Employability and Work priority also have strong links to Education and Learning (e.g., adult education and qualification as a foundational element of employability and as part of a progression pathway to work) and to Families and Youth at Risk (e.g., employability and work as a component of offender re-integration programmes).

The Ageing Well priority has strong links to Health and Well-Being and Education and Learning, and in some cases, it could be linked to activities in Families and Youth at Risk. Examples here could include family support plans involving grandparents, older and young people involved in activities to support greater participation of young people in community.

Integration	Education & Learning	Health & Well-Being	Ageing Well: Health & Well-Being of Older People	Employability & Work	Families & Youth at Risk
Education & Learning					
1. Early Years Learning & School Readiness	Adult education & community learning: parental education, literacy	Child & youth mental health; parental mental health: e.g., Full Extended School Model		Labour Market Intervention programme: adult education and learning; addressing additional barriers to employability (e.g., lone parents)	Assessment of needs & intervention pathways for family support: Start-Right & Full Service Extended School Model in preventive capacity
2. School Attendance & Retention	Literacy, numeracy & educational attainment: additional support in school, after / out-of-school provision	Child & youth mental health: emotional / behavioural difficulties, parenting programmes; parental mental health; Full Extended School Model		Labour Market Intervention programme: parental education and learning & addressing additional barriers (lone parents)	Intervention pathways for family support: school attendance and retention/ educational attainment, problems in families; improved outcomes for youth at risk: retention in education, behaviour modification
3. Literacy, Numeracy & Educational Attainment in School	School attendance and retention	Child & youth mental health: emotional / behavioural difficulties; Parental mental health		Labour Market Intervention programme: parental education and learning; access to further education as "pathway to work"	Intervention pathways for family support: school attendance/ educational attainment, problems in families; improved outcomes for youth at risk: retention in education, behaviour modification
4. Adult Education & Community Learning	Literacy, numeracy & educational attainment: parental support to children in their learning	Adult health; Child & youth mental health: link to positive / responsible parenting	Specific actions to support health and well-being of older people (e.g., adult education, use of ICT, etc.)	Labour Market Intervention programme: adult education and qualification ("pathways to work"); addressing additional barriers for most vulnerable groups: low education, literacy / numeracy difficulties	Intervention pathways for family support: education as a component; improved outcomes for youth at risk: second chance education / qualification, behaviour modification & social development
Health & Well-Being					
1. Public Health	Adult education and community learning: improved health literacy	Child & youth mental health: community service for 0-3 year olds and Headstrong / Jigsaw; Adult health / Health & well-being of older people	Specific activities to support health and well-being of older people – e.g., Public health awareness activities, targeting older people	Labour Market Intervention programme: health awareness / improved health status and improved capacity for employability	Intervention pathways for family support: positive mental health, managing ill-health; Improved outcomes for young people at risk; Supporting Youth: health awareness, awareness of risk behaviours

Table 1.2: Illustration of Integration Across the Prioritie and Activities in the Social Programme

Integration	Education & Learning	Health & Well-Being	Ageing Well: Health & Well-Being of Older People	Employability & Work	Families & Youth at Risk
2. Child & Youth Mental Health	Child & youth mental health: community service for 0-3 year olds and Headstrong / Jigsaw	Public health: improved health awareness / health literacy; Adult health (parental mental health) and child physical and mental health		Addressing additional barriers to employability: problems of emotional and behavioural difficulties in children and young people and improved capacity for parents to engage with employability interventions	Intervention pathways for family support: part of intervention pathways for families; improved outcomes for young people at risk: better mental health
3. Adult Mental and Physical Health	Adult education and community learning: improved education, improved capacity to manage health; improved capacity for learning	Child & youth mental health: improved parental mental health and improved outcomes for children	Planning for ageing well: health needs of older people, into old age. Specific activities to support health & well-being of older people – e.g., management of chronic health conditions	Labour Market Intervention: improved health status and improved capacity for employability	Intervention pathways for family support: health management; dealing with problems such as mental ill-health, addictions etc., youth at risk
Ageing Well: Health & Well-Being of Older People					
1. Planning for an Age-Friendly city & neighbourhoods	Adult education and community learning;	Adult physical and mental health (needs and services); public health awareness targeted to needs of older people	Identifying priorities to address needs of vulnerable elderly (input to strategic planning)	Information on opportunities for work	Assessment of needs of specific categories of elderly (grandparent-headed households; involvement in care and support)
2. Specific actions to support health & well-being of older people	Adult education and community learning: foundational courses (QQI / FETAC 1-4); return to learning	Public health awareness-raising / activities for older people; adult physical & mental health (managing chronic illness);			Intervention pathways for family support (grandparents and children), responding to problems in extended families

Integration	Education & Learning	Health & Well-Being	Ageing Well: Health & Well-Being of Older People	Employability & Work	Families & Youth at Risk
Employability & Work					
1. Labour Market Intervention Programme - Northside and Southside	Adult education and community learning: foundational courses (NFQ 1-3); return to learning	Adult health; child & youth mental health; quality, affordable and accessible childcare; improved capacity for employability and work		Links between further / adult education, training and work: pathways approach	Intervention pathways for family support: addressing additional barriers to economic inclusion, improved outcomes for young people at risk: employability and work as part of offender re-integration programmes
2. Addressing Additional Barriers to Economic Inclusion: Most Vulnerable Groups	Adult education and community learning: foundational courses (NFQ 1-3); return to learning	Adult health; child & youth mental health: improved capacity for employability and work		Links between further / adult education, second change education and qualification, training and work: pathways approach	Intervention pathways for family support: improved outcomes for youth at risk: employability and work as part of offender re-integration programmes
Families & Youth at Risk					
1. Assessment of Needs & Intervention Pathways for Family Support	Early years learning & school readiness; school attendance & retention; literacy, numeracy & educational attainment; adult education & community learning: preventive and supportive interventions	Public health: health awareness especially positive mental health and awareness of health risks; child & youth mental health: assessments and treatment as appropriate; adult (parental) health: managing ill-health	Specific actions to support health and well-being of older people - intervention pathways for family support (grandparents)	Addressing additional barriers to economic inclusion: employability and work built into the structure of family life; working towards improved economic security	Improved outcomes for youth at risk: whole family approach; supporting youth: connecting and participating in society: participating in universal services, user involvement in decision-making on services

Integration	Education & Learning	Health & Well-Being	Ageing Well: Health & Well-Being of Older People	Employability & Work	Families & Youth at Risk
2. Improved Outcomes for Youth at Risk	Early years learning & school readiness; school attendance & retention; literacy, numeracy & educational attainment; adult education & community learning; preventive and supportive interventions	Public health: health awareness especially positive mental health and awareness of health risks; youth mental health: assessments and treatment as appropriate; social and personal development; adult (parental) health: managing ill-health	Specific actions to support health and well-being of older people - involvement in restorative justice projects	Addressing additional barriers to economic inclusion: employability and work as part of offender re-integration programmes	Intervention pathways for family support: whole family approach; supporting youth: connecting and participating in society: participating in universal services, user involvement in decision-making on services
3. Supporting Youth: Connecting and Participating in Community and Society	Literacy, numeracy & educational attainment: preventive and supportive intervention (e.g., Restorative Practice in schools)	Public health: health awareness directed to young people	Specific actions to support health and well-being of older people - inter-generational initiatives / solidarity	Addressing additional barriers to economic inclusion: preparing for work/ orientation to the labour market	Intervention pathways for family support: working with the users (young people).

2. Framework Strategy

2.1.3.7 Priority 6: Community Participation, Empowerment and Civic Engagement

This theme is addressed to community development and community participation, empowerment and civic engagement. The community dimension cuts across all aspects of the social programme, as well as the physical and economic framework plans for the regeneration areas.

There is a long history of community development in the disadvantaged communities in Limerick. This is linked to the experience of local development in the city. Local development was given institutional expression with the setting up of the PAUL Partnership in the late 1980s. PAUL was one of the first 12 local partnership companies in the State. Local development was later mainstreamed with the expansion of partnership companies throughout the State. With the consolidation of the two formerly separate programmes in 2009 – the Local Development and Social Inclusion Programme and the Community Development Programme - PAUL is now one of 51 Local Development Companies responsible for the delivery of the consolidated Local and Community Development Programme. The programme is delivered throughout the State with reference to four high level goals: (i) Promote awareness, knowledge and uptake of a wide range of statutory, voluntary and community services; (ii) Increase access to formal and informal education, recreational and cultural development activities and resources; (iii) Increase people's work readiness and employment prospects; and (iv) Promote active engagement with policy, practice and decision-making processes on matters affecting local communities. Historically and up-to-the present, PAUL has targeted the most disadvantaged communities in the city by supporting the operation of Action Centres in these areas. In the regeneration areas, these are based at the Southill Area Centre, Moyross Enterprise Centre, St. Mary's AID and Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre. With the roll-out of the reform of local government and alignment of local government and local development, as outlined in the Policy Review, further institutional reforms will be implemented nationally and locally.

In the local authority estates in Limerick, the approach to community participation in issues affecting residents on the estates involved the establishment and funding of community-based estate management projects, the establishment of a City-Wide Estate

Management Forum and an Estate Management Network. Estate management falls under the responsibility of Limerick City Council. The objectives historically were: to achieve effective housing management and the promotion of social inclusion. Community Liaison Officers were employed by Limerick City Council to facilitate implementation of the estate management strategy. The role of the Community Liaison Officers was "to liaise with local groups on environmental and local development issues that affect quality of life, to assist in the establishment of local residents' associations, to assist in progressing community initiatives and to attend meetings on request" (NEXUS, Regeneration and Local Estate Management, 2012). The current arrangement, in place under the regeneration programme, is based on continuity of this approach. However, there is now more emphasis on building the capacity of the community, including strengthening community organisation and community input to decision-making on issues that affect the area.

Reviews of estate management over the years (2005, 2012) have identified issues and challenges to be addressed in order to improve effectiveness. These centre on: a lack of clarity on what is meant by estate management, lack of "real buy-in" by the local authority, poor flows of information / or lack of information on key issues that affect residents, not a sufficient focus on working with the communities by key agencies to identify community needs, lack of opportunity for residents to contribute to the debate and influence decision-making, inadequate resources, and insufficient attention to review and feedback to the communities (NEXUS, Regeneration and Local Estate Management, 2012).

Objectives

Objectives are as follows:

1. To build the capacity of the community infrastructure as partners with statutory agencies in addressing the needs of residents – building up community organisation, skills / systems, facilities and services in the communities.
2. To strengthen the structures and processes for community participation and civic engagement in the regeneration communities – i.e., a broadening and deepening of engagement by residents and improving diversity of representation – and across communities in the city.

3. To promote empowerment of the communities to engage in decision-making on local policies and planning and delivery of services to the communities.

Experience to Date

There is a community infrastructure in all of the regeneration areas – with some more advanced in their organisation and in the delivery of services than others. In all of the areas, there are one or more community centres providing facilities for community meetings as well as acting as a hub for the delivery of services to the community. These include:

- Moyross Community Enterprise Centre which houses an information service for residents, community meals, sports facilities, out-of-school, pre-school and crèche, playground, enterprise units, labour market programme which supports the environmental clean-up / maintenance of the estate, (supported by Community Employment), community bus, services for young people and senior citizens and CCTV monitoring. The community centre also houses the Limerick Community Development Programme Office, Moyross which in addition to core service under the Local and Community Development Programmes runs Northside We're OK, a drugs education programme targeting young people. A large number of the community organisations in Moyross operate under the umbrella structure of Moyross Partners.
- In St. Mary's Park, St. Mary's AID provides a range of services to the local community including "meals on wheels", "care and repair" services, environmental clean-up, a community bus and social enterprise including community cleaning and most recently, a community café. The Limerick CDP St. Mary's provides facilities for groups to meet, access to adult education, health awareness, education on drugs' misuse, and access to family support as well as a range of information services to the community.
- In Ballinacurra Weston, the Action Centre at Our Lady of Lourdes has built up its capacity in recent years and now houses a range of services under the umbrella of Our Lady of Lourdes Community Services Group. These include services in adult education, information on welfare rights, "meals on wheels", clubs and meals for elderly, community café, school meals, Westend Youth Centre, and sports facilities. The Limerick City CDP, Our Lady of

Lourdes Office provides information and support to community groups, facilitates access to adult education and hosts an education service on drugs' misuse.

- In Southill, the Southill Area Centre similarly provides facilities for group meetings, sports, after-schools, meals, community café, and information services for residents on housing, welfare rights etc. Limerick City CDP Southill provides community transport, facilities / premises for groups to meet, access to adult education and education on drugs' misuse. Holy Family Parish operates an environmental maintenance service for the estates supported by a Community Employment Scheme. Southill Cooperative also provides a range of community services and social enterprises including "Warmer Homes" scheme, estates management and a crèche, with the staff component also supported by Community Employment. Limerick Southside Ltd., at LEDP, provides support to estate management.
- Estate management structures operate in all the estates: Moyross Residents' Forum, St. Mary's Park, O'Malley and Keyes Estate Management and Carew Kincora Estate Management Offices in Southill and Ballinacurra / Weston Estate Management.

In addition to the community organisations mentioned above (funded in part from various state programmes, with professional workers in place, staff funded under Community Employment / Job Initiative / TÚS schemes and volunteers), there are many grass-roots organisations (e.g., area-based residents' associations, issue-based groups) in the estates operating only with volunteer input. Some organisations have developed links / networks across the estates in the city (e.g., the Alliance). Activities supported by the regeneration programme to date, in partnership with other agencies include:

- Support for Estate Management workers and the setting up of a Community Consultative Forum, bringing community representation across the regeneration areas into a single forum, coordinated by a support worker at the PAUL Partnership.
- Setting up Local Regeneration Committees in the estates involving representation of the communities and senior staff of the key statutory agencies in the city (e.g., Gardaí, HSE, school principals, Limerick City Council).

- Additional financial support for service provision and to meet staff requirements and other operating costs in the key community-based organisations in the regeneration areas. The regeneration programme has been an important source of additional funding here, enabling the development of the community infrastructure and local service provision.
- Additional financial support for activities run by organisations such as CDPs and in community centres in disadvantaged areas adjacent to the regeneration areas (e.g., St. Munchin's, Our Lady Queen of Peace), also serving the population resident in regeneration areas.
- Research on estate management structures with a view to enhancing community participation and civic engagement.

Description of Activities

Two types of activities will be supported under the social regeneration programme: (i) to continue to support the community organisation, estate management and local service delivery; and (ii) a capacity building programme to support progress with the community participation, empowerment and civic engagement agenda.

A. Community Organisation / Estate Management / Local Service Delivery

The community development infrastructure on the estates is essential to enable the delivery of services into the community and to operate outreach services (e.g., "trusted" centres, familiar settings, known / trusted personalities) into specific parts of the communities of the regeneration areas. Community-based organisations are key partners in the delivery of services funded by statutory agencies across all areas of social policy (children and families, youth justice, labour market, social care, youth services). This infrastructure also acts as a hub for information provision on a wide range of issues including service directories and referrals. It also provides access to the population to obtain their views and manage feedback to statutory agencies on local services and policies. These operations or centres also play an important role in supporting community safety, providing links for the communities and residents to work in partnership with the Garda Síochána and the local authority.

Key Agencies

Limerick City Council, An Garda Síochána, the PAUL Partnership and community organisations. Depending on the range of service provision, other agencies have a key interest and role particularly, the HSE, LCETB / SOLAS, formerly FÁS.

Scope of Action

- 1) Support for Estate Management structures / organisation and the operation of the Community Consultative Forum.
- 2) Operation of Local Regeneration Committees involving community and statutory representation in each of the estates. The purpose here is to provide a forum for the exchange of information on service delivery, forward planning / proposals, and feedback to statutory agencies on issues of concern to the communities and on needs.
- 3) Enhancing capacity of community-based services to respond to the needs of residents in the communities. This could include improvement to facilities, extended reach of services and / or an overall increase in the community service provision. These activities should relate to specific areas of need addressed under the priority themes (pillars) of this programme, e.g. children, young people, adults under Education and Learning, activities under Health and Well-Being and Policing, Justice and Community Safety.

B. Capacity Building: Community Participation, Empowerment and Civic Engagement

Drawing on conclusion of reviews, especially the most recent review of estate management undertaken by NEXUS (2012), and recent consultations with the communities, a capacity building programme is required in local communities. The purpose of the programme is to strengthen the involvement of local communities in regeneration areas to participate fully in, and contribute to, decision-making on planning and developing their area and to strengthen the ability and willingness of mainstream services to engage with the communities.

Key Agencies / Partners

Limerick City Council and the PAUL Partnership working with the estate management structures, the Community Consultative Forum and other community-based organisations and informal groups. A capacity building programme in civic engagement in

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the regeneration areas is being supported under the Programme Innovation and Development Fund (SSIRL). The stakeholders involved include Limerick City Council, the PAUL Partnership, and the community drawn from representation on the Community Consultative Forum and members of the Traveller community.

Scope of Action

Drawing on the recommendations of the NEXUS report (2012) and the needs confirmed by representatives of the communities, the following action could be supported under the social regeneration programme:

- 1) Development and negotiation of a Civic Participation Charter. It is considered necessary to develop a charter in order to present in detail an understanding of what it means for each of the agencies involved, the “rules” that should be followed in keeping the community informed and agreement from all about what is to be achieved. The recommendations state that the charter should be “signed up to” by all the agencies involved (e.g., HSE, Gardaí, LCETB, education providers etc.) and this should govern all working relationships into the future (NEXUS, 2012).
- 2) Support to strengthen communities’ capacity to engage in community organisation (broadening and deepening engagement and improve diversity of representation) and in local decision-making structures such as the Local Regeneration Committees. This is needed because residents and their representatives (organisations) require particular skills and access to resources if they are to participate meaningfully. As the needs vary across the communities, an assessment of needs in each area (with residents’ representatives fully involved in the assessment process) is required. Based on the needs assessment (e.g., for technical or professional assistance in planning, programmes to encourage wider involvement in the community), a support programme should be prepared. The capacity building support should be directed at helping communities to effectively fulfil their role in implementing the charter (NEXUS, 2012).
- 3) Support to develop a community-based planning and review system based on the charter – with community organisations in each area supported to undertake their own community plans (on an annual and on-going basis) and to evaluate results,

achievements, benefits and lessons on a yearly basis. It is envisaged that personnel from statutory agencies and services which are delivered into the communities should participate in this process based in, and facilitated / led by, the community. The support provided here into each regeneration community could include technical support / advice in designing the system and training. Working with the same system in each community would allow for sharing of results and lessons, and joint review of progress. This, in turn, should help strengthen the potential for civic engagement (NEXUS, 2012).

Scope for Funding Support

The key source of funding for estate management is Limerick City and County Council. The wider community-based operations, however, draw funding for their activities from a range of funding sources. The funding base depends on the range of services provided. The larger organisations, operating a broader range of services (e.g., Moyross Community Enterprise Centre, Our Lady of Lourdes Community Services Group), have larger-scale resources including larger numbers of people employed and a more diversified funding base. Key funding sources are Department of Environment, Community and Local Government as well as Pobal / PAUL Partnership drawing on funding from the Local and Community Development Programme, LCETB (youth, adult education), HSE (childcare, elderly care), LCETB / SOLAS, formerly FÁS (training and community employment), Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs (youth) and Limerick City Council (estate management). The regeneration programme, as outlined above, has been an important source of additional funding for these organisations.

Funding support can be provided for the following types of expenditure:

- To support estate management structures in the regeneration communities, the operation of the Community Consultative Forum and the Local Regeneration Committees (staff and small-scale operating costs).
- Additional activities implemented by the community-based organisations – typically, requiring funding for staff and operating costs. However, the additional monies under the social regeneration programme are time-limited and, as such, planning for longer-term sustainability of key

services will be required.

- Technical support, training, research and evaluation and other inputs required under the community capacity building programme will be funded by SSIRL under its civic engagement initiative.

Progress and Results Indicators

Examples of potential activity, output indicators and result indicators are provided in the NEXUS report (2012). It is proposed that overall result indicators are based on residents’ perceptions of the quality of the neighbourhood environment as a place to live and changes in the community social capital.

Activity / output indicators:

- Number of residents involved as members of tenant / resident associations and number in leadership positions (increase expected)
- Number of residents regularly attending community meetings (increase expected)
- Diversity of groupings from the community involved in local community groups (young people, lone parents, men, women, Travellers)
- Quality of engagement of residents in meetings – presenting views, presenting ideas for new initiatives, engagement in planning initiatives in the community, in implementing local community initiatives
- Number of community events.

Indicators based on monitoring data in community organisations and outputs from the capacity building support programme

- Quality of community engagement in structures involving statutory agencies - presenting views, presenting new ideas, views / ideas taken into account in planning and implementation of local service, in developing local policies

Indicators based on on-going feedback in community organisations and research.

Result Indicators

Neighbourhood environment - examples of indicators are as follows:

- Residents’ view on the quality of the neighbourhood as a place to live (excellent/very poor)
- Residents’ view on whether the neighbourhood has improved / dis-improved as a place to live (e.g., over the last 2 years) (improved a lot/ got much

- worse)
- Residents’ view on whether they would stay or leave, given the choice
- Types (dereliction, maintenance, presence of facilities, anti-social behaviour) and severity of neighbourhood problems (very serious / not at all)
- Feelings of safety in the neighbourhood (very safe / not at all safe)
- Quality of specific neighbourhood services (excellent / very poor)

Social Capital Indicators

- Extent to which residents know people in the neighbourhood (most / none)
- Extent to which residents trust people in the neighbourhood (most / none)
- Extent of trust in specific institutions including the local authority and the Garda Síochána (a lot / in most things, not at all)
- Extent of trust in community leaders / in community organisations (a lot / not at all)
- Residents’ views on local governance – e.g., the local authority keeps residents informed; the local authority involves residents in decision-making (strongly agree / strongly disagree)
- Extent to which residents feel that by working together, they can influence decisions that affect the neighbourhood (Strongly agree / strongly disagree)
- Resident involvement in voluntary organisations as a member

Indicators based on research focused on community-based surveys.

2.1.3.8 Priority 7: Policing, Justice and Community Safety

This theme is addressed to continued efforts to support effective policing in Limerick City, justice and community safety on the regeneration estates. The Fitzgerald Report (2007) clearly articulated problems of crime, criminality and how crime impacts on day-to-day life in the regeneration communities. Fitzgerald (2007) highlighted that serious criminal activity had been a problem in Limerick City for a long time with traditional feuding between local families/gangs exacerbated in more recent times by drug-related and gangland crime. At the time the Regeneration Programme was agreed (2007-08), violent crime, related both to gang rivalry and drugs, was a very serious issue in certain areas of the city, and extending

to wider areas. Families experienced intimidation and communities were plagued with damage to property (houses burnt out) resulting in difficulties in re-letting housing in parts of the estates and demoralisation of communities. This resulted in negative effects on trust and community cohesion. There were incidents of violence including shootings and an environment of fear on estates with children and families exposed to such violence.

Fitzgerald (2007) argued that the intensity and nature of criminality and anti-social behaviour was destabilising, not just for these estates, but also for the city. He concluded that intensive policing intervention is required in the short to medium term “to allow other interventions an opportunity to work” with policing needing “to be more consistently concentrated and regular”. He went on to recommend that “dealing with the issue of criminality” should form one of three strands of the strategy to deal with the problems of the estates. This strand was seen “as fundamental to creating the conditions for other interventions to be successful, and for restoring the confidence of local communities”. Following through on this, the Regeneration Programme (2008-2010) brought additional Garda resources to the city and a new focus to the policing strategy. There is consensus and evidence that this strategy has had a major positive impact on crime, particularly on serious crime in the city. This is reflected in the statistics on crime and policing (2007-2010), as presented in the Socio-economic analysis, showing reductions in all types of serious crime. Higher levels of police searches conducted in relation to drug-related crime and the issuing of anti-social behaviour orders are also reported. Notwithstanding these achievements, problems of crime including gangland crime have “not gone away” and, as such, the policing strategy and resources linked to this need to be maintained to continue to stabilise the situation. This focus is important to under-pin a successful regeneration strategy for the estates. This is also an important foundation for the wider physical, economic, social and cultural development of the city, intended to remove the association between Limerick City and its reputation for crime.

Low-level criminality and anti-social behaviour, as highlighted by Fitzgerald in 2007, continue to be major concerns reflected, for instance, in joyriding, damage to property, harassment and intimidation on the

estates. Involvement of young people and children in such activities is regarded as a specific problem. Solutions to this problem can be difficult to effect and require a multifaceted approach including engagement of parents as well as various services outside of policing and the wider criminal justice system. Community safety, to be effective in the longer-term term, must include a focus on preventive actions, which is a key theme, and developed in the various priorities across the social programme. Attention to the social and economic factors as well as physical aspects of design of the estates and housing letting policies, associated with creating conditions for crime, is also needed in framing longer-term solutions.

Focusing on justice, access to legal service, legal representation and legal remedies are important concerns for individuals, families and communities. In the regeneration areas, legal needs focus on issues related to housing, anti-social behaviour, harassment, family issues (rights of access to children / grand-children, separation, domestic violence), employment, entitlement to social welfare benefits and access to services (see Community Consultation Report: Unmet Legal Need in Limerick, Limerick Community Law and Mediation Centre, 2013). Any sense that there is inequality of access or discrimination before the law undermines confidence in state services and trust. Information and advice on rights and legal issues, use of mediation, advocacy, engagement in restorative practices can all become part of a wider range of services to improve access to the justice system, and empower individuals, families and communities before the law.

Objectives

Objectives are as follows:

- 1) To underpin and create conditions for successful social, economic and physical regeneration by maintaining the focus on “consistent, concentrated and regular policing” of the city and regeneration areas, and the resources and structure of policing required to do so;
- 2) To build trust and confidence in policing and the wider criminal justice system on the part of communities in the city, particularly the regeneration communities. Trust can be enhanced by building good working relationships between the Gardaí and other services in the criminal justice system including the Probation Service, on the one hand, and the communities, on the other. A

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sense of being treated in the same manner and equally with other citizens by the policing and justice systems and ensuring fair access to legal services are further important dimensions here.

- 3) To promote and support community safety, drawing on a multifaceted approach. This includes policing and the wider criminal justice system, improved monitoring / surveillance on estates, community development, and interventions in social and economic programme and physical design aspects of the estates.

Experience To Date

The Regeneration Programme (2008-2011) secured additional resources to the city in order to bring the crime situation in Limerick within the bounds of normal policing. This involved the provision of 100 extra Gardaí, most of which was sustained by the end of 2010. Additional Gardaí were brought in at different levels of the police structure (Inspector, Sergeant, regular Gardaí) and there was a strong focus on community policing. This was with a view to bringing public order to the estates and creating confidence in the Gardaí and the wider criminal justice system on the part of the community. New measures were also part of the strategy including the setting up of the Emergency Response Unit and a Regional Response Unit, operating out of Limerick. At the same time, new gangland legislation was introduced by government (but in practice, this was not used in achieving convictions). An important factor in achieving convictions has been the ability of the Director of Public Prosecutions to bring cases involving serious criminals to be heard in the Special Criminal Court, by three-person judges rather than utilisation of jury trials. This eliminates the potential for intimidation of juries, and witnesses. The combined impact of these measures was to bring the serious crime problem in Limerick under control with a large number of the most serious criminals convicted and now serving prison sentences. However, the problems of community safety and anti-social behaviour remain as very serious issues. Furthermore, the situation in communities in terms of safety, fear and vulnerability in the face of criminality can change very quickly – for instance, in advance of, or with release of, prisoners or with new sources of criminality emerging in the city.

Additional interventions involving the policing and justice services supported under the Regeneration Programme 2008-2011 included:

- Support for CCTV (aspects of installation and monitoring) in regeneration areas;
- Involvement of police and justice services in local community-based information and consultative structures including the Local Regeneration Committees, in coordinated planning structures in the city in particular the Limerick City Children's Services Committee and in other partnership-based and community initiatives.
- The Le Chéile Restorative Justice Project and the Probation and Linkage in Limerick Scheme (PALLS) (a training centre for ex-offenders), as described above, under the Priority Families and Youth at Risk.
- Also as described above under Families and Youth at Risk, there is a strong presence of Garda Youth Diversion Projects in the regeneration areas (five such projects across the city) as well as informal Garda involvement in youth work and sport.
- There are also well-established Young Person's Probation Projects, namely Céim ar Chéim in Moyross and Southill Outreach, as described under the Priority, Families and Youth at Risk. Gardaí and Young Person's Probation projects also participate in the Youth Forum, an informal structure to bring a more coordinated approach across frontline services to young people at risk as well as "buy-in" to the LANS (Local Assessment of Needs System) and the Common Assessment Framework.

Description of Activities

The focus of activities here is one of strong continuity of the measures taken to date in terms of the policing effort and the policing strategy in the city. This will require continued commitment to the mainstream resources from the Department of Justice. This is essential in order to build on the achievements and consolidate the efforts to date. It is also essential in order to continue to build the confidence of, and stabilise, the communities working with them and other services, particularly the local authority, to improve community safety.

Additional actions to be promoted in the regeneration programme include:

- 1) Engagement of representatives of the Gardaí and justice system in community-based and other formal structures and informal groups / activities. These include: the Local Regeneration Committees, the Limerick City Children's Services Committee and associated sub-groups / initiatives (e.g., Restorative Justice), Youth Forums, and institutions

and groups in the communities (e.g., with young people through schools, in youth work and sports settings).

- 2) Activities oriented to understanding better the public image of the Gardaí in local communities, particularly the regeneration communities and fostering good relationships and positive attitudes between the communities and the Gardaí and vice-versa (relationship and attitudes of the Gardaí towards the communities / residents in communities). These could include: reviews / research, public consultations / awareness-raising activities and training involving Gardaí and community. Some such activities could link well with capacity building activities developed to further community participation and civic engagement. The "image" of the policing system can be grouped under three aspects: overall image, perceptions of policing outcomes and perceptions of policing processes. The last aspect includes the manner of treatment / interaction between the Gardaí and citizens such as experience of "stop and search" activities, reporting and investigation of crime etc. Perceptions of "policing outcomes" in the regeneration communities will be influenced by recent experience of dealing with serious crime in the city. However, attitudes will also be influenced by assessment of capacity of the police and wider system to deal with on-going issues including anti-social behaviour, and confiscating assets resulting from criminal activity. Visible displays of benefits from the proceeds of crime are considered to create negative role models for young people, in particular, in regeneration areas. Public attitudes towards, and assessment of, the police are influenced by direct experiences (but also other factors including mass media) and tend to change slowly.
- 3) Strengthening existing approaches / methods including, for instance, use of community wardens, community safety officers already operating in other communities in the city under the Community Safety Partnership, the work of tenancy enforcement officers and housing support programmes addressed to sustaining tenants, and existing multi-agency approaches addressed to families and youth at risk.
- 4) Support to develop and test innovative measures to improve community safety focused on responding to the problems of anti-social

- behaviour on estates. This could include identifying methods / actions that have been applied in other contexts, drawing on good practice and learning from other settings. Examples here are ways of reaching and working effectively with those engaged in anti-social behaviour, better methods of working with parents and applying the principle of parental responsibility, consideration of use of instruments such as curfews for children / young people after a certain time in the evening, public awareness and promotion campaigns to enhance community safety, awareness of estate design features that can help reduce possibilities for crime and enhance public surveillance of crime etc. This type of know-how could be utilised to test methods of dealing more effectively with anti-social behaviour problems on the estates in Limerick.
- 5) Working in cooperation with the main parties - the community organisations, the local authority and Gardai - support for monitoring CCTV on the estates. This could include: review of effectiveness of the system overall and in the various estates / parts of estates and development of proposals, as appropriate, to enhance the system and its management.
 - 6) Support for improved access to legal services, information, advice, advocacy and mediation services for individuals and families, with a profile of social disadvantage, and for groups in regeneration communities. This can include community dispute resolution services, and education, training, research and other measures to empower communities in relation to legal issues and examine changing attitudes towards the criminal justice system.
 - 7) Support for ex-prisoner / ex-offender rehabilitation and reintegration programmes and for families of those incarcerated in the prison / detention system. This is identified for support above, under the Priorities Families and Youth at Risk (various programmes) and Employability and Work (reintegration through education, training and work).
 - 8) Capacity building actions targeting the key stakeholders to work effectively on community safety and justice issues.

Scope for Funding Support
The key source of funding for policing and justice is

mainstream funding from Department of Justice. As community safety involves a partnership between the criminal justice system, particularly the Gardai, and Limerick City and County Council, mainstream local authority funding is also an important source of funding. Community safety, however, is promoted via a broader range of interventions in social policy, particularly those described above under the Priorities Families and Youth at Risk and Community Participation, Empowerment and Civic Engagement. Funding support can be provided for the following types of expenditure:

- Additional activities to support, develop and pilot innovative methods to enhance community safety.
- Activities oriented to improving attitudes towards, and relationships between, the policing services and the communities.
- Additional / new services to enhance access to legal services including mediation, advocacy and conflict resolution.
- Additional funding to enhance CCTV monitoring and CCTV management system in regeneration communities.

Progress and Result Indicators

Selected output and results indicators relating to policing / justice and community safety have already been identified under other Priorities, in particular, Families and Youth at Risk and Community Participation, Empowerment and Civic Engagement. Some of these are repeated here:

Input Indicator:
Policing / Justice

- Garda resources (overall numbers and numbers at different levels of the police structure and in community policing), comparison from baseline (2008/09)

Indicator based on Limerick police division records

- Number of referrals to Youth Diversion and percentage admitted to Diversion Programmes (gender / age profile)

Indicators based on monitoring data collected by GYD projects and reported on an annual basis

- Number of restorative justice referrals and number in targeted restorative justice programme (gender / age profile)
- Number of young people reached in Restorative

Justice preventive strand (gender / age profile)
Indicators based on records / monitoring data from Le Chéile Limerick

- Number of families and individuals receiving support in prisoner / ex-offender support programmes
- Number of education, training and / or research projects related to legal, justice and / or community safety issues
- Number and profile of clients supported to enhance access to legal services by type of support (information / advice sessions, mediation / advocacy and community conflict resolution)

Indicators based on records / monitoring data from selected projects from official sources in in the Probation and Prison Services and community-based / voluntary organisations in the city in this sector.

- Number of anti-social behaviour orders issued for the city overall and policing units servicing regeneration areas
- Number of drug search and drug-related charges for the city overall and policing units servicing regeneration areas
- Number of defendants

Indicators based on secondary sources (Garda Síochána).

Result Indicators
Effective policing and justice

- Local crime statistics by class and type of offence, as recorded in the PULSE system (reported crime) for the city overall and policing units servicing regeneration areas
- Number of convictions achieved (as % of defendants)

Indicators based on secondary sources (Garda Síochána, Irish Youth Justice, Courts Services)

Community attitudes towards crime, criminal justice system and community safety, based on community-based research and surveys

- What is your sense of what has happened to crime in the neighbourhood over the past 12 months (gone up a lot / gone down a lot)
- Residents perceptions of problems in the neighbourhood – list of problems including vandalism, damage to property, problems with

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- neighbours, problems with teenagers / children, harassment, car crime / joyriding etc.
- Feeling of safety in the neighbourhood when walking alone during daytime (very safe / not at all safe)
- Feeling of safety in the neighbourhood when walking alone after dark (very safe / not at all safe)
- Feeling of safety alone in own home at night time (very safe / not at all safe)
- Individual and household experience of being a victim of crime (by type of crime including, for instance, theft to person, burglary / break-in to home, damage to property, theft of vehicle, damage to vehicle, victim of violence, victim of threat to hit / hurt and / or damage property etc.) in the last 12 months
- Extent to which residents have a fear or are worried about being a victim of crime (very worried / not at all worried fearful) and by type of crime (e.g., being mugged / robbed, physically attacked, burglary, having their car stolen or items stolen from their car, damage to property, being harassed)
- Level of confidence in the Gardaí to be effective in catching criminals (very confident / not at all confident)
- Level of confidence in the courts system to prosecute people accused of committing a crime (very confident / not at all confident)
- Extent of agreement that the Gardaí and local authority are dealing with the anti-social behaviour issues that matter in the neighbourhood (strongly agree / strongly disagree)
- Extent to which actions to combat anti-social behaviour are improving the situation in the neighbourhood (improving a lot / not improving at all).

2.1.3.9 Priority 8: Public sector reform agenda & whole of government approach

This theme is addressed to government's reform agenda and the application of a "whole of government" approach. A "whole of government" approach is particularly important in the social regeneration programme as social policy spans various sectoral fields (health and issues within health, education, welfare, children, young people and families, labour market policy) and is characterised by its complexity. A review of the main policies relevant to the LRFIPs is presented in the policy review. Mostly, the policy areas in the social programme are large

areas of government expenditures (health, education, social protection, active labour market policy). They are governed by EU and mainstream national policy frameworks and the scope for local variations in some instances (e.g., welfare / social protection) is relatively limited. However, the complex needs of the target population require some adaptations (e.g., more intensive support, different methods of access) of the mainstream interventions, often referred to as "programme bending". In terms of the reform agenda, it has been argued that a key problem for the population of the regeneration areas is that the mainstream services are designed to meet the needs of the average population and are not well-suited to meeting the complex needs of this socially-disadvantaged population. The Fitzgerald Report (2007) argued that public funding into these estates is not achieving "an acceptable, let alone optimum, level of direct benefits to the communities" and the activities of the agencies are not sufficiently coordinated. Improved coordination is expected to enhance effectiveness in terms of improved outcomes for the totality of public funding invested in the regeneration communities.

Government's public sector reform agenda has been highlighted in various parts of this social regeneration programme. Key areas of policy and institutional reforms are outlined in the policy review. These include reforms related to policies in the following areas: children and families linked to the setting up of the new Child and Family Support Agency; labour market activation and welfare / social protection with a stronger focus now on connection of activation with welfare in the new National Employment and Entitlements Agency / Intreo Offices;

More integrated strategies and local delivery arrangements in further education and training linked to the creation of SOLAS with a strategic role in coordination and funding of further and adult education and the amalgamation of VECs and the establishment of Education and Training Boards, in this context, the Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board (LCETB), and local government and local development. Reforms here include: amalgamated local authority for Limerick City and County, extended competence of local government, stronger framework for a cross-government approach, stronger engagement of citizens and community, alignment of local government with local development structures, and local area and community planning.

Objectives

As well as institutional reform, commitment from the mainstream to adapt and change how programmes are designed and delivered into the target communities ("programme bending") to better address the needs and achieve better outcomes are envisaged here. This is the key objective.

At an operational level, a further objective is to enhance and empower the Programme Delivery Group, comprising senior civil and public servants, to provide strategic direction to the regeneration programme and champion the "whole of government" approach. This is addressed below in the section on programme implementation.

Key Principles: Cross-Cutting Themes

This priority theme focuses on a statement of key principles cross-cutting the LRFIPs rather than a specific list of actions. These are as follows:

- 1) A commitment to integrated planning and delivery of interventions. This is a key requirement to improve effectiveness and deliver better outcomes. This includes support to build capacity of community-based and neighbourhood planning, highlighted in the capacity building programme to support civic engagement.
- 2) A commitment to strengthen preventive and early intervention strategies in the social programme, as they apply to this socially disadvantaged population. These are addressed overwhelming by mainstream provision in education, health and policies in favour of children, families and youth.
- 3) Linked to this and Government's reform agenda, commitment to support new ways of working to better meet the needs of the target population. This can involve new ways of, and a strengthening of the procedures for, working with the community and voluntary sector organisations. These organisations have key strengths in terms of capacity to reach the target groups, rapport with them and a local / in-community base (e.g., "trusted" and familiar centres). They also offer public policy more flexibility in the content and methods of delivery and less expensive options. This applies across aspects of the physical, social and economic pillars. For instance, in the social programme, over time and with the learning generated, there can be more "mixing and matching" of professional posts in the public sector (e.g., clinical posts in health) and non-

professional staff roles in public / voluntary sector through partnerships which have capacity to deliver better outcomes more effectively and more efficiently to the target population.

- 4) A commitment to an evidence-informed approach in policy design and delivery. Using an evidence-based approach would mean basing decisions on policy and practice on up-to-date and reliable evidence of what works, drawing on national and international studies, reviews, evaluations, and statistical data.
- 5) Strengthened monitoring and evaluation frameworks to inform strategic decisions on programme content and implementation (monitoring / on-going evaluation) and a commitment to independent evaluation.

▼ Bingo night in Southill Area Centre





"I think overall the plans are great giving the area a boost, it is going to lift the peoples spirits as well and get the community together again."

Kincora Park/Carew Park Resident



2.2 Economic Strategy

The regeneration process is a key driver of socio-economic change in Limerick. Its contribution to the overall economic rejuvenation of the city is critical to sustained socio-economic vibrancy across Limerick. The commitment towards regeneration has never being stronger and will play a very significant role in the economic, social and physical regeneration of the city in its entirety. Consistent with the transformational project approach prescribed for the city centre, Limerick Regeneration is adopting a comparable strategy, leveraging off existing community assets, building capacity in the target areas and working towards a sustainable ‘fit for purpose’ programme of economic activity.

In preparing the economic development approach, the strategy is grounded in achieving short to medium term objectives such as capacity building, training and employment opportunities that will contribute to the longer term goals of attracting industry and commercial activity into areas of regeneration. The proposed economic development plan is based on building on existing local resources and capacity, while providing the appropriate support structures to accelerate a sustained programme of economic activity within the areas of regeneration.

2.2.1 Economic Development Objectives

The economic development strategy for regeneration is focused on the delivery of a number of key objectives.

- a) Ensuring the growth of local capacity through the provision of focused sectoral training and employment opportunities.
- b) Development of a stronger engagement platform to promote economic activity in the target areas between all stakeholder groups and local resources.
- c) Foster a culture of social innovation and social enterprise in Regeneration areas.
- d) Creation of a programme of civic and economic interventions to attract, support and grow micro and community enterprise.
- e) Development of niche economic activities that will leverage off existing third level and regional enterprise expertise.
- f) Creation of a series of hubs for a thematic economic development approach across all communities.
- g) Contribute to the knowledge economy in key areas

of community development through sustained evaluation and research, e.g., community health and well-being.

- h) Attract inward investment into areas of Regeneration through infrastructural improvements and institutional supports.
- i) Creation of employment opportunities in Regeneration process for local residents and within new enterprise established in the area.
- j) Economic integration of Limerick Regeneration areas within the broader economic and spatial development plans for Limerick City.
- k) Provision of communications infrastructure to support enterprise and socio economic development through all communities.

2.2.2 Economic Development Critical Success Factors

A successful economic development strategy is contingent on the delivery of a number of key projects and the creation of local conditions that support long term economic planning for the Regeneration areas. The focus for the economic development approach will concentrate on the following key initiatives to meet the longer term objectives established through the Office of Regeneration. These include:

- Creation of a platform for thematic sector development across a number of key industries that will provide local capacity building, training and employment opportunities e.g. non skilled and semi-skilled manufacturing, services industry, green economy.
- Successful marketing of sites in areas of strategic value across areas of regeneration that will attract industry and contribute to local employment, training and capacity building objectives.

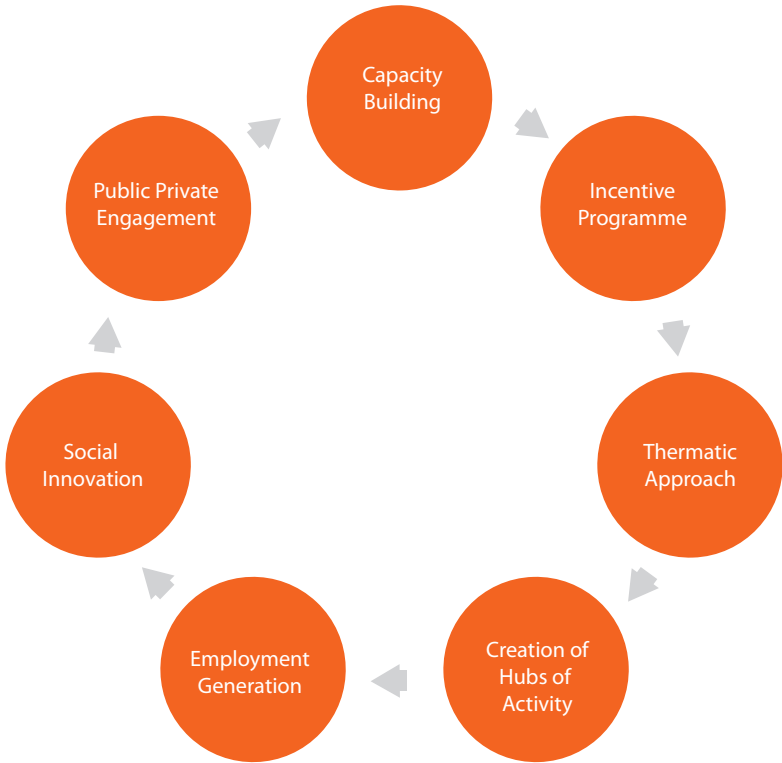


Figure 1.4

2. Framework Strategy

- Creation of appropriate conditions and supports to stimulate social innovation and micro enterprise development.
- Creation of a number of sector focused clusters to provide training and enterprise supports e.g. integrated training campus in Moyross focusing on construction up skilling, social enterprise and training cluster in Galvone, Southill industrial zone with emphasis on green economy.
- Creation of a local platform to engage with the broader business community at regional and national level through structured approaches under the theme of Corporate Social Responsibility.
- Development of a funding model from the philanthropic sector to deliver two socially and economically significant projects for Regeneration areas.
- Creation of enterprise development incentives and supports to include microfinance and civic incentives.
- Development of a mixed tenure housing model to introduce new residents to areas of regeneration.
- Access to appropriate levels of broadband across all communities to support socio-economic programme development.
- Creation of a project of national significance that establishes benchmark activity in Limerick through the development of a National Hub in the area of Social Innovation.
- Development of targeted up-skilling programmes to generate local capacity to meet physical regeneration requirements.
- Opening up of communities through additional Waterways Infrastructure development to complement new road access into regeneration areas that will integrate Limerick City with Moyross / St. Marys Park. This will generate training and employment opportunities adopting a maritime and tourism theme incorporated into the extended Limerick City Economic & Spatial Planning Strategy.

2.2.3 Economic Development Approach

The economic development model has been devised based on an analysis of specific area requirements and stimuli that will generate sustainable activity within the communities for capacity building and local employment generation. This will lead to the longer term economic vision of attracting inward investment into the area and the provision of sustainable employment opportunities for local residents.

Thematic Development

The basis for the thematic focus for economic regeneration strategy is its prioritisation under EU policy. The concentration on a number of themes by the EU is comparable to the thematic approach adopted by the Office of Regeneration. These include low carbon economy, employment and labour mobility, education and investment in health and social infrastructure. Among the initial themes for development include the following:

Green Economy

There are a number of very strong arguments in favour of pursuing a green economic focus. The physical regeneration process offers immediate scalability for local green industry providers through new build and refurbishment. The level of academic and research interest within UL and LIT offers a further platform for development providing linkages between industry and research. The development of a dedicated industrial hub focused on attracting green sector businesses is proposed for the Southill area availing of existing industrial space capacity providing immediate training and employment opportunities.

Unskilled and Semi-Skilled Manufacturing

The creation of a dedicated training and enterprise site is proposed that will focus on capacity building and training opportunities in the area of manufacturing materials. These will be used initially in the physical regeneration process expanding to the wider marketplace. The model proposed for adoption is based on the successful Glasgow regeneration manufacturing hub initiative that has now grown to employ *circa* 200 people from surrounding regeneration areas. The creation of a focal point for training with the opportunity of progression to a local employer is proposed through an integrated training and enterprise hub located in Moyross.

Horticulture - Community Garden Enterprise

The creation of a community garden and horticulture training centre will be developed to capitalise on successful existing smaller pilot projects. This will have the capacity to offer training opportunities in the area of horticulture for future incorporation in landscaping / estate management across the areas of regeneration. Additional opportunities exist around the area of sports ground maintenance for incorporation into plans for local sports facility development.

The immediate use of available sites such as Delmege Park, Barrys Field and the Ballinacurra Weston Community Centre green field site can host the development of large scale community gardens to facilitate this training. The proposed Urban Orchard in Southill would further contribute to the overall theme. Further outputs include food production training (e.g. micro enterprise in artisan local food production from the produce of the community garden using existing enterprise training supports in the local areas).

Social Innovation and Enterprise Development

The area of social enterprise will be developed as a key theme leveraging off existing enterprise supports provided through national agencies in addition to local enterprise groups which have successfully nurtured social entrepreneurs through their training and enterprise support structures e.g. Limerick City Build (Business Transformation Programme) and Southill Enterprise Development. The creation of enterprise supports for local groups and appropriate operating conditions can realise considerable potential across many sectors and as by-products of other local economic activity e.g. food production from community gardens.

Marketing of Sites

There are a number of key strategic sites within the control of Limerick City Council that will be marketed for potential enterprise development attracting further inward investment. It is proposed that these sites will be available for low or no cost with a range of civic or tax incentives to attract new enterprise location with the purpose of de-risking an element of direct investment. In addition to the local employment and training opportunities such inward investment will realise, additional local employment will be supported through indirect jobs creation in the community in areas such as retail and support services.

The sites and areas proposed for immediate consideration include;

- Moyross – lands adjacent to Industrial Park.
- Galvone Industrial Estate Units
- Nicholas St Buildings
- Ballinacurra Weston Sites
- Opera Centre site

National Social Innovation Hub

It is proposed to create a National Social Innovation Hub to facilitate the development of social entrepreneurship and stimulate local enterprise development, create employment opportunities and act as a focal point for capacity building and job creation. The creation of a National Social Innovation Hub will represent the inaugural centre in Ireland and will be designed to attract the support and patronage of Multi National Companies (MNC) widely engaged in social innovation. Further scope will include a multi-party third level element focusing on social entrepreneurship as a subset of the proposed City Centre Campus.

The hub will become the basis for social innovation and supporting local enterprise in addition to providing a focal point for local enterprise initiatives such as Limerick City Build, Southill Enterprise Development, etc.

The development of the Social Innovation Hub will be designed to facilitate the implementation of socially focused projects in partnership with MNCs and third level institutes e.g. ICT & Community Health & Well-Being, Social Research.

The Hub will require a micro finance funding structure as part of a regeneration civic and start up intervention programme to assist start ups or employing personnel from the target areas. Further linkages with the Georgian creative hub can deliver additional cross city synergies using the Innovation Hub as an incubation centre for a range of enterprise directly or indirectly related to the arts and culture.

Structural Fund regulations for 2014-20 offer many new opportunities for social innovation and the creation of a National Hub in Limerick provides a focal point to attract funds to support specific programmes. They include:

- 1. Social inclusion
- 2. Migration
- 3. Urban regeneration
- 4. Social Economy
- 5. Microfinance
- 6. Health & Ageing

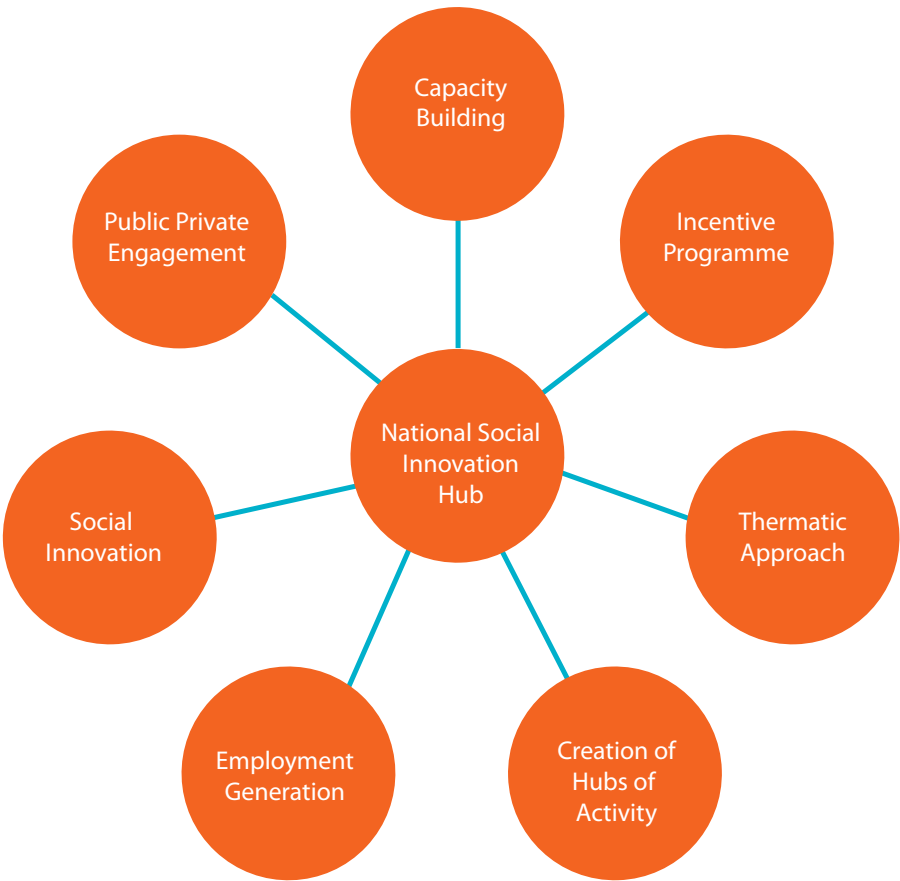


Figure 1.6

- 7. Incubation
- 8. Workplace innovation
- 9. Regional strategies

The suggested structure for the development of the National Social Innovation Hub is as follows:

Nicholas Street, King's Island

The Nicholas St location would be the focal point and central administration base.

The proposed Nicholas Street location would also act as an incubation centre to attract a mix of social innovation and social enterprise in addition to local training provision. Its proposed location adjacent to the city centre will provide a direct link between the city centre and regeneration and provide a focal point for activity that will have a city wide impact.

The creation of the nearby medical village at George's Quay / Mary St will provide immediate employment opportunities for residents of regeneration. Linkages with training organisations and availing of LIT's applied science capacity, will enable a focus on upskilling trades people to develop skills as technicians while non skilled labour job opportunities will also be created across all service and facilities management areas. The Village adjacent to the proposed National Social Innovation Hub will also facilitate further supply side activity.

Additionally the theme of Social Innovation in Community Health & Well-Being can be developed from the Nicholas Street base leveraging the medical village and shared third level expertise.

2. Framework Strategy

Moyross / St. Marys Park

The development of supply side businesses for products and services leveraging off successful Limerick City Build.

This proposed model for this aspect of the National Social Innovation Hub is based on the successful 'Glasgow Model' that has successfully established manufacturing businesses to supply local physical regeneration projects. This element of the hub will be located at the proposed Training & Enterprise development in Moyross.

Southill

The development of the Green economy theme is proposed for the Southill area with immediate consideration given to utilising the Galvone Estate as a natural hub for green sector focused development. The creation of recycling and light manufacturing focused industries with a green theme can leverage third level expertise and local industry practitioners to create training and employment opportunities with the refurbishment of the local housing stock as an immediate target. Additional opportunities exist in the area of metal recycling, composting, paper and glass recycling and alternative energy source creation as themes for further development. The options for location of the Southill Social Innovation hub will be Galvone and Fullflex.

Expansion of Southill Enterprise Development into a bigger enterprise centre will provide the immediate link to the National Social Innovation Hub with a focus on enterprise development.

Ballinacurra Weston

The creation of a Community Garden with a training and enterprise focus is proposed for Ballinacurra Weston. The objective for the Community Garden theme is to provide training opportunities in the area of horticulture, landscaping and maintenance with a view to developing local capacity to work on estate management and landscaping as an integral element of the physical generation project. The creation of a local food production theme will create further opportunities through the cycle of planting, yield and crop management to artisan food production training and retail. Further opportunities include the development of international linkages, social research programmes and a national focus of attention to attract third sector and private sector investment in social enterprise. The hub will represent a first for

Ireland with considerable profiling opportunities for Limerick and its socio-economic regeneration strategies.

Micro Enterprise Incentive Programme

Notwithstanding the difficulties in providing tax incentives in the current economic environment, it is recommended that a series of supports are provided to stimulate new social enterprise in regeneration areas while contributing to the development of existing enterprises with growth potential.

The ability to attract new micro enterprise activity into the area will be supported through the creation of a dedicated enterprise fund to support existing practitioners in stimulating local enterprise. It is proposed that an incentive pilot programme is developed targeting specific industry sectors such as the Green Economy.

The development of the proposed National Social Innovation Hub can act as a conduit for a range of supports and start up initiatives to include:

1. Tax designation zones for certain industries and start ups e.g. Galvone and green sector). This tax designation model could be comparable to the recently announced 'Living City Initiative'.
2. Regeneration Innovative Start-up Enterprises (RISE Programme) with access to mentoring and seed capital through loans available through a central fund.
3. Examination of a national pilot programme for microfinance provision for social enterprise (loans and access to credit) using sourced funding from philanthropy and locally generated financial supports (crowd funding model)
4. Integration of scholarship and educational programmes with micro-financing programme to provide pathways from local schools and colleges into sector specific industries.
5. Creation of social innovation vouchers to provide access to mentoring supports and industry experts.

Green Industry Hub - Galvone Industrial Estate

The designation of a green industry hub is proposed based on an integrated approach of capacity building, 'green energy vocational training' contributing to the medium to longer term objectives of employment and establishment of Green Economy cluster. It is

proposed that the Galvone Industrial Estate is developed as the anchor site for the creation of a Green Industry Hub complementing the CleanTech developments in LEDP.

A number of multi-stakeholder approaches will be employed. These include the development of third level partnerships with LIT and UL in the area of green / environmental research in conjunction with the Southill Enterprise Development and the National Social Innovation Hub. This would form a focal point for a cooperative approach among industry practitioners / experts (glass, fuel, metal, paper, etc.) and facilitate the development of a new industry base around the Southill area and available surrounding lands. The organic cycle of capacity building, training and green business creation will result in an immediate involvement in the refurbishment and new build elements of the physical regeneration programme.

The use of incentives to attract 'light' manufacturing businesses operating in the green sector is proposed based on their ability to train and employ local residents and work on refurbishment and new build projects.

Moyross Training & Enterprise Hub

The creation of a training and enterprise hub in Moyross will capitalise on the ongoing capacity building, local resources and employment generation cluster that exists in the area. Access to locally owned sites with a commitment from landowners to develop them will provide a training centre to focus on skills development for light manufacturing and construction skills and jobs. This training centre will also develop training programmes to supply staff to other enterprise focused sites such as the Green Industry Hub. Broader social and capacity building programmes can also be accommodated on site though existing tenants. The proposed location for the Training Centre has a number of adjacent green field sites that will be marketed for development in order to create an employment outlet for the training centre participants.

The redevelopment of the 'Bays' site will add additional local capacity and contributes to the formation of a natural training cluster. The output from training services will require local employment opportunities, highlighting the need to adopt a comparable enterprise development model

successfully delivered in Glasgow Regeneration areas. This model will facilitate an integrated approach to capacity building, training opportunities and realistic opportunities to secure local employment.

Southill Training & Enterprise Hub

Current levels of micro enterprise support structures in the Southill area will be considerably enhanced with the creation of a dedicated enterprise centre in the immediate community. Options under consideration include the development of additional space in the 'Fulflex' building in addition to available sites in the Galvone industrial estate.

Current local enterprise promotion through the Southill Enterprise Development would be greatly enhanced through access to a larger purpose specific site. This would become a further component of the proposed National Social Innovation Hub with an emphasis on training and capacity building.

2.2.4 Vocational Sports

The successful inclusion of sports as a social regeneration mechanism must be capitalised upon. The development of a 'community garden' themed approach to training offers a broad range of training and employment opportunities in the area of sports facilities management and maintenance. The sites at Delmege and Barry's Field offer immediate opportunities for vocational sports development with additional training capacity provided at The Factory and the Moyross Training Centre. The use of St. Enda's also needs examination from a vocational sports perspective and creation of a focal point for education and sport for regeneration projects.

The role of sport as a means of integrating teenagers into broader educational and vocational opportunities requires development with a partnership approach between current social partners and engagement with sports agencies and professional bodies in the areas of turf management, golf course maintenance, playing field development and maintenance, training and education developing on successful programmes initiated by Arsenal FC and Limerick City.

The creation of a dedicated horse site has the capacity to develop innovative programmes. These include feedstuffs for the equine industry, horse care programmes, equipment supply to meet specific equine industry requirements.

2.2.5 Service Industry Training Development

Based on the demographic profile of the regeneration areas, the hospitality service industry remains a key focus for employment. The provision of hospitality industry training for local jobs in hotels, restaurants needs re-examination. The previously successful CERT model needs adoption into a local training plan with direct links into local schools to highlight a pathway for jobs in the service sector. The expansion of a 'service industry training' centre can also facilitate programmes to build local capacity for a broad range of roles in re-emerging businesses e.g. call centres. The premises on the grounds of LEDP is long associated with hospitality training while LIT successfully operate hospitality management courses that can be adopted for local residents.

2.2.6 Philanthropic & Public Partnership Project – Maritime Resource Development

The economic development plan requires the creation of 'visionary projects' supported by a mix of funding options that include a Philanthropic and Public Partnership approach. A 'transformational project' approach is recommended to develop additional linkages between the city and areas of regeneration. A flagship project with training, employment and tourism potential is the development of the waterway to include St. Marys Park, Moyross to Grove Island and city.

The development of a maritime themed approach will open access from the city to regeneration areas and link into tourism destinations such as Killaloe. The initial funding will be dedicated to create the appropriate waterways infrastructure to open up access at a number of key strategic points. Further opportunities will include the creation of training in a range of maritime service supports, river maintenance, guiding and provision of dedicated water sports areas such as a paddle sports centre.

2.2.7 National CSR Engagement Centre

The Office of Regeneration will create a platform for engagement with the private sector at national and international level as a model to develop sustained activity under a Corporate Social Responsibility platform. The creation of a National CSR Engagement Centre will enable the private sector to become involved in specific projects detailed under socio – economic plans for the Office of Regeneration. This will enable local enterprise and projects gain access to

industry experts, potential private sector investment and provide an immediate platform for engagement with local communities not available heretofore. The National CSR Engagement Centre will identify a number of key economic development projects for partnership with the private sector, including activity through the National Social Innovation Hub.

2.2.8 Strategic Use of Public Procurement

The programme of new build, rebuild and refurbishment will be subject to the adoption of social clauses to enhance the prospects of local employment and training during the physical regeneration process. The level of construction job losses within the target areas highlights a high level of trades people available for immediate engagement while the opportunity to provide training and apprenticeships will be considered in the final procurement delivery model as employed throughout the EU.

Public procurement strategy for the regeneration process will consider socially responsible public procurement to include social clauses to employ local residents and consider provision of training and capacity building options. Further procurement considerations, which are commonly employed in the EU, include Green Public Procurement to link with the green industry hub and Public Procurement Promoting Innovation.

The sources of law that support the adoption of social clauses in Public Procurement include; European Treaty and EC Directives, Government Guidelines / Regulations, Case Law and Irish Law.

More specifically, Article 2 of the EC Treaty includes in the list of community objectives "a high level of employment and of Social Protection... a high level of protection and improvement of equality of the environment, the raising of the standard of living and quality of life and economic and social cohesion and solidarity among member states".

The Social Chapter was inserted into the text of the EC Treaty by the Treaty of Amsterdam in 1997 and Article 136 lists social objectives which include "the promotion of employment, improved living and working conditions... the development of human resources and the combating of exclusion".

2. Framework Strategy

Article 137 (1) deals with “social policy activities in that Member States and that the community will work towards development co-ordinated strategy for employment particularly promoting a skilled, trained and adaptable workforce and labour markets responsive to economic change”.

Article 12 contains a general prohibition on discrimination.

Article 28 deals with free movement of goods, which prohibits bans on use of imported good and contracts.

Article 46 deals with the freedom of establishment

Article 47 deals with the free movement of services, which prohibits bans on non national contractors providing services.

Directive 2004 / 18 / EC

Covers the co-ordination of procedures for the award of Public Works, Contracts, Public Supply Contracts and Public Service Contracts.

Article 23 refers to the obligation to make the criteria clear to Tenderers at the contract stage.

Article 26 of this Directive states that contracting authorities may lay down special conditions relating to the performance of a contract, provided that these are compatible with community law and are indicated in the contract notice or in the specifications. In particular, the conditions governing the performance of a contract may concern social considerations

Recital 1 of the Directive states that public concerns in the social area may be included by a contracting authority provided they are linked to the subject matter of the contract.

Recital 33 states that contract performance conditions may favour on site vocational training, the employment of people experiencing particular difficulties achieving integration and the fight against unemployment. It further states that mention may be made of the recruitment of long term jobs seekers or to implement training measures for the unemployment or young persons. Contract performance conditions must not be directly or indirectly discriminatory.

Recital 45 states that in order to guarantee equal treatment, the criteria for the award of a Contract

should enable Tenders to be compared and assessed objectively. A Contracting Authority may use criteria aimed to meet social requirements in response to particular needs defined in the specifications of the Contract of particularly disadvantaged groups of people to which those receiving / using the works, supplies or services which are the object of the Contract belong.

Section 65 of The Local Government Act 2001 confirms the power of Local Authorities to do things which are ancillary or related to their expressed statutory powers which can be carried out advantageously in conjunction with them.

Section 66 provides that a Local Authority make take such measures, engage in such activities or do such things in accordance with law (including incurring expenditure) as it considers necessary or desirable to promote the interest of the local community.

The implementation of any policy must be in accordance with the general EC principles of fairness, equality of non discrimination etc.

The Treaty and Directives only apply to Contracting Authorities in EC Directives a Contracting Authority is defined as a State Regional or Local Authorities, Bodies governed by Public Law, associations formed by one or more of such Authorities or Bodies governed by Public Law.

Bodies governed by Public Law means anybody (a) established for the specific purposing of meeting needs in the general interest not having an industrial or commercial character and (b) having legal personality or (c) financed, for the most part by the State or Regional or Local Authorities or subject to management supervision by those bodies, or having an administrative, managerial or supervisory board more than half of whose members are appointed by the State, Regional or Local Authority or by other bodies governed by Public Law.

Policy Statement

The Authority will continue to use all of its powers, whenever it can, to promote social benefits in public procurement to include but not be limited to the following:

- Creating skills and training opportunities
- Creating employment opportunities for long term

- unemployed
- Encouraging equal opportunities for all regardless of gender, race and disability
- Supporting SMEs and Social Enterprises
- Comply with the principles of the EC, Irish Law, Procurement Directives and Government Guidelines
- Consult with the public, the wider community and other stakeholders in the Procurement System
- Contractors will be required to support the Authority's Policy and will be required to actively participate in the economic and social regeneration of the locality of the place of delivery for the Contract.
- Continue to use all of its powers wherever it can to promote social benefits in Public Procurement

The Authority will seek to implement its aims as stated in this Policy of securing skills and equal opportunities in employment. This will be achieved by using in its Procurement and Development Contracts specifications which promote its Policy. The Authority may require particular conditions concerning performance of the Contract to include monitoring clauses provided that those conditions are compatible with European Community Law and provided they are stated in the Contract Notice or in the Contract Documents

Implementation of Policy

It is the Authority's intention to implement the Policy adopted in all applicable cases in order to promote social inclusion in Public Procurement Contracts.

In the first instance it would be the primary objective of any contract or in the alternative it would be secondary objective that there is such social inclusion. The primary objective should satisfy the operational requirements of the authority and contribute to the achievement of policies adopted. Requirements will be directly relevant to the product or service being procured. They will be specified to any Tenderers at the outset and they will form part of the award criteria and will be capable of being monitored and enforced and payment of the contract price will be tied to the performance of the social considerations in the award criteria.

The Authorities shall before embarking on procurement consider if the policy document adequately supports the proposed scope of the contract.

All E-Tenders and OJEU Notices shall clearly set out the social nature of its requirement where it is a primary objective. Any pre-qualification questionnaire shall contain sufficient questions to allow the Authority to access the technical capacity and / or ability of a Tenderer to provide any training programme.

Where an Invitation to Tender or Invitation to Negotiation issues, the Tenderers shall be required to set out their principle solutions to achieving the primary objective.

Tenderers will be provided with an outline of how there Tenders will be treated by the Authority when considering the evaluation and scoring of the tender documentation for award purposes. The criteria may include a scoring framework which contains a list of the expected social benefits grouped by subject. Each bid of social benefit can be evaluated against the agreed criteria and allocated a score. Each benefit should be allocated a weighting and then a scoring scale agreed which identifies the marks against which responses to tender questions will be assessed.

Having specified the primary requirements for procurement in the documentation that issues the contract document shall be used to enforce delivery of the goods, works or services by the chosen Contractor, in the way described in the Contracting Authority Specification and any service deliver plan provided by the Contractor in response. There should be a requirement on the Contractor to provide a method statement as to how the goals can be achieved and a duty to provide monitoring information when and to whom and a facility for progress reviews.

Secondary Policies may be promoted both prior to and at different stages of the Procurement Process including:

- Pre-Process Stage
- Specification stage
- The Contract Conditions Stage
- The Contractor Qualification Stage
- The Award Stage

At the Pre-Process Stage the Authority may raise awareness of the Process and its requirements.

At the Specification Stage the description or specifications of the products or service to be procured can be used to promote Secondary Policies.

At the Contract Conditions Stage Secondary Policies can also be provided by formulating contractual conditions that require providers to comply with Secondary Requirements by rejecting tenders that do not accept those conditions.

For the Awards Stage Secondary Policies can be implemented. Contractors may be given an opportunity to submit proposals on how they might comply with the Secondary Policy. This method has the benefit of enabling Contracting Authorities to access quite precisely the optimum balance between costs and the benefit of achieving the Policy to include same as a contract condition. Another method is to give priority to a bid which offers secondary benefits only when other aspects of the bid are equal although it is accepted that this is likely to be a rare event.

2.2.9 Supply Side Supports – Physical Regeneration

The success of the Glasgow regeneration model and the development of offsite manufacturing is a proven illustration of a capacity building resource generating local employment and meeting a demand for the supply of materials used in the physical regeneration of the city. The creation of a training and enterprise centre in Moyross would provide an immediate link to a comparable entity in Glasgow which is currently self sustaining. The funding model used is Public Private Partnership while Philanthropic investment will be considered under the transformational project model.

2.2.10 Connectivity as a Facilitator – E-Inclusion

The opportunity to develop a social enterprise culture and access to capacity building structures can be only realised through the provision of the appropriate local infrastructure. Connectivity is a key requirement to lessen the social divide between the target areas of regeneration and the wider city and commercial districts. Access to broadband and improving local resident’s technology competency is a key strategic priority.

New access points and road developments, new house construction and refurbishments need to facilitate a cost effective means of broadband delivery into all areas of the community and projected enterprise development hubs. In addition to the socio-economic programme development through E-Inclusion, the development of enterprise in the medium to longer term requires international standard networks that

can become a point of differentiation for areas such as Moyross and Southill to attract inward investment.



2.3 Physical Framework Plan

This Physical Framework for the regeneration areas reinforces the vision to achieve sustainable communities. Sustainability is a function of efficient land use, mixed use, good design, access to jobs, community facilities, local services and leisure activities and a reduction in travel. Sustainable communities are balanced, inclusive, healthy, and safe from crime and the fear of crime. To guide and deliver this vision, a strategy has been developed consisting of the following key strategic objectives:

- Strategic Objectives
1. Build a strong, competitive economy

2. Promote healthy communities

3. Require good design

4. Promote sustainable movement

5. Deliver a wide choice of high quality homes

6. Deliver a positive multi-disciplinary approach

7. Support high quality communications infrastructure

8. Meet the challenge of climate change and flooding

9. Conserve and enhance the natural environment

10. Conserve and enhance the historic environment

Each of these strategic objectives is explored in detail with specific development guidance given for each regeneration area.

2.3.1 Build a Strong Competitive Economy

The regeneration areas face social and economic inequalities in relation to educational achievement at school, adults and young people with low skills on welfare benefits, high levels of ill-health for some residents and high levels of anti-social behaviour. Some of these indicators can be improved through interventions proposed in the physical framework plan but additional support in the form of new or improved services and access to employment opportunities also needs to be provided as part of the social and economic frameworks described in section 2.1 and 2.2 of this volume. This will involve the following considerations:

Community Garden at Ballinacurra Weston



2. Framework Strategy

a) Mixed Uses

All four regeneration areas were developed to meet a housing need and were, in effect, housing projects which resulted in mono-function areas. In the intervening years community, commercial and employment facilities have developed. There is scope for further diversity of activity in tandem with support for existing mixed use facilities. The housing unit types provided within the regeneration areas were relatively limited therefore there is scope to increase the diversity of accommodation units, including the provision of specialist units, e.g., elderly accommodation, to meet the needs of a city with a more diverse demographic profile.

b) Maximising the Use of Existing Assets

Each of the regeneration areas and many parts of the wider city have assets which are unutilised or underutilised. This applies to both land and buildings. In some cases a new permanent use may not be achievable in the short to medium term. In this scenario, alternative uses of a temporary nature, 'meanwhile uses', offer potential to ensure a productive use. Sports use, allotments, small scale urban farms, urban nurseries, use of buildings by arts, community and educational organisations are some of the potential functions for unutilised land and buildings. Temporary uses also offer potential to grow into new or sustainable permanent uses.

c) Planning for Infrastructural Provision

Throughout the regeneration areas potential barriers to investment, including lack of communication infrastructure (high speed broadband) and physical infrastructure will be addressed. The Framework Implementation Plan seeks to plan positively for infrastructural provision and environmental enhancement to promote physical, economic and social regeneration.

d) Flagship Projects

The vision set out in the Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan (LRFIP) is to create:

“Safe and sustainable communities where people of all ages enjoy a good quality of life, a decent home and feel a strong pride of place. Well serviced and attractive neighbourhoods will be fully integrated with the social economic and cultural life of Limerick”.

While the focus of the Regeneration Project is on the defined regeneration areas the overall project needs to be seen in the context of the wider city and, in

particular, it is clear that appropriate development in areas contiguous to, or within the environs of, the regeneration areas will contribute to achieving the regeneration objectives. The redevelopment of the Opera Centre site, adjacent to King's Island/St. Mary's Park, is a project that will play a key role in improving the fortunes of the city in totality and its environs in particular. This project is seen as an economic catalyst for the area, city and region. The redevelopment of this site is considered in the LRFIP and also in the recently launched economic and spatial plan (Limerick 2030).

▼ Kincora / Carew Park



▼ St Augustine Place, off Nicholas Street



2.3.2 Promoting Healthy Communities

The regeneration areas can benefit from better social interaction and the creation of a more healthy and inclusive environment. Addressing existing gaps in provision in the context of community safety, retail, community, healthcare, education and open space uses are key to the creation of a healthy community. This will involve the following considerations:

a) Community Safety

Community safety is a key issue for residents of all four regeneration areas. The pervasive nature of anti-social behaviour in parts of the regeneration areas, in particular behaviour that is perpetrated by children under the age of criminal responsibility, has been highlighted due to its impact on perceived insecurity. The emphasis of the physical regeneration programme is to design out areas which are, or could become, a setting for criminal/anti-social activity. The role of well designed streets with good levels of natural surveillance is central to creating safe areas. The fear of crime can have similar or greater impact as crime itself. Effective CCTV systems can contribute to the perception of public safety and may also act as a deterrent in addition to being an effective tool in securing convictions. The principles of crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED) are used to inform the design process. Effectively addressing the social conditions which produce deviant behaviour is also required to deal with the issue at source.

b) Retail

All of the regeneration areas have access to good quality shopping facilities that are within a suitable walking distance. It is imperative that shops are able to develop in a flexible manner in a way that is sustainable and for the benefit of the regeneration areas and the wider community. All new retail uses, as part of existing District or Local Centres within the regeneration areas provide an opportunity to develop their ground floors to activate street frontages helping to increase security in the area and become more vibrant and viable.

c) Community and Healthcare Facilities

The regeneration areas have excellent community and healthcare facilities located within existing district and local centres which are easily accessible to the regeneration areas. A key objective of the Framework Plan is to improve the quality and choice of

2. Framework Strategy

community and healthcare focused uses available in existing facilities and ensure optimum connectivity to the wider community. The existing and extended provision and improved connectivity will help in reinforcing the regeneration area's character and identity in the wider context and ensure its long term viability.

d) Education

Declining numbers of school-goers and uncertainties in relation to the long term feasibility of the existing educational facilities within the regeneration areas has highlighted the need to ensure that a sufficient choice of school spaces and educational programmes are available to cater for the widest mix of communities possible. Proposals for alternative 'neutral' locations for integrated educational campuses, equally accessible and acceptable to the regeneration areas and wider communities will be addressed as part of the framework plan.

e) Open Space

The regeneration areas contain large amounts of passive open space, much of which is underutilised open space and also open space that is not readily distinguishable as either public or private. There is also a major under-provision of active play facilities for those under the age of 15. A key objective of the Framework Plan is to provide for a variety of functional, appropriately scaled, well overlooked and defined open spaces within a suitable walking distance for residents of the regeneration areas. Play facilities within the regeneration areas will be based on the existing and expected child population projections generated by the existing and future need.

Limerick City Council is keen to ensure that the high standards of management and maintenance of existing and proposed open spaces and public realm areas are met and maintained over time and recognises the importance of the role that local residents could play in this. The encouragement of community participation and interaction in open space management, local food production etc. in all the open spaces of the regeneration areas will be promoted.

2.3.3 Requiring Good Design

All of the regeneration areas lack identities and suffer from being drive-by rather than go-to places. To assist in addressing the regeneration area's weak identity the provision of good design will contribute to creating a strong sense of place using buildings and the space between buildings to create attractive and comfortable places to live, work and visit. This will involve the following considerations:

a) Balanced Incremental Development

Balanced incremental development as a strategy to development/redevelopment suggests an approach where multiple smaller scale sites are progressed rather than single large scale projects. This method recognises that sustainable communities develop over time. This approach is equally applicable when working with an existing community where redevelopment is proposed, as is the case in the regeneration areas, or building a new urban area. The redevelopment of the area over time provides the opportunity to create much greater diversity in its design, which could respond to the different estates of the regeneration areas, thus helping to create a more distinct identity. The redevelopment process in the regeneration areas has a solid starting point given that many residents have a strong sense of ownership and stewardship. Multiple smaller scale projects will also provide greater opportunity to smaller scale building contractors, subcontractors and construction workers.

b) Setting Context Scale and Character

Each one of the regeneration areas has strengths deriving from its particular setting. The regeneration proposals should respect local tradition and relationships and draw on the strengths to guide new forms of development. Proposed redevelopment must also respond to the social context and recognise that strong communities exist in areas which are experiencing difficulty. Design proposals should recognise the existing patterns of urban form. Re-using existing buildings, where possible, and consolidating existing public spaces will contribute to achieving continuity and integration. Full demolition was proposed in the 2008 masterplan. Significant demolition has taken place. Following a detailed reassessment the scale of demolitions proposed has reduced. The scale of new development should be appropriate to existing context while recognising that land use should be optimised.

c) Enhanced Connectivity through Urban Structure

Although there are active local centres within each of the regeneration areas, their viability is hampered due to the existing layout which lacks connections to the wider community. Creating connected regeneration areas to the wider context will assist in maximising the catchment and creating and sustaining a mix of uses and facilities.

d) Built Form

The built form of the regeneration areas is defined by poor quality and bland design that is easily identifiable as local authority housing. To ensure the development of a cohesive and integrated community it will be important that there is no visual distinction between private, social and voluntary housing. Diverse and high quality architectural design is required to encourage the development of character and identity and to ensure the augmentation of the existing estate character.

e) Compact Development and Density

Currently the density of the regeneration areas is low. The current density and proposed redevelopment provides scope for more intensive levels of development without compromising the living environment of the existing community, whilst also supporting good local services such as retail and public transport. By increasing the density of the estates, more efficient use of land can be made as well as contributing to the activity and vitality of the area and increasing the viability of services and facilities. It will however, be critical that good urban design principles be applied to ensure that appropriate density is created in the right place with accessibility to facilities and services being a key driver. Higher densities should focus on local and district centres, community facilities and along transport corridors.

f) Improved Quality Of The Public Realm

Best practice urban design guidance suggests that frontages that are active add interest, life and vitality to the public realm. Characteristics of most active and very active frontages are considered in more detail as part of the Public Realm and Design Code which forms supporting documentation to this LRFIP. It is a strategic objective for the regeneration areas that Grade A and Grade B frontages are achieved. Grade A frontage shall be the required frontage in all mixed use and local centres. Generally, given the density of development and predominantly residential use, most residential areas of the areas should achieve Grade B frontages.

Location of Regeneration Areas



St. Mary's Park



Carew and Kincora Park



O' Malley Park



Ballinacurra Weston



Keyes Park



Moyross



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Active Frontage Guidelines (extracted from The Urban Design Compendium, 2000)

Grade A Frontage

- More than 15 premises every 100m
- More than 25 doors and windows every 100m
- High quality material and details
- No blind facades
- Much depth and relief in the building surface

Grade B Frontage

- 10-15 premises every 100m
- More than 15 doors and windows every 100m
- Good quality materials and details
- A few blind or passive facades
- Some depth and modelling in the building surface

2.3.4 Promoting Sustainable Movement

The regeneration areas require better walking and cycling facilities and an improved provision of public transport in order to improve health, enhance social interaction, reduce congestion and negative environmental impacts. This requires more connected, high quality and safe connections where these are lacking in the regeneration areas as well as improving those that exist in line with the recently published 'Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets' guidance. Investment in a new and improved movement network throughout the regeneration areas is guided by the following principles:

a) Public Transport

As stated in Volume 1: Section 3.0 Baseline Conditions and Analysis, the use of public transport is higher in the regeneration areas (between 9 and 14% with the exception of St. Mary's Park - 6%) than in the city (7%) but generally falls below the national average of 13%. The improvement to the quality, frequency and accessibility of public transport that is integrated into an improved movement network within and beyond the regeneration areas will be key to the regeneration area's transformation. It is also important that the proposed uses within the existing community hubs are accessible by public transport with the provision of adequate boarding and alighting facilities.

b) Car Parking

The socio-economic information baseline information states that currently car ownership levels in the regeneration areas are low in comparison to local, regional and national standards. It is likely that a high number of existing and future residents will still rely

on public transport with a resultant increase in demand when the density of the regeneration areas are increased. In any case, parking provision for the regeneration areas should be reassessed in the context of proximity of the area to the city core, existing ownership trends, access to public transport and type and size of unit proposed.

The existing parking provision in rear courts and on street in many of the regeneration areas are disorganised and poorly laid out with little space for amenity. Car parking within these areas should be reorganised to create where possible parking on street in designated bays designed in a manner to help traffic calming and improve the overall environmental quality of the street.

c) Reducing Poor Connectivity

All four regeneration areas suffer, to a greater or lesser extent, from poor connectivity to the surrounding city and hinterland. This lack of connectivity has been, and continues to be, a major contributing factor to the underperformance of these areas. Saint Mary's Park and Ballinacurra Weston occupy edge of city centre locations while Southill and Moyross are on the periphery. The scale of interventions required varies from major infrastructure projects, i.e., roads and bridges to the removal of walls which segregate areas. The design of some existing roads through or adjacent to the regeneration areas has a severance effect due to the overemphasis of traffic movement over the needs of other road users. Improved connectivity is not limited to direct physical interventions but also includes improvements to services such as broadband and public transport to create a more attractive environment for investment and job creation. This is discussed in more detail in other strategic objectives.

Improved connectivity should ensure that the regeneration areas seamlessly integrate with the surrounding city. Interventions at a local level are required to ensure that neighbourhoods are permeable and accessible. Urban block dimensions will be kept to a size which encourages walking and cycling with frequent connecting routes. The creation of pleasant and convenient streets and routes with high levels of passive surveillance goes hand-in-hand with improved permeability.

2.3.5 Deliver a Wide Choice of High Quality Homes

The Government has committed major investment to the regeneration areas of Limerick. The intention in the short-medium term is to replace housing required for strategic demolition with a mixture of unit types and tenures based on the existing need. The remainder of the existing housing units are proposed for refurbishment. In regenerating the areas, current national policy seeks to build mixed and balanced residential communities and it is a key objective of Limerick City Council to create socially inclusive communities, a wider range and fluidity of tenure and a diverse unit type to meet national policy guidance.

a) Tenure and Income Mix

Tenure mix and income mix are grouped as it is clear from experience in Limerick that tenure mix as an indicator of the well being of an area can be misleading. Indeed some of the most deprived areas in Limerick, which are also among the most deprived in the State, have very high levels of home ownership. Therefore, an arithmetic balance of tenure is only one aspect of a more complex equation. The physical design for the regeneration areas should be of a standard which encourages tenure and income mix by creating a wider choice of housing options. Given the low levels of private house construction, alternative strategies to achieve the required balance, particularly the removal of barriers between traditional local authority and private estates as well as the identification of suitable lands for additional private development is required. The role of tenure and income mix also has a role in overcoming stigmatisation which is a particularly acute issue in Limerick.

b) Addressing Current and Future Need

The redevelopment of the regeneration areas will provide a diverse range of unit sizes that takes account of the existing housing need in the regeneration areas whilst also allowing for a buffer to plan for future demographic trends and the needs of different groups in the community (elderly housing, single persons etc). Once the replacement need has been allocated, any additional lands will be proposed for private housing in order to create more choice and potentially fund the regeneration process in the medium-long term. Please refer to Tenure Diversity Strategy in Volume 3 for further information.

c) Bring Houses Out of Dereliction

A key objective for all regeneration areas will be to identify and bring back into residential use unoccupied housing immediately to prevent the cycle of abandonment, vandalism and burn-outs.

2.3.6 Deliver a Positive Multidisciplinary Approach

This facilitation of a high quality, appropriate and timely interventions will be critical to ensure that the key strategic objectives of the Framework Implementation Plan are met. Limerick City Council will work proactively to secure interventions that improve the economic, social and environmental conditions of the regeneration areas by developing the following approach:

a) Multidisciplinary Approach

The range and complexity of issues presented in the regeneration areas requires a multidisciplinary approach which draws on the experience and expertise of a wide range of collaborators. This work method, where competent people cooperate and collaborate to achieve a common objective, presents the best prospect of fulfilling the aims of the regeneration programme. Successful implementation of the key strategic objectives for the regeneration areas will require a positive partnership approach between Limerick City Council, the community, key service providers and landowners.

2.3.7 Support High Quality Communications Infrastructure

Key existing employment generating uses within the regeneration areas are deficient in advanced high quality communications infrastructure to ensure sustainable economic growth and enhance the provision of local facilities and services. Furthermore, the Census statistics from 2011 suggests that the level of access to the internet within the regeneration areas is below the State average.

a) High Speed Internet

New services such as video conferencing and high definition television require fast internet connections. To remain competitive in a global market it is anticipated that download rates greater than 30 megabytes per second is required. The Akamai "State of the Internet" report, highlights that for the fourth quarter of 2012, Ireland had an average peak connection speed of just under 27 megabytes per second.

▼ Grotto at Castle Park



b) E-inclusion

Over 50% of the EU uses the internet daily but over 30% have never used the internet at all (EC, 2013). It is a key objective to develop an e-inclusion strategy within the regeneration areas particularly amongst the elderly, unemployed and those on low incomes who may lack the skills, confidence and means to use digital media and are thus unable to participate in today's society.

2.3.8 Meeting the Challenge of Climate Change and Flooding

The Framework Implementation Plan will play key role in helping shape the regeneration areas to secure reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, minimising vulnerability and providing resilience to the impacts of climate change, and supporting the delivery of renewable and low carbon energy infrastructure. This is central to the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development and can be achieved with the following approaches:

a) Sustainable Construction and Environmental Responsibility

Buildings and the public realm should be designed and delivered to a high standard, using durable materials, appropriate technology and orientated in a manner that minimises energy usage. Development should enhance the environment and recognise the requirement for adaptable, flexible structures which

▼ Moyross Wall



can respond to changing requirements over time.

The architectural design and construction of the new homes and the refurbishment of existing stock can make a major contribution to the creation of a more sustainable environment. Currently much of the existing housing stock in the regeneration areas consume significant amounts of energy and emit large amounts of CO₂ as a consequence, in part, to extremely poor or non-existent insulation. All refurbishment of existing private and local authority tenanted homes will be upgraded to a BER rating of C. In proposed new build developments, Part L of the building regulations will provide the minimum requirement for energy efficiency and significant improvements can easily be achieved with these regulations.

B) Re-use of Existing Building Stock

Arguments for the re-use of existing building stock and refurbishing, as opposed to the demolition and rebuild of housing in the regeneration areas, fall into four categories, namely:

Social – Existing communities, Social impact of significant physical changes

Removal of substantial portions of the existing housing fabric will have a significant impact on this sense of place. As it is the intention of regeneration to

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improve the living conditions of communities in the regeneration areas that they have expressed an interest in staying in, it is imperative not to destroy their physical nature and that which gives the area its identity.

Environmental – Embodied energy versus energy in use

The environmental decision about whether to refurbish or demolish and reconstruct is a balance between embodied energy costs versus lower running costs possible with new build. The embodied energy over the life of a building has been estimated at approx 30% of the overall energy of the building but the construction of a new house with an expected BER rating of A3 would have an energy in use of between 30 and 50% the BER level of C, which is the current Department of Environment, Community and Local Government stated retrofitting level.

We would aim to increase the level of BER rating achieved through refurbishment in line with Government policy and step changes in new building regulations over time.

Financial – Number of properties, fuel poverty

The lower cost of individual unit refurbishment is clearly beneficial, allowing for significantly more houses to be refurbished than newly built for the same capital expenditure.

In addition the increased thermal performance of these houses will demonstrably reduce the annual heat demand for these properties and therefore have a positive impact on alleviating fuel poverty.

Physical – Strategic demolition

There are a number of strategic demolitions still planned due to strategic planning reasons. These can generally be characterized as being necessary due to improvements to and reshaping of the physical environment. It is however our aim to minimise this level of demolition by making final assessments of the need for demolition on a house-by-house basis with a view to retaining and refurbishing as many as possible.

C) Managing Flood Risk

St Mary's Park is a regeneration area at risk of flooding. The sequential approach and justification test of the National Flood Guidelines can be applied to St Mary's Park ensuring that where the construction of new infill replacement homes due to strategic

demolitions are required that the key objective is making the area flood resilient and resistant without increasing flood risk elsewhere.

2.3.9 Conserve and Enhance the Natural Environment

The Framework Implementation Plan has a key aim to contribute to and enhance the natural environment in the regeneration areas by:

- Protecting and enhancing environmentally designated landscapes minimising impacts on biodiversity and providing net gains in biodiversity where possible
- Remediating, mitigating and monitoring contaminated and unstable land, where appropriate in line with EPA guidance.

Island View Terrace, St. Mary's Park.



New Houses in Moyross





Q. "Strengthen Moyross as a mixed use district centre & improve access from Ballynanty?"

A. "I feel improved access from Ballynanty will be beneficial to both estates of Moyross & Ballynanty as I feel it will create more a community bond feeling not one of exclusion"

Resident of Moyross

”

2. Framework Strategy

2.4 Moyross

Residents at Moyross who attended public consultation events held in March 2013 gave near unanimous support for the objectives of the Framework Plan presented. The Framework Strategy for Moyross, described in this section, is a representation of our vision for the physical regeneration of the estate. It shows how Moyross can become a well-connected suburban neighbourhood based on well-designed and safe streets focused on improved public spaces and community uses in its centre. The Physical Framework Strategy for Moyross is described under the following key themes:

- Movement and Connectivity Strategy
- Land Use Strategy
- Open Space Strategy
- Housing Strategy

2.4.1 Movement and Connectivity Strategy

It is the objective of the Framework Plan for Moyross to:

1. Support the construction of the Coonagh-Knockalisheen bypass, providing a new western entrance to Moyross to eliminate existing cul-de-sac layout.
2. Extend the existing Moyross Avenue to link with the new western entrance of the Coonagh-Knockalisheen bypass.
3. Upgrade the existing Moyross Avenue from a route that is predominantly designed for the movement of vehicles to a traffic calmed street where the needs of pedestrians, cyclists and public transport users are prioritised. Measures to slow down traffic, for example the narrowing of carriageways and side-road entry treatments to the various residential estates, will be incorporated to improve safety for all road users.
4. Provide new and improved connections to improve permeability throughout Moyross at the following locations:
 - a) A safe pedestrian/cycle link from Sarsfield Gardens through existing bridge underpass to Moyross Avenue.
 - b) Improved existing access from Moyross to Cratloe Road.
 - c) Improved access from the Civic Heart of Moyross to Thomond Park/Cratloe Road.
 - d) Provide a new connection between Moyross Avenue and Cratloe Road.
 - e) Create a new connection between LIT and the District Centre at Watch House Cross.
 - f) Improved access to Watchhouse Cross from Ballynanty.
 - g) Create a new street between Cosgrave Park and Maintenance Depot to eliminate existing cul-de-sac layout.
5. Improve local connections converging on the community hub of Moyross at the following locations:
 - a) From the Cratloe Road
 - b) Thomond Park
6. Retain the general arrangement of streets and services infrastructure as existing.
7. Provide new and improved crossings for pedestrians and cyclists which will provide direct and convenient access between local amenities at the following locations:
 - a) At Moyross Avenue from College/Cliona Park to the community hub
 - b) At Moyross Avenue linking the linear park
 - c) At Moyross Avenue linking Cosgrave Park to Watchhouse Cross
 - d) At Cratloe Road
 - e) At Killeely Road
8. Provide on street parking along existing and new streets where feasible. Lengths of on-street parking will be broken up through the inclusion of a street trees or other landscape feature. Parking areas will be designed so that they do not dominate the street scene. Short term on-street car parking will also be provided adjacent to the existing community hub.
9. Protect the existing alignment of the Limerick/Galway rail line.

▼ Hartigan's Villas, Moyross



▼ Maintenance Depot, Moyross



▼ Hartigan's Villas, Moyross



Moyross Movement & Connectivity Map



Legend

Movement and Connectivity Strategy

- Statutory Regeneration Area Boundary
- Study Area Boundary
- Strategic Link
- Local Street
- Enhanced Traffic Calming and Crossing at Major Junction

- Informal Pedestrian Crossing and Traffic Calming
- Existing and New Replacement Housing
- Active Open Space
- Passive Open Space
- Railway Line

Note: The drawings set out the design principles proposed, but minor adjustments may be necessary during detail design of individual projects

2. Framework Strategy

2.4.2 Land Use Strategy

It is the objective of the Framework Plan to:

1. Retain and refurbish existing housing units where possible within Moyross in tandem with creating new connections with natural surveillance, functional public open spaces and a more consolidated urban structure refocussed around the existing community hub and District Centre at Watch House Cross.
2. Promote a higher quality residential built environment, with a greater mix of units and increased densities, in greenfield/brownfield sites proposed for replacement housing, in line with Government legislation and guidelines.
3. Enhance Watch House Cross as a District Centre in order to fulfil its role as the commercial and retail hub serving Moyross and the wider area.
4. Expand the footprint of the Moyross Community and Enterprise Centre to improve the quality and choice of community focused uses available. A local café that is community-focused and family-friendly with visibility to the street and access to good-quality outdoor space will provide a place for people of all ages to socialise within the community hub.
5. Ensure that all non-residential uses proposed as part of the regeneration plan should have a strong street presence, generous floor to ceiling heights and window sizes or areas of glazing and flexible layout and design that allows for a range of uses over time.
6. Reinforce existing Employment & Enterprise Uses at Moyross Enterprise Centre.
7. Promote the creation of a community garden and horticulture training centre in Moyross. This will have the capacity to offer training opportunities in the area of horticulture for future incorporation in landscaping/estate management across the areas of regeneration.
8. Promote the relocation of the Limerick City Council Maintenance Depot at Cosgrave Park
9. Promote the redevelopment of the 'Bays' site to add additional local capacity and contributes to the formation of a natural training cluster. The creation of dedicated horse programmes at this location has the capacity to develop innovative programmes which include feedstuffs for the

▼ Pineview Gardens, Moyross



equine industry, horse care programmes and equipment supply to meet specific equine industry requirements.¹

10. Facilitate investment by other key agencies which are considered compatible with the regeneration effort, particularly civic, education, health, training and employment.

¹ Subject to a detailed Flood Risk Assessment and Justification Test.

Moyross Land Use Map



Legend

Land Use Strategy

	Statutory Regeneration Area Boundary		Mixed Use (Residential use permitted)
	Study Area Boundary		District Centre (as designated under the LCDP 2010-2016) (Residential use permitted)
	Non-Replacement Housing (eg Private)		Active Open Space
	Existing and New Replacement Housing		Passive Open Space
	Community, Education and Cultural Use		Railway Line

Note: The drawings set out the design principles proposed, but minor adjustments may be necessary during detail design of individual projects

**Q. "Create a new street between
Cosgrave Park & Maintenance Depot
to eliminate the existing Cul-de-sac?"**
A. "It will stop youngsters gathering in
groups"

Resident of Moyross

”



2.4.3 Housing Strategy

It is the objective of the Framework Plan to:

1. Develop sites for replacement homes with a coherent perimeter block layout and maximise the number of homes with direct street entrances. Streets will be arranged on the outside of the block to encourage permeability. This will support the objective of making Moyross a balanced sustainable neighbourhood.
2. Encourage, in new and refurbished homes, the incorporation of energy and water efficiency measures to at least meet Irish national standards and guidelines. Refurbishment of both privately owned and local authority tenanted homes will be carried out to achieve a BER rating of C.
3. Incorporate flexibility within house design to adapt to changing needs in line with standards such as Lifetime Homes.
4. Ensure that replacement homes will have generous internal and private open space in compliance with the Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016 development management standards.
5. Ensure that replacement homes will have their own front door to the street where at all possible to minimise potential problems associated with shared communal areas.
6. Ensure that replacement homes will have a positive outlook onto surrounding public spaces and streets, to create an appropriate sense of enclosure and natural surveillance, whilst protecting the privacy of ground floor habitable rooms.
7. Promote high-quality design and detailing in replacement and refurbished homes to create a sense of robustness and longevity as well as support tenure-blind principles.
8. Include a diversity of tenure options to ensure that each part of Moyross becomes more mixed. (Please refer to Tenure Diversity Strategy for more detailed information)
9. Provide replacement housing to respond to the existing housing need in terms of the type and size of replacement housing in order to sustain a mixed community.
10. Consider the existing housing need (replacement housing and need arising due to overcrowding) of

▼ Sarsfield Gardens, Moyross



Moyross in determining the type and size of replacement and additional housing provision in order to sustain a mixed and sustainable neighbourhood.

11. Consider the future housing need required over the regeneration programme in relation to overcrowding, emerging household types and elderly housing. It is prudent to plan for a net gain in replacement homes which will act as a sufficient buffer over the lifetime of the regeneration project.

Housing Deliverables	Total	Private	LA				
Current numbers of Occupied and Unoccupied units in Moyross (as at 31.12.2012)¹	780					A	
Total number of Occupied Units (includes 15 community use buildings)	699					B	
Total number of Occupied homes²	684	231	453			C	
Total number of Unoccupied Homes	81	4	77			D	(A-B)
Demolition							
Number of Occupied Homes to be demolished ³	252	56	196			E	
Number of Boarded Homes to be demolished	62	1	61			F	
Total number of Occupied and Boarded Homes to be demolished	314	57	257	314		G	(E+F)
Refurbishment							
Number of Existing Private and Local Authority Occupied Homes to be refurbished	432	175	257			H	(C-E)
Number of Private and Local Authority Unoccupied homes to be refurbished	19	3	16			I	(D-F)
Total number of Occupied and Boarded Homes to be refurbished	451	178	273	451	451	J	(H+I)
Replacement Housing							
Number of Private and Local Authority Unoccupied homes to be refurbished	19	3	16			K	
Number of Occupied Homes to be demolished	252	56	196			L	
Total number of Replacement Housing Need		53	188	233		M	(L-K)
Estimated additional need due to additional Overcrowding (as at May 2013)				48		N	
Overall Replacement Housing Need⁴				281		O	(M+N)
New Homes proposed with approval from DoEC&LG (as at May 2013)	116					P	
New Homes under construction	34					Q	
New Homes proposed	145					R	
Total New Homes proposed				295	295	S	(P+Q+R)
Net Gain in Replacement Homes				14		T	(S-O)
Final Number of Homes in the Study Area⁵					746	U	(S+J)

- 1 Excludes Respond housing (33 units + 1 community use building) and includes 8 units at Shanabooley
- 2 Excludes community use buildings
- 3 Includes 8 units at Shanabooley and assumes occupied homes proposed for demolition will decant into unoccupied proposed for refurbishment
- 4 Housing need excludes need arising from future household formations (e.g. Elderly housing)
- 5 Figure excludes private units generated by lands allocated for private housing

Note: For the purpose of the housing strategies proposed for each regeneration area, a household is considered overcrowded if a person with an existing address within a regeneration area applies to the housing waiting list with a specific desire for housing in the regeneration area to which they currently reside. Therefore, no new social housing tenants from outside the regeneration areas will be introduced into the regeneration areas. It is a specific objective of the LRFIP to support those tenants who wish to remain in a regeneration area where they have lived for some time and have a strong kinship. This strong social capital, amongst other variables, will assist in stabilising the regeneration areas. This objective supports national policy guidance whereby “all households [have] access [to] good quality housing appropriate to household circumstances and in their particular community of choice” (Housing Policy Statement 2011). Furthermore, Limerick City Council supports a policy to accommodate those families to move back to the regeneration areas, who were displaced out of the areas at the beginning of the regeneration process.

Moyross Housing Map



Legend

Housing Strategy

- Statutory Regeneration Area Boundary
- Study Area Boundary
- Non-Replacement Housing (eg Private)
- Replacement Housing

- Existing Housing
- Active Open Space
- Passive Open Space
- Railway Line

Note:
The drawings set out the design principles proposed, but minor adjustments may be necessary during detail design of individual projects

2. Framework Strategy

2.4.4 Open Space and Public Realm Strategy

It is the objective of the Framework Plan to:

1. Protect and enhance the special landscape character and setting of Delmege Estate.
2. Explore the potential for an ecologically sensitive leisure uses as part of a strategic linear park from the river Shannon, through the heart of Moyross to Caherdavin.
3. Promote the development of job opportunities around the area of sports ground maintenance and local sports facility development.
4. Provide opportunities for increased community interaction by encouraging local management of open space.
5. Promote the retention of existing trees on proposed sites for development.
6. Implement a programme of street tree-planting within the private curtilage of homes to ensure better management of the tree stock.
7. Minimise run-off to the existing drainage infrastructure through the integration of Sustainable Urban Drainage System (SUDS) technologies on a site-by-site basis as appropriate, i.e. swales, porous paving etc.
Note: The Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016, does not indicate any areas within Moyross that are at risk from flooding.
8. Enhancing biodiversity through habitat improvements, compensatory habitat and native planting strategies within Moyross
9. Retain the existing active playing pitches associated with LIT, St. Nessel's Community College and Thomond Park RFC as sporting facilities.
10. Restrict development of the landfill sites at Long Pavement Road. It is a requirement to monitor the site and monitor in accordance with EPA Landfill Management Guidelines.
11. Provide for active playspace facilities, based on the existing and expected child population projections generated by the existing and future need.
Moyross is under resourced in terms of active play facilities for children below the age of 15 years.

Moyross Open Space Map



Legend

Open Space Strategy

- Statutory Regeneration Area Boundary
- Study Area Boundary
- Key Walking/Cycling Route
- Existing and New Replacement Housing

- Active Open Space
- Passive Open Space
- Railway Line

Note: The drawings set out the design principles proposed, but minor adjustments may be necessary during detail design of individual projects

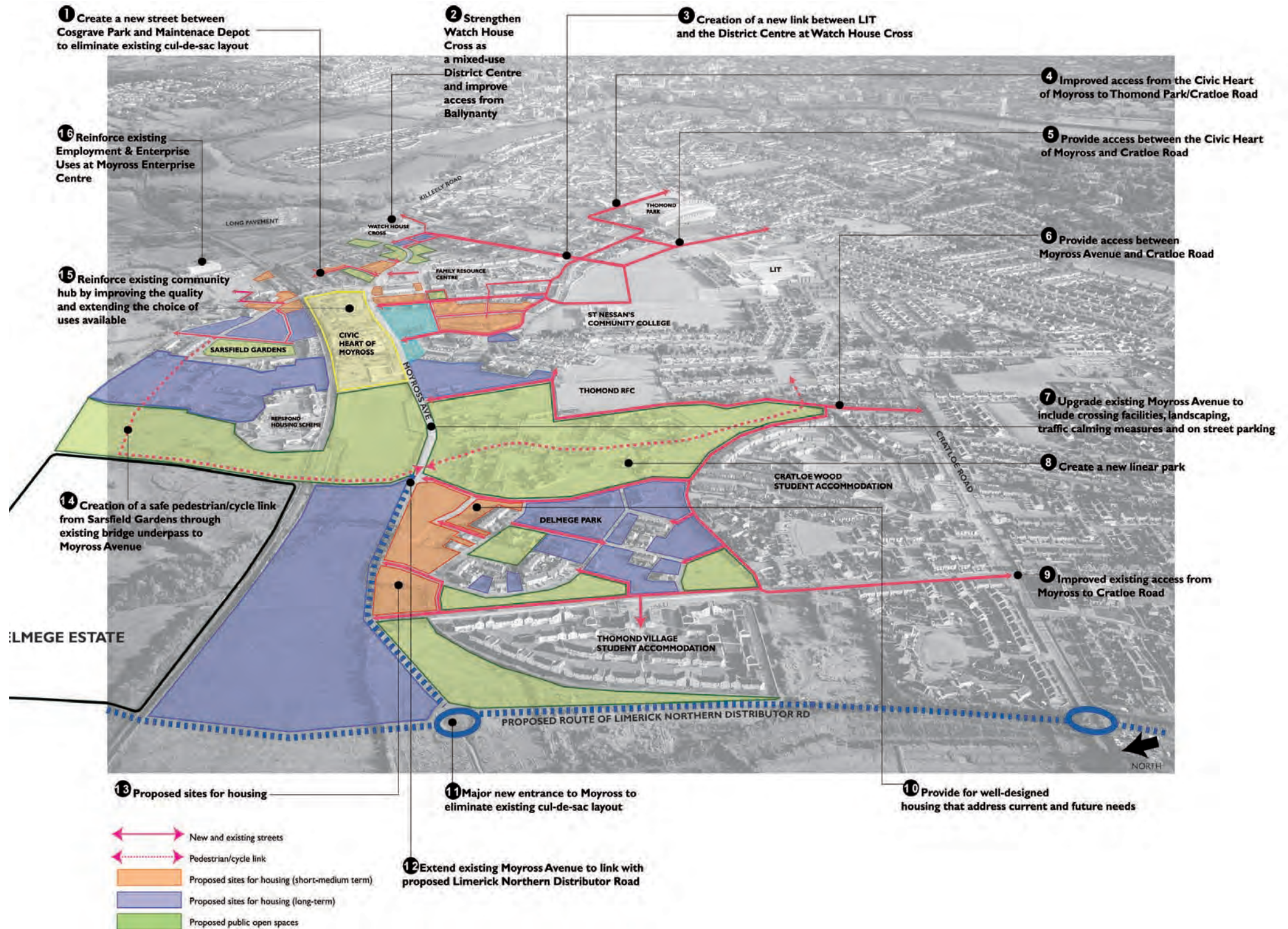
Q. "Upgrade existing Moyross Avenue to include crossing facilities, landscaping, traffic calming measures and on street parking?"

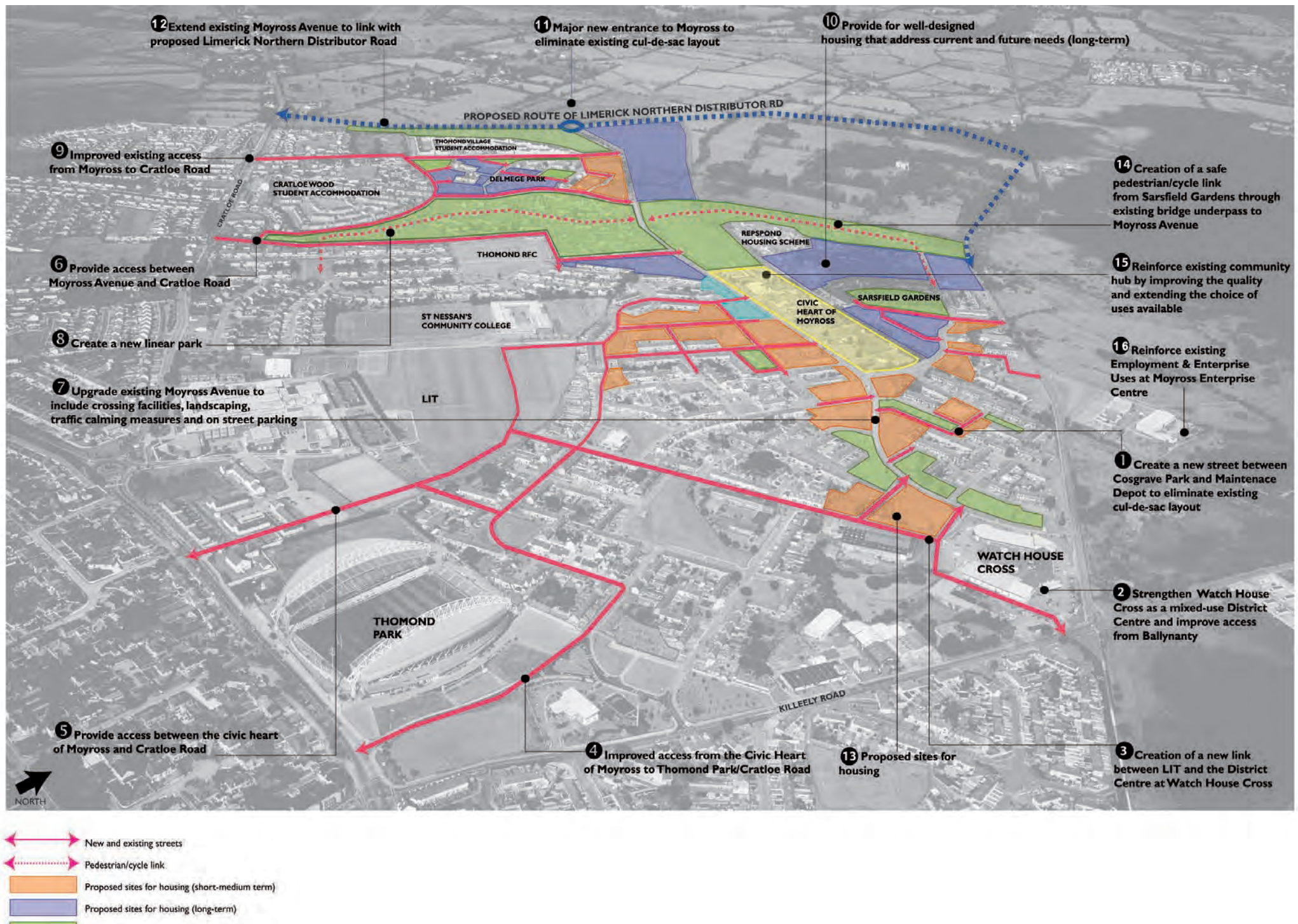
A. "Specially by the school", "All above will better lives in our community and improve self esteem and pride of place"

Residents of Moyross

”









Note: The drawings set out the design principles proposed, but minor adjustments may be necessary during detail design of individual projects.

2. Framework Strategy



Figure 1.6

2.4.5 Demolition, New Build and Refurbishment Strategy for Moyross

2.4.5.1 Analysis of Moyross by Areas

The physical layout of Moyross is not the only reason for the high levels of anti-social behaviour that have arisen in some estates in the area. Long term neglect, inadequate facilities and services and the prolonged high levels of unemployment and low retention levels in education have been identified as contributing to the breakdown of the social fabric within some of the estates. However the physical issues such as low density, isolation, lack of connectivity and poorly passively supervised open public space are known to encourage anti-social behaviour.

There are two key strands to the Physical Framework and Implementation Strategy in Moyross

1. To deliver key infrastructure to enhance the areas profile and thereby attract investment
2. To stabilise the existing community with meaningful interventions that will improve the quality of life in Moyross.

In total the number of new units proposed in the Moyross area is 295 and the number of refurbished units is 451 resulting in an overall total of 746 Units.

Western Area: Delmege Pk., Pineview Gardens and Craeval Park

The western area of Moyross suffers from isolation and a lack of connection to the wider neighbourhood – it is effectively at the end of a large cul-de-sac within Moyross that starts at the Watch House Cross. Currently the built environment is very fragmented due to the wide spread demolition of houses that have been vacated over the last number of years. The original estate layout has no road frontage, an unwieldy and meandering layout and excessive unsupervised public open space.

Central Area: College Avenue – Cliona Pk

The central area of Moyross also suffers from an unwieldy layout with poor frontage onto the main Moyross Rd and a lack of permeability to the surrounding areas. There are large swathes of public open space which are poorly overlooked and the area has been affected by pockets of anti-social behaviour.

Eastern Area: Cosgrave Pk – Dalgaish Pk

This part of Moyross has an established and cohesive community that have largely remained in the area and therefore it has not suffered from wide-spread demolitions like the other estates. It has better links to the surrounding environment and benefits from its proximity to the neighbourhood centre at Moyross and to the entrance roadway into Moyross.

Northern Area: Hartigan's Villas, Sarsfield Gardens, Castle Pk & Whitecross Gardens

The northern area of Moyross suffers from isolation due to the train line forming a barrier between it and the wider Moyross area and its services. There are serious anti-social problems in these estates and the built environment is fragmented due to wide spread demolitions as a result of people vacating the area. There are large areas of badly supervised open public space. In contrast to the other estates adjacent to it Hartigan's Villas is almost fully occupied and has had only a small number of demolitions - this is probably down to its connectivity to the Knockalisheen Rd.

2. Framework Strategy

Western Area:

Delmege Pk., Pineview Gardens and Craeval Park

The Masterplan proposes the reconsolidation of Delmege Park and the complete demolition of Pineview Gardens and Craeval Park to make way for a linear neighbourhood park.

The proposal for Delmege Park is to carry out comprehensive refurbishment and strategic demolitions along with significant infill development

overlooking a new neighbourhood park and fronting on to the extended Moyross Road. The proposal also aims to forge new link routes to the surrounding areas.

The provision of a new neighbourhood park will provide a soft edge to the proposed new housing and will extend to the south serving residents outside of the regeneration area and help to forge new link routes to connect to the surrounding context. The

park will permit existing sports pitches to remain and expand and will provide new playground facilities.

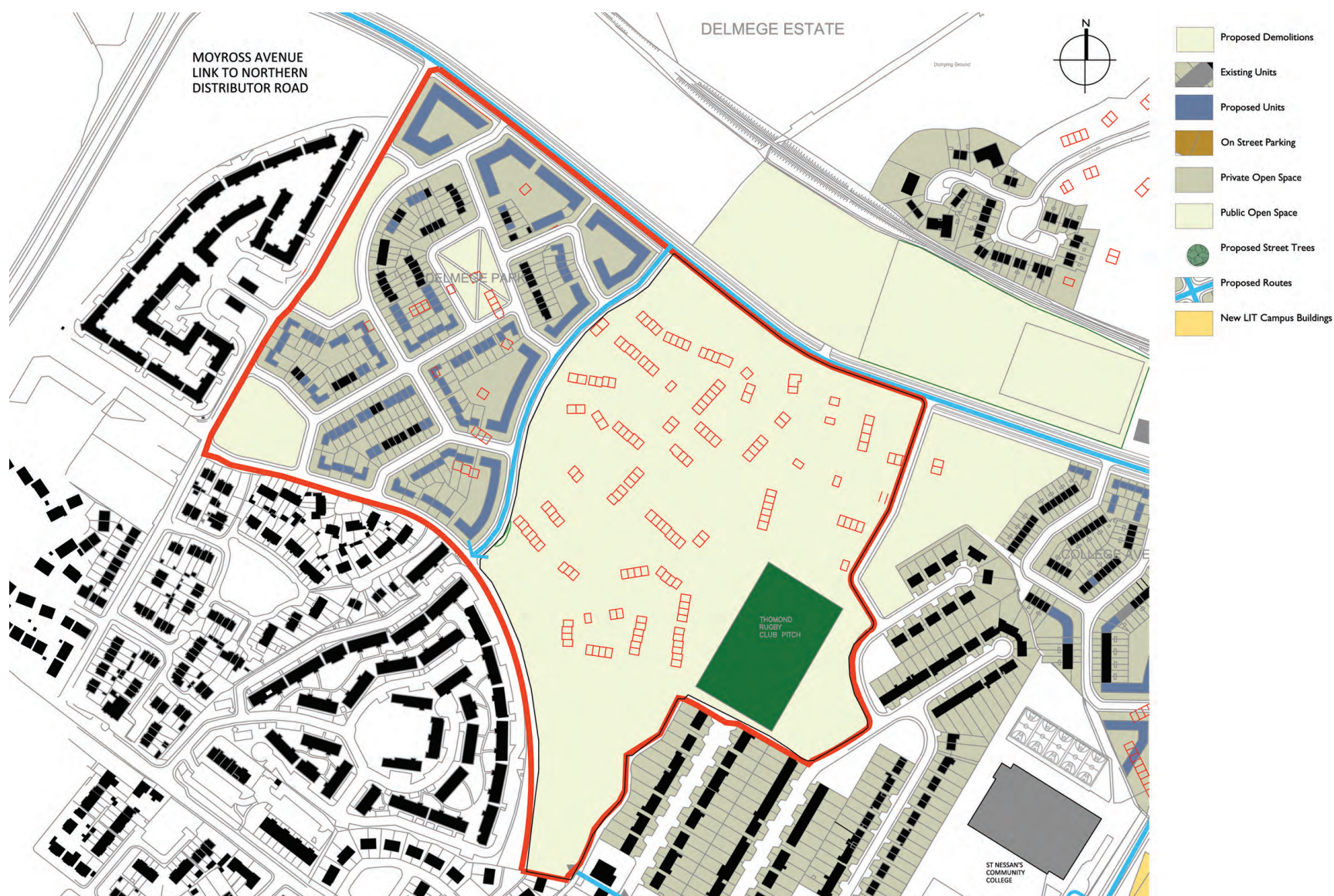


Figure 1.7 Note: The drawings set out the design principles proposed, but minor adjustments may be necessary during detail design of individual projects.

Central Area:
College Avenue – Cliona Park
The Masterplan proposes new infill residential development and quality open space in this area along with strategic demolitions and comprehensive refurbishments. The aim of the proposed layout is the creation of a permeable neighbour with links to the

surrounding areas and a direct new road link to the Cratloe Road via the LIT Campus. The Masterplan also proposes the placement of two key LIT Outreach Buildings in the centre of Moyross opposite the existing Community and Enterprise Centre along the main Moyross access road.

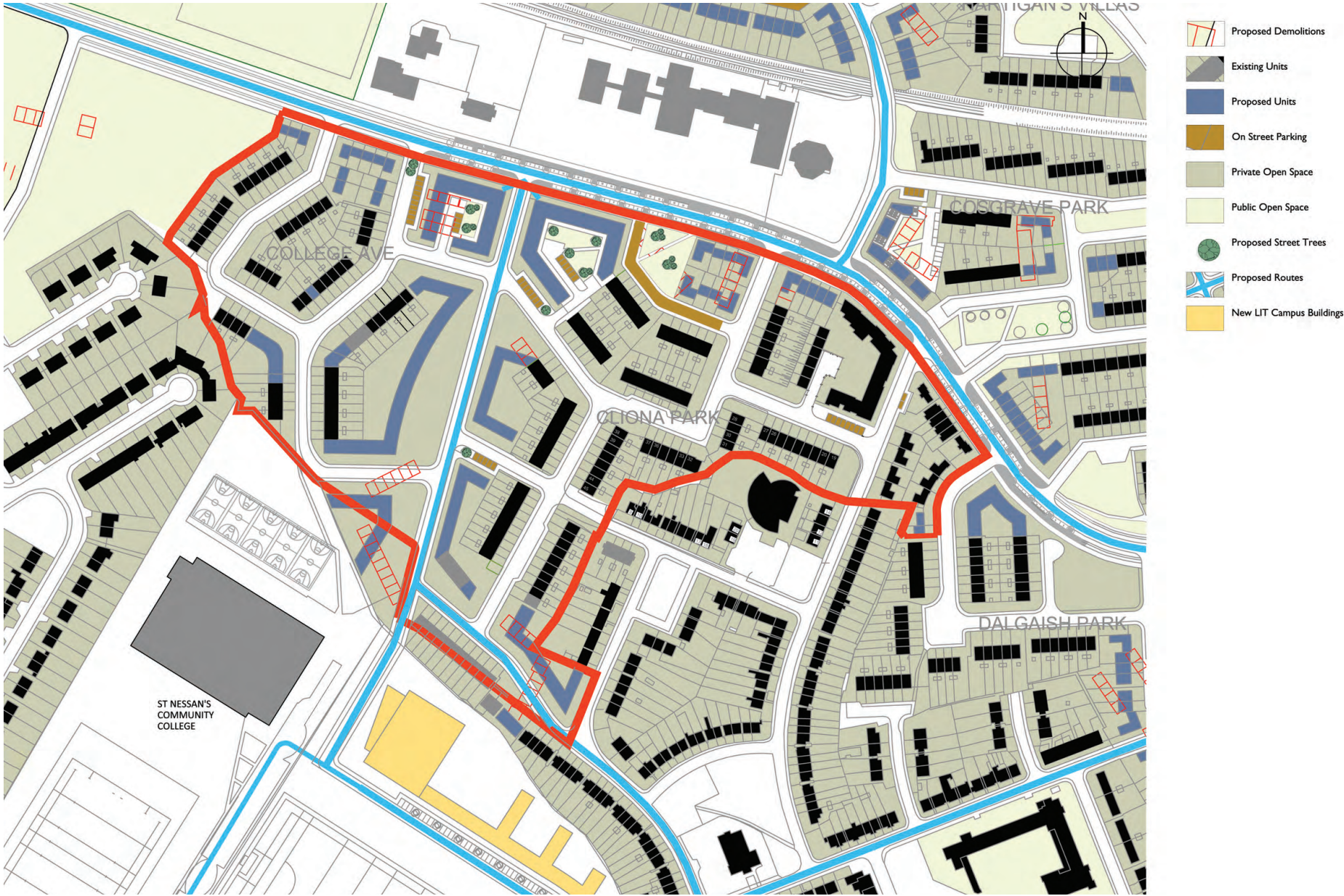


Figure 1.8 Note: The drawings set out the design principles proposed, but minor adjustments may be necessary during detail design of individual projects.

2. Framework Strategy

Eastern Area:

Cosgrave Parkk - Dalgaish Park

The Masterplan proposal for the eastern area includes new residential developments that will provide road frontage onto the main Moyross Road, and enhance the gateway entrance to Moyross along with infill development. Strategic demolitions will be required to make way for the new layout along with a

comprehensive programme of refurbishment and public realm and landscaping improvements. The longer term proposal is to expand the development to the south of Delmege Park and incorporate a new link road at the back of the Watch House Cross centre onto the New Road.

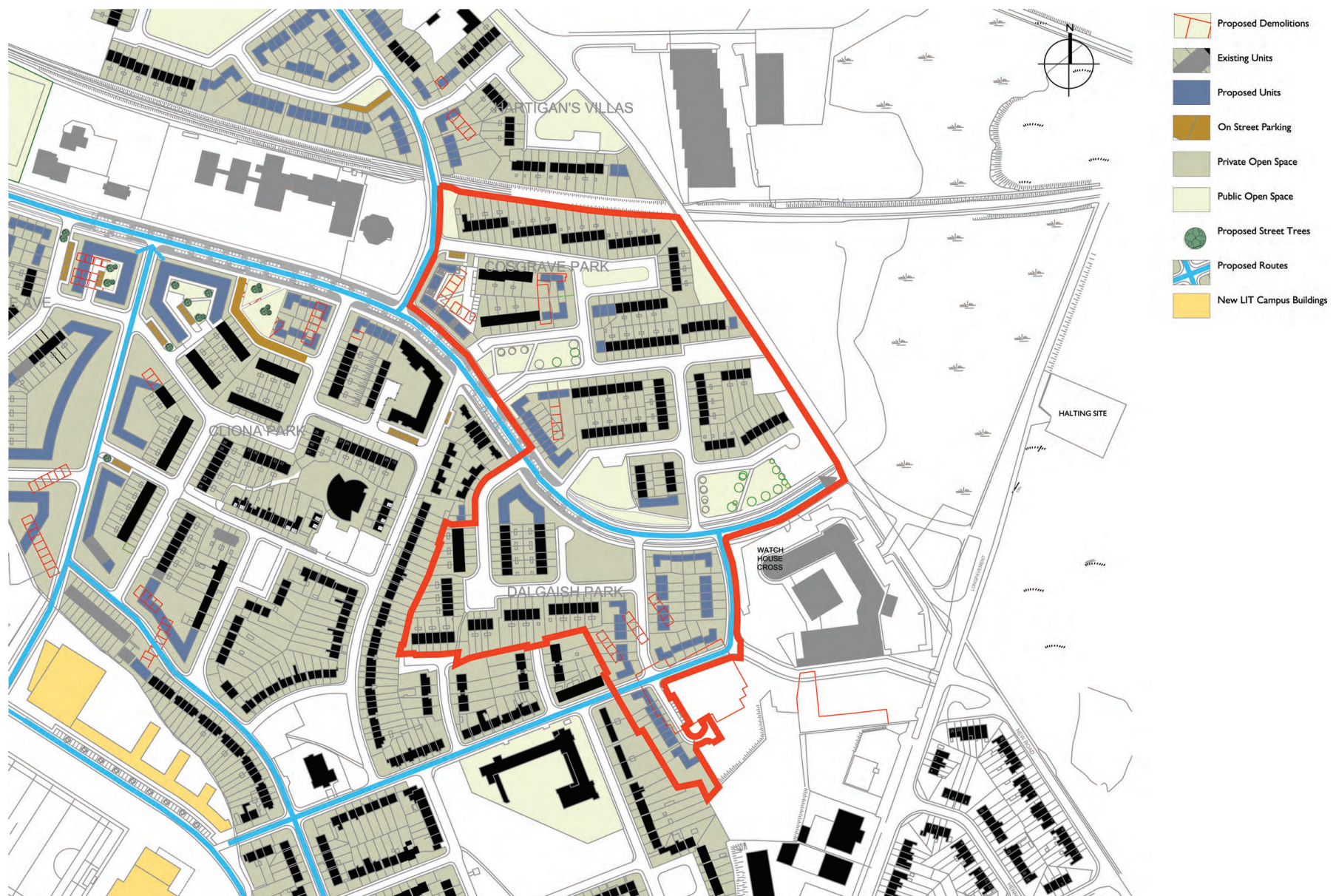


Figure 1.9 Note: The drawings set out the design principles proposed, but minor adjustments may be necessary during detail design of individual projects.

Northern Area:
Hartigan's Villas, Sarsfield Gardens, Castle Pk & Whitecross Gardens
The Masterplan proposes the reconsolidation of Hartigan's Villas, Sarsfield Gardens and White Cross Gardens the demolition of the remaining dwellings in Castle Park. The proposal includes a new residential development in the vacant green space in Hartigan's Villas close to the amenities of Watch House Cross. Strategic demolitions are proposed as part of the new layout for the area and a comprehensive programme of

refurbishments and a new through link route to connect to the Knockalisheen Rd is proposed.

Summary of key outcomes from the Proposed Moyross Masterplan:

- Newly configured neighbourhoods that tie in with and enhance the existing neighbourhoods and incorporate new homes and an extensive refurbishment programme of existing homes.
- Major new road links that enhance the connectivity and permeability of the area including the

upgrading of the main Moyross road which will be lined with quality buildings.

- New outreach educational facility positioned in the heart of Moyross.
- New neighbourhood park that will be amenity for both the Moyross residents and the wider neighbouring communities.

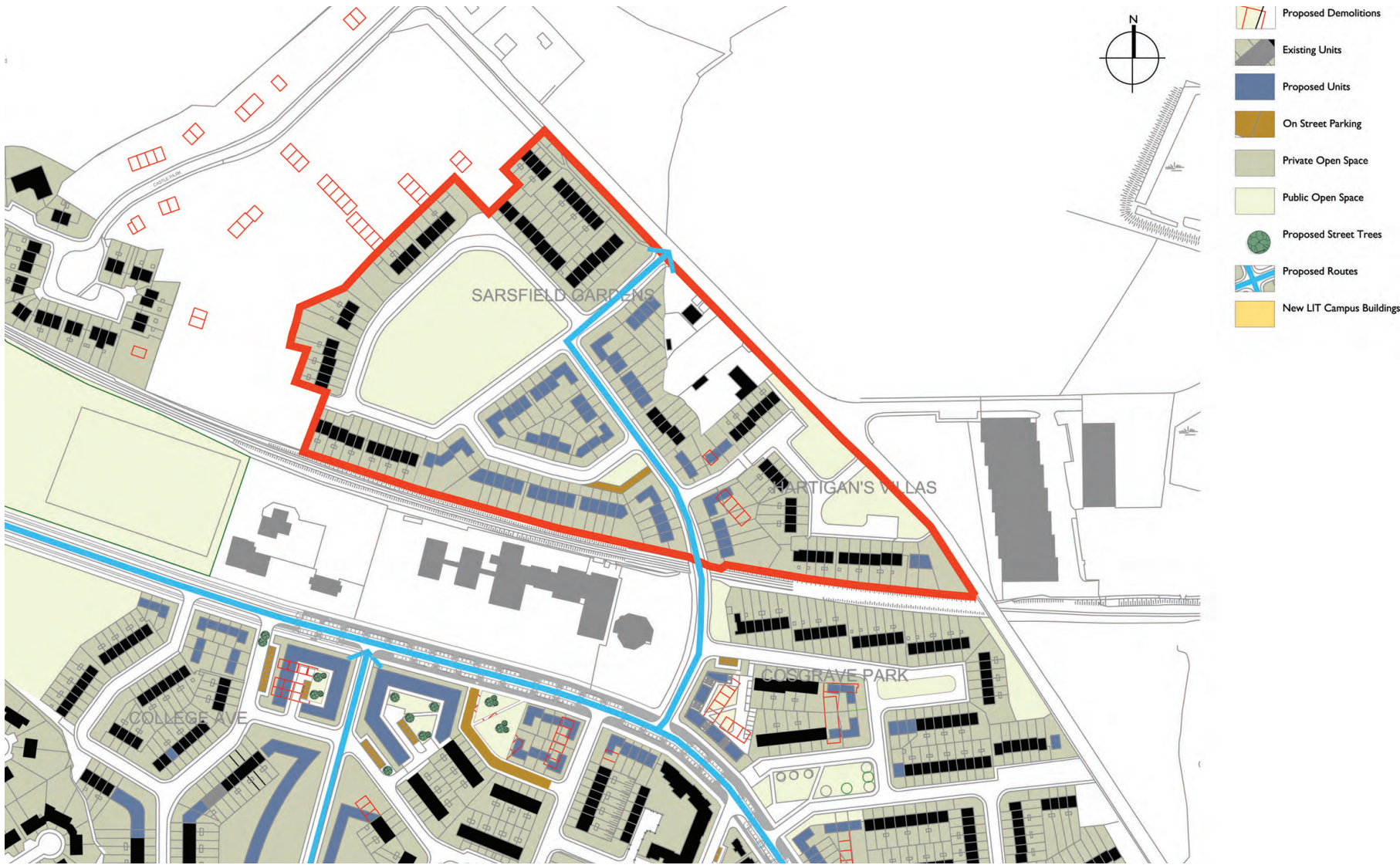


Figure 1.10 Note: The drawings set out the design principles proposed, but minor adjustments may be necessary during detail design of individual projects.

Moyross	Totals	Unit Type	% Mix Required (based on existing household type)	Proposed No. of Units
Total Number of Replacement and Refurbished Units	746			
Number of Replacement Units	295	1 & 2 Person 3 Person 4 Person 5 Person 6 Person	52% 24% 13% 5% 6%	153 71 38 15 18
Number of Units to be Refurbished	451			
Number of Units in Future Phases – to be Private ¹	1725			

¹ Figure derived for additional private housing capacity in Moyross is elaborated in more detail in Appendix 3: Core Strategy Compliance

2.4.5.2 Refurbishment Strategy

Refurbishment of the existing housing stock is proposed for all dwellings that are to be retained in the long term. This refurbishment will take place in the short to medium term and can progress in tandem with, and independently of, the new build programmes.

A comprehensive programme of the refurbishment works will be prepared once the strategy is agreed. The refurbishment strategy has been developed in response to the following:

- The current economic climate: refurbishment will create a greater impact within a shorter time scale.
- The desire of many members of the existing Moyross community to see a portion of the existing housing stock retained.
- The key objectives of the regeneration strategy can be met by creating the appropriate balance between retention, refurbishment and demolition.

1. Introduction to the Pilot Thermal Upgrade Study.

To establish the likely level of refurbishment necessary to bring the existing housing stock up to C BER ratings across the regeneration areas we have carried out pre-refurbishment assessment of 49 houses. These were chosen as a representative sample of the housing types used in each of the regeneration areas. In Moyross 1-7 Dalgaish Park were chosen as they were constructed in 1974. This puts them amongst the earliest units built in Moyross, and which would therefore be expected to have the poorest base thermal performance and would give an indication of the extent of works required across Moyross. In addition, this block demonstrated a mix of Local Authority and privately owned houses and, as they are adjacent to Moyross Avenue, would have a high profile being a highly visible example of the works which will be carried out. These houses are typically two storey red brick cavity wall terraced or end terraced houses with double glazed windows, a gas boiler and open fire for heating. Our research has shown that we would expect to reduce the average energy use from an E1 rating to a C1 rating and reduce energy bills by approx 50%.

The works necessary to be undertaken to attain this level are typically:

- Upgrading of attic insulation
- External cavity wall insulation
- Boiler upgrade
- Additional heating controls
- Servicing of windows and
- Improvement of air tightness
- In some cases where the existing conditions make them harder to treat or if they are starting from a lower base, they may also necessitate
- Installation of new gas fired boilers and heating systems
- Solid fuel stoves
- New windows and external doors

The extent of works to be carried out on private houses will be limited to the above thermal upgrade works, some cosmetic works to the front elevation and garden walls. However in the Local Authority houses this work may be extended to incorporate the removal or remodelling of rear extensions and internal remodelling to best reflect the current housing typology demand as well as more general decorative upgrades where necessary. Where required this may include changes to individual dwellings to facilitate increased passive surveillance and to improve the overall visual amenity.

2. Upgrading the External Environment

In conjunction with the works carried out within the curtilage of each house it is our intention to carry out wider public realm improvements in each estate to improve the appearance of houses and streets together.

We will also encourage the involvement of the local community in DIY minor repair, gardening or painting projects within each area and will work with local community groups to realise any of these works that they feel could be done in partnership between them and the Office of Regeneration.

3. Priorities – Selection of Streets and Blocks.

To increase the efficiency of this a priority schedule is currently being drawn up which will show how we can work on blocks of housing to fulfil not only the thermal upgrade but the more in depth refurbishments and in fill housing and general upgrade of street blocks at the same time. It is more efficient if a contract includes all necessary works to a

block of approx 8-10 houses including the houses and public realm works than to work on one house at a time. To this end we have started a process of prioritisation in each regeneration area to select block on which to work.

Selection of Blocks

Working with the community representatives, the local regeneration personnel on the ground we are compiling a list of priorities of work within the LRFIP based on:

- Current needs
- Current condition of the houses
- Tenure mix
- Geographical spread
- Visibility

This selection will facilitate the roll out of the refurbishment program across the area.

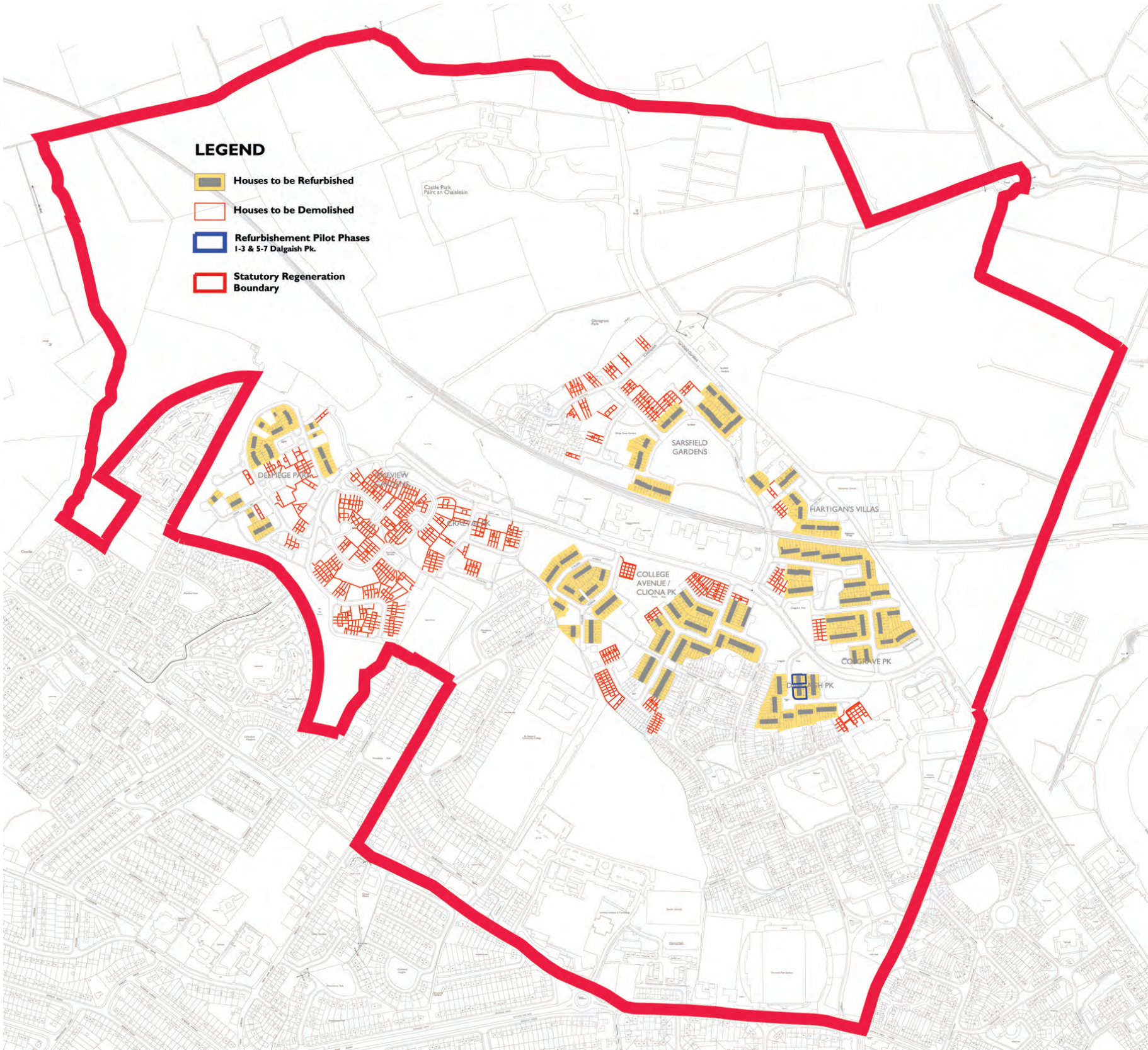


Figure 1.11 Note: The drawings set out the design principles proposed, but minor adjustments may be necessary during detail design of individual projects.

2.4.5.3 Replacement Housing Strategy

In order to achieve the proposals within the overall Masterplan for Moyross over 314 houses have been identified for demolition. These demolitions will take place over the short to medium term and the residents of these houses will need to be provided with replacement housing.

Therefore a phasing strategy has been developed for the new build projects which will meet the need for replacement housing for the existing residents of Moyross.

The strategy will take place over a number of phases and will run in tandem with the refurbishment strategy.

Once the replacement housing has been complete any future phases of housing development will be allocated to the voluntary and private housing sectors in order to achieve a social mix within the Moyross area. However, should an uplift in market conditions occur, the phasing strategy will allow for the development of private housing in tandem with replacement housing.

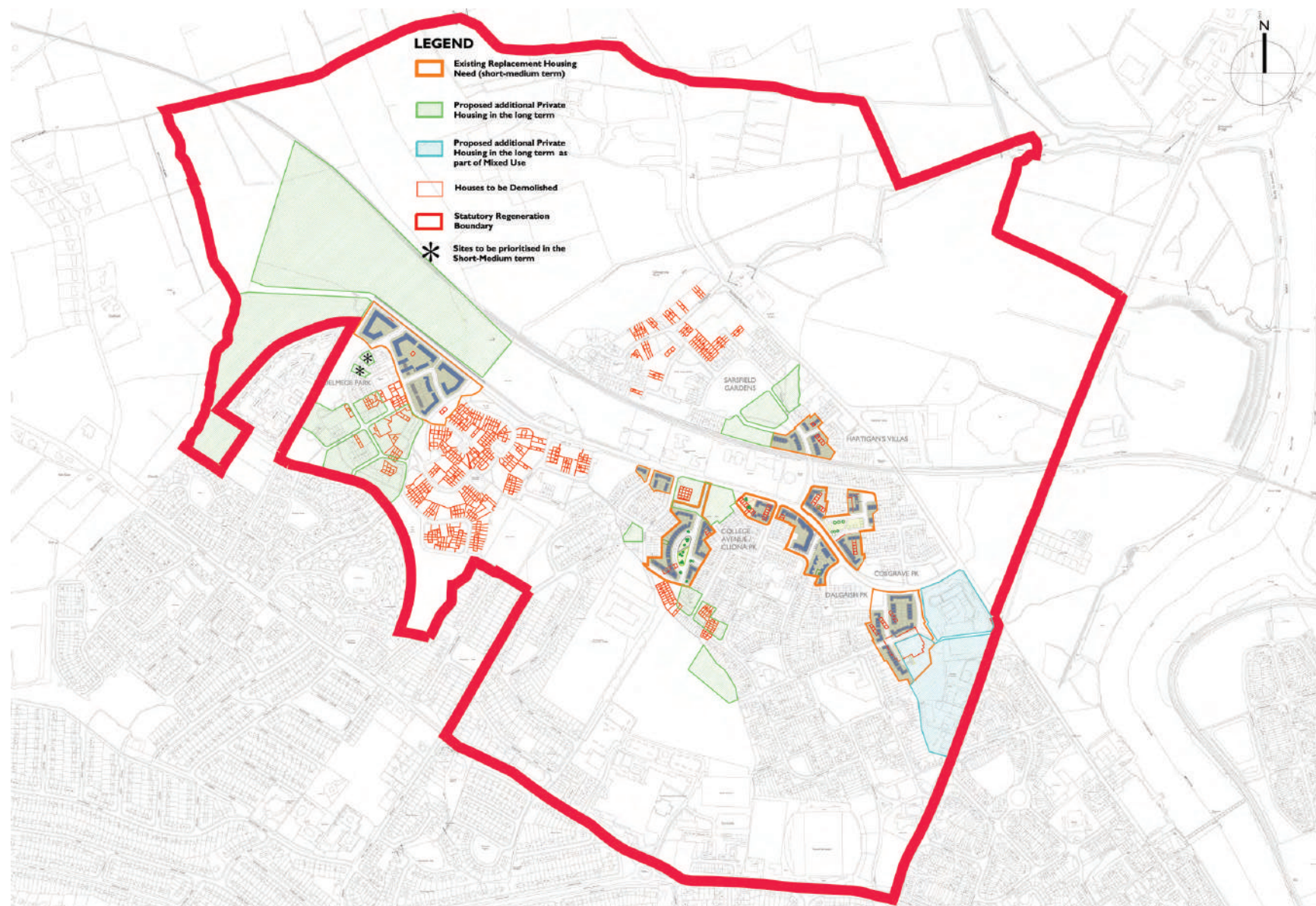
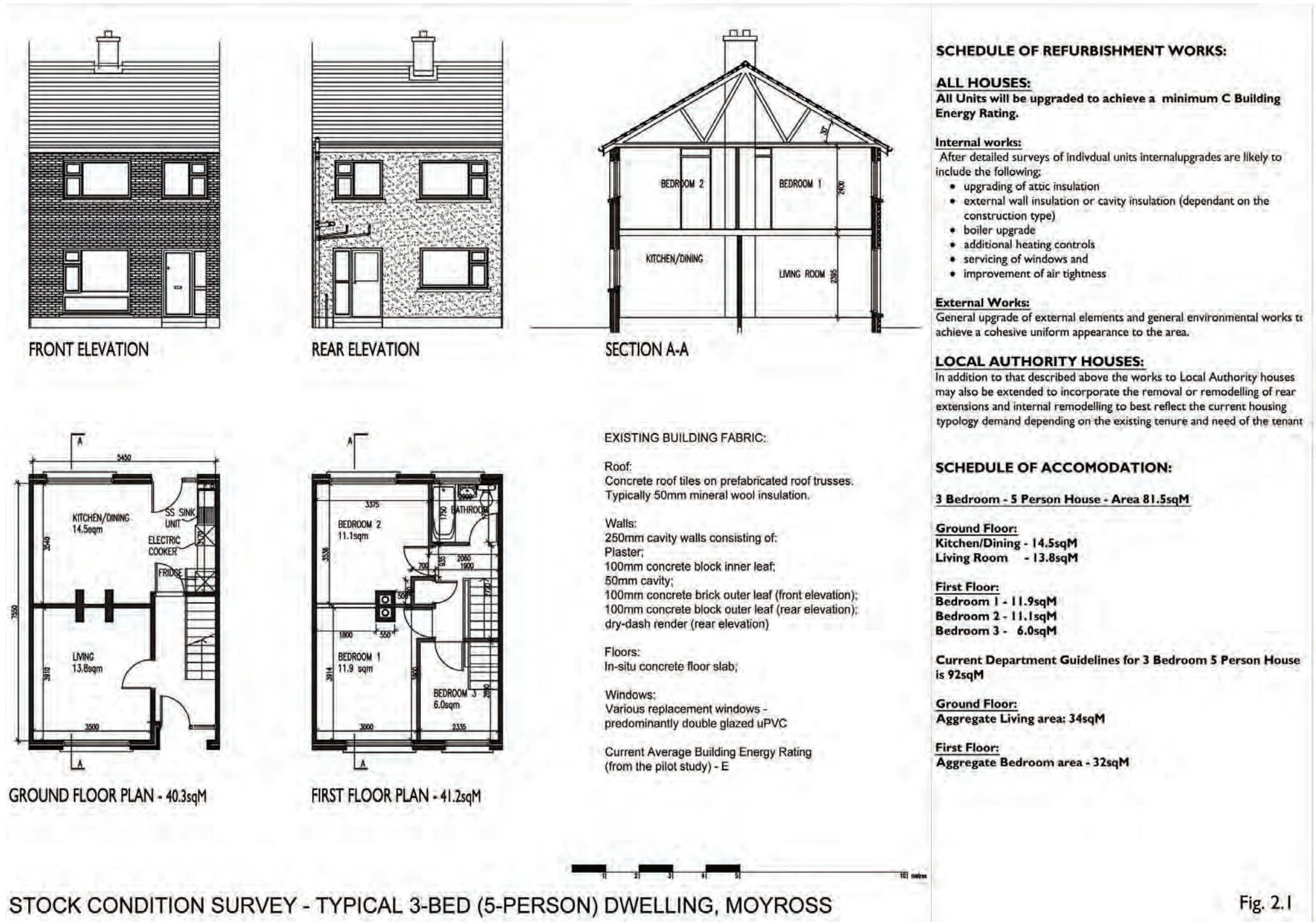


Figure 1.12 Note: The drawings set out the design principles proposed, but minor adjustments may be necessary during detail design of individual projects.





2. Framework Strategy

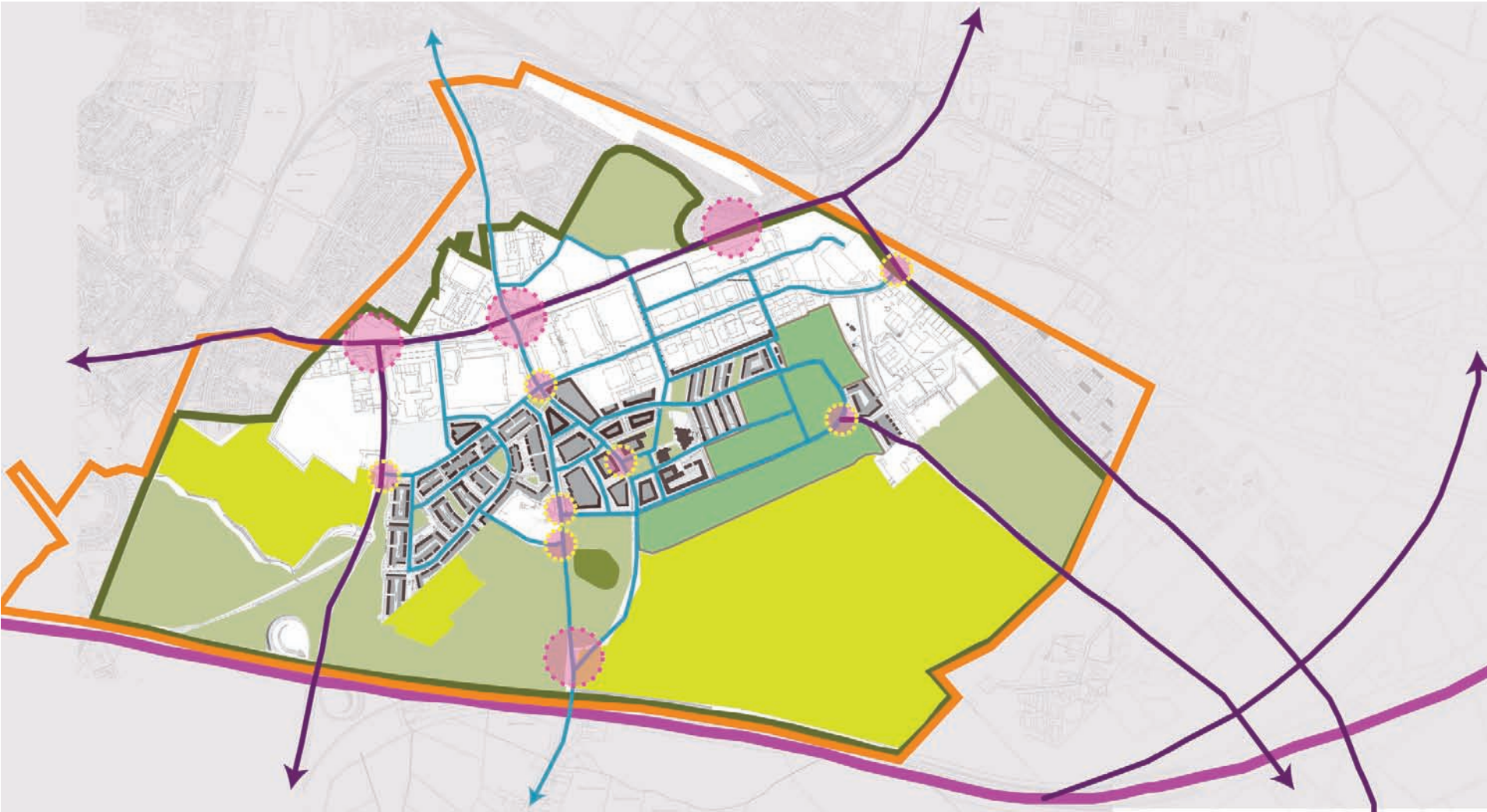
2.5 Southill

Residents at Southill who attended public consultation events held in March 2013 gave near unanimous support for the objectives of the refocussed Framework Plans presented. The physical objectives are grouped under key strategies and are described in more detail as follows:

2.5.1 Movement and Connectivity Strategy

1. It is the objective of the Framework Plan to improve strategic connections throughout Southill as follows:
 - 1a) Provide more direct access from the M7 & N20 into Southill. The preferred option for the Southill LRFIP is to provide eastbound and westbound ramps to the R512 Kilmallock Road. This will cater for M20 Cork and M7 Dublin traffic movements into the City not currently catered for at the Rossbrien Interchange whilst also improving strategic access to important employment generating land uses at the Galvone and Kilmallock Industrial Estates.
 - 1b) Create a direct connection from Roxboro roundabout (through the 'Galvone Arms' site) to the heart of Southill – the community hub containing the Church, Health Centre and Southill Area Centre
 - 1c) Transform the Roxborough Road, the main access road dividing O'Malley Park, Keyes, Kincora and Carew Parks, from a route that is predominantly designed for the movement of vehicles to a traffic calmed street where the needs of pedestrians, cyclists and public transport users are prioritised. Measures to slow down traffic, for example the narrowing of carriageways, the redesign of the major junction at Roxboro roundabout and side-road entry treatments to Keyes and Kincora Parks, will be incorporated to improve safety for all road users. The Roxborough Road is also a designated Smarter Travel route with an opportunity to establish a 'safe route to school' making the street safer for parents and children to use.
 - 1d) Explore the potential for a link road (medium-long term objective) from Bawnmore Road to Kilmallock Road providing a direct link eastwards to Plassey Park Road (University of Limerick and National Technology Park).
2. It is the objective of the Framework Plan to improve local connections within Southill as follows:
 - 2a) Create a new north-south connection from Childers Road to O'Malley Park through the Fulflex site
 - 2b) Create a new north-south connection from Childers Road through the LEDP site and the Aldi Discount Store to connect with Kincora and Carew Park
 - 2c) Create a new east-west connection from Maigne Way in Carew Park, south of Southill House, to the Roxborough Road
 - 2d) Create a new east-west connection from Elm Place, Rathbane to John Carew Park Links Road
 - 2e) Create a new north-south connection from O'Malley Park to the Childers Road
 - 2f) Create a new east-west connection from Bawnmore Road to Kilmallock Road
 - 2g) Create a new east-west connection from Pike Rovers Football Club to Kilmallock Road
 - 2h) Create a new connection from Kennedy Park, adjacent to proposed Integrated Educational Campus at St Kieran's, to the Roxboro Road
 - 2i) Create a new east-west connection, south of Rose Court, Keyes Park from the Roxborough Road to the community hub
 - 2j) Create a new east-west connection from John Carew Park to Yeats Avenue
 - 2k) Create a new north-south connection through the green at Carew Park to improve accessibility. The new connection will incorporate on-street parking and tree-planting and will form a 'dog-leg' bend around Carew Park to avoid excessive speeds over long runs.
3. It is the objective of the Framework Plan to improve improve local connections converging on the community hub at the following locations:
 - 3a) Pedestrian link from Markievicz Drive across Collins Avenue to the community hub
 - 3b) New street at eastern boundary of Churchfields site to the Church
 - 3c) New street through the centre of the Churchfields site to the Southill Area Centre
 - 3d) Removal of bollards/rock armoury at Lilac and Aster Court.
4. It is the objective of the Framework Plan to retain the general arrangement of streets and services infrastructure as existing with the following exception:
 - 4a) Realignment of road north of Churchfields site in a southwards direction to allow for a frontage development with sufficient depth to be realised on the land immediately south of the Galvone Industrial Estate.
5. It is the objective of the Framework Plan to provide crossings for pedestrians and cyclists which will provide direct and convenient access between local amenities at the following locations:
 - 5a) At Childers Road: from O'Malley Park to Kennedy Park and the new Integrated Educational Campus at St. Kieran's
 - 5b) At Roxboro Cross: From Roxborough Road to the District Centre (Roxborough Shopping Centre)
 - 5c) At Keyes Park to the community hub
 - 5d) At Collins Ave from Keyes Park to Southill House
 - 5e) At Collins Ave from Lilac Court in Keyes Park to Markievicz Drive in Kincora Park.
6. It is the objective of the Framework Plan to provide new traffic-calming measures at the following locations:
 - 6a) At O'Higgins Drive in Carew Park to improve safety for pedestrians and cyclists and slow traffic speeds.
7. It is the objective of the Framework Plan to provide on street parking along existing and new streets where feasible. Lengths of on-street parking will be broken up through the inclusion of street trees or other landscape feature. Parking areas will be designed so that they do not dominate the street scene. Short term on-street car parking will also be provided adjacent to the community hub.
8. It is the objective of the Framework Plan to explore the potential to re-establish and environmentally improve the west-east link through the Galvone Industrial Estate from the Roxborough Road to the Kilmallock Road subject to securing an alternative location for the Traveller halting site currently located at Clonlong.

Southhill Movement and Connectivity Map



Legend

Movement and Connectivity Strategy

- | | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|---|--|--------------------|
| | Statutory Regeneration Area Boundary | | Enhanced Traffic Calming and Crossing at Major Junction | | Active Open Space |
| | Study Area Boundary | | Informal Pedestrian Crossing and Traffic Calming | | Passive Open Space |
| | Strategic Link | | Existing and New Replacement Housing | | |
| | Local Street | | | | |
| | M7 Motorway | | | | |

Note: The drawings set out the design principles proposed, but minor adjustments may be necessary during detail design of individual projects

2. Framework Strategy

2.5.2 Land Use Strategy

It is the objective of the Framework Plan to:

1. Augment the image of the Rosbrien Road, Roxborough Road and the Childers Road by carefully considering new uses, development typologies, environmental design and landscaping improvements. The design and orientation of future buildings along these routes is also critical.
2. Retain and refurbish existing housing units where possible within Kincora, Carew, Keyes and O'Malley Parks in tandem with creating new connections with natural surveillance, functional public open spaces and a more consolidated urban structure refocussed around the existing community hub containing the Church, Southill Area Centre and the Health Centre.
3. Promote a higher quality residential built environment, with a greater mix of units and increased densities, in greenfield/brownfield sites proposed for replacement housing, in line with Government legislation and guidelines.
4. Promote mixed and employment generating uses along key strategic routes, allowing for a higher efficiency of existing land resources.
5. Enhance the junction of Childers Road and Roxboro Road as a District Centre in order to fulfil its role as the commercial and retail hub serving Southill and the wider area.
6. Expand the footprint of the Southill Area Centre to improve the quality and choice of community focused uses available.
7. Ensure that all non-residential uses proposed as part of the regeneration plan should have a strong street presence, generous floor to ceiling heights and window sizes or areas of glazing and flexible layout and design that allows for a range of uses over time.
8. Upgrade the Galvone Industrial Estate as a mixed use, employment generating area as it currently displays a high level of vacancy, obsolescence and under-utilisation, and suffers from a very poor image that makes it difficult to attract new business and clients.
9. Promote an integrated educational campus with shared facilities in one location at Roxboro Cross. Declining numbers of school goers and uncertainties in relation to the long term feasibility of the existing educational facilities within Southill has highlighted the need for an alternative 'neutral' location, equally accessible and acceptable to the residents of both Southill, and also other surrounding neighbourhoods.
10. Provide an alternative location for Traveller halting sites at Clonlong and Toppin's Field to allow the areas to be acquired for mixed and employment generating uses.
11. Promote mixed and employment generating uses at Kilmallock Road Enterprise Centre.
12. Consider alternative uses Southill Junior School. Uses to combat the extremely high rates of unemployment in Southill and the increased demand for further education and training could be accommodated within the existing complex.
13. Promote the development of Barrys Field as a large scale community garden/orchard to facilitate horticulture training and community garden enterprise.
14. Promote the development of key strategic sites adjacent to the Galvone Industrial Estate for potential enterprise development (as part of the National Social Innovation Hub) attracting further inward investment.
15. Promote the Galvone Industrial Estate as a hub for green sector focused development. The creation of recycling and light manufacturing focused industries with a green theme can leverage of third level expertise and local industry practitioners to create training and employment opportunities with the refurbishment of the local housing stock as an immediate target.
16. Strengthen the opportunities for vocational sports development at 'the Factory' which currently occupies the existing Fulflex building.
17. Consider the reuse of St. Enda's complex as a focal point for education and sports related projects.
18. Promote the expansion of a 'service industry training' centre at the LEDP complex which can facilitate programmes to build local capacity for a broad range of roles in re-emerging businesses e.g. call centres / hospitality training.
19. Promote the development of strategic sites for the construction of landmark/gateway buildings. These sites will be identified and discussed in more detail as part of the Public Realm and Design Code for the regeneration areas which forms supporting documentation to this LRFIP.

Swallow Drive, Carew Park: Gable End



Valley View, O'Malley Park, Southill: Green area not accessible by car



Rear court: Rock Place, Carew Park



Southill Land Use Map



Legend

Land Use Strategy

	Statutory Regeneration Area Boundary		Community, Education and Cultural Use		Active Open Space
	Study Area Boundary		Mixed Use (Residential use permitted)		Passive Open Space
	Non-Replacement Housing (eg Private)		District Centre		
	Existing and New Replacement Housing		Employment Generating Use		

Note: The drawings set out the design principles proposed, but minor adjustments may be necessary during detail design of individual project

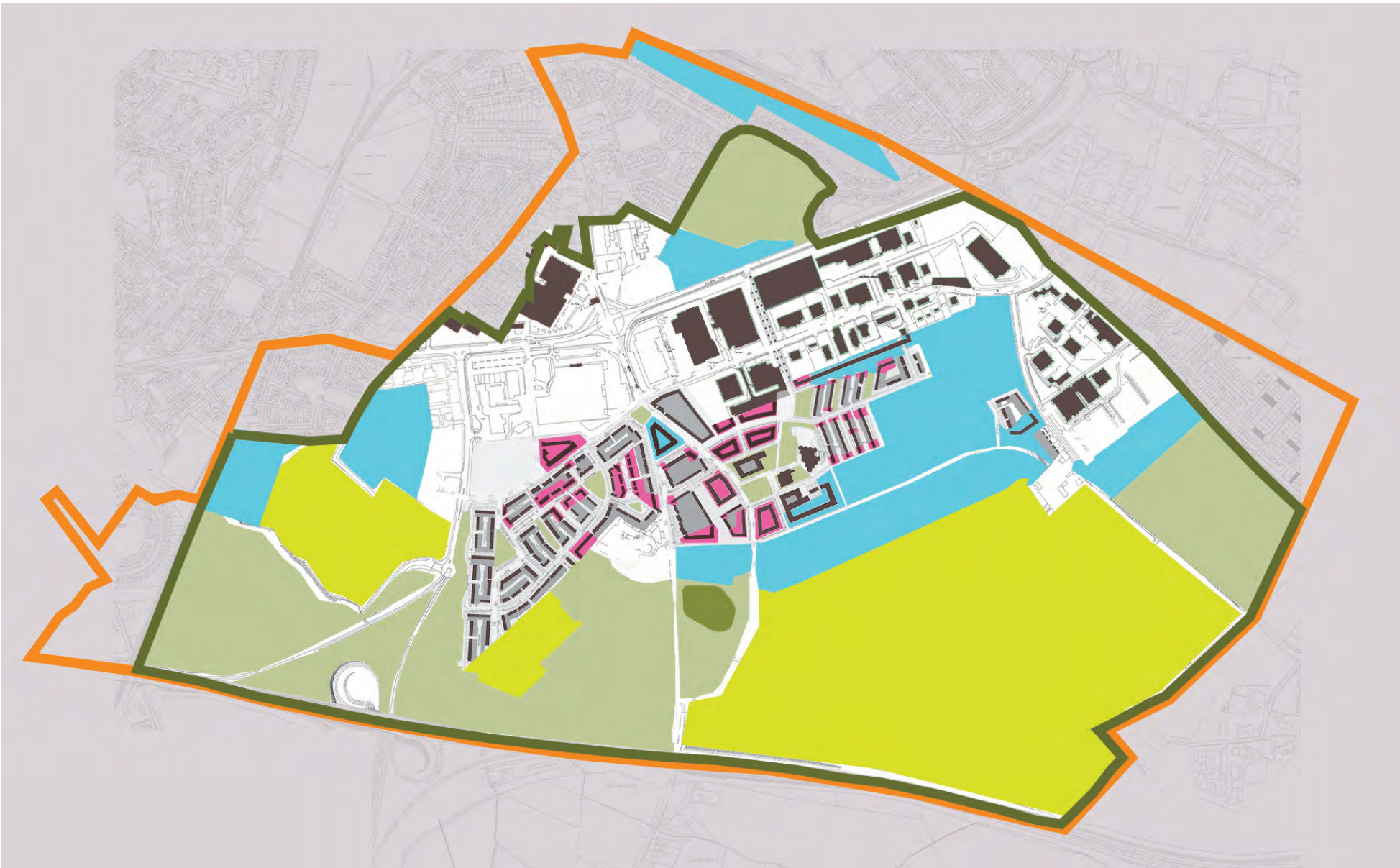
2. Framework Strategy

2.5.3 Housing Strategy

It is the objective of the Framework Plan to:








1. Develop sites for replacement homes with a coherent perimeter block layout and maximise the number of homes with direct street entrances. Streets will be arranged on the outside of the block to encourage permeability. This will support the objective of making Southill a balanced sustainable neighbourhood.
2. Encourage, in new and refurbished homes, the incorporation of energy and water efficiency measures to at least meet Irish national standards and guidelines. Refurbishment of both privately owned and local authority tenanted homes will be carried out to achieve a BER rating of C.
3. Incorporate flexibility within house design to adapt to changing needs in line with standards such as Lifetime Homes.
4. Ensure that replacement homes will have generous internal and private open space in compliance with the Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016.
5. Ensure that replacement homes will have their own front door to the street where at all possible to minimise potential problems associated with shared communal areas.
6. Ensure that replacement homes will have a positive outlook onto surrounding public spaces and streets, to create an appropriate sense of enclosure and natural surveillance, whilst protecting the privacy of ground floor habitable rooms.
7. Promote high-quality design and detailing in replacement and refurbished homes to create a sense of robustness and longevity as well as support tenure-blind principles.
8. Include a diversity of tenure options to ensure that each part of Southill becomes more mixed. (Please refer to Tenure Diversity Strategy for more detailed information)
9. Consider the existing housing need (replacement housing and need arising due to overcrowding) of Southill in determining the type and size of replacement and additional housing provision in order to sustain a mixed and sustainable neighbourhood.
10. Consider the future housing need required over the regeneration programme in relation to overcrowding, emerging household types and elderly housing. It is prudent to plan for a net gain in replacement homes which will act as a sufficient buffer over the lifetime of the regeneration project.

Southhill Housing Strategy Map



Legend

Housing Strategy

- | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|--------------------|
|  | Statutory Regeneration Area Boundary |  | Existing Housing |
|  | Study Area Boundary |  | Active Open Space |
|  | Non-Replacement Housing (eg Private) |  | Passive Open Space |
|  | Replacement Housing | | |

Note: The drawings set out the design principles proposed, but minor adjustments may be necessary during detail design of individual project

Housing Deliverables	Total	Private	LA				
Current numbers of Occupied and Unoccupied Homes in Southill (as at 31.12.2012) ¹	731					A	
Total number of Occupied Units	660					B	
Total number of Occupied Homes ²	655	370	285			C	
Total number of Unoccupied Homes	71					D	(A-B)
Demolition							
Number of Occupied Homes to be demolished ³	156	67	89			E	
Number of Boarded Homes to be demolished	43	6	37			F	
Total number of Occupied and Boarded Homes to be demolished	199	73	126	199		G	(E+F)
Refurbishment							
Number of Existing Private and Local Authority Occupied Homes to be refurbished	499	303	196			H	(C-E)
Number of Private and Local Authority Unoccupied homes to be refurbished	28	6	22			I	(D-F)
Total number of Occupied and Boarded Homes to be refurbished	527	309	218	527	527	J	(H+I)
Replacement Housing							
Number of Private and Local Authority Unoccupied homes to be refurbished	28	6	22			K	
Number of Occupied Homes to be demolished	156	67	89			L	
Total number of Replacement Housing Need	128	61	67	128		M	(L-K)
Estimated additional need due to additional Overcrowding (as at May 2013)				48		N	
Overall Replacement Housing Need ⁴				176		O	(M+N)
New Homes proposed with approval from DoEC&LG (as at May 2013)	93					P	
New Homes under construction	35					Q	
New Homes under consideration	81					R	
Total new homes proposed				209	209	S	(P+Q+R)
Net Gain in Replacement Homes				33		T	(S-O)
Final Number of Homes in the Study Area ⁵					736	U	(S+J)

1 Includes 5 no. Community use buildings.
2 Excludes 5 no. Community use buildings for calculation of occupied residential homes.
3 Assumes occupied homes proposed for demolition will decant into unoccupied proposed for refurbishment.
4 Housing need excludes need arising from future household formations (e.g. Elderly housing).
5 Figure excludes private units generated by lands allocated for private housing.

Note: For the purpose of the housing strategies proposed for each regeneration area, a household is considered overcrowded if a person with an existing address within a regeneration area applies to the housing waiting list with a specific desire for housing in the regeneration area to which they currently reside. Therefore, no new social housing tenants from outside the regeneration areas will be introduced into the regeneration areas. It is a specific objective of the LRFIP to support those tenants who wish to remain in a regeneration area where they have lived for some time and have a strong kinship. This strong social capital, amongst other variables, will assist in stabilising the regeneration areas. This objective supports national policy guidance whereby “all households [have] access [to] good quality housing appropriate to household circumstances and in their particular community of choice” (Housing Policy Statement 2011). Furthermore, Limerick City Council supports a policy to accommodate those families to move back to the regeneration areas, who were displaced out of the areas at the beginning of the regeneration process.



2. Framework Strategy

2.5.4 Open Space and Public Realm Strategy

It is the objective of the Framework Plan to:

1. Protect and enhance the special landscape character and setting of Southill House.
2. Subject to the further consultation, maintain the southernmost boundary of Malley Park (land once occupied by Castle Oaks View and Country View) as fallow ground in the short-term.
3. Retain O'Malley Park (Oisín Drive, Rose View Drive, Larkin Drive, Mountainview) as housing in the short-term, fallow ground in the medium term with a view to redevelopment in the longer-term for private housing.
4. Create a new community park at the centre of the community hub to provide recreation and play facilities in a safe, overlooked location and provide a focus for local events and celebrations.
5. Provide opportunities for increased community interaction by encouraging local management of open space.
6. Promote the retention of existing trees on proposed sites for development.
7. Implement a programme of street tree-planting within the private curtilage of homes to ensure better management of the tree stock.
8. Minimise run-off to the existing drainage infrastructure through the integration of Sustainable Urban Drainage System (SUDS) technologies on a site-by-site basis as appropriate, i.e. swales, porous paving etc.
Note: The Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016, does not indicate any areas within Southill that are at risk from flooding.
9. Enhance Kennedy Park with further active recreational facilities and landscaping and provide a direct and safe access to O'Malley and Keyes Park.
10. Maintain Hogan Park and Old Christians GAA as sporting facilities.
11. Maintain Pike Rovers Sport and Social Club as a sporting facility.
12. Maintain Carew Park AFC as a sporting facility.
13. Maintain Rathbane Golf Course as a sporting facility.
14. Retain and enhance the environmental characteristics of Barry's Field.
15. Restrict development of an old limestone rock quarry, directly east of the Roxborough Road and

- immediately south of Salvia Court which was used as a landfill site and filled with domestic refuse. A site investigation study carried out in 2006 found that the waste present at the site could not be classed as inert and therefore would pose a significant environmental constraint. It is a requirement to maintain the site and monitor in accordance with EPA Landfill Management Guidelines.
16. Explore the potential to reuse a derelict cottage (Sutherland cottage) and adjacent lands south of the landfill site to provide a community farm/allotment plots.
 17. Provide for a variety of functional, appropriately scaled and well overlooked public open spaces (both active and passive) within a suitable walking distance for residents of Southill. The Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016 states an objective to provide a standard of 15% public open space provision for 'greenfield sites' and 10% public open space for 'general provision'. Currently, there is an excess supply of public open space (22%) in Southill, the majority of which is not functional or adequately overlooked to ensure optimum safety. The refocussed masterplan for Southill proposes

- that 12% of the overall area be used as high quality, accessible and functional public open space that is well overlooked by residential uses.
18. Provide for active playspace facilities, based on the existing and expected child population projections generated by the existing and future need. Southill is under resourced in terms of active play facilities for children below 15 years. As set out in the socio-economic chapter, the age structure of Southill suggests that 23% of the total population of Southill is below 15 years old (573 persons). The proposed need below 15 years old generated from replacement housing in the short-medium term envisages an extra 19 persons. The existing and proposed need will generate a play space requirement in total of 5328m2* (592 children x 9m2) of high quality active play space for a range of ages up to 15 years with good natural surveillance to maximise the safety of these areas.
 19. Develop a strategy, in consultation with the residents, for the rear courts of O'Malley Park, and Keyes, Carew and Kincora Parks. Solutions for the rear courts in Southill are closely linked to the solutions to the front greens, particularly in terms of the provision of car parking spaces and a waste

Existing Public Open Space provision in area	Existing % Provision (relative to overall regeneration area)	Proposed Public Open Space Provision as part of refocussed masterplan	Proposed % Provision (Remodelled functional open space)
9.7 ha	22%	3.6 ha	12%

Southill Existing persons (CSO 2011)	Existing Number of Occupied Houses (as at 31.12.2012)	Existing Household Size for Southill	Assume 23%(CSO 2011) below 15 years old
2493	660	3.7	573

Southill Proposed additional persons based on projected new replacement homes	Proposed additional replacement homes	Household Size for Southill	Assume 23% below 15 years old
81	22	3.7	19
Total existing and proposed children below 15 years			592

*Note: At present there is no legislation that sets out precisely how much outdoor space is made available per child. However, it is suggested in the publication 'We Like This Place. Guidelines for Best Practice in the Design Of Childcare Facilities' written by the National Children's Nurseries Association on behalf of the Equal Opportunities Childcare Programme (EOCP) 2000- 2006, that a minimum of 9 sqm of uninterrupted outdoor space per child should be provided.

management regime. With the support of Limerick City Council and the residents, consider the following initiative:

- Organise the removal of all waste and maintain a level of cleanliness.

Where residents unanimously want their rear courts to remain, consider the following initiatives:

- Open access through to ensure optimum visibility and safety in conjunction with the installation of improved lighting and CCTV.
- Consider a facelift project to provide enclosed binstores and treeplanting within the curtilage of the houses. Residents will undertake to maintain the tree and rear court free of rubbish and thereby increase the sense of ownership and maintenance of the space.
- Consider, with the support of the Transportation Department of Limerick City Council, the relandscaping of the courts to provide a variation in the surface treatment.

Where residents unanimously want their rear courts closed, consider the following initiatives:

- In consultation with the residents, consider the removal of parking from the rear courts and provide replacement parking to the remodelled green areas to the front of the houses either on curtilage (where space permits) or on street, in the form of parallel parking bays.
- Consider a facelift project to provide enclosed binstores and treeplanting within the front curtilage of the house.
- Consider, where it is not feasible to open access through, to gate the rear courts
- Consider, amalgamating the rear courts into the rear private open spaces of the properties.

▲ Cul De Sac at Hartigan Villas



Southhill Open Space Map



Legend

Open Space Strategy

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| | Statutory Regeneration Area Boundary | | Existing and New Replacement Housing |
| | Study Area Boundary | | Active Open Space |
| | Key Walking/Cycling Route | | Passive Open Space |
| | M7 Motorway | | |

Note: The drawings set out the design principles proposed, but minor adjustments may be necessary during detail design of individual project

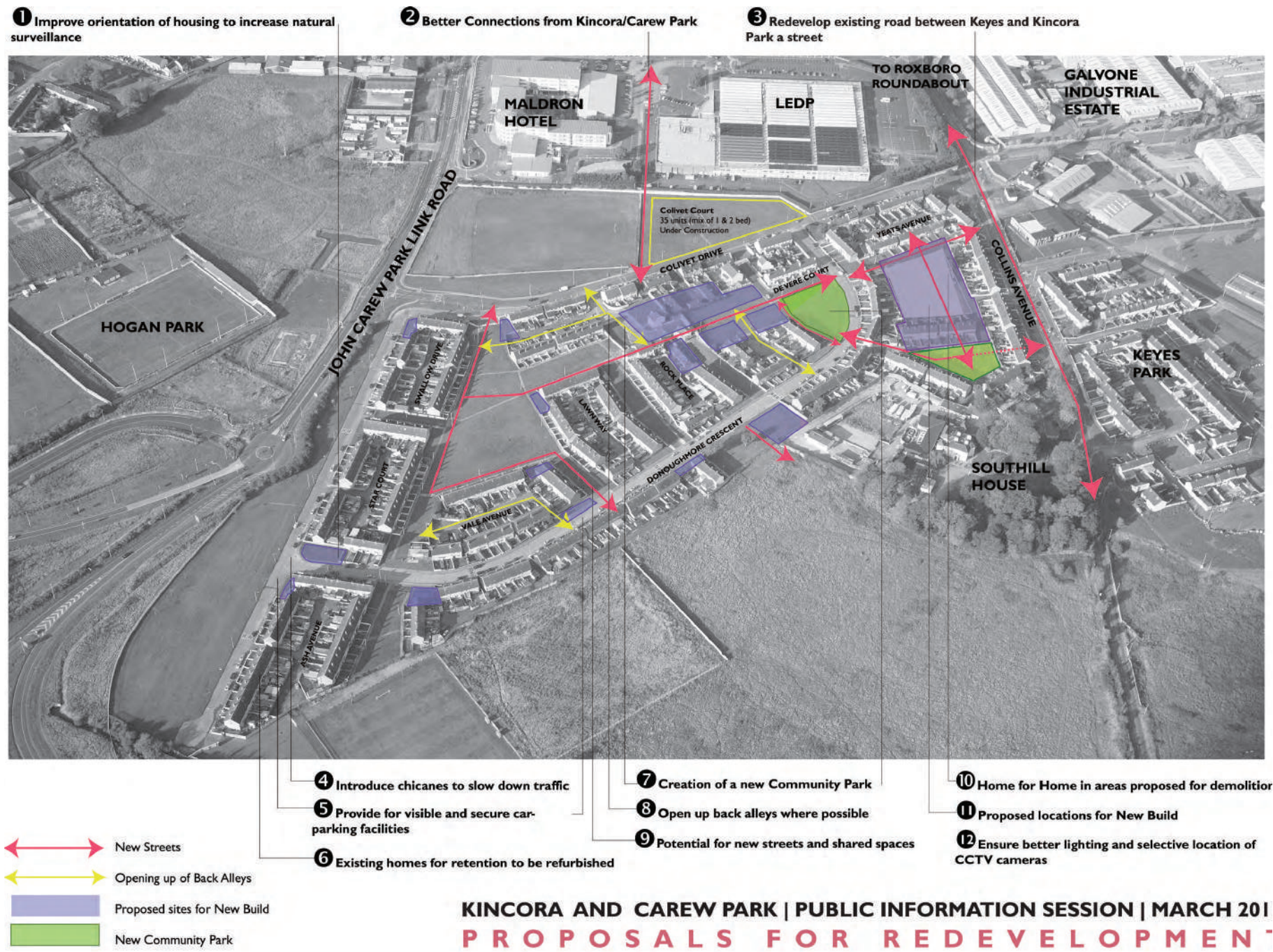
Q. "Creation of a new park with playground?"

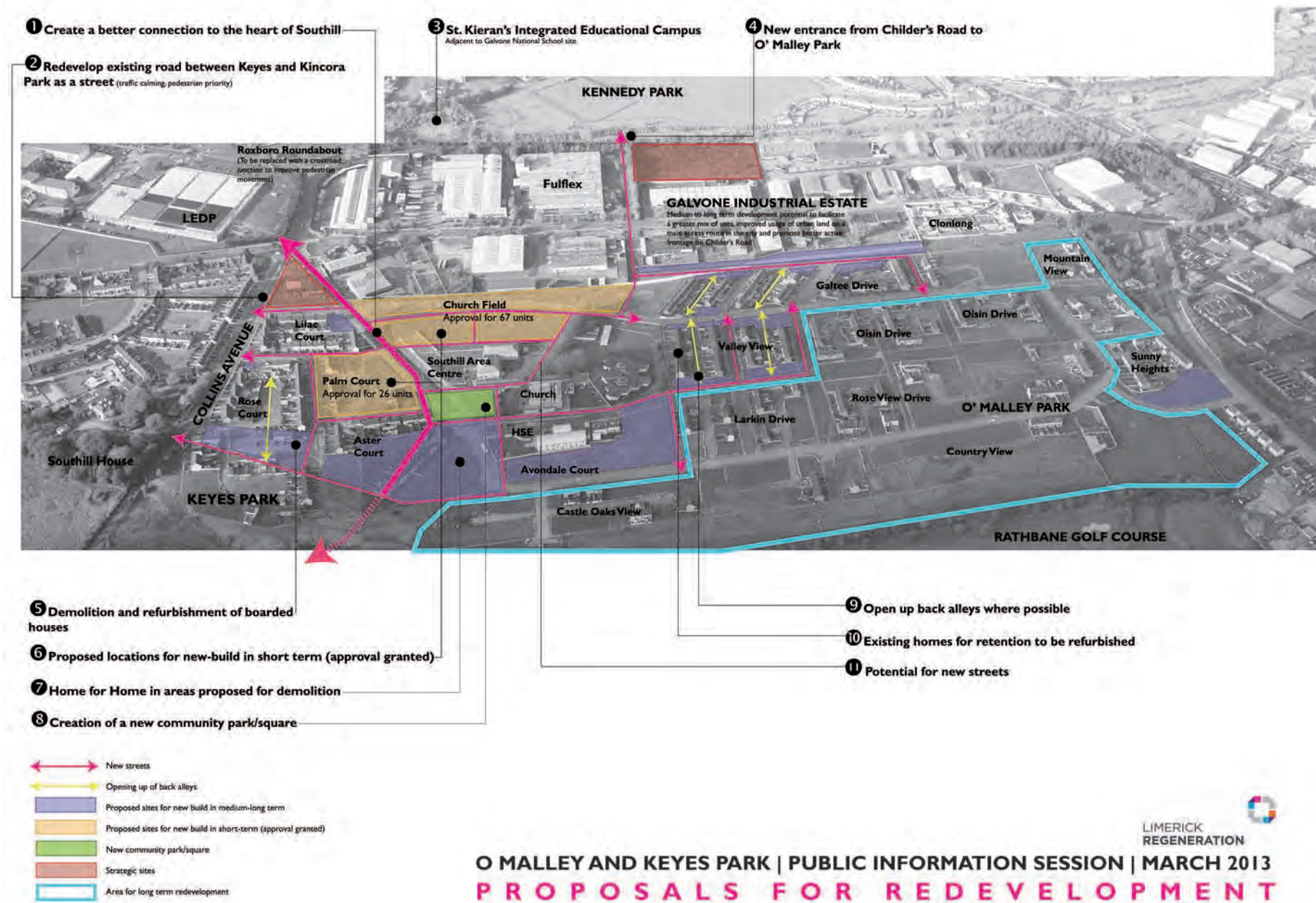
A. "This would be wonderful for the kids as they really don't have anywhere to play and have fun. I have a six year old boy, I know he would love it."

Residents of KIncora and Carew Parks

”







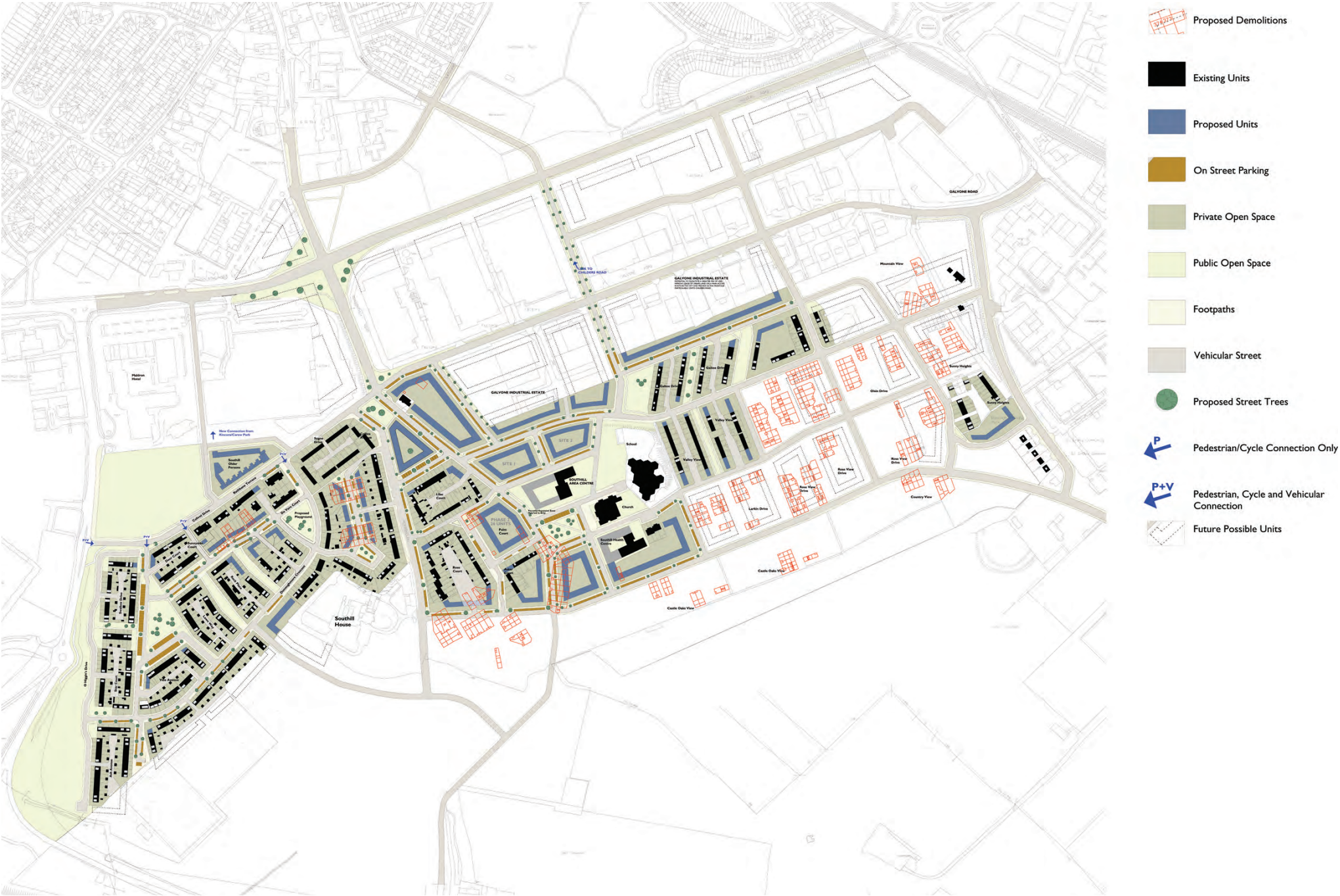
Q. "Potential for new streets?"

A. "New streets would be a good idea, it would open up the place a bit more and it would help the Gardaí do their job."

Residents of KIncora and Carew Parks

”





Note: The drawings set out the design principles proposed, but minor adjustments may be necessary during detail design of individual projects.

2. Framework Strategy

2.5.5 Refurbishment Strategy

Refurbishment of the existing housing stock is proposed for all dwellings that are to be retained in the long term. This refurbishment will take place in the short to medium term and can progress in tandem with, and independently of, the new build programmes.

A comprehensive programme of the refurbishment works will be prepared once the strategy is agreed. The refurbishment strategy has been developed in response to the following:

- The current economic climate refurbishment will create a greater impact within a shorter time scale.
- The desire of many members of the existing Moyross community to see a portion of the existing housing stock retained.
- The key objectives of the regeneration strategy can be met by creating the appropriate balance between retention, refurbishment and demolition.

1. Introduction to the Pilot Thermal Upgrade Study

To establish the likely level of refurbishment necessary to bring the existing housing stock up to C BER ratings across the regeneration areas we have carried out pre-refurbishment assessment of 49 houses. These were chosen as a representative sample of the housing types used in each of the regeneration areas.

Because of the disjointed lay-out of Southill, we decided to do a pilot study in each of these parks. 47-53 Galtee View built in 1969, 1-8 Rose Court built in 1966, 19-26 Donoughmore Crescent built in 1968 and 112-119 Vale Avenue built in 1972 were chosen as they were constructed in each phase of construction in Southill. This gives a good cross section of construction methods used in Southill and therefore of the extent of works required across the area. In addition these blocks demonstrated a mix of Local Authority and privately owned houses and have a high profile, being highly visible examples of the works which will be carried out. Our research has shown that we would expect to reduce the average energy use from an E1 rating to a C1 rating and reduce energy bills by approx 50%.

The works necessary to be undertaken to attain this

- Level are typically
- Upgrading of attic insulation
- External wall insulation or cavity insulation (dependant on the construction type)
- Boiler upgrade
- Additional heating controls
- Servicing of windows and
- Improvement of air tightness
- In some cases where the existing conditions make them harder to treat or if they are starting from a lower base, they may also necessitate
- Installation of new gas fired boilers and heating systems
- Solid fuel stoves
- New windows and external doors

The extent of works to be carried out on private houses will be limited to the above thermal upgrade works, some cosmetic works to the front elevation and garden walls. However in the Local Authority houses this work may be extended to incorporate the removal or remodelling of rear extensions and internal remodelling to best reflect the current housing typology demand as well as more general decorative upgrades where necessary depending on the existing tenure and need of the tenants. Where required this may include changes to individual dwellings to facilitate increased passive surveillance and to improve the overall visual amenity.

2. Upgrading the External Environment

In conjunction with the works carried out within the curtilage of each house it is our intention to carry out wider public realm improvements in each estate to improve the appearance of houses and streets together.

We will also encourage the involvement of the local community in DIY minor repair, gardening or painting projects within each area and will work with local community groups to realise any of these works that they feel could be done in partnership between them and the Office of Regeneration.

3. Priorities – Selection of Streets and Blocks.

To increase the efficiency of this a priority schedule is currently being drawn up which will show how we can work on blocks of housing to fulfil not only the thermal upgrade but the more in-depth refurbishments and in fill housing and general upgrade of street blocks at the same time. It is more efficient if a contract includes all necessary works to a block of approx 8-10 houses including the houses and public realm works than to work on one house at a time. To this end we have started a process of prioritisation in each regeneration area to select block on which to work.

Selection of Blocks

Working with the community representatives, the local regeneration personnel on the ground we are compiling a list of priorities of work within the LRFIP based on:

- Current needs
- Current condition of the houses
- Tenure mix
- Geographical spread
- Visibility

This selection will facilitate the roll out of the refurbishment program across the area.

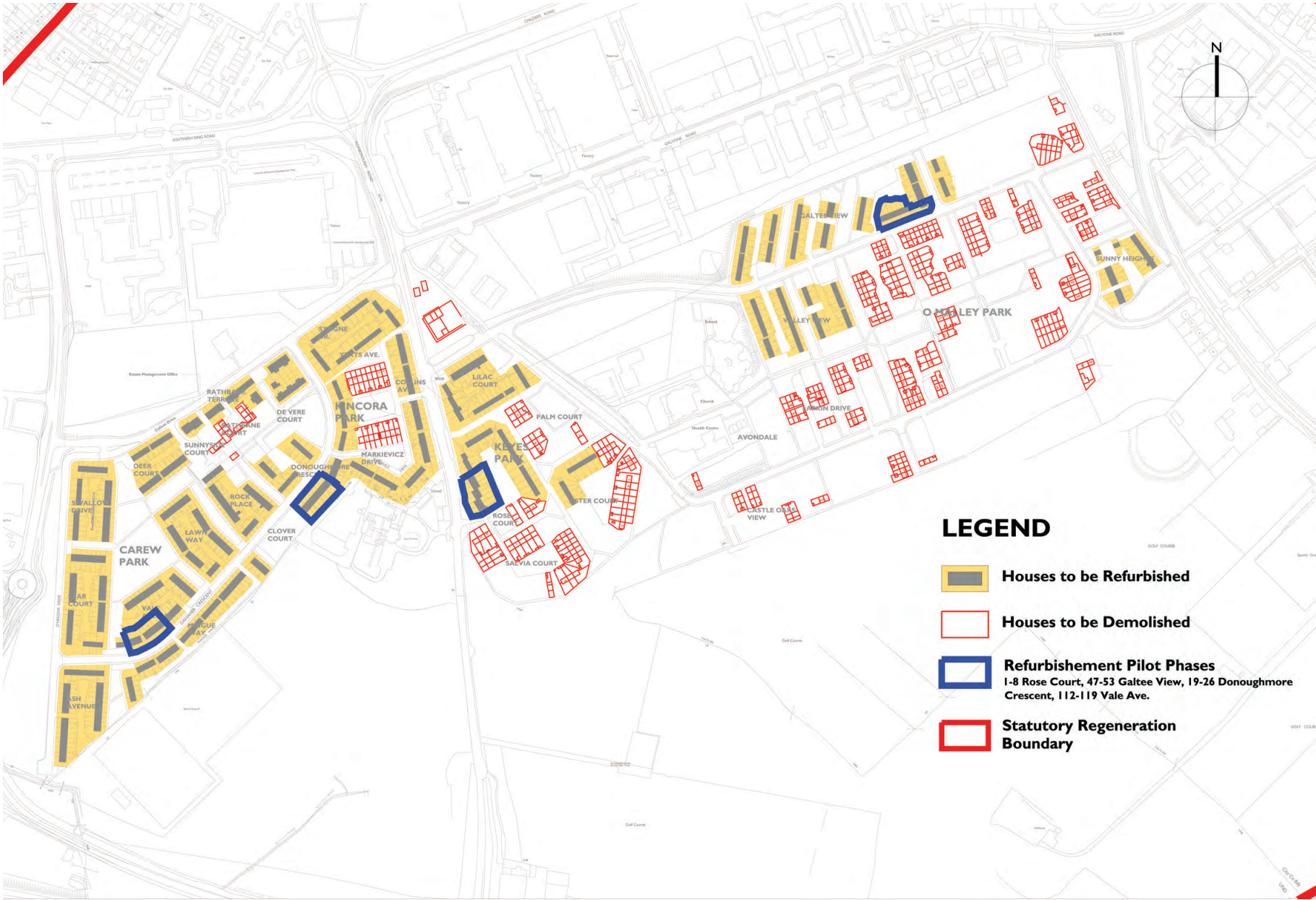


Figure 1.13 Note: The drawings set out the design principles proposed, but minor adjustments may be necessary during detail design of individual projects.

2. Framework Strategy

2.5.6 Replacement Housing Strategy

In order to achieve the proposals within the overall Masterplan for Southill 199 houses have been identified for demolition. These demolitions will take place over the short to medium term and the residents of these houses will need to be provided with replacement housing.

Therefore a phasing strategy has been developed for the new build projects which will meet the need for replacement housing for the existing residents of Southill.

The strategy will take place over a number of phases and will run in tandem with the refurbishment strategy. Once the replacement housing has been complete any future phases of housing development will be allocated to the voluntary and private housing sectors in order to achieve a social mix within the Southill area. However, should an uplift in market conditions occur, the phasing strategy will allow for the development of private housing in tandem with replacement housing.

Southill	Totals	Unit Type	% Mix Required	Proposed No. of Units
Total Number of Replacement and Refurbished Units	736			
Number of Replacement Units	209	1 & 2 Person 3 Person 4 Person 5 Person 6 Person	48% 23% 15% 7% 7%	100 48 31 15 15
Number of Units to be Refurbished	527			
Number of Units in Future phases – to be Private ¹	2593			

Table 1.4

1 Figure derived for additional private housing capacity in Southill is elaborated in more detail in Appendix 3: Core Strategy Compliance

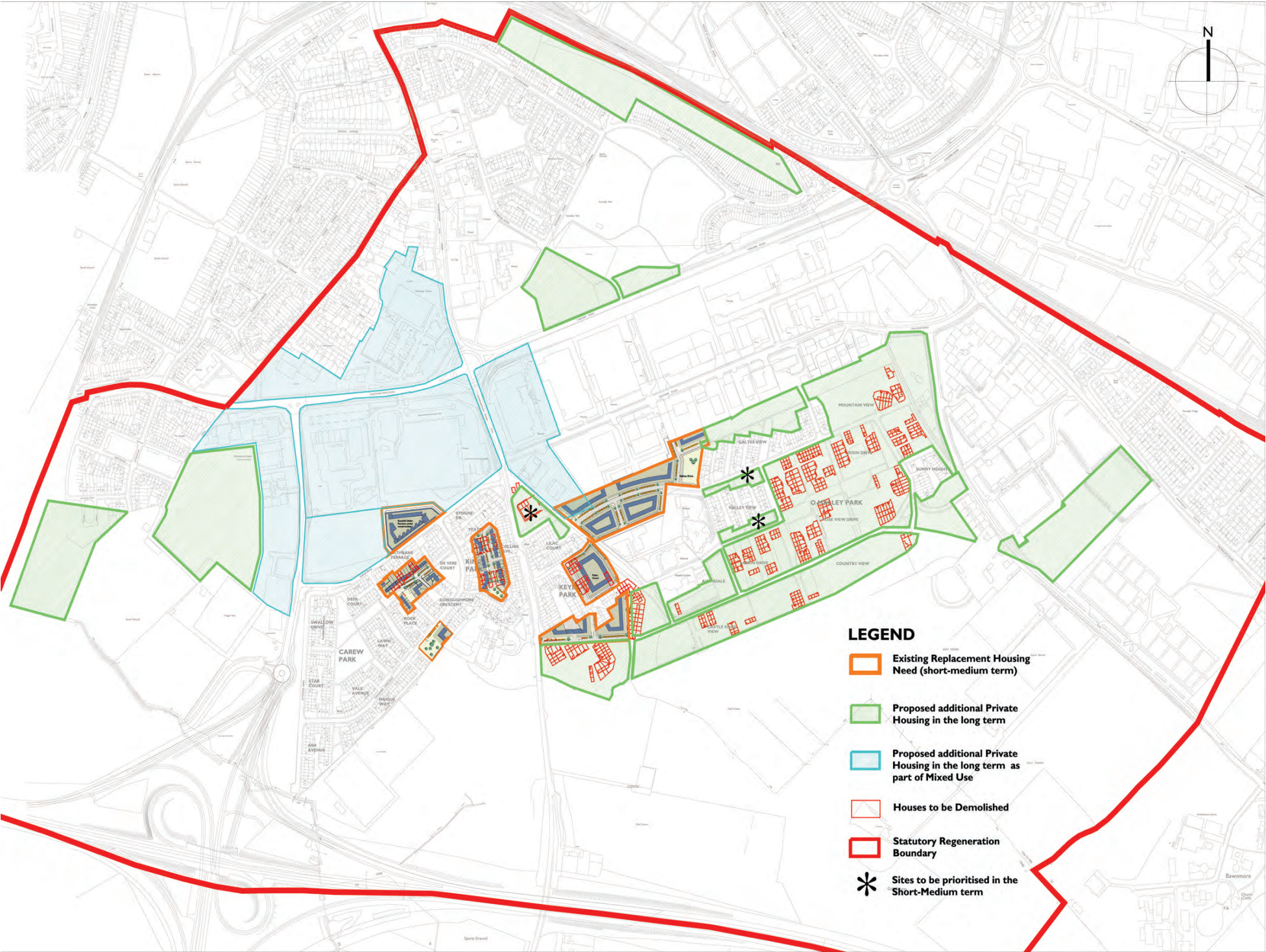
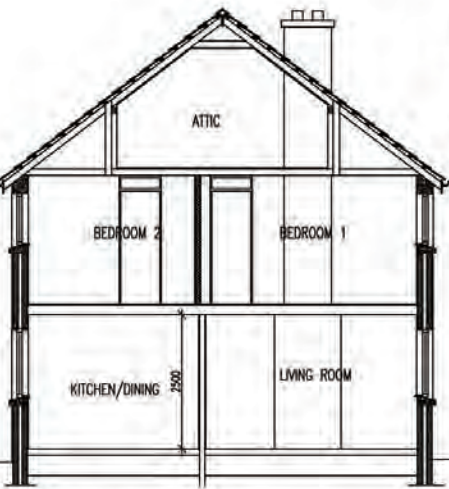
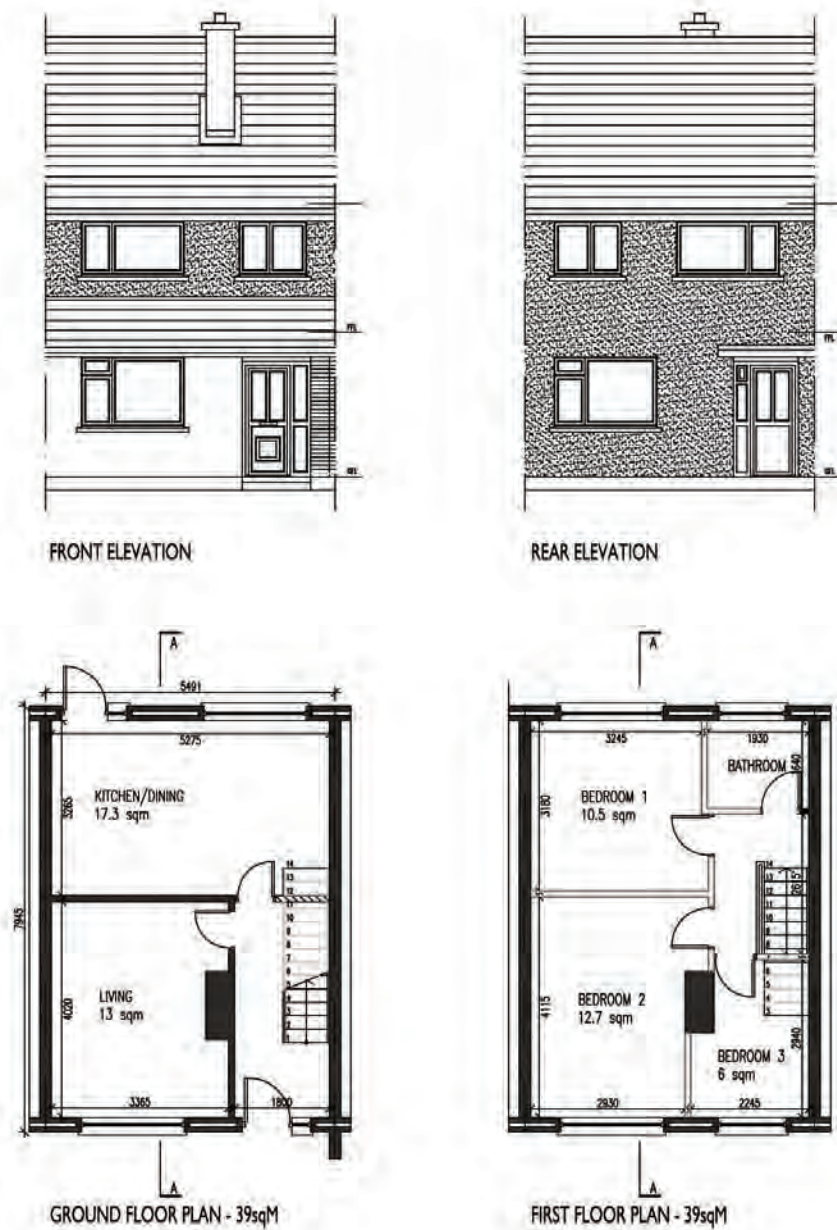


Figure 1.14 Note: The drawings set out the design principles proposed, but minor adjustments may be necessary during detail design of individual projects.



SECTION A-A

BUILDING FABRIC:

Roof:
Concrete roof tiles on cut roof rafters.
Generally less than 100MM fibrous quilt material between rafters

Walls:
275mm cavity walls consisting of:
Plaster;
100mm concrete block inner leaf;
possible cavity insulation;
75mm cavity in total;
100mm concrete block outer leaf;
wet-dash & nap render.

Floors:
Concrete Sub-floor
380mm cavity
Suspended Timber Floor
Floor finish

Windows:
Various replacement windows -
predominantly double glazed uPVC

Current Average Building Energy Rating
(from the pilot study) - E

SCHEDULE OF REFURBISHMENT WORKS:

ALL HOUSES:
All Units will be upgraded to achieve a minimum C Building Energy Rating.

Internal works:
After detailed surveys of individual units internal upgrades are likely to include the following:

- upgrading of attic insulation
- external wall insulation or cavity insulation (dependant on the construction type)
- boiler upgrade
- additional heating controls
- servicing of windows and
- improvement of air tightness

External Works:
General upgrade of external elements and general environmental works to achieve a cohesive uniform appearance to the area.

LOCAL AUTHORITY HOUSES:
In addition to that described above the works to Local Authority houses may also be extended to incorporate the removal or remodelling of rear extensions and internal remodelling to best reflect the current housing typology demand depending on the existing tenure and need of the tenants

SCHEDULE OF ACCOMODATION:

3 Bedroom - 5 Person House - Area 78sqM

Ground Floor:
Kitchen/Dining - 17.3sqM
Living Room - 13sqM

First Floor:
Bedroom 1 - 10.5sqM
Bedroom 2 - 12.7sqM
Bedroom 3 - 6.0sqM

Current Department Guidelines for 3 Bedroom 5 Person House 92sqM

Ground Floor:
Aggregate Living area: 30.3sqM

First Floor:
Aggregate Bedroom area - 29.2sqM

STOCK CONDITION SURVEY - TYPICAL 3-BED (5-PERSON) DWELLING, SOUTHILL

Fig 2.1

Q. "Create a better connection to the heart of Southill?"

A. "I believe it will bring the wider community closer together."

Resident of O'Malley Park

”



2. Framework Strategy

2.6 St. Mary's Park

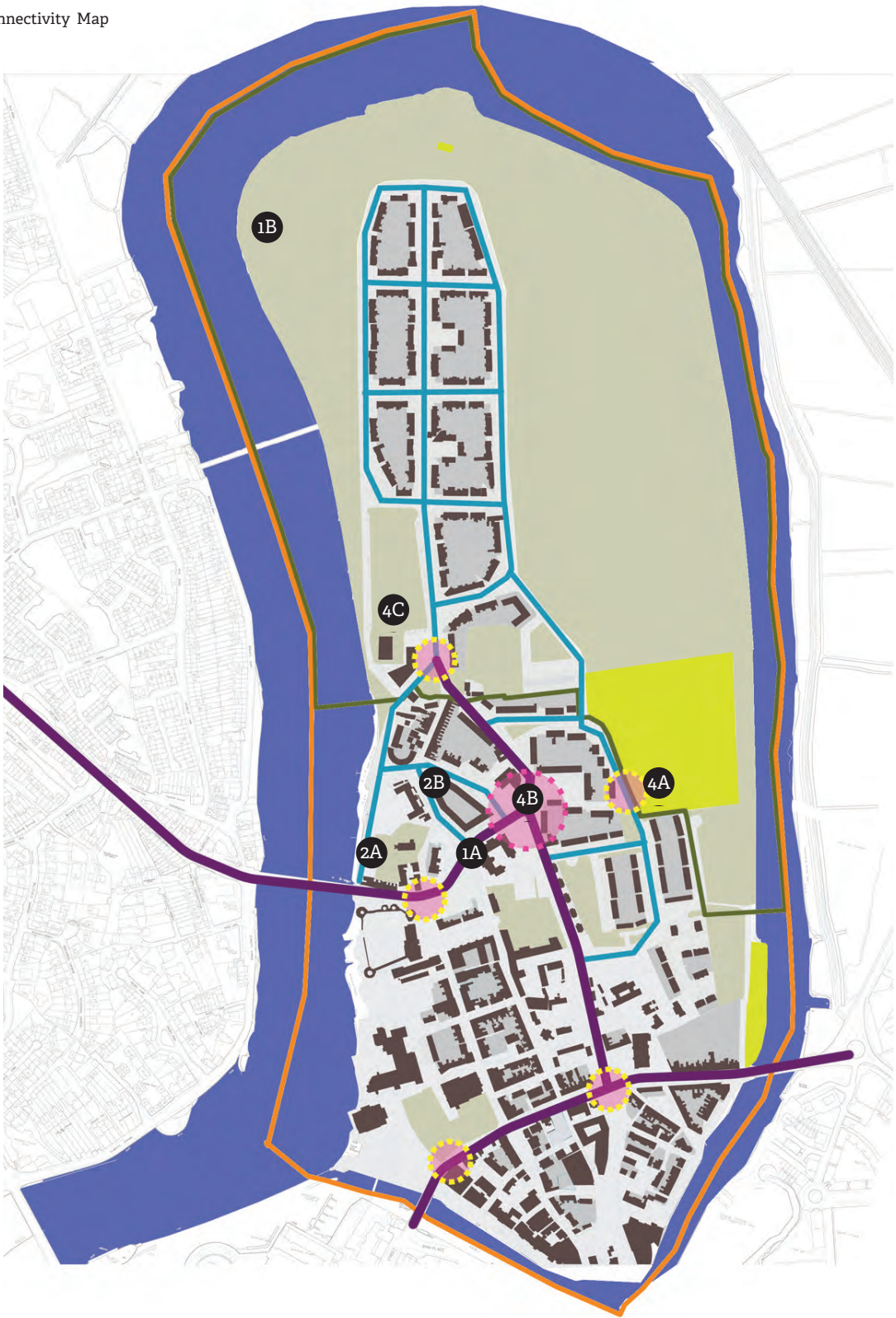
Residents at St Mary's Park who attended public consultation events held in March 2013 gave near unanimous support for the objectives of the refocussed Framework Plans presented. The physical objectives are grouped under key strategies and are described in more detail as follows:

2.6.1 Movement and Connectivity Strategy

It is the objective of the Framework Plan to:

1. Examine options to improve permeability and connections from St Mary's Park to its wider context at the following locations, whilst ensuring protection of the integrity of the environmentally designated sites:
 - a) At Island Road: to improve connectivity from St Mary's Park to the Medieval Quarter by transforming from a route that is predominantly designed for the movement of vehicles to a traffic calmed street where the needs of pedestrians, cyclists and public transport users are prioritised. Measures to balance the needs of different street users, for example the narrowing of carriageways, the redesign of the major roundabout at Island Road and side-road entry treatments, will be incorporated to improve safety for all road users.
 - b) From the northwest of St Mary's Park to the New Road, Thomond Park and beyond.
2. Improve local connections converging on the existing St Mary's Park Community Centre at the following locations:
 - a) A one-way link road from the Toll House to Verdant Place. This proposal recognises the restricted dimension between the Toll House and the Bridge and the lack of pedestrian footpaths in the area.
 - b) A new street, at Island Gate, from Verdant Place to Dominick Street.
3. Provide on street parking along existing and new streets where feasible. Lengths of on-street parking will be broken up through the inclusion of a street trees or other landscape features. Parking areas will be designed so that they do not dominate the street scene. Short term on-street car parking will also be provided adjacent to the existing Community Centre.
4. Provide crossings for pedestrians and cyclists which will provide direct and convenient access between local amenities at the following locations:
 - a) At Star Rovers Football Club;
 - b) At the Primary Health Care facility at Island Road;
 - c) At St Mary's Community Centre, Verdant Place.
5. Retain the general arrangement of streets and services infrastructure as existing within St Mary's Park.
6. Environmentally improve the existing street network of St Mary's Park to provide a safe, attractive, accessible and well-designed network of streets in tandem with the upgrade to the existing water network and refurbishment works to existing houses.
7. Maintain and augment the existing embankment walkway.

St. Mary's Park Movement and Connectivity Map



Legend

Movement and Connectivity Strategy

- Statutory Regeneration Area Boundary
- Study Area Boundary
- Strategic Link
- Local Street
- Enhanced Traffic Calming and Crossing at Major Junction

- Informal Pedestrian Crossing and Traffic Calming
- Existing and New Replacement Housing
- Active Open Space
- Passive Open Space

Note: The drawings set out the design principles proposed, but minor adjustments may be necessary during detail design of individual projects

2. Framework Strategy

2.6.2 Land Use Strategy

It is the objective of the Framework Plan to implement the following land uses:

Employment Generating Uses

1. Promote employment growth in King's Island and St. Mary's Park through the re-use of underutilised sites, derelict buildings and the upgrading of sites already in employment uses. Consideration should be given to how the extent of the reuse will meet the needs of local people and in particular the unemployed.
2. Promote the development of key strategic sites within Nicholas Street and Bridge Street for potential enterprise development attracting further inward investment.
3. Support the creation of an identity for Nicholas Street, the main commercial street within King's Island and St. Mary's Park. Develop stronger relationships with the creative, tourism and cultural industries sector whereby on-site employment opportunities are created for members of King's Island and St. Mary's Park to work near where they live and where the employment offer generates complimentary supporting facilities.
4. Regenerate unutilised or underutilised land and buildings in St Mary's Park and King's Island by considering alternative uses of a temporary nature, 'meanwhile uses', to ensure a productive use. Sports use, allotments, small scale urban farms, urban nurseries, use of buildings by arts, community and educational organisations are some of the potential functions for unutilised land and buildings. Temporary uses also offer potential to grow into new or sustainable permanent uses.
5. Promote the development a National Social Innovation hub within Nicholas Street to attract a mix of social innovation and social enterprise.
6. Promote the development of the waterway to include St. Mary's Park, Moyross to Grove Island and the city as a flagship project with training, employment and tourism potential. The development of a maritime themed approach will open access from the city to regeneration areas and link into tourism destinations such as Killaloe. Further opportunities will include the creation of training in a range of maritime service supports, river maintenance, guiding and provision of dedicated water sports areas such as a paddle sports centre.

7. Support the redevelopment of the Opera Centre site, adjacent to King's Island/Saint Mary's Park, which is seen as an economic catalyst for the area, city and region.

Retail

8. Promote the vitality and viability of the city centre by encouraging small scale shops, financial/professional services and food and drink uses within King's Island. The provision of these uses will not detract from the function of the existing designated District and Neighbourhood Centres. Rather the development will support and enhance the vitality as well as meet the needs of existing and additional residents in the future.
9. Ensure that all non-residential uses proposed within King's Island and St. Mary's Park have a strong street presence, generous floor to ceiling heights and window sizes or areas of glazing and flexible layout and design that allows for a range of uses over time.

Community Use

10. Support the provision of an extended multi-use community centre at St Mary's Park Community Centre to provide flexible and accessible spaces adaptable to the communities' needs. The provision of an extended centre at this location, within easy access to the city core will ensure that the centre is used not only by residents of St Mary's Park but the wider community also.
11. Ensure that the delivery of community facilities are brought forward in tandem with housing development (replacement, refurbishment and new-build housing development) in King's Island and St. Mary's Park.

Infrastructure

12. Upgrade the existing water network in St. Mary's Park in tandem with refurbishment works to existing houses. St Mary's Park is currently serviced by a 3 inch cast iron water main network (which dates from the 1930s). The provision of adequate water is a key development objective in the short-term to sustainably develop the water and drainage infrastructure for St Mary's Park for existing and future residents.

Nicholas Street,
King's Island



St. Mary's Park Land Use Map



Legend

Land Use Strategy

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| | Statutory Regeneration Area Boundary | | Community, Education and Cultural Use |
| | Study Area Boundary | | Mixed Use (Residential use permitted) |
| | Non-Replacement Housing (eg Private) | | Active Open Space |
| | Existing and New Replacement Housing | | Passive Open Space |

Note: The drawings set out the design principles proposed, but minor adjustments may be necessary during detail design of individual projects

2. Framework Strategy

2.6.3 Housing Strategy

It is the objective of the Framework Plan to:

1. Retain and refurbish existing housing units where possible within St. Mary's Park in tandem with creating new connections with natural surveillance, functional public open spaces and a more consolidated urban structure refocussed around the existing St. Mary's Community Centre.
2. Promote a higher quality residential built environment, with a better mix of units and increased densities, in greenfield/brownfield sites proposed for replacement housing, in line with Government legislation and guidelines.
3. Develop sites for replacement housing in the short-medium term within a suitable catchment area of the city core (500-800m) from which residents can easily access local services and convenience shopping
4. Develop sites for replacement homes with a coherent perimeter block layout and maximise the number of homes with direct street entrances. Streets will be arranged on the outside of the block to encourage permeability.
5. Develop the site at GooGoos Hill ('the Orchard' site) for elderly housing. Small Area Population Statistics (2011) for King's Island and St. Mary's Park show relatively high elderly dependency ratios with 20% of the population recorded as being over 60 years old. This figure is particularly high when compared with recorded figures of 18.1% for Limerick City and 16.3% for the State. Furthermore, the national population projections suggests an increase in the population of older persons. At present, those presently entering old age (55-69 years) will create future demands for care, support and housing services specific to their needs as they progress to a transitional phase (70-84 years) and beyond (85 years and over). The site at Googoo's Hill will assist in delivering the anticipated demand for elderly housing in the future.
6. Encourage, in refurbished homes within St Mary's Park and at Gaol Lane, the incorporation of energy and water efficiency measures to at least meet Irish national standards and guidelines. Refurbishment of both privately owned and local authority tenanted homes will be carried out with the objective to achieve a BER rating of C.
7. Incorporate flexibility within house design to adapt to changing needs in line with standards such as Lifetime Homes.
8. Ensure that replacement homes will have generous internal and private open space in compliance with the Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016.
9. Ensure that replacement homes will have their own front door to the street where at all possible to minimise potential problems associated with shared communal areas.
10. Ensure that replacement homes will have a positive outlook onto surrounding public spaces and streets, to create an appropriate sense of enclosure and natural surveillance, whilst protecting the privacy of ground floor habitable rooms.
11. Promote high-quality design and detailing in replacement and refurbished homes to create a sense of robustness and longevity as well as support tenure-blind principles.
12. Include a diversity and fluidity of tenure options to ensure that each part of St Mary's Park becomes more mixed. (Please refer to Tenure Diversity Strategy for more detailed information).
13. Consider the existing housing need (replacement housing and need arising due to overcrowding) of St. Mary's Park, in determining the type and size of replacement and additional housing provision in order to sustain a mixed and sustainable neighbourhood.
14. Consider the future housing need required over the regeneration programme in relation to overcrowding, emerging household types and elderly housing. It is prudent to plan for a net gain in replacement homes which will act as a sufficient buffer over the lifetime of the regeneration project.

Housing Deliverables	Total	Private	LA				
Current numbers of Occupied and Unoccupied Homes in St Mary's Park (as at 31.12.2012) ¹	386					A	
Total number of Occupied Homes	315	204	111			B	
Total number of Unoccupied Homes	71					C	(A-B)
Demolition							
Number of Occupied Homes to be demolished ²	42					D	
Number of Boarded Homes to be demolished	23					E	
Total number of Occupied and Boarded Homes to be demolished				65		F	(D+E)
Refurbishment							
Number of Existing Private and Local Authority Occupied Homes to be refurbished	273					G	(B-D)
Number of Private and Local Authority Unoccupied homes to be refurbished	48					H	(C-E)
Total number of Occupied and Boarded Homes to be refurbished	321			321	321	I	(G+H)
Replacement Housing							
Number of Private and Local Authority Unoccupied homes to be refurbished	48					J	
Number of Occupied Homes to be demolished	42					K	
Total number of Replacement Housing Need Surplus		0	0	6		L	(J-K)
Estimated additional need due to additional Overcrowding (as at May 2013)				32		M	
Overall Replacement Housing Need³				26		N	(M-L)
New Homes proposed with approval from DoEC&LG (as at May 2013)						O	
New Homes under consideration	49					P	
Infill houses on sites previously used for housing	49						
Total new homes proposed				49	49	Q	(O+P)
Net Gain in Replacement Homes				23		R	(Q-N)
Final Number of Homes in the Study Area⁴					370	S	(Q+I)

1 Within St.Mary's Park
2 Assumes occupied homes proposed for demolition will decant into unoccupied proposed for refurbishment
3 Housing need excludes need arising from future household formations (e.g. Elderly housing)
4 Figure excludes private units generated by lands allocated for private housing

Note: For the purpose of the housing strategies proposed for each regeneration area, a household is considered overcrowded if a person with an existing address within a regeneration area applies to the housing waiting list with a specific desire for housing in the regeneration area to which they currently reside. Therefore, no new social housing tenants from outside the regeneration areas will be introduced into the regeneration areas. It is a specific objective of the LRFIP to support those tenants who wish to remain in a regeneration area where they have lived for some time and have a strong kinship. This strong social capital, amongst other variables, will assist in stabilising the regeneration areas. This objective supports national policy guidance whereby “all households [have] access [to] good quality housing appropriate to household circumstances and in their particular community of choice” (Housing Policy Statement 2011). Furthermore, Limerick City Council supports a policy to accommodate those families to move back to the regeneration areas, who were displaced out of the areas at the beginning of the regeneration process.

St. Mary's Park Housing Strategy Map



Legend

Housing Strategy

- Statutory Regeneration Area Boundary
- Study Area Boundary
- Non-Replacement Housing (eg Private)
- Replacement Housing

- Existing Housing
- Active Open Space
- Passive Open Space

Note: The drawings set out the design principles proposed, but minor adjustments may be necessary during detail design of individual projects

Q. "Reinforce existing community hub by improving the quality and extending the choice of uses available?"

A. "The Centre needs badly an upgrade as it is been used by so many groups, young and old. If it was bigger we could have more than a café running there. And a meeting place for people to meet up for a chat."

Resident of St Mary's Park

”



2.6.4 Open Space and Public Realm Strategy

It is the objective of the Framework Plan to:

1. Protect and enhance the special landscape character and setting of the Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and in particular the extensive area of SAC to the north east of the island.
2. Restrict development on the strip of land east of St. Munchin's Street which was used as a landfill site and filled with domestic refuse. It is a requirement to monitor the site and monitor in accordance with EPA Landfill Management Guidelines.
3. Return the eastern side of St Munchin's Street to parkland once demolition of the area has taken place.
4. Provide opportunities for increased community interaction and employment by encouraging local management of open space.
5. Promote the retention of existing trees at the following locations, where possible and practicable:
 - Significant tree groups to the north west and eastern boundaries of St Mary's Park
 - Within the Military Graveyard
 - Along George's Quay
 - At Merchant's Quay
6. Implement a programme of street tree-planting within the private curtilage of new and refurbished homes to ensure better management of the tree stock.
7. Minimise run-off to the existing drainage infrastructure through the integration of Sustainable Urban Drainage System (SUDS) technologies on a site-by-site basis as appropriate, i.e. swales, brown roofs, porous paving etc.
8. Retain and upgrade the following active recreation facilities:
 - Star Rovers Football Club to facilitate local sports clubs
 - Athlunkhard Boat Club
 - Handball Alley to the north of St Mary's Park
9. Explore the potential to upgrade Eel's Weir to provide a cycle and pedestrian link to the New Road and beyond.

10. Provide opportunities to maximise the educational value of the passive open space surrounding St Mary's Park. There is ample provision of passive open space in St Mary's Park at present, much of which is environmentally designated as an SAC. However the majority of the passive space remains underutilised. There exists opportunities to develop environmental awareness and training programmes as part of an economic and tourism strategy for the area. Care should be taken not to negatively impact on the natural hydology of the designated SAC.
11. Provide for active playspace facilities, based on the existing and expected child population projections generated by the existing and future need. St Mary's Park is under resourced in terms of active play facilities. As set out in the socio-economic chapter, the age structure of St Mary's Park states that 25% of the total population of St Mary's Park is below 15 years old (216 persons). The proposed need below 15 years old generated from replacement housing in the short-medium term

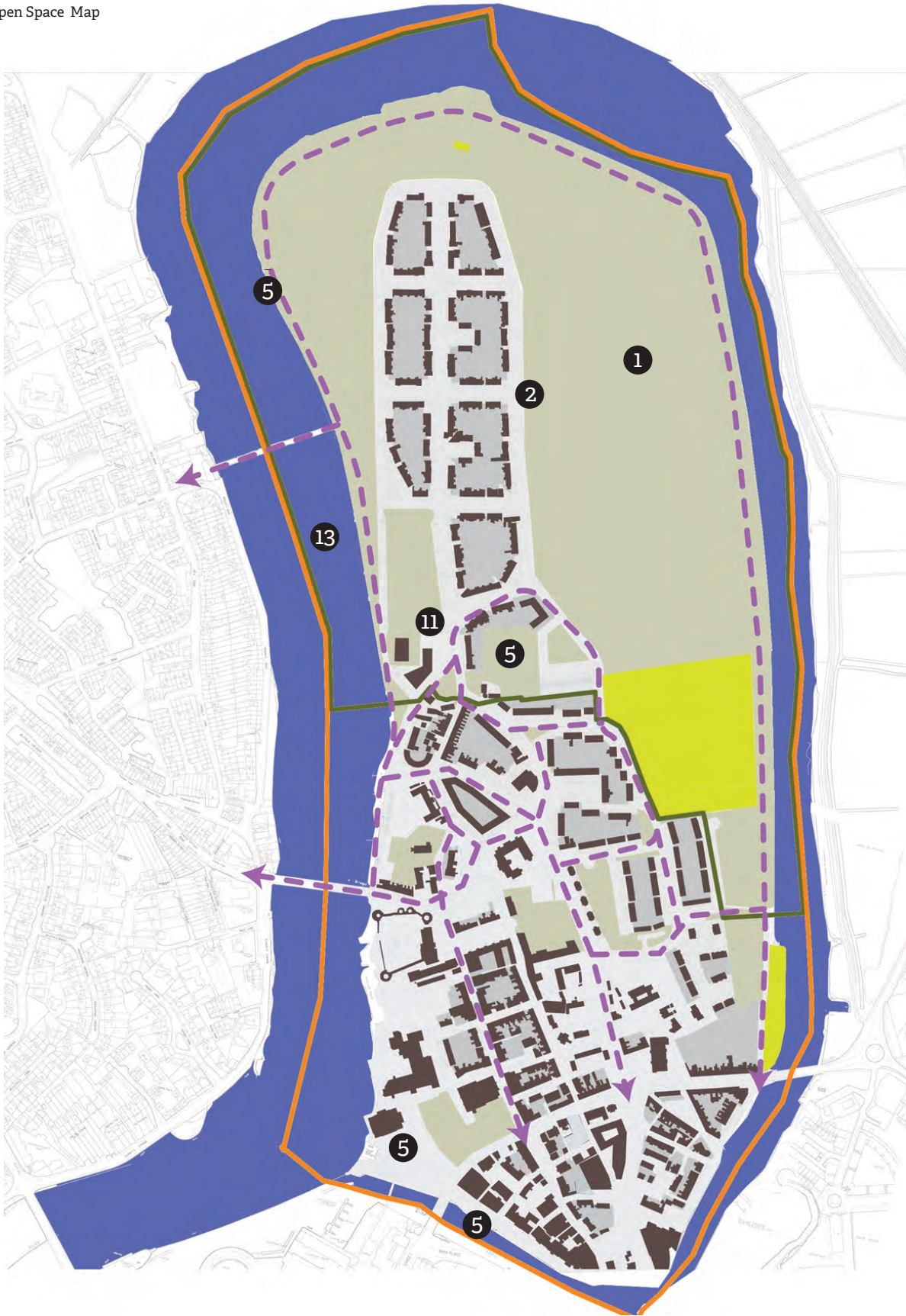
- envisages an extra 23 persons. The existing and proposed need will generate a play space requirement in total of 2151m2* (239 children x 9m2) of high quality active play space for a range of ages up to 15 years with good natural surveillance to maximise the safety of these areas.
12. Protect and enhance the existing biodiversity value of St Mary's Park by ensuring that proposed open space and built development proposed protects and enhances areas of biodiversity value with the view to achieve an overall net gain in biodiversity.
 13. Manage the existing and future flood risk to St Mary's Park by:
 - Protecting the integrity of the existing flood defences and embankments
 - Incorporate flood resistant and flood resilient measures appropriately
 - Utilise sustainable urban drainage systems (SUDS)
 - Establish flood warning and emergency procedures.

St. Mary's Park Existing persons (CSO 2011)	Existing Number of Occupied Houses (as at 31.12.2012)	Existing Household Size for Southill	Assume 23%(CSO 2011) below 15 years old
863	315	2.7	216

St. Mary's Park Proposed additional persons based on projected new replacement homes	Proposed additional replacement homes	Household Size for Southill	Assume 23% below 15 years old
100	37	2.7	23
Total existing and proposed children below 15 years			239

*Note: At present there is no legislation that sets out precisely how much outdoor space is made available per child. However, it is suggested in the publication 'We Like This Place. Guidelines for Best Practice in the Design Of Childcare Facilities' written by the National Children's Nurseries Association on behalf of the Equal Opportunities Childcare Programme (EOCP) 2000- 2006, that a minimum of 9 sqm of uninterrupted outdoor space per child should be provided.

St. Mary's Park Open Space Map

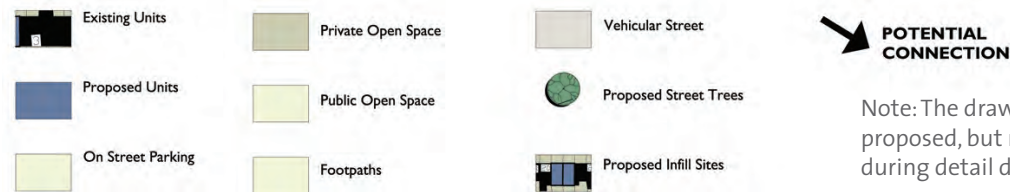


Legend

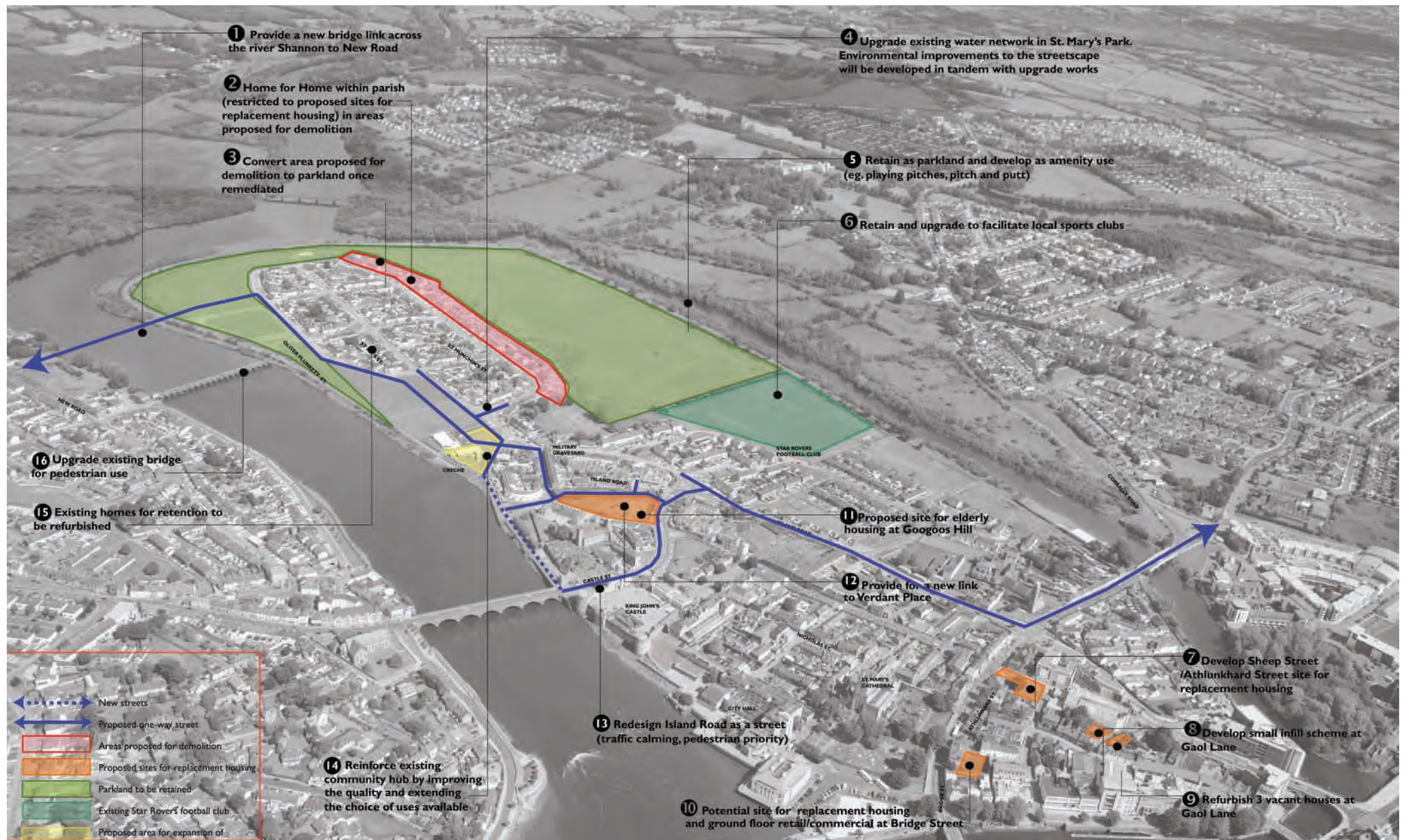
Open Space Strategy

- | | |
|--|--|
|  Statutory Regeneration Area Boundary |  Existing and New Replacement Housing |
|  Study Area Boundary |  Active Open Space |
|  Key Walking/Cycling Route |  Passive Open Space |

Note: The drawings set out the design principles proposed, but minor adjustments may be necessary during detail design of individual projects



Note: The drawings set out the design principles proposed, but minor adjustments may be necessary during detail design of individual projects.



2. Framework Strategy

2.6.5 Refurbishment Strategy

Refurbishment Strategy St Mary's Park

Refurbishment of the existing housing stock is proposed for all dwellings that are to be retained in the long term. This refurbishment will take place in the short to medium term and can progress in tandem with, and independently of, the new build programmes.

A comprehensive programme of the refurbishment works will be prepared once the strategy is agreed. The refurbishment strategy has been developed in response to the following:

- The current economic climate refurbishment will create a greater impact within a shorter time scale.
- The desire of many members of the existing St Mary's Park community to see a portion of the existing housing stock retained.
- The key objectives of the regeneration strategy can be met by creating the appropriate balance between retention, refurbishment and demolition.

1. Introduction to the Pilot Thermal Upgrade Study

To establish the likely level of refurbishment necessary to bring the existing housing stock up to C BER ratings across the regeneration areas we have carried out pre-refurbishment assessment of 49 houses. These were chosen as a representative sample of the housing types used in each of the regeneration areas.

In St Mary's Park 58-68 St. Ita's park were chosen. As they were constructed in 1935 this puts them amongst the earliest units built in St Mary's Park and which would therefore be expected to have the poorest base thermal performance, and would give an indication of the extent of works required across the area. In addition this block demonstrated a mix of Local Authority and privately owned houses and as they are adjacent to the main entrance into the park would have a high profile, being a highly visible example of the works which will be carried out.

These houses are constructed of mass concrete and therefore don't lend themselves to cavity insulation so external render systems will be used for the external walls of these houses. There is an opportunity during the refurbishment to remodel the floor plans to bring the houses back to the original footprint while updating the internal layout to incorporate bathrooms to accommodate some of the smaller families in the

park. Our research has shown that we would expect to reduce the average energy use from an E1 rating to a C1 rating and reduce energy bills by approx 50%.

The works necessary to be undertaken to attain this level are typically

- Upgrading of attic insulation
- External wall insulation
- Boiler upgrade
- Additional heating controls
- Servicing of windows and
- Improvement of air tightness
- In some cases where the existing conditions make them harder to treat or if they are starting from a lower base, they may also necessitate
- Installation of new gas fired boilers and heating systems
- Solid fuel stoves
- New windows and external doors

The extent of works to be carried out on private houses will be limited to the above thermal upgrade works, some cosmetic works to the front elevation and garden walls. However in the Local Authority houses this work may be extended to incorporate the removal or remodelling of rear extensions and internal remodelling to best reflect the current housing typology demand as well as more general decorative upgrades where necessary. Where required this may include changes to individual dwellings to facilitate increased passive surveillance and to improve the overall visual amenity.

2. Upgrading the External Environment

In conjunction with the works carried out within the curtilage of each house it is our intention to carry out wider public realm improvements in each estate to improve the appearance of houses and streets together.

We will also encourage the involvement of the local community in DIY minor repair, gardening or painting projects within each area and will work with local community groups to realise any of these works that they feel could be done in partnership between them and the Office of Regeneration.

3. Priorities – Selection of Streets and Blocks.

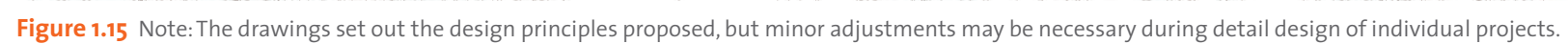
To increase the efficiency of this a priority schedule is currently being drawn up which will show how we can work on blocks of housing to fulfil not only the thermal upgrade but the more in depth refurbishments and in fill housing and general upgrade of street blocks at the same time. It is more efficient if a contract includes all necessary works to a block of approx 8-10 houses including the houses and public realm works than to work on one house at a time. To this end we have started a process of prioritisation in each regeneration area to select block on which to work.

Selection of Blocks

Working with the community representatives, the local regeneration personnel on the ground we are compiling a list of priorities of work within the LRFIP based on:

- Current needs
- Current condition of the houses
- Tenure mix
- Geographical spread
- Visibility

This selection will facilitate the roll out of the refurbishment program across the area.



St.Mary’s Park	Totals	Unit Type	% Mix Required	Proposed No. of Units
Total Number of Replacement and Refurbished Units	370			
Number of Replacement Units	49	1 & 2 Person 3 Person 4 Person 5 Person 6 Person	51% 19% 12% 8% 10%	25 9 6 4 5
Number of Units to be Refurbished	321			
Number of Units In Future phases – to be Private ¹	98			

Table 1.5

1 Figure derived for additional private housing capacity in King's Island is elaborated in more detail in Appendix 3: Core Strategy Compliance

2.6.6 Replacement Housing Strategy

In order to achieve the proposals within the overall Masterplan for St Mary’s Park 65 houses have been identified for demolition. These demolitions will take place over the short to medium term and the residents of these houses will need to be provided with replacement housing.

Therefore a phasing strategy has been developed for the new build projects which will meet the need for replacement housing for the existing residents of St Mary’s Pk.

The strategy will take place over a number of phases and will run in tandem with the refurbishment strategy. Once the replacement housing has been complete any future phases of housing development will be allocated to the voluntary and private housing sectors in order to achieve a social mix within the St Mary’s area. However, should an uplift in market conditions occur, the phasing strategy will allow for the development of private housing in tandem with replacement housing.

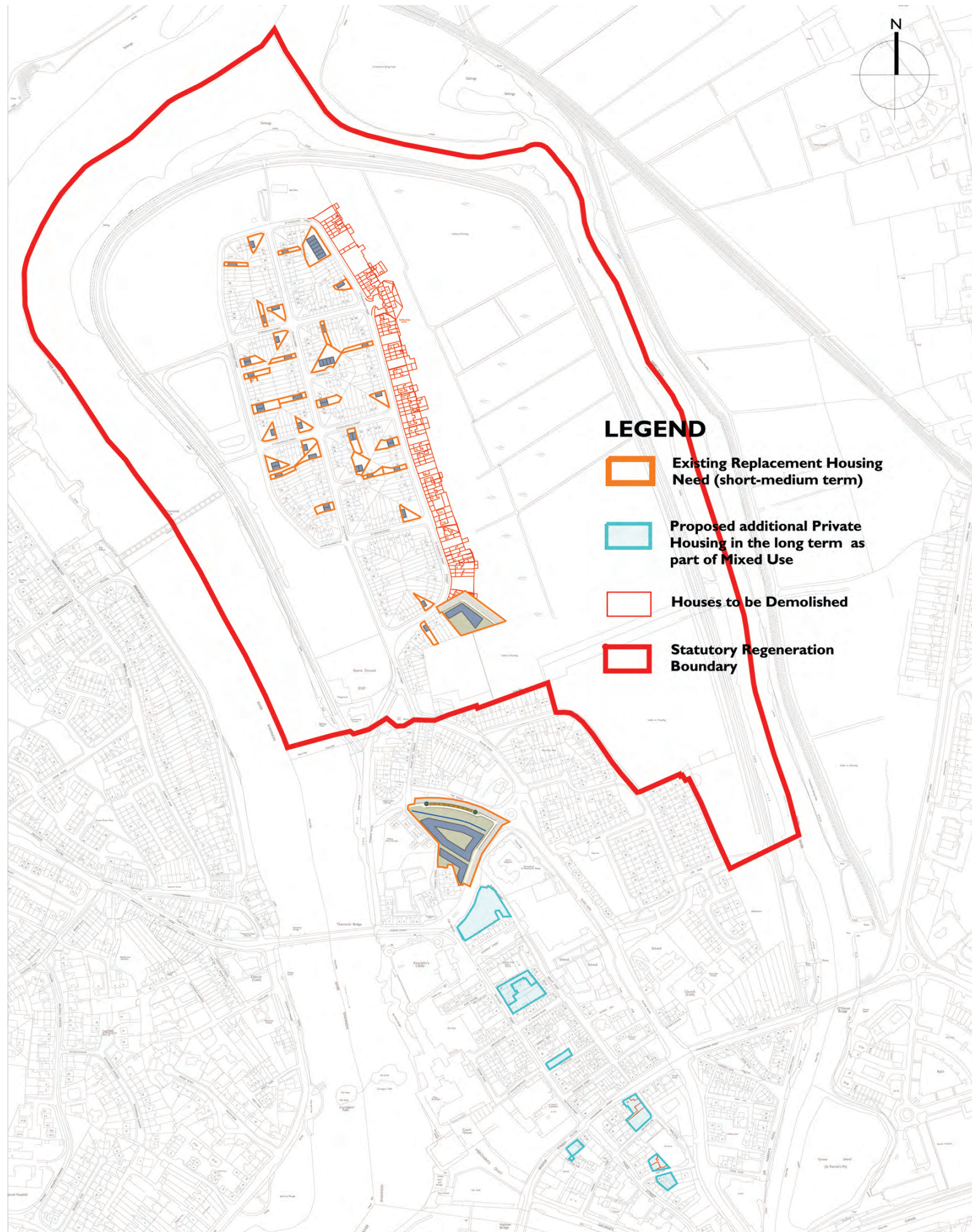
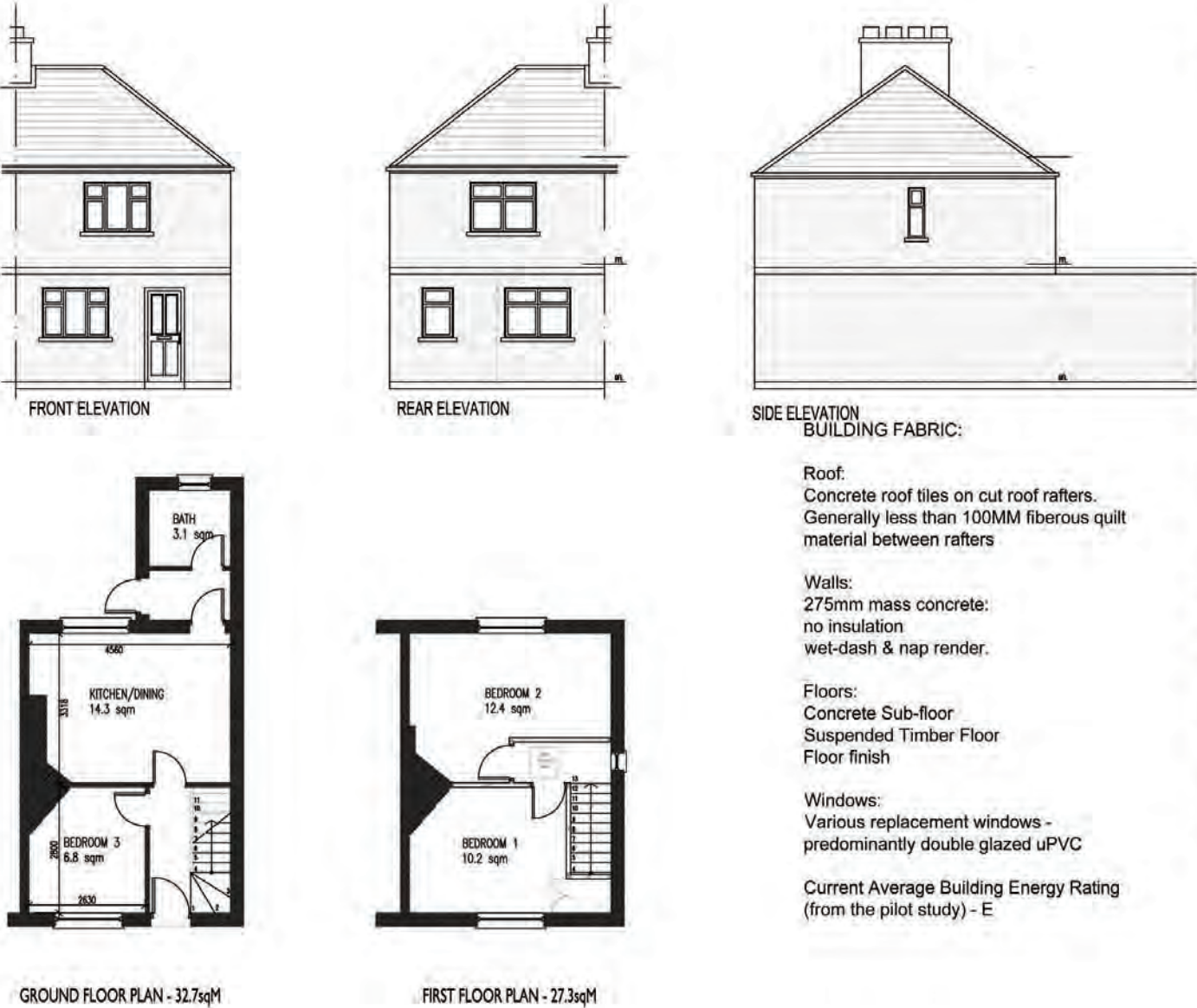


Figure 1.16 Note: The drawings set out the design principles proposed, but minor adjustments may be necessary during detail design of individual projects.



SCHEDULE OF REFURBISHMENT WORKS:

ALL HOUSES:
All Units will be upgraded to achieve a minimum C Building Energy Rating.

- Internal works:**
After detailed surveys of individual units internal upgrades are likely to include the following:
- upgrading of attic insulation
 - external wall insulation or cavity insulation (dependant on the construction type)
 - boiler upgrade
 - additional heating controls
 - servicing of windows and
 - improvement of air tightness

External Works:
General upgrade of external elements and general environmental works to achieve a cohesive uniform appearance to the area.

LOCAL AUTHORITY HOUSES:
In addition to that described above the works to Local Authority houses may also be extended to incorporate the removal or remodelling of rear extensions and internal remodelling to best reflect the current housing typology demand depending on the existing tenure and need of the tenants

SCHEDULE OF ACCOMODATION:

3 Bedroom - 5 Person House - Area 60sqM

Ground Floor:
Kitchen/Dining/Living - 14.3sqM
Bedroom 3 - 6.8sqM

First Floor:
Bedroom 1 - 10.2sqM
Bedroom 2 - 12.4sqM

Current Department Guidelines for 3 Bedroom 5 Person House 92sqM

Ground Floor:
Aggregate area: 32.7sqM

First Floor:
Aggregate Bedroom area - 27.3sqM

STOCK CONDITION SURVEY - TYPICAL 3-BED (5-PERSON) DWELLING, ST. MARY'S PARK

Fig 2.1

**Q. "Re-design Island Road as a street
(traffic calming, pedestrian priority)?"**

A. "I feel it is essential. People can't cross the
road to the medical centre safely."

Resident of St Mary's Park

”



2. Framework Strategy

2.7 Ballinacurra Weston

Residents at Ballinacurra Weston who attended public consultation events held in March 2013 gave near unanimous support for the objectives of the refocussed Framework Plans presented. The physical objectives are grouped under key strategies and are described in more detail as follows:

2.7.1 Movement and Connectivity Strategy

It is the objective of the Framework Plan to:

1. Improve permeability and connections from Ballinacurra Weston to its wider context at the following locations in the short-medium term:
 - a) New street from Beechgrove Avenue to Crecora Avenue
 - b) Remove the community wall to the side of the Church at Hyde Avenue to allow for physical and visual access
 - c) Construct a new pedestrian connection between the Church car-park and Crecora Avenue
2. Improve permeability and connections from Ballinacurra Weston to its wider context at the following locations in the long term:
 - a) Provide a new vehicular connection from Clarina Avenue to Byrne Avenue. The lack of permeability at this location has resulted in high incidences of anti-social behaviour and crime.
 - b) Upgrade the existing laneway (Alley Lane) to allow greater access to Prospect Hill and Rosbrien Road to the north.
 - c) Provide a new vehicular connection from Clarina Park to Lenihan Avenue.
3. Provide on street parking along existing and new streets where feasible. Lengths of on-street parking will be broken up through the inclusion of a street trees or other landscape features. Parking areas will be designed so that they do not dominate the street scene.
4. Encourage shared use of the car parking adjacent to Our Lady of Lourdes Church with the Community Centre. The provision of shared car parking at this local centre location is a viable option where peak levels between both uses do not conflict.

5. Provide new and improved crossings for pedestrians and cyclists which will provide direct and convenient access between local amenities at the following locations:
 - a) At Rosbrien Road, to the west of Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre.
 - b) At Childers Road, north of Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School.
 - c) At Hyde Road from Lenihan Avenue to Hyde Villas.
 - d) At Hyde Road from Crecora Avenue.
 - e) At Byrne Avenue from Clarina Park.

In view of existing road and traffic conditions, detailed proposals for this aspiration should be developed in conjunction with the Transportation Department of Limerick City Council.

6. Retain the general arrangement of streets and services infrastructure as existing within Ballinacurra Weston.
7. Environmentally improve the existing street network of Ballinacurra Weston to provide a safe, attractive, accessible and well-designed network of streets in tandem with ensuring the optimum location of street lighting and CCTV.

Beechgrove Avenue,
Ballinacurra Weston



Clarina Park and Alley Lane,
Ballinacurra Weston



Clarina Park and Alley Lane,
Ballinacurra Weston



Ballinacurra Weston Movement and Connectivity Map



Legend

Movement and Connectivity Strategy

- Statutory Regeneration Area Boundary
- Study Area Boundary
- Strategic Link
- Local Street
- Enhanced Traffic Calming and Crossing at Major Junction

- Informal Pedestrian Crossing and Traffic Calming
- Existing and New Replacement Housing
- Active Open Space
- Passive Open Space

Note: The drawings set out the design principles proposed, but minor adjustments may be necessary during detail design of individual projects

2. Framework Strategy

2.7.2 Land Use Strategy

It is the objective of the Framework Plan to:

Employment Generating Uses

1. Promote potential enterprise development in Ballinacurra Weston through the reuse of underutilised sites at the existing local centre, Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre and lands associated with the ESB Depot and Adapt House.
2. Upgrade sites at the Local Centre and existing Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre for employment uses. Consider the following initiatives:
 - a) Consider the creation of a community garden and horticulture training centre within the existing Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre to offer training opportunities in the area of horticulture for future incorporation in landscaping / estate management across Ballinacurra Weston. Additional opportunities exist around the area of sports ground maintenance for incorporation into plans for local sports facility development.
 - b) Based on the demographic profile of the regeneration areas, the hospitality service industry remains a key focus for employment. Consider the provision of hospitality industry training within the existing Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre for local jobs in hotels and restaurants.
3. Ensure that employment in Ballinacurra Weston is generated by providing a range of business premises of varying size and a flexible design to allow businesses to grow and expand, as they need.

Retail

4. Promote the vitality and viability of the Local Centre at Punches Cross by encouraging small scale shops, financial/ professional services and food and drink uses. The provision of these 'top up' shopping facilities will not detract from the function of the existing designated District Centre at Roxboro as its designation is protected under the Retail Strategy for the Mid West Region 2010-2016. Rather the development will support and enhance the vitality as well as meet the needs of existing and future residents of Ballinacurra Weston in the future.

Community Use

5. Support the provision of multifunctional spaces at Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre to provide flexible and accessible spaces adaptable to communities' needs. The support for the Community Centre at this location, within easy access to the city core will ensure that the centre is used not only by residents of Ballinacurra Weston but the wider community also.
6. Support the creation of a community hub at Ballinacurra Weston by developing stronger relationships with the healthcare and complimentary supporting facilities. As such, consider the development of a Primary Healthcare Centre at a vacant site west of the Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre to meet local need.
7. Promote the development of sites adjacent to the community centre and fallow sites within Clarina Park as a community garden/orchard to facilitate horticulture training and community garden enterprise.

Clarina Park and Alley Lane, Ballinacurra Weston



Ballinacurra Weston Land Use Map



Legend

Land Use Strategy

- | | |
|---|---|
|  Statutory Regeneration Area Boundary |  Community, Education and Cultural Use (Residential use permitted) |
|  Study Area Boundary |  Local Centre (as designated under the LCDP 2010-2016) |
|  Non-Replacement Housing (eg Private) |  Active Open Space |
|  Existing and New Replacement Housing |  Passive Open Space |
|  Community, Education and Cultural Use | |

Note: The drawings set out the design principles proposed, but minor adjustments may be necessary during detail design of individual projects

2. Framework Strategy

2.7.3 Housing Strategy

It is the objective of the Framework Plan to:

1. Retain and refurbish existing housing units where possible within Ballinacurra Weston in tandem with creating new connections with natural surveillance, functional public open spaces and a more consolidated urban structure refocussed around the existing Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre.
2. Develop a brownfield site for replacement housing at Crecora Avenue in the short term within a suitable catchment area of the city core (500-800m) from which residents can easily access local services and convenience shopping.
3. Develop sites for replacement homes in the medium to long term at infill sites located at the following locations:
 - Crecora Avenue
 - Hyde Avenue
 - Clarina Avenue
 - Clarina Park
 - Byrne Avenue
 - Lenihan Avenue
4. Encourage within homes proposed for refurbishment the incorporation of energy measures to at least meet Irish national standards and guidelines. Refurbishment of both privately owned and local authority tenanted homes will be carried out to achieve a BER rating of C.
5. Incorporate flexibility within house design to adapt to changing needs in line with standards such as Lifetime Homes.
6. Ensure that replacement homes will have generous internal and private open space in compliance with the Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016 development management standards.
7. Ensure that replacement homes will have their own front door to the street where at all possible to minimise potential problems associated with shared communal areas.
8. Ensure that replacement homes will have a positive outlook onto surrounding public spaces and streets, to create an appropriate sense of enclosure and natural surveillance, whilst protecting the privacy of ground floor habitable rooms.
9. Promote high-quality design and detailing in replacement and refurbished homes to create a sense of robustness and longevity as well as support tenure-blind principles.
10. Include a diversity and fluidity of tenure options to ensure that each part of Ballinacurra Weston becomes more mixed. (Please refer to Tenure Diversity Strategy for more detailed information).
11. Consider the existing housing need (replacement housing and need arising due to overcrowding) of Ballinacurra Weston in determining the type and size of replacement and additional housing provision in order to sustain a mixed and sustainable neighbourhood.
12. Consider the future housing need required over the regeneration programme in relation to overcrowding, emerging household types and elderly housing. It is prudent to plan for a net gain in replacement homes which will act as a sufficient buffer over the lifetime of the regeneration project.

Housing Deliverables	Total	Private	LA				
Current numbers of Occupied and Unoccupied Homes in Ballinacurra Weston (as at 31.12.2012) ¹	232					A	
Total number of Occupied Units ¹	200					B	
Total number of Occupied Homes ²	198	142	56			C	
Total number of Unoccupied Homes ²	32					D	(A-B)
Demolition							
Number of Occupied Homes to be demolished ³	20	13	5			E	
Number of Boarded Homes to be demolished	7	4	3			F	
Total number of Occupied and Boarded Homes to be demolished				27		G	(E+F)
Refurbishment							
Number of Existing Private and Local Authority Occupied Homes to be refurbished	180	129	51			H	(B-E)
Number of Private and Local Authority Unoccupied homes to be refurbished	25	8	17			I	(D-F)
Total number of Occupied and Boarded Homes to be refurbished	205	137	68	205	205	J	(H+I)
Replacement Housing							
Number of Private and Local Authority Unoccupied homes to be refurbished	25	8	17			K	
Number of Occupied Homes to be demolished	20	13	7			L	
Total number of Replacement Housing Need		-5	10	5		M	(K-L)
Estimated additional need due to additional Overcrowding (as at May 2013)				34		N	
Overall Replacement Housing Need ⁴				39		O	(M+N)
New Homes under consideration	4					P	
Total new homes proposed	36					Q	
				40	40	R	(P+Q)
Net Gain in Replacement Homes				1		S	(R-O)
Final Number of Homes in the Study Area ⁵					245	T	(R+J)

1 Includes 2 no. Community use buildings
2 Excludes 2 no. Community use buildings for calculation of occupied residential homes
3 Assumes occupied homes proposed for demolition will decant into unoccupied proposed for refurbishment
4 Housing need excludes need arising from future household formations (e.g. Elderly housing)
5 Figure excludes private units generated by lands allocated for private housing

Note: For the purpose of the housing strategies proposed for each regeneration area, a household is considered overcrowded if a person with an existing address within a regeneration area applies to the housing waiting list with a specific desire for housing in the regeneration area to which they currently reside. Therefore, no new social housing tenants from outside the regeneration areas will be introduced into the regeneration areas. It is a specific objective of the LRFIP to support those tenants who wish to remain in a regeneration area where they have lived for some time and have a strong kinship. This strong social capital, amongst other variables, will assist in stabilising the regeneration areas. This objective supports national policy guidance whereby “all households [have] access [to] good quality housing appropriate to household circumstances and in their particular community of choice” (Housing Policy Statement 2011). Furthermore, Limerick City Council supports a policy to accommodate those families to move back to the regeneration areas, who were displaced out of the areas at the beginning of the regeneration process.

Ballinacurra Weston Housing Strategy Map



Legend

Housing Strategy

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------|
| | Statutory Regeneration Area Boundary | | Existing Housing |
| | Study Area Boundary | | Active Open Space |
| | Non-Replacement Housing (eg Private) | | Passive Open Space |
| | Replacement Housing | | |

Note: The drawings set out the design principles proposed, but minor adjustments may be necessary during detail design of individual projects

**Q. "Existing homes for retention
to be refurbished?"**

A. "Yes, yes, yes - quickly!"
Resident of Ballinacurra Weston

”



2. Framework Strategy

2.7.4 Open Space and Public Realm Strategy

It is the objective of the Framework Plan to:

1. Protect and enhance the existing mature trees in Ballinacurra Weston located at the following locations:
 - a. To the rear of Beechgrove Avenue
 - b. To the rear of Adapt House
 - c. Along Childers Road
2. Provide opportunities for increased community interaction and employment by encouraging local management of open space.
3. Implement a programme of street tree-planting within the private curtilage of new and refurbished homes to ensure better management of the tree stock and enhance the public realm.
4. Minimise run-off to the existing drainage infrastructure through the integration of Sustainable Urban Drainage System (SUDS) technologies on a site-by-site basis as appropriate, i.e. swales, brown roofs, porous paving etc.
5. Retain and improve the active recreation facilities located at Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre.
6. Provide appropriate public art (as part of the % for Art scheme) in the proposals for redevelopment to reinforce the creation of a distinct identity for Ballinacurra Weston.

Ballinacurra Weston Open Space Map

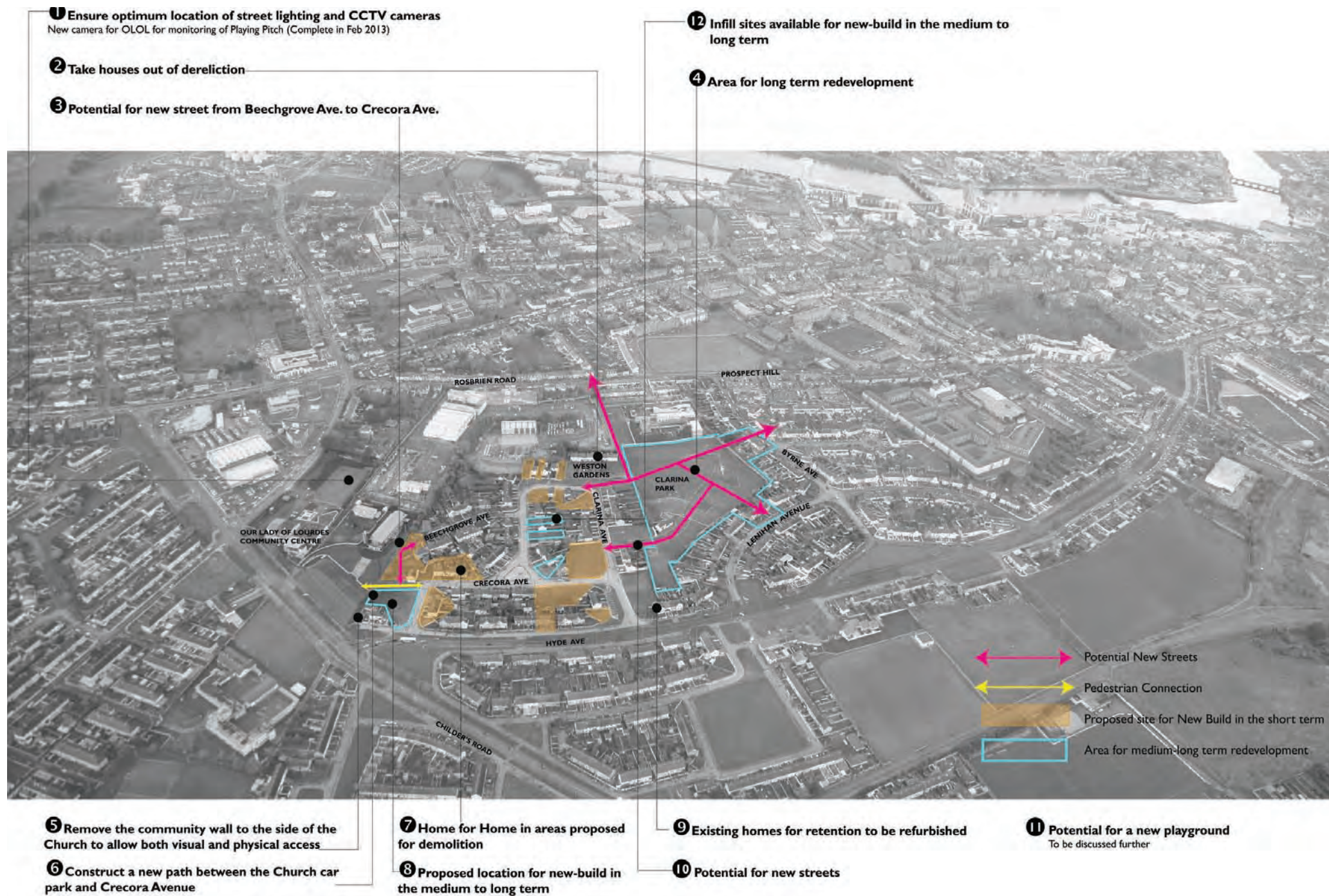


Legend

Open Space Strategy

	Statutory Regeneration Area Boundary		Existing and New Replacement Housing
	Study Area Boundary		Active Open Space
	Key Walking/Cycling Route		Passive Open Space

Note: The drawings set out the design principles proposed, but minor adjustments may be necessary during detail design of individual projects







Note: The drawings set out the design principles proposed, but minor adjustments may be necessary during detail design of individual projects.

Q. "Ensure optimum location of Street Lighting and CCTV cameras?"

A. "More lighting and CCTV will reduce the anti-social behaviour.."

Resident of Ballinacurra Weston

”



2. Framework Strategy

2.7.5 Refurbishment Strategy

Refurbishment Strategy Ballinacurra Weston

Refurbishment of the existing housing stock is proposed for all dwellings that are to be retained in the long term. This refurbishment will take place in the short to medium term and can progress in tandem with, and independently of, the new build programmes.

A comprehensive programme of the refurbishment works will be prepared once the strategy is agreed. The refurbishment strategy has been developed in response to the following:

- The current economic climate refurbishment will create a greater impact within a shorter time scale.
- The desire of many members of the existing Ballinacurra Weston community to see a portion of the existing housing stock retained.
- The key objectives of the regeneration strategy can be met by creating the appropriate balance between retention, refurbishment and demolition.

1. Introduction to the Pilot Thermal Upgrade Study

To establish the likely level of refurbishment necessary to bring the existing housing stock up to C BER ratings across the regeneration areas we have carried out pre-refurbishment assessment of 49 houses. These were chosen as a representative sample of the housing types used in each of the regeneration areas.

1,3,5,7 Hyde Ave and 4,6,8 Hyde Road were chosen as they were constructed in the two main phases of construction in Ballinacurra Weston in 1943 and 1950 respectively. This gives a good cross section of the type of houses used in the area and therefore gives an indication of the extent of works required. In addition this block demonstrated a mix of Local Authority and privately owned houses and as they are on a main access road into the city they would have a high profile, being a highly visible example of the works which will be carried out.

The houses on Hyde Road are constructed of mass concrete and therefore don't lend themselves to cavity insulation so external render systems will be used for the external walls of these houses. On the other hand the houses on Hyde Avenue have cavity wall construction which makes them ideal for cavity wall insulations. Our research has shown that we would expect to reduce the average energy use from an E1

rating to a C1 rating and reduce energy bills by approx 50%.

The works necessary to be undertaken to attain this level are typically

- Upgrading of attic insulation
- External wall insulation or cavity insulation (dependant on the construction type)
- Boiler upgrade
- Additional heating controls
- Servicing of windows and
- Improvement of air tightness
- In some cases where the existing conditions make them harder to treat or if they are starting from a lower base, they may also necessitate
- installation of new gas fired boilers and heating systems
- Solid fuel stoves
- New windows and external doors

The extent of works to be carried out on private houses will be limited to the above thermal upgrade works, some cosmetic works to the front elevation and garden walls. However in the Local Authority houses this work may be extended to incorporate the removal or remodelling of rear extensions and internal remodelling to best reflect the current housing typology demand as well as more general decorative upgrades where necessary depending on the existing tenure and need of the tenants. Where required this may include changes to individual dwellings to facilitate increased passive surveillance and to improve the overall visual amenity.

2. Upgrading the External Environment

In conjunction with the works carried out within the curtilage of each house it is our intention to carry out wider public realm improvements in each estate to improve the appearance of houses and streets together.

We will also encourage the involvement of the local community in DIY minor repair, gardening or painting projects within each area and will work with local community groups to realise any of these works that they feel could be done in partnership between them and the Office of Regeneration.

3. Priorities – Selection of Streets and Blocks

To increase the efficiency of this a priority schedule is currently being drawn up which will show how we can work on blocks of housing to fulfil not only the thermal upgrade but the more in depth refurbishments and in fill housing and general upgrade of street blocks at the same time. It is more efficient if a contract includes all necessary works to a block of approx 8-10 houses including the houses and public realm works than to work on one house at a time. To this end we have started a process of prioritisation in each regeneration area to select block on which to work.

Selection of Blocks

Working with the community representatives, the local regeneration personnel on the ground we are compiling a list of priorities of work within the LRFIP based on:

- Current needs
- Current condition of the houses
- Tenure mix
- Geographical spread
- Visibility

This selection will facilitate the roll out of the refurbishment program across the area.

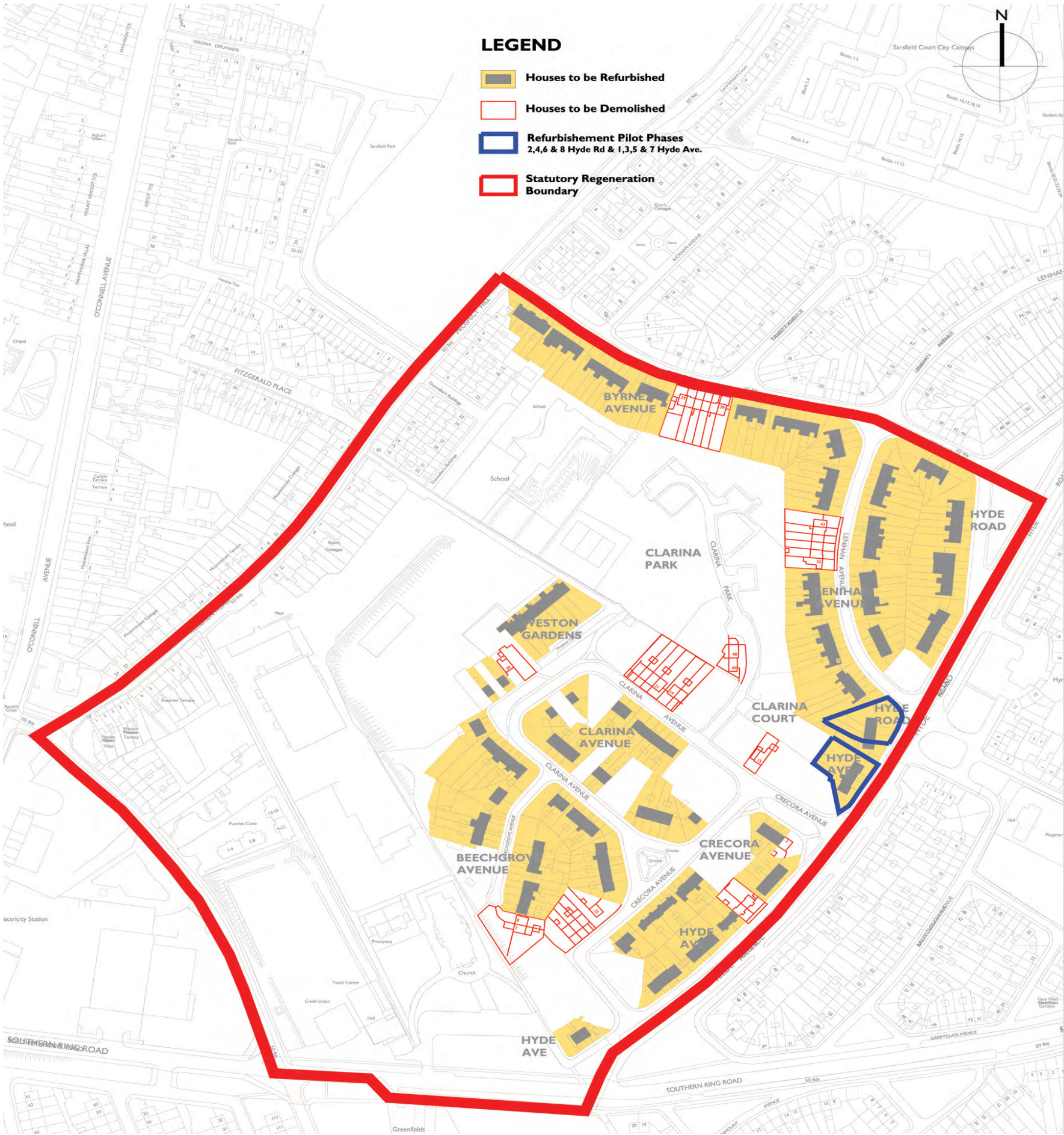


Figure 1.17 Note: The drawings set out the design principles proposed, but minor adjustments may be necessary during detail design of individual projects.

2. Framework Strategy

2.7.6 Replacement Housing Strategy

In order to achieve the proposals within the overall Masterplan for Ballinacurra Weston 27 houses have been identified for demolition. These demolitions will take place over the short to medium term and the residents of these houses will need to be provided with replacement housing.

Therefore a phasing strategy has been developed for the new build projects which will meet the need for replacement housing for the existing residents of Ballinacurra Weston.

The strategy will take place over a number of phases and will run in tandem with the refurbishment strategy. Once the replacement housing has been complete any future phases of housing development will be allocated to the voluntary and private housing sectors in order to achieve a social mix within the Ballinacurra Weston area. However, should an uplift in market conditions occur, the phasing strategy will allow for the development of private housing in tandem with replacement housing.

Ballinacurra Weston	Totals	Unit Type	% Mix Required	Proposed No. of Units
Total Number of Replacement and Refurbished Units	245			
Number of Replacement Units	40	1 & 2 Person 3 Person 4 Person 5 Person 6 Person	54% 21% 11% 7% 6%	22 8 4 3 3
Number of Units to be Refurbished	205			
Number of Units In Long Term Phases – to be Private ¹	255			

Table 1.6

1 Figure derived for additional private housing capacity in Ballinacurra Weston is elaborated in more detail in Appendix 3: Core Strategy Compliance

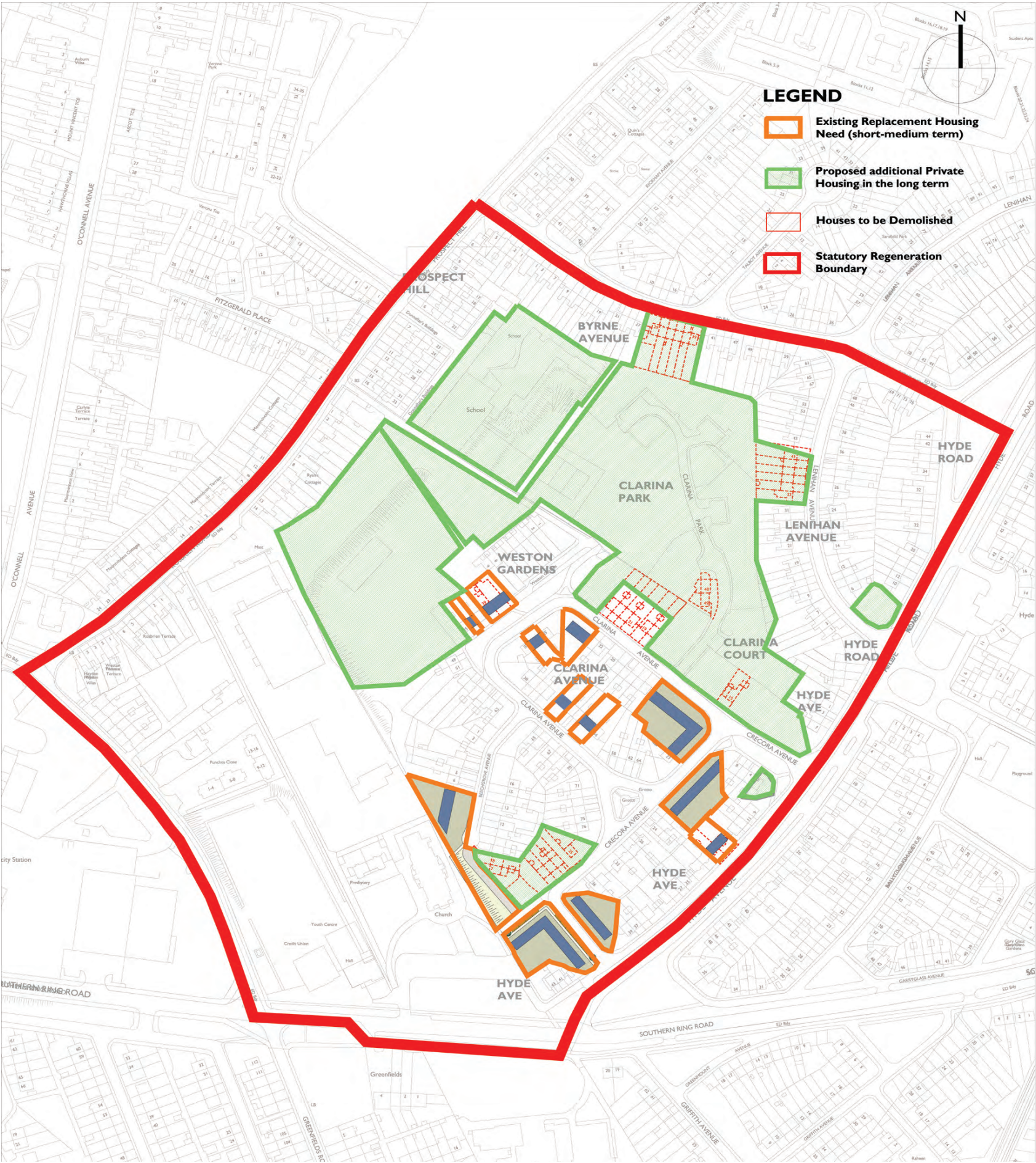
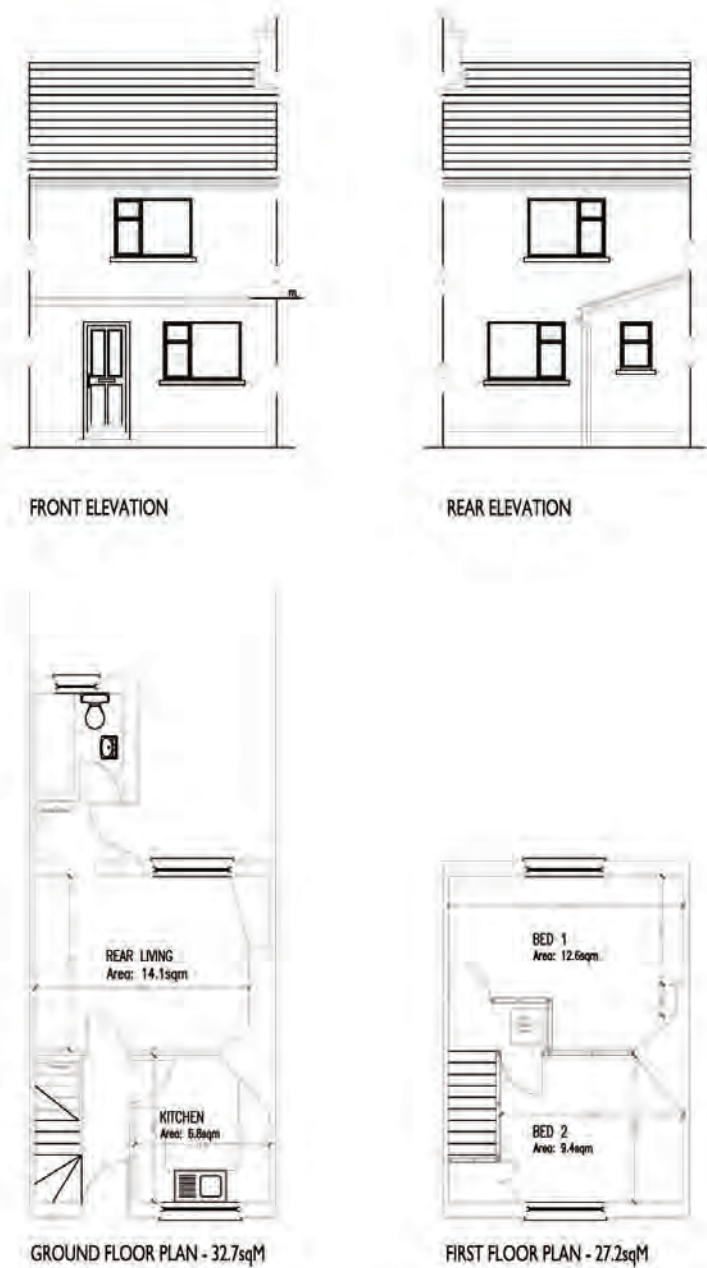


Figure 1.18 Note: The drawings set out the design principles proposed, but minor adjustments may be necessary during detail design of individual projects.



BUILDING FABRIC:

Roof:
Concrete roof tiles on cut roof rafters.
Generally less than 100MM fibrous quilt material between rafters

Walls:
250mm solid concrete walls
No insulation

Floors:
Concrete Sub-floor
380mm cavity
Suspended Timber Floor
Floor finish

Windows:
uPVC Double glazed Replacement Windows

Current Average Building Energy Rating (from the pilot study) - E

SCHEDULE OF REFURBISHMENT WORKS:

ALL HOUSES:
All Units will be upgraded to achieve a minimum C Building Energy Rating.

Internal works:
After detailed surveys of individual units internal upgrades are likely to include the following:

- upgrading of attic insulation
- external wall insulation or cavity insulation (dependant on the construction type)
- boiler upgrade
- additional heating controls
- servicing of windows and
- improvement of air tightness

External Works:
General upgrade of external elements and general environmental works to achieve a cohesive uniform appearance to the area.

LOCAL AUTHORITY HOUSES:
In addition to that described above the works to Local Authority houses may also be extended to incorporate the removal or remodelling of rear extensions and internal remodelling to best reflect the current housing typology demand depending on the existing tenure and need of the tenant

SCHEDULE OF ACCOMODATION:

2 Bedroom - 3 Person House - Area 59.9sqM

Ground Floor:
Kitchen/Dining - 14.1sqM
Living Room - 6.8sqM

First Floor:
Bedroom 1 - 12.6sqM
Bedroom 2 - 9.4sqM

Current Department Guidelines for 2 Bedroom 3 Person House 70sqM

Ground Floor:
Aggregate Living area: 20.9sqM

First Floor:
Aggregate Bedroom area - 22sqM

STOCK CONDITION SURVEY - 2-BED (3-PERSON) DWELLING, BALLINACURRA WESTON

Fig 2.1



Volumes 3

Volume 3 Implementation & Delivery

1.0 Implementation and Delivery



Implementation & Delivery

3

1. Implementation & Delivery

1.1 Programme Management and Implementation

This section describes the programme management and implementation arrangements. A multi-level structure of governance and implementation arrangements is envisaged, as follows:

1. A structure at national level bringing together the officials from the key Government departments and statutory agencies;
2. Partnership-based structures at city level bringing together the key stakeholders, centred on the role of the local authority driving the strategy and overseeing implementation. This structure will be linked to the establishment of the statutory-based Socio-Economic Committee (SEC) for the Limerick City and County Council, as proposed in Government's reform of local government and alignment of local government and local development;
3. Partnership-based structures at the level of the local regeneration communities; and
4. Structures for community participation and involvement in the local communities.

1.1 Programme Structures, Composition and Roles: Overall Strategy and Community Consultation

The key structures, their composition and roles in oversight and implementation of the regeneration programme are described below. First, the overall structure linked to the setting up of the Socio-Economic Committee (SEC) for the local authority administrative area (city and county) is described.

1.1.1 Socio-Economic Committee: Limerick Local Authorities

A key element of the reform of local government is the establishment of Socio-Economic Committees (SECs) within each local authority area. These will be formed as public-private partnerships of socio-economic interests, comprising representatives of local authorities and other state agencies, local community interests, civil society and economic and social partners. The composition of the SEC will fit with the requirements under the local development provisions, Community-Led Local Development, in the EU Structural and Investment Funds (2014-2020), such that SECs can act as a vehicle for accessing EU Structural and Investment Funds. This means that

representation of non-public stakeholders (local and community development, social, economic and community interests) will be in the majority. Over time, it is proposed that SECs will be vested with responsibility for co-ordination, governance, planning and oversight of all publicly-funded local and community development interventions (Putting People First, 2012).

SECs will have responsibility for developing five-year city and county local and community plans, encompassing, on an area basis, all local and community development spending from the range of different programmes and structures. The Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan (LRFIP) is one of the sub-strategies to be pursued under the direction of, and monitoring by, the SEC. On the regeneration pillar, the procedures and approval processes are required to follow statutory defined planning and appeal procedures, capital appraisal and rules related to public procurement. The Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government (DoECLG) is the key Government department in this respect.

The precise details of the SEC structure and operation (membership, working arrangements etc.) and model for Limerick local authority area have not been fully developed as yet. The Alignment Steering Group proposed that SECs should have "tightly defined" membership, with the number of SEC members not exceeding 15, and a target of 10-12 recommended in most cases. The City and County Manager will be responsible for establishing the SEC in consultation with the principal local stakeholders and within the broad guidelines set by the DoECLG. As well as requirements related to balance of representation between public and "private" stakeholders (socio-economic partners) stakeholders, balance of representation across the territory of local authority administrative area of city and county will be required. The Chairperson of the SEC will be selected by majority decision from amongst the members of the SEC. The local authority will provide administrative and secretariat support to the SEC.

Taking into consideration the range of territorial and thematic programmes to be driven and / or directly implemented by the new Limerick local authority, the SEC could propose the setting up of other partnership-based structures to provide strategic / advisory input

to the SECs on specific themes – e.g., an Economic Forum, Ageing Well, Culture etc. The overall structure is shown in Figure 1 across.

1.1.2 Regeneration: National / Central Government

In order to support the integrated approach applied in the LRFIP for the regeneration areas, the key Government departments and statutory agencies at national level, similar to the situation under the regeneration programme 2007-2011, will be brought together in the Programme Delivery Group (PDG). The PDG involves representatives drawn from senior civil and public servants. This structure will be chaired by a senior official (Assistant Secretary level) of the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government (DoECLG). The precise terms of reference and meeting schedule of the PDG will be agreed when the structure is re-convened.

The role of the PDG will be enhanced compared with the past. This is at a time when key areas of government policy relevant to this plan (children and families, labour market activation policy, local Government and local development) are in a process of institutional and policy reform. The role of the PDG involves bringing Government's reform agenda into the local regeneration programme (the LRFIPs). It will also promote a coordinated approach across the various aspects (social, economic, physical) of the LRFIPs. Specific tasks are:

- To promote coordinated / integrated planning and delivery from national through to local level. This includes coordination in mainstream programme budgets allocated to the local level. This especially applies in the social regeneration programme.
- To promote "bending" of mainstream programmes – i.e., more flexibility in delivery of actions and methods of delivery - to better meet local needs. Again, this applies mainly to the various policy fields within the social programme (e.g., education, health, children and families, youth justice, labour market activation).
- To oversee the programme strategy and progress with implementation, drawing on monitoring and evaluation of the LRFIPs. The PDG will receive progress reports (e.g. Annual Implementation Report) and provide feedback on this to the Local Strategic Advisory and Monitoring Group - (See below).
- To promote a strengthening of the evidence-



Figure 1: Socio-Economic Committee Limerick Local Authorities

1. Implementation & Delivery

informed approach to policy and service delivery (supporting positive outcomes for the regeneration areas and the population of those areas).

1.1.3 Local Authority / City

The local statutory partners and other agencies and interests in Limerick City will be brought together into the structure of the Local Strategic Advisory and Monitoring Group. The membership and representation of stakeholders on this group will be agreed in consultation with the relevant public and non-public stakeholders on the SECs (those concerned with the city) and statutory agencies and socio-economic and community organisations involved in the implementation of the regeneration programme (e.g., Department of Education and Skills, HSE, Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board, Garda Síochána, PAUL Partnership, other community and voluntary sector organisations). Details in terms of representation, number of members, balance across the stakeholders, the method of recruiting members to represent the various interests and selection of the chairperson and operating arrangements will be agreed locally following consultation. The membership will include the Director of Regeneration and a senior official from the Economic Directorate of the local authority. A schedule of quarterly meetings is proposed.

This partnership will oversee the physical, economic and social regeneration strategies, as elaborated in the LRFIPs. The partnership will be responsible for the following:

- Approval and on-going review of the strategy and the programme, to be implemented by the local stakeholders. This will involve review of expenditures, outputs and results achieved under the programme, based on a system of periodic progress reporting and an Annual Implementation Report.
- The Local Strategic Advisory and Monitoring Group will approve the Annual Implementation Report.

The partners will review the structures and procedures of the programme to ensure that they are working effectively and efficiently, working up to central government, across the partnership of statutory agencies and other organisations at city level involved in coordination and implementation, and into local communities. For instance, they will review the implementation arrangements (focusing on the

effectiveness of the key agencies tasked with programme implementation and effectiveness of coordination) and suggest improvements, as appropriate.

A secretariat to the group will provide administrative support such as preparing minutes of meetings, agreed by the Chair prior to wider circulation, convening of meetings etc.

1.1.4 Expert Advisory Input

It may be appropriate to set up advisory / working groups on an *ad hoc* basis to inform the development of specific aspects or themes supported by the LRFIPs. For instance, it is envisaged that an advisory group on economic regeneration (which is starting from a low base) could be set up. This could include representatives of the private sector including people with expertise and experience of entrepreneurship generally and in disadvantaged communities and experts and practitioners in areas of particular relevance to the economic regeneration pillar (e.g., social enterprise, social innovation, corporate social responsibility).

1.1.5 Local Communities

Local Regeneration Committees will operate in each of the regeneration communities – Moyross, St. Mary's Park, Kincora and Carew Park, Southill, O'Malley Park and Keyes Park, Southill and Ballinacurra Weston. A Community Consultative Forum will operate across the regeneration communities. The latter will bring together representatives of local communities from the regeneration areas, as outlined above under the Priority titled Community Participation, Empowerment and Civic Engagement.

As in the past, the Community Consultative Forum will be coordinated by the PAUL Partnership, convening and acting as the secretariat to the Forum.

The Local Regeneration Committees will involve representatives of the statutory agencies in the city and local residents and have independent chairpersons. A designated secretary will prepare minutes of meetings, to be agreed by the Chairperson of the Local Regeneration Committee before wider circulation.

The role of the Local Regeneration Committees is to provide a forum for exchange of information and views to and from the regeneration communities. They

will address issues related to forward planning of action and proposals, service delivery issues, progress or lack of progress with programme implementation, provide feedback to statutory agencies on needs and issues of concern to the communities and to communicate information to residents.

Drawing on activities supported under the Priority Community Participation, Empowerment and Civic Engagement, it will be appropriate to review the operation of the community-based structures, membership and representation, terms of reference to suggest improvements and apply any adaptations recommended accordingly.

1.2 Executive / Implementation Structures and Procedures

The Executive Office of Limerick Regeneration is within the structure of the Limerick City and County Local Authority. The Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government (DoECLG), as such, is the parent department. Together with key specialist agencies such as the National Development Financing Agency, the DoECLG has the key role in assessment and approval of the physical infrastructural, housing and other major capital projects. Physical infrastructure projects, however, may also come under the remit and funding from other Government departments (e.g., Department of Education and Skills, Department of Health).

However, mainstream interventions under the various themes of the social programme (education, health) will be led by the statutory agencies with the remit to operate in the relevant areas. The Economic Directorate of the local authority will work closely with the Office of Regeneration on matters related to the economic pillar in the regeneration areas, linking with partners in the LCETB/ SOLAS.

The lead agencies, other partners and coordination mechanisms have been identified above in relation to specific activities under the priority themes of the social programme. Coordination mechanisms are already in place in certain areas to facilitate integrated planning and delivery of services – in particular, the Limerick City Children’s Services Committee in relation to services for children and families in the city. For instance, interventions to support children and families cross-cut the various themes of the plan, and are especially strongly represented in Education and Learning, Health and Well-Being, and Families and Youth at Risk. In other areas related to different sections of the population – e.g., adult education and learning, employability / activation - local inter-agency coordination mechanisms across social and economic / employment development policies will need to be strengthened.

1.2.1 Office of Regeneration: Local Authority

The Office of Regeneration, within the local authority, is responsible for the day-to-day management and implementation of the LRFIPs (physical, social, economic) working closely within the local authority with the Economic Development Directorate, and with Environment and Planning. The various structures of

the programme, as outlined above, will promote wide stakeholder involvement and local coordination in delivery. This is especially important, for instance, for effective implementation of the social programme.

The financing of the physical regeneration will come largely from public funding sources accessed from the Department for Environment, Community and Local Government (DoECLG) (but also from the Department of Education and Skills in the case of schools capital projects, and similarly, Department of Health in the case of capital projects in health infrastructure). Depending on the funding models, other parties (e.g., EU, philanthropic, private investment) could be involved in financing capital projects.

Financing of the economic and social pillars will require a mix of funding. For instance, the social plan is structured on a three-tier structure of funding:

- 1. The specific additional funds for Limerick Regeneration from DoECLG.
- 2. Mainstream funding from central Government / statutory agencies.
- 3. Philanthropic funding.

The economic regeneration plan will require access to public, private and philanthropic funding sources and could include experimentation with new sources of funding to support enterprise development.

The local authority is accountable to Government for the additional funds made available, through the Department for the Environment, Community and Local Government (DoECLG), to the Limerick City and County authorities for the LRFIPs.

The strategy, as outlined in the social programme, aims to influence how mainstream funds are applied to social policy interventions to address social exclusion in Limerick, with the specific focus on the regeneration areas. The strategy also aims to improve the coordination of the overall package of State funding into policy interventions in the regeneration areas. This is part of the “whole of government” approach, at the foundations of the LRFIPs.

The organisational arrangements for the Executive, Office of Regeneration and functions of the various parts are outlined below. There are three elements to the organisational set up, namely:

- (i) A Policy and Operations Unit in City Hall which includes the absorption of Supporting Social Inclusion in Regeneration in Limerick (SSIRL) into the Local Authority Office for Regeneration;
- (ii) Community-based offices in the northside and southside regeneration areas;
- (iii) Close working relationship with the Economic Development Directorate in matters relevant to economic development of the regeneration areas (in regeneration areas and city-wide development with a strong impact on the regeneration areas).

The organisational structure and role and key tasks of the Policy and Operations Unit of the Office of Regeneration are as follows:

- 1. Director of Regeneration, based at Limerick City Hall, as part of the role of the Director of Services for Home and Communities, Limerick City and County Councils. This will enable the linkage of regeneration into the wider policy framework of the local authority as well as visibility of regeneration as an important priority for the city.
- 2. A small team at City Hall dealing with overall financial and administrative matters, including contractual matters and procurement. Specific tasks will include the following:
 - Providing a secretariat function to support the work of the Local Strategic Advisory and Monitoring Group.
 - Support to the set up and operation of the various structures of the programme, support for the Programme Delivery Group, liaison with the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government (lead Department) and the Local Regeneration Committees – e.g., consultation on / agreeing representation, ensuring meeting schedules are prepared, servicing structures with progress and implementation reports (Annual Implementation Reports), responding to issues as they arise.
 - The administration of the Social Intervention Fund including set up and delivery systems, overseeing and ensuring correctness of the procedures for appraisal / evaluation of grant applications, administration of grants (making payments, monitoring expenditures / audit trail, issuing contract / service level agreements) and monitoring financial and physical progress (outputs and results) of spending.
 - The collation of the Annual Implementation

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Report. The Annual Implementation Report will be based on: (i) review / up-date on contextual issues affecting the strategy / programme implementation; (ii) periodic progress reports on expenditures and physical indicators of implementation related to the additional funding provided by Government for Limerick Regeneration (projects, outputs); (iii) progress /review report from the Economic Development Directorate within the local authority and from the key / lead agencies on the wider body of social policy interventions (mainstream) in support of the target areas / population. The progress reporting should provide an approximation of the resources (funding), output and result indicators, drawing on those identified under the implementation arrangement for the LRFIPs. This wider framework for progress reporting should facilitate local coordination and the “whole of government” approach.

- Communication and publicity on the LRFIPs and its implementation. This will include maintaining the website, making documentation available to the wider public (newsletters, briefings, lists of beneficiaries, agreed minutes of meetings, Annual Implementation Reports) and working in cooperation with the team in the community-based offices to keep communities and residents informed of issues and progress. The approach of making the documentation related to progress, feedback on community issues, decisions made etc., will produce a high level of openness and transparency to the decision-making processes.
- With reference to the social programme, the SSIRL (Supporting Social Inclusion in Regeneration in Limerick) programme, co-funded by Atlantic Philanthropies, Government through the Office for Regeneration, and the University of Limerick, was established under the first phase of regeneration (2007-2011). From January 2014, SSIRL will be absorbed into the Office for Regeneration and all programmes grant-assisted by SSIRL will transfer to the Social Regeneration Programme. The intention is to align initiatives funded under SSIRL with initiatives funded by the Social Intervention Grant (the fund to Limerick Regeneration from DoECLG to invest in and support projects in the regeneration areas including those with an impact on the regeneration communities). In regeneration to date, SSIRL initiatives are funded under their Programme Innovation and Delivery Fund (PIDF). The PIDF is supporting three multi-agency

consortia: Children and Families; Ageing Well and Civic Engagement. Investments under the PIDF model have a strong focus on the mainstream. The process has involved appraisal of multi-agency plans and promotion of learning and capacity building through research and evaluation of local practice. The model emphasises a joined-up approach in mainstream services, maximising the outcome from mainstream budgets and replication and scaling up of good practice.

3. A team at City Hall responsible for planning, engineering and architectural aspects of regeneration – i.e., the physical regeneration. This team works closely with the team in the community-based offices in the regeneration areas and the team in the Economic Development Directorate of the local authority.
4. The organisational arrangement and role / tasks of the community-based offices of Limerick Regeneration as follows:
 - Office of Regeneration at Southill, based at Limerick Enterprise Development Partnership, and at Moyross (Watch House Cross) with sub-offices at St. Mary’s Park (northside) and Ballinacurra Weston (southside).
 - Staff at these offices are the key personnel interacting with the community on an on-going basis, communicating with residents, and resident and community-based organisations and encouraging / supporting coordination in public service delivery. Within the senior staff of the community offices, in addition to the area-based brief, there is a division of responsibility between social (one officer leading on social) and economic (one officer leading on economic).
 - In 2013, this team has supported the roll-out of the Social Intervention Fund in the communities, providing information to potential applicants and the organisation of appraisal of proposals and supporting administration of the approval and payments process.
 - This team is responsible for liaising with the teams in City Hall who are responsible for administration and financial management systems and the physical regeneration.
 - They support the communication strategy of Limerick Regeneration in the regeneration areas and to the wider community of the city.

1.2.2 Project Team: Central and Local Government

A Project Team involving key officials from the Department of the Environment Community and Local Government (DoECLG) and the Office of Regeneration in the local authority will be responsible for executive decisions related to roll-out of implementation of the FIPs. This will particularly focus on the operational side of the physical programme including planning, appraisal, approvals and financing of physical build schemes including housing retrofitting and new build. Procurement processes will also be a key issue to be addressed by this team.

A schedule of monthly meetings is proposed combined with more regular contact on specific issues of day-to-day operations, as they arise.

The organisational structure for regeneration is shown across.



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1.3 Monitoring the Regeneration Programme

Section 1.3 of Volume 3 relates to Monitoring the Regeneration Programme. The finalised Social, Economic and Physical Framework Implementation Strategies proposes target outcomes in the form of indicators and interventions in the form of key projects. This level of detail will assist in measuring and monitoring change over time (i.e. increase/decrease in levels measured) and ultimately assist in formulating policy based on the change experienced. Significant research has already been undertaken as part of the previous regeneration programme and it is intended that future phases of evaluation will be developed over the course of the regeneration programme. The Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan acknowledges that the plan will be reviewed over time which may result in changes to the plan as the needs of the community evolve.

It is felt that the more descriptive the statistic the better the level of information collected and enabling comparison not only between key indicators over time but also the ability to relate changes in the regeneration areas in Limerick to other regeneration areas nationally and other comparator neighbourhoods. The variety of indicators listed can also be analysed to determine key relationships over multiple variables. For example, an increase/decrease on crime rates can be measured against how this may affect health issues such as mental and physical health.

It is intended that data collection methods would encompass both qualitative and quantitative research methods and include household surveys, secondary and administrative data (CSO, Council statistics), focus groups and statistical analysis. Statistical analysis (regression/multiple analysis) will be used to unpick factors explaining why any given group of residents is more likely to experience a particular condition than another group.

Qualitative assessment will be used to measure attitudes and awareness levels and this form of survey is particularly useful in establishing residents perceptions of overall change in their area in tandem with more quantitative assessments.

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Theme	Indicators	Source of Monitoring	Key Projects
Housing and Physical Environment	<p>Promoting Healthy Communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Increased house pricesImproved satisfaction with services and facilitiesImproved environment and levels of satisfaction with environmentIncreased new residential development within a sustainable catchment of services and facilities (8oom -10 minutes walk)Increased rate of completed retail, office, residential and community related uses in regeneration areasDecreased level of vacant floorspace/residential units in regeneration areasIncreased rate of ground floor active frontageIncreased number of retail uses within designated district and local centresIncreased community and healthcare usesIncreased level of functional active and passive public open space within 8oom (10 minutes walk) of regeneration areasIncreased level of active play facilities for those under the age of 15 within 8oom (10 minutes walk) of regeneration area <p>Requiring Good Design</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Increased number of the number of smaller scale sites progressed for replacement housing rather than large scale housing projects (i.e.schemes <35 units) to ensure balanced, incremental development.Increased level of reused existing buildingsIncreased number of connections from the regeneration areas to the wider communityIncreased level of diverse and high quality architectural designIncreased number of higher density developments (>50 units per hectare) at local and district centres subject to good urban design principlesIncreased number of medium density developments (35-50 units per hectare) within residential zones of the regeneration areas <p>Promoting Sustainable Movement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Increased use of public transportIncreased delivery of cycleways/cycle lanes <p>Meeting the Challenge of Climate Change and Flooding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Decreased level of level of carbon dioxide emissionsIncreased level of use of SUDSDecreased level of domestic water consumption (litres/day/household)Decreased level of water leakage ratesDecreased level of household wasteIncreased level of household waste recycled <p>Deliver a Wide Choice of High Quality Homes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Improved housing quality / resident satisfaction with accommodationIncreased mix of dwellings by tenure (owner-occupied, local authority tenanted, voluntary etc.)Decreased level of dwellings that are vacantDecreased level of dwellings that are difficult to let	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Limerick City Council (various internal departments)SurveysSmarter Travel UnitDepartment of TransportCSO POWCAR dataSEAISEAI national databaseBuildings at Risk databaseDesign Steering Group within City CouncilFocus groups/Household surveys	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Environmental improvement projectsPhysical redevelopments – new build and replacement housingNew and upgraded greens, open spaces and parksTransport – public, community and related projectsNew playgrounds/areasHousing management/servicesNew and improved community facilitiesProperty acquisition and demolitionRoad improvements and safetyHousing retrofit and new housing construction tospecific energy efficient ratingRe-use of derelict buildings

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Theme	Indicators	Source of Monitoring	Key Projects
Housing and Physical Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Decreased level of the number of local authority and private dwellings in the regeneration areas that fall below the BER rating 'C'Increased level of energy efficiency rating of homesIncreased level of the number of specialist units (elderly housing, single person units) to meet existing and future demographics of the regeneration areasIncreased level of the number of unoccupied dwellings in the regeneration areas that are brought back to residential use <p>Conserve and Enhance the Natural Environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Increased level of enhancement to areas of high landscape value e.g. by the River Shannon and Abbey RiverIncreased level of the protection of individual natural features as part of development proposalsIncreased level of areas using native or seed/fruit speciesNet gain in biodiversity <p>Conserve and Enhance the Historic Environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Decreased level of vacant and derelict Protected Structures within the regeneration areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Limerick City Council (various internal departments)SurveysSmarter Travel UnitDepartment of TransportCSO POWCAR dataSEAISEAI national databaseBuildings at Risk DatabaseFocus groups/Household surveysContractor surveys	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Environmental improvement projectsPhysical redevelopments – new build and replacement housingNew and upgraded greens, open spaces and parksTransport – public, community and related projectsNew playgrounds/areasHousing management/servicesNew and improved community facilitiesProperty acquisition and demolitionRoad improvements and safetyHousing retrofit and new housing construction to specific energy efficient ratingRe-use of derelict buildings
Employment and Enterprise	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Higher participation rates in activationHigher participation rates in FETImproved work-related qualificationHigher numbers in employmentReduced unemployment ratesReduction in workless householdsReduction in welfare dependenceIncreased local work opportunities through public procurement (e.g., construction)Investment in economic activity in regeneration areasNew thematic areas of enterprise in / adjacent to regeneration areas (e.g., green economy, unskilled / semi-skilled manufacturing, horticulture)Increased use of space / buildings for economic purposes and employmentIncreased employment opportunities for residents of regeneration areasIncreased number of social and community enterprisesNew models of social innovationIncreased business support/growth/activityIncreased earnings and income levelsIncreased access to, and removal of, barriers to employmentIncreased employment opportunities for those suffering from disadvantage in the employment market (direct employment from supported programmes and economic structures)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Limerick City Council (various internal departments)Private / Public service providersLimerick City Council Economic Development UnitCRO data and monitoring by Economic Development UnitEnterprise IrelandEconomic Development Unit training and mentoring hoursEconomic Development Unit – monitor of take up of incentives programmeCSO DataEconomic Development Unit capacity building and training monitorDept. of Social Welfare/Labour Force Survey/ National Quarterly Household SurveyFocus groups/Household surveysContractor surveys	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Labour market intervention programme Northside and Southside regeneration areasAdditional supports for most vulnerable groups in the labour marketFlexible FET programmes targeted to needs and supporting progressionProactive and coordinated liaison with employers in the city to develop work opportunities and support work placementsStrategic use of public procurementMarketing siteThematic enterprise development supports (space, training, advice / mentoring, financial incentives)

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Theme	Indicators	Source of Monitoring	Key Projects
Employment and Enterprise	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Decreased lone parents dependant on income supportIncreased use of existing underutilised land/buildings for temporary usesBusiness start-up rates through regeneration specific enterprise development programmesIncreased business survival ratesIncreased level of employment generating uses applying for planning permissionIncreased amount of land supply for employment generating usesIncreased level of investment to communication infrastructure (high speed broadband etc.)Increased level of digital literacy skills and inclusion within the regeneration areasIncreased level of programmes within the regeneration areas to assist disabled people to access digital contentImprovement on score in Deprivation IndexLevel of shift from unskilled to higher skilled employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Limerick City Council (various internal departments)Private / Public service providersLimerick City Council Economic Development UnitCRO data and monitoring by Economic Development unitEnterprise IrelandEconomic Development Unit training and mentoring hoursEconomic Development Unit – monitor of take up of incentives programmeCSO DataEconomic Development Unit capacity building and training monitorDept. of Social Welfare/Labour Force Survey/National Quarterly Household SurveyData from PobalFocus groups/Household surveysContractor surveys	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Training and enterprise hubs in regeneration areasNational CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) Engagement CentreProactive and coordinated employer liaison (to develop work opportunities / placements)Increased number of social and community enterprises increased turnover / income generation in community / social enterprisesIncreased employment; new models of social innovationNew businesses/self employmentChildcare related projectSkills training programmeICT strategy/projectConstruction industry related project/initiative
Crime and Community Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Reduced crimeImproved community safetyReduced fear of crimeImproved confidence in policing and estate management (LA)Improved social environment of neighbourhoodReduced burglaryReduced anti-social behaviourReduced vehicle crimeReduced youth crimeAttitudes of police towards regeneration communities /residents of regeneration communities (inclusion, equality of treatment)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Limerick City Council (various internal departments)Community SurveysAn Garda Siochana/PULSECSOFocus groups/Household surveys	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Policing: city-wide continuing to target serious crime community policing in regeneration areasGarda engagement with partners in community safety campaigns and to improve estate managementDrug search activitiesAnti-social behaviour ordersGarda diversion activities for young peopleGarda involvement in restorative justiceIncreased Garda numbers & activityIncreased level of CCTVIncreased level of street lighting

1. Implementation & Delivery

VISION:

“Safe and sustainable communities where people of all ages enjoy a good quality of life with decent homes and feel a strong pride of place. Well serviced and attractive neighbourhoods will be fully integrated with the social, economic and cultural life of Limerick.”

Theme	Indicators	Source of Monitoring	Key Projects
Health (Life-Cycle Perspective: Children, Adults, Older People)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reduced emotional and behavioural problems in children• Reduced rates of chronic physical and mental illness and improved self-assessed health.• Health promotion: Improved awareness and application of positive lifestyle practices diet, exercise, mental health and well-being• Improved access and satisfaction with health services• Reduce smoking• Reduce teenage pregnancy• Improved access to drug and alcohol misuse services and treatment• Reduction in substance misuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Secondary data (census) and research (e.g., community surveys)• Research (including community surveys)• Focus groups/Household surveys	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Health awareness & promotion programmes (general and targeted); sport and recreational programmes; early years support programmes; access to treatment for positive mental health, addiction problems; full extended school service; health and well-being programme addressed to ageing; capacity building of partnerships of healthcare providers and community• Leisure, sport or exercise project/facility• Drug/ alcohol abuse project/ worker/services• Health services availability/accessibility• Specific community-based health projects: food & nutrition project , older people’s project, teenage pregnancy project
Families and Youth At Risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reduced emotional and behavioural problems in children• Reduced rates of physical and mental illness• Improved retention, reduced absenteeism and improved attainment in school• Improved work-related qualification• Participation in mainstream activities• Improved community safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Secondary data (reporting results by FET providers / ETBs)• Follow-up surveys (reporting results by FET providers / ETBs)• Secondary data, statistical• Focus groups/Household surveys	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Local Assessment of Needs System;• Family support programmes offering high intensity support• Quality Assurance Framework (Children’s Services Committee); outreach & integration plans for youth at risk;• Restorative justice targeted and preventive strands• Youth facilities and services (universal)

VISION:

"Safe and sustainable communities where people of all ages enjoy a good quality of life with decent homes and feel a strong pride of place. Well serviced and attractive neighbourhoods will be fully integrated with the social, economic and cultural life of Limerick. "

Theme	Indicators	Source of Monitoring	Key Projects
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Improved oral language acquisition / school competency from pre-schoolImproved qualification base in the populationImproved attainment in schoolReduced early school leavingImproved progression to FET and third levelHigher participation in FET and learningImprove school attendance/reduce exclusionImprove literacy and numeracyInvestment in ICT infrastructureImproved ICT connectivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">ResearchSecondary data from schools (anonymised)Secondary data (DES)Secondary data from schools (anonymised); statistical data DES; researchSecondary dataSecondary data (from VEC)Secondary data (reporting results by FET providers / ETBs)Focus groups/Household surveys	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Parenting support programmes in cooperation with schools /pre-schoolsLiteracy / numeracy initiatives in DEIS schools homework / afterschools activitiesAdditional support for professional development of teachersFET programmes for adults and specific target groups (e.g., young lone parents) using appropriate outreachCapacity building of partnerships and learning networksStrategic connections to wider road / movement networkLocal connecting roads and pathways (walk ways, cycle paths) within and adjoining regeneration areasPublic transportICT strategy/projectEducational facility – St Kieran’s integrated campus
Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Higher rates and greater diversity of participation in community / voluntary organisationsImproved satisfaction with neighbourhoodIncreased satisfaction with Limerick City CouncilIncreased satisfaction with key service providersIncreased level of community influence in decision making and service delivery	<ul style="list-style-type: none">ResearchLimerick City Council (various internal departments)Focus groups/Household surveys	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Estate management structures and community consultative forumLocal regeneration committeesCommunity based service delivery (centres)Capacity building programme for civic engagement and community development

1. Implementation & Delivery

1.4 Physical Framework Implementation and Delivery Plan

The Physical Framework Implementation and Delivery Strategy sets out the key physical and infrastructural projects for the four regeneration areas with key agencies for implementation identified and indicative timescales proposed.

The Physical Regeneration Framework will be delivered in short (<3 years), medium (3-6 years) and long term phases (6 years +). Much work is already underway, and much has already been achieved, in particular:

- The recent success of the residential scheme at Cliona Park in Moyross;
- The construction, at present, of an elderly housing scheme in Southill and Vizes Court
- Commitment to funding from the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government has been achieved for sites for replacement homes in Southill, St Mary's Park and Moyross.

The physical implementation programme contains the following key objectives:

- Allow for replacement housing in the short to medium term within the regeneration areas for those tenants and residents directly affected by the regeneration programme
- Provide sites for replacement housing in close proximity to existing community hubs
- Identify key enabling works and infrastructural projects
- The current economic conditions are having a severe effect on the property market. However, it is important to remember that the regeneration programme is ongoing and the current down-turn provides the opportunity to plan for the up-turn.

The Office of Regeneration has a key role in de-risking projects and ensuring that proposals are more attractive to developers, key funders and investors. Adding value by undertaking preparatory works such as planning, financial and feasibility analysis will provide certainty and place projects in a position to secure funding quicker and be delivered faster. The current down-turn also presents an opportunity to take advantage of lower land values and assemble sites in order to further expedite development.

It is likely that each phase of the physical implementation plan will be broken down into a

number of smaller development parcels to promote the principle of balanced incremental development (ie less than 35 residential units) and ensure effective delivery. It should be noted that the phasing plan is flexible and is subject to market and funding conditions.

It is vital to build and maintain momentum in the regeneration areas to ensure confidence in the process. In addition to sites that have been given commitment to funding and those sites that are under construction, there are a number of projects that can be progressed rapidly to provide ongoing regeneration benefits:

- Socio-economic programmes and initiatives as set in the Social and Economic Framework Plan
- Public realm improvements
- Upgrading of existing water infrastructure network in St. Mary's Park
- Creative re-use of underutilised land/buildings for a mix of 'meanwhile uses' (alternative uses of a temporary nature)
- Introduction of local food growing initiatives and community allotments, in light of recent successes underway in Moyross and Southill.

Southill	Key Projects	Key Agency Involvement	Timeframe			
			Immediate	Short	Medium	Long
Movement 1	M7 Access link route Route identification and selection Cost Benefit Analysis Route Construction	NRA/Limerick City Council/Limerick County Council	●	●	●	●
	2 Environmental improvement works to existing roads at: Rosbrien Road, Roxborough Road Roundabout (radius tightening, signalised junction etc) Childer’s Road	Limerick City Council/ Limerick County Council	●	●	● ●	
	3 Improve permeability and connections throughout Southill at the following locations: a) A better connection from Roxboro roundabout (through the ‘Galvone Arms’ site) to the heart of Southill – the community hub containing the Church, Health Centre and Southill Area Centre b) New north-south connection from Childers Road to O’Malley Park through the Fulflex site c) New north-south connection from Childers Road through the LEDP site and the Aldi Discount Store to connect with Kincora and Carew Park d) New east-west connection from Mague Way in Carew Park, south of Southill House, to the Roxborough Road e) New east-west connection from Elm Place, Rathbane through Toppin’s Field to John Carew Park Links Road f) New north-south connection from O’Malley Park through site adjacent to Greyhound Waste facility to the Childers Road g) New east-west connection from Bawnmore Road to Kilmallock Road h) New east-west connection from Pike Rovers Football Club to Kilmallock Road i) New north-south connection from Kennedy Park, adjacent to proposed Integrated Educational Campus at St Kieran’s, to Childers Road j) New east-west connection, south of Rose Court, Keyes Park from the Roxborough Road to the community hub k) New east-west connection from John Carew Park to Yeats Avenue l) New north-south connection through the green at Carew Park to improve accessibility	Limerick City Council/ Limerick County Council	●	● ●	● ● ● ● ● ● ●	

1. Implementation & Delivery

Southill	Key Projects	Key Agency Involvement	Timeframe			
			Immediate	Short	Medium	Long
4	Improve local connections converging on the community hub at the following locations: a) Pedestrian link from Markievicz Drive across Collins Avenue to the community hub b) New street at eastern boundary of Churchfields site to the Church c) New street through the centre of the Churchfields site to the Southill Area Centre d) Removal of bollards/rock armoury at Lilac and Aster Court	Limerick City Council/ /Limerick County Council		●		
				●		
				●		
				●		
5	Retain the general arrangement of streets and services infrastructure as existing with the following exception: a) Realignment of road north of Churchfields site in a southwards direction to allow for a frontage development with sufficient depth to be realised on the land immediately south of the Galvone Industrial Estate			●		
6.	Provide crossings for pedestrians and cyclists which will provide direct and convenient access between local amenities at the following locations: a) At Childers Road: from O’Malley Park to Kennedy Park and the new Integrated Educational Campus at St. Kieran’s b) At Roxboro Cross: From Roxborough Road to the District Centre (Roxborough Shopping Centre) c) At Keyes Park to the community hub d) At Collins Ave from Keyes Park to Southill House e) At Collins Ave from Lilac Court in Keyes Park to Markievicz Drive in Kincora Park			●		
				●		
				●		
				●		
				●		
7	Provide new traffic-calming measures to O’Higgins Drive in Carew Park to improve safety for pedestrians and cyclists and slow traffic speeds.		●	●		
8	Provide on street parking along existing and new streets where feasible.			●		
9	Explore the potential to re-establish and environmentally improve the west-east link through the Galvone Industrial Estate from the Roxborough Road to the Kilmallock Road				●	●
10	Explore the potential for a link road (medium-long term objective) from Bawnmore Road to Kilmallock Road providing a direct link eastwards to Plassey Park Road (University of Limerick and National Technology Park).				●	●
Land Use	Thermally upgrade existing housing units where possible within Kincora, Carew, Keyes and O’Malley Park		●	●		
	Promote a higher quality residential built environment, with a greater mix of units and increased densities, in greenfield/brownfield sites proposed for replacement at Churchfields and Palm Court		●	●		

Southill	Key Projects	Key Agency Involvement	Timeframe			
			Immediate	Short	Medium	Long
	<p>Promote mixed and employment generating uses along key strategic routes at Childers Road, Roxborough Road and John Carew Park Road, allowing for a higher efficiency of existing land resources.</p> <p>Enhance the junction of Childers Road and Roxboro Road as a District Centre in order to fulfil its role as the commercial and retail hub serving Southill and the wider area.</p> <p>Expand the footprint of the Southill Area Centre to improve the quality and choice of community focused uses available</p> <p>Upgrade the Galvone Industrial Estate as a mixed use, employment generating area</p> <p>Promote an integrated educational campus with shared facilities in one location at Roxboro Cross</p> <p>Provide an alternative location for Traveller halting sites at Clonlong and Toppin’s Field to allow the areas to be acquired for mixed and employment generating uses.</p> <p>Promote mixed and employment generating uses at Kilmallock Road Enterprise Centre</p> <p>Consider alternative uses for St. Enda’s School and Southill Junior School.</p>	Limerick City Council/ Limerick County Council		<div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>
Open Space	<p>Subject to the further consultation, maintain the southernmost boundary of O’Malley Park (land once occupied by Castle Oaks View and Country View) as fallow ground in the short-term.</p> <p>Retain O’Malley Park (Oisin Drive, Rose View Drive, Larkin Drive, Mountainview) as fallow ground in the medium term with a view to redevelopment in the longer-term for private housing.</p> <p>Create a new community park at the centre of the community hub to provide recreation and play facilities in a safe, overlooked location and provide a focus for local events and celebrations.</p> <p>Provide opportunities for increased community interaction by encouraging local management of open space.</p> <p>Promote the retention of existing trees on proposed sites for development.</p> <p>Implement a programme of street tree-planting within the private curtilage of homes to ensure better management of the tree stock.</p> <p>Minimise run-off to the existing drainage infrastructure through the integration of Sustainable Urban Drainage System (SUDS) technologies on a site-by-site basis as appropriate, i.e. swales, porous paving etc.</p> <p>Enhance Kennedy Park with further active recreational facilities and landscaping and provide a direct and safe access to O’Malley and Keyes Park.</p>		<div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	

1. Implementation & Delivery

Southill	Key Projects	Key Agency Involvement	Timeframe			
			Immediate	Short	Medium	Long
	<p>Maintain the following clubs as sporting facilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hogan Park• Old Christians GAA• Pike Rovers• Carew Park AFC• Rathbane Golf Course <p>Retain and enhance the environmental characteristics of Barry’s Field.</p> <p>Restrict development of an old limestone rock quarry, directly east of the Roxborough Road and immediately south of Salvia Court which was used as a landfill site and filled with domestic refuse.</p> <p>Explore the potential to reuse a derelict cottage (Sutherland Cottage) and adjacent lands south of the landfill site to provide a community farm/ allotment plots</p> <p>Provide for a variety of functional, appropriately scaled and well overlooked public open spaces (both active and passive) within a suitable walking distance for residents of Southill</p> <p>Provide for active playspace facilities for children below 15 years throughout Southill</p>	Limerick City Council/ Limerick County Council		<div>●</div> <div>●</div> <div>●</div> <div>●</div> <div>●</div>	<div>●</div> <div>●</div> <div>●</div> <div>●</div>	<div>●</div>
Housing	<p>Develop sites for replacement homes at the following locations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Palm Court• Churchfields• Infill corner site at Lilac Court• Infill sites to south of Rose and Aster Court• Infill site to rear court at Markievicz and Yeats Avenue• Infill corner site at Maigue Way• Infill site at De Vere Court <p>Develop sites for housing other than replacement housing (i.e. Private, Voluntary, Social rented, Local Authority)</p>		<div>●</div>	<div>●</div>	<div>●</div>	<div>●</div>

Moyross	Key Projects	Key Agency Involvement	Timeframe			
			Immediate	Short	Medium	Long
Movement 1	Support the construction of the Coonagh-Knockalisheen bypass, providing a new western entrance to Moyross to eliminate existing cul-de-sac layout.	NRA/Limerick City Council /Limerick County Council			●	●
	2 Extend the existing Moyross Avenue to link with the new western entrance of the Coonagh-Knockalisheen bypass.	NRA/Limerick City Council /Limerick County Council			●	●
	3 Upgrade the existing Moyross Avenue where the needs of pedestrians, cyclists and public transport users are prioritised and opportunities to front buildings onto the avenue are maximised.	Limerick City Council/ Limerick County Council		●	●	
	4 Provide new and improved connections to improve permeability throughout Moyross at the following locations: a)A safe pedestrian/cycle link from Sarsfield Gardens through existing bridge underpass to Moyross Avenue b) Improved existing access from Moyross to Cratloe Road c) Improved access from the existing community hub of Moyross to Thomond Park/Cratloe Road d) Provide a new connection between Moyross Avenue and Cratloe Road e) Create a new connection between LIT and the District Centre at Watch House Cross f)Improved access to Watchouse Cross from Ballynanty g) Create a new street between Cosgrave Park and Maintenance Depot to eliminate existing cul-de-sac layout h) Provide a new connection from LIT to the proposed linear park			● ● ● ● ● ●	● ● ●	
	5 Provide new and improved crossings for pedestrians and cyclists which will provide direct and convenient access between local amenities at the following locations: a) At Moyross Avenue from College/Cliona Park to the community hub b) At Moyross Avenue linking the linear park c)At Moyross Avenue linking Cosgrave Park to Watchouse Cross d) At Cratloe Road e) At Killeely Road			● ● ● ● ●		
	6 Provide on-street parking along existing and new streets where feasible.			●	●	
Land Use Strategy 1	Retain and refurbish existing housing units and develop new replacement housing units within Moyross			●		

1. Implementation & Delivery

Moyross	Key Projects	Key Agency Involvement	Timeframe			
			Immediate	Short	Medium	Long
2	Promote a higher quality residential built environment, with a greater mix of units and increased densities, in greenfield/brownfield sites proposed for replacement housing fronting onto Moyross Avenue at Delmege Park, College Avenue, Cliona Park, Cosgrave Park and Dalgaish Park	Limerick City Council/ Limerick County Council		●		
3	Enhance Watchouse Cross as a District Centre in order to fulfil its role as the commercial and retail hub serving Moyross and the wider area.			●	●	
4	Expand the footprint of the Moyross Community and Enterprise Centre to improve the quality and choice of community focused uses available.			●	●	
5	Reinforce existing Employment & Enterprise Uses at Moyross Enterprise Centre			●	●	
6	Promote the relocation of the Limerick City Council Maintenance Depot at Cosgrave Park		●	●		
7	Promote the redevelopment of the ‘Bays’ site to add additional local capacity and contributes to the formation of a natural training cluster.		●	●		
Open Space Strategy	Explore the potential for ecologically sensitive leisure uses as part of a strategic linear park from the river Shannon, through the heart of Moyross to Caherdavin.			●	●	
	Provide opportunities for increased community interaction by encouraging local management of open space.		●	●		
	Promote the retention of existing trees on proposed sites for development.		●	●		
	Implement a programme of street tree-planting within the private curtilage of homes to ensure better management of the tree stock.			●	●	
	Enhancing biodiversity through habitat improvements, compensatory habitat and native planting strategies within Moyross			●		
	Retain and enhance the existing active playing pitches associated with LIT, St. Nesson’s Community College and Thomond Park RFC as sporting facilities.			●	●	
	Restrict development of the landfill sites at Long Pavement Road.			●	●	
	Provide for active playspace facilities, based on the existing and expected child population projections generated by the existing and future need.			●	●	
Housing Strategy	Develop sites for replacement homes at various locations including: Cosgrave Park, Hartigans Villas, College Avenue, Cliona Park Dalgaish Park, Delmege Park		●	●		

Moyross	Key Projects	Key Agency Involvement	Timeframe			
			Immediate	Short	Medium	Long
	Refurbishment of both privately owned and local authority tenanted homes will be carried out to achieve a BER rating of C Develop sites for housing other than replacement housing (i.e. Private, Voluntary) once replacement housing need has been satisfied		●	●	●	●
St.Mary's Park	Key Projects	Key Agency Involvement	Timeframe			
			Immediate	Short	Medium	Long
Movement Strategy	1. Improve permeability and connections from St Mary's Park to its wider context at the following locations: a) At Island Road: to improve connectivity from St Mary's Park to the Medieval Quarter b) To the northwest of St Mary's Park: to improve connectivity to the New Road, Thomond Park and beyond. c) To the southeast of St Mary's Park to improve connectivity to Grove Island and beyond.	Limerick City Council/ Limerick County Council		●	●	●
	2. Improve local connections converging on the existing St Mary's Park Community Centre at the following locations: a) a one-way link road from the Toll House to Verdant Place. This proposal recognises the restricted dimensions between the Toll House and the Bridge and the lack of pedestrian footpaths in the area. b) a new street, at Island Gate, from Verdant Place to Dominick Street.			●	●	●
	3. Provide on street parking along existing and new streets where feasible.			●		
	4. Provide crossings for pedestrians and cyclists which will provide direct and convenient access between local amenities at the following locations: a) At Star Rovers Football Club; b) At the proposed connection to the northwest of St Mary's Park; c) At the proposed connection to the southeast of of St Mary's Park; d) At the Primary Health Care facility at Island Road; e) At St Mary's Community Centre, Verdant Place.			●	●	●
	5. Environmentally improve the existing street network of St Mary's Park to provide a safe, attractive, accessible and well-designed network of streets			●		

1. Implementation & Delivery

St. Mary's Park	Key Projects	Key Agency Involvement	Timeframe			
			Immediate	Short	Medium	Long
6.	Upgrade the existing water network within St Mary's Park			●		
7	Maintain and augment the existing embankment walkway.			●	●	
Land Use Strategy	Promote employment growth in King's Island and St. Mary's Park through the re-use of underutilised sites, derelict buildings and the upgrading of sites that already have employment use.		●	●	●	
	Support the creation of an identity for Nicholas Street, the main commercial street within King's Island and St. Mary's Park.		●	●	●	
	Regenerate unutilised or underutilised land and buildings in St Mary's Park and King's Island by considering alternative uses of a temporary nature, 'meanwhile uses', to ensure a productive use.		●	●	●	
	Promote the vitality and viability of the city centre by encouraging small scale shops, financial/ professional services and food and drink uses within King's Island		●	●	●	
	Support the provision of an extended multi-use community centre at St Mary's Park Community Centre to provide flexible and accessible spaces adaptable to the communities' needs			●		
Open Space Strategy	Restrict development on the strip of land east of St. Munchin's Street which was used as a landfill site and filled with domestic refuse.	Limerick City Council/ Limerick County Council		●	●	
	Return the eastern side of St Munchin's Street to parkland once demolition of the area has taken place.			●		
	Provide opportunities for increased community interaction and employment by encouraging local management of open space			●		
	Implement a programme of street tree-planting within the private curtilage of new and refurbished homes to ensure better management of the tree stock.		●	●		
	Explore the potential to upgrade Eel's Weir to provide a cycle and pedestrian link to the New Road and beyond.			●		
	Provide opportunities to maximise the educational value of the passive open space surrounding St Mary's Park.			●	●	
	Provide for active playspace facilities, based on the existing and expected child population projections generated by the existing and future need.			●		

St.Mary's Park	Key Projects	Key Agency Involvement	Timeframe			
			Immediate	Short	Medium	Long
	<p>Protect and enhance the existing biodiversity value of St Mary's Park</p> <p>Manage the existing and future flood risk to St Mary's Park by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Protecting the integrity of the existing flood defences and embankments• Incorporate flood resistant and flood resilient measures appropriately• Utilise sustainable urban drainage systems (SUDS)• Establish flood warning and emergency procedures		<div>●</div>	<div>●</div>	<div>●</div>	<div>●</div>
Housing Strategy	<p>Develop sites for replacement homes at the following locations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Googoo's Hill• Sheep Street/Athlunkhard Street• Gaol Lane <p>Refurbishment of both privately owned and local authority tenanted homes within St. Mary's Park and King's Island will be carried out to achieve a BER rating of C</p> <p>Develop sites for housing other than replacement housing (i.e. Private, Voluntary) once replacement housing need has been satisfied</p>		<div>●</div>	<div>●</div> <div>●</div>	<div>●</div>	<div>●</div>

1. Implementation & Delivery

Ballinacurra Weston	Key Projects	Key Agency Involvement	Timeframe			
			Immediate	Short	Medium	Long
Movement Strategy	<p>Improve permeability and connections from Ballinacurra Weston to its wider context at the following locations in the short-medium term:</p> <p>a) New street from Beechgrove Avenue to Crecora Avenue</p> <p>b) Remove the community wall to the side of the Church at Hyde Avenue to allow for physical and visual access</p> <p>c) Construct a new pedestrian connection between the Church car-park and Crecora Avenue</p> <p>Improve permeability and connections from Ballinacurra Weston to its wider context at the following locations in the long term:</p> <p>a) Provide a new vehicular connection from Clarina Avenue to Byrne Avenue. The lack of permeability at this location has resulted in high incidences of anti-social behaviour and crime.</p> <p>b) Upgrade the existing laneway (Alley Lane) to allow greater access to Prospect Hill and Rosbrien Road to the north.</p> <p>c) Provide a new vehicular connection from Clarina Park to Lenihan Avenue.</p> <p>Provide on street parking along existing and new streets where feasible.</p> <p>Encourage shared use of the car parking adjacent to Our Lady of Lourdes Church with the Community Centre.</p> <p>Provide new and improved crossings for pedestrians and cyclists which will provide direct and convenient access between local amenities at the following locations:</p> <p>a) At Rosbrien Road, to the west of Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre.</p> <p>b) At Childers Road, north of Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School.</p> <p>c) At Hyde Road from Lenihan Avenue to Hyde Villas.</p> <p>d) At Hyde Road from Crecora Avenue.</p> <p>e) At Byrne Avenue from Clarina Park.</p> <p>Environmentally improve the existing street network of Ballinacurra Weston to provide a safe, attractive, accessible and well-designed network of streets in tandem with ensuring the optimum location of street lighting and CCTV.</p>	Limerick City Council/ Limerick County Council		<div>●</div> <div>●</div> <div>●</div>		<div>●</div>
Land Use Strategy	Promote employment growth in Ballinacurra Weston through the re-use of underutilised sites at the existing local centre, Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre and lands associated with the ESB Depot and Adapt House.		<div>●</div>	<div>●</div>		

Ballinacurra Park	Key Projects	Key Agency Involvement	Timeframe			
			Immediate	Short	Medium	Long
	<p>Consider the creation of a community garden and horticulture training centre within the existing Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre to offer training opportunities in the area of horticulture for future incorporation in landscaping / estate management</p> <p>Consider the provision of hospitality industry training within the existing Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre for local jobs in hotels and restaurants.</p> <p>Promote the vitality and viability of the Local Centre at Punches Cross by encouraging small scale shops, financial/ professional services and food and drink uses</p> <p>Support the provision of multifunctional spaces at Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre to provide flexible and accessible spaces adaptable to communities’ needs.</p> <p>Consider the development of a Primary Healthcare Centre at a vacant site west of the Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre to meet local need.</p>			<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div><div></div></div>	
Open Space Strategy	<p>1. Protect and enhance the existing mature trees in Ballinacurra Weston located at the following locations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To the rear of Beechgrove Avenue• To the rear of Adapt House• Along Childers Road <p>Provide opportunities for increased community interaction and employment by encouraging local management of open space</p> <p>Implement a programme of street tree-planting within the private curtilage of new and refurbished homes to ensure better management of the tree stock.</p> <p>Retain the active recreation facilities located at Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre.</p> <p>Provide appropriate public art (as part of the % for Art scheme) in the proposals for redevelopment to reinforce the creation of a distinct identity for Ballinacurra Weston.</p>	Limerick City Council/ Limerick County Council		<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	
Housing Strategy	<p>Develop sites for replacement homes at the following locations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clarina Avenue• Beechgrove Avenue• Crecura Avenue• Hyde Avenue <p>Refurbishment of both privately owned and local authority tenanted homes within Ballinacurra Weston will be carried out to achieve a BER rating of C</p> <p>Develop sites for housing other than replacement housing (i.e. Private, Voluntary) once replacement housing need has been satisfied</p>		<div><div></div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>

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1.5 Economic Framework Implementation and Delivery Plan

The Economic Framework Implementation and Delivery Strategy sets out the key economic projects for the four regeneration areas with key agencies for implementation identified and indicative timescales proposed.

Key Projects	Timeframe	Key Agency Involvement
Thematic Development	Immediate	Economic Enterprise Unit Office of Regeneration Enterprise Ireland Third level partners Local enterprise and employment groups Social Partners
Marketing of Sites	Immediate	Economic Enterprise Unit Office of Regeneration Enterprise Ireland
National Social Innovation Hub	Immediate	Economic Enterprise Unit Office of Regeneration Enterprise Ireland Third level partners Philanthropic groups Multinationals Local enterprise and employment groups
Micro Enterprise Incentive programme	Immediate	Economic Enterprise Unit Office of Regeneration Local enterprise and employment groups
Green Industry Hub	Immediate to medium term	Economic Enterprise Unit Office of Regeneration Enterprise Ireland Third level partners Local enterprise and employment groups Local business groups
Training & Enterprise Hubs – Moyross & Southill	Immediate to medium term	Economic Enterprise Unit Office of Regeneration Enterprise Ireland Third level partners Local enterprise and employment groups
Sector Specific Training & Employment Programmes	Immediate	Economic Enterprise Unit Office of Regeneration Third level partners Local enterprise and employment groups
Philanthropic & Public Partnership project	Medium to long term	Third level partners Local enterprise and employment groups Philanthropic groups
National CSR Engagement Centre Private Sector	Immediate to medium term	Third level partners Philanthropic groups
Strategic Use of Public Procurement	Immediate	Training agency Local enterprise and employment groups Economic Enterprise Unit Office of Regeneration
e-inclusion	Medium to long term	Private sector Economic Enterprise Unit Office of Regeneration

1.6 Social Framework Implementation and Delivery Plan

Priority Themes, Activities, Key Projects, Agencies Coordination and Timeframe for Implementation: Social Programme

Priority Theme and Activity	Key Projects Coordination	Key / Lead Agencies	Other Partners / Stakeholders	Coordination	Implementation Timeframe
Priority 1: Education & Learning 1.1. Early Years Learning & School Readiness		HSE / Child and Family Support Agency	Limerick City Childcare Committee, PAUL Partnership, Mary Immaculate College, SSIRL, schools / pre-schools, crèches	Children’s Services Committee	
	Start-Right, Southside: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Planning• Implementation• Evaluation				On-going from 2011
	Full Extended Service School Model (St. Kieran’s Project) Southside <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Planning / Coordination• Capital project (new school build)• Service integration – implementation• Roll-out good practice to other areas				Planning: on-going from 2011 Capital build project: Medium-term Service integration: Medium-term Good practice – medium-term / longer-term
	Capacity building across Early Years including links between formal and informal providers				Short-term, medium-term
Priority 1: Education & Learning 1.2. School Attendance & Retention		DES / Education agencies including NEWB, School Completion Programme / Child and Family Support Agency	DEIS schools, Third Level Institutions (access initiatives), PAUL Partnership, HSE	Children’s Services Committee	
	Parenting Support Programmes (e.g., Incredible Years) in schools and community-based settings				On-going
	Additional support services (e.g., behavioural, psychological support, creative learning), homework / activity clubs in schools and community				On-going Further development of integrated service model: short- to medium-term

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Priority Theme and Activity	Key Projects Coordination	Key / Lead Agencies	Other Partners / Stakeholders	Coordination	Implementation Timeframe
Priority 1: Education & Learning 1.3. Literacy, Numeracy & Educational Attainment in School		DES / DEIS Schools	Mary Immaculate College, Limerick Education Centre, SSIRL	Children’s Services Committee	
	Additional support for Continued Professional Development (Teachers) in DEIS Schools				On-going from 2012
	Roll-out of literacy and numeracy initiatives for pupils in DEIS schools				On-going
	Homework / after-schools clubs, summer programmes in schools / community-based settings				On-going
Priority 1: Education & Learning 1.4. Further (Adult) Education & Community Learning		City of Limerick VEC / SOLUS	FAS / SOLUS, Local Employment Service, PAUL Partnership, community and voluntary organisations / local adult education	VEC / SOLUS / Education and Training Boards	
	Community-based outreach to attract and support learners and their progression				On-going
	Further education programmes (FETAC 1-3 and 4-5) with integrated supports to learners (guidance, counselling, personal development etc.)				On-going
	Capacity building: strengthen partnerships and networks to plan, promote and deliver learning and roll-out good practice				Short- to medium-term

Priority Theme and Activity	Key Projects Coordination	Key / Lead Agencies	Other Partners / Stakeholders	Coordination	Implementation Timeframe
Priority 2: Health & Well-being 2.1. Public Health		HSE / Health Promotion / Primary Care	LCC, Limerick Sports Partnership, PAUL Partnership, DES, Limerick Youth Services, community and voluntary organisations	HSE / Health Promotion	
	Health education and health promotion in community-based settings including Positive Mental Health promotion				Short-term
	Sport and recreational activities (including music and dance) in community-based settings				On-going
	Access to treatment programmes to address addiction problems				Short- to medium-term
	Capacity building: strengthen partnerships and networks to promote and delivery better health & well-being				Short- to medium-term
Priority 2: Health & Well-being 2.2. Child & Youth Mental Health		HSE / Child and Family Support Agency	HSE Primary Care, DES, SSIRL, schools, voluntary and community organisations including Headstrong / Jigsaw	Children’s Services Committee	
	Full Service Extended School Model (St. Kieran’s), as above 1.1 and community “wrap around” Extend good practice to other areas				Planning & Development: On-going Implementation: Medium-term Extend practice: Medium-term / long-term
	Accessible youth-focused and integrated service to support better youth mental health (e.g., Headstrong / Jigsaw)				Planning & Development: On-going from 2011/12 Implementation: Medium term (contingent on funding availability)
	Capacity building: Strengthen partnerships and networks to promote better child and youth mental health				Short- to medium-term

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Priority Theme and Activity	Key Projects Coordination	Key / Lead Agencies	Other Partners / Stakeholders	Coordination	Implementation Timeframe
Priority 2: Health & Well-being 2.3. Adult Mental and Physical Health		HSE / Primary Care	HSE specialist care, community and voluntary organisations, Department of Social Protection, FAS / SOLUS (Community Employment), LCC	HSE / Primary Care	
	Information and support services to promote access to services, focused on Primary Care				On-going
	Care plans and pathways to recovery for people with disabilities, chronic illness conditions and mental ill-health and support groups				Short to medium-term
	Educational programmes and qualification for staff / volunteers in health care / social care in community-based settings (including new technologies in health)				Short- to medium-term
	Capacity building: strengthen partnerships and networks to promote better adult physical and mental health				Short- to medium-term
Priority 3: Ageing Well: Health & Well-being of Older People 3.1 Planning for an Age Friendly City & Neighbourhoods		LCC	HSE Primary Care / Older People's Services, Social Protection, academic institutions, ETB / SOLUS, local development companies, community and voluntary organisations, businesses, Forum for Older People	LCC / Alliance of Ageing Well City	
	Partnership-based structures including representation of older people and strategy for an age-friendly city / neighbourhoods, support for "Get Vocal"				

Priority Theme and Activity	Key Projects Coordination	Key / Lead Agencies	Other Partners / Stakeholders	Coordination	Implementation Timeframe
Priority 3: Ageing Well: Health & Well-being of Older People 3.2 Specific actions in support of health and well-being of older people		HSE / Primary Care / Older People's Services	LCC (housing and environment), ETB / SOLUS (education and community employment), Citizen's Information Service, transport services, community and voluntary organisations, schools, sports services and clubs	HSE / Primary Care / Older People's Services	
	Social connectedness of older people in communities and across the city				On-going
	Support for participation of older people in education and learning, health and well-being, planning for housing provision, community safety etc.				Short-term
	Information and advisory services for older people				Short-term / medium-term
	Inter-generational activities				Short-term
Priority 4: Employability & Work 4.1. Labour Market Intervention Programme - Northside and Southside		FAS / City of Limerick VEC (ETB / SOLUS), PAUL Partnership / LES, NEES	Limerick City Enterprise Board / LCC Economic Development Directorate, community and voluntary organisations including Jobsclubs, childcare provision	City of Limerick VEC (ETB), SOLUS and NEES	
	Flexible further education and training programmes in new / developing sectors of work opportunities, with integrated literacy / numeracy				Short-term / medium-term
	Single points of access (Northside, Southside) to information on opportunities, eligibility including community-based outreach				Short-term / medium-term
	Additional advice, guidance and mentoring services / action plan providing pathways to work including work placement				Short-term / medium-term

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Priority Theme and Activity	Key Projects Coordination	Key / Lead Agencies	Other Partners / Stakeholders	Coordination	Implementation Timeframe
	Programme to develop work placements / work opportunities targeting potential employers (private, public and voluntary sector)				Short-term / medium term
	Capacity building: partnerships and networks including coordinated planning, delivery of services and tracking results				Short-term / medium term
Priority 4: Employability & Work 4.2. Addressing Additional Barriers to Economic Inclusion: Most Vulnerable Groups		City of Limerick VEC (ETB), SOLUS, LCC Economic Development Directorate, PAUL Partnership / LES, NEES	Young Person’s Probation, Garda Youth Diversion Projects, HSE (Child and Family Support Agency), community and voluntary organisations	FAS / City of Limerick VEC (SOLUS) and NEES; GYD and YPP	
	Outreach to most vulnerable groups				Short-term / medium term
	Additional advice / guidance and support including on-going and aftercare support plans				Short-term / medium term
	Coordinated work placement / linkage programme with potential employers (private, public, voluntary sector) – as above				Short-term / medium term
Priority 5: Families & Youth at Risk 5.1 Assessment of Needs & Intervention Pathways for Family Support		HSE (Child and Family Support Agency)	Irish Youth Justice, Schools, community and voluntary organisations	Children’s Services Committee	
	Implementation and Roll-Out of Local Assessment of Needs System / Common Assessment Framework				On-going
	Integrated pathways of care plans for children assessed on Hardiker Scale 2-4				Short-term / medium-term
	Family Support Services delivered in communities (using community-based outreach) by voluntary / community-based organisations				On-going

Priority Theme and Activity	Key Projects Coordination	Key / Lead Agencies	Other Partners / Stakeholders	Coordination	Implementation Timeframe
	Development and roll-out of Quality Assurance Framework (Children’s Services Committee)				Short-term / medium-term
Priority 5: Families & Youth at Risk 5.2 Improved Outcomes for Youth at Risk		Irish Youth Justice Service / Young Person’s Probation	HSE (Child and Family Support Agency), Garda Youth Diversion, SSIRL, community and voluntary organisations	Children’s Services Committee	
	New methods of outreach to engage with young people at greatest risk (e.g., child / young offenders) including out-of-hours and extended services				Short-term
	Reintegration plans and enhanced services for young offenders (innovative, evidence-based services)				Short-term / medium-term
	Restorative Justice, Le Chéile - Targeted Strand: targeting young offenders				Short-term / medium-term
Priority 5: Families & Youth at Risk 5.3. Supporting Youth: Connecting and Participating in Community and Society		Limerick Youth Services	Irish Youth Justice, Schools, Limerick Sports Partnership, community and voluntary groups / organisations	Children’s Services Committee	
	Youth facilities and services including out-of-hours / extended hours provision and engaging youth from across the city				On-going
	Young people in decision-making and giving young people from regeneration communities a voice				Short-term / medium-term
	Restorative Justice – Preventive Strand : education-based approach in schools and involving a whole-school approach				On-going / further development in short-term / medium-term

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Priority Theme And Activity	Key Projects Coordination	Key / Lead Agencies	Other Partners / Stakeholders	Coordination	Implementation Timeframe
Priority 6: Community Participation, Empowerment and Civic Engagement 6.1 Community organisation / estate management and local service delivery		LCC, PAUL Partnership	Community and Voluntary Organisations (tenant / resident associations), key statutory organisations in the city (Gardai, HSE, VEC / ETB etc)	LCC / PAUL Partnership (Community Consultative Forum, on the part of local voluntary / community organisations)	
	Estate Management Structures in regeneration areas and Community Consultative Forum				On-going
	Local Regeneration Committees (community and statutory representatives), giving local communities a voice				On-going
	Enhanced capacity of community-based services to respond to needs of residents (improvements to facilities, infrastructure, services)				Short-term / medium-term
Priority 6: Community Participation, Empowerment and Civic Engagement 6.2 Capacity Building Programme		LCC, PAUL Partnership	Community and voluntary organisations (tenant / resident associations), key statutory organisations in the city (Gardaí, HSE, VEC / ETB etc),	LCC / PAUL Partnership (Community Consultative Forum, on the part of local voluntary / community organisations)	
	Civic Participation Charter				Short-term / medium-term
	Capacity-building / support programme for residents, community organisations, local Regeneration Committees (training needs assessment and training delivery), community-based planning and review system				Short-term / medium-term

1.7 Delivering Tenure Diversification

Limerick City Council will work with approved housing bodies housing associations and private sector partners to deliver tenure diversification in a phased approach. ‘Tenure diversification’ and ‘mixed tenure’ is a widely accepted policy designed to tackle problems of social exclusion in disadvantaged neighbourhoods. The phraseology can mean different things to different people related to ownership status, household structure and size, house style, income mix, and de-concentrating deprivation. The aim of this report is to provide a comprehensive look at the issue of tenure diversity and to relate national and local government policy to the aims and objectives of the Limerick Regeneration Framework and Implementation Plan.

In this section a broad meaning is adopted which covers all of the above interpretations and realises that tenure diversification is an important element in the development of sustainable communities.

1.7.1 Existing Mechanisms

In advance of consideration of potential strategies for tenure diversification within the Regeneration Areas, it is first necessary to review the existing mechanisms available which seek to encourage and facilitate such diversification at a national and local level.

Incremental Purchase Scheme

The core objective of housing policy in Ireland is to enable every household to have available an affordable dwelling of good quality, suited to its needs, in a good environment and, as far as possible, at the tenure of its choice¹. The Housing Policy Statement 2011 recognises and refers to “the high and often disproportionate value placed on owner-occupation that has been so detrimental to Ireland’s society and economy”. Yet a lot of the focus by Government in building sustainable communities is to encourage those eligible for social housing to acquire a stake in their home. At a national level it is considered that facilitating low income families to acquire a home can give greater stability for communities, allows for greater tenure mix, and encourages a sense of ownership and personal autonomy.

Under Part 3 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 2009, the Incremental Purchase Scheme has been introduced as a new purchase option to meet the needs of those requiring long term housing support and assist those households with low-incomes to

make a start on the route to home ownership. The main aspects of the scheme are as follows:

- The house is sold at a discounted price and the purchaser becomes the full owner at the time of sale.
- The Incremental Purchase Scheme applies to new build houses and unsold affordable houses but does not include apartments/flats.
- The purchaser is responsible for maintaining the house and ensuring that it is adequately insured to the satisfaction of the Council.
- A reducing charge equal to the amount of discount given is placed on the property. The charge (or the money owed to the Council on re-sale) is reduced by 2% each year, except for the first five. At the end of the 5th year, the charge is reduced by 10% and 2% thereafter until the charge period expires or until nothing is due back to the Council. The length of the charge will depend on the amount of discount given.
- Purchasers may undertake improvement works only with the agreement of the local authority.
- A house bought under this scheme can be re-sold, however the remaining charge (which is the discount given) based on the market value at the time of resale must be paid to the local authority from the proceeds of the sale. Also the local authority has the first option to buy the house.
- The local authority may also refuse to consent to an IPS house being re-sold where it believes the house is being sold below the current market value.

Given the limited level of new build envisaged in the Regeneration Areas it is unlikely that this scheme will significantly influence the extent of home ownership. With limited new housing stock being introduced under the LRFIP, what could be perhaps of more interest to communities within the Regeneration Areas is the intention to introduce legislation (July 2013) to underpin a new scheme for the sale of existing local authority houses to tenants on incremental purchase principles.

The proposed scheme will mean that tenants will have the option of buying the house they currently occupy under the incremental purchase model. However, there is little detail available on this scheme to date. Home ownership within the four regeneration areas is generally comparable with the city-wide figure of 60 percent, but well below the State figure of 69 percent,

with almost 55 percent of the houses in St. Mary’s Park owner occupied, 64 percent in Southill owner occupied and 59 percent in Ballinacurra. The only area where home ownership is substantially below the norm at half the national rate is in Moyross (33%). It is clear from these figures that potential purchase schemes are important within the Regeneration Area, particularly with a view to bringing home ownership in line with the State norm.

Furthermore the Limerick City Development Plan (2010-16) (p.55) states that it hopes to change the tenure structure within the Regeneration Areas from its existing status of 52 percent private ownership and 48 percent rental to 80% private ownership to 20% rental. The 2011 CSO figures² already confirm a positive shift in the tenure ownership figures in the Regeneration Areas as 60 percent of houses are now owned (+8%) and 40 percent of houses are rented (-8%). However it is envisaged that achieving the 80:20 split will be a challenge, particularly having regard to current housing policy and approach influenced by the current economic climate.

Policy at national level (Housing Policy Statement 2011) recognises that approved Housing Bodies are uniquely placed to help overcome vertical segregation in housing. The move from capital funded programmes of construction and acquisition by approved housing bodies to more revenue funded options presents challenges for the sector in light of the termination of the Capital Loan and Subsidy Scheme. However, national policy believes that the use of loan finance (from both commercial lending institutions and the Housing Finance Agency) has the potential to develop a stronger, more sustainably funded voluntary and cooperative housing sector, playing a much more active role in the supply of social housing without reliance on capital funding from the Exchequer. It is also recognised as having the potential to further promote the evolution of mixed tenure communities through the provision of housing for market sale and rent as well as social renting and offers a new path to ownership via sales to tenants under incremental purchase arrangements.

Out of the four Regeneration Areas Moyross is the only area with any significant level of voluntary housing activity with 3 percent of all housing in the area rented from a housing body. The rate of rental in other areas from such bodies is less than 1 percent. This demonstrates the significant potential for voluntary

1 DOEHLG, Delivering Homes: Sustainable Communities, (2007) p. 17
2 Small Area Population Statistics CSO 2011

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housing bodies in these areas. A marked feature of the voluntary housing sector of course is that many associations also offer non-housing services such as group meals, social activities and welfare advice, thereby providing an additional level of support to communities in the Regeneration Areas. Approved housing bodies are at the heart of the Government's vision for housing provision and will therefore form a significant element of regeneration in Limerick and in creating tenure fluid neighbourhoods.

New Housing Supply

The Limerick City Development Plan 2010 - 2016 sets out Limerick City Council's policies for the development of Limerick City to 2016 and beyond including the regeneration areas. The core strategy is set within the CDP and articulates a medium to longer term quantitative based strategy for the spatial development of the regeneration areas ensuring that policies and objectives of the LRFIP and the CDP relating to private housing demand and tenure mix are entirely consistent with national and regional development objectives.

The CDP proposes an additional 9,149 residential units in the city by 2022. Existing undeveloped land in the city (excluding Regeneration Areas) has the potential to accommodate 5,678 units and the CDP states that the regeneration areas have an indicated capacity of 4,400 additional units (133 hectares). The CDP states that "given the compactness of the city it is not possible to prioritise areas other than the regeneration areas" and have committed the provision of 2,000 additional units prior to 2016 with the balance of 2,400 provided in the period after that. The Regeneration Programme is therefore particularly critical to redirecting population growth into Limerick City and to the success of the Gateway overall.

Whilst the Regeneration Areas may have the land capacity to theoretically accommodate the provision of 2,400 new private housing units the practical delivery of such units needs to be questioned. Having regard to the current economic climate, the residential slowdown and a lack of available and necessary stimulus / intervention packages, market conditions do not support the PPP model and it is therefore unlikely that these targets will be reached. This is a serious issue that does need addressing within the CDP

particularly having regard to population decline (-4.5%) in the city in the last inter censal period (2006 – 2011) and the need to fulfill population growth in line with the City's gateway status and implement national and regional policy.

Notwithstanding concerns with practically implementing the core strategy as set out in the CDP, the LRFIP does recognise that it has a role to play in facilitating population increase in the city and does seek to comply with the requirements of the core strategy by putting in place suggested mechanisms to stimulate private development within the Regeneration Areas.

1.7.2 Tenure and Social Mix

The provision of tenure fluid neighbourhoods is a critical component of any regeneration strategy and this is advocated in policy at national and local level³, generally provided through the construction of a mix of house types and sizes. Providing a mix of tenure options is of course only one part of ensuring sustainability in household mix. Social mixing is also required which relates to the interaction between people of different social and tenure backgrounds. Studies have shown that the greatest social interaction between groups takes place around children as children provide the common ground that brings people together⁴. It is thus important to provide for family homes. In fact, a mix of household sizes is equally important to achieve diversity of population, provide choice, and allow people to remain in a community throughout their life cycle. Young people who move out of home may want to rent apartments locally, or buy their first family home or later in life trade down to a smaller unit when their children have grown up.

Whilst tenure and social mixing is advocated at national and local level, recent changes in national housing policy⁵ would suggest a move away from the direct provision of additional local authority housing. Thus, whilst the Regeneration Programme will provide for replacement units there will be little new additional housing provided by the local authority in the Regeneration Areas. It is thus critical that some element of private house building or housing provided by a housing body is encouraged and facilitated as part of the Regeneration Programme with strong policies to

engineer mix and balance.

As acknowledged in the Housing Policy Statement 2011 "a balanced housing sector requires a strong, vibrant and well regulated private rented sector" and this is an element of tenure type that is largely missing within the Regeneration Areas. The threat from this sector of course is that policies facilitating a mix of tenure and social balance could be undermined by private renting.

Therefore new management and partnering arrangements which embrace private renting need to be deployed with private landlords supporting cohesive neighbourhood services and policies.

1.7.3 Current Realities

The main focus in terms of supports provided by Government will be on meeting the most acute housing support needs of those unable to provide for their accommodation from their own resources. Priority will be focused on the improvement of the quality of existing social housing stock through regeneration and improvement works programmes, and the return of vacant stock to effective use⁶. Existing national financial parameters rules out a return to very large capital funded construction programmes by local authorities. A restructuring of the social housing investment programme to allow for the delivery of new social housing through more flexible funding models will provide key sources of delivery in the period ahead. Nationally it has been confirmed that the social housing leasing initiative and, in particular, the Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS), will continue as long-term social housing supports.

Market conditions do not support the Public Private Partnership (PPP) model at present and so there is a greater reliance than ever on the Exchequer to support large scale regeneration projects such as that in Limerick City. Against this background, there is a need for new flexible models to sustain regeneration in the current crisis and in particular to promote investment in these areas. Although times are challenging, standards must be maintained and high quality development that improves the built environment and fosters mixed and balanced communities will continue to be promoted as the core policy objective in the LRFIP

³ Delivering Homes Sustaining Communities 2007; Towards 2016; Policy H.3 Limerick City Development Plan 2010

⁴ Delivering Homes Sustaining Communities 2007

⁵ Housing Policy Statement 2011

⁶ Housing Policy Statement 2011

1.7.4 New Approaches

New approaches to regeneration must be explored as capital funded construction programmes delivered by local authorities present a void. New approaches must be explored to ensure that:

- New housing is delivered in the Regeneration Areas in line with the core strategy as set out in the Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016
- Adequate social and tenure mix is accommodated and delivered within the Regeneration Areas in the absence of the provision of new social housing by the local authority; and
- Those eligible for social housing are encouraged to acquire a stake in their home under the Incremental Purchase Scheme by providing new homes within the Regeneration Areas.

Research³ shows that mixing private tenures (owner-occupied, private rented) with local authority tenanted, voluntary and shared ownership/incremental purchase housing schemes (intermediate housing) reduces the concentration of income poverty and disadvantage and increases the potential for a better social mix. Research also shows that the range of incomes associated with each tenure type outlined above will vary and thus increase the level of income mix within an area.

Creating a mix of tenure types is a central plank of current Government policy towards creating successful neighbourhoods. Furthermore, creating flexible and fluid paths to home-ownership through the various tenure types is promoted by Government. The Housing Policy Statement 2011 states that it will “further promote the evolution of mixed tenure communities through the provision of housing for market sale and rent as well as social renting and will offer a new path to ownership via sales to tenants under incremental purchase arrangements.”

The Incremental Purchase Scheme, at present, allows for social housing applicants and social housing tenants to purchase designated new local authority and approved housing body houses. For the first time, this scheme provides a mechanism for approved housing bodies (i.e. voluntary housing) to offer new houses for sale, thereby improving the potential for a better tenure mix. The new Tenant Purchase of Apartments Scheme, introduced in 2012, also gives local authority apartment tenants an opportunity to purchase their apartments.

It has been well documented in research that mixed neighbourhoods have become broadly successful places where people want to live and work. Improving the mix of tenure types with mechanisms to promote paths to home ownership within each type will assist in area stabilisation by bringing substantial benefits in terms of improved area image, reduced stigmatisation, sustained commercial, community and educational services, balance household mix and increased property values.⁴

Whilst some initiatives can be spear-headed by the local authority as outlined above other initiatives will require holistic consideration at national level.

Temporary Use of Lands / Building

In the current economic climate a flexible approach must be adopted in the use of brownfield and undeveloped areas within the Regeneration Areas and also in the use of vacant units. This flexible approach must be embraced from the outset and translated into relevant land use zoning and policy in the City Development Plan. This flexible approach must also be communicated with the communities to ensure that temporary measures do not become long term expectations. For example large areas of undeveloped land could be utilised for active recreational purposes, for the hosting of community events or for weekly farmers' markets, pending development / redevelopment. The existing Creative Limerick – Connect the Grid Initiative used to promote the city centre and occupy vacant spaces could be extended into the St. Mary's Park / Kings Island Regeneration Area. Similarly existing industrial units could be used for theatre groups or indoor recreational facilities. The underlying ethos is that the uses are temporary pending redevelopment / commercial occupation and as a result flexibility needs to be adopted and built into the overall policy approach.

Promoting the Private Rental Sector

The promotion of the private rental sector within the Regeneration Areas could help to deliver the number of housing units committed under the core strategy in the Limerick City Development Plan 2010 – 2016 and facilitate adequate tenure and social mix. Although such an initiative would not in the first instance contribute to the 80:20 tenure mix within the Regeneration Areas promoted in the Development Plan, it could be a temporary initiative used to facilitate private development and additional housing provision within the Regeneration Area.

A recent initiative in the UK is the ‘Build to Rent Fund’ which was launched to stimulate new private rented housing supply and to provide opportunities for new institutional investment in the sector. The fund is a fully recoverable, commercial investment where Government will share risk or bridge finance to allow schemes to be built, managed and let. The investment could be used to cover development costs such as land, construction or management costs. Once the scheme is fully let the developer will sell on its interest or re-finance and repay the loan/equity.

Maximising Existing Government Investment

With Government spending likely to be severely constrained for the foreseeable future, there is an onus on all public bodies and agencies to maximise the benefit of future investment particularly in the area of education, health services, recreation and social services. There are many multi-million euro public building programmes that could have much greater regenerative impacts within communities than they do now.

Schools offer particular advantages as ‘regenerators’, not only as educational providers but also as critical catalysts in facilitating social mixing and community interaction. The Department of Education & Skills recently undertook a pilot project in Limerick which sought to evaluate existing primary and post primary facilities in the city and to identify existing and new sites for expansion / development in the city. Such a project could offer a life-line to some of the Regeneration Areas through the provision of strategically located and clustered schools particularly in St. Mary's Park and Southill. Effectively, the Building Schools Programme for Limerick could act as a catalyst and focal point for regeneration within the city. Furthermore, the co-location of several community facilities, including schools, offers particular opportunities for creating added value.

De-Risking Investment

In order to encourage any level of private sector regeneration, greater emphasis must be placed on ‘de-risking’ potential regeneration projects by dealing with major factors that may be in the control of the local authority. The process could go even further in creating ‘oven ready’ sites for private development which could include cleaning up contaminated land and supplying the land with basic services. Site assembly is an integral part of most regeneration schemes, whether for securing site access or achieving

3 Allen, C, Camina, M, Casey, R, Coward, C and Wood, M (2005) Mixed Tenure, Twenty Years On: Nothing Out of the Ordinary. York: Joseph Rowntree Foundation
4 Tunstall, R, and Fenton, A (2006) In the mix: A review of mixed income, mixed tenure and mixed communities: what do we know? Housing Corporation, Joseph Rowntree Foundation, English Partnerships

1. Implementation & Delivery

critical mass. It often involves significant time, cost and associated risk, particularly where ownership is heavily fragmented. The use of compulsory purchase orders (CPOs) can sometimes be the only way to assemble sites that may hold the key to the regeneration of an area. Active use of these powers will be required if private investment is to be encouraged / facilitated within the Regeneration Areas.

Joint ventures between the public and the private sector are going to become increasingly important as a means of achieving a better spread of risk/reward. An efficient and effective means of drawing on the skills, experience and resources of each investor and sharing risk, joint ventures can take many different forms. At one end of the spectrum, local authorities can contribute their land at little or no cost, and then share in the longer term upside as the development is delivered and land values recover. At the other end, there are good resource-led examples. Where land is transferred into a joint venture, the developer manages the planning process and develops a number of the consented sites, with the remaining consented sites sold on to other parties. In the current economic climate, local authorities and developers should be looking at all such options for maintaining development pipelines, and using publicly owned assets, covenants and balance sheets to leverage in additional private sector funding and investment for regeneration.

Tax Increment Financing

Funding the infrastructure needed to support major regeneration projects has been a longstanding concern, but is even more of a hurdle in the current economic climate. With the recent introduction of the Local Property Tax in Ireland, it is considered that an American model for funding regeneration, tax increment financing, could help finance infrastructure projects in the Regeneration Areas. This model is currently being piloted by the Scottish Government. The overarching goal of Tax Increment Financing (TIF) is to support and guide the increasingly limited public finances available for assisting regeneration and helping to lever in additional private sector capital. TIF works on the principle that the supply of new or improved infrastructure usually leads both to new development and to an increase in the value of surrounding property, both of which serve to increase the level of property taxation in the area. Within a

designated TIF district, this anticipated increased taxation (the 'tax increment') is captured and used to fund the infrastructure that has been provided. Increased tax revenues are used to finance the debt issued to pay for the project over a defined period of time. The key criteria for allowing the creation of a TIF are that it supports a project that promotes regeneration and that the project would be unviable without the use of TIF. For local authorities, the advantage of TIF is that it can raise money for redevelopment without having to deplete general revenues and they will enjoy higher property tax revenues when the bonds are retired. Developers see it as a way for the local authority to make a commitment to redevelopment through public improvements or through write down of the cost of land. Private investors have a tax exempt bond that generates tax free returns, while residents and homeowners may see it as a way of funding redevelopment from taxes collected. Furthermore, property owners in the district may see their property values rise after the development occurs. The TIF scheme has the ability to create jobs, to generate private housing and provide better public spaces and services. A pilot TIF scheme could be initiated through Limerick Regeneration.

JESSICA Funding

JESSICA, which stands for the 'Joint European Support for Sustainable Investment in City Areas', is an urban development initiative set up by the European Commission in conjunction with the European Investment Bank (EIB) to support investment in urban regeneration with particular emphasis on an integrated and project-focused approach. JESSICA is designed to facilitate better alignment of European Regional Development Funds (ERDF) and private funds to maximise the effective delivery of structural programmes. There is no new or additional money available but it allows utilisation of EU grant funding to be invested in a regeneration delivery partnership known as an Urban Development Fund (UDF). In establishing the urban development funds, the JESSICA funding can be used as equity, loans and/or guarantees, and must be supplemented by matched funding, which can be contributed by way of cash or land assets. This fund would be managed on a commercial basis with the intention of generating returns to all investors, including the ERDF, allowing the monies to be recycled into further projects in the future. Whilst there are always regeneration projects

that will only be viable if supported by grant finance, the 'evergreen' nature of this investment is a highly efficient means of investing in enabling regeneration infrastructure in a sustainable manner. A scoping study should be undertaken to ascertain the feasibility of using the JESSICA instrument in Ireland to fund regeneration programmes within the context of existing regulatory constraints such as planning structures and funding.

1.8 Delivering the LRFIP through the Planning Process

This Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan formulates a revised plan for the four regeneration areas in Limerick. It is proposed that the LRFIP will be placed on public display for adoption by the elected members of Limerick City Council.

Once the LRFIP has been adopted, the agreed key planning and development objectives of the LRFIP will then be incorporated as part of the development plan process.

Ecological studies have been carried out to shape the Implementation Strategy. An Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening in line with the Habitats Directive has been prepared as has a Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening on the Implementation Strategy. This is outlined further within the appendices.

A programme through the planning process is highlighted in the table and key steps adjacent.

Timeframe to Adopt the LRFIP as a Policy Document of Limerick City Council

Framework Implementation Plans: Project Programme		June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan. 2014	Feb. 2014
Stage 1	Fip Review And Endorsement									
a	First Draft of Framework Implementation Plans for DECLG & LCC Departmental review									
b	Issued to DECLG & LCC Departmental review (6 June 2013)									
c	Review and amend final document in light of comments									
d	Resend in light of comments received for final endorsement									
e	Endorsement by DECLG & LCC									
f	Preparation of document for launch									
g	Preparation of document for public consultation									
h	Agreement at Council meeting for LRFIP to go on public display									
Stage 2	Process For Adoption Of LRFIP By Elected Members Non Statutory Timeframe		Council meetings suspended for July/August							
a	Initiation of Public Consultation Period									
b	Preparation of Manager's Report on submissions/ observations received Present Manager's Report to elected members Pre-briefing presentation on Manager's report to elected members									
c	For final adoption at Council meeting by elected members end of November 2013.									

1. Implementation & Delivery

1.8.1 Key Steps

The key steps outlined adjacent to adopt the LRFIP as a statutory document will provide certainty that key projects (physical, social and economic) will materialise.

Throughout the process to formal adoption of the LRFIP, the Office of Regeneration will maintain momentum by consulting with key stakeholders and the communities on taking forward early intervention projects (social, physical and economic).

Further Opportunity to Have Your Say on the Limerick Regeneration Framework Plan

Two methods will be used to notify the communities at this key stage:

- Local Press Advertisement: Inviting submissions and observations by a certain date and details of where the plan can be publically viewed
- Publicity Leaflet: An information leaflet will be distributed to all households in the four regeneration areas.

MARCH/APRIL 2013
PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS ON PROPOSALS FOR REDEVELOPMENT



APRIL TO JULY 2013
PROPOSALS FOR REDEVELOPMENT AMENDED TO REFLECT COMMUNITY FEEDBACK



SEPTEMBER 2013
PUBLIC LAUNCH OF LIMERICK REGENERATION FRAMEWORK IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (LRFIP)



SEPTEMBER TO OCTOBER 2013
OBSERVATIONS AND SUBMISSIONS INVITED BY THE GENERAL PUBLIC TO ADOPT THE LRFIP AS A PLAN



Appendices

Appendices

1. Baseline Conditions and Analysis
2. Statement of Community Involvement
3. Core Strategy Compliance
4. Crime Prevention through Design Statement
5. History of Social Housing in Limerick
6. Existing Services Infrastructure
7. Existing Situation
8. Cost and Cash Flow Information



Appendix 1: Baseline Conditions and Analysis

1.1 Overview of the Socio-Economic Context

Limerick City, the fourth largest city in the State, has a population of 57,106 persons.¹ The statutorily defined regeneration areas occupy almost 3% of the land area of Limerick City² and accommodate 11% of the total population of the city. The Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan (LRFIP) aims to eliminate the poor physical and, in particular, housing conditions currently prevalent in many parts of the regeneration areas. However, a suite of social and economic interventions is also needed to address the deeply embedded socio-economic problems of the areas. Such interventions will continue to be required long after the completion of physical regeneration.

1.1.1 Objectives and Approach

The specific objectives of this chapter are to:

- Present baseline data on the socio-economic conditions of the regeneration areas in the wider context of the city, the city and suburbs/city metropolitan area;
- Present a framework which will support the on-going statistical analysis of the physical, economic and social regeneration interventions;
- Contextualise the data obtained from the Census of Population (CSO) by comparisons with the characteristics of the wider Irish population and the wider population in Limerick City.

This chapter seeks to establish an appropriate range of performance indicators against which the impact of the physical, economic and social regeneration measures can be assessed. Comparison of the indicators has been carried out, where possible and relevant, against county, regional and national, comparators and also with other cities / urban areas in the State.

1.1.2 Approach

Data are drawn from analysis of the census data, official statistics, Limerick City Council housing databases and other sources including recent research on social / socio-economic conditions in the city, with a specific emphasis on the city's regeneration areas.

A detailed analysis of data within the regeneration areas was undertaken at two levels including Electoral Division (ED) and Small Area Population Statistics (SAPS) – the latter being the lowest spatial level of data aggregation. Analysis at ED level permitted consideration of indicators across a slightly wider area

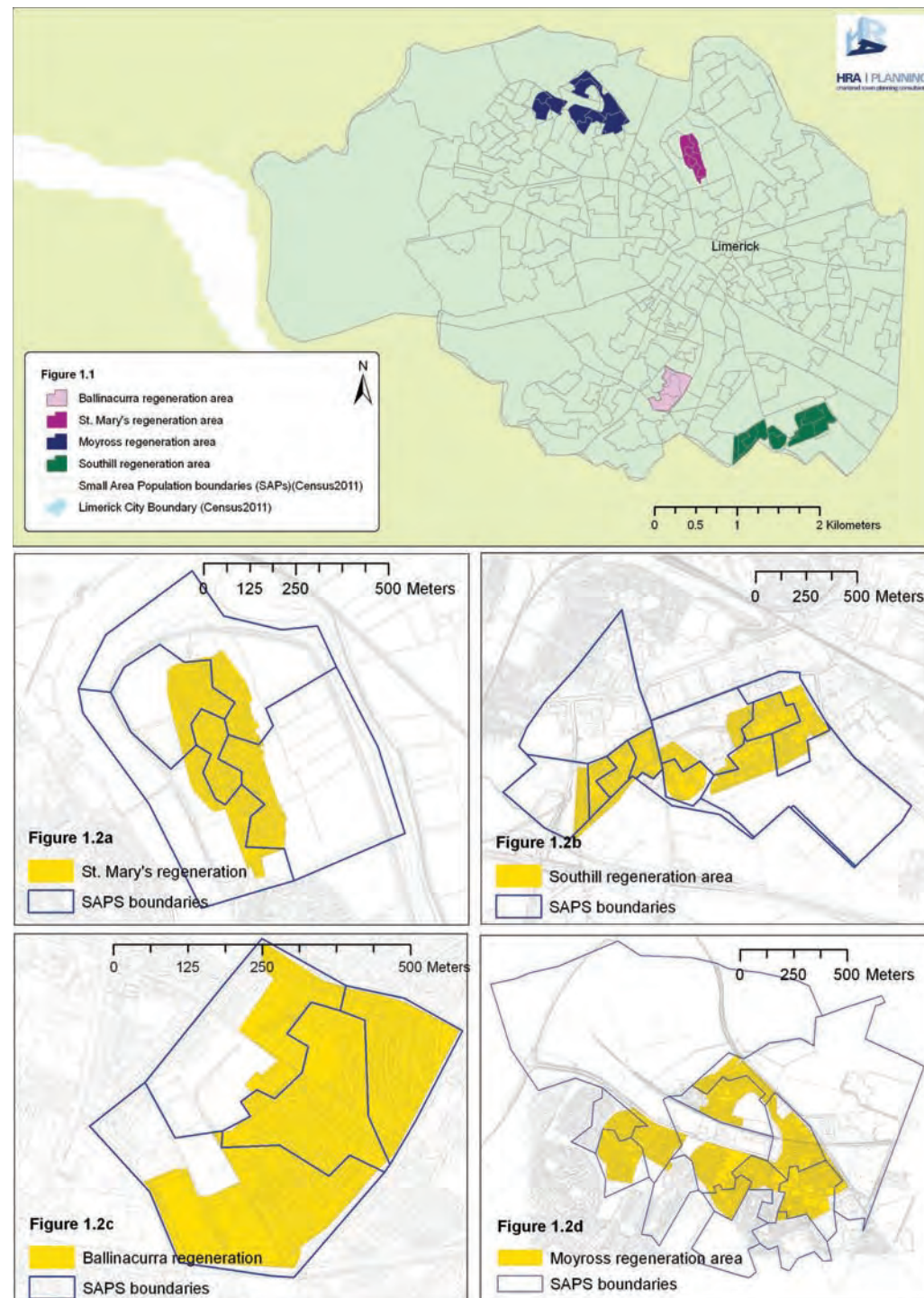


Figure 1.1: Defined Regeneration Areas in the Context of SAPs Boundaries

¹ This relates to the administrative area of Limerick City. In other parts of this analysis, different units of territory are used where relevant, namely Limerick City and suburbs / Limerick metropolitan area.

² Limerick City is defined as per the area (28.4sqkm) provided in the Census of Population 2011.

Appendix 1: Baseline Conditions and Analysis

(outside / adjacent to the regeneration areas) and allowed an analysis of trends over time. Analysis at SAPS level was undertaken to provide clear indicators within the defined regeneration areas themselves, presenting specific baseline data on the socio-economic conditions of the regeneration areas, which can be utilised to inform monitoring over time.

Consolidating Data from the SAPS

Whilst the legal boundaries for the regeneration areas were established in 2007 and then amended in 2008, the boundaries for the purpose of the SAPS analysis encompass the immediate housing areas only within the defined regeneration areas as detailed in Figure 1.1.

Whilst the regeneration area boundaries of Southill and St. Mary’s Park & King’s Island generally correlate with the boundaries defined for the SAPS, the regeneration boundaries of Moyross and Ballinacurra Weston do not. Figure 1.1 provides a spatial representation of the regeneration areas in the context of the CSO SAPS boundaries.

Southill encompasses eleven SAPS in total and whilst some SAPS boundaries extend beyond the regeneration boundary, they encompass only industrial, commercial and agricultural area. Therefore for the purposes of this analysis the nine SAPS areas were considered in their totality. The St. Mary’s Park & King’s Island area encompasses five SAPS in total with some SAPS boundaries extending into the river and across undeveloped land. Thus the five SAPS areas were considered in their totality for the purpose of this analysis and therefore the data presented for these two regeneration areas is reflective of the CSO data and representative of the situation within the regeneration area.

The other two regeneration areas of Ballinacurra Weston and Moyross are complicated due to the fact that some of the SAPS areas fall within the study boundary and some, comprising substantial housing, are located outside of the regeneration areas. Therefore inclusion of the entire SAPS areas including those houses located outside of the regeneration boundary has the potential to substantially distort the results for the specific regeneration area under consideration. For example, in the case of Ballinacurra Weston, it covers four SAPS areas. Two of the SAPS are wholly located within the regeneration area with the other two straddling the boundary to the effect that 84 houses within the SAPS lie outside of the regeneration area including houses fronting onto Rosbrien Road and Prospect Hill and houses in Punches Close. In the case of Moyross, the thirteen SAPS areas include one SAPS with 39 houses located outside the regeneration area at Monabraher Road and Clonconnane Road and one large SAPS area that only has 6 houses at the top of Moylish avenue (out of a total of 102 houses.) which fall within the regeneration area.

The inclusion of houses located outside of the regeneration areas has the potential to significantly distort data. Therefore, having regard to the SAPS for each area, the number of houses located outside of the regeneration area boundary was calculated as a percentage of the total number of houses/people within that SAPS and deducted from the total SAPS figures appropriately.

1.1.3 Format

An analysis of the existing situation in terms of deprivation based on the revised Haase Pratschke Deprivation Index for 2006 and 2011³, constructed

from census variables, is presented with reference to the national context, the situation of the five cities in the State and spatial deprivation in the local Limerick context. Thereafter an analysis of the variables are undertaken at ED level and then at SAPs level where appropriate.

1.2 Deprivation Index and Change 2006-2011

The HP Deprivation Index⁴ is constructed from census variables based on the unit of Small Areas (the most disaggregated spatial unit comprising 18,488 Small Areas in the State). The index is constructed based on three dimensions of affluence / deprivation, namely: Demographic Profile, Social Class Composition and Labour Market Situation utilising a range of census variables.

Table 1.1 presents the HP Absolute Deprivation Scores and HP Relative Deprivation Scores for 2006 and 2011 and change in the scores in this period.

	Limerick City	Dublin City	Cork City	Galway City	Waterford City	State
HP Absolute Deprivation Score 2006	-7.42	-1.11	-4.08	3.02	-5.69	-0.23
HP Absolute Deprivation Score 2011	-13.66	-4.86	-8.98	-1.9	-11.5	-6.78
Change in Absolute HP Deprivation Score 2006-2011	-6.24	-3.75	-4.9	-4.92	-5.8	-6.55
HP Relative Deprivation Score 2006	-7.42	-1.11	-4.08	3.02	-5.69	-0.23
HP Relative Deprivation Score 2011	-6.66	2.22	-1.9	5.09	-4.51	0.24
Change in Relative HP Deprivation Score 2006-2011	0.76	3.32	2.18	2.07	1.18	0.47

Table 1.1 : Absolute and Relative HP Index Scores³

³ Scores range from -40 (extreme disadvantage) to +40 (extreme affluence). The explanation of the various categories of the scores are as follows: above +30, extremely affluent; 20 to 30 very affluent; 10 to 20 affluent; 0 to 10 marginally above average; 0 to -10 marginally below average; -10 to -20 disadvantaged; -20 to -30 very disadvantaged; below -30 extremely disadvantaged.
⁴ The HP Deprivation Index was constructed based on a lower level of disaggregation, namely Small Areas and is aggregated up to higher level spatial units of analysis such as EDs, city etc. The most disaggregated level of analysis (SAs) is likely to show some variation from this pattern – for instance, picking up on smaller pockets of relative affluence and deprivation in the city.

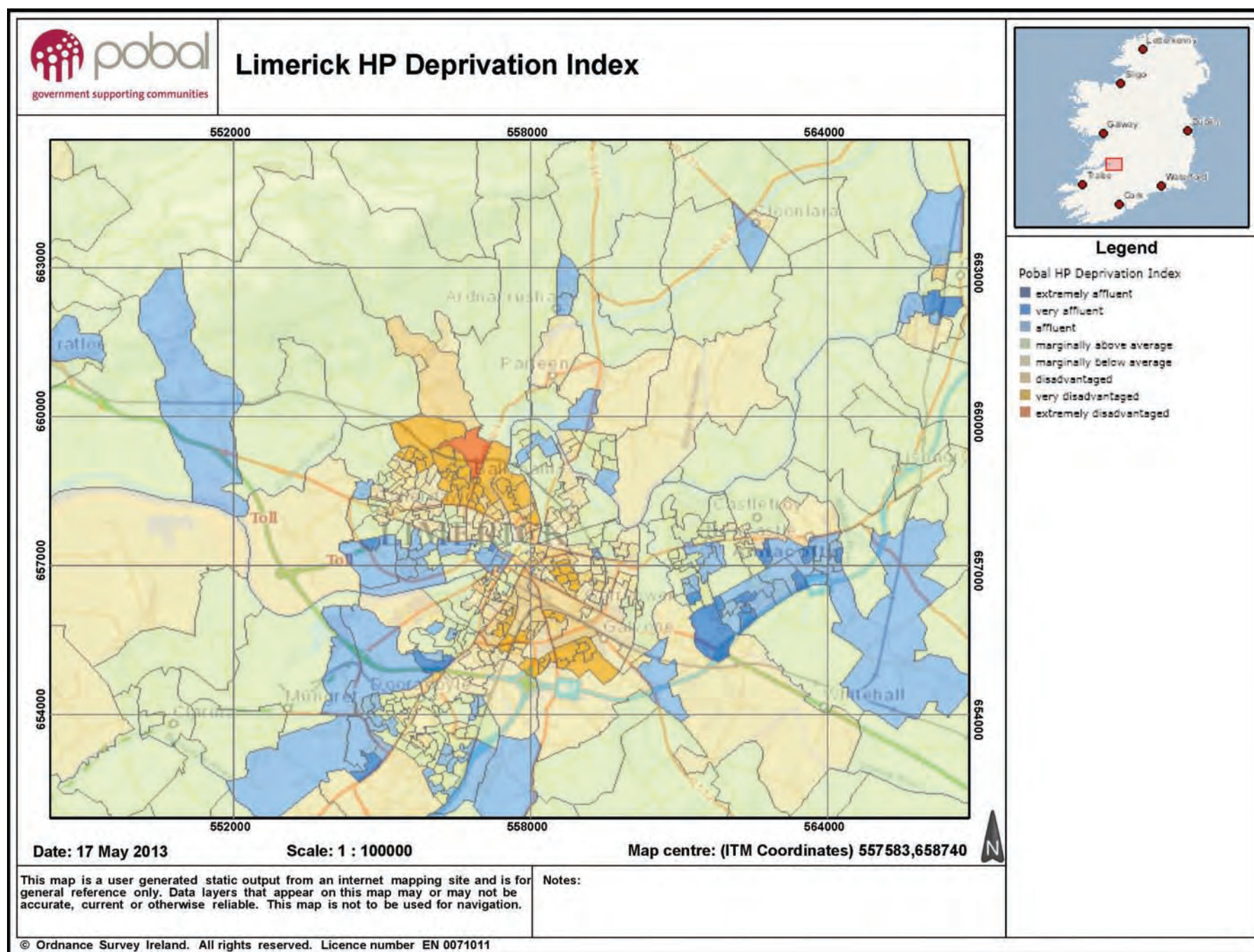


Figure 1.2: Pobal HP Relative Affluence / Deprivation Index Map: Limerick

Appendix 1: Baseline Conditions and Analysis

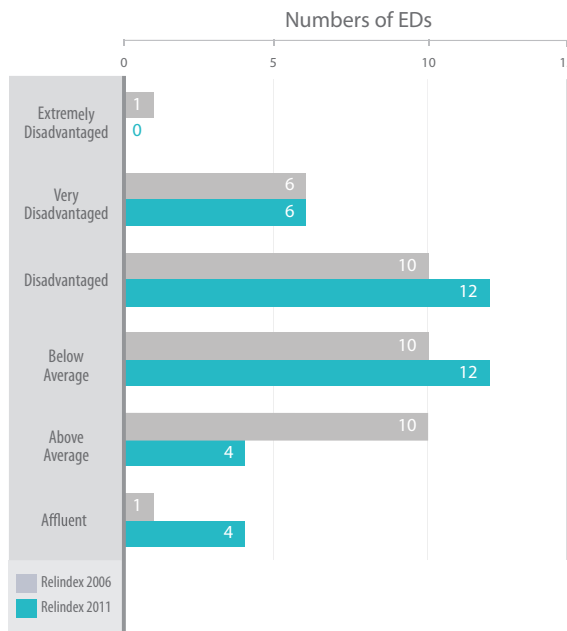


Figure 1.3 : Absolute and Relative HP Index Scores

Focusing on the Absolute Deprivation Scores in the State as a whole (based on all the Small Areas), these shifted negatively by just under 7 points (-6.55) indicating that the sharp economic downturn has negatively affected all areas of the country.

Comparing relative change - the HP Relative Index Scores - between 2006 and 2011, the analysis highlights the continued importance of the main urban centres to the distribution of relative affluence. In terms of the differential impact of the economic downturn, the analysis showed that “the previous growth belts, particularly those located at the outer periphery of the Greater Dublin Region have seen their fortunes most strongly reversed, whilst the five city areas have withstood the economic downturn comparatively well” (Haase and Pratschke 2012). For instance, while the Absolute HP Index Score for Ireland as a whole declined by 6.55 points, the Absolute Index Scores for the five cities were all less than this. Dublin City fared the best (declining by 3.8 points) followed by Cork City (- 4.1 points), Galway City (-4.9), Waterford City (-5.8 points) and Limerick City (-6.2 points). However, in the baseline year (2006), Limerick City was, and in 2011 remains, more disadvantaged based on the absolute and relative deprivation scales than

the other cities.

Figure 1.3 shows the change in the relative position of areas in the city (i.e., the position relative to all other areas in the State) in 2006 and 2011 based on the spatial unit of the 38 Electoral Divisions.⁴ The analysis of change in the HP Relative Deprivation Scores between 2006 and 2011 shows some movement towards the centre of the distribution with more of the EDs falling into the categories “just below the average” and “disadvantaged” in 2011 compared with 2006. There are fewer EDs “above average” and “affluent” combined in 2011 and more falling into the category “affluent” compared with 2006. At the other end of the spectrum, none of the EDs fall into the “extremely disadvantaged” category in 2011.

However, the number of EDs falling in the “very disadvantaged”, “disadvantaged” and “below average” categories have increased compared to the situation in 2006.

1.3 Population and Population Change

The population of Limerick City and suburbs, 2011, is just under 91,454, the city 57,106 and the county, 134,703. The age structure of the population for these different spatial units is shown in Table 1.2 below. The city has a slightly older age structure than the city and suburbs along with Limerick County. For instance, 21% of the population of the county and 19% of the population of city and suburbs is aged under 15 years compared with 18% in this age group in the city. Almost 30% of the population of the city is aged 50

	Limerick City & Suburbs		Limerick City		Limerick County	
Age Group	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
0-4 years	6547	7.2	3719	6.5	10475	7.8
5-14 years	10630	11.6	6512	11.4	18358	13.6
25-49 years	35183	38.5	20959	36.7	49400	36.7
50-64 years	13519	14.8	9338	16.4	22683	16.8
65-79 years	7853	8.6	5865	10.3	12128	9.0
80 years+	2226	2.4	1656	2.9	3664	2.7
Total	91454	100.0	57106	100.0	134703	100.0

Table 1.2 : Population by Age Groups: Limerick City & Suburbs, Limerick City and Limerick County, 2011
Source: CSO Census of Ireland 2011, Small Area Population Statistics

⁴ The HP Deprivation Index was constructed based on a lower level of disaggregation, namely Small Areas and is aggregated up to higher level spatial units of analysis such as EDs, city etc. The most disaggregated level of analysis (SAs) is likely to show some variation from this pattern – for instance, picking up on smaller pockets of relative affluence and deprivation in the city.

years and over, compared with 29% in the county and 27% in the city and suburbs, while over 13% in the city, 12% in the county and 11% in the city and suburbs are in the older age groups, 65 years and over.

Limerick is the third of the five cities in the State (after Dublin and Cork) in terms of population size of the city and suburbs. However, its population has grown only marginally (less than 1%) compared with the other cities in the State especially, Dublin (+6.2%) and Galway (+5.6%). See Table 1.3.

City	Pop. 2006	Pop. 2011	Change 2006-2011
	Number	Number	%
Limerick City & Suburbs	90757	91454	0.8
Dublin City & Suburbs	1045769	1110627	6.2
Cork City & Suburbs	190384	198582	4.3
Galway City & Suburbs	72729	76778	5.6
Waterford City & Suburbs	49213	51519	4.7

Table 1.3: Population Size and Change 2006-2011, Five Cities and Suburbs in the State
Source: CSO Census of Ireland 2011, Small Area Population Statistics

The trend in population change in Limerick City (not including the suburbs) since the mid-1990s has been one of population loss. The population of the city decreased by almost 4.5% in the preceding five year period and nationally this decline was the most significant amongst the five major urban centres⁵. Cork was the only other city to experience a decline in population of just -0.2% between 2006 and 2011. Whilst the decline in population places Limerick City fourth among the country's five major urban centres, the population in the county grew significantly at 8.4%, which was above the national average of 8.2% - see Figure 1.3.

Over the 30 year period 1981-2011, the population of the city declined (-13.4%) while there was a substantial increase in population in Limerick County (+40%) and the state (+33 %).

Currently Limerick City dominates the settlement system of the Mid-West region with a population over

eleven times that of the next largest urban centre, Ennis⁶. The region in fact is relatively rural in character, with 54% of its population living in rural areas compared to just 38% for the State as a whole. Limerick City accounts for just over 15% of the region's population a figure that has been decreasing since 2002 when it accounted for just under 16% of the total population, of the region. Whilst the dominance of the city in the region may be falling, population density in the region increased from 44 people per km2 (2006) to 46 people per km2 (2011), but yet remains markedly lower than the national average of 67 people per km2 (2011).

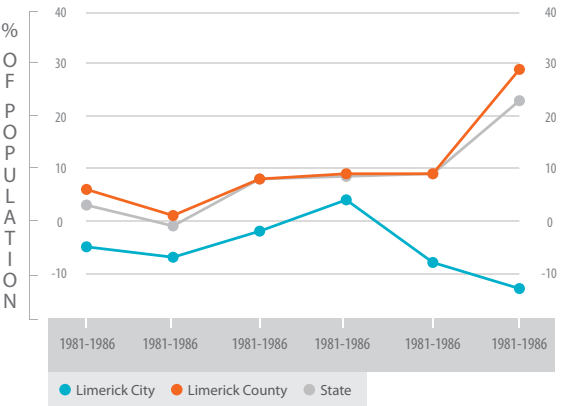


Figure 1.4: Percentage Population Change 1981-2011
Source: CSO Census of Ireland 1981-2011, Small Area Population Statistics

1.3.1 Population & Age Structure

Limerick City and the metropolitan area⁷ has a high proportion (17%) of the population aged between 15 and 24 years, well above the national average of 13%, pointing to a growing workforce over the next ten years. The average age of the person living in the city has grown from the national average of 35.6 years in 1996 to an average age of 37 years in 2011.

This trend carries forward into the regeneration areas with just over 16% of the total population in the four regeneration areas aged between 15 and 24 years. Examining the population structure and dependency ratios of the four regeneration housing areas at the level of the SAPs, Moyross has the highest percentage of the population (18%) in the 15 to 24 years age group,

followed by Ballinacurra (16%) and Southill and St. Mary's Park at 15%. This demonstrates the significant potential to direct a large proportion of the population into gainful employment over the next ten years.

The Youth Dependency rate in the city and the metropolitan area is broadly similar at 26% and 27% respectively and are well below the regional rate of 30.2% and the national rate of 32%. In contrast the regeneration areas have a higher than average Youth Dependency rate (St. Mary's Park 39%; Southill 35%; Moyross 39%) with the exception of Ballinacurra Weston which has a rate of 29%. However the Elderly Dependency rate is somewhat different and is particularly varied across the regeneration areas. Whilst the Elderly Dependency rate in Southill and Ballinacurra Weston (18%) is slightly below that for the city (19%) it is only slightly above the national figure of 17%. In contrast St. Mary's Park has a high Elderly Dependency rate of 21% and when examined in conjunction with the Youth Dependency ratio, the overall dependency ratio in that regeneration area is highest overall at 60%. Moyross, in contrast to the other three regeneration areas and in marked contrast to the city and national rates, has an extremely low Elderly Dependency ratio of only 8.4%. This rate is even lower than the metropolitan area rate of 15% and clearly demonstrates the presence of a strong working age population.

It should be noted that certain areas adjacent to the regeneration areas have both significant proportions of children under 15 years and adults 65 years and over (e.g., Killeely A with 22% under 15 years and 13% over 65 years; Singland A, covering parts of Garryowen with 21% under 15 years and 14% over 65 years; Galvone A, Kennedy Park and Old Cork Road with 20% under 15 years and 14% over 65 years). Other adjacent areas have an older population structure including parts of Garryowen (Abbey D, 20% over 65 years), Hyde Avenue / Hyde Road / Carey's Road (Glentworth B, 18% over 65 years) and Lee Estate / Assumpta Park (St. John's B) – see table at the end of this appendix for details.

This analysis of population structure, however, must take into account that the populations of the regeneration areas have declined significantly over the years. Some of these areas are now relatively small in terms of absolute numbers of population.

Data on actual population change in the regeneration areas of the city over the most recent census period

⁵ Dublin, Cork, Limerick, Galway, Waterford.
⁶ Ennis urban area has a population of 4,965 in 2011.
⁷ Refers to Limerick City and suburbs.

Appendix 1: Baseline Conditions and Analysis

(2006-2011) and the 30 year period (1981- 2011) are presented below. This analysis is based on ED level data.

The decline in population on the local authority estates in Limerick is a long-term trend. Population loss from the local authority estates is explained by various factors including incentives provided in housing and regeneration policy at different stages to encourage residents to leave, the growth in private rental accommodation and state assistance for private rental to those in housing need, and residents deciding to move from the estates, enabled by the greater opportunities for mobility from the estates during the economic boom.

The population of Limerick North Rural (which includes part of Moyross namely, Craeval, Pineview and Delmege) is the only ED where the population increased over the 30 year period. However, this area includes the middle class suburb of Caherdavin as well as part of the Moyross estate. The large population loss from the regeneration areas in the period 2006-2011 (e.g., almost 50% in the case of Galvone B, O’Malley / Keyes Park) is linked to the regeneration process, in particular, the local authority policy on housing demolition and re-locations but also an on-going pattern of residents choosing to leave when there were opportunities to do so (see table 1.5). The percentage population change for the regeneration areas and for Limerick City, Limerick County and the State as a whole over the period 1981-2011 is shown in Figure 1.5. The largest drop in population (%) was in O’Malley Park / Keyes Park which has lost almost 70% of its population over this 30 year period.

Age Group	St. Mary’s Park	Southill	Ballinacurra Weston	Moyross
Under 15	212	573	110	622
15 – 24 years	130	372	88	419
25 – 64 years	408	1213	293	1193
65+ years	113	283	70	137

Table 1.2: Age Structure in Regeneration Areas at Small Area Population Statistics (SAPS) level

Electoral Division (Area)	1981	2006	2011	Change 2011-2006	Change 2011-1981
	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
John’s A (St. Mary’s Park)	1823	1211	874	-337	-949
Ballynanty ED (pt. Moyross / Ballynanty)	5814	3468	2916	-552	-2898
Limerick North Rural (pt. Moyross, Caherdavin)	4857	7251	6454	-797	1597
Rathbane (Carew & Kincora)	3704	1702	1566	-136	-2138
Galvone B (O’Malley, Keyes)	2895	1574	883	-691	-2012
Prospect B (pt. Ballincurra Weston)	1429	1026	748	-278	-681

Table 1.5: Actual Population Change in Limerick Regeneration Areas (EDs with Closest Boundaries to Regeneration Areas) 1981-2011



Appendix 1: Baseline Conditions and Analysis

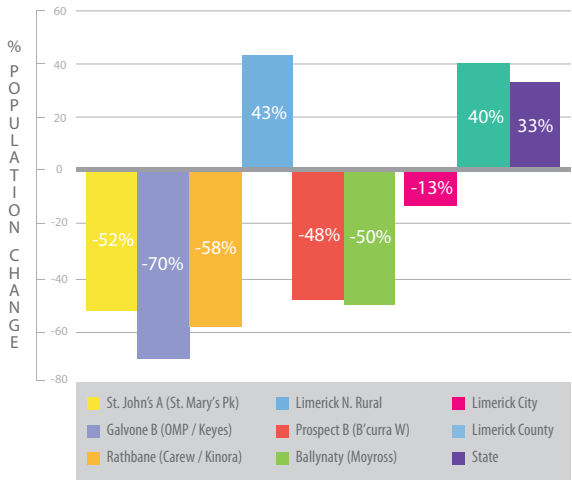


Figure 1.5: Percentage Population Change 1981-2011: Limerick Regeneration Area Electoral Divisions (EDs), Limerick City, Limerick County and the State
Source: CSO Census of Ireland, 1981-2011

1.3.2 Population Projection

Using the latest population projections, produced by Eurostat and based on the 2011 Census data, it is possible to obtain a broad indication of the level of change anticipated in Ireland's population in each cohort to the year 2020. The age profile of the population is as important as the total population size in considering policy.

Ireland is experiencing an ageing population, with the 70-74 age bracket set to increase by more than 40% by 2020. An ageing population is one with an increasing average age, where the proportion of older people is increasing and the proportion of younger people is decreasing. Like the majority of other EU countries, Ireland's population is ageing as a result of an increasing life expectancy.

Similarly, the 0-19 age bracket is set to increase by 10% by 2020. Current Youth Dependency rates within the regeneration areas suggest that this age cohort is above national average rates. The trends has both current and future implications for providing support and suitable housing that meet the needs of older people and dependants in Limerick City and within the regeneration areas. A key objective for the regeneration programme is to understand and

Cumulative Figures for Each Age Cohort for Ireland		CSO Data 2011	Eurostat Data % Increase from 2011-2020 based on Eurostat Percentage Projection		
	Age Group	2011	2015	2020	% Increase/Decrease
	0-19	1262609	1331452	1397083	10%
	20-24	297231	228482	273082	-8%
	25-29	361122	273867	246059	-32%
	30-34	393945	391803	285241	-27%
	35-39	364261	363881	389125	7%
	40-44	330812	337156	358581	8%
	45-49	305185	305889	332474	9%
Entering Old Age	50-54	274386	290499	301638	10%
	55-59	244522	258640	285516	16%
	60-64	218786	230156	252010	15%
Transitional Old Age	65-69	173638	201061	220553	27%
	70-74	131190	147543	186829	42%
	75-79	102036	107973	129637	27%
	80-84	70113	72996	83956	19%
Frailty	85 years and over	58416	64092	72818	24

Table 1.6: Population Projections for Ireland

respond to the needs of the existing population and plan appropriately.

1.3.3 Population Diversity

Linked to population change and movement is the issue of diversity and heterogeneity of population in the urban realm, which is expressed in terms of attributes such as nationality and ethnicity. In terms of ethnicity there is a high percentage (13%) of non-Irish persons living in Limerick City comprising Black / Asian or White Non-Irish and this demonstrates that perhaps the population in the city is quite transient. This is somewhat higher than the percentage within the State at 12.4% and well above the 9.6% of the county.

These figures are, however, in marked contrast to the regeneration areas where the dominant population is of Irish origin. Ballinacurra Weston was the only area

to demonstrate any level of population diversity, with 3.5% of the population of non-Irish descent followed by Moyross at 2%. Whilst Southill comprises primarily an Irish population (98.5%) it has the largest Traveller population of all of the regeneration areas (2.8%) followed by Moyross (1%). This demonstrates the 'closed nature' of the population type in the regeneration areas in contrast to the structure of the wider metropolitan area where non-Irish residents account for over 15% of the total population.

1.4 Economic Structure and Change

1.4.1 Employment Rates

Whilst the number of people at work is one measure of the participation of an area’s labour supply in economic activity, it does not capture those individuals who are unemployed, or not in the labour force (e.g. students and retired persons), but who may actually be working on a part-time or occasional basis. Thus, in-depth analyses of labour market performance need to go beyond simple measures of economic activity such as the activity or employment rates.

In terms of industrial structure, Limerick is an old industrial city. Manufacturing has been an important part of the economic structure of the city over a long period of time. The local economy experienced a process of restructuring out of old industrial sectors such as textiles, food and beverages and footwear, from the 1970s, into new sectors in manufacturing appliances, engineering and computing. This was linked to successes in attracting foreign direct investment in the 1970s, 1980s and 1990s. The city now has a mixed economic base including a substantial proportion of employment in public and private services (e.g., wholesale and retail, hotels and restaurants, real estate and business services).

With the on-set of the economic recession, the Mid-West region and Limerick have been particularly exposed to economic shocks primarily due to their above average reliance on low-skilled employment in manufacturing and construction. This stood at 28%⁸ of total employment in 2006. In 2011, the proportion of the Mid-West workforce employed in vulnerable sectors (manufacturing and construction) totalled 19% which is above the national average of 16%. The city, in contrast to the region, has an employment structure more similar to the State. In 2011, only 16% of employment in the city was in vulnerable sectors compared to 28% at regional level and 16% nationally.

Table 1.7 shows that in Limerick City and suburbs, wholesale / retail (17%) is now (2011 data) the most important industrial group in terms of the numbers of people in employment, followed by manufacturing (13%), education (11%) and health and social work (10%). From a comparative perspective across the five cities in the State, Limerick, Cork and Galway cities and suburbs have roughly the same proportion in manufacturing employment. Waterford City and suburbs has a higher proportion (17%) and Dublin city

Broad Industrial Group	Limerick	Dublin	Cork	Galway	Waterford
	%	%	%	%	%
Agric / Mining	0.5	0.2	0.5	0.7	0.5
Manufacturing	13.0	6.0	13.7	13.2	16.9
Electricity / Gas / Water Supply	0.9	1.1	1.2	0.7	0.7
Construction	3.4	3.3	4.0	2.9	3.1
Wholesale / Retail	16.7	13.4	15.5	13.3	16.5
Accommodation / Food / Entertainment	7.8	5.5	6.4	9.8	7.0
Transport & Communications	8.3	11.7	8.4	7.7	7.7
Financial Services & Insurance	3.3	9.1	3.4	3.8	3.3
Real Estate & Professional Business Services	9.8	12.4	10.3	8.6	8.1
Public Admin & Defence	5.0	6.4	5.2	4.6	4.4
Education	10.7	9.1	9.6	11.0	8.9
Health & Social Work	10.4	11.1	11.9	12.3	11.9
Other Services / Activities	4.1	4.5	4.0	4.0	3.8
Not Stated	6.2	6.2	5.9	7.3	7.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total Number at Work	32112	469913	78247	32084	18768

Table 1.7: Persons 15 years and Over at Work by Broad Industrial Group: Five Cities in the State, 2011
Source: CSO Census of Ireland 2011

and suburbs (6%) a much lower proportion in manufacturing employment. Focusing on change in the numbers at work by broad industrial group in Limerick City and suburbs, a key change has been the substantial loss of employment (-6,667) overall.

This large decline in people at work is linked to the impact of closure of Dell Computers’ manufacturing operation in Raheen (in 2009 with 1,900 job losses), the negative multipliers arising from this scale of job loss in the city as well as the wider impact of the economic recession.

Focusing specifically on the regeneration areas, the trend is quite different and is possibly reflective of the actual low numbers of people in employment. Based on analysis of SAPS level data, only 10.5% of the workforce is engaged in vulnerable sectors, well below

the national figure (16%). Of note is that 30% of people classify themselves as being employed and working in the professional services sector. This figure, however, is in direct contrast to the available social class data (see Table 1.14) where less than 1% of the population classifies themselves in higher professional and technical occupational classes. In addition, the educational attainment of residents within the regeneration areas is very low, as discussed further in Section 1.5, and does not support that profile of worker. The proportion in the professional services sector category thus reflects how people classify their work / occupation and could reflect significant workers engaged in community services / community development.

8 17% in manufacturing and 11.3% in construction.

Appendix 1: Baseline Conditions and Analysis

Broad Industrial Group	2011		2006		Change 2006-2011	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Agric / Mining	158	0.5	192	0.5	-34	-17.7
Manufacturing	4189	13.0	8076	20.8	-3887	-48.1
Electricity / Gas / Water Supply	299	0.9	175	0.5	124	70.9
Construction	1080	3.4	2701	7.0	-1621	-60.0
Wholesale / Retail	5248	16.7	5728	14.8	-380	-6.6
Accommodation / Food / Entertainment	2503	7.8	2440	6.3	63	2.6
Transport & Communications	2658	8.3	2620	6.8	38	1.5
Financial Services & Insurance	1064	3.3	1110	2.9	-46	-4.1
Real Estate & Professional Business Services	3131	9.8	4158	10.7	-1027	-24.7
Public Admin & Defence	1607	5.0	1580	4.1	27	1.7
Education	3446	10.7	3016	7.8	430	14.3
Health & Social Work	3330	10.4	3653	9.4	-323	-8.8
Other Services / Activities	1317	4.1	1519	3.9	-202	-13.3
Not Stated	1982	6.2	1811	4.7	171	9.4
Total Number at Work	32112	100.0	38779	100.0	-6667	-17.2

Table 1.8: Persons Aged 15+ At Work by Industrial Group in 2011 and 2006 and Change 2006-2011: Limerick City & Suburbs

Source: CSO Census of Ireland 2006 & 2011

Sector	St Marys Park	Southill	Ballinacurra Weston	Moyross	City
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	0	0.20%	0.60%	0	0.20%
Building and Construction	2%	2%	1%	2%	3%
Manufacturing Industries	7%	12%	8%	5.80%	13%
Commerce and Trade	16%	24%	13%	19%	26%
Transport and Communications	5%	8%	6%	5%	8%
Public Administration	4%	3%	1%	2%	5%
Professional Services	25%	32%	34%	28%	24%
Other	40%	23%	35%	34%	21%

Table 1.9: Employment Structure in Regeneration Areas (based on Small Area Population Statistics, SAPS) and Limerick City, 2011

Source: CSO 2011

1.4.2 Employment and Unemployment: Current Position and Change

Unemployment, if it is prolonged, and low work intensity of households, are key risk factors of poverty and social exclusion. Unemployment and poverty, in turn, are associated with a wide range of poor outcomes in other areas including health and well-being for individuals and families. The loss of jobs in Limerick City and suburbs and across the five cities in the State are reflected in key labour market statistics, particularly unemployment rates (Table 1.10). The data are drawn from Census 2011 (rather than Live Register data) and are based on how persons over 15 years classified their Principle Economic Status in the census. It shows the number of persons over 15 years in the labour force, at work, not in the labour force, and students / pupils – i.e., in full-time education.

Of the five cities and suburbs, Limerick has the lowest labour market participation rate (56.7%) while Dublin City and suburbs has the highest (63%), followed by Galway City and suburbs (61.6%). All cities have high rates of unemployment, ranging from 17.4% (Dublin City and suburbs) up to almost one-quarter of the labour force in Limerick and Waterford Cities and suburbs (23.8%, Limerick and 24.6% Waterford City and suburbs). Limerick City and suburbs, however, has a high proportion of all persons aged 15 years or over in full-time education (17%), second highest of the cities after Galway City and suburbs (18%).

Table 1.11 presents further details on the situation in terms of labour force participation rates and unemployment rates, broken down by gender and age group. The data here relate to Limerick City, with comparative data provided for the state as a whole.

The labour force participation rate for both males and females and all age groups in Limerick City are lower than those for the State as a whole (55% compared with 62% respectively) and are lower for both males (62% for Limerick compared with 69% for the State) and females (48% for Limerick compared with 55% for the State). Apart from the age group 15-19 years, where the labour force participation rate is 16% for Limerick compared with 12% for the State as a whole, labour force participation rates are lower in Limerick for all other age groups.

Principle Economic Status / Labour Market	Limerick City & Suburbs	Dublin City & Suburbs	Cork City & Suburbs	Galway City & Suburbs	Waterford City & Suburbs
1. All persons aged 15 years and over (Number)	74277	904092	162674	64012	40984
2. All persons aged 15 years and over in labour force (Number)	42143	569139	95472	39409	24883
3. Persons at work (Number)	32112	469913	78247	32084	18768
4. Unemployed (Number)	10031	99226	17225	7325	6115
5. All persons aged 15 years and over not in labour force (Number)	32134	334953	67202	24603	16101
6.Student or pupil (classified as not in the LF) (Number)	12471	112133	22347	11384	4815
7.Students / pupil as % of all persons 15 years and over	16.8	12.4	13.7	17.8	11.7
8. Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	23.8	17.4	18.0	18.6	24.6
9. Unemployment Rate (%)	23.8	17.4	18.0	18.6	24.6

Table 1.10: Principle Economic Status/Labour Market Indicators for Population Aged 15 Years and Over: Five Cities and Suburbs 2011
Source: CSO 2012, Census 2011.

Drawing on analysis of SAPS data, the proportion of people over 15 years of age at work in the regeneration areas is significantly lower than the proportion of the population over 15 years of age at work in the city (39%) and the State (58%). In terms of actual numbers at work, across all regeneration areas, 1,265 people are in employment and 1,383 are unemployed, giving an overall unemployment rate of 52% across all regeneration areas. Unemployment rates are highest in St. Mary’s Park (58%) and Moyross (57%), followed by Southill (47%) and Ballinacurra Weston (43%). The number of people over 15 years studying in the regeneration areas (between 8% and 11%) is quite interesting and generally reflective of the number of people over 15 years of age that are studying nationwide (11%). Overall, however, this is lower than the city-wide figure of 14% of people over 15 years classifying themselves as a student. Of course, the high student population figure in the city is influenced by the number of third level institutions in the city and environs which had full-time student enrolment figures of 17,841⁹ in 2010/2011. The other significant statistic that stands out in contrast to the State figure of just 4% and the city-wide figure of 7% is the significant number of people over 15 years in the regeneration areas that cannot work due to sickness/disability. The percentage of people that cannot work in Southill due to sickness / disability (13%) is over three times that of the State figure, followed by Ballinacurra Weston (12%), Moyross (11%) and St. Mary’s Park (10%).

Gender	Age Groups	Limerick City LFPR (%)	Limerick City Unempl (%)	The State LFPR (%)	The State Unempl (%)
Males & Females	All Ages	55.1	28.6	61.9	19
	15-19 years	16.3	67.9	12.2	58.8
	20-24 years	52.2	45.1	59.8	34.7
	25-34 years	80.1	27.9	86.4	18.8
	35-44 years	78.2	26	83.2	16.2
	45-54 years	73.7	23.8	80	15.8
Males	All Ages	62.2	32.7	69.4	22.3
	15-19 years	17.6	66.1	14.2	61
	20-24 years	58.4	53.3	63.1	41.1
	25-34 years	83.3	33.3	91.2	23.3
	35-44 years	87	30.1	93.1	19.1
	45-54 years	83.1	27.2	89.6	18.8
Females	All Ages	48.4	23.7	54.6	15
	15-19 years	15.2	69.8	10.2	55.8
	20-24 years	46.8	36.3	56.6	27.9
	25-34 years	76.9	21.9	81.9	14
	35-44 years	68.7	20.4	73.3	12.5
	45-54 years	64.3	19.4	70.5	12.1

Table 1.11: Labour Force Participation Rates and Unemployment Rates: Limerick City and the State, 2011
Source: CSO 2012, Census 2011.

9 Higher Education Authority (HEA) Website 2010/2011; <http://www.hea.ie/en/node/1374>

Appendix 1: Baseline Conditions and Analysis

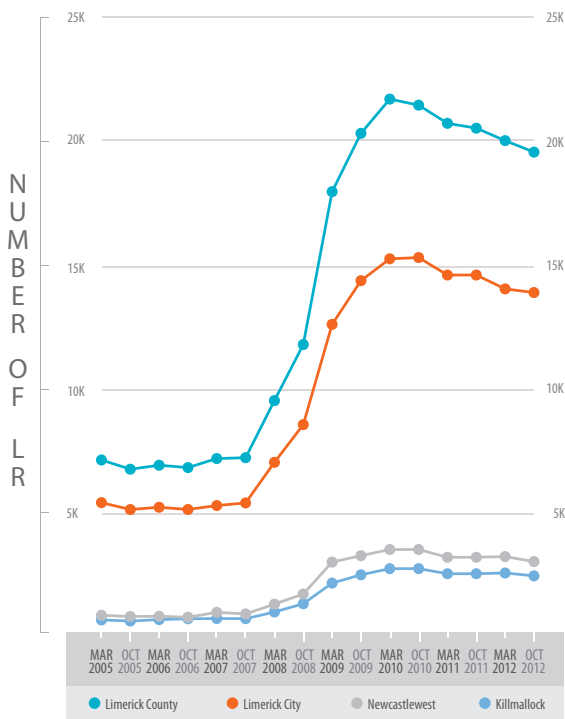


Figure 1.6: Numbers on the Live Register 2005-2012: Limerick County (aggregate of all Limerick Offices), City and County Social Welfare Offices
Source: CSO Live Register Data

Figure 1.6 presents data on the numbers on the Live Register in Limerick Social Welfare Offices from 2005 (reporting for months 3 and 10 in each year) to 2012. It includes the county data (combined Limerick City and County offices) and data by specific offices. This is appropriate in view of the open labour market structure in the city / suburbs / county and into other parts of the region.

There has been an increase in the numbers on the Live Register from the start of the recession in 2008, rising fast during 2009 and reaching its highest point early 2010. While the numbers have decreased slightly for Limerick City and County since 2010, the numbers registered as unemployed remain at a very high level. In October 2010, 19,571 people were on the Live Register for Limerick City and County Social Welfare Offices, of which 13,926 were registered at the Limerick City Social Welfare Office. Since October 2007, there has been an increase in of 12,285 (+168%)

Sector	St. Mary's Park	Southill	Ballinacurra Weston	Moyross	City	State
At work	24%	27%	32%	26%	39%	51%
Looking for first regular job	0.6%	1.4%	2%	2.3%	1.20%	0.9%
Unemployed	31%	24%	22%	32%	14%	11%
Student	8%	10%	11%	10%	14%	11%
Looking after home/family	9.80%	12%	8%	12%	7%	14%
Retired	16%	12%	12%	7%	14%	12%
Unable to work due to permanent sickness or disability	10%	13%	12%	11%	7%	4%
Other	0.7%	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%	0.80%	0.2%

Table 1.12: Labour Force Structure: Limerick Regeneration Areas (based on Small Area Population Statistics, SAPS), 2011

registered unemployed in Limerick County and City combined and 8,458 (+155%) registered at Limerick City Social Welfare Office.

In terms of unemployment rates in the most disadvantaged areas of the city – the regeneration areas - data over different census periods 1991- 2011 show very high rates of unemployment in these areas and rates well above the average for the city. Figure 2.6 shows male unemployment rates from 1991-2011 for Electoral Divisions (EDs) closest to the boundaries of the regeneration areas and the rates for Limerick City. While male unemployment rates declined at the height of the boom (early 2000s), they remained extremely high, especially in St. Mary’s Park, O’Malley and Keyes Park, Southill and Ballinacurra Weston, compared with those in the city. They have now reached extremely high levels, almost twice the city rates in St. Mary’s Park and O’Malley and Keyes Park, Southill.

Recent research to map baseline conditions in types of neighbourhoods in the city included a focus on the income base of households (2010 data). The findings

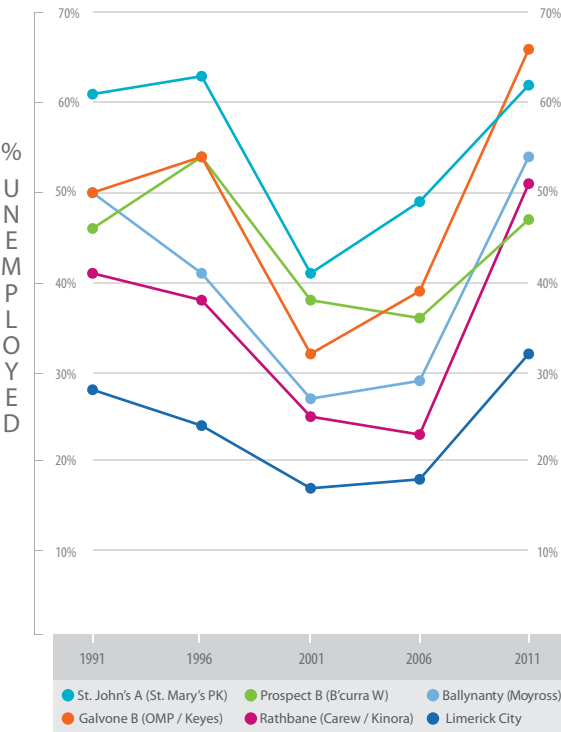


Figure 1.7: Male Unemployment Rates Limerick Regeneration Areas and Limerick City 1991-2011
Source: CSO Census of Ireland Small Area Population Statistics 1991-2011;
HP Deprivation Index www.pobal.ie

Area	Largest Source of Income = Salaries / Wages (%)	Largest Source of Income = Social Welfare Payments (%)
Northside Regeneration Areas	28	77
Southside Regeneration Areas	17	83
Disadvantaged Areas (Garryowen, Kennedy Park, Old Cork Road)	51	47
Average Areas (Corbally, Rhebogue)	88	13

Table 1.13: Largest Source of Income into Households in Limerick City (data 2010)
Data source: Humphreys, E. , D. McCafferty and A. Higgins (2011) “How are our Kids?”: Experiences and Needs of Children and Families in Limerick City with a Particular Emphasis on Limerick’s Regeneration Areas (Limerick City Children’s Services Committee)

provide an estimate of the portion of households dependent on welfare (not working) and those where the largest source of income is from salaries / wages in various parts of the city (Table 1.13). Social Welfare payments, by far, are the largest source of household income in the regeneration areas. The picture here is in contrast to the average areas of the city (Corbally, Rhebogue) where the largest source of household income for the large majority was wages / salaries, at the height of the unemployment crisis in the city (2010).

1.4.3 Social Class Composition

Social class background has “a considerable impact in many areas of life, including educational achievements, health, housing, crime and economic status. Furthermore, social class constitutes a key factor in the inter- generational transmission of economic, cultural and social assets. Areas with a weak social class profile tend to have higher unemployment rates, are more vulnerable to the effects of economic restructuring and recession and are more likely to experience low pay, poor working conditions as well as poor housing and social environments” (Haase Pratschke 2012).

Figure 1.8 presents an analysis of the social class base of the five cities¹⁰ in the State in 2011 (local authority areas and not cities and suburbs) in terms of the proportion of households: (i) in the higher and lower professional classes (semi-skilled and unskilled occupations). Limerick City has the lowest proportion in the higher social classes (23%) and the highest proportion in the lowest social classes (24%) compared with the other

cities. Galway City has the highest social class profile – with a slightly higher proportion in the higher and lower professional social classes (35%) compared with Dublin City and the same proportion (18%) in the lower (semi-skilled and unskilled) social classes.

Focusing on the social class base of the most disadvantaged neighbourhoods within Limerick City, drawing on ED level data, the regeneration areas have significantly higher proportions of households in the lowest social classes (semi-skilled / unskilled) and

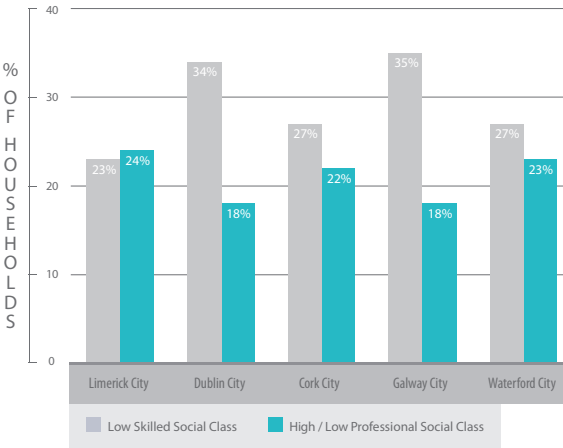


Figure 1.8: Social Class: Percentage of Households in Highest (Higher and Lower Professional Classes) and Lowest (Semi- and Unskilled) Social Classes: Five Cities in the State (Local Authority areas), 2011
Source: Haas Pratschke Index, 2012 drawn from Census 2011

¹⁰ The unit of analysis here is the more restricted cities boundaries rather than city and suburbs – i.e., the former local authority area of Limerick City and the administrative boundaries of local authority areas of the cities in the other four cities.

Appendix 1: Baseline Conditions and Analysis

lower proportions in the two highest social classes (higher and lower professionals) compared with the averages for Limerick City as a whole. St. Mary’s Park and O’Malley / Keyes Park, Southill have the lowest proportions in the higher and lower professional social classes (4% each). These two areas and Ballinacurra Weston have the highest and approximately the same proportion of households in the lowest (semi-skilled / unskilled) social classes, at over half of households in these categories (51%). See Figure 1.9.

Drawing on SAPS level data (2011), in the regeneration areas most describe themselves as skilled/semi-skilled with 35% of the population in Ballinacurra Weston falling into this category followed by Southill (23%), Moyross (20%) and St. Mary’s Park (18%). The level of unskilled workers was relatively similar across the four areas with St. Mary’s slightly higher than the other areas at 12% (Southill & Ballinacurra Weston 9% and Moyross 7%). Notable was the relatively high level of managerial and technical staff in Ballinacurra Weston (11%) compared with the other three regeneration areas, which ranged between 4% and 6% but still remains substantially lower than the city-wide figure of 18%. This profile of Ballinacurra Weston, however, could reflect the mis-matches in the SAPS boundaries

Social class	St. Mary’s Park	Southill	Ballinacurra Weston	Moyross	City
Professional workers	0.2%	0.6%	2%	0.4%	0.4%
Managerial and technical	4%	6.60%	11%	5%	18%
Non-manual	7%	14%	5%	12%	17%
Skilled / semi-skilled manual	18%	23%	35%	20%	27%
Unskilled	12%	9%	9%	7%	5%
All others gainfully occupied and unknown	59%	41%	45%	51%	28%

Table 1.14: Population by Social Class: Limerick Regeneration Areas (Based on Small Area Population Statistics, SAPS), 2011
Source: CSO 2011

(drawing in parts of a more affluent population) and the actual regeneration area. A further issue is the very high proportion in the “unknown” category (e.g. as high as 59% for St. Mary’s Park). In very disadvantaged areas, such high levels in the “unknown” category can reflect a large proportion of the population who never worked.

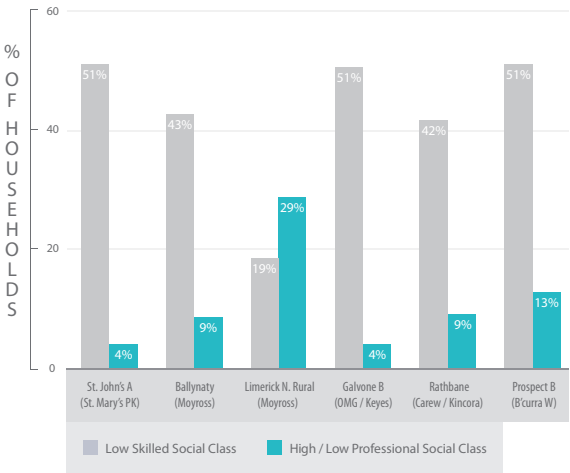


Figure 1.9: Social Class – Percentage of Households in Highest (Higher and Lower Professional Classes) and Lowest (Semi- and Unskilled) Social Classes in Limerick Regeneration Areas, 2011
Source: Haas Pratschke Index, 2012 drawn from Census 2011¹¹

¹¹ The Haase Pratscke Index uses the skills base to work out the social class base, by excluding “unknown” from the classification of the higher / technical category (SC 1 and 2) but put in some weighting for “unknown” in the lowest SC categories based on the assumption that many people in most disadvantaged areas classify themselves as “unknown” or other because they have not any occupational grouping and they are actually in the unskilled category. Thus the ED analysis differs slightly to the SAPS analysis as the SAPs data is drawn directly from census information and does not apply an indicator.



Appendix 1: Baseline Conditions and Analysis

1.5 Educational Attainment

1.5.1 Education Levels of the Adult Population

The level of education of the adult population is an important factor in labour market capacity and for the prospects for individuals and families across a wide range of outcomes (including health and well-being). Most recent data show the persistence of a large “education gap” between the population of the regeneration areas, the city and the State as a whole. For instance, in St. Mary’s Park, over half the adult population (55%) has primary level education as their highest level of qualification while this is just under 50% in O’Malley / Keyes Park, Southill. In all regeneration areas, rates of low education (primary education only) in the adult population are well above the rate for the city (20%). In the State as a whole, 16% of the adult population has primary education only as the highest level of qualification. At the other end of the spectrum, the proportion of the adult population with third level education in the regeneration areas is extremely low – lowest in St. Mary’s Park (1%) followed by O’Malley / Keyes Park Southill (4%) - and much lower than the average for the city.¹² The level of education of the adult population of the city, however, is well below the State average with 31% of the adult population of the State having a third level educational qualification.

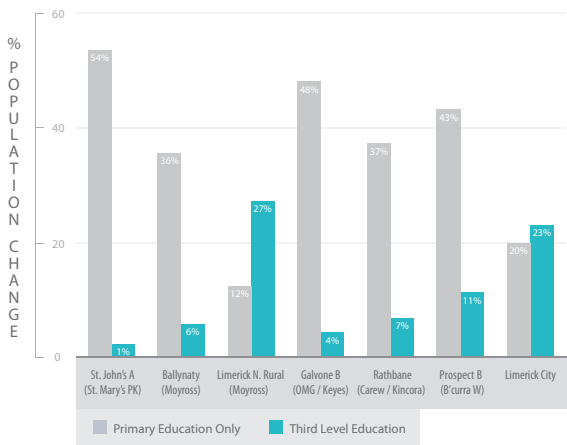


Figure 1.10: Adult Population with Primary Level Only Education and with Third Level Education: Regeneration Areas, Limerick City and the State 2011
Source: Haas Pratschke Index, 2012 drawn from Census 2011

Recent research (2010) which profiled parents in regeneration areas and included comparison with other areas of the city (disadvantaged and average areas) indicate that low education is not confined to the older residents of these areas (Humphreys, McCafferty et al, 2011). Education levels in the regeneration areas were found to be extremely low. Some 70% of parents in the northside regeneration areas and 68% in the southside regeneration areas had not proceeded beyond lower secondary education while zero% (northside) or less than 1% (southside) had a third level degree or postgraduate qualification. This contrasts with parents / carers in Corbally / Rhebogue where just 12% have not attained beyond lower secondary education while 29% have a third level degree or postgraduate qualification.

1.5.2 Education: Schools, Children and Young People

This section provides further data on education addressed to children / young people and schools in the city and suburbs. This includes a profile of schools and the school population in the city, selected data on absenteeism / suspension / expulsion rates, rates of retention of school pupils in education up to Junior Cert and Leaving Cert / Leaving Cert Applied and progression rates into third level education. The

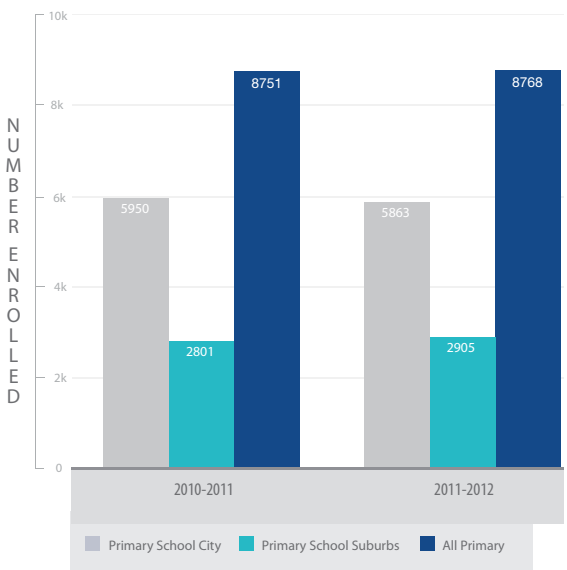


Figure 1.11: Primary School Enrolment: Limerick City and Suburban Schools
Source: www.schools.ie

analysis differentiates between schools in disadvantaged areas of the city / largely servicing a disadvantaged population (DEIS Schools) and schools which are not designated as disadvantaged (non DEIS).

Enrolment in the primary school sector in the 29 Limerick City and 8 sub-urban primary schools for the school years 2010-11 and 2011-12 are presented below, Figure 1.11. In 2011-12, 8,768 pupils are enrolled in all primary schools¹³ (city and suburbs) with the total numbers increasing slightly in 2011-2012 compared with the previous year. While the number enrolled in the city schools decreased slightly between 2010-2011 (5,950) and 2011-2012 (5,863), they increased slightly in the suburban schools.

Focusing only on the Limerick City primary schools, Figure 1.12 presents the breakdown of the primary school population by attendance at non-DEIS, DEIS¹⁴ and DEIS primary schools located in regeneration areas. In the school year 2011-2012, 63% of the primary school population attended non-DEIS schools and 37% attended DEIS primary schools. Approximately 20% of the primary school population is enrolled in DEIS

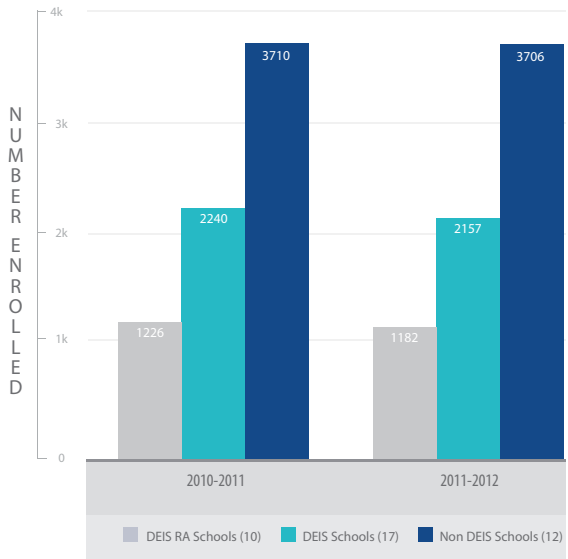


Figure 1.12: Primary School Enrolment: Limerick City and Suburban schools by DEIS, non-DEIS and DEIS Schools Based in Regeneration Areas, 2010- 2011 and 2011-2012
Source: www.schools.ie

¹² The high proportion of adults with a third level educational qualification in Limerick North Rural is linked to the large proportion of this Electoral Division comprised by the middle class area of Caherdavin and the comparatively small part of Moyross (Pineview, Delmege and Craeval Parks, a large part of which has now been demolished and depopulated with the regeneration process) included in the ED.
¹³ This analysis excludes five special schools in the city.
¹⁴ DEIS (Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools) are schools designated as disadvantaged.

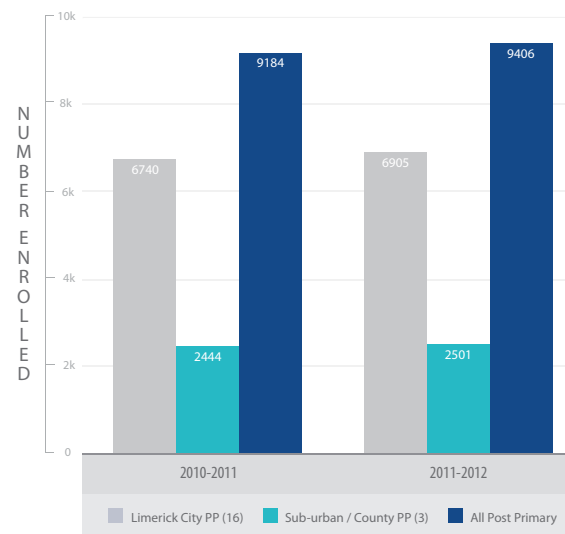


Figure 1.13: Enrolment in Post Primary Schools in Limerick City and Suburbs / County Schools in Limerick Common Application System for the School Years 2010-2011 and 2011-2012
Source: www.schooldays.ie

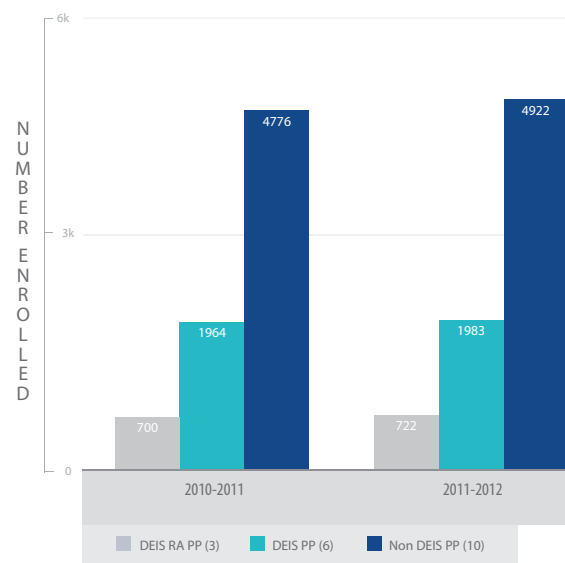


Figure 1.14: Breakdown of Post-Primary School Population in Limerick City by DEIS, Non-DEIS and DEIS Schools Based in Regeneration Areas, 2010- 2011 and 2011-2012
Source: www.schooldays.ie

schools in / or adjacent to the regeneration areas.

For the school year 2011-2012, just over 9,400 pupils were enrolled in the post-primary schools in Limerick City¹⁵ (16 schools, 6,905 pupils), suburbs (1) and county (2) which are in the Common Application System for post primary school entry. There was an increase in the numbers enrolled compared with the previous year. See Figure 1.13.

While there are some large schools in the city (6 with over 500 pupils and 2 with over 700 pupils), city post-primary schools, on average, have smaller numbers of pupils compared with the schools in the suburbs and county (the average for the city is 432 versus 834 in the three suburban / county schools in 2011-2012).

The breakdown of the post-primary school population in Limerick City only (excluding the three suburban / county schools in the Common Application System) by attendance at non-DEIS, DEIS and schools in regeneration areas (all DEIS) is shown in Figure 1.14. The large majority (71%) attend non-DEIS schools, 29% attend DEIS schools and just over 10% attended DEIS schools located in regeneration areas. The number of pupils in schools located in regeneration areas is

small (722 in 2011-2012).¹⁶

The breakdown of the post-primary school population by DEIS regeneration area schools, all DEIS schools and non-DEIS schools, including the sub-urban and county schools included in the Common Application System is shown in Figure 1.15. Approximately 70% attend non-DEIS schools, 30% attending DEIS schools and just under 8% attend DEIS schools in regeneration areas.

Focusing on the primary and post primary schools in the regeneration areas, there are 10 primary schools – five, northside and five, in southside regeneration areas - and three post-primary schools – two northside, one adjacent to Moyross and one adjacent to St. Mary's Park, and one, southside (Southill). It was agreed in 2012 that the southside post primary school, St. Enda's Community School, will close from 2014-15 and pupils will transfer to other schools as secondary education is phased out of St. Enda's from 2015. Figure 2.15 presents the position on enrolments in these schools in aggregate for the school years from 2006-2007 to 2011- 2012.

The trend shows declining enrolment in schools located in the regeneration areas. In 2011-2012, school

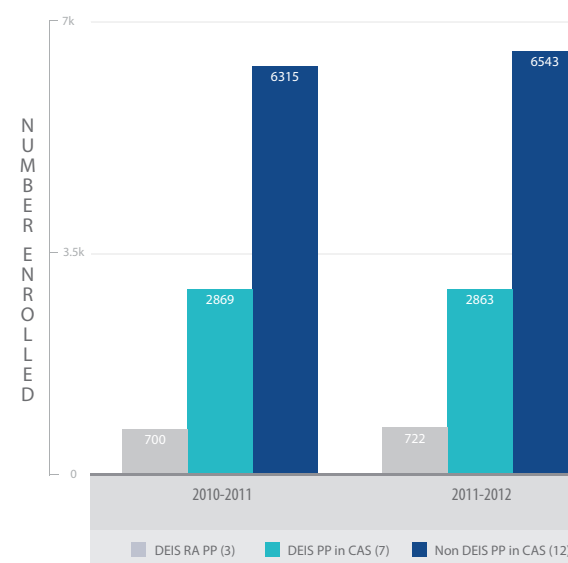


Figure 1.15: Enrolment in Post Primary Schools in Limerick City and Suburbs / County Schools in Limerick Common Application System for the School Years 2010-2011 and 2011-2012
Source: www.schooldays.ie

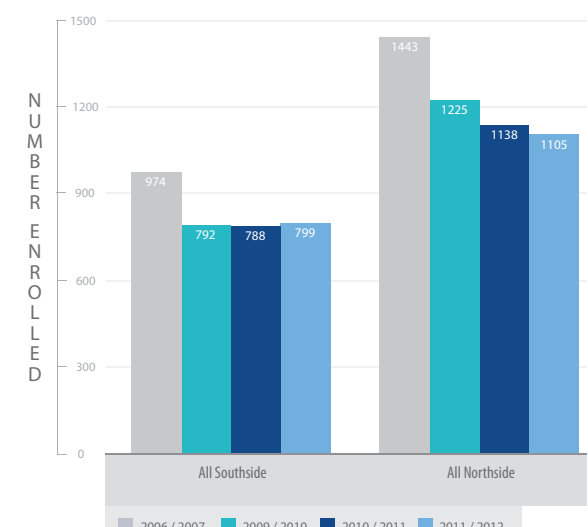


Figure 1.16: School Enrolments in Primary and Post-Primary Schools in Re- generation Areas, Northside and Southside, 2006-2007 and 2011-2012
Source: www.schooldays.ie

¹⁵ This extends beyond the local authority boundaries of the city into parts of the suburbs, for instance, including Crescent College in Dooradoyle.

¹⁶ It should be noted that not all children resident in regeneration areas attend the primary and post primary schools located in those areas. Some children resident in regeneration areas attend schools in other parts of the city (particularly in the DEIS category of schools). This is especially true in relation to post-primary schools. For instance, one post-primary school in the county attracts high numbers of pupils from the city school population.

Appendix 1: Baseline Conditions and Analysis

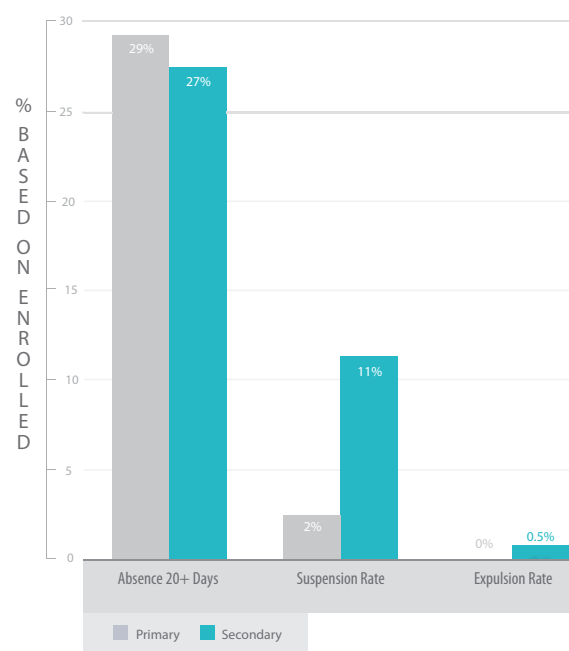


Figure 1.17: School Absence >20 days, Suspension and Expulsion Rates 2006- 2007: DEIS Schools Limerick City by Primary and Post-Primary Sector

Source: DES Local Limerick Office

enrolment in the primary and post primary schools in / adjacent to the city's regeneration areas northside and southside was approximately 1,900. The reasons for declining enrolments include demographic change, addition to the school infrastructure in the suburbs but also some parents exercising choice as to the school in which they enrol their children.

Based on data for 2006/07, non-attendance rates are high with some 29% absent for more than 20 days in the primary school sector and 27% absent for more than 20 days in the secondary school sector. The suspension rate was 11% in secondary schools and 2% in primary schools, in aggregate. Very low numbers of expulsions are recorded (8 or 0.4%) and only apply in the post-primary sector.

Young people who leave school early / without qualification are at much greater risk of social exclusion, are particularly disadvantaged in the labour market and most likely to be unemployed and enter long-term unemployment at a young age. Drawing on most recent data from DES (2011 and

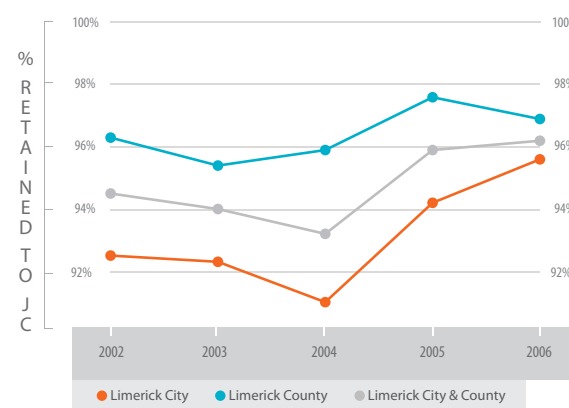


Figure 1.18: Retention Rates of Pupils in Second Level Schools to Junior Cert (2002-2006 Entry Cohort) for Limerick (County and City), Limerick County and Limerick City¹⁷

Source: Department of Education and Skills (2011, 2012)

2012), Limerick City has the second lowest retention rates to Junior Cert and Leaving Cert of all administrative areas in the State (after Dublin City). Retention rates for pupils in second level schools to Junior Cert are presented for Limerick (City and County), Limerick City and Limerick County in Figure 1.18. The year refers to first year entrants who went on to sit the Junior Cert (starting from the cohort of first year pupils in 2002). The rate of retention to Junior Cert is lower for Limerick City compared with the county and declined between 2002 and 2004. For the 2004 cohort of first year pupils in the city, just under 91% were retained to Junior Cert compared with a rate of just under 96% for the county. The situation improved markedly in the 2005 and 2006 cohorts, reaching a rate of retention to Junior Cert of 95.4% for the city for the 2006 cohort, compared with 96.8% for the county.

Data on differences in retention rates to Leaving Cert between Limerick City and county are presented below. Limerick county schools show retention rates to Leaving Cert for all entry cohorts from 2002-2006 above the overall Limerick average (city and county combined) while the performance of the city is well below that of the county. Retention rates in Limerick City to Leaving Cert for the 2004 entry cohort to secondary school were 77.6% compared with 85.4% in Limerick County. This means that of those entering the Junior Cert cycle in 2004 (and sitting the Leaving

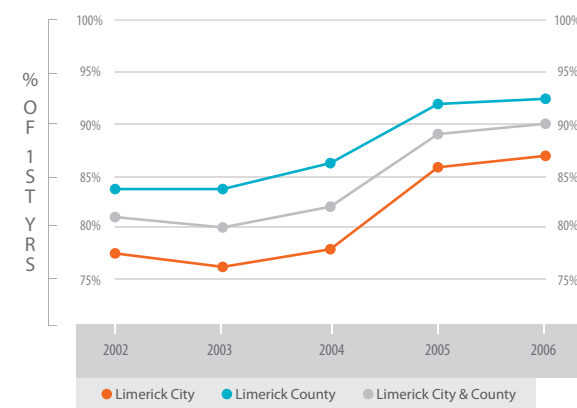


Figure 1.19: Retention Rates of Pupils in Second Level Schools to Leaving Cert (2002-2006 Entry Cohort) for Limerick County, Limerick City and County and City Combined¹⁹

Source: Department of Education and Skills (2012)

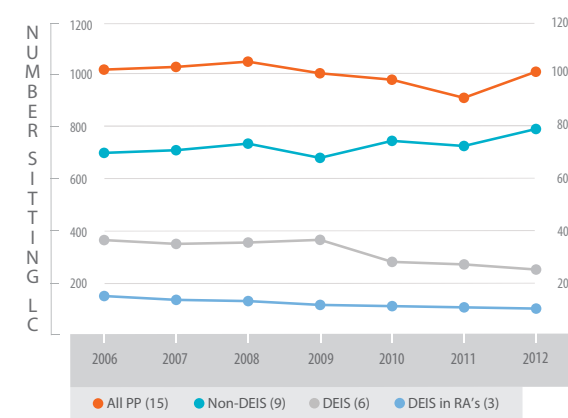


Figure 1.20: Numbers Sitting Leaving Cert in All Post Primary Schools, DEIS, Non-DEIS and DEIS Schools in Regeneration Areas in Limerick City 2006- 2012

Source: www.schoolsdays.ie

Cert in 2009 or 2010), over 22% of young people left the system without achieving the Leaving Cert / Leaving Cert Applied qualification. The situation improved markedly with the 2005 and 2006 entry cohorts, with 86.6% of the 2006 entry cohort retained to Leaving Cert in the city compared with 92.7% in the county. Unless young people leaving school early

¹⁷ Note that there were some changes in the technical methodology for calculation of retention rates from 2005 onwards such that the 2005 and 2006 cohorts are not directly comparable with the earlier entry cohorts. Based on the methodology used prior to 2012, retention rates for all years from 1999-2004 were lower than those now reported based on adjustments applied in the new methodology.

¹⁸ See 17



Appendix 1: Baseline Conditions and Analysis

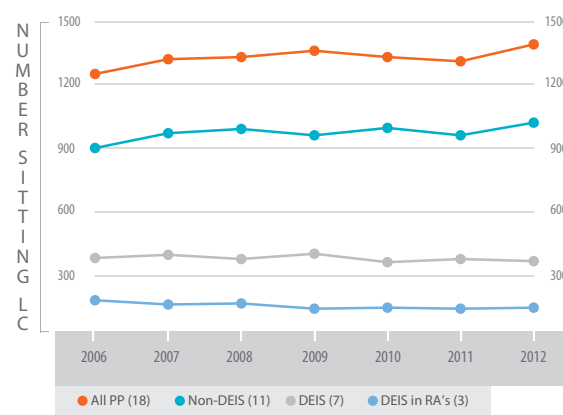


Figure 1.21: Numbers Sitting Leaving Cert in All Post Primary Schools, DEIS, Non-DEIS and DEIS Schools in Regeneration Areas in Limerick City / Suburbs / County (in the Common Application System) 2006-2012

Source: www.schooldays.ie

transfer to alternative education and training options, these young people are most at risk of social exclusion.

In terms of educational attainment, data are not available on levels of attainment at primary school level. At post-primary level, an important indicator of attainment is transfer to third level education after Leaving Cert. Data are presented below which show the trend in numbers sitting the Leaving Cert over recent years and the rate of transfer to third level education. These data are presented with reference to Non-DEIS, DEIS and DEIS schools located in regeneration areas.

The numbers sitting the Leaving Cert in Post Primary Schools in the city remained relatively stable at just over 1,000 pupils each year from 2006-2009, dropping slightly below 1,000 in 2010-2011 and increasing again in 2012. Focusing on DEIS schools, the numbers sitting the Leaving Cert have been decreasing over time from 335 in 2006 to 235 in 2012. This same pattern is in evidence in the DEIS schools in regeneration areas where the numbers sitting the Leaving Cert have declined from 142 in 2006 to 74 in 2012. The numbers sitting the Leaving Cert in Non-DEIS schools have been increasing slightly – from 685 in 2006 to 773 in 2012.

In terms of the percentage sitting the Leaving Cert

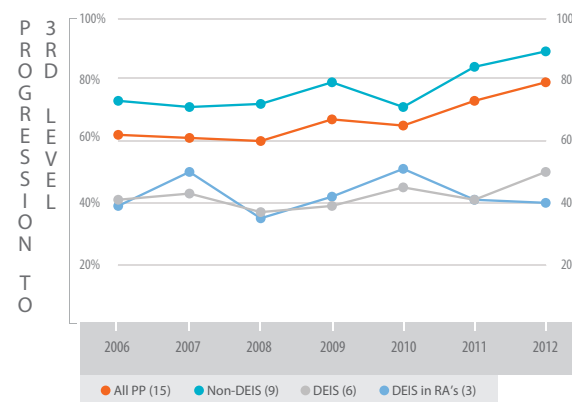


Figure 1.22: Progression Rates to Third Level from Limerick City Post Primary Schools (All, Non-DEIS, DEIS and DEIS in Regeneration Areas) from Leaving Cert 2006-2012

Source: www.schooldays.ie

from the different school sectors, 77% of Leaving Cert students are in the non-DEIS sector and 23% in DEIS sector schools in the city. However, as noted above, some 30% of the post primary school population attend DEIS schools. The lower proportion sitting the Leaving Cert in the DEIS sector (23%) compared to the proportion attending DEIS schools could be an indicator of drop-out prior to reaching this level of qualification in the senior cycle of the secondary school programme. The position on numbers sitting the Leaving Certificate in the post primary schools in the Common Application System (all city schools and 3 suburban / county schools) is shown in Figure 1.21.

The numbers sitting the Leaving Cert in schools in the Common Application System (including post primary schools in the city and three in the suburbs and county) have increased between 2011 and 2012, with the number in 2012 just under 1,400. The numbers sitting the Leaving Cert in the non-DEIS sector have increased by almost 100 students between 2011 and 2012. The number sitting the Leaving Cert in the DEIS sector schools has remained more or less the same between 2010 and 2012. The growth in the numbers here in the county have off-set the declining numbers sitting the Leaving Cert in the city DEIS schools. The corresponding the percentages sitting the Leaving Cert from the different school sectors are 74% non-DEIS and 26% from the DEIS sector schools.

Considering progression rates to third level education

from Leaving Certificate, for all post primary schools in the city, this showed very slight declines in the years 2006-2008 but has increased particularly in 2011 and 2012. In 2012, the rate of progression to third level education from Leaving Cert was 78%. There are significant differences in progression rates between DEIS and non-DEIS schools. In non-DEIS schools, the rate of transfer into college has fluctuated between 2006-2010 but has been above 70% for all those years. In 2011 and 2012, the rate has increased to 84% in 2011 and 87% in 2012. Focusing on DEIS schools, progression rates to third level education is well below the rate in the non-DEIS sector. It has fluctuated over time at a rate slightly above and below 40% and is at its highest rate in 2012, at 50%. Progression rates from DEIS schools in regeneration areas have also fluctuated and were at their highest level of progression in 2010 (52%). In 2012, the progression rate from Leaving Cert to third level education from DEIS schools in regeneration areas was 40%. See Figure 1.22.

Overall, while progression rates from DEIS schools to third level education is showing some improvement in the rates over time, they have remained between 30 and 40% below the progression rates of schools in the non-DEIS sector in the city. The gap has widened from closer to 30% to 40% in the most recent years. Drawing on evidence from the wider literature on inequalities in education, the better performance in the non-DEIS sector is influenced by the social class of individual students and the implications of that (e.g., differences in terms of parental support and educational aspirations) and the social mix of the schools (Webber and Butler, 2007). For those that do not progress to third level education in the university or Institute of Technology sector, there are opportunities for further education and training in the developed further education sector in the city and county.

Focusing on the situation if all schools in the Common Application System are considered, the rate of transfer to third level from the non-DEIS sector in 2012 is just under 90% and in the DEIS sector, 60%, representing a gap of 30% (Figure 1.23).

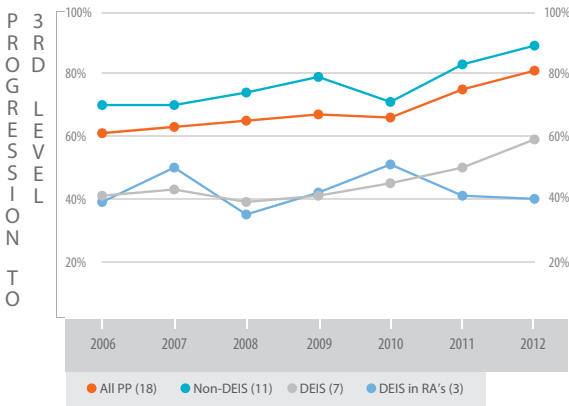


Figure 1.23: Progression Rates to Third Level from Limerick City Post Primary Schools (All, Non-DEIS, DEIS and DEIS in Regeneration Areas) from Leaving Cert 2006-2012
Source: www.schooldays.ie

Appendix 1: Baseline Conditions and Analysis

1.6 Health & Well-Being

Available data indicate poorer health and more health problems (higher rates of illness) including poorer mental health, for all sections of the population in the regeneration areas of Limerick City compared with health status of the average population of the city. A cross-section of the evidence showing such health inequalities in the population is presented below. This draws on statistical data from secondary sources and recent primary research in the city.

A recent neighbourhood-based study of older people (65 years and older) resident in different types of neighbourhoods on the northside of the city (2007-08) showed significant variations in health status by social class and neighbourhood of residence (Humphreys and deBurca, 2008). Based on self-reported health status, a higher proportion of older people in lower social classes (semi-skilled and unskilled social classes) is in poor or fair health compared with older people in the higher social classes (higher and lower professional social classes). Older people living in more disadvantaged

neighbourhoods¹⁹ including Moyross reported worse health status compared with those living in the middle class suburb (Caherdavin), while older people living in the most prosperous neighbourhoods of the city (Ennis Road / North Circular Road) reported the best health status. This population, in the most affluent neighbourhoods, is older on average compared with the population in most disadvantaged areas (see Table 1.15 below).

Focusing on a younger population cohort of parents, findings of a more recent study (2010) indicate that parents in the regeneration areas have poorer health compared with the mainstream population of the city (i.e., parents living in average areas) based on a number of health indicators (see below).

Rates of long-standing illness and psychological or emotional conditions are considerably higher in regeneration areas compared with average areas of the city. The proportion of parents assessed as at risk of depression (based on a standardised and widely-used instrument, SF-12) is considerably higher in the

regeneration areas (29% northside and 24% southside) compared with the proportion of parents in the average neighbourhoods of the city (10%). The proportion assessed as “at risk of depression” in the northside regeneration areas is approximately three times that of parents in other areas of the city. It should be noted that most of the respondents in this survey of parents were mothers. Poor maternal mental health is also associated with poor outcomes for children (emotional difficulties in children, poorer performance / levels of attainment at school). Based on data available from the National Suicide Research Foundation 2000-2005 for the southside regeneration areas (Rathbane ED, closest to Carew / Kincora Park and Galvone B, closest to O’Malley and Keyes Park, Southill), the incidence of deliberate self-harm (annual number of cases) is significantly higher here compared with the city and the State as a whole – i.e., nearly three times the national rate. See Table 1.17.

Focusing on child health, a pattern of poorer health in children in regeneration areas compared with an

Area	In Excellent / Very Good Health	In Fair / Poor Health
Moyross (Extremely disadvantaged)	22	32
Ballynanty / Kileely, Thomondgate (Extremely disadvantaged / Disadvantaged)	18	37
Caherdavin (Average)	33	33
Ennis Rd. / North Circular Rd. and environs (Affluent)	42	26

Table 1.15: Self-Assessed Health of Older People in Northside Limerick neighbourhoods (2007 data)

Source: Humphreys, E. and S. De Burca (2009) Health inequalities and ageing in the Community: A social study of four Limerick City Parishes.

Area	Self-reported In Poor / Fair Health (%)	With diagnosed long-standing illness (%)	Psychological / emotional conditions (%)	“At risk” of depression (%)
Northside Regeneration Areas	17	43	12	29
Southside Regeneration Areas	18	36	13	24
	14	32	6	18
Average Areas (Corbally / Rhebogue)	11	25	3	10

Table 1.16: Parental health in Limerick City Neighbourhoods (data collected in 2010)

Data source: Humphreys, E., D. McCafferty and A. Higgins (2012) “How are our Kids?”: Experiences and Needs of Children and Families in Limerick City with a Particular Emphasis on Limerick’s Regeneration Areas (Limerick City Children’s Services Committee

¹⁹ The number of older people living in Moyross at the time was small (approximately 60) and included two communities of sisters, of whom many were very elderly. The more typical population of older residents of Moyross were not “oldest old” (80 years and over), were in lower social class grouping compared with the sisters and had poorer physical and mental health. There is some bias as such in the overall findings reported above because of the large number of respondents here who were religious sisters.

Area	Incidence of self-harm per 1,000 population
Rathbane ED (Carew / Kincora Park)	580
Galvone ED (O'Malley / Keyes Park)	593
Limerick City	390
State	204

Table 1.17: Deliberate Self-Harm 2002-2005 for Southside Regeneration Areas, Limerick City and the State (National Suicide Research Foundation)
Source: Community Profile of Southside Regeneration Areas, HSE West, sourced from Limerick Regeneration Agencies

average child population in the city is in evidence from the recent study. Child health is poorer in the southside regeneration areas where some 18% of parents rate their child’s health as poor or fair. There are higher rates of diagnosed behavioural / learning and emotional difficulties in children, particularly in the southside regeneration areas. Based on parent

assessment of strengths and difficulties in their children (one sample child) using the Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ), there are much higher rates of child difficulties in the child population in regeneration areas compared with those in the average areas of the city and with a normal child population. Rates of difficulty reach a high of 47% with emotional / behavioural / attention difficulties in the southside regeneration areas (33% abnormal and 14% in borderline ranges) compared with 14% in the average areas of the city and 15% with such difficulties based on the average population of nine-year olds in Ireland (Growing Up in Ireland study, www.growingup.ie) – see Table 1.18

The same study of experiences and needs of children and families in Limerick City found stronger prevalence of child trauma (e.g., linked to bereavement, separation from parents etc.), and family difficulties (e.g., addictions, family members in prison, financial difficulties) as well as deficits in parenting practices amongst families living in regeneration areas compared with other areas of the city.

The regeneration areas also exhibit higher levels of disability amongst its population particularly when compared to the national figure of 13% and even the metropolitan area figure of 15% and the city-wide

figure of 18%. Southill has the highest disability figure at just over 23% of its population followed by Moyross and Ballinacurra Weston at 21% and St. Mary’s Park at 20%. Whilst generally the level of disability within a given population is proportional to an ageing population, the extent of disability in the regeneration areas cannot be justified on this basis. Whilst the Elderly Dependency rate in Southill and Ballinacurra Weston (18%) and St. Mary’s Park (21%) may somehow justify the levels of disability in those areas, the low Elderly Dependency ratio of only 8.4% in Moyross is completely at odds with its disability figure of 21%.

Area	Parent report child in Poor/Fair Health (%)	Diagnosed with physical long standing illness (%)	Diagnosed with Behavioral/Learning / Emotional Difficulties (%)	Total Difficulties* assessed as in “abnormal” range SDQ(%)	Total Difficulties* - assessed as in “borderline” range SDQ (%)
Northside Regeneration Areas	7	31	15	29.1	5.8
Southside Regeneration Areas	18	29	18	33.3	14.1
Disadvantaged Areas (Garryowen, Kennedy Park, Old Cork Road)	7	31	14	14.8	9.1
Average Areas (Corbally / Rhebogue)	5	30	9	7.0	7.0
Nine year olds in the State, based on data from “Growing up in Ireland”				7.0	8.0

Table 1.18: Child Health in Limerick City Neighbourhoods: Various Indicators (2010)
Source: Data source: Humphreys, E. , D. McCafferty and A. Higgins (2011) “How are our Kids?”: Experiences and Needs of Children and Families in Limerick City with a Particular Emphasis on Limerick’s Regeneration Areas (Limerick City Children’s Services Committee. Note: Based on one sample child in the household.
**The Total Difficulties assessment using the Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (assessment instrument) applied to sample children in the survey aged from 3 years to 17 years.*

Appendix 1: Baseline Conditions and Analysis

1.7 Housing and Households

This section presents key data on housing, presenting data on the current position regarding home tenure in the city focused on the regeneration areas, the housing stock in regeneration areas and in the city overall.

One of the main axes of differentiation between households in any city relates to the nature of the housing that they occupy. Three of the key dimensions of housing differentiation that need to be examined are age, type of construction and tenure status. Limerick City is known to have strong concentrations of social housing constructed as large housing estates in certain parts of the city. This has produced the strong concentrations of poverty and social disadvantage which has proved to be a particularly difficult problem for the city. Over time, the proportion of housing in local authority ownership has decreased but the problems of the larger local authority estates did not reduce over time.

In terms of age of the housing stock, some 27% of all private households in the city are accommodated in housing that has been constructed since 1990 and whilst this may appear high, it is actually substantially lower than the suburbs, which has 38% of all of its housing stock constructed since 1990. Of course, a restricted land supply in the city may account for the differential between the city and the suburbs but it is difficult to justify that argument in the context of the State figure of 41%. Thus, in comparison to housing nationwide, Limerick City has an ageing house stock and this is particularly evident in the regeneration areas where just under 4% of all housing has been constructed since 1990 and 25% of the housing stock was constructed prior to 1960.

St. Mary's Park has the oldest housing stock with 69% of the housing constructed before 1945. In Southill, the largest quantity of housing was constructed in the 1960s when 51% of all housing in that area was constructed between 1961 and 1970. Ballinacurra Weston also has an ageing housing stock with 80% of all housing in that area constructed prior to 1960. Moyross in contrast has a relatively new housing stock with 65% of its houses constructed between 1971 and 1990. However it is important to note that the CSO information does not necessarily correlate with the actual data on house construction retained by Limerick City Council which confirms that St. Mary's

Age Category	St. Marys Park	Southill	Ballinacurra Weston	Moyross
Pre 1919	4%	0.1%	5%	0.1%
1919 to 1945	65%	2%	27%	1%
1946 to 1960	13%	10%	48%	7%
1961 to 1970	1%	51%	5%	11%
1971 to 1980	0	21%	0.9%	45%
1981 to 1990	0.3%	5%	1%	20%
1991 to 2000	0.6%	2%	3%	3%
2001 to 2005	1%	0.8%	0.4%	2%
2006 or later	0%	2%	0.4%	0.1%

Table 1.19: Age of House Construction: Limerick Regeneration Areas (based on Small Area Population Statistics, SAPS), 2011

Source: CSO 2011

House Ownership	St. Marys	Southill	Ballinacurra	Moyross	City	State
Owner Occupied	55%	64%	59%	33%	59%	69%
Renting from Private Landlord	5.1%	7.5%	10%	5%	24%	8%
Renting from Housing Body	0.6%	0.5%	0.4%	3%	1.3%	0.9%
Local Authority	35%	35%	24%	64%	12%	8%

Table 1.20: House Ownership in Regeneration Areas (based on Small Area Population Statistics, SAPS), 2011

Source: CSO 2011

Park was constructed between 1935 and 1937 with two additions in 1998 and 2002, and with all development occurring in Moyross between 1975 and 1986. Thus housing within the regeneration areas is in fact a lot older than the figures presented in Census 2011.

1.7.1 Tenure Mix

Currently, in Limerick City, some 60% of households are owner-occupied, 13% are local authority rented and 25% private rented accommodation.

The age of housing within the regeneration areas has a bearing on the ownership status of the properties. Owner-occupied houses within the four regeneration areas are generally comparable with the city-wide

figure of 60%, but well below the State figure of 69%, with almost 55% of the houses in St. Mary's Park owner-occupied, 64% in Southill owner-occupied and 59% in Ballinacurra Weston. The only area where owner-occupied houses is substantially below the norm at half the national rate is in Moyross (33%) which is a relatively new estate in terms of age of the housing stock. The areas with the highest rates of home ownership, however, are also amongst the most deprived. As such, tenure mix is not always a good indicator of social mix.

Private landlord rentals within the regeneration areas are more on a par with the State figure of just over 8%, compared to the exceptionally high figure in the city

Moyross	Number of Units	%
Local Authority Occupied	445	64
Private Occupied	231	36
Moyross consists of 676 occupied residential units. This figure excludes 8 units at Shanabooley, 34 units at Respond and 15 community use buildings		
St Mary's Park	Number of Units	%
Local Authority Occupied	111	35
Private Occupied	204	65
St Mary's Park consists of 315 occupied residential units.		
Ballinacurra Weston	Number of Units	%
Local Authority Occupied	56	28
Private Occupied	142	72
Ballinacurra Weston consists of 198 occupied residential units. This figure excludes 2 community use buildings.		
Southill	Number of Units	%
Local Authority Occupied	285	43
Private Occupied	370	57
Southill consists of 655 occupied residential units. This figure excludes 5 community use buildings.		

Table 1.21 Existing Tenure Mix in Regeneration Areas (as at December 31, 2012)
Source: Limerick City Council

Size of family	St. Mary's Park	Southill	Ballinacurra Weston	Moyross
1 person	26%	21%	29%	26%
2 persons	25%	27%	25%	26%
3 persons	19%	23%	21%	24%
4 persons	12%	15%	11%	13%
5 persons	8%	7%	7%	6%
6 persons or more	9%	7%	6%	7%

Table 1.22: Family Size in Regeneration Areas
(Based on Small Area Population Statistics, SAPS), 2011
Source: CSO 2011

of 24% and the metropolitan area figure of 26%. With rentals from housing bodies low across the regeneration areas, the other dominant form is local authority-rented housing which is well above the State figure of almost 8% and the city-wide figure of just over 12%. Moyross has the highest number of local authority rented houses within the four regeneration areas at 64% and is almost double that of St. Mary's Park and Southill, at 35% in each area. Ballinacurra Weston has significantly lower rate of local authority rented housing at 24% but this figure still stands at three times above the State figure of 8%.

1.7.2 Current Tenure Mix in the Regeneration Areas

The following data outlined in Table 1.21 is extracted from the Limerick City Council housing database (as at 31 December 2012) and reinforces the general 2011 CSO trends described in Table 1.20. Please refer to the Appendices for more detailed maps of the existing tenure mix within the regeneration areas.

1.7.3 House Type

Generally, the most significant contrast between a city centre and the suburban areas in housing terms relates to the type or style of accommodation provided where the predominant form of new construction in the city centre has been apartment blocks. This contrast between city and suburbs is of course driven in the first instance by the economics of property development, and specifically the higher price of land in the centre, which necessitates more intensive use. However, this is not necessarily the situation in the regeneration areas, where houses dominate the housing type. Southill is the only area with any level of alternative tenure type with just over 5% of the housing stock in the area comprising of apartment/flat type units.

House type is generally one of the main factors underpinning household and family structure although this is not always the case within the regeneration areas as the analysis below indicates. With the dominant type of construction in the regeneration areas of house format one would expect the family size to comprise three to four people. However, almost 50% of the total households comprises two persons or under with almost 24% in single occupancy. Whilst the average household size within the regeneration areas (2.4) is slightly below the national figure of 2.7, these figures suggest under occupancy of houses within the regeneration area and

Appendix 1: Baseline Conditions and Analysis

as a result under-utilisation of valuable and scarce urban land.

1.7.4 Household Structure

Another significant contrast in the social geography of urban areas relates to household structure. Across the regeneration areas the single parent family dominates the household type with the exception of Ballinacurra Weston where there is a significant proportion of one person households (29%) compared with lone parent families, at 23%. In the other three areas, single parent households as a percentage of all private households stands at almost 27% in St. Mary’s Park, 25% in Southill and almost 31% in Moyross. These figures are well above the State figure of 13% and the 14% of population in Limerick City. If the indicator, single parent families with any dependent children under 15 years as a proportion of all households with any dependent children under 15 years is examined, rates of lone parenthood in the regeneration areas are particularly high and are all above 60% compared with 37.5% for the city as a whole. The highest rates of lone parenthood, based on this indicator, are in St. Mary’s Park and O’Malley and Keyes Park, Southill (70%). This reflects weak family / demographic structure while lone parenthood affects other aspects of social and economic life including employment prospects. Certain additional characteristics of such families, if they are present (e.g., unemployment, low income, low education), negatively affect outcomes for children and families including parents themselves.

Reflecting the ageing of the population in general, some 10% of the total number of families in the cities

are “empty nest” families and a further 10% “retired” families. In terms of the regeneration areas of the city, Southill (covering the various parks) is approximately at the city average in terms of the proportion of “empty nest” and “retired” families while the other areas are below the average (lowest in St. Mary’s Park with 7% and 8% of “empty nest” and “retired families” respectively. Data on the housing stock in Limerick City, County and the State, as well as the number of vacant dwellings and vacancy rates in 2006 and 2011 are presented in Table 1.23.

At the levels of city, county and the State, there has been an increase in the housing stock from 2006 to 2011 – see Table 1.23. In 2011, 3,433 houses were vacant in Limerick City and just under 7,000 in the county giving a vacancy rate of 13% for Limerick City and 12% for the county. This is less than the State average (15%). The trend in the numbers in housing needs in Limerick City and County in 2011 is presented in Figure 1.24. The absolute numbers in housing need are higher in Limerick City (2,669 in 2011) compared with the county (1,622 in 2011). In the 1990s, net housing need in the city and county was at a very similar level increasing moreso in the city in 1999 compared with the county. From 2005 onwards, there was a sharp increase in net housing need in both the city and county but it is significantly higher now in the city.

Table 1.25 shows key increases in household formations in Limerick City between 2002-2011 is concentrated to three main households types:

- One person households;
- Co-habiting couple with children;

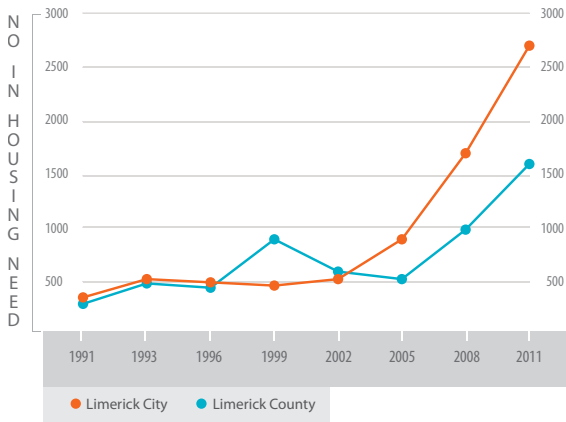


Figure 1.24: Net housing need in Limerick City and County 1991-2011
Source: DoECLG 2011 (Housing Agency data)

- Lone parent and children

1.7.5 Household Need in the Regeneration Areas

The purpose of this section is to:

- identify existing housing need in the regeneration areas
- identify future internally generated housing need based on demographic and household formation change

1.7.5.1 Existing Housing Need

The first stage in calculating the present housing demand within the regeneration areas is to quantify the number of households that

- require replacement homes (based on strategic demolitions etc)
- require homes within the regeneration areas based on existing over- crowded households

The table below highlights the key numbers of replacement housing required in each of the regeneration areas based on strategic demolitions to make way for better connections, functional public open spaces and urban structure. Further detail on replacement housing is provided in the Housing Strategies of the Physical Framework Plans in Volume 2 of this document.

Analysis of the Limerick City Council housing database (for data as at July 2013) provides a useful insight into the profile of overcrowded households in the regeneration areas. For the purposes of this analysis a

Area	Dwelling/Housing Stock		Vacant Dwellings		Vacancy Rate	
	2006 (No.)	2011 (No.)	2006 (No.)	2011 (No.)	2006 (%)	2011 (%)
Limerick City	23065	26849	2921	3433	12.7	12.8
Limerick County	52677	55784	6639	6932	12.6	12.4
Limerick City & County	75742	82633	9560	10365	12.6	12.5
State	1769613	2004175	266322	294202	15	14.7

Table 1.23: Housing Stock and Vacant Dwellings Limerick City and Limerick County and the State 2006-2011
Source: CSO Census of Ireland 2006 and 2011

Limerick City	Household Change from 2006-2011	2011	Approx % increase /decrease	2006	Approx % increase /decrease	2002
One person	23%	6479	23%	5240	11	4710
Husband and wife	25	3090	25	2475	6	2330
Co-habiting couple	-0.6	851	-0.6	857	9	781
Husband, wife and children	11	4824	11	4341	-10	4852
Co-habiting couple and children	31	699	31	534	23	435
Father and children	19	406	19	340	7	318
Mother and children	11	2653	11	2383	9	2192
Couple and others	-15	314	15	370	36%	272
Couple, children and others	-0.2	344	-0.2	345	-46	639
Father, children and others	-11	48	-11	54	-23	71
Mother, children and others	13	333	13	294	-17	356
Two or more family units	0	350	0	350	455	63
Non family households and relations	-4.5	654	-4.5	685	5.7	648
Two or more non related persons	3	1322	3	1282	0.3	1278

Table 1.25 Key Changes in Household Formations in Limerick City Between 2002-2011
Source: CSO Census of Ireland 2002, 2006 and 2011

household is considered overcrowded if a person with an existing address within a regeneration areas applies to the housing waiting list with a specific request for housing in that particular regeneration area.

Table 1.27 gives a synopsis of the overall existing need and responses required due to overcrowding in the regeneration areas (as at July 2013) and the type of unit composition preferred by the applicant.

1.7.5.2 Future Household Need

Future housing need required over the regeneration programme will be intrinsically related to the population change (as discussed in Section 1.3.2 population projection and Section 1.7.4 Household Structure) and the types of households forming within Limerick City over the next twenty years. As identified in Table 1.6 population projections for Ireland suggest that trends for Limerick City will experience a growing population, with increasing numbers of children (0-19

years) and elderly people (+55 years) over the next ten years. Combined with social changes, with trends leading to shifting patterns of household composition (e.g. increasing numbers of lone parents), as identified in Section 1.7.4 Household Structure, these factors will shape the types of housing required in the future within Limerick City and the regeneration areas. Table 1.25 shows key increases in household formations in Limerick City between 2002-2011 is concentrated to three main households types:

- One person households;
- Co-habiting couple with children;
- Lone parent and children

Table 1.25 highlights that the vast majority of need arising from the population and household formation estimates would be for smaller dwelling types (one bed/two person houses/apartments). Furthermore, as described in Table 1.6 need is emerging from elderly households, whose housing requirements may range from standard dwellings but more than likely housing options more typically associated with elderly

sheltered housing schemes (1-2 bed houses/ apartments). Larger family households are also set to increase, with such households likely to require family homes.

This trend in emerging national household formations will undoubtedly influence the projected housing need within the regeneration areas. The projections in these household formations will need to be carefully planned for throughout the regeneration programme to ensure that the internal need arising is accommodated sufficiently. As such a detailed local housing needs assessment will need to be carried out for the regeneration areas.

Appendix 1: Baseline Conditions and Analysis

Regeneration Area	Replacement Housing Need
Moyross	295
St Marys Park	49
Ballinacurra Weston	40
Southill	209

Table 1.26: Replacement Housing Need: Limerick Regeneration Areas
Source: Limerick City Council

Regeneration Area	Overall Number of Houses Requested within Regeneration Area (as at July 2013)	Type of Unit Preferred
Moyross	48	25 one bed 14 two bed 9 three bed
St Marys Park	32	16 one bed 14 two bed 2 three bed
Ballinacurra Weston	34	19 one bed 9 two bed 6 three bed
Southill	48	25 one bed 13 two bed 10 three bed

Table 1.27: Housing Need Arising from Overcrowding: Limerick Regeneration Areas
Source: Limerick City Council

1.8 Social Capital

The level of social capital in local neighbourhoods is an important indicator of the civic “health” of community. There is evidence that cities or regions with high social capital are more prosperous, have lower rates of crime, better population health and generally have better quality of life.²⁰ Social capital concerns attitudes of trust in people in general, the extent that people look out for each other and the existence of social networks providing mutual support in times of need, opportunities to pursue common interests (sports clubs, cultural activities) and to engage in collective action in the interest of the wider community (e.g., residents’ associations). The density of voluntary associations in a community, bringing people together from different backgrounds, is considered a measure of the health of the civil society.

Levels of social capital in various types of local Limerick neighbourhoods, including those that are most disadvantaged, have been explored in various

studies over the last ten years. These studies show that people living in all types of neighbourhood in the city (affluent, poor, mixed, middle class) have strong “bonding” social capital – i.e., almost all people have networks of friends, neighbours and extended family to provide support in times of need. This type of social capital is highly valued. Generally, people living in relatively more affluent communities have larger social support networks compared with those living in relatively disadvantaged communities.

Focusing on community spirit, the studies show a strong sense of belonging to community across the different types of neighbourhood. In the 2003 study, the strongest sense of belonging to community (85% stating yes) was recorded in the disadvantaged, older inner city community of King’s Island which includes St. Mary’s Park. In the later study of older people in four northside Limerick parishes (2007/08), sense of belonging to community was strongest in the middle class suburb of Caherdavin (Christ the King Parish)

where over 93% indicated they feel a strong sense of belonging to community, followed by the affluent neighbourhood of Ennis Road / North Circular Road (91%). Sense of belonging to community was lowest in Moyross (Corpus Christi parish) in the 2007/08 study but was slightly above the level recorded for the adult population in 2003 (69%).

In the 2003 study, residents were asked whether they would stay or leave (the area), given the choice. At that time, despite very high levels of deprivation and great difficulties (e.g., criminality) on the estates, some 70% of residents of King’s Island compared with 32% of residents of Moyross stated they would stay while 30% and 68% would chose to leave King’s Island and Moyross respectively.

In the various studies, findings related to knowing neighbours and trust in people in general in the neighbourhood indicate more favourable conditions in average and more affluent compared with

Area	Characterisics	2003/05 Adult Residents %	2007/08 Older People %
King’s Island including St. Mary’s Park	Extremely disadvantaged / disadvantaged; traditionally low mobility	84.6	
Moyross (Corpus Christi Parish)	Extremely disadvantaged	68.5	70
Inner City / Dock area (O’Connell Ave; S Circular Rd., Mount Kenneth, Henry St.)	Above average / affluent; high mobility including apartment blocks in part and high proportion of non-Irish nationalities	25.3	
Castletroy / Monaleen	Affluent / high mobility / professional	73.3	
Ballynanty / Thomondgate / Kileely (St Munchin’s Parish)	Mixed, overall profile of relatively disadvantaged; older age profile		81
Ennis Road / North Circular Road (Holy Rosary Parish)	Very affluent / older age profile		91
Caherdavin (Christ the King Parish)	Average / middle class suburb		93

Table 1.28: Sense of Belonging to Community: Selected Limerick Neighbourhoods (% stating yes), 2003/05 and 2007/08
Sources: Humphreys, E. and D. Dineen (2006) Evaluation of Social Capital in Limerick City and Environs, HSE West and Limerick City Development Board and Humphreys, E. and S. De Burca (2009) Health inequalities and ageing in the community: A social study of four Limerick City Parishes.

²⁰ It should be noted that some research contests this, arguing that other factors are at play here and not just the social capital.

Appendix 1: Baseline Conditions and Analysis

disadvantaged neighbourhoods. Focusing on trust, drawing on the various studies, it is not the absolute level of trust that seems to matter most as an indicator of the health of civic community but rather the gap (positive / negative) between “knowing most people in the neighbourhood” and “trusting most”. In more disadvantaged communities, residents tend to know people to a greater extent than they trust them (i.e., there are deficits of trust). In more affluent neighbourhoods, the opposite is the case - they trust

people to a greater extent than they know them. This is illustrated below with reference to three studies in Limerick City including the recent study of children and families (2010 data).

The largest negative gaps – an indicator of weak community social capital - are in the southside and northside regeneration areas of the city. In the 2010 study of children and families in Limerick City, parents / carers in regeneration areas know their neighbours

to a much greater extent (90% northside and 92% southside know most) than they trust them (45% northside and 30% southside trust most). In the more advantaged areas of the city, Corbally / Rhebogue , a larger proportion of parents trust most (60%) compared with the proportion who know most people in the neighbourhood (49%).

Involvement in voluntary organisations is an important indicator of social capital. The 2007/08

Area	2003/05 Adult Residents Characteristics	2007/08 Older People Know most	Trust Most	2010 Parents Know most	Trust most	Know most	Trust most
King’s Island including St. Mary’s Park	Extremely disadvantaged/ disadvantaged; traditionally low mobility	77.6	43.3			89.9	45.4
Moyross (Corpus Christi Parish)	Extremely disadvantaged	66.3	36	59.3	44.4	combined with above (northside regeneration area)	
Inner City/Dock area (O’Connell Ave; S Circular Rd Mount Kenneth, Henry St.)	Above average/affluent; high mobility including apartment blocks in part and high proportion of non Irish nationalities	10	19.8				
Castletroy/Monaleen	Affluent/high mobility/professional	27.3	44.7				
Ballynanty/Thomondgate/ Kileely (St Munchin’s Parish)	Mixed, overall profile of relatively disadvantaged; older age profile			65.6	72.5		
Ennis Road / North Circular Road (Holy Rosary Parish)	Very affluent / older age profile			63.8	84.9		
Caherdavin (Christ the King Parish)	Average / middle class suburb			52.1	82.8		
Southside regeneration areas (Southill & Ballinacurra Weston)	Extremely disadvantaged					92.2	30
Garryowen/Kennedy Park /Old Cork Road	Disadvantaged					68.3	51
Corbally/Rhebogue	Average/above average					48.6	60

Table 1.29 Extent of Knowing and Trusting People in the Neighbourhood: Various Studies 2003-2010
*Sources: Humphreys, E. and D. Dineen (2006) Evaluation of Social Capital in Limerick City and Environs, HSE West and Limerick City Development Board ;
Humphreys, E. and S. De Burca (2009) Health inequalities and ageing in the community: A social study of four Limerick City Parishes.
Humphreys, E. , D. McCafferty and A. Higgins (2011) “How are our Kids?”: Experiences and Needs of Children and Families in Limerick City with a Particular Emphasis on Limerick’s Regeneration Areas (Limerick City Children’s Services Committee)*

study showed a high level of involvement of older people in voluntary associations, highest in the Holy Rosary parish (67%), followed by Christ the King (60%), St. Munchin’s (40%) and lowest in Corpus Christi parish (38%). The earlier study (2003/05) of the adult population showed a lower level of involvement in voluntary associations generally – highest in Castletroy / Monaleen (42%), almost one-third in King’s Island (32%) and relatively low in Moyross (25%).

Drawing some conclusions from these various studies, neighbourhoods in Limerick City have aspects of strong social capital. There is a strong sense of belonging to community and networks of social support from extended family, friends and neighbours. The most disadvantaged communities in the city, however, show weaknesses in social capital in terms of deficits of trust in people in general. This affects the social cohesion of community and is likely to spill over into the city with negative outcomes. For instance, population loss could be an indicator of poor community cohesion in the city and especially, of the most disadvantaged estates. The social capital in local communities has strong interdependencies with many aspects of community life including community safety and outcomes for individuals and families (e.g., health and well-being). Building social “bridges” or connections across people and neighbourhoods which

are different from each other is an extremely important dimension of social capital – to break down the social and physical barriers between people and communities across the city.

Area	2003/05 Adult Residents %	2007/08 Older People %
King’s Island including St. Mary’s Park	32	
Moyross (Corpus Christi Parish)	25	25
Inner City / Dock area (O’Connell Ave; S Circular Rd., Mount Kenneth, Henry St.)		14
Castletroy (affluent)	41	
Ballynanty / Thomondgate / Kileely (St Munchin’s Parish)		41
Ennis Road / North Circular Road (Holy Rosary Parish)		67
Caherdavin (Christ the King Parish)		60

Table 1.30: Involvement in Voluntary Organisations (%): Selected Limerick neighbourhoods
*Sources: Humphreys, E. and D. Dineen (2006) Evaluation of Social Capital in Limerick City and Environs, HSE West and Limerick City Development Board ;
Humphreys, E. and S. De Burca (2009) Health inequalities and ageing in the community: A social study of four Limerick City Parishes.*



1.9 Transport

The decentralisation of manufacturing and services employment from the city centre to suburban and ex-urban areas has been a feature of the changing geography of Limerick over the past thirty years. As employment opportunities have decentralised, commuting distances for the public at large have generally increased. In this context, access to reliable and economic means of transportation has become increasingly important for individuals and households.

Some indication of the variation in travel distance within the city and regeneration areas can be obtained by focusing on the percentage travelling under two miles to work, school or college. Two miles is often considered critical in commuting studies, as it is the distance above which employment locations and other destinations for travel cannot be accessed easily on foot. Almost 73% of the population within the regeneration areas travelling less than two miles (30 minutes) to work/school/college highlights the availability of employment and educational establishments in proximity to the regeneration areas. As the regeneration areas have relatively low labour force participation rates, a high proportion of travel is not work-related, but rather involves school children. With ten primary schools (five in the northside and five in the southside regeneration areas) and three post-primary schools (two northside adjacent to Moyross and St. Mary's Park, and one southside adjacent to Southill) the short commuting distance is in line with expectations.

Breaking the overall regeneration area down into its four individual areas further highlights the proximity of services available as 63% of the population over five years of age in St. Mary's Park travel less than 30 minutes to work/school/college, 78% of the population in Southill, 72% in Ballinacurra Weston, and 70% in Moyross. The relatively low figure in St. Mary's Park is likely attributable to the fact that it is situated on an island and is less well-serviced as a result.

The relatively short distance travelled to work / school each day is reflected in the high percentage of the population that travels on foot or by bicycle. At 43% in St. Mary's Park, 30% in Southill, 44% in Ballinacurra Weston and 42% in Moyross, the figures are generally well above the city-wide figure of 33% and more than double the national figure of 17%. The use of public transport is generally higher in the regeneration areas

(St. Mary's Park, 6%, Ballinacurra Weston, 9% and Moyross, 11%) than the city-wide figure of almost 7% but generally falls below the national figure of 13% with the exception of Southill (14%). The high level of public transport usage (bus) in Southill may be explained by the regular bus service operating in the area and may provide some evidence to suggest that supply side improvements in the bus service may help to induce a greater level of usage.

Households with no cars are relatively more numerous in the city centre, accounting for just under one-third of all households (32%), well above the national figure of under 16%. The four regeneration areas also have a high number of households with no cars including 57% in St. Mary's Park, 43% in Southill, 58% in Ballinacurra Weston and 50% in Moyross. These figures support the short commuting distance experienced by residents in the regeneration areas to work / school each day.

Appendix 1: Baseline Conditions and Analysis

1.10 Justice / Criminality

The situation of extreme social disorder in the most deprived local authority estates in the city was the key factor which led to the setting up of the Limerick Regeneration programme in 2007. Dealing with the issue of criminality was considered fundamental to creating the conditions for other interventions to work and to restore the confidence of the communities (Fitzgerald Report, 2007). A specific recommendation of the Fitzgerald Report was to provide 100 extra Gardaí to the city. This additional resource was delivered and largely sustained (up to 2010, most recent data available). In June 2007, the total Garda personnel in Limerick Division was 559 Gardaí and in June 2010, 650 Gardaí (an additional 91 personnel)²¹. The additional Garda resources were put into the city through community policing and other Gardaí. The Emergency Response Unit (ERU) was set up, to operate out of Limerick, and a Regional Response Unit (the first in the State) was also put in place.

The focus of the police effort in the period 2007-2010 was to address the problem of serious criminality in an effort to bring the city to a level of “normal”

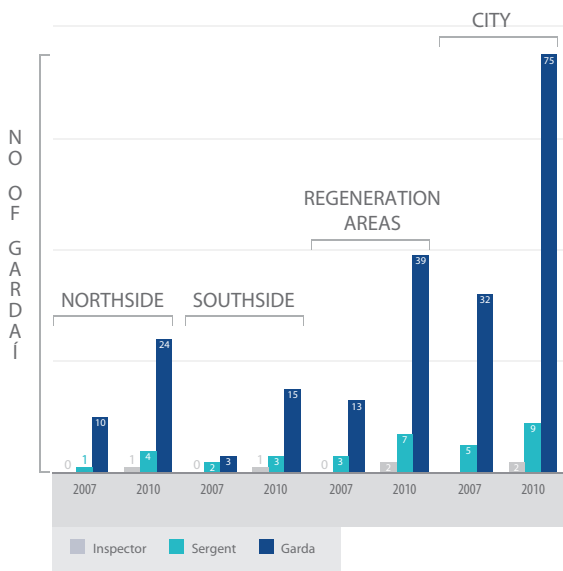


Figure 1.25: Allocations of Community Policing Personnel in Limerick City: Northside, Southside, All Regeneration Areas and City 2007 and 2010
Source: An Garda Síochana, Southern Region

policing. This strategy yielded positive results in the levels of investigation, arrest and sentencing in that most of the serious criminals in the city were in prison or awaiting sentencing by mid-2010. An important factor in achieving convictions was the ability of the Director of Public Prosecutions to bring cases involving serious criminals to the Special Criminal Court, where cases are heard by three-person judges rather than use of jury trials, thus eliminating the potential for intimidation of juries, which was a problem in achieving convictions in Limerick.²²

The removal of this level of criminal activity has had a positive impact on reducing crime levels in Limerick City, evidenced by data on crime statistics. There has been a drop in all incidents of recorded crime in the regeneration areas. Based on data for regeneration areas, taking most serious crime, there were no murders in 2009/10 (2 in 2006/07), there was a

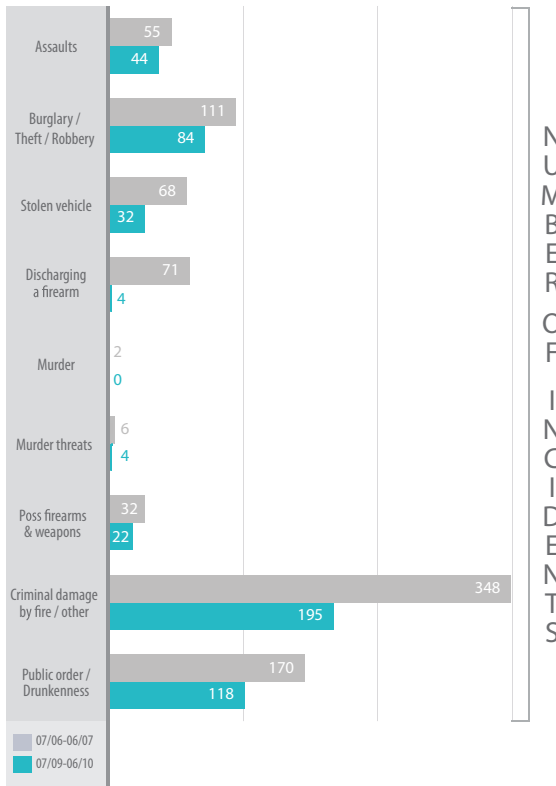


Figure 1.26: Selected Incidents of Crime 2006/07 and 2009/10: All Regeneration Areas
Source: An Garda Síochana, Southern Region

considerable drop in “discharging a firearm” from 71 incidents in 2006/07 to 4 in 2009/10; possession of a firearm dropped from 33 incidents in 2006/07 to 22 in 2009/10; incidents of criminal damage by fire dropped from 348 incidents in 2006/07 to 195 in 2009/10. In the city (Limerick Division) as a whole, incidents of discharge of a firearm dropped from 103 in 2007 to 15 in 2011 (data supplied by Limerick Division).

The breakdown of crime incidents for the northside and southside regeneration areas is presented below. For all specific incidents, the number of reported incidents of crime was lower on the southside compared with the northside.

There has been increased effort on search and charges for drug-related crime. Between 2006/07 and 2009/10, there has been a very large increase in the number of incidents of search under the Misuse of

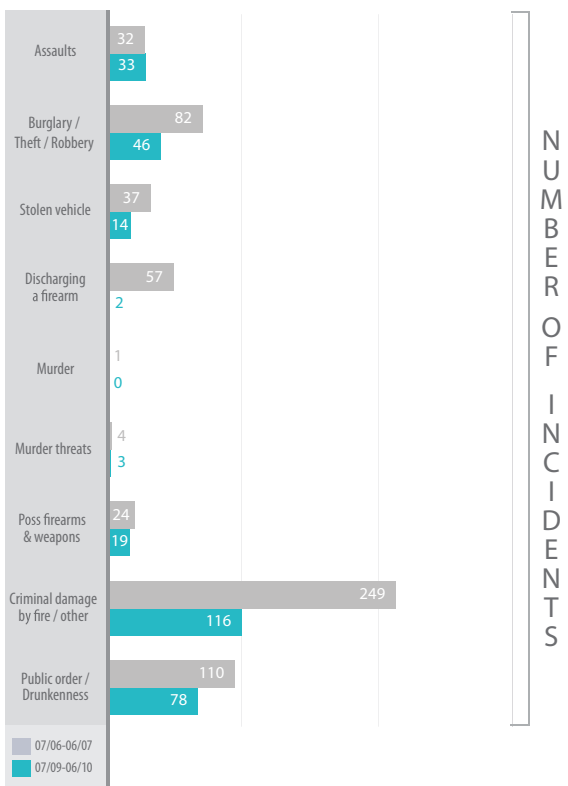


Figure 1.27: Selected Incidents of Crime 2006/07 and 2009/10: Northside Regeneration Area
Source: An Garda Síochana, Southern Region

²¹ The discrepancy with the 100 additional personnel could be associated with attrition over the years.
²² By mid-2010, this facility, the Special Criminal Court, was used only three times in Limerick (and used effectively in all cases).

Drugs Act (1977, 1984) (an increase of over 9 times in the number of searches) and a small increase in charges of simple possession. There has been a drop in search of premises / vehicles.

Breakdown of this data by northside and southside regeneration areas is shown below. The pattern is similar in terms of search incidents between 2006/07 and 2009/10 (e.g., very large increase in the number of search incidents under the Misuse of Drugs Act (1977, 1984)). Possession charges decreased slightly in the southside while they increased in the northside regeneration areas. The number of reported incidents across all types of incidents and charges are higher on the northside compared with the southside.

Anti-social behaviour is a serious problem on the regeneration estates. While this has been reported in many recent studies and there are findings giving an indication of the scale of the problem in regeneration

areas, a precise quantification of the problem in the regeneration areas is not available. Focusing on responses to the problem, between 2006/07 and 2009/10, a larger number of anti-social behavioural orders were issued in 2009/10 compared with 2009/10. In 2009/10, more anti-social behavioural orders were issued on the northside compared with the southside regeneration areas.

The impact of the additional resources for policing and the policing approach (targeting the serious criminals, more policing, community policing) have been positive in terms of reducing crime. The serious criminality was one dimension of the problem and, for the present, a major impact has been made on solving this. The incident statistics, however, are based on reported crime and, as such, do not cover the full extent the problem of crime and fear of crime in the regeneration areas. Because of fear, harassment, intimidation etc., crimes may not be reported.

Drawing on evidence of recent studies,²³ community safety, anti-social behaviour, harassment, intimidation etc. remain as serious problems. Based on the views of residents, such neighbourhood problems are more serious in the southside compared with the northside regeneration areas. Drawing on survey data from 2010, more than one-quarter (26%) of parents surveyed in the northside and just under half of those surveyed in the southside regeneration areas (46%) indicated that violent crime is a very big / big problem in the area; 60% in the southside and just over 30% in the northside regeneration areas indicated that crimes against property are a very big / big problem; availability of drugs / open drug dealing was considered a very big / big problem by 75% of parents surveyed on the southside and 60% of parents surveyed on the northside; approximately 37% of parents on the southside and over 20% on the northside identified harassment / abuse as very big / big problem; 65% in the southside and 30% in the northside regeneration areas identified “young kids hanging around” as a very big/ big problem while 72%

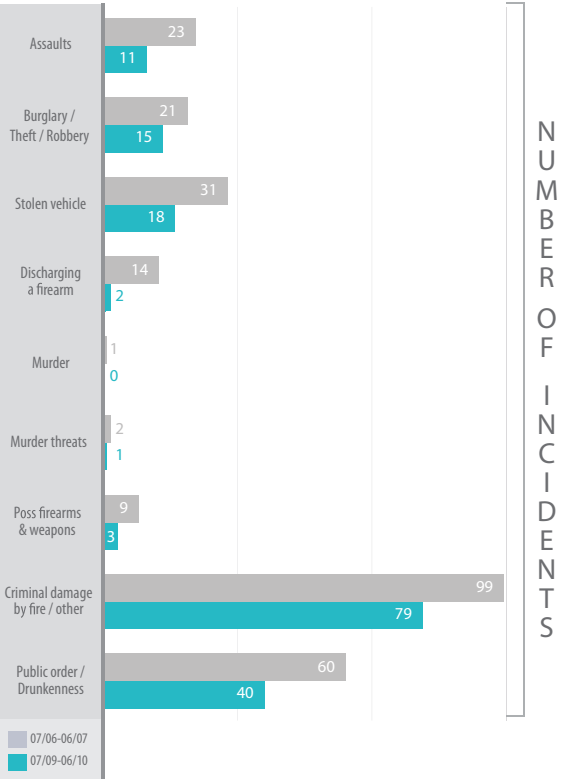


Figure 1.28: Selected Incidents of Crime 2006/07 and 2009/10: Southside Regeneration Area
Source: An Garda Siochana, Southern Region

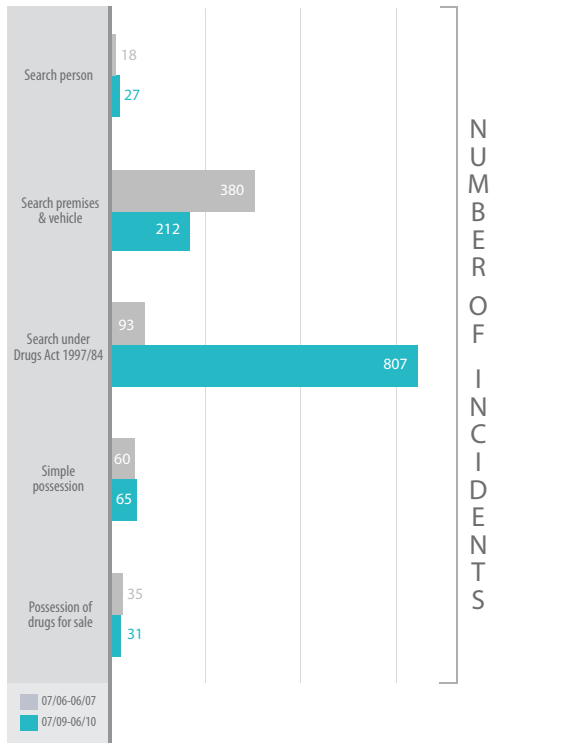


Figure 1.29: Data on Search and Drug-Related Charges 2006/07 to 2009/10: All Regeneration Areas
Source: An Garda Siochana, Southern Region

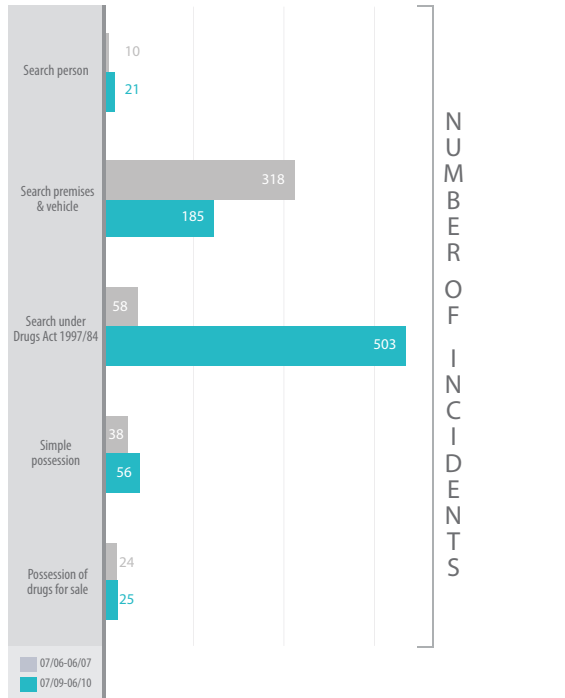


Figure 1.30: Data on Search and Drug-Related Charges 2006/07 to 2009/10: Northside Regeneration Area
Source: An Garda Siochana, Southern Region

23 Humphreys, E., D. McCafferty and A. Higgins (2012). “How are our Kids?”: Experiences and Needs of Children and Families in Limerick City with a Particular Emphasis on Limerick’s Regeneration Areas. Limerick: Limerick City Children’s Services Committee; Hourigan, N. (2010) Understanding Social Exclusion in Limerick. Cork: Cork University Press; Power, M.J. and C. Barnes (2011) Feeling Safe in Our Community. Limerick: Department of Sociology, University of Limerick

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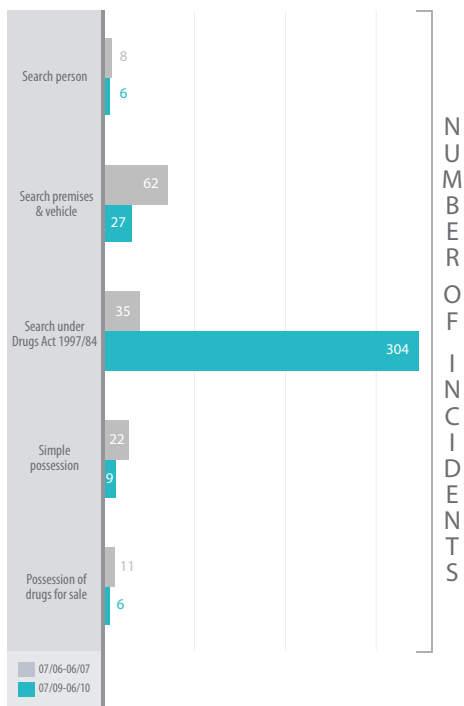


Figure 1.31: Data on Search and Drug-Related Charges 2006/07 to 2009/10: Southside Regeneration Area

Source: An Garda Síochána, Southern Region

on the southside and 28% on the northside identified car crime / joyriding as a very big / big problem. Other issues identified in recent research include money-lending as a serious problem often leading people into criminality (Hourigan, 2009), anti-social behaviour by very young children and poor parental control (Barnes and Power, 2012).

The installation and improvements to CCTV on the regeneration estates are considered to have had a positive impact. At the same time, some residents consider that monitoring of CCTV needs to be improved and while CCTV acts as a deterrent for some, others “don’t care”.

1.11 Conclusion

This section presented an overview of the socio-economic context of the plan. It provides baseline data of the current situation in Limerick City and recent trends across a range of themes relevant to the social plan. The analysis includes comparison of conditions in Limerick City with those in the State

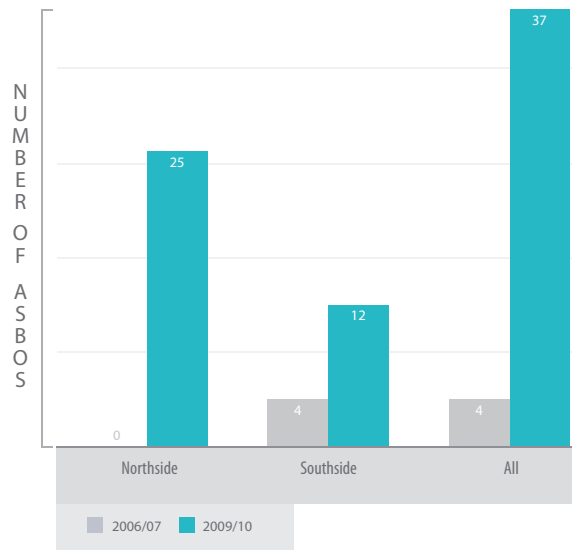


Figure 1.32: Number of Anti-Social Behavioural Orders Issued 2006/07 and 2009/10: Limerick Regeneration Areas

Source: An Garda Síochána, Southern Region

overall. It also provides an analysis of the context of the most disadvantaged areas of the city, particularly focused on the regeneration areas.

Limerick City is facing serious economic challenges, linked to the deep economic crisis. All areas of the state have been affected negatively by the economic crisis. The analysis of the spatial distribution of affluence and deprivation in the State shows that the main urban centres – the five cities - have fared better than other areas of the country, showing resilience in the face of deep crisis. While Limerick City has fared better than the average for the state in terms of absolute change in affluence / deprivation, it has fared the worst of the five cities.

The economic crisis has impacted in terms of change in the structure of the local economy and loss of jobs in sectors that, traditionally, have been very important in the city (e.g., manufacturing). The impact of the crisis is especially reflected in the large numbers out of the work and the high unemployment rates in the city for both males and females. Job losses have affected various sectors of the economy especially manufacturing, construction, technical / scientific and business services and, based on analysis of the overall national situation, have occurred at higher and lower occupational skill levels. Young people have been

particularly badly affected by unemployment with those in the youngest age cohorts in the labour force showing extremely high rates of unemployment. Youth unemployment rates in Limerick City are higher than the national average. The profile of the local economy and its history indicates the need to focus on creating new sources of jobs generally in the city and to focus this effort at various levels of qualification and skill in order to create new opportunities for those people out of work. This includes the creation of entry level jobs for young people, to enable their transition into the world of work.

The economic problems of the city have an important impact on the social context. Unemployment, especially long-term unemployment, is one of the highest risk factors of poverty and social exclusion. The analysis of the current situation and trends in the most disadvantaged areas of the city, especially the regeneration areas, is indicative of deeply structural economic and social problems. Analysis of trends shows that these problems have been in evidence for a long time. In the most disadvantaged areas of the city, a very high proportion of the population has no recent history of work. The most disadvantaged estates currently are characterised by an extremely high level of dependence on social welfare rather than salaries / wages from work as the main source of income.

The low level of educational qualification of the adult population in the most disadvantaged estates is a serious structural problem, affecting access to opportunities in many areas of social, civic and economic life including employment. Low education of parents also negatively impacts on aspirations and children’s educational attainment as well as other outcomes including health. This profile of low education of adults on the most disadvantaged estates contrasts strongly with the education profile of the adult population of the city as a whole, and with average areas of the city.

There are specific problems in evidence in the school population and education of children and young people. Declining enrolments, for instance, is a characteristic of schools in the most disadvantaged areas of the city (DEIS schools). Rates of absenteeism are high in schools in the most disadvantaged areas of the city. Retention rates in school for young people to Junior Cert and Leaving Cert qualification are significantly lower in schools in Limerick City

compared with Limerick County and all counties in the State. Progression rates to third level education post Leaving Cert from schools in the disadvantaged areas (DEIS schools) are significantly lower than those from schools in average and more affluent areas of the city (non-DEIS schools).

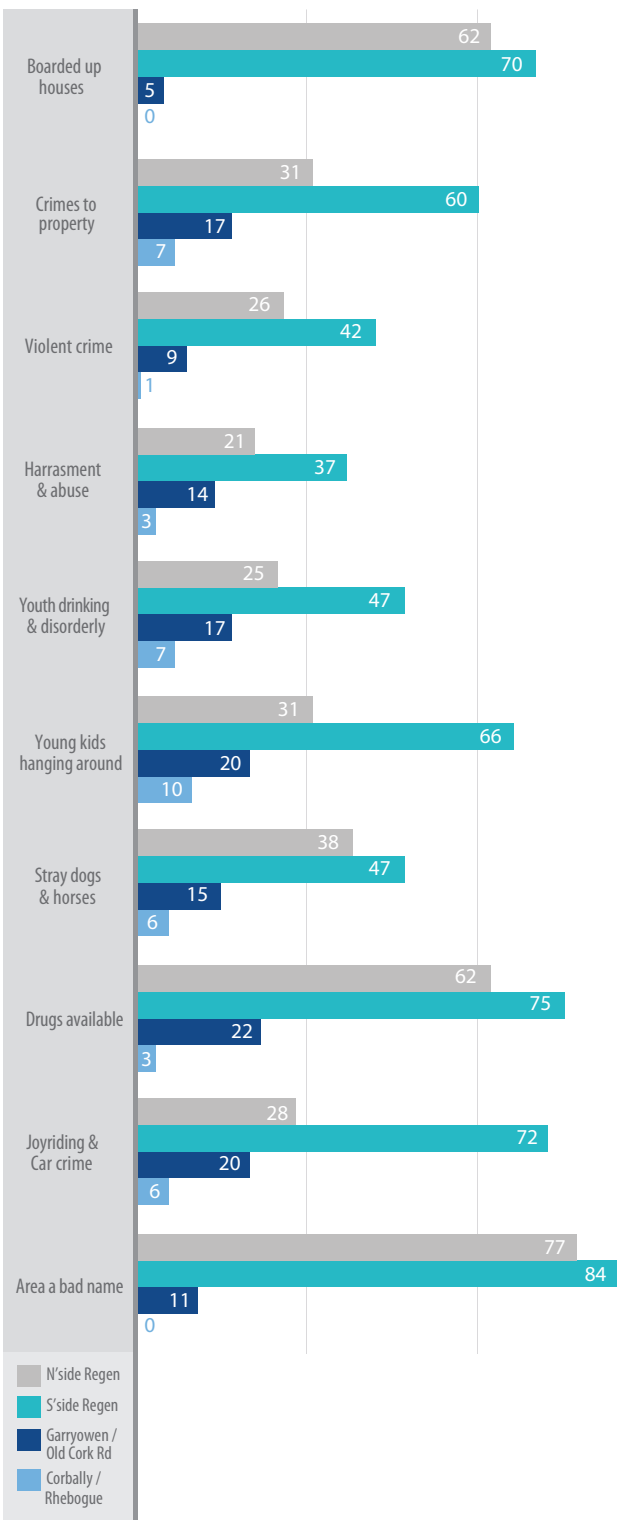
In terms of population health, residents of areas that are relatively more disadvantaged show a profile of poorer physical and mental health compared with residents of average and more affluent areas. This applies across all age groups in the population – children and young people, adults (parents) and older people. The difference or gap in mental health status between residents of the most disadvantaged areas and the average population is particularly large. Poor mental health is associated with wide-reaching negative impacts on individuals and families – for instance, on physical health and well-being but also on capacity to engage in social, civic and economic life. The direction of causality can work both ways and there are strong inter-dependencies. Poor parental (maternal) mental health is associated with negative outcomes for children including poorer level of educational attainment as well as emotional and behavioural problems in children.

Children living in the most disadvantaged areas of the city have a profile of significantly higher rates of emotional / behavioural and attention difficulties compared with an average population of children. While the detailed analysis was not presented here, children from these areas have more exposure to childhood traumas, the families have a greater intensity of problems (including financial difficulties, addictions, etc.) and there are greater deficits in parenting practices compared with children living in average areas of the city. The families also live in less safe and poorer quality social and physical environments including more exposure to anti-social behaviour.

Reflecting the ageing of the population in the State in general, Limerick City has a significant population of older people with some parts of the city having a profile of an older age structure compared with the average for the city. The city has a significant proportion of households comprising adults – living alone or otherwise. Their needs into old age, to support independent living for as long as possible and good quality of life in old age, need to be addressed in

Figure 1.33: Issues Identified as Very Big / Big Problems: Selected Neighbourhoods Limerick City (2010 data)

Data source: Humphreys, E., D. McCafferty and A. Higgins (2011) “How are our Kids?”: Experiences and Needs of Children and Families in Limerick City with a Particular Emphasis on Limerick’s Regeneration Areas (Limerick City Children’s Services Committee)



Appendix 1: Baseline Conditions and Analysis

the social plan for the city.

In terms of social capital, neighbourhoods in Limerick City, including those that are most socially disadvantaged, show many positive aspects including a strong sense of belonging to community and networks of social support from extended family, friends and neighbours. The most disadvantaged communities in the city, however, show weaknesses in certain aspects of social capital reflected in deficits of trust in people in general, negatively affecting cohesion of the communities and the city in general.

In relation to justice, crime and criminality, with the additional Garda resources allocated to the city (100) under the regeneration programme, there has been a positive impact on addressing the problem of serious criminality in the city, bringing the city to a level of “normal” policing. The data on incident statistics across a range of incidents of crime with reference to the regeneration areas show a reduction in reported crime, while other relevant statistics (e.g., search of premises, person) show higher levels of policing particularly drug-related policing. There has been a drop in all incidents of recorded crime in the regeneration areas, especially in the most serious crimes. Gardaí issued more anti-social behavioural orders in 2009/10 compared with 2007/08. Lower level criminality and especially anti-social behaviour, harassment / abuse, intimidation, joy riding and crimes to property remain as serious problems on the regeneration estates. From the perspectives of residents, these issues are more serious problems in the southside regeneration areas compared with the northside regeneration areas. Community safety is a key issue.

1.12 Key Emerging Issues

The foregoing analysis has highlighted a number of key issues in terms of structural economic deficiencies, extensive social problems, and physical planning across the regeneration areas which are exacerbating an already challenging economic situation. Key emerging issues to consider with specific reference to the regeneration areas include:

- With above average rates of population in the 15 to 24 age category there is significant potential to direct a large proportion of the population into gainful employment over the next ten years.
- The number of people at work (over 15 years of age) in the regeneration areas is significantly

lower than the number of those at work in the city (39%) and the State (58%). Unemployment rates in the regeneration areas are well above (more than double) those of the city, on average.

- The percentage of people that cannot work in Southill due to sickness / disability (13%) is over three times that of the State figure, followed closely by Ballinacurra Weston (12%), Moyross (11%) and St. Mary's Park (10%).
- Only 10.5% of the workforce is engaged in vulnerable sectors (manufacturing and construction), well below the national figure (16%).
- The regeneration areas with only 3% of the population over the age of 15 with a higher certificate, degree or postgraduate degree qualification has a very low educational qualification base. This will present serious challenges in the “tight” and competitive local labour market and in the modern economy in general.
- The regeneration areas have an ageing house stock with just under 4% of all housing constructed since 1990 and 25% of the housing stock constructed prior to 1960.
- Private landlord rentals within the regeneration areas are more on a par with the State figure of just over 8%, compared to the exceptionally high figure in the city of 24% and the metropolitan area figure of 26%. This could indicate potential for an increase in this type of house ownership in the regeneration areas.
- Almost 50% of the total households in the regeneration areas comprises two persons or under with almost 24% in single occupancy which suggests under occupancy of houses within the regeneration areas and as a result under-utilisation of valuable and scarce urban land.
- In contrast to the previous statistics, the Limerick City Council Housing Waiting List confirms that as of May 2013 there is a need for an additional 162 houses within the regeneration areas arising from existing overcrowding.
- The single parent family dominates the household type at 26% of all households in the regeneration areas, well above the State figure of 13% and the 14% of population in Limerick City. Over 60% of any households with children under 15 years in the regeneration areas are lone parent households.
- Future housing need required over the regeneration programme will be intrinsically related to the population change and the types of households forming within Limerick City over the

next ten years. Limerick City will experience a growing population, with increasing numbers of children (0-19 years) and elderly people (+55 years). Combined with trends leading to shifting patterns of household composition (e.g. increasing numbers of lone parents, co-habiting couples with children, one person households) will create an additional internally generated housing need.

- Almost 73% of the population within the regeneration areas travels less than two miles (30 minutes) to work/school/college thereby highlighting the availability of employment and educational establishments in proximity to the regeneration areas.
- The relatively short distance travelled to work / school each day is reflected in the high percentage of the population that travels on foot or by bicycle which is more than double the national figure of 17%.

Appendix 1: Baseline Conditions and Analysis

Indicator	John's A	John's B	Ballynanty	Lm North	Killeely A	Galvone B	Rathbane	Prospect A	Prospect B
Total Population 2006	1,211	1,053	3,468	7,251	1,579	1,558	1,702	1,031	1,010
Total Population 2011	863	976	2,918	6,485	1,445	878	1,567	751	1,039
Population Change 2006-11	-348	-77	-550	-766	-134	-680	-135	-280	29
Population 0-4 years 2011, %	6.1	5.3	7.7	6.4	7.0	7.3	6.7	6.0	4.1
Population 5-14 years 2011, %	18.4	11.3	15.4	12.2	14.7	16.1	14.7	13.0	7.7
Population 15-24 years 2011, %	15.1	12.5	17.1	18.6	14.9	17.1	13.5	14.6	37.5
Population 25-49 years 2011, %	29.5	30.8	30.4	34.4	31.4	29.3	31.3	32.1	22.6
Population 50-64 years 2011, %	17.7	18.9	20.5	17.1	19.2	16.3	19.7	19.7	15.3
Population 65-79 years 2011, %	10.9	14.4	7.3	9.9	11.2	12.8	12.1	11.6	9.3
Population 80 years+, 2011, %	2.2	6.8	1.6	1.4	1.6	1.3	2.0	2.9	3.4
Age Dependency Ratio 2011	37.7	37.8	32.0	29.9	34.5	37.4	35.5	33.6	24.5
Lone Parent Families as % families with children under 15 years, 2011	73.5	57.3	63.9	33.6	58.2	72.6	61.2	65.3	61.2
% Primary School Education 2011	53.6	32.9	35.6	12.4	43.0	48.1	37.3	43.2	39.2
% Third Level Education 2011	1.4	15.8	5.8	27.3	4.3	4.3	6.8	11.3	7.4
% Higher & Lower Profs, SC, 2011	4.1	13.7	8.5	28.7	7.8	4.1	9.1	12.8	6.0
% Semi & Unskilled SC, 2011	51.0	38.5	42.6	18.5	43.6	50.6	41.7	51.0	37.0
Unemployment Rate Male %, 2011	61.7	49.1	53.8	26.5	52.4	65.7	51.2	46.6	57.9
Unemployment Rate Female %, 2011	50.6	35.8	39.9	19.0	30.5	44.2	41.3	34.0	31.6
Number Permanent Private Households	308	414	1,081	2,446	571	332	592	296	441
Living alone as % of all households	26.0	40.1	24.1	23.2	29.5	26.0	28.0	31.4	33.8
LA Rented households %	36.5	27.0	42.1	9.7	31.9	42.2	29.7	21.3	17.8
Privately rented households %	6.0	21.2	9.3	20.0	11.0	10.7	5.9	11.1	31.8
Owner Occupied Households %	56.5	49.4	48.1	69.4	55.9	45.9	62.8	63.8	47.6
HP Relative Deprivation Index 2006	-30.9	-17.5	-22.1	-3.8	-21.3	-26.3	-21.7	-23.3	-15.3
HP Relative Deprivation Index 2011	-28.5	-16.9	-21.2	-3.2	-21.6	-26.6	-20.6	-18.1	-18.9
Change in Relative HP Deprivation Index 2006-2011	2.4	.5	.9	.6	-3	-4	1.1	5.3	-3.6

Appendix 1: Baseline Conditions and Analysis

ED	Areas:
St. John’s A	St. Mary’s Park
St. John’s B	Lee Estate, Assumpta Park
Ballynanty	Part Moyross, Ballynanty, Woodview
Limerick North Rural	Part Moyross (Pineview, Delmege, Craeval) and Caherdavin
Kileely A	Kileely
Galvone B	O’Malley Park, Keyes Park, Southill
Rathbane	Carew, Kincora Park, Southill, parts of Janesboro
Prospect B	Part Ballinacurra Weston (Crecora, Beechgrove, Weston, Clarina)
Prospect A	Lord Edward St., Talbot Ave., Lenihan Ave., Bourke Ave.
Galvone A	Kennedy Park, Old Cork Road
Singland A	Singland, Claughan, Pike Ave., Lawrence Ave, Fairgreen., St. Patrick’s Rd
Abbey D	Downey St., Flood St., Keane St., Kilalee, Kilmurray, Pennywell, Rixtown
Glentworth C	Garryglass Ave., Hyde Ave, Hyde Villas, Ballinacurra Weston
Glentworth B	Casement, Colbert, Connelly, McDonagh, McDermott, Pearse, Janesboro, Roxboro Road



Appendix 2: Statement of Community Involvement

1.0 Introduction

This document sets out the programme, method and outcome of community involvement in the preparation process for the Limerick Regeneration Framework Plans. It begins with a review of the different tiers of planning policy on community involvement, and sets out Limerick Regeneration's strategy in involving residents and community representatives. Each of the public information and consultation sessions for Southill, Ballinacurra Weston, Moyross and St. Mary's Park is described in detail, clearly identifying the purpose, organisation, content and outcome of each. Key issues that emerged within each of the regeneration areas are highlighted and an explanation by the Office of Regeneration is given as to how the final development of the LRFIP has evolved in light of the comments received.

2.0 Planning Policy Context

At the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) in Rio, Principle 1 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development proclaimed that:

"Human beings are at the centre of concerns for sustainable development. They are entitled to a healthy and productive life in harmony with nature".

The Rio conference also reiterated the message that real change is most likely to come with the involvement of ordinary people, as stated in Principle 10.

Principle 10 also states

"Environmental issues are best handled with participation of all concerned citizens, at the relevant level. At the national level, each individual shall have appropriate access to information concerning the environment that is held by public authorities, including information on hazardous materials and activities in their communities, and the opportunity to participate in decision-making processes. States shall facilitate and encourage public awareness and participation by making information widely available. Effective access to judicial and administrative proceedings, including redress and remedy, shall be provided."

These international principles have filtered down to the level where a community orientated participatory approach is seen equally as necessary as a regulatory approach for the development of sustainable communities.

2.1 National Planning Policy

National policy emphasises the importance of consultation all levels of the planning hierarchy, from the national through to the local level. At the highest level, Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas (2008) highlights the importance of integrating public consultation into the preparation of non-statutory framework plans (paragraph 2.13). Delivering Homes, Sustaining Communities (2007) also highlights the importance of understanding the characteristics of a community, to ensure that appropriate techniques are devised and successful consultation undertaken.

"Tenant participation and consultation is critical to ensuring best practice in housing management and to

the achievement of sustainable and vibrant communities. Tenant based groups will be encouraged to work with local authorities to harness resources for their estate, to improve its social or physical environment and enhance social interaction within the community".

2.2 Local Planning Policy

At the local level, the Limerick City Development Plan 2012-2016 sets out the objective to involve the public in the planning and development of the city. The City Council's aim is to "ensure public participation through the statutory process governing its preparation".

3.0 Community Involvement Strategy

3.0.1 Key objectives of the Consultation Strategy

The Office of Regeneration endeavours at all times to communicate clearly and openly, through the following approaches:

- Where possible, use aerial photography in preference to two-dimensional plan layouts. This helps to avoid language and literacy barriers and will help to ensure that our communications are interesting and eye catching
- Ensure written material and verbal presentations are clear and presented in plain English
- Acronyms, abbreviations and jargon are avoided
- Ensure that that community involvement is a two-way process. We have provided a questionnaire for residents to complete to inform us of any observations they have on the proposals for redevelopment

The Office of Regeneration is careful to record the feedback given by participants and report on the outcomes and how decision-making has responded ensuring that everyone who invests their time in the consultation process should know how their comments have helped to inform the plan making process. The purpose of this statement of community involvement is to document how residents and key stakeholders have been involved and show how their views have influenced progress of the Framework Plans.

3.1 Approach by Limerick Regeneration Agencies and Office of Regeneration to involve the communities to date

There has been strong involvement, participation and engagement from residents to work in an integrated way towards the creation of vibrant & sustainable communities since the establishment of the Regeneration programme in Limerick in 2007. The ability and willingness of the communities to consider long term benefits, rather than striving completely for instant solutions, has augured well for local resident participation & empowerment.

Local regeneration offices were opened in 2007 at Watch House Cross, Moyross & at the LEDP, Roxboro Road, and later in early 2008, at Saint Marys Park, to provide residents with access to locally based staff and as a measure to build confidence in the regeneration programme. The involvement of local communities is

an integral part of any regeneration project. The Regeneration Agencies established and provided support to a set of structures to engage the communities of the regeneration areas. In the Autumn of 2007, Local Regeneration Committees were set up in Moyross, Southill and Ballinacurra Weston, and in 2008, St. Mary's Park. These committees, which meet on a monthly basis, comprise of residents, community groups, senior Gardaí, senior local authority staff, Councillors and senior Limerick Regeneration Agencies staff (until June 2012). The Local Regeneration Committees are chaired by an independent chairperson. Later, the Southill Local Regeneration Committee split into two – one for the O'Malley Park/Keyes Park areas and one for Carew/Kincora estates – such that in total, there are now five Local Regeneration Committees.

These Committees provide a consultative mechanism for the social, economic and physical elements of the Regeneration Programme at an estate level and involve community participation. For a period, there were separate “social” sub-committees but they became incorporated into the main local regeneration committees. Five Community Officers are co-funded by the Office of Regeneration & Limerick City Council in the regeneration areas to support community consultation, feedback and participation as well as general support for individual residents. This is achieved through structures such as residents' fora, residents' associations and similar organisations in the regeneration areas. The approach was not to establish new structures but to better resource the existing community/estate management structures.

A Citywide Community Consultative Committee, co-ordinated by the Local Partnership Company (PAUL) and chaired initially by the CEO of the Regeneration Agencies and now by an independent chairperson, brings the representatives of the five communities into a wider forum. In this structure, participants can exchange information and experiences across the areas and also engage with Regeneration senior staff and other-key officials invited to attend meetings. Following the conclusion of the five year remit of the Regeneration Agencies (2007 – 2012), the structures described above, including the operation of local offices, have remained in place.

The Office of Regeneration took over the delivery role of regeneration in June 2012. Staff members from the

office had been attending Regeneration Committee meetings up to that point and were familiar with the complex nature of the regeneration programme. From June 15th, the Office of Regeneration has formally carried the responsibility of delivering the objectives of Regeneration and has continued to work through the committee structure to ensure continuity of engagement with the community and services. Since June 2012, the many meetings have been held with regards to regeneration. The following is a synopsis of the level of engagement that has taken place at committee level since the presentation of the draft implementation plans to the local regeneration committees. It should also be noted that staff in the regeneration area offices engaged with many residents living in the communities and locally based groups/organisations for the purpose of imparting information on the draft plans outside of the formal structures and the public consultation open days.

3.1.1 Northside Regeneration

3.1.1.1 Moyross

The draft Implementation Plan was presented to the Moyross Regeneration Committee on the 17th September, 2012. There were key aspects of the plan which required further clarification, primarily the issues of works to private houses in the regeneration areas and the “House for a House” arrangement for home owners whose principal private residence was proposed to be demolished in the draft implementation plan.

These and other aspects of the plan were further discussed at meetings on the following dates:

- 15th October, 2012
- 26th November, 2012
- 24th January, 2013
- 25th February, 2013.

The Planning & Design Sub – Group also met on two occasions between the above dates and the date of the Public Consultation Open Day held on the 12th March, 2013.

3.1.1.2 Saint Mary's Park

The first draft of the Implementation Plan was presented to the Saint Mary's Park Regeneration Committee on the 3rd October 2012. The plan at that time envisaged a total demolition of all the remaining units in the estate. Concerns were expressed by some

Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

committee members with regard the relocation of all residents in St. Mary's Park to other locations on King's Island as many residents had expressed their desire to remain in St. Mary's Park and that redevelopment proposals should include housing within St. Mary's Park. The Regeneration Committee met again on the 7th November, 2012 and it was again advocated that the redevelopment of the area should incorporate housing within St. Marys Park. The Office of Regeneration re-examined the plan over the next number of months and reverted back to the Committee on the 20th March, 2013 with a revised plan incorporating refurbishment proposals for the majority of the estate. The Planning & Design sub-group also met on three occasions between the regeneration committee meeting held on the 3rd October, 2012 and the date of the Public Consultation Open Day held on the 28th March, 2013.

3.1.2 Southside Regeneration

3.1.2.1 Ballinacurra Weston:

Between July 2012 and March 2013 there have been 9 formal meetings of the Ballinacurra Weston Committee. The committee is chaired by the Parish Priest (Fr. Damien Ryan) and has representatives from the following groups:

- Residents
- Elected Members
- Limerick City CDP
- STEPS Programmes
- West End Youth Centre
- Estate Management
- Sports Representatives
- Our Lady of Lourdes CSG
- PAUL Partnership
- Our Lady of Lourdes National School Principal
- VEC
- An Garda Síochána

Key elements of these meetings relevant to the re-development proposals are as follows:

- The Director of Service for the Office of Regeneration, attended the early meetings to outline the new regeneration structures and to enforce the commitment by the Local Authority to the continuation of the programme.
- On 12th September The Project Manager for the Regeneration project, presented revised proposals for the area to the committee. A number of issues were raised including car parking at the Church,

Public Information Session:
O Malley and Keyes Park, Southill



refurbishment proposals for home-owners. It was agreed that the proposals needed to be discussed in greater details separate from the standard committee agenda and a further date was identified.

- On 27th September the committee met again to discuss the redevelopment proposals. Frank and honest conversations were held regarding the needs of the community and the importance of presenting realistic, community safety-focused plans. A discussion was also held around the presentation of information to the community and the committee agreed that a World Cafe style approach should be taken with members of the committee assisting the Office of Regeneration staff in the effort.
- On the 10th October committee meeting the Office of Regeneration presented a 10 point proposal for redevelopment founded on the discussions held in September and the input of the committee. The 10 points were as follows:
 - Take Houses out of Dereliction
 - CCTV
 - Refurbishment of all Houses (private and tenanted)
 - Community Wall
 - New Path
 - New Build
 - New Road
 - Future Developments
 - Playground
 - Community Groups

The 10 points highlighted above were priority objectives for the community and as such were then transposed onto a map and subsequently used in the public consultation. In November, the committee agreed to hold back on the consultation until clarity was finalised with regard to the refurbishment of private houses. An agreement to proceed with the public consultation was reached in February.

3.1.2.2 Carew Kincora Regeneration:

Between July 2012 and March 2013 there have been 10 formal meetings of the Carew/Kincora Committee. The committee is chaired by an independent Chairperson (Geraldine Hanna) and has representatives from the following groups:

- Residents
- Elected Members

- Parish Priest
- Southill SDC
- Four Parks Forum
- Estate Management
- Our Lady of Lourdes CSG
- PAUL Partnership
- An Garda Síochána

Key elements of these meetings relevant to the re-development proposals are as follows:

- On 7th August 2012 The Project Manager for the Regeneration project presented drawings of the Colivet Court development to the committee. A discussion took place around concerns of the residents and the Project Manager identified the best way to resolve the difficulties. The Director of Services attended the meeting and outlined the new structure and commitment by LCC to the regeneration process.
- 4th September 2012 – The Project Manager and the Planner for the Office of Regeneration, gave a PowerPoint presentation to the committee outlining the proposals for the area. Drawings and maps were circulated and a lengthy discussion took place during which time the committee asked questions and sought clarifications.
- On 13th September a meeting took place to discuss the plans and walk the estate to get a fuller understanding of the nature of the difficulties experienced.
- 2nd October – The implementation plans were further discussed by the committee with the Project Manager. An Garda Síochána gave their input and highlighted some of the merits of the plans. A second opinion, by an independent architect was requested by the residents who subsequently walked the estate with them.
- On 6th November the plans were further discussed with the Project Manager present. The committee welcomed the fact that the National Crime Prevention through Design Officer, Alan Roughneen, would be visiting the area and having an input on the plans. Consideration was also given to the clarity needed with regard to home-owners and the works that would be carried out on their houses.
- 11th December – An Garda Síochána asked that they attend the public consultation sessions to provide information in respect of security matters. This was welcomed by the committee.
- On 28th January 2013 the dates for the public

consultation were agreed by the committee as well as the means to advertising the sessions – press and flyers.

- On 4th February the Administrative Officer for the Office of Regeneration, attended an Estate Management Group meeting to outline the plans to the group – for information purposes.
- On 27th February the regeneration committee met again to discuss the format of the information sessions and to assign roles and responsibilities to the committee members before the sessions.

3.1.2.3 O’Malley Keyes Regeneration:

Between July 2012 and March 2013 there have been 10 formal meetings of the O’Malley /Keyes Committee. The committee is chaired by the independent Chairperson (Brother Pdraig McDonnell) and has representatives from the following groups:

- Residents
- Elected Members
- LEDP
- Southill FRC
- Parish Priest
- Four Parks Forum
- Estate Management
- PAUL Partnership
- An Garda Síochána

Key elements of these meetings relevant to the re-development proposals are as follows:

- On the 18th July 2012 the Project Manager outlined the plans for the Colivet Court Redevelopment. The Director of Service attended the meeting and outlined the new structure and commitment by LCC to the regeneration process.
- On the 19th September a PowerPoint presentation was made to the committee. A long discussion was held afterwards and the committee asked questions and sought clarifications.
- At the October meeting the Project Manager provided more feedback and explained the plans in further detail. The committee queried the detail of the refurbishment and re-location proposals on offer to private home-owners. The committee agreed that it would be unwise to present information to the public without the clarifications.
- On November 7th the plans were discussed further. Input from the National Crime Prevention through Design Officer, Alan Roughneen, together

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with a representative from An Garda Síochána was scheduled to visit the area and meet with the Design Team.

- On 12th December the committee voiced their disappointment that the Office of Regeneration could not give feedback regarding proposals to upgrade private houses. This sentiment was further highlighted at the January meeting and the committee asked that an emergency meeting be held as soon as clarification was available.
- On 28th January a special meeting of the Regeneration Committee was held to inform the committee of the proposals to carry out works to private houses and in respect of relocations. Preparations for organising the public information sessions were discussed – distribution of leaflets, newspaper adverts etc. Dates were set for the information sessions.
- On the 13th February the proposals were again discussed with the Project Manager, and the logic behind the designs were further teased out. The Administrative Officer for the Office of Regeneration presented the proposals to the residents' committee on 20 February. The drawings were used to highlight specific proposals such as new streets, new housing etc.
- There was a dedicated meeting of the committee to discuss the public information session on 25th February. Roles and duties for the committee members were assigned.

3.3 Public Information Sessions March/April 2013

In March/April 2013 the Southside Office of Regeneration held 14 formal Information sessions to get feedback from the community and services on the proposals to redevelop the estates of Southill and Ballinacurra Weston under the Regeneration Programme. The details of the Public Information Sessions are outlined in Section 3.3.2.5. Adverts were placed in the local press and all residents of Ballinacurra Weston, O'Malley Park, and Keyes, Carew and Kincora Parks, were invited to attend.

The Redevelopment Proposals were also presented to a number of service groups in these areas following requests to do so:

- Southside Councillors - 20th February 2013, LEDP
- Four Parks Forum - 11th April 2013 – LEDP
- St. Kieran's Project - 15th April 2013 – Galvone National School
- Children's Services - 16th April 2013 – LEDP

- Galvone Industrial Estate- sub group - 23rd April 2013 – Galvone Industrial Estate

The Office of Regeneration, spent significant time preparing for the events to ensure clarity of vision and thought and to ensure a consistent delivery of information. Thought was given to the types of questions that might be asked and the rationale behind particular proposals (i.e. improved security, access or surveillance). Further detail on the events for each regeneration area are discussed in Section 3.3.2.5.

3.3.1 Programme of Public Information Sessions (March 2013)

Guided by the approach outlined in Section 3.1 the community involvement strategy was structured into a programme of Public Information Sessions, in which the Office of Regeneration:

- Organised a public exhibition event
- Allowed for a drop-in-clinic subsequent to the public exhibition event to allow residents to meet the team to discuss and clarify the proposals for redevelopment

The sequence, purpose and outcome of events is summarised below and set out in more detail in the following sections, and supported by evidence.

3.3.2 Proposals for redevelopment

3.3.2.1 Purpose

The primary purpose of the public information sessions held in March/April 2013 for the regeneration areas was to introduce the residents to the proposals for redevelopment.

3.3.2.2 Organisation

The Public Information Sessions for the regeneration areas were accommodated in the following venues:

- Southill: Southill Area Centre
- Moyross: Moyross Community Centre
- Ballinacurra Weston: Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre
- St. Mary's Park: King's Island Community Centre

The event was facilitated by staff members of the Office of Regeneration, Limerick City Council.

3.3.2.3 Content

The purpose of the Public Information Session was to

seek residents' opinions on proposals for redevelopment. The proposals consisted of the following information:

- A mounted board showing principal proposals overlaid on a background aerial map (birdseye view) – 5 copies.
- A mounted board showing principal proposals on a measured two-dimensional plan – 5 copies
- A questionnaire in an A3 landscape format highlighting the principal proposals (as outlined on aerial and plan) and asking residents to indicate their view on different proposals by ticking boxes titled 'Yes', 'Don't Mind/Don't Know', or 'No'. Residents were also provided with space to provide additional comments under each key proposal.

Comments provided by residents were transcribed verbatim and dated. A section was also included in the questionnaire requesting the name, address, telephone and email of the respondent as well as a request for an age and occupation profile. This information was deemed sufficiently informative to allow the Office of Regeneration to assess and respond to the Public Information Session feedback in a meaningful manner. Throughout the Public Information Session there was an opportunity for the residents to speak to a staff member on a one-to-one basis to gain an understanding of the key proposals for redevelopment. Residents were also invited to take the questionnaire away to consider in their own time with the opportunity to submit it to the Office of Regeneration over the following weeks.

3.3.2.4 Outcome

St. Mary's Park

28 March 2013

3pm – 8pm

Residents responded positively with 57% of the overall responses received in general agreement with the proposals for redevelopment. However the consensus of comments identified a number of remaining issues of concern including:

- Concern that the proposed bridge link will have a negative impact on the last remaining wetlands, marshes, floodplains
- Concern with replacement housing on a designated flood plain
- Concern raised that Star Rovers requires a bigger

- clubhouse facility
- Clarification required on what was meant by the objective – “Reinforce existing community hub by improving quality and extending the choice of uses available”
- Concern that houses in St Mary’s Park being refurbished will be impossible to keep warm
- Concern amongst some residents in St Mary’s Park that they are living in overcrowded conditions and have requested to remain in the area

These issues of concern have been responded to by the Office of Regeneration in Section 4.o of this document.

Ballinacurra Weston
5 March 2013 6pm-9pm
6 March 2013 1pm-4pm
7 March 2013 10am-1pm

Residents responded positively with 53% of the overall responses received in general agreement with the proposals for redevelopment. However a consensus took shape which identified a number of remaining issues of concern including:

- Request by some residents for clarity on whether question 2 posed in the questionnaire means demolition or refurbishment of units at Weston Gardens.
- Concern amongst residents that creating a street from Beechgrove Avenue would create a ratrun and attract joyriders.
- Concern that the connection proposed through Clarina Park to Byrne Avenue and Lenihan Avenue is unnecessary.
- Disappointment that only 4 new houses will be built in the area.
- Preference to locate a proposed playground away from people’s houses and at a location where passive security is provided

These issues of concern have been responded to by the Office of Regeneration in Section 4.o of this document.

--**Southill: O Malley Keyes**
6 March 2013 5.30pm-8pm
7 March 2013 12 - 4pm

Residents responded very positively with 67% of the

overall responses received in general agreement with the proposals for redevelopment. However a consensus took shape which identified a number of remaining issues of concern including:

- Concern that a pedestrian street in a residential area would bring about unsocial behaviour.
- Further clarity required on what was meant by ‘natural surveillance’
- Further clarity required on what was meant by ‘gateway’
- Preference amongst some households for secure back alleys for parking
- Preference amongst some households for secure parking to the front of houses
- Further clarity required on where new streets are located and a general concern that new streets will exacerbate anti-social behaviour

These issues of concern have been responded to by the Office of Regeneration in Section 4.o of this document.

Southill: Kincora/Carew
13 March 2013 4pm-8pm
14 March 2013 10.30am-2.30pm

Residents responded positively with 53% of the overall responses received in general agreement with the proposals for redevelopment. However a consensus took shape which identified a number of remaining issues of concern including

- Ensure working CCTV
- More lighting needed on existing green spaces and back alleys.
- Perception amongst residents that new streets will be rat runs and unsafe for children
- Perception amongst residents that speed bumps do not work in Kincora/Carew Park
- Preference amongst some households for secure back alleys for parking
- Preference amongst some households for secure parking to the front of houses
- Consideration of an active play space for older children
- Preference for new replacement on-the-ground houses as opposed to apartment typologies
- Concern by residents as to how the consultation process will be followed up
- Consideration of issue of dumping and anti-social behaviour to the rear of Maigue Way

- Consideration of a convenient link to Southill House to access services

These issues of concern have been responded to by the Office of Regeneration in Section 4.o of this document.

Moyross
12 March 2013
10am-5pm

Residents responded positively with 63% of the overall responses received in general agreement with the proposals for redevelopment. However the consensus of comments identified a number of remaining issues of concern including:

- Concern over high profile gateway site at entrance to Moyross
- Clarity on the how the mixed use District Centre at Moyross will be strengthened
- Concern that street parking equates to high density and parking should be a preference for parking on curtilage along Moyross Avenue
- Concern over the standards being used in the design for housing
- Concern over location of site for new replacement housing in Cliona Park as the community is well settled
- Clarification on uses being reinforced at the Moyross Community hub
- Concern that the cul de sac at Hartigan Villas should remain

These issues of concern have been responded to by the Office of Regeneration in Section 4.o of this document.

Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

Regeneration Area	Type	Date	Purpose	Outcome
Southill	Kincora Carew Public information session	13 March 2013 4pm-8pm 14 March 2013 10.30am-2.30pm	Presentation of a preferred option	General Support
Southill	O'Malley Park Public information session	6 March 2013 5.30pm-8pm 7 March 2013 12 - 4pm	Presentation of a preferred option	General Support
Moyross	Moyross Public information session	12 March 2013 10am-5pm 14 March 2013 option	Presentation of a preferred	General Support
Ballinacurra Weston	Ballinacurra Weston Public information session	5 March 2013 6pm-9pm 6 March 2013 1pm-4pm 7 March 2013 10am-1pm	Presentation of a preferred option	General Support
St. Mary's Park	St. Mary's Park Public information session	28 March 2013 3pm-8pm	Presentation of a preferred option	General Support

St. Mary's Park	Yes	Don't know/Don't mind	No	No Box Ticked	Total
OVERALL PROPOSALS FOR REDEVELOPMENT	1024	234	274	268	1800
• 161 persons in attendance at open days	57%	13%	15%	15%	100%
• 100 questionnaires returned					
• Overall response rate: 62%					

Ballinacurra Weston	Yes	Don't know/Don't mind	No	No Box Ticked	Total
OVERALL PROPOSALS FOR REDEVELOPMENT	400	65	258	21	744
• 87 persons in attendance at open days	53%	9%	35%	3%	100%
• 40 questionnaires returned					
• Overall response rate: 46%					

O'Malley Keys	Yes	Don't know/Don't mind	No	No Box Ticked	Total
OVERALL PROPOSALS FOR REDEVELOPMENT	502	98	101	51	752
• 169 persons in attendance at open days	67%	13%	13%	7%	100%
• 80 questionnaires returned					
• Overall response rate: 47%					

Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

Kincora & Carew Park	Yes	Don't know/Don't mind	No	No Box Ticked	Total
OVERALL PROPOSALS FOR REDEVELOPMENT	400	65	258	21	744
• 150 persons in attendance at open days	53%	9%	35%	3%	100%
• 62 questionnaires returned					
• Overall response rate: 41%					

Moyross	Yes	Don't know/Don't mind	No	No Box Ticked	Total
OVERALL PROPOSALS FOR REDEVELOPMENT	772	156	133	163	1224
• 42 persons in attendance at open days	63%	13%	11%	13%	100%
• 72 questionnaires returned					
• Overall response rate: 171%					

Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

3.3.2.5 Detail of the Public Information Sessions held in March/April 2013

Kincora/Carew
13 March 2013 4pm-8pm
14 March 2013 10.30am-2.30pm

	Overall Proposals for Redevelopment	Yes	Don't know/Don't mind	No	No Box Ticked
1	Improve orientation of end housing to increase natural surveillance	35	2	24	1
	<div>Other Comments:</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Don't like the idea of putting more houses in Carew Park, too many as it is.• No more houses to be built. No there are too many families already, more cameras should be placed around and monitored better. This may alleviate the current problem of anti-social behaviour but the youths will move to another location to hang around.• Depends on plans to improve sides of houses Whether you put up end houses or not we are still going to have problems with the youths. Our problem is that the parents are not made to take responsibility for their kids day or night.• Strongly opposed to these proposals and feel that nobody has listened to the residents.• Don't really know what this means. Natural surveillance by who?• Too many houses already.• You will increase natural surveillance and decrease the safety of all the kids with the new addition of roads.• Providing it doesn't take away space for back and cars.• The houses that already exist should be refurbished with the money that was granted, not build more houses.• We don't need another O' Malley Park, put cameras instead on each corners and monitor them like Moyross.• Yes but not apartments But no one bedroom apartments.• Too many houses in Carew Park, don't need any more.• More lighting possibly on green areas.• But where it opens closed area, I would not agree.• Provide no opening for vandalising.• I live at 42 Maigue Way, I have a side entrance and do not have access to the rear, and the proposed new house would be problematic for us.• We want no extra house or flats built• Yes but no one bedroom houses and no apartments• I agree with this because I think it will reduce areas where gangs of youths can hang around.				
2	Better connections from Kincora/Carew Park	21	6	33	2
	<div>Other Comments</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No need for all the roads, too many kids around who have no place to play.• No more roads. I live on a small green area and my children would be directly affected by putting roads through the green areas.• I strongly disagree with this proposal. There is already two and that is enough.• Existing connections are suitable.• Why? whats wrong with the access we have now. It looks like we want to bring people into Carew, not make it safe.• Less access less issues with speeding cars and less kids hanging around our houses.• Pedestrian/Cycle connection will only give anti-social element another rat run. This will be a no go area for decent people.• No more roads.• This will only make Carew Park bigger.• There are some good points and some bad. Because...				

Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

	Overall Proposals for Redevelopment	Yes	Don't know/Don't mind	No	No Box Ticked
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">I don't see the reason for better connections, everyone knows the scum bags are using these routes.I have kids and if ye put the roads in Carew Park they would have no place to play.Enough connections already.Not if it means making a main road through Devere Court, very populated with children.What's there is quite good.Too many people passing through Markievicz Drive. Some very undesirable.It took 30 years to close off Markievicz Drive because of traffic coming through, and kids can't play.More traffic more disturbance we would be gone back in time. What we fought to have blocked.Don't want it open again, fought too long to close it.Don't think it's a good plan, only cause more access for joyriders and sulkeys.Enough access in and out.Excellent idea for the residents.Because it will be quicker and safer for our children going to school.				
3	Redevelop existing road between Keyes and Kincora Park as a street	34	7	20	1
	<p>Other Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">This should be a priority anyway.Make it saferThis road should be a priority as this road is very dangerous. My kids go to school in Southill and we cross this road many times a day.Cars drive at high speed on this road and they are mostly commuters out or in of the city. May help with people and children crossing the road. Also pedestrian crossing might help.Why whats wrong with the access we have now. It looks like we want to bring people into Carew, not make it safe.Less access less issues with speeding cars and less kids hanging around our houses.Doesn't concern me.What about the speed of the traffic coming from Donoughmore etc.Make it safer.Because people will take shortcuts through the estate increasing the traffic already.There are enough connections.Pedestrian lights. We need safe access to houses, not less houses and more roads.For safety reasonsIt doesn't matter what ye redevelop. Cars still speed, it's a death trap.The less access from one area to another the quieter it makes the area.Will open up the whole area.Yes because my kids have to cross that road to get to school and people have been killed on that road.Roads going through the estates will become a rat run for motor bikes and stolen cars. All will be trial and error, more consideration maybe needed on new roads.				

Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

	Overall Proposals for Redevelopment	Yes	Don't know/Don't mind	No	No Box Ticked
4	Introduce chicanes to slow down traffic	43	9	9	1
	<div>Other Comments:</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Only if it slows down cars I need to know more about the chicanes.• Too dangerous. I fear this would cause more accidents if visibility is reduced for drivers.• These do not always work and have previously been erected without a successful outcome as cars continue to speed and do not slow down.• Speed ramps don't work. Will it slow down motorbikes too. And if a car is robbed they don't care to slow down. Will it slow down the robbed cars? NO.• Will there be enough room for buses/ bin lorries to pass safely.• Very good proposal.• Yes yes yes, this work is for tomorrow please.• I don't know if these would be helpful or cause more accidents.• Where??• Traffic needs to be dealt with which the cameras can deal with.• This might stop robbed cars from speeding estate to estate.• Nothing will slow down traffic only drivers of cars. The bigger the ramp the more excitement for joyriders.• For safety reasons• Only a good thing.• Only a good thing on existing roads.• They wont work.• I like to hear more about these.• Yes because it would be safer for our kids and elderly people.• Slowing down traffic measures are needed if new road are proposed.				
5	Provide for visible and secure carparking facilities	35	7	19	1
	<div>Other Comments:</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Blocking of existing gateways• We all have back drives.• More street lighting and cameras.• We have back garden drives.• If all householders could attain secure parking then it would be an option.• Residents might feel that visible parking might help that when visitors families come to visit that they can park near the houses.• This is only good if we can park outside our own houses where we can watch our own cars.• As camera access has been denied when asked in the past.• Leave our back entrances alone please, cars are fine our own back yards.• Is this for residents on both sides of the street? Will bus and other large vehicles be able to pass safely?• A.S.A.P• Where possible.• Where are these locations? I want to park outside my house. We have private back alleys.• For safety of my children I do not want car parking as my children play around there.• The houses at no 2 Kincora have their own parking already.• Peoples cars are being targeted very often, so secure parking would be advised.• We have spaces but proposal is to bring road through our avenue.				

	Overall Proposals for Redevelopment	Yes	Don't know/Don't mind	No	No Box Ticked
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Already have secure parking in Kincora Park. If it hadnt a new road attached.• We have them, ye will be taking them away.• Cars in view are more likely to be stolen or damaged, cars better at rear of houses, they are safer.• Yes, I have seen with people in Carew Park, they park on the side of the road obstructing drivers views and kids running from behind cars onto the road.• Would love to see off road parking in front of the house Hard enough to keep cars secure in back ways.• Opening opportunity to youths to damage cars.				

Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

Keyes Park, Southill



What residents of Kincora/ Carew Park said:



"I agree with this because I think it will reduce areas where gangs of youths can hang around"




"We need more lighting in back alleys. Very important for peace of mind"




"Need a lot more lighting and CCTV cameras, very bad anti-social behaviour going on in Carew Park"


Q Improve orientation of end housing to increase natural surveillance? and ensure optimum location of street lighting and CCTV cameras?



"We don't need another O' Malley Park, put cameras instead on each corners and monitor them like Moyross."



"Make sure they are working. Cameras that work, and not ornaments"



"Yes but not apartments but no one bedroom apartments"

How the Office of Regeneration responded:

The Office of Regeneration agrees with residents and sees the request by residents to have active surveillance and better lighting as vital to build and maintain momentum in Kincora and Keyes Park. In addition to CCTV and lighting, it is proposed to progress other necessary measures such as providing positive activities for young people, which alongside neighbourhood policing, CCTV and lighting, can help tackle the issue of antisocial behaviour.

Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

	Overall Proposals for Redevelopment	Yes	Don't know/Don't mind	No	No Box Ticked
6	Existing homes for retention to be refurbished natural surveillance	55	0	5	2
	<div>Other Comments:</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Would prefer houses to be knocked and when would houses be refurbished? Sooner the better• Boarded up houses should be opened.• Boarded up houses should be opened as they are causing anti-social behaviour.• Windows and heating are the most pressing issues regarding refurbishment.• All houses should be brought up to a better standard to give people better living conditioned but also they can make them blend in with new builds.• I have been told that windows, doors, insulation and outside pipes are the only refurbishment that will be done.• Our houses are pretty old and need to be knocked or a lot more refurbishing done to them.• Bullshit refurb, not at all what we were promised, strongly opposed.• Yes yes a soon as possible. What does this mean? No details!! The lack of activity as regards the back of Maigue• Way leaves me speechless. This is where the anti-social element is most prevalent. This work should be given priority.• Replacing of windows and down stairs toilets.• Refurbished with down stairs toilet Hopefully windows replaced.• Boarded up houses only cause anti-social behaviour.• All houses in Carew Park can be refurbished but this wont make a difference with the certain people living in these houses.• I think there should be less houses, build them somewhere else.• Make it a priority to refurbish boarded up houses.• Should be more, for kids in area. Ye knocked one already for new elderly building, without replacing it.• Open up houses but Garda Vet people who move in.• For proper living conditions.• Front back and gates outside shed would be appreciated.• Dont know.• Everyone would want their home in better condition.• Yes, because it keeps the area clean nice and fresh looking.• Would love to know the time line and the extent of work to take place				
7	Creation of a new park with playground	39	2	21	0
	<div>Other Comments:</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• But will it be safe and secure for my kids.• Only if it is put in the right place.• Safe place for kids to play in the soccer pitch.• I strongly agree that we need a park for the kids but I feel it would be better placed in the soccer pitch.• Unless it is suitably located away from house owners then no. it will work if it is located near a community centre where security can be provided and maintained at night to prevent anti-social behaviour.• Have a fenced off area for it, have cameras overlooking it.• Closed at night to stop youths drinking and vandalising playgrounds.• Provided that it in secure location residence will have the run of it.• I like the idea but concerned about security of my kids, as walking around Carew Park isn't secure/safe, how can ye make the park safe.• Don't believe this will work because of the anti-social behaviour existing in the area, absolute waste of money. It is well needed.• All very nice on paper but there are at least 30 kids of all ages running wild and no one in authority seems to have an answer to this.• None of this will work without addressing the ongoing anti-social issues.				

	Overall Proposals for Redevelopment	Yes	Don't know/Don't mind	No	No Box Ticked
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Please tomorrow if possible, for the playground for the kids.• Only if supervised, and lock up time.• In the soccer pitch would be better.• After 5 o'clock it will just be used by gangs of youths.• This will probably be during the day as well in the summer.• Too far away. I think the Park should be built at the end of Carew Park where it can be better maintained and quieter area.• In different area.• Yes but need something for the older kids too.• Don't need it.• Playground good but location sucks. Not with two main roads around. Its children we are talking about.• But not in Donoughmore Crescent.• But where would it be situated? Because of anti-social behaviour.• Cause a lot of arguments between children and their parents. It would be another area to be vandalised. but depends on where ye will build it.• In Carew Park soccer pitch.• The creation of a new park is great, but not surrounded by roads.• Not in current location as each side has a road. (risk for kids increased)• Not to site marked X. Connect to Southill House and give to Southill to control.• Yes, because as a resident I know there is not much for the kids to do in Carew Park• Needs to be a safe secure play area with minimum road to cross to get there.• Playground needed for younger children, with new roads planned.• Children need to be catered for all levels, nothing in the estate for children.• This would be wonderful for the kids as they really don't have anywhere to play and have fun. I have a six year old boy, I know he would love it.				
8	Open up back alleys where possible	9	1	52	0
	<p>Other Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• We fought to keep them closed• No way take the back alleys away anyway.• Would cause more anti-social behaviour.• I feel this would have a negative effect as youths would have more ways of causing anti-social behaviour.• These were initially closed up to prevent anti-social behaviour so cannot see how this issue has changed or householders will agree.• If possible alley should be closed up.• We fought a long time ago to close one side of the alleys.• It feels like ye are going backwards not improving the area.• Strongly oppose to this, why would residents fight so hard for them to be closed in the first place.• More committees not listening to us.• Will these areas be for the use of the residents living in these immediate areas only?• Certainly not.• You would create racing for robbed cars.• Definitely not.• Would only cause more anti-social behaviour.• How do we get our cars in and out of the backyards?• Also our back alley in Vale Ave is a tight squeeze to get 2 cars through.• No to Vale Avenue.• No way! Put gates for residents. Not in Vale Avenue.				

Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

	Overall Proposals for Redevelopment	Yes	Don't know/Don't mind	No	No Box Ticked
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• People spent years closing back alleys, why open them again?• Ok as it is, block off end of Markievicz Drive.• Give joyriders more access to back alleys and make them drive a lot faster making it harder for the guards to catch them.• No No No.• Yes. As it would be good for access as well as easy access for emergency services.• The opening of proposed alleys will cause more trouble, closing up all back alleys and opening up front for parking would be better. New streets will provide emergency access.• I don't think that would be a good idea, I think it would draw a lot of anti-social behaviour in the alleys.				
9	Potential for new streets	14	9	38	1
	<p>Other Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Whats wrong with existing streets, there should be more guards monitoring youths.• No way.• Absolutely not, I live on the green and my kids play out there.• No definitely not. Myself and my kids feel safe because of the green areas.• I don't agree with the new streets at all.• Including more roads will only bring more traffic into areas with young children who do not respect the rules of the road and also bring in speeding cars.• Road welcomed in Swallow Drive, other extra roads no.• Yes so that residents will know what they are.• I feel by opening us up to new streets is exposing us to the youths to reach houses that have not being affected in the past to intimidation.• Really don't know if this is a good or a bad thing.• Should have done it a long time ago• Definitely not I live on the green and would hate to have a road there, my kids wouldn't be safe.• Some only, need more consultation.• No• Put bollards across 129 Vale Ave to stop traffic going all the way through.• Don't mind Put bollards across 129 Vale Ave to stop traffic going all the way through.• Enough streets already in estate, less traffic is what we want, not more.• There are a lot of streets around this area.• Do not put main road outside DeVere Court. Doesn't affect me.• Street from main road into Yeats Ave stops at no 2 Markievicz Drive. No street from 3 to 16, footpath blocked at no 8 to no 9 stops all scumbags from entering. Hope it stays the same. Keep out the scumbags and the street.• Again giving joyriders more areas to drive and more areas for sulkeys.• Not where the small greens are going out onto road.• No new road going up through my house where children have an area to play, plus it will be dangerous.• No I don't agree with this as there is a high number of kids playing, so the dangers would be high.• As long as there are safe crossing areas.• New streets would be a good idea, it would open up the place a bit more and it would help the gardai do their job.				
10	Home for home in areas proposed for demolition (Yeats Avenue)	36	11	9	6
	<p>Other Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Why only Yeats Avenue? Ye said ye were knocking more houses and giving other people a chance for key for key.				

	Overall Proposals for Redevelopment	Yes	Don't know/Don't mind	No	No Box Ticked
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Are people going to be vetted? While some people may deserve a new home, others do not.I was told in the past that we all would get a chance to avail of the home for home or as ye said before a key for a key.People want out, not new streets.Absolutely and rightly so.If some of these residents want to stay in the immediate area is there potential for other residents to avail of this? Is someone from Yeats Ave moves to Maigue Way and the person from Maigue Way gets a house outside Carew park somewhere? i.e. ME.Don't understand the question.Reward families for causing a lot of problems in Southill with new house. "NO WAY"Do not want new houses built on green areas, not fair to other residents to have new houses built so close.Depending on neighbours if you put main road through DeVere Court.People have that right hold on the existing home.Don't see the need to demolish good houses, there is already a road in Synge drive, money better spent on opening boarded up houses. (Maigue way).No more houses for Kincora and Carew par, we have too many.But is that key for key as well, if so that's a yes.Yes, because it keeps people from the area in the area				
11	Proposed locations for new build	23	10	25	4
	<p>Other Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Too many houses, families and kids as it is. Too many families already no more.The last thing we need is more families creating potential for more anti-social behaviour. Building new homes will not resolve the issues already in existence, Sunnyside Court was only a new build and now it will be knocked and rebuilt, is anything going to be learned from that experience?I would prefer not to see extra houses built in the area.As long as you leave my house standing.You can knock the whole place, but while scumbags still live here all the cosmetics in the world won't change the daily lives of the decent people.As long as you leave my house standing. You can build all you like.No more new houses, put the money where it is needed.That's your job.Why is it all Build Build Build. We don't want more building, we want knocking.No there are too many houses as it is.Enough houses in our area.Enough housing in area, houses will be freed up when people move into new apartments being built.Too many as it is in Carew Park.Unhealthy for children which I have 2. And the elderly having more roads, I live near Yeats Avenue.Do not want houses on green areas. Build houses but don't put road through DeVere Court.Providing theres no alleyway.Again there may be a problem with the proposed new house beside mine at 42 Maigue Way due to side entrance, (we do not have rear access).However we are willing to move to facilitate any proposed development.Too many already there, made a mistake.We don't want anymore houses in Kincora and Carew Park only the ones ye are taking out.Yes because more homes are always welcome.				

Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

	Overall Proposals for Redevelopment	Yes	Don't know/Don't mind	No	No Box Ticked
12	Ensure optimum location of street lightinga and CCTV cameras	56	1	3	2
	<div>Other Comments:</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">When ever there is a problem they never seem to be working and areas should be well lit up.Yes and that they are working this time.Properly maintained and working properly.Yes, and properly maintained and in full working order.Cameras already in place are not manned with all their cutbacks, who is observing the anti-social behaviour.Nobody wants to live like you are being watched 24hrs a day or what looks like a prison.Always agree with more lighting and CCTV cameras, but will we be able to see the footage when required in the past.When asked we were told the cameras were being fixed that night. Wont make a blind bit of difference until anti-social behaviour is tackled.We already have CCTV but no one gets caught dumping or causing trouble so whats the point if its not checked on a daily basis and the information acted upon then forget it.Make sure they are working. Cameras that work, and not ornaments.Yes working properly and maintained properly.This is the first good thing ye have wrote. Cameras monitored by people in the estate, like Moyross.Working cameras!!Put lighting near cameras for viewing. If camera works.For safety reasons.Very essential especially CCTV Cameras. This isnt working as it is.I wish they worked.If they work.Need a lot more lighting and CCTV cameras, very bad anti-social behaviour going on in Carew Park.We need more lighting in back alleys. Very important for peace of mind.Yes as it makes the area safer.Very important for residents to feel safe and secure with the knowing of CCTV cameras. Some residents do not sleep at night through fear. <div>Any Other Comments</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Who will be contacting us with updated information and do I have to follow ye about the refurbishment to my house or will I receive information from ye.I do not agree with the alleys being opened up.But I would like a car park outside my house if the new road goes ahead.Do something for the older kids, the park wouldn't be for them.We need more cameras not more roads.I feel that all the money in the world wont stop anti-social behaviour.We need to start with the people in the estates and make them responsible for their own actions.I had already agreed to the previous plans and attended numerous meetings, however I do not agree to a number of these proposed plans.I would love to see the area being regenerated but would like if Regen/LCC would keep their promises to keep the area upgraded.People should be vetted and checked upon during their stay in that house.The Estate Management is not working in this area because they are not interacting with residents in the estate.Boarded up houses in Kincora/Carew park should be knocked or refurbished as soon as possible.Before any construction starts in the area there should be a public meeting called in the area centre so that residents know what is going on.I think the things ye have proposed are an excuse, pretending to improve Carew Park.I think the only way you can improve Carew Park is to have parents control their kids.				

	Overall Proposals for Redevelopment	Yes	Don't know/Don't mind	No	No Box Ticked
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• And upgrade the whole area of Carew Pk, not just small places.• The first proposal was better.• No to alleys opening.• I think ye should look at the area again and decide on something different.• Seems such a waste of money, these plans simply wont work, also anything that was promised originally is gone out the window.• I understand planning has to be done but listen to the residents and stop wasting money on planning what no one wants.• I am a resident of Maigue Way for 30 years and I find it insulting and baffling at your agencies lack of care and total disregard for what goes on at the back of Maigue way.• Dumping, Anti-social behaviour, burnt out cars etc.• Anything ye do will just be abused by these people.• Don't want anymore pumped insulation, external insulation only.• Would like to know when and if it is going to happen.• We need to combat anti-social behaviour not throw money away on things that wont help.• I would like green fences to the back of my house and a wall around my house and open my house up into Sunnyside Court.• Why not build the road through McSweeneys as they have already been moved to allow the new road.• I think this questionnaire should have been filled out at my front door by someone personally from the committee or Regeneration.• I am not happy at all with any of the proposals and don't think I have any choice.• Some people did not know about this meeting unless they bought a newspaper, I am quite annoyed by this, if letter are handed out they never get delivered on our block. Why! We don't know.• Do something about anti-social behaviour.				

Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

▼ O' Malley Park, Southill



What residents of O Malley and Keyes Park said:



“Pedestrian Street in a residential area will bring unsocial behaviour.”



“As this would highlight Southill as a positive area.”



“Need traffic calming.”

Q Redevelop existing road between Keyes and Kincora Park as a street?



“Traffic too much, too fast.”




“Should have been done long ago. How many accidents - cars allowed to speed towards Ballysheedy.”



“Will have more traffic going through which may cure the anti social behaviour.”

How the Office of Regeneration responded:



In developing the Limerick Regeneration Framework Plan the Office of Regeneration complies with the best practice mandatory national guidance document the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets’ (2013).

Creating an appropriate streetscape for Southill Avenue involves enclosing the

street as much as possible to “define them as urban spaces, create a greater sense of intimacy and promote them as pedestrian friendly spaces that are overlooked” (p.69). This sense of intimacy has been found to have a traffic calming effect. For this reason the proposal to redevelop the existing road between Keyes and Kincora Park (Collins’ Avenue) to be as narrow as possible to

achieve this sense of enclosure will slow down traffic and create a more pedestrian friendly environment. Parallel street parking bays along the street in appropriate locations, are provided to allow as much activity on the street as possible as people come and go from their vehicles. The presence of people along the street will add to the vibrancy and vitality of the area.

Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

O Malley Park Public information session
6 March 2013 5.30pm- 8pm
7 March 2013 12 – 4pm

	Overall Proposals for Redevelopment	Yes	Don't know/Don't mind	No	No Box Ticked
1	Create a better connection to the heart of Southill	48	5	4	3
	<div>Other Comments:</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">There is already a good road connection into Southill.It would be great if these plans went ahead.I believe it will bring the wider community closer together.If the thugs was got rid of.Plans will have a positive impact on the residents in terms of access for services (emergency, gardai etc)Most important to open up O'Malley ParkRe heart of Southill needs to be the heart of the four parksThere was always a heart in Southill and it would be great to make it betterOk as it isUnite CommunityYou already moved the heart out of this area by moving houses. The good people have all moved. All that are left are treated like crapFirst you want to get a playground for the young kids, as we don't have one, they have one in Moyross (think they have a good community there, we don't). Also a Soccer Pitch for the young lads, so they wont be playing outside our doors.Yes we would like to bring it back to the time when we were young.				
2	Redevelop existing road between Keyes and Kincora Park as a street	39	13	4	4
	<div>Other Comments</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Pedestrian Street in a residential area bring unsocial behaviour.As this would highlight Southill as a positive area.Need traffic calmingThere remains concern with exiting Southill House. There is 120 employees with 80 parents (creche). Accessing and exiting the site on a daily basis (minimum)Will have more traffic going through which may cure the anti social behaviourPossibly. However consider drivers on any road restructuring - meaning they don't need to take longer roundabout routes to a short journeyThis would be great the old and young kids would I feel be better safety for themNeededTraffic too much, too fast Should have been done long ago. How many accidents - cars allowed to speed towards BallysheedyDoes this mean occupier, between Rose Court, Lilac Court and Palm Court can drive to front of their homes and create off street parking??				
3	Improve orientation of end housing to increase natural surveillance	14	1	2	3
	<div>Other Comments</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Don't know what the question means - map not sufficient.This could possibly be a hindrance to young crowds hanging around street corners.				

	Overall Proposals for Redevelopment	Yes	Don't know/Don't mind	No	No Box Ticked
4	St Kieran's integrated Educational Campus adjacent to Galvone National School site	43	11	1	5
	<div>Other Comments:</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Much needed in the area considering the number of school dropouts is very high. Getting kids concentrating on their education will help them to go along way when they join secondary schools.• It would be good for childrens education as Southill School finishes at second class This offers great opportunity for all the children of our community but it concerns me that there will be no facility at all for children in our Community. I am concerned about the possible effects on the community Could benefit all but what about afterschool, social, playing fun areas - Where?• Very good idea• This would be the best asset to Southill as for our children are the future and with school drop outs and drugs this would be the stepping stone we need• All area schools should be on one site.• The wrap around school is a great idea.• Better to see bigger school that kids can go from babies to 6th class.				
5	New entrance from Childer's Road to O'Malley Park	36	7	12	5
	<div>Other Comments</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Too much traffic.• I believe this will be a massive boost for the community as the build up of traffic on Galvone and Kilmallock roads respectively is some what of a bother. As long as it don't give a direct entrance from clonlong halting site to O Malley Park, I would object to this.• Don't mind• Widen to permit lorry usage so as to remove heavy traffic from proposed new road. Consider car parking for unit in Galvone Industrial Estate (marked Yon map)• Not really familiar with details• Maybe a lot of traffic• A danger ? do we need it, will other traffic users take short cut through housing estate Another entrance / exit for stolen cars to get away from police• Would like it if things are watched.• If it does not cause problems.• If it does not cause problems. As long as stolen cars don't make a track out of it.• Easier to get kids to school, less traffic too.				
6	High profile Gateway site	9	4	4	3
	<div>Other Comments</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What do you mean by high profile gateway - No information• Why?• Access to O Malley Park is fine as it is.• Our community doesn't need a high profile gateway, its had enough press good & bad throughout the years and I think this will be a mutton dressed as lamb statement.• Don't understand what this is.• I don't understand.				

Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

	Overall Proposals for Redevelopment	Yes	Don't know/Don't mind	No	No Box Ticked
7	Gateway site at entrance to Southill	10	3	3	4
	Other Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is meant by this: Is this security Why? Don't understand from map. As this would show us been locked away like animals. 				
8	Demolition and refurbishment of boarded houses	50	2	5	3
	Other Comments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Infrastructure of houses is ok, refurbishment should be enough. No need for demolition. This is a total waste of a beautiful house. Refurbishment is a great idea. Demolition is proved, refurbishment is a waste of good money that could be spent on houses already occupied. Would prefer the complete demolition of all the houses in O Malley Park, and rebuild new houses for the people who wants to stay. These need to go Houses in good condition should not be locked up Great care and consideration needs to be given to allocations of refurbished and newly built houses Probably good. Some houses were poor quality originally & hopefully refurbishment, good insulation etc will justify money spent Need to focus on the appearance of Southill. Boarded up houses don't help All boarded up houses should be demolished. These houses are a magnet for unsociable behaviour. Should be relet or knocked down within 1 month of being vacant They are a target at the moment as there is not a day when you will not see the fire brigade going onto the hill. There is people looking for houses. These houses are also been used for dumping and this is not right for the people who lives next door have to pay for there rubbish also you have rats. I sore, houses needed About time eye sores are rid of Boarded up houses encourages anti-social behaviour, dumping, breaking into and upsetting residents. Save the better ones. Save good houses. It would be nice to see them open. It would be great to see them open. Don't mind it as it is watched who is put in them. Don't mind that as they watch who is put in them. Knock them all, boarded houses are an eyesore. 				
9	Proposed locations for new-build in short term (approval granted)	35	16	4	5
	Other Comments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is short term? I've lived in O Malley Pk 44years, I think new houses built here would be a waste of money as no decent people will live here. Over the years we have seen the best of people driven out. As it is we are uncomfortable here. I would hope the new build gets underway as soon as possible. Don't mind Preparation / training / education will be key for the success of our future. We'll need to begin conversations about this fairly soon. 				

	Overall Proposals for Redevelopment	Yes	Don't know/Don't mind	No	No Box Ticked
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Consider environment, green areas - Perhaps groups of houses, twos or fours rather than straight lines & please not on top of one another and build back from the road - to give impression of wider street / spaceAbout time, jobs given to local tradesmenNot ideal for pensioners to be moved there.Too many houses packed into small area.Great place to start new houses.				
10	Home for home in areas of demolition	49	3	6	2
	<p>Other Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Infrastructure of houses is ok, refurbishment should be enough. No need for demolition.I am not moving unless the new home is similar to where I am now. My back yard is 70 ft by 40 ft approx and I have 2 sheds for dogs If these new buildings come hopefully they wont be all on top of one anotherNeed to keep existing people in the communityPeople should have a choice of staying or moving out to other areasThere is people who left and now really miss Southill as one thing that we have is a great community and great neighboursFairIf people want to move, not forcedAs you don't have my house down for demo I stuck with what I have. Having lived here with the crap for 30 years. Thanks!Depending on where the new home is located, and suitability.Doesn't mean what it says as home owners would be forced to become tenants or leave area.				
11	Creation of a new community park/square	47	4	6	3
	<p>Other Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Agree with park but not the location. If a park is put there who will take care of it due to unsocial behaviour.Used already by children playing soccer.Our children have no where to play. This could be monitored and looked after by community. Anti-social behaviour begins with boredom.Not sureNot necessaryBadly needed for the residents to take ownership ofA playground is needed within the areaI think this is a great opportunity to build links between the four parks etc. I suggest that this new community park / square be located as centrally as possible to accommodate allPsychologically, presently even with green areas in O Malley park children & teens prefer to play on the street. Need boundaries / fences not to be large which would encourage them to use confined spaces.Needs to be fenced in and supervisedProper lighting and cameras that will be monitored 24 / 7This would be great for mothers with young kids and the old people would have some where to go and maybe not be so isolatedWrong placeWhy, they will only vandalise it with graffiti / drugsPlayground would be nice to put in for the children as there is none in O Malley park.				

Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

	Overall Proposals for Redevelopment	Yes	Don't know/Don't mind	No	No Box Ticked
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The kids need somewhere they can go to and enjoy. We need play area for the kids. Children need play areas. Put in area for kids to play, Soccer Field or Play grounds. 				
12	Area for longer term redevelopment	10	4	5	1
	Other Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need more details regarding “term redevelopment” 75% of the boulders should be removed, there is no need for them, its like coming into a quarry. 				
13	Open up back alleys where possible	26	4	27	3
	Other Comments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have enough trouble already – would only create a rat run. Too dangerous. Would be used as shortcuts for traffic. No privacy and obstruction to deliveries and parking of cars. Ambulance, Fire Brigades would find it easy to get to accidents. I know of someone who died because help couldn't get there on time. We had it for 36 years and it didn't work. How do you think it will work now? Peace and quiet for the past 6 years, Why? Because the alleys are closed up. No as this would give robbed cars a better runway. Good idea but with enough lighting and CCTV Race track for robbed cars. Ramps done no good on main roads as regards to robbed cars Where possible This I feel would be wrong as with the robbed cars would we be giving them more freedom to bring in the cars They are safer closed if privacy is kept, no dumping, cameras needed and be supervised on a regular basis This will only make rat runs (escape for joy riders) Thanks Side entrance to peoples gardens, no back alleys. It would give young boys more access for anti-social behaviour and stolen cars. Bad idea. I love my back entrance, our car is safe there. Do ye think houses that are 50 years old should be beside supposed new ones. Only where needed. Just where they are needed. Not all back alleys, people need to put their cars in their backs. No too dangerous opening gates onto road. 				
14	Existing homes for rentention to be refurbished	53	5	1	1
	Other Comments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This should be option 1 for every single person provided structures are ok, but why were we promised new houses 7/8 years ago. Stopping us from building on to our current homes, thinking they were going to be demolished. 7/8 years ago lots of houses been devalued. Also I am been discriminated because I own my own house. Promised new house, seemingly we are not getting new houses, houses are not up to the standard of new house and I have been told that people who own their own houses will be last refurbished. Not acceptable. When can I expect my home to be installed with central heating as my wife suffers from chronic arthritis. 				

	Overall Proposals for Redevelopment	Yes	Don't know/Don't mind	No	No Box Ticked
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide car parking off street in front of houses• I don't have a sense of how refurbished houses will look in the overall plan e.g vis-a-vis the new houses. In particular back alleys will need a new look.• Yes however I wonder how people will respond - like - new homes - looking great - new residents etc and existing refurbished - will there be "them & us"• Like them to look as good as the new houses that are being built• But what homes? Does that include home owners?• Yes, by all means, refurbish the houses as soon as possible. We could do with refurbishing after over 40 years in the house.• If doing work, do inside of house and outside.				
15	Proposed locations for new-build in medium-long term	12	4	4	0
	Other Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Need more information.• I am living here in Southill 3 years and think all the houses could do with refurbishment				
16	Potential for new streets	37	7	11	5
	Other Comments <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Not enough information.• No because there would be more access for robbed cars to come and go as they please.• No ramps. I do not agree with new street near the golf course because of golf balls and also this field is used for horses.• Ok as they are• But where? Now I will have even more traffic across my house. Thanks!!!• As where I live in Valley View there is a green area for the kids to play and it's a danger to have a street outside my door because of the kids.• All depends where you are going to put those new streets. I don't see any point of all those roads, if cars are parked at the front of houses in Aster Court they will be vandalised every night.• Don't want one by Galvone wall.• Street proposed by the big wall, concerns about that going into Clonlong.• Get people in to look at the area.				
17	Ensure optimum location of street lighting and CCTV cameras	18	1	0	1
	Other Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• If monitored by Gardai, are working, pointing in the right direction and not been removed as they are now. Today 28th march have been replaced, why were they removed. If monitored by Gardai, and working.• Cameras should be monitored. No point otherwise.• With elderly and vulnerable people in this community this would be vital.• At the moment our CCTV is not working as in Moyross its being monitored 24hrs a day.• We need good lighting at the moment its not bad, but I don't think CCTV cameras are working up here because when the scumbags are up here no one comes.				

Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

	Overall Proposals for Redevelopment	Yes	Don't know/Don't mind	No	No Box Ticked
18	Provide for visible and secure car parking facilities - on/off street	14	4	2	0
	<p>Other Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• This procedure needs to be coordinated with Q17 related to the street lighting and CCTV cameras.• Off street.• Much needed in the area, cars cant be parked in the alleys at the moment with poor visibility and lighting it's a thieves dream.• I don't have a car but I think it's a good idea for those that have. <p>Any Other Comments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• My house has been devalued as has Keyes park which I have lived for 40+ years due to very badly managed process of Regeneration since it started 7 years ago. Expectations are very low at this stage as no promise has been accomplished since the start of regeneration - now I don't get a house for a house and will be lucky to see it refurbished.• Will the new street that is proposed between Lilac Court and Palm Court have footpaths? How wide will the footpaths be? Will this new street be open to vehicular traffic? The houses in Lilac Court facing this new street have small front gardens so what noise abatement measures are being contemplate? Will the new houses proposed for Palm Court face the houses in Lilac Court and not the end walls as at the present?• Refurbishments should include downstairs bathrooms and utility rooms. There is enough traffic travelling through O Malley Pk intentionally without using it as a shortcut for unnecessary traffic from Galvone/Childers Rd. No trees to front of houses. 1. Front porch, 2. Fascia boards & pipes to retain water from roof at back of house & clean moss, 3. Downstairs toilet, new schutes front and back, 4.Triple glazed windows to soundproof from new road layout. People of Southill need something positive especially for our young children growing up. We have an Environmental litter line that don't work, I have reported dumping on several occasions with no response. Same old story (no funds). I have an allotment in O Malley Park, I have veg the year round. More should be done to encourage more people to grow their own veg.• Get rid of derelict houses.• Very disappointed in the slow progression to date and also in constant changing and waste of money in demolishing and plastering houses which will be knocked anyway. Southill now looks worse that when Regeneration moved in.• Keen to get further information on the economic plans with a view to feeding into this process. Space behind church field new builds - premium additional space / capacity Develop entrance to Southill House to widen access and control entrance and exit for both vehicles and pedestrians More car parking needed for unit in Galvone Industrial Estate• As I am a home owner and live at the top of Southill I would like to be housed at the top with my neighbours.• I feel I need a new home as my family are getting older and I need the room, and they need privacy. I would have no problem staying where I am if I got an extra room and a downstairs bathroom.• Yes it will be nice to see the new houses and view them before deciding to move in as my house is paid for and I think I would like to have my own choice.• I think its time that we begin to think of plans for the 4 parks socially & physically e.g childrens playground. Non threatening steps could be taken (for further discussion) Dealing with anti social / criminal behaviour will be pivotal to the success of Regeneration. We need to draw community in all 4 Parks together somehow.• Caretakers / security team to ensure cleanliness upkeep of estates etc• We would like more meetings before things go ahead• Very impressed with a lot of the plans. As a community we need to see progress. We need to see an improvement in the appearance of Southill. If the community wants to move forward we need to keep the people in southill and not move them out. We need to see some building work to start• We need a park for our children up at the top of Southill to occupy them We went through this 6 years ago. All promises. To date all that has happened is regeneration has made Keyes park worse than what it was. All we get is promises, nothing about the people who have to live with burnt or blocked up houses. Nothing will change I feel that the people greatly appreciated the meeting the like myself got some idea of the proposals but I would like to be able to think that we would be kept more informed as I know from myself that about 3 years ago it was different and now we had this meeting it would be nice to let people know what feedback came from this and maybe people would not feel left out in the cold• First choice of new houses or refurbished houses to be given to local people not to outsiders who are already in trouble with the law or housing authorities				

	Overall Proposals for Redevelopment	Yes	Don't know/Don't mind	No	No Box Ticked
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Yeah living with a similar proposal for the last 5+ years is this more empty words and nothing gets done. Will probably have another recession while waiting. Then we will have to wait again. Don't see a future thanks.• No back alleys open. Too much anti-social behaviour would happen, no streets in front of houses as there would be nowhere for kids to play. Also need playground for kids to go to as there is nothing up here for them. Moyross gets everything, we are forgotten about. Plus sort out anti-social behaviour.• I really don't think anything will be done in O Malley Park until you get rid of Anti-Social behaviour. I have lived here 43 Years, it was great when my kids were young, now we don't even have a community. I don't even know who is our Councillor for Southill, Limerick Corporation don't care about us. Also when our kids go looking for a job and they say they are from Southill they wont get the job. This happened with my son, he gave his Grandmothers address and he got the job.• Joy riders burned a car at our gable end one night, I rang the gardai with my address 3 times and they never came near my door. The car was left to burn, no guards, no fire brigade. Would you call that a good service.• Community guard told me not to be ringing them, to ring the switch. There is no light outside my gate since Sunday. No one even looked at it yet, a joy rider crashed into it.• Appears to go back on original Regen Plans as all new homes are strictly for tenants. Original plans were for a mix of owner occupier and tenants.• Sophia Housing have submitted a proposal for the new builds and for long term leasing on houses in both Southill and Weston, Church field & Palm Court developments as well as supporting tenants in their homes and with further moves.• I would like to see the refurbished as soon as possible on houses that are boarded, they drag down the look of the whole estate while decent people look after their homes.• If open front of Valley View, think of putting open driveways in front gardens.				

Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

View of Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Ballinacurra Weston



What residents of Ballinacurra Weston said:



“Get rid of them.”



“Essential for Mind,Body, Spirit, Safety and Security. At present contributing to antisocial behaviour.”



“The sooner the better, these boarded up houses are causing a lot of problems as well as being an eyesore.”

Q Take houses out of dereliction?



“Its so horrible to have to look at derelict houses everyday. Depressing. The sooner they go the better.”



“Do them up and give me one. I am on the housing list since 2007 with 4 children, everytime I go to town hall I am told I am not on the list.”



“This item refers to boarded up houses in Weston Gardens, Rosbrien. We were told that this could mean demolition or refurbishment. The residents there wanted the houses refurbished in line with the plans that were put on hold in 2007. The expert view is that there should be no demolitions unless it involved an immediate rebuild. This was the view of former City Engineer John Breen and the current view of Crime Prevention Officer, Sargeant Brian Broderick. The plan for these houses were produced by Limerick City Council working in partnership with the Weston Gardens Residents Association. We urge you to contact the WGRA and include them on any decisions that will impact on their area.”

How the Office of Regeneration responded:

The Office of Regeneration wishes to offer more clarity on this situation. It is proposed to retain and refurbish 3 units at Weston Gardens and refurbish to a BER C rating whilst providing for natural surveillance to the gable end fronting onto Alley Lane. This will ensure that the lane is overlooked and the potential for anti-social behaviour reduced. A design team has now been appointed to carry out this work.

Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

Ballinacurra Weston
5 March 2013 6pm-9pm
6 March 2013 1pm-4pm
7 March 2013 10am-1pm

	Overall Proposals for Redevelopment	Yes	Don't know/Don't mind	No	No Box Ticked
1	Ensure optimum location of Street Lighting and CCTV cameras.	36	0	1	3
	<div>Other Comments:</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• In my opinion I think they are needed for safety reasons• It would also be of benefit to upgrade CCTV throughout the estate.• We need more lighting and definitely cameras at the top of Beechgrove/Clarina Ave over the antisocial behaviour and dumping of rubbish• Needed badly, too many things happen quiet families.• A lot more lights more cameras and more supervision with cameras.• The more CCTV the safer it makes it for children to play.• But it seems when one goes to find out what footage is on camera its next to impossible to get access.• More lighting and CCTV will reduce the anti-social behaviour.• CCTV needed in school & church, extra lighting around the church.• What is the point of installing and maintaining CCTV cameras when young children frequently break the law and the Gardai are helpless to bring the miscreants to book.• These gurriers have the protection of their parents who themselves should be penalised for allowing their children to run amok.• Very important for safety.• Yes but someone needs to monitor them, no good if no one is watching.• Badly needed.• Especially Lenihan Avenue.• Someone is needed to monitor the cameras, if not 24hrs at least between 9pm and 5am when the worst anti- social behaviour happens.• Working cameras would make us feel safer. Badly needed.• I really think it's a waste of tax payers money as it's a new development which should have had CCTV in when built.• It is ridiculous that a CCTV camera that was already installed was part of the proposal. It's hardly likely that it would be removed if residents objected or relocated to coincide with a majority view of what might constitute 'optimum location'. Surely the best way to 'ensure optimum location' for the camera would have been to consult with a security expert before it was installed. The fact that the CCTV camera on the southside are not monitored to begin with means that it really doesnt matter where the camera is. The Crime Prevention officer has stated that such unmonitored cameras "are not worth the money that was paid for them"				
2	Take houses out of dereliction	35	0	3	2
	<div>Other Comments:</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The sooner the better.• Don't move no one in, just knock them.• Eye sore, but would prefer them to be knocked, I live in a quiet area with no kids and I would like to keep it that way.• Our preference would be for demolitions as the allocation of these houses would fill the community with fear going on past decisions by the City Council which has not been honourable.• They all should be demolished because you would be adding more families to the area, it will just get worse, less people smaller area less trouble. Less houses please.• We think if they are bad and left on their own they should be knocked. This way the blocks would be smaller too				

	Overall Proposals for Redevelopment	Yes	Don't know/Don't mind	No	No Box Ticked
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The sooner to make the area cleanerGet rid of them.To make the neighbourhood look better, and gives families a sense of pride to say they live in Weston, that the place will now look good.Yes - If Garda clearance is carried out.Good thinking there!Essential for Mind, Body, Spirit, Safety and Security. At present contributing to anti-social behaviour.Do them up and give me one. I am on the housing list since 2007 with 4 children, everytime I go to town hall I am told I am not on the list.The sooner the better, these boarded up houses are causing a lot of problems as well as being an eyesore.Its so horrible to have to look at derelict houses everyday. Depressing. The sooner they go the better.I am currently living next door to one which I have complained numerous times about and got no answersRe opened and re-letThis item refers to boarded up houses in Weston Gardens, Rosbrien. We were told that this could mean demolition or refurbishment. The residents there wanted the houses refurbished in line with the plans that were put on hold in 2007. The expert view is that there should be no demolitions unless it involved an immediate rebuild. This was the view of former City Engineer John Breen and the current view of Crime Prevention Officer, Sergeant Brian Broderick. The plan for these houses were produced by Limerick City Council working in partnership with the Weston Gardens Residents Association. We urge you to contact the WGRA and include them on any decisions that will impact on their area.				
3	Potential for new street from Beechgrove Avenue to Crecora Avenue	29	1	8	2
	<p>Other Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">We don't need roads we need houses rebulitI really wouldn't like a road in case it brings a younger crowd into Beechgrove. •As long as its well lit up.No, this would in essence turn a relatively quiet cul de sac in to a chicken run for the for the local anti-social elements who are at the moment partially impeded by the cul de sac.At least the police can get around the area more easilyBe great and faster to get around to your next street.Sorry. What left of Beechgrove is gone, knock it down.Re my first comment ie no 10 leave cul de sac.A danger when kids are out playing.Have you taken the views of Beechgrove Ave into account.Will open up the area. Again good for security and appearance.Needed badly.Very good idea, as it is dangerous driving in there as they have you trappedEasy access to local streets for local people.Rat RunWell lit. Houses up to a C Rating (BER) including private houses, attic, facia, soffit, painting, heating.The residents of Beechgrove Avenue were opposed to the proposed new street from Beechgrove Avenue to Crecora Avenue. This was also the view of community gardai, who feel that it would create a ratrun for joyriders. We are also concerned that the creation of this road will involve the demolition of a vacant and boarded up Council house that could be refurbished. This proposal also envisages the demolition of the adjoining privately owned and currently occupied home. We consider the detenanting and boarding up of housing as a despicable tactic to encourage residents to leave and take whatever they are offered.				

Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

	Overall Proposals for Redevelopment	Yes	Don't know/Don't mind	No	No Box Ticked
4	Area for long term redevelopment	29	1	8	2
	<div>Other Comments:</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The sooner the better, we are living in a ghetto• I am happy in Beechgrove with my same neighbours as I lived there 15 years and am very happy• Long term development reminds me of jam tomorrow. I would rather see it immediately we have waited long enough. And enough damage by the faceless pen pushers has being done.• No houses in Clarina Park• I think all the derelict houses to keep getting demolished and then when the time and money is there then the development can come the point• More empty space the more development can come along.• What??• If homes are built, Garda clearance is very important & consultation with community• You havent gone far enough. By opening access to Rosbrien Rd from Clarina Ave you will increase traffic flow to where what is now a chaotic situation will develop into an impossible• situation. That section of Rosbrien Rd from the ESB to Ballinacurra Rd at Punches X is significantly narrower• than that from the ESB to town. Were yo aware that buss ply that road?• You need to stop talking and do something, we will be dead before this happens.• Approved more streets.• I am in favour in general but as you have my house ring-marked for knocking I would need to be consulted as to what kind of home and where you would put me.• I have no problem with it.• But not enough new houses being built. How long is long term, I don't ever see that happening but we live in hope.• As I have put massive money from "working" into my home. Will I be compensated.• It is generally understood that 'long term development' means that nothing will be developed for ten years or more. A health Impact Assessment, commissioned in 2008, by your predecessor the Southside Regeneration Agency stated that the demolition of these properties with no positive plans for using the empty land may simply encourage unsafe activities that are already practised by some people". We urge you to work with us in developing interim plans to beautify these sites. We expect at the very least, the Office of Regeneration and Limerick City Council will fulfill their statutory obligations and ensure that these sites are maintained and litter free which is currently not the case.				
5	Remove the community wall to the side of the Church to allow both visual and physical access	22	5	3	10
	<div>Other Comments:</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• We don't need new roads or footpaths we have enough• I think it wouldn't be a good idea as its easy access for kids• As I said previously it will turn Beechgrove into a thugs heaven. Leave well alone and stop these cosmetic tinkering and concentrate on real regeneration.• So the Gardai can see whats going on more safer.• Build new wall again. Rat run for thugs to cause problems to property also cars that will be parked in front of church.• Makes it easier to see the newly refurbished neighbourhood.• If wall is removed the house beside the wall will need to be kept private. Also the house facing the road to be secured if wall is removed.• Key comments re Beechgrove Ave also apply to the elderly folk living at the junction of Hyde Ave/Crecora Ave. The residents should be consulted.• I have ticked yes but it doesn't affect me directly. I feel that if it opens up the area it can only be good.• Also badly needed.• Better for elderly• It is an eyesore and not needed.				

	Overall Proposals for Redevelopment	Yes	Don't know/Don't mind	No	No Box Ticked
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">It would be a shorter and safer walk for the old people in the area.This way people will be able to see the anti-social behaviour in the church grounds and be able to report it.Footpath already there.Whilst visual access may be aesthetically pleasing, we have serious concerns regarding physical access and the potential for creating a rat run, this is also the view of the Community Gardai.				
6	Construct a new path between the Church car park and Crecora Avenue	26	2	6	6
	<p>Other Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">YesTinkering is not the solution.For the kids going to school.Ya be much easier for us to have access to getting around.Makes it easier for people to get to mass.Yes easier access.NeededBetter for elderlyVery good idea, especially for the Elderly.Yes good idea.Church car park private property.This seems to be totally unnecessary and is not a priority for residents				
7	Home for home in areas proposed for demolition	32	2	3	3
	<p>Other Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Yes as long as it's a key for a key.At last real proposals that will improve both the residents and estates conditions.Would like house swap out of the areaI really think you should continue to demolish the houses, build new homes and knock the old houses as much as you can.Yes we think this should be the case, we were forced to leave our home because we were attacked by youths who are still causing a lot of problems in the areaband not because we wanted to leave by choice, we would be happy with house for house as we have no home.If the tenants agree to their new house.Very fair home for home.For owners of houses should be priority for them for all years. 50 years or so and upset. We were promised house.60 years in Clarina (66) 13 family lived in 66 (all gone). Christy lives alone.Depends on what areaIt is a crime in my book - and you will be culpable if you locate families with many small children beside elderly people. Take note of this you whose property is secure from the attention of uncontrollable youngsters.It doesn't affect me but it would be good for the community.Im renting so not applicable				

Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

	Overall Proposals for Redevelopment	Yes	Don't know/Don't mind	No	No Box Ticked
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">It needs to be like for like. I have an extension on my house and still have lots of land with a 33 foot by 13 foot shed. When we first went to the meetings we were told we would only get anordinary size house with a small garden and if we wanted a shed we could buy one and put it up. This would not work for someone who spends so much time in their shed like my husband.But the houses must be suitable for the people moving into them.City Council tenantsSpeak with the individuals involved.As we understand it, the term 'home for a home' does not mean 'deeds for deeds'. We understand that 40 boarded up houses had been identified as suitable for refurbishment, the cost of which was capped at 30,000 euros, and that homeowners that are targeted for demolition will be offered one of these. Many residents have invested more than 30,000 in their homes over the years and limerick City Council havent the best reputation when it comes to getting value for money (they paid 7,000 to have a bathroom refitted for an elderly tenant in Claina Avenue who was left without a working shower for 4 weeks and numerous other problems after the job had been 'finished'. We are concerned for the family whose house was singled out on this proposal by a black dot. We understand that 'consent to sale' and 'affordable housing' conditions will apply to homeowners that are offered 'house for house'. We believe that this is unconstitutional as it will change their status as homeowners. Many residents had been forced to leave and take what they were offered by the Council's policy of depopulation and boarding up houses one by one. This put pressure on residents living next to them to leave as the houses are left to be looted and eventually burnt out. This policy has been condemned in the 'feeling safe in our community' report 2011. We note that 2 more houses were boarded during the 3 day public consultation period.				
8	Proposed location for new build in the medium to long term	23	10	2	5
	<p>Other Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">In the medium, not long, we are waiting long enoughI support immediate action not talks questionnaires or stalling, its so disappointing we know that City Council and the Government know whats required, have you read the Fitzgerald report?Build if people want and are willing to move there. But demolish the old houses, keep demolishing the area until there is few people left. Less people less troubleAnything that improves the area has to be good.Anti-social behaviour here lately.This area has had a lot of anti-social behaviour lately.Don't know, good things not happening in the area lately.Very disappointed that only 4 new houses will be built in the area.Thats just not what we expected, Moyross got lovely new houses and if they just built 4 out there, there would have been uproar.This has not been properly explained and what will be built is not known, therefore it is unreasonable to expect feedback on this item until more detailed proposals are forthcoming.				
9	Existing homes for retention to be refurbished	30	2	4	4
	<p>Other Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">The sooner the betterMy house is damp from living next to a burnt and blocked up house. 2 rotten windows, no central heatingYes to be brought up to EU StandardsNo either a new home or retrofitting, are these homes no environmentally defunct and E.U legislation. A recent visit by E.U deputies seem to confirm this.My sister is waiting for a house with 6 children and could do with one.				

	Overall Proposals for Redevelopment	Yes	Don't know/Don't mind	No	No Box Ticked
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">I think this will be a waste of money and time as I said keep demolishing and when funds are ready then start to build new homesYes be great to let the houses out and make Weston brighter againWho will get them.Get rid of the burnt out properties, a waste of money doing them up, probably would cost less to build new homes.House has been insulated but very very cold.It is about time this step was considered, but consideration must be translated into action.Im a home owner and I feel hopeless, the house is in poor condition and type of refurbishment proposed may not be feasible.The quicker the better.Very good idea as long as you realise grants wont be of any help if you don't have the money to pay for the rest of the work.Yes yes yes quicklyVery importantHouse needs to be insulated and old gas boilers need to be replaced as all heating just goes out through walls and roofs. Its just a waste of money that I have not got.My father is 82 years old, he has to have heating on all the time, he has a lot of health problems.These houses are old and I don't think that insulation is going to take away problems, I think inside refurbishment is badly needed as the walls inside are like sand and crumble away if touched there is only so much you can do with them.Promised new homesNo insulation in homes, waste of money trying to heat.Include private homes.The information regarding exactly what will be done is vague and therefore cannot be commented on at this time				
10	Potential for new streets	26	4	6	4
	<p>Other Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">We don't need new roadsI want my house to please be put forward for the new pilot scheme as it is badly neededOnly if new houses are built. Is this the cart before the horse.We need more access especially for the Guards.With no traffic.Original plan was to secure areas. Small pockets of houses in Cul de Sac. Now its proposed to open areas for through traffic.Two entrances is enough.Open access to area - good idea.Yes but not from Clarina to Rosbrien.Not sure about the street to Rosbrien Rd. I don't want a street at the gable end of my house if mine is not include in the Blue Section.Very badly needed.New streets badly needed as there are too many areas for trouble makers to slip through away from the guards.Badly needed, one way in and one way out isnt a good idea. If there is roads, people messing can be caught faster.Open up access.Im not sure at this time, need to see the plans for this.Making too many get away routes for robbers and thugs. We don't need as many routes in and out we are used to the way it is now.Enough traffic.The item refers to roads that would be built in the empty site of Clarina Park. We feel that these roads are unnecessary and would facilitate joyriding. As this area has been designated for medium-long term development (10 years away) the proposed roads should form part of the overall development of the area when those plans have been finalised and agreed. We are also concerned about the proposed road from Weston Gardens to Clarina Avenue that would create vehicular access between the areas. This area was a hotspot for joyriding until the installation of rock armour in the past (one successful) with stolen				

Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

	Overall Proposals for Redevelopment	Yes	Don't know/Don't mind	No	No Box Ticked
	cars. There hasnt been an incident of joyriding since the rock armour was reinforced over a year ago. We would like to see the rock armour replaced with reinforced concrete bollards as there is an ongoing problem with youths sitting on rock armoury, engaging in street drinking and harassing pedestrians using the right of way.				
11	Potential for new playground	24	5	7	4
	<div>Other Comments:</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">No brings too many kids to the quiet areasWill more than likely end up being a gathering point for drinking, drug taking and all sorts of anti-social behaviour. I hate to be a kill joy, lets get real.Not enough small children for this to be doneNo playground please it will just turn into a playground for anti-social behaviour.Its badly needed but lets hope if ye put one there its left alone and looked after.Needed very badlyBe very good for the children to have their own play area.Depends on where it is to be built.More cause for anti-social behaviour.Playground would need supervision. Consult with locals.Yes but it must be policed!Anti-social behaviour. Social regeneration needed first.Garryglass or Clarina Park when it is developed, or one in each.GarryglassThe area where there was a playground in Garryglass or Clarina Park when it is rebuilt.Garryglass area good idea.Needs to be good quality installation. Central location, close to security etc.Good quality equipment, monitored and secure.A playground is badly needed but it must be supervised. The young kids would love one and I would be delighted to see this one in particular happening.Children need to play.Next to new street from Crecora Avenue to church.This proposal was identified as being subject to 'further discussion' and no site identified. A playground for the area is long overdue and we would suggest that it should be located away from people's houses and at a location where 'passive security' would be provided. We are mindful of the fact that a 'playground' was provided in Clarina Park in 2005 at a cost of 166,000 euros and that this 'playground' didnt have any apparatus such as basic swings and slides. <div>Any Other Comments:</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">I love Beechgrove and would love to be picked for the new pilot scheme to have my home brought up to standard.We would like to be informed about the derelict houses as we would like to keep Beechgrove quiet as its an Old Folks estate with no kids and no troublemakers and its lovely to live there and I get on with my Neighbours so we would like to be informed about who is going into the houses.My wish is that all yere work is fruitful and that the residents of Weston get what was envisaged in the Fitzgerald Report. Is it not time that this is delivered, no more delays, could we have less talk and real boots on the ground delivery.I am begging you to demolish all derelict houses. No more families to be brought into the area. Too many here already with too many children. Please demolish the houses.I think by letting one house standing on its own is letting the people living there to be targeted by the youths that causing the trouble in the area, if ye just left full blocks & did them up it would work out better.From what ive seen everything seems great				

	Overall Proposals for Redevelopment	Yes	Don't know/Don't mind	No	No Box Ticked
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Four or five families causing all the trouble. Gardai notified. Breaking into houses, setting fires, copper taken etc terrorising people, something has to be done before someone is killed or worse. Bin collection in Beechgrove Avenue should be organised properly.• Why was there so much money mis-spent, the area has got worse. I have 1st hand experience, im living in my own prison, yet a lot of the thugs who cause problems were looked after. Is it through fear?• Our house is the last standing. If the three houses beside it are re built. What will the empty space between houses be used for?• If our house is left standing on its own we would like to ask that it be used first for the pilot scheme?• 7 Byrne Ave - Build an for his daughter an extension was approved in the past. But never happened.• I was on a residents forum and on regeneration committee for 6 years. I lost hope. For the first time, I feel we are being spoken to honestly. However I hold out little hope for my accommodation.• Only hope is if the Council took it and housed me elsewhere.• Please give me a house.• Two houses knocked next to us, given three options, 1.House for House 2.Offer of 36500euros and rent in different area 3. Refurbish existing house. We are looking for option 2.• All houses should be brought up to a habitable standard that is safe.• This consultation process is getting frustrating, first you decide. Make plans, and spend millions and we are worse off then it started, now you want to start again. Stop talking and wasting money and do something constructive.• I just hope that it happens this time because we were told all this 7 years ago and nothing happened. When people were moved out of homes they just boarded them up and that led to them being burnt out now the place looks like a war zone.• House needs to be insulated.• I don't know, I kind of expected more, we don't need as many roads, maybe that cash can be put into the remaining houses themselves. I love Weston and I am so sad at the way things are up here now, it's a ghetto, and very hard to live in. Hopefully these new things will be done sooner rather than later.• I am raging that you didn't come up to Weston and talk to the people that live here, you could come into our homes and talk to us, we could tell you what needs doing. The whole thing is a huge mess.• I want to know where all the funds and promises are gone.• I hope it happens this time because people are sick of the lack of work.• Clarity is required and needs to be communicated to everyone in the community to manage expectations and avoid disappointment.• Sophia Housing have submitted a proposal for long term redevelopment and to support families whose homes are proposed for demolition (home for home)• The proposals were presented to residents during the 'public information sessions were vague and unimpressive, consisting of an aerial photograph, with proposed new roads, a new path, sites for medium-long term and a site for short term new build for 4 houses crudely indicated. We had informed residents that this might be the case in our Christmas newsletter. What we hadnt anticipated was that these proposals would be presented to residents without the inclusion of any recommendations from the National Crime Prevention Office. From our discussions with the NCPO we have learned that these are the same proposals received by the NCPO in October 2012. Requests for additional information by the NCPO in November 2012 such as site maps, went unanswered by Limerick City Council until the end of January 2013. The NCPO will present their report to the Office of Regeneration at City Hall today (Thursday 28 March). It is reprehensible that some residents were only informed during the consultation that their homes were targeted for demolition. Residents were also asked to give feedback by filling out a form on the day and signing their name to it. There were no independent experts on hand to help residents interpret what they were being shown, only Office of Regeneration staff, none of whom have a background in planning. Indeed it was reported to the BWRA that one regeneration official was unaware of the area under the remit of southside regeneration agency which continues to define the target area. If the intention of the public consultation was to antagonise and demoralise residents, then LCC can consider their efforts a resounding success. Many residents have contacted us and expressed their disgust and anger. It has been publically stated by the OoR that a lot of work has gone into producing the proposals in consultation with the residents committee. This committee was hand picked, does not consult with or keep residents informed, were not elected by residents and therefore not mandated to represent us.• We hope that you have taken on board our concerns. However we are aware that there is no obligation on the OOR to heed any of the feedback received on these proposals. Indeed it is the expert view that this 'consultation' is little more than tokenism in the participatory planning process and more often than not the decision has already been made. We urge the OOR to work with us in developing inclusive and meaningful structures for participation that will give residents the right to influence the decisions that affect our lives.				

Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

View of spires to St. John's and St. Mary's Church from St Mary's Park



What residents of St Mary’s Park said:



“The proposed route will destroy one of Limericks last remaining wetlands, marshes, floodplains. It will increase pollution from cars and sound pollution from them. It will destroy a beautiful wildlife area.”




“Reason wetlands needs to be protected.”




“Good idea for traffic flow.”


Q Provide a new bridge link across the river Shannon to New Road?



“Concerned about anti social behaviour plus traffic volume and noise pollution.”



“I think this is a must for the area. The extra traffic and footfall will make it a safer place to live.”



“Concerned that it would start the feuds again.”

How the Office of Regeneration responded:

The Office of Regeneration understands this concern and wishes to offer more clarity on what the issue. It is the objective of the physical framework plan to promote connections to the wider city for economic, social as well as physical reasons. The Office of Regeneration will investigate options as to where the proposed connections will be located to ensure that the integrity of the environmentally designated sites (SAC’s) are protected.

Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

St Mary’s Park
28 March 2013 3pm – 8pm

	Overall Proposals for Redevelopment	Yes	Don’t know/Don’t mind	No	No Box Ticked
1	Provide a new bridge link across the river Shannon to New Road	38	18	32	12
	Other Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Concerned that it would start the feuds again.The proposed route will destroy one of Limericks last remaining wetlands, marshes, floodplains. It will increase pollution from cars and sound pollution from them. It will destroy a beautiful wildlife area.Reason wetlands needs to be protected.Good idea for traffic flowConcerned about anti social behaviour plus traffic volume and noise pollutionI think this is a must for the area. The extra traffic and footfall will make it a safer place to live.				
2	Home for Home within parish (restricted to proposed sites for replacement housing) in areas proposed for demolition	56	12	16	16
	Other Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none">I am against this if any of the local marshland is used to build houses on. Plus more information on the proposed houses is needed.Need more information about restrictionsVery good idea to give people a choiceIf we can pick our own places and our same neighbours.I would be in favour but wont be leaving my own homeWould not mind moving / own our own houseDon’t want to move from my own houseOther people whose homes are not due for demolition should have a say if they would prefer to be re-housed.Providing that its limited to genuine people who want to continue living in the area and contribute to its regeneration.My home is not for demolition - but if it was I would certainly like to stay within the Parish, I have lived in this house since it was built in 1935				
3	Convert area proposed for demolition to parkland once remediated	15	18	18	4
	Other Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none">No I do not want this for the reasons stated above. The area is a quiet peaceful area on the edge of a city, a place of peace and quiet, the island bank surrounds it and it is a beautiful walk to enjoy nature.Would improve the area.Greattoo much dumping going on in parkland areas and fields and too many roaming horsesBut not just fields and open greens as per the moment. I would like to see proper amenities that will attract people from outside the community in.Recommend parkland will include enclosed children’s playground - not horses				

	Overall Proposals for Redevelopment	Yes	Don't know/Don't mind	No	No Box Ticked
4	Upgrade existing water network in St. Marys Park. Environmental improvements to the streetscape will be developed in tandem with upgrade works	66	16	2	16
	Other Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none">As long as it doesn't harm the community, its occupants rights privacy and the local wildlifeWater improvement very much needed.Much needed				
5	Provide for well equipped replacement housing to back on to Military Graveyard	52	16	16	16
	Other Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none">May wish to be considered for a house for a house in this development.This area is a natural wetland and flood plain I do not want houses on it. It is a wildlife area that should be conserved for future generations. This whole area is a fantastic local amenity. One acre of wetlands provides the same oxygen output as an acre of rainforest. The wetlands are the lungs of Ireland.Reasons why need to maintain the wetlands, and we want no more carbon monoxide fume where our children will be playing.Very good idea.				
6	Retain as parkland and develop as amenity use (e.g. playing pitches, pitch and putt)	62	10	12	16
	Other Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none">We have two pitches in Assumpta Park already, one all weather pitch has just been built.We have our pitches already and we don't want any road going through it.Houses needed moreAll kids need somewhere to play. It would be great to see kids out and about. Somewhere that I could bring my grandkids to play.Its not parkland it's a wetlandOnly if it is going to be properly maintained.It would be great to see amenity for young and old in St. Marys, it would be great to see people keeping active and out and about.Retain section nearest island bank as nature reserveBut leave as a special area of conservation not for pitch and putt etc.				
7	Retain and upgrade to facilitate local sports clubs	70	10	6	14
	Other Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Leave it as as a wetland and quiet area for the people of Limerick and future generations to enjoy.Would prefer sports clubsI would love to see a new clubhouse for Star Rovers. As they are the only club in St. Marys Park that do great actives with boys/girls. My own children and grandkids played and play with Star. They keep the kids busy and off the streets.				

Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

	Overall Proposals for Redevelopment	Yes	Don't know/Don't mind	No	No Box Ticked
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Star Rovers badly need a bigger clubhouse that would have boys/girls dressing rooms, shower room, meeting room and kitchen. As Star Rovers numbers of kids are getting bigger since all weather pitch has been open end. This is the only club in the area that keeps kids off the road, and keeps kids active.Essential to support sport under social banner.				
8	Develop Sheep Street/Athlunkard Street site for replacement housing	66	10	10	14
	<div>Other Comments:</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">I believe the locals should first be informed and consulted about what they want, all of the locals.So close to church and town very good ideaGood idea as long as nice people are housed there.More suited to elderly as near church, post office etc.				
9	Develop small infill scheme at Gaol Lane for replacement housing	60	16	10	14
	<div>Other Comments:</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">I would have to see the proposed plans.Good idea near town for peopleGood idea as long as nice people are housed there.				
10	Refurbish 3 vacant houses at Gaol Lane for replacement housing	60	16	10	14
	<div>Other Comments:</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Unsure. See above.Good ideaGood idea as long as nice people are housed there.Build new houses in Gaol Lane				
11	Potential site for replacement housing and ground floor retail/commercial at Bridge Street	64	20	0	16
	<div>Other Comments:</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Again I would like to see the proposal and see if it fits in with the local architecture.Very good idea				

	Overall Proposals for Redevelopment	Yes	Don't know/Don't mind	No	No Box Ticked
12	Proposed site for elderly housing at Googoos Hill	78	10	4	8
	Other Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none">I would like to see the proposal.Very good for the elderlyWhy not build houses for the people on St Munchins Street at Googoos Hill not just the elderly.Would be very idea so was medical centreWhere will parking take place for King Johns Castle, as this site is the only parking at the moment.				
13	Provide for a new link to Verdant Crescent	32	24	30	14
	Other Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none">I would like to see the proposal.very good ideaIt wont serve any purposeDon't see the point, whats there is fine				
14	Redesign Island Road as a street (traffic calming, pedestrian priority)	54	18	8	20
	Other Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none">I feel it is essential. People cant cross the road to the medical centre safely.I would like to see the plans.Leaving St. Mary's Park at present is fine traffic calming and other things might cause undue delay.I would be concerned that traffic lights might back up cars on the bridge and passing the castle, but something needs to be done for pedestrian safety.You seem to be calling Castle Street (Island Road) Island Road. Is it left or right from roundabout.				
15	Reinforce existing community hub by improving the quality and extending the choice of uses available	66	14	4	16
	Other Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none">What exactly do you mean?It would be great to have a bigger community centre as it is been used now by people in St. Marys. I am in the club that uses the centre, but clubs can only use it one group at a time. A bigger building is badly needed. It would be great to see young and old people mixing together if they had more room.I feel a purpose built community centre needs to be the next step rather than trying to develop existing facilities.The Centre needs badly an upgrade as it is been used by so many groups, young and old. If it was bigger we could have more than a cafe running there. And a meeting place for people to meet up for a chat. There is an urgent need of an upgrade to the existing youth and community centre, particularly with regard to young people – see commentsThis needs to be a priority				

Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

	Overall Proposals for Redevelopment	Yes	Don't know/Don't mind	No	No Box Ticked
16	Creation of a new street along riverfront	42	20	20	18
	Other Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Which Riverfront?yes would improve the areaA beautiful attraction, could this be private				
17	Existing homes for retention to be refurbished	64	10	14	12
	Other Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Most of those houses were condemned and have no damp course etc.These houses are condemned and there is no damn course in the foundations and no radon barrier in accordance with EU law.would improve people's livesWould like to use solid fuel to heat house get rid of town gas and use bottle gas for cookingWhat about houses that are overcrowded. Will they get what they need as well.If person chooses to stay then refurbishment should be completed. If person chooses to leave it should be house for house.As these houses have long past their lifespan. I.E. mass concrete damp				
18	Upgrade existing bridge for pedestrian use	44	16	22	18
	Other Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Which bridge(s)?very good ideaShould have been done year agoWould be good to have open in daylight houses only, closed by night.I would like the weir removed altogether to allow boats move freely upstream.Will it be needed if the new road is going through on a new bridge, waste of money if the road does happen. <p>Any Other Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">I would be interested in a move to a new house that is adapted to suit my husband and myselfBathroom in no. 58 is adapted for my husband. I would need adaptations made to any house I move to. Bed and bath required downstairs as a minimum.My comments were on 95FM this morning on the news at 7pm 8pm and 9pm. Why didn't everyone that was going to be affected by this receive the proposed plan through their letter boxes? Why weren't the people in Corbally, the Island Road, Assumpta Park Lee Estate included in this? Why has this area lost its wildlife area status in the last ten years. There is at least one species of wildlife in the marsh that is protected by E.U. directives. It is also a point that floodplains and natural wetlands are protected by the E,U, There is a species of lizard there and small stickelback fish. It is a frog grounds and numerous birds migrate there. If building is going ahead 50% of the unemployed locals should be hired for the work, to lift them out of the poverty trap.Hope this is some help to ye for the completion of the area.Will the new houses be semi detached as terrace houses are to awkward for deliveries. I would prefer open fires instead of gas and oil heating. Walls front and back of houses.Would want to keep our old neighbours.I will be making an appointment for Regen office to have a talk with staff to find out more about things that I'm not sure about.				

	Overall Proposals for Redevelopment	Yes	Don't know/Don't mind	No	No Box Ticked
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">I am all in favour of getting insulation back and front / double glazed windows and doors getting all roofing checked and replaced where necessary and everything else that goes with bringing my house up to the required standard but these houses were built in 1935 therefore it would be a health and safety risk if things like the wiring and electrics of my and other houses not to be checked out when all these other home improvements were going on. Therefore it would a be a fruitless exercise to do all this work and not care for the safety of the occupants, maybe carrying out electrical work was on your agenda but it was an oversight I hope not.The existing community hub i.e. community centre at present is totally inadequate as a youth family to our youth clubs. At present the existing hall measures approx with chairs, tables, pool tables, football tables and presses all taking up another third of this space. There needs to be an indoor facility for sports i.e. soccer, basketball, uni-hoc etc. It is difficult to see how this could happen through expansion or upgrading. The youth club (St. Mary's) have being voicing this for years and were told the facilities in Grove Island would be made available to all groups in Kings Island but with corporate groups using these facilities in the evenings is impossible for the club to access this. The community hub also needs smaller rooms of a main hall to run smaller programmes with groups as arts/crafts/music/computers/groupwork and meetings. If this was to happen it would be possible for more than one group to use the facility as it the case at the moment. It would then be possible to run numerous programmes on any given evening.I am a private home owner that my house is over crowded. I have 3 kids. 2 boys aged 14 yrs and 12 yrs and a girl 4 yrs. My 2 sons sleep in a small box room. My son of 14 yrs has asthma. The bedroom he shares with his brother is too small for 1 child let alone 2 children. My daughter of 4 yrs sleep in my bedroom as we dont have a bedroom for her. We have just 2 bedrooms and a bathroom upstairs. I would like to know that if 7 St. Patricks Ave. is getting builded back up that would I have the option of getting 2 houses knocked into one. We dont want to move out of St. Particks ave. I would just like if someone can get back to me asap to let me know were I stand over been overcrowded. So I know what my options are. As houses are only been refurbished now.While I am not a resident of Kings Island, I work full time in the area as a "Drugs education and prevention" worker. My remit is to provide drugs education to interested parties. However, a large part of my remit is to support and provide alternative social outlets for young people as a way of tackling substance misuse. I have found the greatest barrier to this aim is the complete unsuitability of the present youth and community centre. There is urgent need for the construction of suitable premises that would incorporate 1 x large hall suitable for indoor soccer, dodge ball etc. a number of smaller (but still of adequate size) rooms in which to run programmes such as "woodwork" fly tying art classes etc. It would also be extremely valuable to have a number of smaller office spaces that could be used for "drop in" purposes and access to other drugs related services.We would have reservations of building new houses on the green on St. Ita Street. Also we would like to know when the proposed refurbishment to our home is scheduled to begin, as I myself is semi invalided and my movements are very curtailed about the house. I would require upstairs toilet and shower. Hoping to hear from you soon.I am opposed to the development on the old Star Rovers pitch as it will block my view of the river.Consider me for a house out of 33 Brendan Street. I am in for a transfer. My brothers are living with me and I am overcrowded. My older brother is on the housing list the last six years and could do with his own place as his son stays with him sometimes and as of late my brother and I don't get along we are constantly fighting and arguing. My 10 year old son still sleeps in the bed with me as there is nowhere else for him to sleep and it is affecting my social live as I cant even invite friends down to the house as my brothers are always there I am currently on anti depressants and feel I really need to break away from the boys.I feel is is very unfair that we had to live in a regeneration area where the houses were being knocked all around us and damage to the roads being ignored. To finally be told that the best we can expect is for 80 yr houses to be refurbished, that are built with mass concrete and almost impossible to keep warm. I would like to state clearly that I feel that we have being badly let down by the Regeneration Committee.Good Luck!				

Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

Delmege Park, Moyross



What residents of Moyross said:



"In order to do this right the Council plus regeneration needs to talk to every resident in the proposed area of building or demolition."



"Yes as soon as possible"



"We could all do with an upgrade."

Q Provide for well designed housing to address current and future needs?



"The sooner the better"



"To what standard, design standards for new apartments would be a good place to start when tendering out the work, the existing high density development does not meet that standard. Please expand on what standards proposed, and what min values you are targeting i.e. bedroom, sitting room, kitchen size, storage space? More social housing is bad for area with so much, simple really. Future needs indicate multiculturalism. Some religions do not eat in the same area food is prepared in. Are you considering such needs yet?"



"Yes bedroom downstairs for wheelchair"

How the Office of Regeneration responded:

New homes will comply with the statutory objectives and standards contained within the Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016. Specifically, these can be found in Chapter 6 – Housing and Chapter 17 – Development Management. This document is downloadable from the City Council website at: www.limerickcity.ie/Publications

Furthermore, national best practice guidance will be adhered to in the design of new homes contained within the following documents:

- Delivering Homes, Sustaining Communities 2007
- Quality Housing for Sustainable Communities 2007

- Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas 2008
- Urban Design Manual – A Best Practice Guide 2008
- Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets 2013

Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

Moyross
12 March 2013 10am-5pm

	Overall Proposals for Redevelopment	Yes	Don't know/Don't mind	No	No Box Ticked
1	Create a new street between Cosgrave Park & Maintenance Depot to eliminate the existing Cul-de-sac	45	5	7	15
	Other Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Badly needed• Good• Open up area• A lot of residents I spoke to are unaware that there will be significant additional residential (god knows how high/what density) additions to Cosgrave Park. I do not support these road works as I see them for what they are, enabling works to improve access to the proposed residential development which there is one details for.• It will stop youngsters gathering in groups• Good idea• Where will young people go to after				
2	High profile gateway site at existing entrance to Moyross	31	19	9	13
	Other Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• It will be hidden too much• Yes so that people passing by will see a nice Moyross• What do you mean by gateway, is there houses being built here or what? I think this is slippery language being used on yer behalf• Exactly what does this mean? Question contains no description as to what the intended pan is so therefore how can you expect a productive answer• Waste of money• Short on details, no density provided, no height of building specified. Also you are removing 'green amenity space' with your proposed works. The remaining green space is elevated of falls and is not suitable for summer sports, you can not reduce this green space because it is used in the summer time• Unsure of what that entails, Haven't seen any drawings or read any description• What does this mean				
3	Strengthen Moyross as a mixed use district centre & improve access from Ballynanty	36	9	16	11
	Other Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• I feel improved access from Ballynanty will be beneficial to both estates of Moyross & Ballynanty as I feel it will create more a community bond felling not one of exclusion• Generate foot traffic• Great idea• Good• Again no details on how ye intend on doing this. Yet again another question which contains no descriptive support• Exactly how do you intend to strengthen the 'District Centre' WHC already contains many empty spaces suggesting the demand for more development is not there. Focus should be on economic development				

	Overall Proposals for Redevelopment	Yes	Don't know/Don't mind	No	No Box Ticked
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Not enough information. Short on details again. Strengthen how? What is the matter? If you mean provide more retail space of residential space please explain what you mean. Please note that there already a number of state sponsored units (library,regen jobs club) leased and subsidised at exchequer expense and if the remaining units which are unoccupied require change of use I would not be surprised as there is obviously no demand for commercial units as few are leased.A lot of the elderly have to walk there for pensions and suchBut would like to see the “P” Bars in Dalgaish Park Permanently closed offYes badly neededGood proposal				
4	Creation of a new link between LIT & the District centre at Watch House Cross	47	8	7	12
	<p>Other Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Vital exit for LITProvided Moyross doesn't get isolated in the processVery important educationally and socially for both communitiesBenefit to communityBut will it happen & whenWhy do we need this road, what is the benefit. Will this mean more houses have to be knockedWhat are the reasons and benefits of this?No Passive security overlooking road Bad Idea. Also will you be providing additional dwellings to the LIT pitch in this area, is that what the road is for, to eventually service more dwellings hereGood idea for young people if possibleSecurity concerns				
5	Improved access from the Civic heart of Moyross to Thomond Park / Cratloe Road	28	3	1	6
	<p>Other Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">VitalThis is also to be highly commendedShould have been done a long time agoStill not enough information will the residents be happy with thisAs long as local residents are in agreementNo for now: will the route involve providing new road, if where please specify or is the proposal and upgrade of existing route i.e. no change in road alignment, levels of plan layout, upgrade of lighting. Please expandIts not that far from us and its nice to see everyone walking laughing and joking after all we have little else to laugh aboutBadly neededGood idea				

Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

	Overall Proposals for Redevelopment	Yes	Don't know/Don't mind	No	No Box Ticked
6	Provide access between the Civic Heart of Moyross & Cratloe road	58	8	4	4
	Other Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every way of opening up access for the community is valuable and enhances commerce • Providing residents in the area are happy with this • As long as residents agree 				
7	Provide access between Moyross Avenue & Cratloe Road	48	5	7	10
	Other Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through access would grant unknown elements getting away • Same again unless residents are happy with this • As long as residents are in agreement • Easier to gain access to duel carriageway • Would be great • Will residents be happy 				
8	Upgrade existing Moyross Avenue to include crossing facilities, landscaping, traffic calming measures and on street parking	58	7	1	6
	Other Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide double yellow lines where parking is not permitted • Specially by the school • All above will better lives in our community and improve self esteem and pride of place • Suggestion of further development which is not what people want would the street parking be obstructive • Street parking leads to the suggestion that there will be further residential development which is not what we want or require. Street Parking will lead to obstruction as you cannot restrict the number of vehicles that residents own or where people park • If you are providing residential units, they should have parking enclosed to front dwelling so that vehicles can be secured. Additional on street parking suggests high density, no details so can not comment other than to say that if you do not provide enough on street parking spaces people will double park and obstruct main road for other users. • If there is anyway to minimize speed it would be helpful - they are understandably needed but also cause a great deal of wear & tear to cars • Good for community • Benefit to Moyross 				
9	Create a new linear park	46	6	8	12
	Other Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Once it is properly maintained sports facilities. No more vacant areas for horses • A delight for all especially young people who are most likely to be influenced by it • A new park is a great idea swings and all mod cons and constant security • Wouldn't agree with this, to me this would mean another antisocial Hotspot. God help the Gardaí 				

	Overall Proposals for Redevelopment	Yes	Don't know/Don't mind	No	No Box Ticked
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Could easily become an anti-social• The Thomond park Garda station should be relocated here to protect the linear Park. A garda presence would make up for little passive oversight to this area. I have no problem in principle however I do fear it will become a horse and drug area• Anti social behaviour a possibility• Maybe with right maintenance & security				
10	Improve existing access from Moyross to Cratloe Road	48	7	6	11
	<p>Other Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• All access welcome• As long as any new road does not come through Cliona Park as road will be busier and children more at risk with accidents and many more• To me this means feeding Cratloe Rd roundabout with another load of traffic totally unnecessary – Increased congestion• Convergence of a road from Moyross to LIT roundabout would lead to increased traffic congestion. Given than fact that ye seem intent on increasing the population density in Moyross you are just asking for trouble• It would be beneficial for residents of Moyross, for sure to have additional access routes, however the LIT Roundabout is very busy at peak times , how will this be offset, considering both Q7 & Q10 and beyond the route at Limerick Northern Distributor Road• ASAP open up Moyross• As long as it does not become a rat run• Open up the area				
11	Provide for well designed housing that address current and future needs	58	1	8	5
	<p>Other Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2/3/4 bedrooms• 2/3/4 bedroom need to repopulate the area• In order to do this right the Council plus regeneration needs to talk to every resident in the proposed area of building or demolition• Yes bedroom downstairs for wheelchair• Fascias & Soffits• 4 Bedroom Houses needed for bigger families• Why on earth would ye provide houses apartments for people who have already wrecked other houses. Change the people before you change the house• No need to develop more houses/ apartments in Moyross. Some people have already shown that they are incapable of managing and maintaining their current dwelling. Unnecessary waste of money given the current economic climate.• To what standard, design standards for new apartments would be a good place to start when tendering out the work, the existing high density development does not meet that standard. Please expand on what standards proposed, and what min values you are targeting i.e. bedroom, sitting room, kitchen size, storage space? More social housing is bad for area with so much, simple really. Future needs indicate multiculturalism. Some religions do not eat in the same area food is prepared in. Are you considering such needs yet?• The sooner the better• We could all do with an upgrade• If those currently living in houses slated to be demolished do not wish to move they should be allowed to stay, otherwise compensation should be made above and beyond market value of house. The claw back arrangement does not seem fair to me for people who are being forced to move, though it would be good to know more about it				

Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

	Overall Proposals for Redevelopment	Yes	Don't know/Don't mind	No	No Box Ticked
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Yes as long as residents are given plenty of spaceSome four bed housesYes as soon as possible				
12	Major new entrance to eliminate existing Cul-de-sac layout	55	4	7	6
	<p>Other Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Do not want a new house as where I am living is quiet and the majority of the residents are happy with our homes and do not see any sense in knocking good homes in a quiet area. Why not knock the top of Cliona?VitalExit to main road should continue to be in front of Church not in front of school gates - This would give rise to great danger for childrenGiving a through road to traffic will increase criminalityBadly needed35 years of LCC & Count Council - Let's make it happenOpen up areaNot if this means taking away green areas where children play. Where do ye intend the children of Moyross to play. To me ye really are intent on getting this landNot if it means eliminating recreational space for the local kids to play on . The linear park could become a hotspot for anti social behaviour so where do you intend letting the kids play?Too many roads with lots of access do we really need them?Provided residents in the area are o.k. with proposal, which would be beneficial to Moyross residents in long termGet rid of the cul de sacs altogether as its only a gathering place for scumbagsUnsure where that “ new entrance” will be locatedGood idea				
13	Extent existing Moyross Avenue to link with proposed Limerick Northern Distributor Road	32	17	13	10
	<p>Other Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">ExcellentWill help driving our way to DublinA necessity to encourage traffic onto the distributor road. No as there is an awful lot of development adjoining this road, no details of which are attached, difficult to make decision in absence of detailWill help access to area				

	Overall Proposals for Redevelopment	Yes	Don't know/Don't mind	No	No Box Ticked
14	Proposed sites for housing	35	8	14	15
	<div>Other Comments:</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Where all the trouble is and the proposed link road would make more sense• As long as I get to stay in my original area• Don't want my house demolished• Seems very good• In particular the proposal Cliona park Units. I feel that doing demolition here will break the spirit of the neighbourhood. Refurbishment would sort out a whole lot of issues with these houses• 137-142 143-148 149-156 157-162 is a well established area and well settled leaving these houses would demoralise tenants from 1-10 Cliona Park• New housing will be part of new Moyross• If needed in the area. Didn't see the point of knocking 3 in College and now rebuilding another 3• Don't see the need for more housing I thought the whole idea with Moyross was it was too big and needed to be depopulated why undo what ye already has done. Why depopulate one area and then over populate, Cosgrave, Dalgaish• Is there a need for more housing in Moyross? The original problem with Moyross was that it was too densely populated. Increasing the number of houses and therefore population will inevitably lead to social unrest especially given the fact that most of the proposed development is clustered around Cosgrave park, Dalgaish park & Cliona Park• No House to be built in upper Cliona as that's the only place for the kiddies to play• I do not think that the provision of one or two estates as social dumping grounds has proven a successful model in the past. You are repeating the mistakes of the last 50 years. Also, no details on density/ green space etc• But God knows when that will happen• Similar to Q11 I would hope that those would not negatively affect those who wish to remain in their present location but are forced to move• Good plan• No demolitions in Cliona Park• Too many units in Cosgrave park• Yes				
15	Creation of a safe pedestrian / cycle link from sarsfield Gardens through existing underpass to Moyross Avenue	22	3	7	6
	<div>Other Comments:</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No underpass, they can cross over the existing road• Visibility and safety maybe a concern, a proper visible crossing would be preferable• Underpass dangerous - a footbridge would be• Will it be safe• Don't understand. And can ye guarantee that it will be safe• Is there anyway you can guarantee it will be safe• Who will be under the underpass/ Relocate Garda station to this linear park are to enforce safety of this area				

Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

	Overall Proposals for Redevelopment	Yes	Don't know/Don't mind	No	No Box Ticked
16	Reinforce existing community hub by improving the quality & extending the choice of uses available	43	16	5	8
	<div>Other Comments:</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">I don't understand thisDefinitelyWhy improve something that is 'already state of the art' OR is it jobs for the boys?Will jobs be created? Also the efficiency of the workers in the community centre should centre should be improved before pumping in redundant fundsCost/benefit? Is it value for money, what improvement? How will improvement be measured? What choice of uses is proposed? Are managers on site financially trained to manage budget/ staff expenditure etc?Yes support local businessesDefinitely				
17	Reinforce existing Employment & Enterprise uses at the Moyross Enterprise Centre	50	10	4	8
	<div>Other Comments:</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">So badly neededI am only interested in the houses in hartigan Villas No 42 is mine. My kitchen is falling apart over dampness. I have heating in since last year but its been so long without it the house is wreckedMy area has been a closed area for 32 years and is a settled area. Peaceful and quiet. Opening this up to traffic would increase possibility for crimeEmployment is badly neededDefinitelyWith jobs for localsNo details, slippery languageNo details provided on how you intend to do this. Question again provides no relevant information to warrant responseWithout doing so many CEC schemes as lots of people who are not unemployed 12 months would love the chance to applyDetails? Any Details? Cost/ benefit? Are all jobs state supported schemes, have they been successful in the past? What does reinforce mean? If it is falling down and in need of reinforcement, then WHY is it falling down?You can't get in there unless you know someone I think the way its run is disgraceful some people think they own the placeDon't know how it can be reinforced. If it means finding more jobs for local people, especially in regeneration works then YesMore employment in the areaNeed more detailed explanation <div>Any Other Comments:</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">I live in 162 Cliona Park and am totally opposed to the demolition of the propertyYes for demolition of the square in Cliona ParkI live at 122 Cliona Park and am opposed to it's demolitionYes for the demolition of the square at the top of ClionaConsideration to removing the houses backing on to St. Nessans/ LIT to create a more visible frontage to the colleges to present a face on approach to Moyross. Looking down the road towards the schoolAs soon as possibleAfter opening up the road to Coonagh roundabout employment is our greatest need in the community. The lack of that road to link our community to the outside areas has been the greatest disadvantage we have suffered from the beginning of Moyross (though we had limited access at first until city council members put a wall across the road to Woodview)				

	Overall Proposals for Redevelopment	Yes	Don't know/Don't mind	No	No Box Ticked
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• There is a major problem in many houses in Moyross and these need to be addressed as soon as possible. There are many residents living in what can only be described as inhuman conditions. I have personally witnessed mould growing on walls, ceilings & floors up to nearly an inch thick in places. My own house has mould needing attention also. Insulation is also a must in houses. People have been fighting for it for years.• I am living in 38 Hartigan Villas and I am suffering from severe antisocial behaviour it's unbearable. I would like if someone could help us please with a transfer if possible• Putting a through road from the Cratloe Rd side and connecting to Moyross Bridge side is definitely opening up a whole world of possibilities to criminal aspect. I would strongly object to opening this route to motor traffic• Don't touch Hartigan Villas Cul de sac. Leave it as it is• Hartigan Villas cul de sac not to be touched as there is kids playing and its very safe. If there is a road to be put in there will be a lot of people coming and going from it and it won't be safe for children to be left out.• I would like my house reinstated - boundary wall falling down• If suitable accommodation offered would consider move within Moyross• Why can't ye address the social issues before re-developing the area, a new house don't mean anything. Educate instead of ignorance. I'm a resident of Cosgrave Park and since ye started re-developing we've had more anti-social behaviour, it's a disgrace. I never had to phone the gardai before now that phone no. is on speed dial• Geographical redevelopment will not deal with the social issues affecting the local residents of Moyross. Therefore it is a REDUNDANT investment. It would be in the best interests of all the local residents to change how people behave before rehousing them. As a resident of Cosgrave park I have witnessed an increase in anti-social behaviour since the redevelopment started. On numerous occasions I have been kept awake due to gangs hanging around outside my house, not knowing what their intentions are. Why should I feel intimidated to unsafe in my own home? Everyone has the right to feel safe at home and security of person which as of late I no longer feel• 1& 2 Cliona Court should be knocked as well as 60-71, 73, 80 that would open the area up to bring the LIT and St Nessans in to the community which should give it a boost and also clear some of the unwanted out.• DON'T KNOW IS NOT THE SAME AS DON'T MIND.• Additional dumping of social issues in the already troubled areas of Moyross, Southill & Weston will not result in social cohesion being improved unless social issues such as drug abuse/ unemployed/ re-education/ criminality issues are tackled. What are we doing on this front? Not a lot.• There's nothing about sports facilities. Kids need something to do.• Houses should be checked to make sure they are being looked after as a lot of people who let, their houses get very bad, There is no wall in the front of my house and horses roam at night through the garden. My house needs to be upgraded for heating (wall insulation) 39yrs old. Would love to get somewhere else to live• To get employment: The jobs have already been given to those they think should have them rather than those better qualified to do them• I will soon be leaving Moyross but will continue to support the neighbourhood through my prayers. I'm being transferred back to New York. The friars hope to be a presence here as long as Moyross remains a neighbourhood that fits into our purpose for existing. Thank you for all who are truly trying to make it a better place to live.• Ensure continued Garda vetting of any new residents, prior to them taking up residence. Sort out horse problem and get rid of undesirable elements• Social issues just as important as building houses and roads• Disagree with proposals for Cliona• I have worries about the plan for Cosgrave as we already have a lot of trouble with anti social behaviour• I think it's a very good plan				

Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

4.0 Issues Emerging from the Consultation Sessions and How the Office of Regeneration has Responded

The following section highlights the key issues in each of the regeneration areas that emerged through the consultation events held in March/April 2013. A response by the Office of Regeneration is given and an explanation as to how it has affected the final development of the physical framework plan. Responses that are applicable to multiple objectives are listed accordingly.

Moyross

Key Objective	What people said	How the Office of Regeneration responds
2. High profile gateway site at existing entrance to Moyross	Concern over high profile gateway site at entrance to Moyross.	The Office of Regeneration has considered this concern. On closer examination of the site in question it was considered that placing a vulnerable use such as a residential use in a greenfield site designated within Flood Risk Zone A (high risk) in the Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016 would not be acceptable. For these reasons the physical framework plan will be amended to omit these residential blocks.
3.Strengthen Moyross as a mixed use district centre & improve access from Ballynanty	Clarity on the how the mixed use District Centre at Moyross will be strengthened.	The Office of Regeneration wishes to offer more clarity on the issue raised. It is a specific objective within the adopted Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016 to promote and improve Watchhouse Cross as a district centre in accordance with the Mid West Retail Strategy. This means that a mix of uses with a primary retail function as well as other uses, including commercial, leisure, libraries, personal and medical services and residential uses, will be permitted uses at this location. The Office of Regeneration supports this objective and reinforces the objective in the LRFIP.
8.Upgrade existing Moyross Avenue to include crossing facilities, landscaping, traffic calming measures and on street parking	Concern amongst some residents that street parking equates to high density. There is also a preference for on curtilage enclosed parking along Moyross Avenue.	In developing the Limerick Regeneration Framework Plan the Office of Regeneration complies with, amongst other guidance documents, the best practice mandatory national guidance document the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets' (2013).

Key Objective	What people said	How the Office of Regeneration responds
		<p>Creating an appropriate streetscape for Moyross Avenue involves enclosing the street as much as possible to “define the streets as urban spaces, create a greater sense of intimacy and promote them as pedestrian friendly spaces that are overlooked” (p.69). This sense of intimacy has been found to have be a key component in creating a traffic calmed environment.</p> <p>For this reason Moyross Avenue will be designed to be as visually narrow as possible at its width with a sufficient height of building to create an adequate sense of enclosure (between 1:2 and 1:3 is recommended in the national mandatory guidance (p.69) to achieve this sense of enclosure). Parallel street parking bays along the avenue in appropriate locations, are provided to allow as much activity on the avenue as possible as people come and go from their vehicles. The presence of people along the avenue will add to the vibrancy and vitality of Moyross, create more ‘eyes on the street’ and therefore reduce the likelihood of anti-social behaviour taking place.</p>
11.Provide for well designed housing that address current and future needs	Concern over the standards being used in the design for housing.	<p>New homes will comply with the statutory objectives and standards contained within the Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016. Specifically, these can be found in Chapter 6 – Housing and Chapter 17 – Development Management. This document is downloadable from the City Council website at: www.limerickcity.ie/Publications</p> <p>Furthermore, national best practice guidance will be adhered to in the design of new homes contained within the following documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Delivering Homes, Sustaining Communities 2007• Quality Housing for Sustainable Communities 2007• Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas 2008• Urban Design Manual – A Best Practice Guide 2008• Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets 2013

Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

Key Objective	What people said	How the Office of Regeneration responds
14. Proposed sites for housing	Concern over location of site for new replacement housing in Cliona Park as the community is well settled.	The Office of Regeneration agrees with this concern. Given that there is an established community to the front of Cliona Park who do not wish to move, we have amended the framework plan to show these homes retained as part of the LRFIP.
18. Reinforce existing community hub by improving the quality & extending the choice of uses available	Clarification on uses being reinforced at the Moyross Community hub	The Office of Regeneration wishes to offer more clarity on the issue. It is a key objective of the Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan to extend and complement the existing community uses within the Moyross Community Enterprise Centre. Ground floor services accessible to the public will be promoted such as a cafe, a relocated Credit Union, enterprise units to accommodate start-up businesses, community education facilities and meeting rooms.
Any Other Comments:	Concern that the <i>cul de sac</i> at Hartigan Villas should remain.	The Office of Regeneration agrees with this concern. The framework plan will be amended to remove the proposed street link.

St. Mary’s Park

Key Objective	What people said	How the Office of Regeneration responds
1. Provide a new bridge link across the River Shannon to New Road	Concern that the proposed bridge link will have a negative impact on the last remaining wetlands, marshes, floodplains. It will increase pollution from cars and sound pollution from them. It will destroy a beautiful wildlife area.	The Office of Regeneration understands this concern and wishes to offer more clarity on the issue. It is the objective of the physical framework plan to promote connections to the wider city for economic and social reasons as well as physical reasons. The Office of Regeneration will investigate options as to where the proposed connections will be located to ensure that the integrity of the environmentally designated sites (SACs) are protected.
5. Provide for well equipped replacement housing to back on to Military Graveyard	Concern with replacement housing on a designated flood plain	The Office of Regeneration agrees with this concern. Furthermore, on closer examination of the site in question it was considered that placing a vulnerable use such as a residential use in a greenfield site designated within Flood Risk Zone A (high risk) in the Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016 would not be acceptable. For these reasons the physical framework plan will be amended to omit these residential blocks.
7. Retain and upgrade to facilitate local sports clubs	Concern raised that Star Rovers requires a bigger clubhouse facility	The Office of Regeneration agrees with this concern and will assist in accommodating such needs whilst ensuring optimum protection of the environmentally designated SAC. The Office of Regeneration will welcome further discussion with Star Rovers on this issue.
15. Reinforce existing community hub by improving the quality and extending the choice of uses available	Clarification required on what this objective means	The Office of Regeneration wishes to offer more clarity on what this specific objective means. It is a key objective of the Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan to extend and complement the existing community uses within St. Mary’s Park Community Centre. Ground floor services accessible to the public, children and elderly will be promoted such as a cafe, community/enterprise facilities and meeting rooms. Further consultation with local residents St Mary’s Park and other stakeholders will be conducted to determine specific accommodation requirements.

Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

Key Objective	What people said	How the Office of Regeneration responds
General Comments	Concern that houses in St Mary’s Park being refurbished will be impossible to keep warm	The Office of Regeneration wishes to offer more clarity on the extent of works involved with the proposed refurbishment works. Refurbishment works will be carried out to achieve a BER rating of C. To reach this rating, typical interventions will include attic and external wall insulation, a boiler upgrade and updated heating controls and these will be undertaken where needed. Research from the recent pilot studies undertaken confirms that when these measures have been implemented, energy bills will be reduced by approximately 50%.
General Comments	Concern amongst some residents in St Mary’s Park that they are living in overcrowded conditions and have requested suitable accommodation in St Mary’s Park.	The Office of Regeneration will facilitate members of those households who are living in overcrowded conditions and who wish to remain in the area and parish. As part of our housing strategy for the physical framework plan we have planned for the need arising from overcrowded conditions. This information is based on live data contained within Limerick City Council which details those households with an address within St Mary’s Park who have applied to the general housing waiting list for housing with a preference to be located within St Mary’s Park and Parish.

Ballinacurra Weston

Key Objective	What people said	How the Office of Regeneration responds
2. Take houses out of dereliction	Request by some residents to provide clarity on whether this statement means Does it mean demolition or refurbishment of units at Weston Gardens?	The Office of Regeneration wishes to offer more clarity on this situation. It is proposed to retain and refurbish 3 units at Weston Gardens and refurbish to a BER C rating whilst providing for natural surveillance to the gable end fronting onto Alley Lane. This will ensure that the lane is overlooked and the potential for anti-social behaviour reduced. A design team has now been appointed to carry out this work.
3. Potential for new street from Beechgrove Avenue to Crecora Avenue	Concern amongst residents that creating a street from Beechgrove Avenue will create a ratrun and attract joyriders.	Beechgrove Avenue is quite cut off from its surrounding areas and local Church and Community Centre, so it can be difficult for local people, especially the elderly, to get around the estate. Linking the existing streets in a more direct manner to these community facilities with new safer streets and pedestrian paths would help the existing situation. The new streets measures a short distance and will not be designed as a rat-run or main traffic thoroughfare. It will be a new street that is pedestrian friendly with the possibility of a ‘homezone’ type treatment. Any future proposals will be explored further with residents.
10. Potential for new streets	Concern that the connection proposed through Clarina Park to Byrne Avenue and Lenihan Avenue is unnecessary.	<p>By introducing more direct pedestrian friendly streets through Beechgrove Avenue to Crecora Avenue and through Clarina Park linking beyond to Byrne and Lenihan Avenue will ensure more pedestrian activity and thus more ‘eyes on the street’ and therefore less likelihood of anti-social behaviour taking place.</p> <p>The connection proposed through Clarina Park to Byrne Avenue will be designed to slow cars down by the introduction of sideways realignments known as chicanes (horizontal deflections), different material surfaces and where feasible, street trees and on street parking bays. All these features in combination are proven to slow traffic down ensuring optimum street safety. The national mandatory guidance document Design Manual for Urban Street and Roads 2013 elaborates on the detail of what is required to create safe and attractive streets.</p>

Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

Key Objective	What people said	How the Office of Regeneration responds
		<p>It can be downloaded at the following location: www.environ.ie/en/Publications/DevelopmentandHousing/Planning/</p> <p>Our key objective for Ballinacurra Weston is to create well used, overlooked and ultimately safe streets. This objective is reinforced by the National Crime Prevention Officer, Alan Roughneen. Please refer to Appendix 4: Crime Prevention Through Design Report for more information.</p> <p>The Office of Regeneration insists that without these connections there is a risk that the level of existing anti-social behaviour taking place will remain.</p> <p>Further consultation with local residents of Ballinacurra Weston will be conducted prior to more detailed design work of these connections.</p>
8. Proposed location for new build in the medium to long term	Disappointment that only 4 new houses will be built in the area.	<p>The Office of Regeneration wishes to offer more clarity on this situation.</p> <p>The Office of Regeneration is proposing the construction of approximately 36 new units to cater for the housing need arising from those households living in overcrowded conditions and units that are required to be demolished to make way for strategic connections and a coherent block layout. The proposed 36 units will be infill housing to fill in the missing gaps that currently exist due to previous demolitions that took place. Infilling these gaps with new housing as well as the area wide refurbishments proposed will improve the overall appearance of the terrace blocks in Ballinacurra Weston. It is proposed to carry out an upgrade to the public realm (footpaths, carriageways etc.) in tandem with the proposed infill development and refurbishments to ensure that the look of the overall streetscape and built form is the same.</p>
11. Potential for new playground	Preference to locate a proposed playground away from people’s houses and at a location where passive security is provided	<p>The Office of Regeneration agrees that the proposed location must be located in an area where passive security (overlooking) is provided.</p>

Key Objective	What people said	How the Office of Regeneration responds
		<p>It is the recommendation of the National Crime Prevention Officer, Alan Roughneen, to locate playgrounds “to allow supervision from nearby dwellings with safe routes for users to come and go”. Please refer to the Crime Prevention Through Design Report received in February 2013 by the Office of Regeneration which forms Appendix 4 to this LRFIP.</p> <p>Based on the recommendation above, the location of the proposed playground must be adjacent to direct pedestrian friendly routes and overlooked by residential units. This will ensure more activity in the area and thus more ‘eyes on the street’ and therefore less likelihood of anti-social behaviour taking place.</p> <p>Further consultation with local residents of Ballinacurra Weston will be conducted to decide on a suitable location for the proposed playground.</p>

Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

Kincora/Carew Park

Key Objective	What people said	How the Office of Regeneration responds
1. Improve orientation of end housing to increase natural surveillance 12. Ensure optimum location of street lighting and CCTV cameras	Request amongst some residents for working CCTV and more lighting needed on existing green spaces and back alleys.	The Office of Regeneration agrees with residents and sees the request by residents to have active surveillance and better lighting as vital to build and maintain momentum in Kincora and Keyes Park. In addition to CCTV and lighting, it is proposed to progress other necessary measures such as providing positive activities for young people, which alongside neighbourhood policing, CCTV and lighting, can help tackle the issue of anti-social behaviour.
2. Better connections from Kincora/Carew Park	Perception amongst some residents that new streets will be rat runs, unsafe for children and that there is sufficient access to Kincora/Carew Park at present.	<p>The Office of Regeneration understands this concern and wishes to offer more clarity on the proposal for new streets.</p> <p>Kincora/Carew Park feels quite cut off from surrounding areas, so it can be difficult for local residents to get around the estate and to other parts of Southill and Roxboro and beyond to the city centre. Linking the existing streets with new safer streets and pedestrian paths would help make the area easier to navigate.</p> <p>Furthermore, the current network of public spaces within Kincora and Carew Park are not overlooked as best as they could be and therefore do not feel safe. By introducing more direct pedestrian friendly streets through Carew Park, for example, will ensure more activity and thus more ‘eyes on the street’ and therefore less likelihood of anti-social behaviour taking place.</p> <p>Proposed streets will not be designed as rat- runs or main traffic thoroughfares. They will be new streets that are pedestrian friendly with wide footpaths and will be designed to slow cars down.</p> <p>Further consultation with local residents of Kincora and Carew Park and other stakeholders will be conducted prior to more detailed design work.</p>

Key Objective	What people said	How the Office of Regeneration responds
4. Introduce chicanes to slow down traffic	Perception amongst residents that speed bumps do not work in Kincora/Carew Park	The Office of Regeneration agrees with this concern and would like to elaborate on what it means by chicanes. New streets in general and existing streets such as at O’Higgins Drive in Carew Park will be designed to be pedestrian friendly and to slow cars down. This is done by the introduction of sideways realignments known as chicanes (horizontal deflections), different material surfaces and where feasible, street trees and on-street parking bays. All these features in combination are proven to slow traffic down ensuring optimum street safety.
5. Provide for visible and secure car parking facilities 8. Open up back alleys where possible	Preference amongst some households for secure back alleys for parking and some households for secure parking to the front of houses	<p>The Office of Regeneration agrees with this concern and understands that each street within the estate of Southill will have different preferences to dealing with the challenge of rear courts. The Office of Regeneration proposes specific initiatives for those residents who wish to retain their rear courts and those residents who wish to extinguish their rear courts. Further detail of the initiatives are proposed as part of objective 19 of the Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan: Volume 2: Southill Open Space Strategy.</p> <p>The Office of Regeneration will support the residents in considering the best options for their areas.</p>
7. Creation of a new park with playground	Consideration of an active play space for older children	The Office of Regeneration agrees with this concern. The location of the play space within Kincora and Carew Park has been identified along Donoughmore Crescent. However, at this stage of the plan making process it has not been identified what age group the active play space will cater for. Consultation with local residents and other stakeholders will be conducted prior to any final decision-making on the proposed type of play space required to better meet the needs of children in the area.

Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

Key Objective	What people said	How the Office of Regeneration responds
11. Proposed locations for new build	Preference for new replacement on-the- ground houses as opposed to apartment typologies	The Office of Regeneration agrees with this concern. The regeneration of Kincora and Keyes Park is planned for implementation over a number of years, requiring a programme of replacement housing on a site-by-site basis. A range of housing types will be provided in order to improve choice in the area and respond to residents’ specific housing needs. The preferred housing typology based on resident’s feedback is for ‘on the ground’ houses with a front and back garden as opposed to apartment type typologies and this will be facilitated in the physical framework plan.
Any Other Comments:	Concern by residents as to how the consultation process will be followed up	This Statement of Community Involvement is a record of the significant issues that arose at the consultation events in March and April 2013 for the four regeneration areas and how the Office of Regeneration responded to those concerns in the development of the physical framework plans.
Any Other Comments:	Consideration of the issue of dumping and anti-social behaviour to the rear of Mague Way	The Office of Regeneration agrees with this concern. The framework plan has been amended to consider the potential for the rear alleys at Mague Way to be closed and amalgamated as private open space for new residential development fronting onto Carew Park AFC. This will eliminate the dumping and anti-social behaviour that currently prevails to the rear of Mague Way.
Any Other Comments:	Consideration of a convenient link to Southill House to access services	The Office of Regeneration proposes a connection linking Mague Way to the Roxborough Road and the Southill Area Centre. This access road will have pedestrian footpaths to ensure safe access to Southill House.

O’Malley Park

Key Objective	What people said	How the Office of Regeneration responds
2. Redevelop existing road between Keyes and Kincora Park as a street	Concern that a street in a residential area will bring unsocial behaviour.	<p>The Office of Regeneration understands this concern and wishes to offer more clarity on what the LRFIP proposes.</p> <p>In developing the Limerick Regeneration Framework Plan the Office of Regeneration complies with the best practice mandatory national guidance document the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (2013).</p> <p>Creating an appropriate streetscape for Southill Avenue involves enclosing the street as much as possible to “define them as urban spaces, create a greater sense of intimacy and promote them as pedestrian friendly spaces that are overlooked” (p.69). This sense of intimacy has been found to have a traffic calming effect.</p> <p>The existing perception amongst the majority of residents in Southill is that the road is unsafe and unfriendly to pedestrians. For this reason the proposal to redevelop the existing road between Keyes and Kincora Park (Collins Avenue) to be as narrow as possible to achieve this sense of enclosure will slow down traffic and create a more pedestrian-friendly environment. Parallel street parking bays along the street in appropriate locations, are provided to allow as much activity on the street as possible as people come and go from their vehicles. The presence of people along the street will add to the vibrancy and vitality of the area.</p> <p>Further consultation with local residents of Keyes and Kincora Park and other stakeholders will be conducted prior to more detailed design work.</p>
3.Improve orientation of end housing to increase natural surveillance	Further clarity required on what ‘natural surveillance’ is	<p>The Office of Regeneration wishes to offer an explanation on what it means by ‘natural surveillance’.</p> <p>Natural surveillance is about the presence of people who have the potential to discourage anti-social behaviour. The idea that somebody is present, and possibly watching, is enough of a deterrent to stop</p>

Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

Key Objective	What people said	How the Office of Regeneration responds
		<p>most criminal behaviour. Natural surveillance is the most desirable and effortless design principle. It occurs on the street when people pass by, or from inside buildings or vehicles.</p> <p>It is a proposal in O’Malley Park to improve the opportunity for natural surveillance of end-gabled homes by providing window openings to the blank gable wall to allow people to look out. This will provide the opportunity for natural surveillance (overlooking) and thereby improve the sense of safety and security in the area.</p>
6. High profile Gateway site	Further clarity required on what a ‘gateway’ is	The Office of Regeneration wishes to offer more clarity on the issue. A key objective of the LRFIP is to upgrade the Galvone Industrial Estate as a mixed-use employment generating area. At present the estate is under-utilised and suffers from a high level of vacancy. It is hoped that by promoting this key gateway site as an important land bank to facilitate opportunities for employment creation that the profile of the Galvone Industrial Estate and the wider Southill area will be raised and its current image improved.
13. Open up back alleys where possible	Preference amongst some households for secure back alleys for parking whilst other households state a preference for secure parking to the front of houses.	<p>The Office of Regeneration agrees with this concern and understands that each street within the estate of Southill will have different preferences to dealing with the challenge of rear courts. The Office of Regeneration proposes specific initiatives for those residents who wish to retain their rear courts and those residents who wish to extinguish their rear courts. Further detail of the initiatives are proposed as part of Objective 19 of the Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan: Volume 2: Southill Open Space Strategy.</p> <p>The Office of Regeneration will support the residents in considering the best options for their areas.</p>
16. Potential for new streets	Further clarity required on where new streets are located and a general concern that new streets will exacerbate anti-social behaviour	The Office of Regeneration understands this concern and wishes to offer more clarity on what the new streets will be.

Key Objective	What people said	How the Office of Regeneration responds
		<p>O'Malley and Keyes Park is cut off from surrounding areas, so it can be difficult for local people to get around the estate and to other parts of Southill and Roxboro and beyond to the city centre. Linking the existing streets with new safer streets and pedestrian paths would help. It is proposed that the new streets will be located at the following locations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A new street from Roxboro roundabout (through the 'Galvone Arms' site) to the heart of Southill – the community hub containing the Church, Health Centre and Southill Area Centre• New north-south connection from Childers Road to O'Malley Park through the Fulflex site• New north-south connection from O'Malley Park to the Childers Road• New east-west connection from Bawnmore Road to Kilmallock Road• New east-west connection from Pike Rovers Football Club to Kilmallock Road• New north-south connection from Kennedy Park, adjacent to proposed Integrated Educational Campus at St Kieran's, to Childers Road• New east-west connection, south of Rose Court, Keyes Park from the Roxborough Road to the community hub <p>By introducing more direct pedestrian-friendly streets with wide footpaths will ensure more activity and thus more 'eyes on the street' (natural surveillance) and therefore less likelihood of anti-social behaviour taking place.</p> <p>Further consultation with local residents of O Malley and Keyes and other stakeholders will be conducted prior to more detailed design work.</p>

Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

Public Information Session flyers

PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION

NEW PROPOSALS FOR O'Malley Park, Keyes Park, Carew Park, Kincora Park & Ballinacurra Weston

The Office of Regeneration will hold the following Information Sessions to allow members of the public to view the proposals for the areas and give their feedback:

AREA	DATE	TIME	VENUE
Ballinacurra Weston	5th March	6.00 to 9.00p.m.	Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre
Ballinacurra Weston	6th March	1.00 to 4.00p.m.	Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre
Ballinacurra Weston	7th March	10.00 to 1.00 p.m.	Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre
O'Malley & Keyes Park	6th March	5.30 to 8.00 p.m.	Southill Area Centre
O'Malley & Keyes Park	7th March	1.00 to 4.00 p.m.	Southill Area Centre
Carew & Kincora Park	13th March	4.00 to 8.00 p.m.	Southill Area Centre
Carew & Kincora Park	14th March	11.00 to 2.00 p.m.	Southill Area Centre

The proposals will also be on display in the Office of Regeneration, Unit 12-14B, LEDP, Roxboro Rd, Limerick, from the 15th to 28th March 2013 inclusive.

Feedback and comments on the Proposals will be accepted up to 5.00 p.m on 28th March 2013.



LIMERICK
REGENERATION



Limerick
CITY COUNCIL



LIMERICK
REGENERATION



Comhairle Chontae Luimnigh
Limerick County Council



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REGENERATION

Regeneration Proposals for Ballinacurra Weston

*You have Heard the Rumours,
Now Find Out for Yourself.....
about Proposed New Roads, Proposed New Path,
Proposed Refurbishment and more.....*

You are invited to attend any one of the open **Public Information Sessions** in **Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre** on:

- Tuesday 5th March 2013 from 6.00p.m. To 9.00 p.m.
- or
- Wednesday 6th March 2013 from 1.00 p.m. To 4.00 p.m.
- or
- Thursday 7th March 2013 from 10.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.

View the Proposals and meet the Staff from the Office Of Regeneration.

All are Welcome!!

Your Opinion is Important.

Have your Say in the Future of your Community.

Transport Available: Call Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre 061 228596 to arrange collection.
Issued by the Office of Regeneration – Queries to 061 221914.

Public Information Session flyers



LIMERICK
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Regeneration Proposals for Carew & Kincora Park

*You have Heard the Rumours,
Now Find Out for Yourself.....
about Proposed New Street Layouts, Proposed New Houses,
Proposed Refurbishment and more.....*

You are invited to attend either of the open **Public Information Sessions**
in **Southill Area Centre** on:

- Wednesday 13th March 2013 from 4.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m.
- or
- Thursday 14th March 2013 from 11.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m.

View the Proposals and meet the Staff from the Office Of Regeneration.

All are Welcome!!

Your Opinion is Important.

Have your Say in the Future of your Community.

Transport Available: Call Southill Area Centre 061 603710 to arrange collection.
Issued by the Office of Regeneration – Queries to 061 221914.



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Regeneration Proposals for O'Malley & Keyes Park

*You have Heard the Rumours,
Now Find Out for Yourself.....
about Proposed New Street Layouts, Proposed New Houses,
Proposed Refurbishment and more.....*

You are invited to attend either of the open **Public Information Sessions**
in **Southill Area Centre** on:

- Wednesday 6th March 2013 from 5.30 p.m. to 8.00 p.m.
- or
- Thursday 7th March 2013 from 1.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m.

View the Proposals and meet the Staff from the Office Of Regeneration.

All are Welcome!!

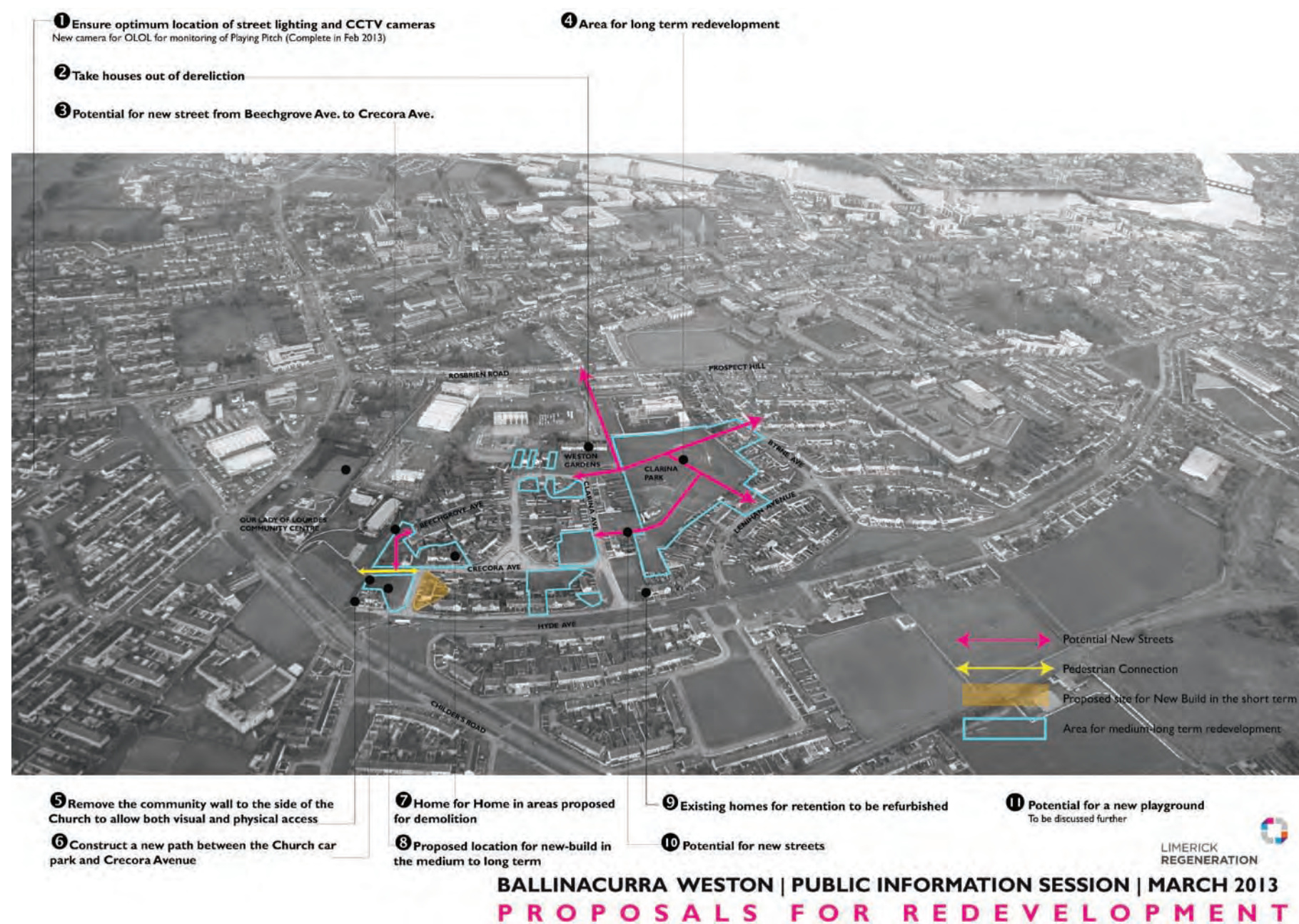
Your Opinion is Important.

Have your Say in the Future of your Community.

Transport Available: Call Southill Area Centre 061 603710 to arrange collection.
Issued by the Office of Regeneration – Queries to 061 221914.

Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

Ballinacurra Weston Public Information Session



The Office of Regeneration appreciates your comments and feedback about the proposals you have seen here today. It would be very helpful if you could answer the following questions and leave us any feedback you may have.

Are you supportive of the proposals for redevelopment as follows:

1 Ensure optimum location of street lighting and CCTV cameras
New camera for OLOL for monitoring of Playing Pitch (Complete in Feb 2013)

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

2 Take houses out of dereliction

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

3 Potential for new street from Beechgrove Avenue to Crecora Avenue

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

4 Area for long term redevelopment

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

5 Remove the community wall to the side of the Church to allow both visual and physical access

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

6 Construct a new path between the Church car park and Crecora Avenue


YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

7 Home for Home in areas proposed for demolition

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____



LIMERICK
REGENERATION

BALLINACURRA WESTON | PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION | MARCH 2013
PROPOSALS FOR REDEVELOPMENT

Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

Ballinacurra Weston Public Information Session

Are you supportive of the proposals for redevelopment as follows:

8 Proposed location for new-build in the medium to long term

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

9 Existing homes for retention to be refurbished

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

10 Potential for new streets

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

11 Potential for a new playground

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

Any other comments? _____

We would appreciate it if you could fill in your details below. This will assist us in assessing and responding to the Public Information Session feedback.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Please tick the boxes below as appropriate:

Age:

0-19 ☐

20-39 ☐

40-59 ☐

60-79 ☐

over 79 ☐

Occupation:

Student ☐

Part-time ☐

Full-time ☐


Retired ☐

Unemployed ☐

Date: _____

Thank you very much for taking the time to complete the questionnaire

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BALLINACURRA WESTON | PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION | MARCH 2013

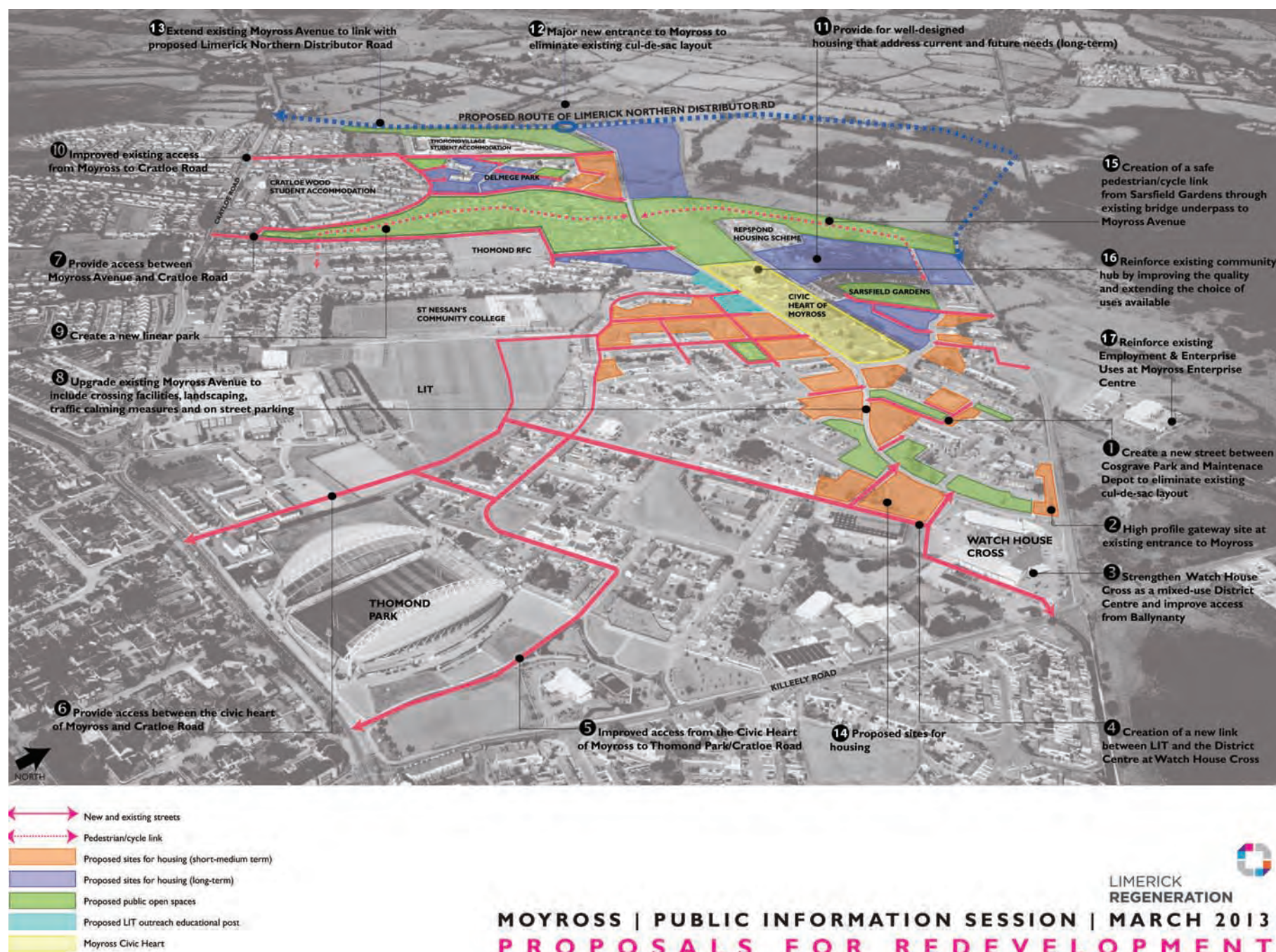
PROPOSALS FOR REDEVELOPMENT

Moyross Public Information Session

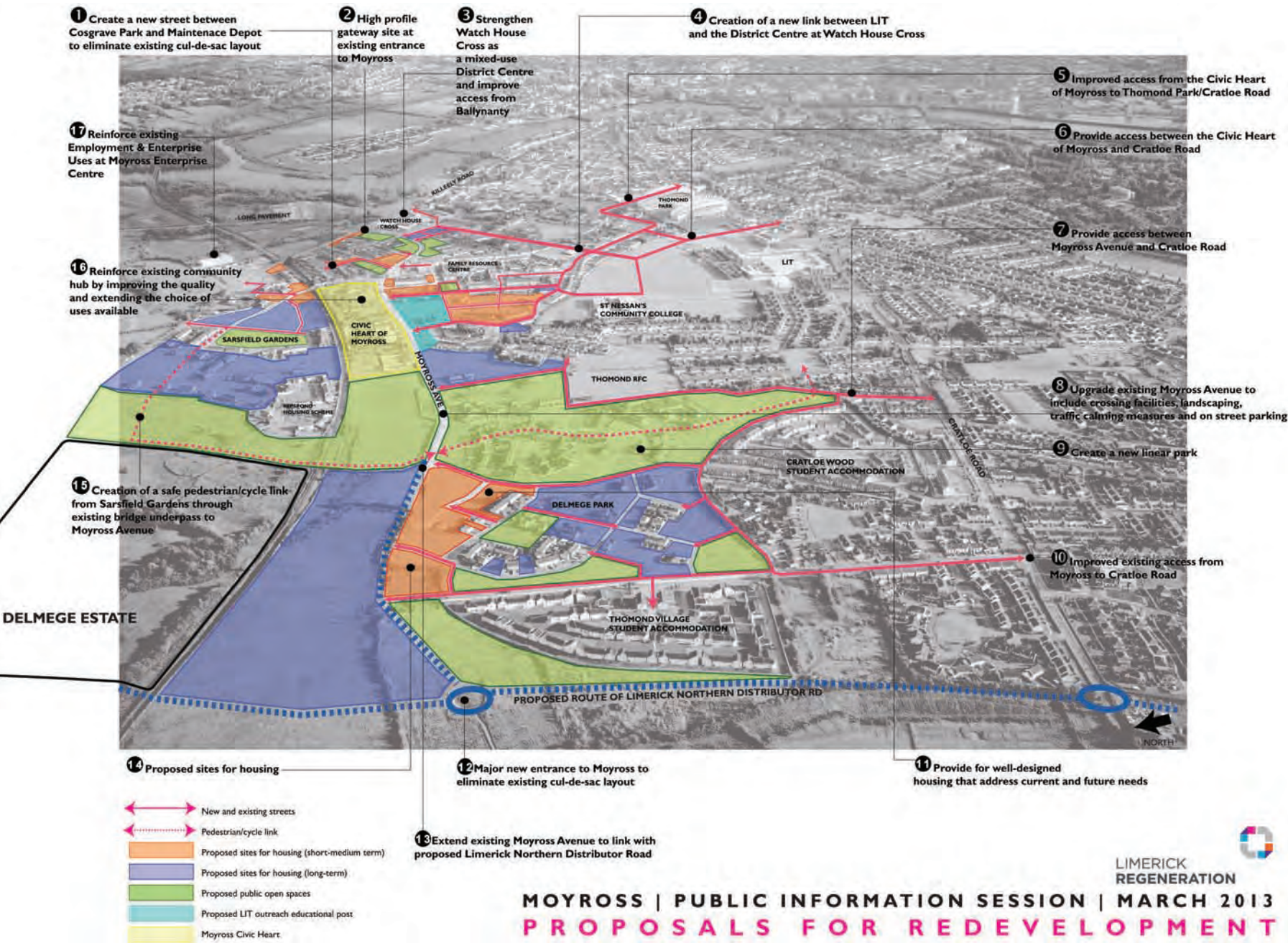


Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

▼ Moyross Public Information Session



Moyross Public Information Session



Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

▼ Moyross Public Information Session



Moyross Public Information Session

The Office of Regeneration appreciates your comments and feedback about the proposals you have seen here today. It would be very helpful if you could answer the following questions and leave us any feedback you may have.

Are you supportive of the proposals for redevelopment as follows:

1 Create a new street between Cosgrave Park and Maintenance Depot to eliminate existing cul-de-sac layout
YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

2 High profile gateway site at existing entrance to Moyross
YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

3 Strengthen Watch House Cross as a mixed-use District Centre and improve access from Ballynanty
YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

4 Creation of a new link between LIT and the District Centre at Watch House Cross
YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

5 Improved access from the Civic Heart of Moyross to Thomond Park/Cratloe Road
YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

6 Provide access between the Civic Heart of Moyross and Cratloe Road
YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

7 Provide access between Moyross Avenue and Cratloe Road
YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

8 Upgrade existing Moyross Avenue to include crossing facilities, landscaping, traffic calming measures and on street parking
YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐


Comments: _____

9 Create a new linear park
YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

10 Improved existing access from Moyross to Cratloe Road
YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____



LIMERICK
REGENERATION

MOYROSS | PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION | MARCH 2013
PROPOSALS FOR REDEVELOPMENT

Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

Moyross Public Information Session

11

Provide for well-designed housing that address current and future needs

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments:

12

Major new entrance to Moyross to eliminate existing cul-de-sac layout

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments:

13

Extend existing Moyross Avenue to link with proposed Limerick Northern Distributor Road

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments:

14

Proposed sites for housing

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments:

15

Creation of a safe pedestrian/cycle link from Sarsfield Gardens through existing bridge underpass to Moyross Avenue

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments:

16

Reinforce existing community hub by improving the quality and extending the choice of uses available

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments:

17

Reinforce existing Employment & Enterprise uses at Moyross Enterprise Centre

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments:

Any other comments:

We would appreciate it if you could fill in your details below. This will assist us in assessing and responding to the Public Information Session feedback.

Name:

Address:

Telephone:

Email:

Please tick the boxes below as appropriate:

Age:

0-19 ☐

20-39 ☐

40-59 ☐

60-79 ☐

over 79 ☐

Occupation:

Student ☐

Part-time ☐

Full-time ☐

Retired ☐

Unemployed ☐

Date:

Thank you very much for taking the time to complete the questionnaire

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REGENERATION

MOYROSS | PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION | MARCH 2013

PROPOSALS FOR REDEVELOPMENT

St. Mary's Park Public Information Session

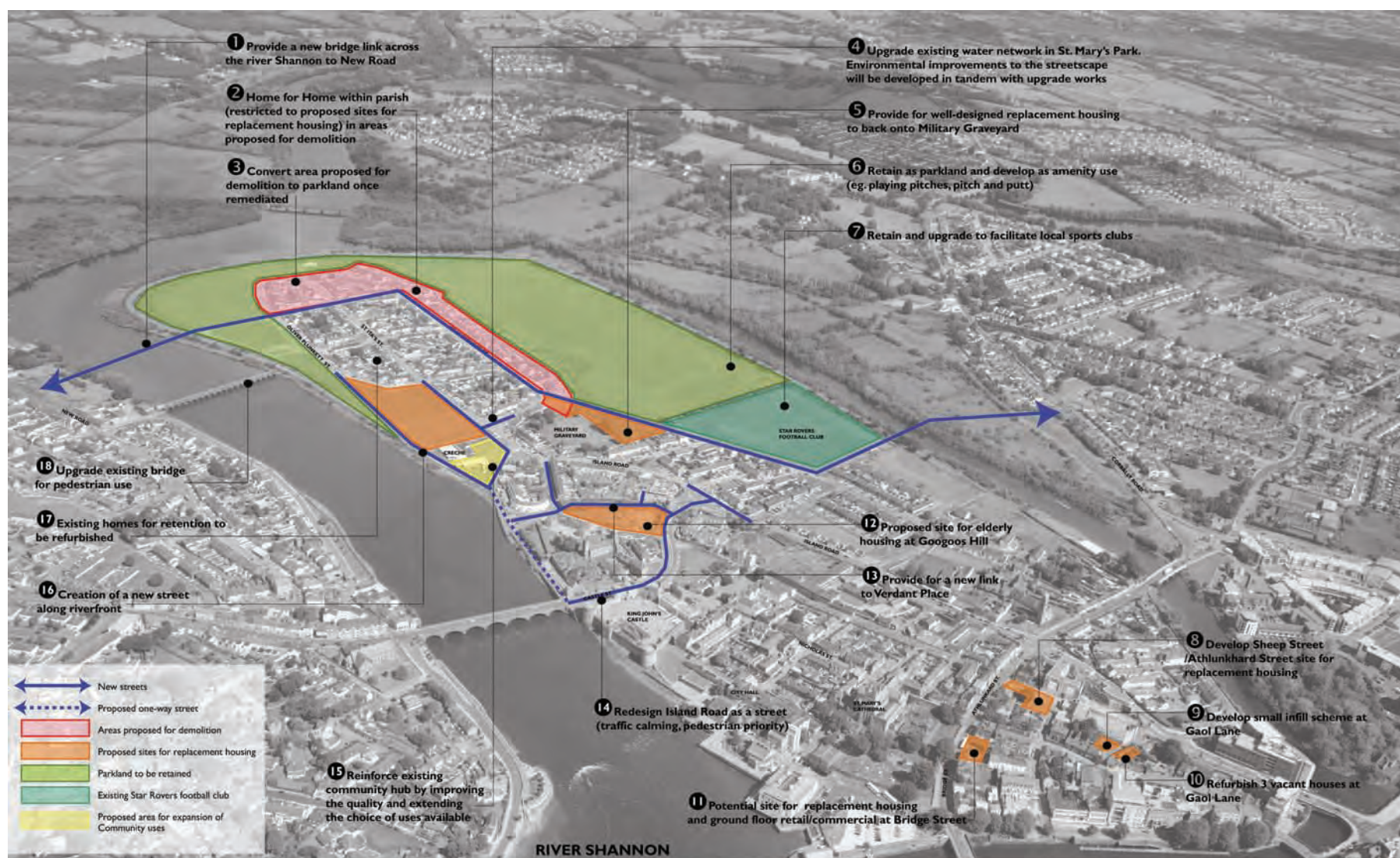


LIMERICK
REGENERATION

ST. MARY'S PARK | PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION | MARCH 2013
PROPOSALS FOR REDEVELOPMENT

Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

St. Mary's Park Public Information Session



ST. MARY'S PARK | PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION | MARCH 2013
PROPOSALS FOR REDEVELOPMENT

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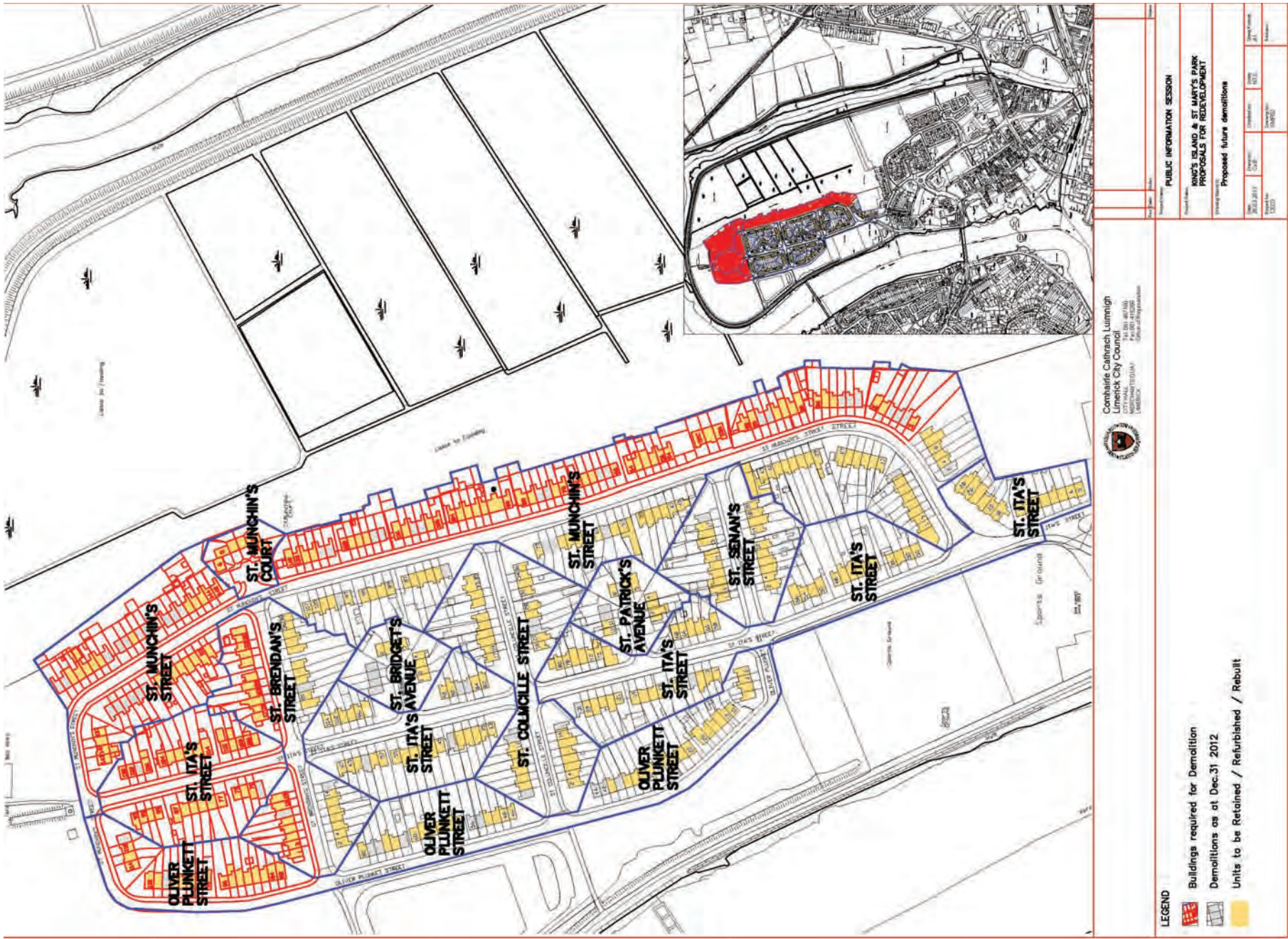




ST. MARY'S PARK | PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION | MARCH 2013
PROPOSALS FOR REDEVELOPMENT

Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

St. Mary's Park Public Information Session



St. Mary's Park Public Information Session

The Office of Regeneration appreciates your comments and feedback about the proposals you have seen here today. It would be very helpful if you could answer the following questions and leave us any feedback you may have.

Are you supportive of the proposals for redevelopment as follows:

1 Provide a new bridge link across the river Shannon to New Road

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

2 Home for Home within parish (restricted to proposed sites for replacement housing) in areas proposed for demolition

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

3 Convert area proposed for demolition to parkland once remediated

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

4 Upgrade existing water network in St. Mary's Park. Environmental improvements to the streetscape will be developed in tandem with upgrade works

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

5 Provide for well-designed replacement housing to back onto Military Graveyard

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

6 Retain as parkland and develop as amenity use (eg. playing pitches, pitch and putt)

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

7 Retain and upgrade to facilitate local sports clubs


YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

8 Develop Sheep Street/Athlunkhard Street site for replacement housing

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____



LIMERICK
REGENERATION

ST. MARY'S PARK | PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION | MARCH 2013
PROPOSALS FOR REDEVELOPMENT

Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

St. Mary's Park Public Information Session

<p>9 Develop small infill scheme at Gaol Lane for replacement housing</p> <p>YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Comments: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>14 Redesign Island Road as a street (traffic calming, pedestrian priority)</p> <p>YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Comments: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>
<p>10 Refurbish 3 vacant houses at Gaol Lane for replacement housing</p> <p>YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Comments: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>15 Reinforce existing community hub by improving the quality and extending the choice of uses available</p> <p>YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Comments: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>
<p>11 Potential site for replacement housing and ground floor retail/commercial at Bridge Street</p> <p>YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Comments: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>16 Creation of a new street along riverfront</p> <p>YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Comments: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>
<p>12 Proposed site for elderly housing at Googoos Hill</p> <p>YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Comments: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>17 Existing homes for retention to be refurbished</p> <p>YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Comments: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>
<p>13 Provide for a new link to Verdant Place</p> <p>YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Comments: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>18 Upgrade existing bridge for pedestrian use</p> <p>YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Comments: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>

LIMERICK
REGENERATION

ST. MARY'S PARK | PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION | MARCH 2013
PROPOSALS FOR REDEVELOPMENT

St. Mary's Park Public Information Session

Any other comments?

We would appreciate it if you could fill in your details below. This will assist us in assessing and responding to the Public Information Session feedback.

Name:

Address:

Telephone:

Email:

Please tick the boxes below as appropriate:

Age:

0-19

☐

20-39

☐

40-59

☐

60-79

☐

over 79

☐

Occupation:

Student

☐

Part-time

☐

Full-time

☐

Retired

☐


Unemployed

☐

Date:

Thank you very much for taking the time to complete the questionnaire

LIMERICK
REGENERATION



ST. MARY'S PARK | PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION | MARCH 2013

PROPOSALS FOR REDEVELOPMENT

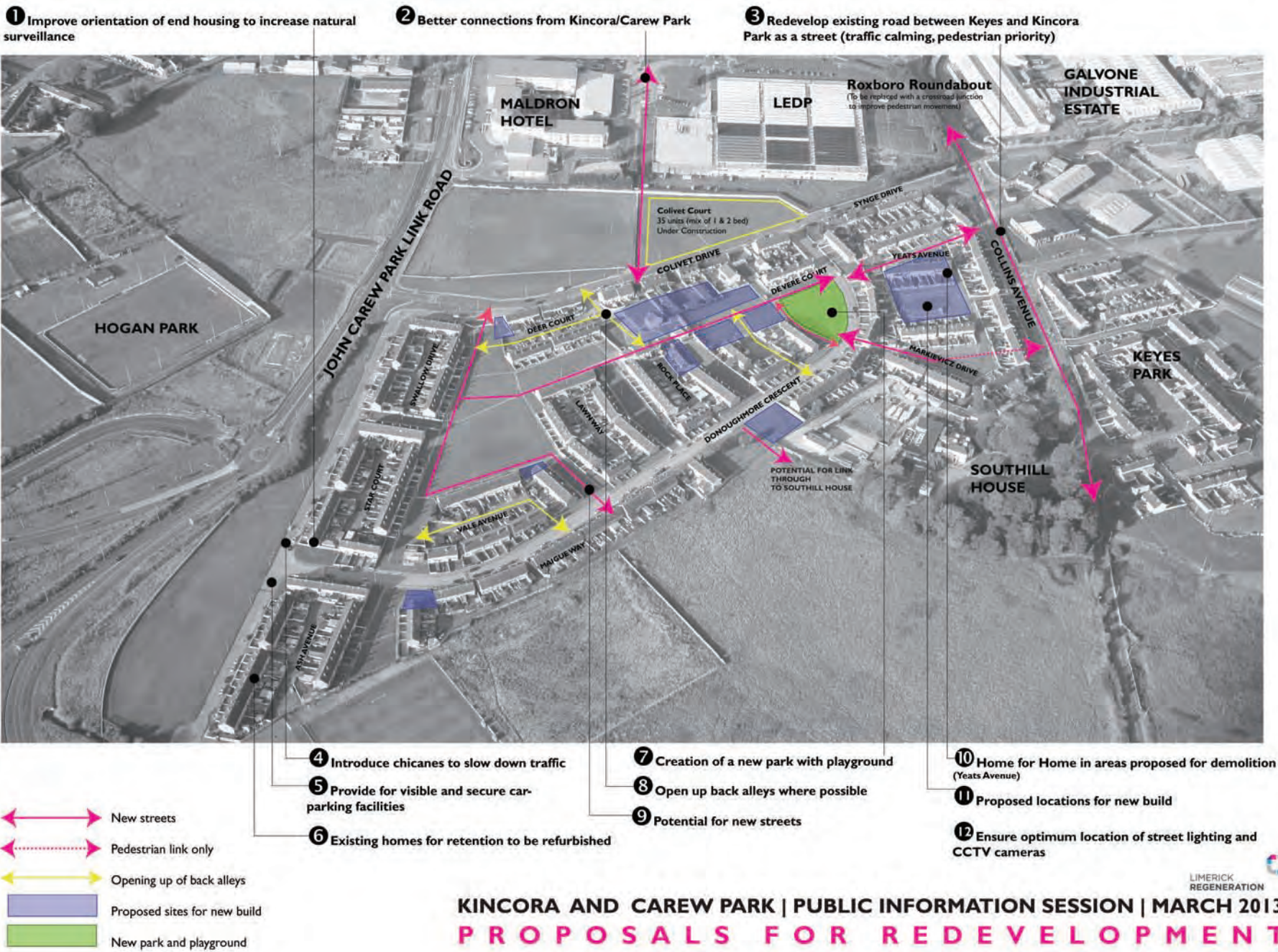
Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

▼ Kincora and Carew Park Public Information Session



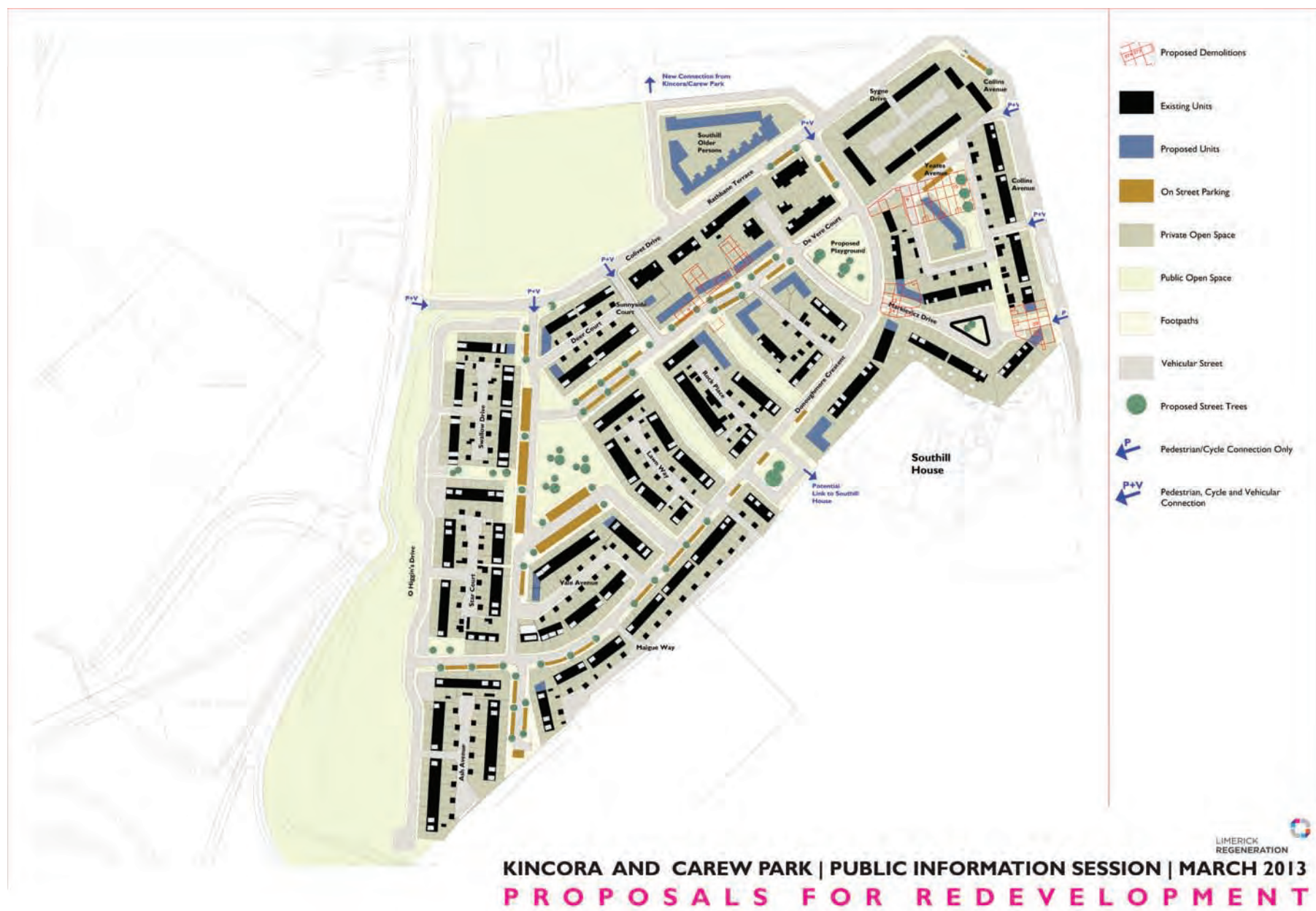
KINCORA AND CAREW PARK | PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION | MARCH 2013
PROPOSALS FOR REDEVELOPMENT

Kincora and Carew Park Public Information Session



Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

▼ Kincora and Carew Park Public Information Session



Kincora and Carew Park Public Information Session

The Office of Regeneration appreciates your comments and feedback about the proposals you have seen here today. It would be very helpful if you could answer the following questions and leave us any feedback you may have.

Are you supportive of the proposals for redevelopment as follows:

1 Improve orientation of end housing to increase natural surveillance

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

2 Better connections from Kincora/Carew Park

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

3 Redevelop existing road between Keyes and Kincora Park as a street (traffic calming, pedestrian priority)

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

4 Introduce chicanes to slow down traffic

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

5 Provide for visible and secure carparking facilities

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

6 Existing homes for retention to be refurbished


YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

7 Creation of a new park with playground

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____



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REGENERATION

KINCORA AND CAREW PARK | PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION | MARCH 2013

PROPOSALS FOR REDEVELOPMENT

Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

Kincora and Carew Park Public Information Session

Are you supportive of the proposals for redevelopment as follows:

8 Open up back alleys where possible

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

9 Potential for new streets

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

10 Home for Home in areas proposed for demolition (Yeats Avenue)

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

11 Proposed locations for new build

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

12 Ensure optimum location of street lighting and CCTV cameras

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

Any other comments? _____

We would appreciate it if you could fill in your details below. This will assist us in assessing and responding to the Public Information Session feedback.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Please tick the boxes below as appropriate:

Age:

0-19 ☐

20-39 ☐

40-59 ☐

60-79 ☐

over 79 ☐

Occupation:

Student ☐

Part-time ☐

Full-time ☐

Retired ☐

Unemployed ☐

Date: _____

Thank you very much for taking the time to complete the questionnaire

KINCORA AND CAREW PARK | PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION | MARCH 2013

PROPOSALS FOR REDEVELOPMENT

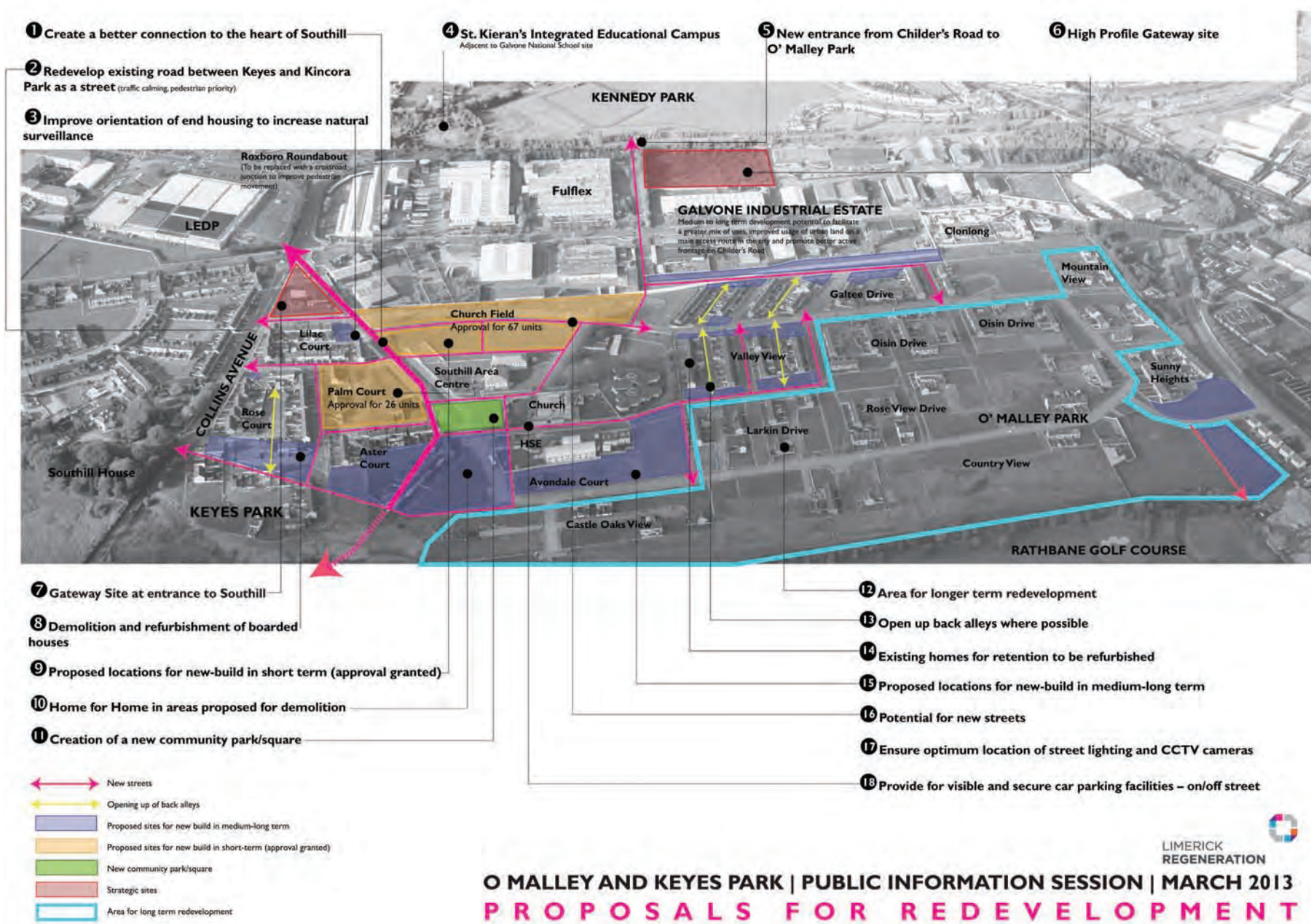
LIMERICK REGENERATION

▼ O'Malley Park and Keyes Park Public Information Session

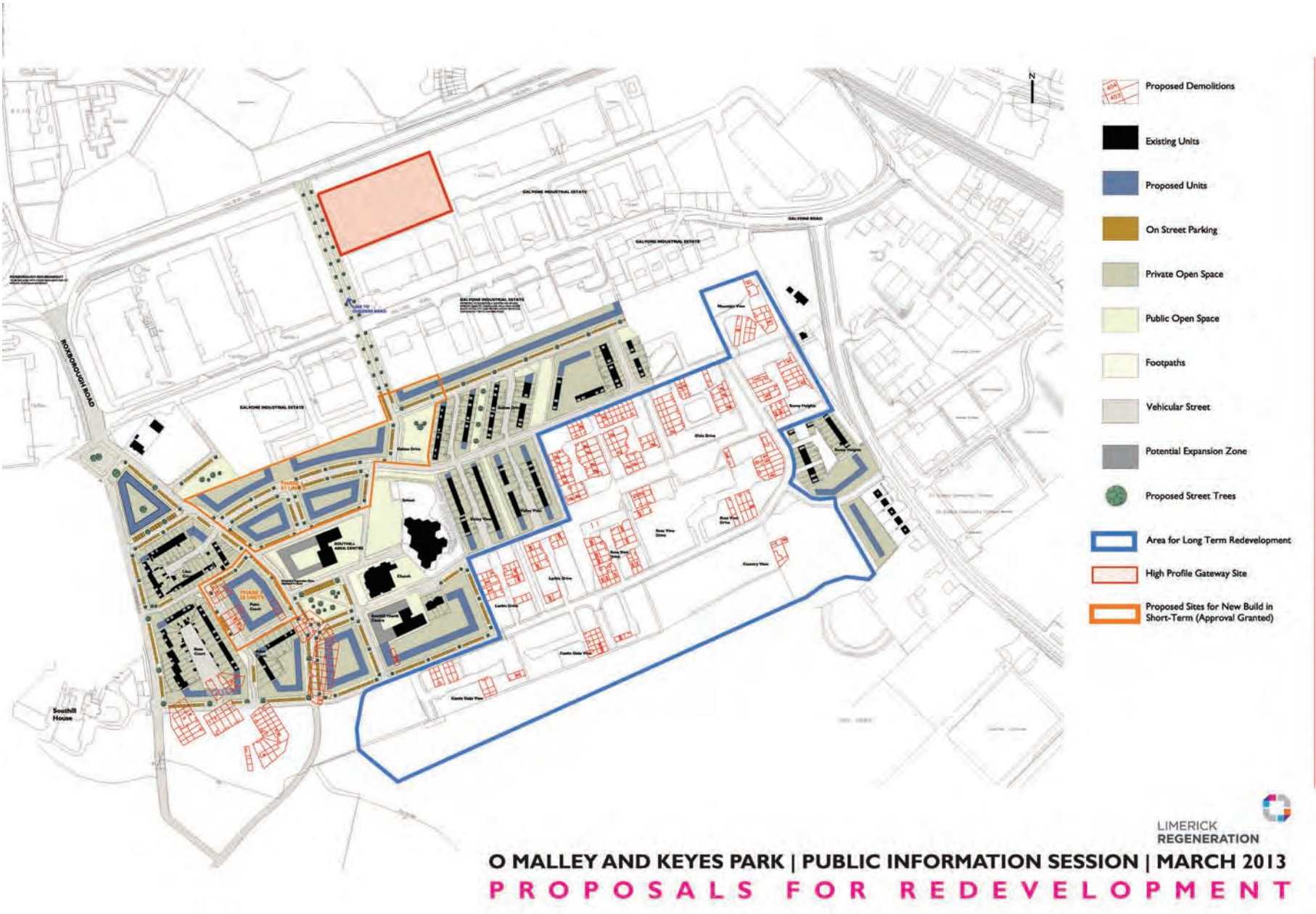


Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

▼ O'Malley Park and Keyes Park Public Information Session



O'Malley Park and Keyes Park Public Information Session



Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

O'Malley Park and Keyes Park Public Information Session

The Office of Regeneration appreciates your comments and feedback about the proposals you have seen here today. It would be very helpful if you could answer the following questions and leave us any feedback you may have.

Are you supportive of the proposals for redevelopment as follows:

1 Create a better connection to the heart of Southill

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

2 Redevelop existing road between Keyes and Kincora Park as a street (traffic calming, pedestrian priority)

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

3 Improve orientation of end housing to increase natural surveillance

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

4 St. Kieran's Integrated Educational Campus adjacent to Galvone National School site

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

5 New entrance from Childer's Road to O' Malley Park

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

6 High Profile Gateway site


YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

7 Gateway Site at entrance to Southill

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____



LIMERICK
REGENERATION

O MALLEY AND KEYES PARK | PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION | MARCH 2013

PROPOSALS FOR REDEVELOPMENT

O'Malley Park and Keyes Park Public Information Session

Are you supportive of the proposals for redevelopment as follows:

8 Demolition and refurbishment of boarded houses

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

9 Proposed locations for new-build in short term (approval granted)

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

10 Home for Home in areas proposed for demolition

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

11 Creation of a new community park/square

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

12 Area for longer term redevelopment

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

13 Open up back alleys where possible

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

14 Existing homes for retention to be refurbished

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

15 Proposed locations for new-build in medium-long term


YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

O MALLEY AND KEYES PARK | PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION | MARCH 2013

PROPOSALS FOR REDEVELOPMENT

LIMERICK
REGENERATION



Appendix 2. Statement of Community Involvement

O'Malley Park and Keyes Park Public Information Session

Are you supportive of the proposals for redevelopment as follows:

16 Potential for new streets

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

17 Ensure optimum location of street lighting and CCTV cameras

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

18 Provide for visible and secure car parking facilities – on/off street

YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW/DON'T MIND ☐

Comments: _____

Any other comments? _____

We would appreciate it if you could fill in your details below. This will assist us in assessing and responding to the Public Information Session feedback.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Please tick the boxes below as appropriate:

Age:

0-19 ☐

20-39 ☐

40-59 ☐

60-79 ☐

over 79 ☐

Occupation:

Student ☐

Part-time ☐

Full-time ☐

Retired ☐

Unemployed ☐


Date: _____

Thank you very much for taking the time to complete the questionnaire

O MALLEY AND KEYES PARK | PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION | MARCH 2013

PROPOSALS FOR REDEVELOPMENT

LIMERICK
REGENERATION





Appendix 3: Core Strategy Compliance

1.0 Introduction

This report sets out the overall strategy for the regeneration areas for the period 2012-2022 with reference to the requirements of the Core Strategy of Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016. The purpose of the Core Strategy is to articulate a medium- to longer- term quantitatively based strategy for the spatial development of the regeneration areas ensuring that policies and objectives of the Strategy and the Development Plan relating to private housing demand and tenure mix are entirely consistent with national and regional development objectives set out in the National Spatial Strategy 2002- 2022 (NSS) and Regional Planning Guidelines 2010-2022 (RPGs).

2.0 Planning Policy

2.1 Core Strategy

2.1.1 Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016

Table 1 below, extracted from Chapter 2 of the City Development Plan 2010-2016, sets out the Core Strategy for Limerick City. The strategy describes the quantum of additional private units and land required in the four regeneration areas. The figures are based upon the 2008 programme vision prepared by Limerick Regeneration Agency which estimates that the total new private housing (i.e. additional to the replacement housing) within the total regeneration area would equate to some 4,400 units by 2022. The 2008 vision assumed widespread demolition and their replacement with new units. In light of the draft Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan, for each of the regeneration areas, up to date data on new additional private housing is available to input into the Core Strategy table to ensure compliance.

2.2 Tenure Mix

2.2.1 Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016

The current Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2011 states the objective of seeking a 20:80 split in the rented and private ownership. The overall objectives are as follows:

“Currently in the regeneration housing estates, over 52% of householders own their homes, while 48% are renting from the Local Authority. It is hoped to change that mix to ultimately achieve the following:

- 20% Social/rented.
- 80% Private ownership.” (page 55)

2.2.2 Joint Housing Strategy for the Administrative Areas of Limerick City and County Councils and Clare Local Authorities (2010-2016)

The Joint Housing Strategy re-states the City Development Plan objective of seeking a split in the

Limerick City Core Strategy Population Land Use and Housing Unit Requirements 2010-2022	2006 Population	2016 Population	2022 Population	Phase 1 House No. Units Req. by 2016	Phase 2 House No. Units Req. by 2022	Total House No. Units Req. by 2022	Phase 1 Land to be Zoned in Hectares 2016	Phase 2 Land to be Zoned in Hectares 2022	Total Land to be Zoned in Hectares 2022
Limerick City	59790	70768	81240	9149	4364	13513	272	135	407
Increase		10978	10472						
Regeneration Areas Overall		4800	5760	2000	2400	4400	60.6	72.4	133.0
Coonagh/Clondranagh		1618	1051	674	438	1112	20	13	33
Clonmacken		1212	566	540	236	776	16	7	23
Former Racecourse		1778	1132	741	472	1213	22	14	36
Corbally		648	0	270	0	270	8	0	8
Balance		4448	1092	1853	455	2308	55	13.5	68.5
Mixed Use / Brown Field *2									
City Centre		3638	607	1516	253	1769	45	7.5	52.5
Remaining Mixed use including		3638	607	1516	253	1769	45	7.5	52.5
Brownfield/Derelict Sites									
Total		21780	10815	9110	4507	13617	272	135	407

Table 1: Extract from the Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016 Core Strategy

final housing mix between social/rented and private ownership, although recent economic developments now suggest these targets may not be achievable within the original timeframe. A core objective of the Housing Strategy is to promote balanced and sustainable communities which include beginning the process of the transformation of the tenure mix within the regeneration areas of Limerick City by working with other stakeholders to address the challenges set out in the Regeneration Programme

“To promote balanced and sustainable communities by transformation of the income and tenure mix in the urban area and specifically to begin the full implementation of the Regeneration Programme.” (page 74)

2.2.3 Limerick Regeneration Programme: A Vision for Moyross, Southill, Ballinacorra Weston and St. Mary's Park

Furthermore, the original masterplan of 2008 envisaged changing the tenure mix during the course of the programme implementation over the term 2009-2018 to ultimately achieve 20% social/rented and 80% private ownership

“The redevelopment proposes a residential regeneration that aims to achieve an 80:20 ratio of privately owned to social housing over the coming years” (page 92)

3.0 Meeting the Current Strategy and Tenure Mix Requirements

It is noted that the maps outlining the regeneration boundaries within the Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016 are inconsistent with those maps which formed part of the establishment order in 2008 which defined the regeneration areas for the Northside and Southside of Limerick. It is also noted that, the requirement to meet the target of 4400 additional private units, proposed as part of the Core Strategy, assumed widespread demolition in the regeneration areas within the Development Plan regeneration boundaries which would have allowed for an increase in development yield in these areas.

A retention and refurbishment strategy is now being pursued in the regeneration areas, with strategic demolitions to make way for better connectivity and a more coherent urban form. Furthermore, the retention and refurbishment of existing housing stock means that there are less areas available for additional private housing to meet the Core Strategy's target of 4400 units as originally anticipated with the wholesale demolition strategy within the boundaries defined as part of the Limerick City Development Plan.

This Limerick City Development Plan clearly states that the “regeneration programme needs to be fluid” and “evolve with circumstances locally, regionally and nationally.” Therefore, to implement the framework plans in a flexible and sustainable manner, whilst ensuring compliance with planning policy, it is proposed that the boundaries that were formed as part of the establishment orders (which are larger in land area to those adopted within the Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016 with the exception of St. Mary's Park) are used to ensure compliance with the Core Strategy in delivering an additional 4400 private units. The Establishment Order boundaries will form the basis of the regeneration areas and will be incorporated as part of the development plan review process.

3.1 Case for modifying the Core Strategy as part of the development plan process

This section details compliance with the current Limerick City Development Plan's Core Strategy target of 4400 additional private units by 2022. However, there may be a rationale to modify this target figure of 4400 additional private units with the forthcoming review of the City Development Plan as part of the

development plan process whilst ensuring compliance with the overall global target figures allocated to the Limerick Gateway as espoused in the Mid-West Regional Planning Guidelines.

The Core Strategy of Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016 must be in compliance with the Mid-West Regional Planning Guidelines. The Regional Planning Guidelines derived the population targets from the DEC&LG targets and these figures indicated an overall population for the region and for Limerick City to 2022. The requirement for Limerick was that, of the total population of the Limerick Gateway of 32,000 people, 70% of this be relocated to Limerick City. This equates to 21,780 additional people and 13,617 additional private housing to be allocated to Limerick City. These figures have been adopted as part of the Core Strategy of the Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016. The Regional Planning Guidelines are silent on any other constituent part of the Limerick City population such as the regeneration areas or any other part of the City. Therefore, as long as the future population of Limerick City, as required by the Mid-West Regional Planning Guidelines is maintained, the constituent components of this future population for the different parts of the City, including the regeneration areas, may be changed without impacting on the figures promoted in the Mid-West Regional Planning Guidelines.

The 4,400 additional private dwellings indicated in the Core Strategy of the Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016 were based on the figures from the original Regeneration Agency Plan of 2008 which envisaged almost complete demolition of existing units and replacement with higher density residential neighbourhoods. The new LRFIP takes a different approach, focusing on infill, replacement and refurbishment based on existing need rather than widespread demolition. It is recognised that 4,400 additional private units will not be constructed by 2022 but accepts that it is still reasonable to have a target of an additional private units by this date. It is envisaged that a suitable target figure will be derived as a separate exercise with a clear evidence-base as part of the development plan review process of the Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016. Additional units required, if a target figure for the regeneration areas are projected downwards, from the adopted Core Strategy figure of 4400 units, can be accommodated within the city centre and brownfield sites of Limerick City. Therefore, the detail of the

Appendix 3: Core Strategy Compliance

adopted Core Strategy can be adjusted to accommodate the Mid-West Regional Planning Guidelines overall target of 13,617 for future additional housing in Limerick City by 2022.

The modification of the Core Strategy as part of the development plan process must be in compliance with the objectives of the Regional Planning Guidelines.

It should also be pointed out that since the Planning and Development Act, 2010, compliance with the Regional Planning Guidelines is now determined by the Regional Planning Authority in terms of the development plan process (see Section 27 of the Planning and Development Acts 2000-2012.) Of course, under Section 31 of the Planning Acts, the Minister can direct the Planning Authority to change the Development Plan or any variation thereof.

3.1.1 Tenure Mix

A desired objective for future tenure mix of 80% private to 20% social/rented was indicated in the 2008 programme prepared by the Limerick Regeneration Agency. This again, was in a programme which assumed widespread demolition and replacement with new higher density residential neighbourhoods. This would equate to the provision of approximately 4,400 private dwellings by 2022. However, the objective for tenure mix is not indicated in the Mid-West Regional Planning Guidelines and is indicated in an aspirational way in the City Development Plan, Chapter 7, page 55, where it states:

“It is hoped to change that mix to ultimately achieve the following:

- 20% Social/rented.
- 80% Private ownership”

In the foreseeable future, it is not likely that 4,400 private houses can be provided in the regeneration areas. The objective relating to an 80:20 tenure mix can be changed as part of the development plan review process to the Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016. In any case, the ratio of social housing to private ownership is not a particularly good indicator of social integration. Currently in the Regeneration areas, 52% of the householders own their own homes and 48% are renting from the local authority. Possibly one of the better indicators of social mix would be income levels and diversification of tenure, social and income mix are discussed in more detail as part of the

Tenure Diversification Strategy in Volume 3 of the LRFIP.

3.1.2 Summary

The global figure in the Core Strategy for Limerick City is a target population of 21,780 additional people and 13,617 additional private houses by 2022 and these figures are set by the Mid-West Regional Planning Guidelines. The Regional Planning Guidelines do not go into detail on the breakdown of this figure and mention no figure specifically for the regeneration areas. Therefore should a downward projection be promoted, once the process commences to review the current City Development Plan, an approach to be considered would involve redistributing the additional private houses to other areas of Limerick City whilst retaining the global figure of 13,617 units as required by the Regional Planning Guidelines.

The Regeneration Framework Plan can be adopted as planning policy as part of the development plan review process and the detail of the Core Strategy can be modified as part of this process. However the global figure of 21,780 additional people and 13,617 additional private houses by 2022 which is required by the Regional Planning Guidelines and the DEC&LG Guidelines, will not be changed, until new population targets are issued by the DEC&LG.

3.2 Southill

3.2.1 Core Strategy

Within the boundary for Southill, lands have been identified that will contribute towards the Core Strategy requirements for new additional private housing (i.e. additional to replacement housing) and an improved tenure base. Map 1: Identification of lands for additional private housing capacity, describes the location of these lands in the context of the physical framework plan for Southill, proposed as part of the draft Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan.

To meet the Core Strategy's target of 4400 units (2000 in Phase 1 and 2400 in Phase 2), approximately 2593 new additional private units are proposed in Southill in addition to the number of occupied units due for refurbishment (527 units) and the amount of new replacement units required (209 units) to

accommodate those units proposed for demolition to make way for strategic connections and a coherent urban form. This equates to an approximate total of 3329 units. The number of new additional private units generated from Southill alone succeeds in meeting a significant proportion (58%) of the overall number of additional private units required by 2022 for the four regeneration areas.

3.2.2 Tenure Mix

Within Southill, approximately 3329 units (366 Local Authority occupied and 2963 private occupied) equates to a percentage ratio of 11:89 (Local Authority occupied: private occupied). This is a significant improvement from the tenure mix ratio of occupied units recorded at December 31 2012; 44:56 (Local Authority occupied: private occupied).

Southill: Final Tenure Mix as Envisaged as Part of the Regeneration Programme			
	Local Authority	Private	Total Units
Number of occupied units to be refurbished	218	309	527
Number of new replacement units required	148	61	209
Proposed new private units	0	2592.59	2592.59
Final number of homes within study area	366	2962.59	3328.59

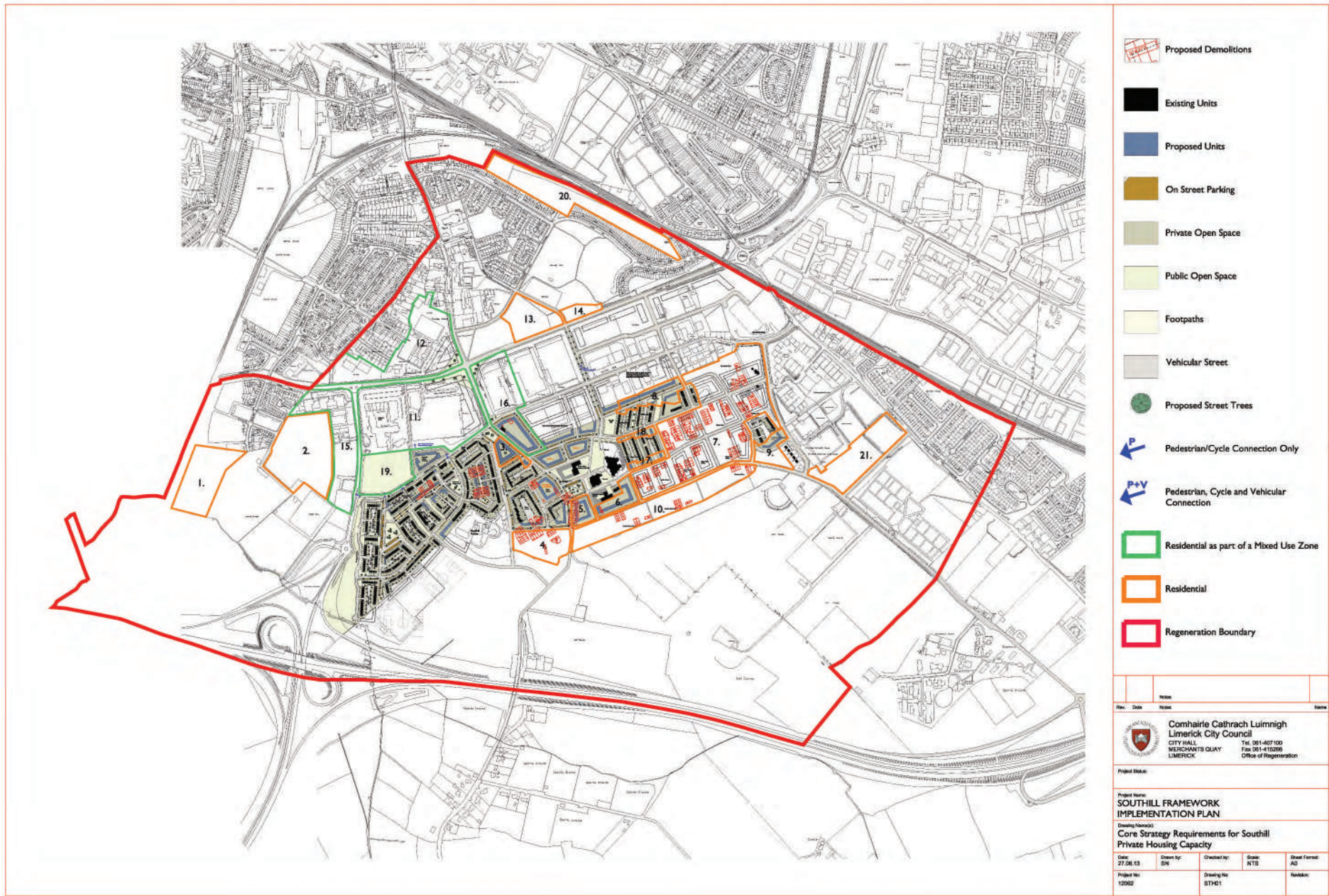
Table 2: Tenure mix as envisaged as part of the regeneration programme until 2022

Southill: Tenure Mix as at December 31 2012			
	Local Authority	Private	Total Units
Number of occupied units*	285	370	655
Tenure Mix Percentage	43.51	56.49	
*Excludes 5 community use buildings in O'Malley and Carew Park			
Southill: Tenure Mix as at 2022			
	Local Authority	Private	Total Units
Number of occupied units	366	2962.59	3328.593
Tenure Mix Percentage	11.00	89.00	

Table 3: Tenure mix as at December 31 2012 and envisaged as part of the regeneration programme until 2022

Appendix 3: Core Strategy Compliance

Identification of lands for additional private housing capacity in Southill



Southill: Additional Private Housing									
Area Name	Zoning Objective under Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016	Proposed Land Use as Part of the LRFIP	Overall Area in Hectares	Non Residential as Part of a Mixed Use /District Centre Zones <i>Assume 50% of overall area as non-residential</i>	Residential as Part of a Mixed Use /District Centre Zones <i>Assume 50% of overall area as residential</i>	Density (Minimum Range of 35 Units per Hectare - Residential Only and 70 units per Hectare as part of Mixed Uses)	Density (Maximum Range of 50 Units per Hectare - Residential Only and 120 units per Hectare as part of Mixed Uses)	Capacity (Minimum Yield in Units)	Capacity (Maximum Yield in Units)
1	2A Residential	Residential	2.3377			35	50	81.8195	116.885
2	2A Residential	Residential	3.6035			35	50	126.1225	180.175
3	4A Light Industrial /2A Residential	Residential	0.4536			35	50	15.876	22.68
4	2A Residential	Residential	1.3262			35	50	46.417	66.31
5	2A Residential	Residential	0.4916			35	50	17.206	24.58
6	2A Residential	Residential	0.6648			35	50	23.268	33.24
7	2A Residential	Residential	9.1437			35	50	320.0295	457.185
8	2A Residential	Residential	0.9387			35	50	32.8545	46.935
	4A Light Industrial								
9	2A Residential	Residential	0.7277			35	50	25.4695	36.385
10	2A Residential	Residential	3.3341			35	50	116.6935	166.705
11	5A Mixed Use	Mixed Use	7.084	3.542	3.542	70	120	247.94	425.04
12	5B District Centre	District Centre	4.5153	2.25765	2.25765	70	120	158.0355	270.918
13	2A Residential	Residential	1.431			35	50	50.085	71.55
14	2A Residential	Residential	0.3814			35	50	13.349	19.07
15	4A Light Industrial /2A Residential	Mixed Use	3.06	1.53	1.53	70	120	107.1	183.6
16	4A Light Industrial	Mixed Use	2.98	1.49	1.49	70	120	104.3	178.8
17	2A Residential	Residential	0.2007			35	50	7.0245	10.035
18	2A Residential	Residential	0.18			70	100	0	0
19	6A Public Open Space	Mixed Use	1.72	0.86	0.86	70	100	120.4	160.5
20	2A Residential	Residential	3.43			35	50	120.05	122
21	2B Education, Community and Cultural	Residential	2.46			35	50	86.1	122
	Totals		50.464	9.67965	9.67965			1820.14	2592.593

Table 4: Minimum and maximum yields of additional private housing in Southill

Appendix 3: Core Strategy Compliance

3.3. Ballinacurra Weston

3.3.1 Core Strategy

Within the boundary for Ballinacurra Weston, lands have been identified that will contribute towards the Core Strategy requirements for new additional private housing (i.e. additional to replacement housing) and an improved tenure base. Map 2: Identification of lands for additional private housing capacity, describes the location of these lands in the context of the physical framework plan for Ballinacurra Weston, proposed as part of the draft Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan.

To meet the Core Strategy's target of 4400 units (2000 in Phase 1 and 2400 in Phase 2), approximately 255 new additional private units are proposed in

Ballinacurra Weston in addition to the number of occupied units due for refurbishment (205 units) and the amount of new replacement units required (40 units) to accommodate those units proposed for demolition to make way for strategic connections and a coherent urban form. This equates to an approximate total of 500 units.

3.3.2 Tenure Mix

Within Ballinacurra Weston, approximately 500 units (103 Local Authority occupied and 397 private occupied) equates to a percentage ratio of 21:79 (Local Authority occupied: private occupied). This is an improvement from the tenure mix ratio of occupied units recorded at December 31 2012; 28:72 (Local Authority occupied: private occupied).

Ballinacurra Weston: Final Tenure Mix as Envisaged as Part of the Regeneration Programme			
	Local Authority	Private	Total Units
Number of occupied units to be refurbished	68	137	205
Number of new replacement units required	35	5	40
Proposed new private units	0	254.7	254.7
Final number of homes within study area	103	396.7	499.7
Final Tenure Mix Percentage	20.61	79.39	

Table 5: Tenure mix as envisaged as part of the regeneration programme until 2022

Ballinacurra Weston: Tenure Mix as at December 31 2012			
	Local Authority	Private	Total Units
Number of occupied units*	56	142	198
Tenure Mix Percentage	28.	71.72	
*Excludes 2 community use buildings			
Ballinacurra Weston: Final Tenure Mix as Envisaged as Part of the Regeneration Programme			
	Local Authority	Private	Total Units
Number of occupied units	103	396.7	499.7
Tenure Mix Percentage	20.	79.39	

Table 6: Tenure mix as at December 31 2012 and envisaged as part of the regeneration programme until 2022

Ballinacurra Weston: Additional Private Housing							
Area Name	Zoning Objective under Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016	Proposed Land Use as Part of the LRFIP	Overall Area in Hectares	Density (Minimum Range of 35 Units per Hectare - Residential Only	Density (Maximum Range of 50 Units per Hectare - Residential Only	Capacity (Minimum Yield in Units)	Capacity (Maximum Yield in Units)
1	2A Residential	Residential	1.235	35	50	43.225	61.75
2	2A Residential	Residential	0.825	35	50	28.875	41.25
3	2A Residential	Residential	0.156	35	50	5.46	7.8
4	2A Residential	Residential	2.855	35	50	99.925	142.75
5	2A Residential	Residential	0.023	35	50	0.805	1.15
	Totals		48.5116			178.29	254.7

Table 7: Minimum and maximum yields of additional private housing in Ballinacurra Weston

Appendix 3: Core Strategy Compliance

Identification of lands for additional private housing capacity in Ballinacurra Weston



3.4. Moyross

3.4.1 Core Strategy

Within the boundary for Moyross, lands have been identified that will contribute towards the Core Strategy requirements for new additional private housing (i.e. additional to replacement housing) and an improved tenure base. Map 3: Identification of lands for additional private housing capacity, describes the location of these lands in the context of the physical framework plan for Moyross, proposed as part of the draft Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan.

To meet the Core Strategy's target of 4400 units (2000 in Phase 1 and 2400 in Phase 2), approximately 1725 new additional private units are proposed in Moyross in addition to the number of occupied units due for refurbishment (451 units) and the amount of new replacement units required (295 units) to

accommodate those units proposed for demolition to make way for strategic connections and a coherent urban form. This equates to an approximate total of 2471 units.

3.4.2 Tenure Mix

Within Moyross approximately 2471 units (420 Local Authority occupied and 2051 private occupied) equates to a percentage ratio of 17:83 (Local Authority occupied: private occupied). This is an improvement from the tenure mix ratio of occupied units recorded at December 31 2012; 65:34 (Local Authority occupied: private occupied)

Moyross: Final Tenure Mix as Envisaged as Part of the Regeneration Programme			
	Local Authority	Private	Total Units
Number of occupied units to be refurbished	178	273	451
Number of new replacement units required	242	53	295
Proposed new private units	0	1724.792	1724.792
Final number of homes within study area	420	2050.792	2470.792
Final Tenure Mix Percentage	17.00	83.00	

Table 8: Tenure mix as envisaged as part of the regeneration programme until 2022

Moyross: Tenure Mix as at December 31 2012			
	Local Authority	Private	Total Units
Number of occupied units*	445	231	676
Tenure Mix Percentage	65.83	34.17	
*Excludes 15 community use buildings, 8 units at Shannabooley and 34 units at Ballygrennan as part of a Respond housing scheme			
Moyross: Tenure Mix as at 2022			
	Local Authority	Private	Total Units
Number of occupied units	420	2050.792	2470.792
Tenure Mix Percentage	17.00	83.00	

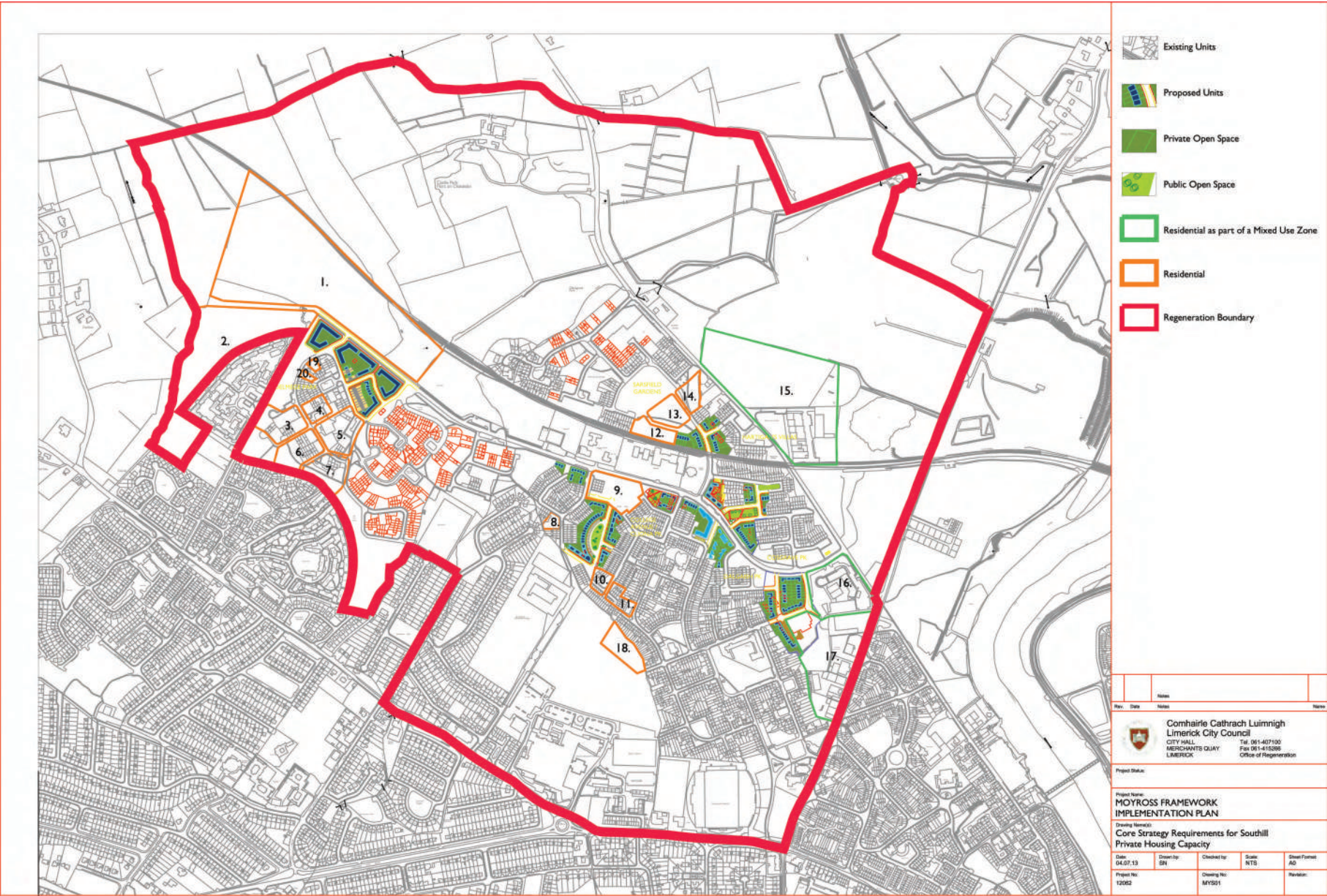
Table 9: Tenure mix as at December 31 2012 and envisaged as part of the regeneration programme until 2022

Appendix 3: Core Strategy Compliance

Moyross: Additional Private Housing									
Area Name	Zoning Obective under Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016	Proposed Land Use as Part of the LRFIP	Overall Area in Hectares	Non Residential as Part of a Mixed Use /District Centre Zones <i>Assume 50% of overall area as non-residential</i>	Residential as Part of a Mixed Use /District Centre Zones <i>Assume 50% of overall area as residential</i>	Density (Minimum Range of 35 Units per Hectare - Residential Only and 70 units per Hectare as Part of Mixed Uses)	Density (Maximum Range of 50 Units per Hectare - Residential Only and 120 untis per Hectare as Part of Mixed Uses)	Capacity (Minimum Yield in Units)	Capacity (Maximum Yield in Units)
1	2A Residential	Residential	9.854			35	50	344.89	492.7
2	2A Residential	Residential	3.9187			35	50	137.1545	195.935
3	2A Residential	Residential	0.7249			35	50	25.3715	36.245
4	2A Residential	Residential	0.2839			35	50	9.9365	14.195
5	2A Residential	Residential	0.8048			35	50	28.168	40.24
6	2A Residential	Residential	0.6988			35	50	24.458	34.94
7	2A Residential	Residential	0.6638			35	50	23.233	33.19
8	2A Residential	Residential	0.1217			35	50	4.2595	6.085
9	2A Residential	Residential	0.8836			35	50	30.926	44.18
10	2A Residential	Residential	0.2139			35	50	7.4865	10.695
11	2A Residential	Residential	0.2797			35	50	9.7895	13.985
12	2A Residential	Residential	0.3609			35	50	12.6315	18.045
13	2A Residential	Residential	0.4757			35	50	16.6495	23.785
14	2A Residential	Residential	0.3388			35	50	11.858	16.94
15	5A Mixed Use	Mixed Use	6.431	3.2155	3.2155	70	120	225.085	385.86
16	5B District Centre	District Centre	1.6864	0.8432	0.8432	70	120	59.024	101.184
17	5C Neighbourhood Centre Centre	Neighbourhood	3.08	1.54	1.54	70	120	107.8	184.8
18	2B Educational, Community, Cultural	LIT Campus – Residential	0.5549			70	120	38.843	66.588
19	2A Residential	Residential	0.054			35	50	1.89	2.7
20	2A Residential	Residential	0.05			35	50	1.75	2.5
	Totals		31.4795	5.5987	5.5987			1121.20	1724.79

Table 10: Minimum and maximum yields of additional private housing in Moyross

Identification of lands for additional private housing capacity in Moyross



Appendix 3: Core Strategy Compliance

3.5 St. Mary's Park

3.5.1 Core Strategy

For successful regeneration of St. Mary's Park, it is imperative that infill sites are developed for immediate replacement housing need arising from strategic demolitions east of St. Munchin's Street, existing overcrowding conditions and new internal household formations. The delivery of replacement residential use on brownfield land within St. Mary's Park is therefore critical in order for the Office of Regeneration to meet its immediate housing need in the short term and fulfill the overall objectives of the regeneration programme in line with national policy. However, to meet the requirements of the Core Strategy, consideration of the wider King's Island area outside of St. Mary's Park will need to be considered to fulfill the requirement for additional private housing. Given that there is limited scope for

additional private units within St. Mary's Park, the consideration of some alternative sites within the wider King's Island boundary therefore is necessary to achieve the council's housing target of 4400 additional private units within the regeneration areas by 2022 and deliver the key objective of tenure diversification.

Within St Mary's Park and King's Island, lands have been identified that will contribute towards the Core Strategy requirements for new additional private housing (i.e. additional to replacement housing) and an improved tenure base. Map 4: Identification of lands for additional private housing capacity, describes the location of these lands in King's Island in the context of the physical framework plan for St. Mary's Park, proposed as part of the draft Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan. To meet the Core Strategy's target of 4400 units

(2000 in Phase 1 and 2400 in Phase 2), approximately 98 new additional private units are proposed in St. Mary's Park and King's Island in addition to the number of occupied units due for refurbishment (321 units) and the amount of new replacement units required (49 units) to accommodate those units proposed for demolition to make way for strategic connections and a coherent urban form. This equates to an approximate total of 468 units.

3.5.2 Tenure Mix

Within St. Mary's Park and King's Island approximately 468 units (166 Local Authority occupied and 302 private occupied) equates to a percentage ratio of 35:65 (Local Authority occupied: private occupied). Although the ratio has remained unchanged since December 31 2012, it is an objective of the Limerick Regeneration Framework Implementation Plan to broaden the nature of tenure within the regeneration

St. Mary's Park: Final Tenure Mix as Envisaged as Part of the Regeneration Programme			
	Local Authority	Private	Total Units
Number of occupied units to be refurbished	133	188	321
Number of new replacement units required	33	16	49
Proposed new private units	0	97.94	97.94
Final number of homes within study area	166	301.94	467.94
Final Tenure Mix Percentage	35.47	64.53	

Table 11: Tenure mix as envisaged as part of the regeneration programme until 2022

St. Mary's Park: Tenure Mix as at December 31 2012			
	Local Authority	Private	Total Units
Number of occupied units*	111	204	315
Tenure Mix Percentage	35.24	64.76	
*Includes 3 local authority owned refurbishments at Gaol Lane			
St. Mary's Park: Final Tenure Mix as Envisaged as Part of the Regeneration Programme			
	Local Authority	Private	Total Units
Number of occupied units	166	301.944	467.944
Tenure Mix Percentage	35.47	64.53	

Table 12: Tenure mix as at December 31 2012 and envisaged as part of the regeneration programme until 2022

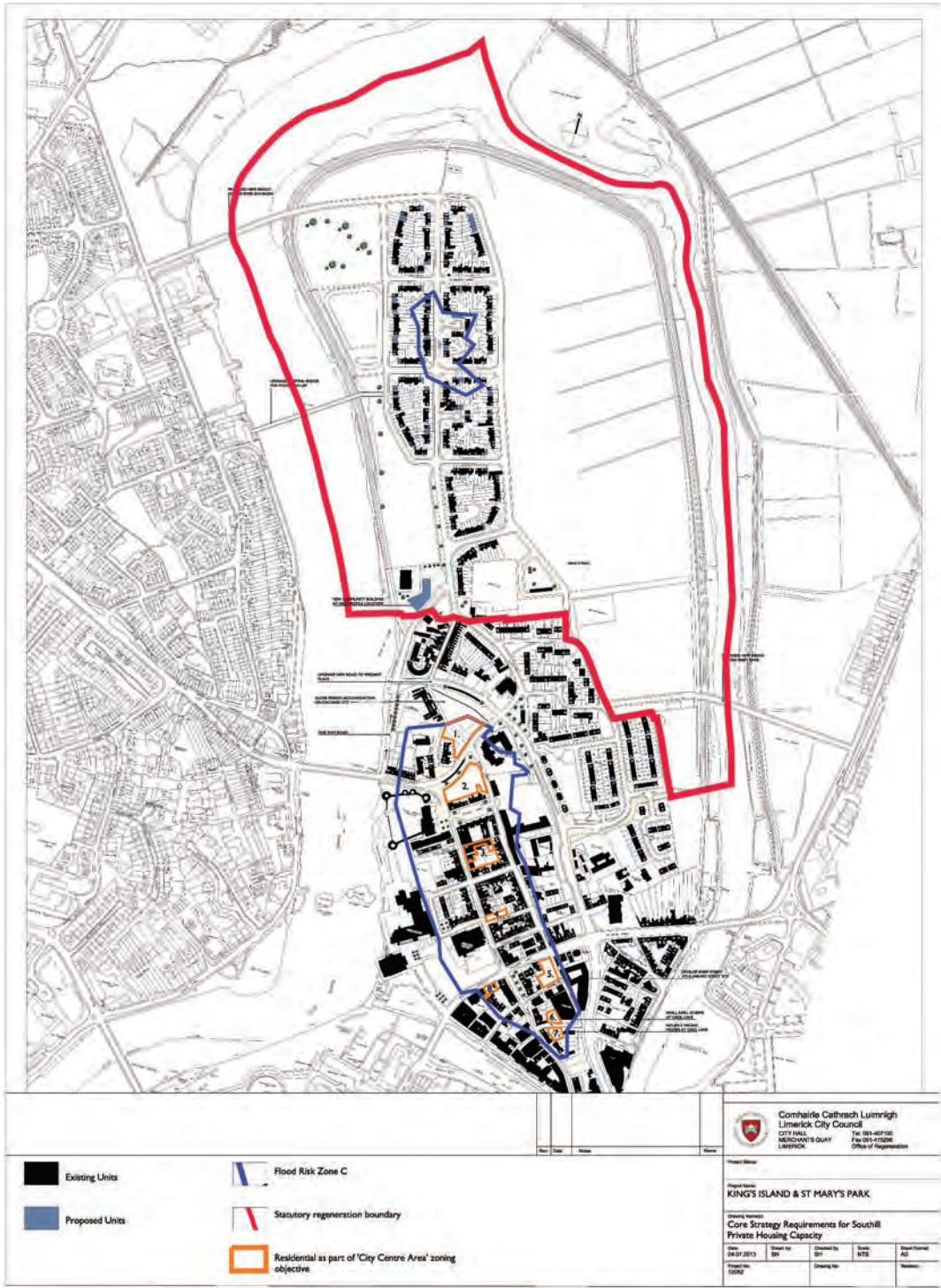
areas, in an effort to destigmatise 'council housing' and allow mechanisms to facilitate home ownership. This is in line with the Government's sustainable community agenda whereby to maintain and enhance existing communities, a greater choice of tenure and types of housing within the control of Limerick City Council will need to be accommodated for and become more attractive to a wider range of household types. This will require the continuation and reactivation of key policies and mechanisms such as the 'Incremental Purchase Scheme'.

St. Mary's Park: Additional Private Housing						
Area Name	Zoning Objective under Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016	Overall Area in Hectares	Density (Minimum Range of 35 Units per Hectare - Residential Only	Density (Maximum Range of 50 Units per Hectare - Residential Only	Capacity (Minimum Yield in Units)	Capacity (Maximum Yield in Units)
1	1B City Centre Commercial Area (CCCA)	0.193	70	120	13.51	23.16
2	1B City Centre Commercial Area (CCCA)	0.2	70	120	14	24
3	1B City Centre Commercial Area (CCCA)	0.1722	70	120	12.054	20.664
4	1B City Centre Commercial Area (CCCA)	0.028	70	120	1.96	3.36
5	1B City Centre Commercial Area (CCCA)	0.084	70	120	5.88	10.08
6	1B City Centre Commercial Area (CCCA)	0.03	70	120	2.1	3.6
7	1B City Centre Commercial Area (CCCA)	0.034	70	120	2.38	4.08
8	Bridge Street* *Planning permission granted for 9 units	0.024				9
	Totals	0.7652			51.884	97.944

Table 13: Minimum and maximum yields of additional private housing in St. Mary's Park and King's Island

Appendix 3: Core Strategy Compliance

Identification of lands for additional private housing capacity in St.Mary's Park and King's Island



4.0 Conclusion

To achieve the Core Strategy's requirements of 4400 units by 2022, the refocussed framework plans envisages an additional 2593 new private units in Southill, 1725 new units in Moyross, 98 new units in St. Mary's Park and King's Island and 255 new private units in Ballinacurra Weston.

To achieve the planning policy objective of an 80:20 tenure split, within Southill, a total of 2963 private units and 366 local authority units equates to a 89:11 private: social mix. Within Moyross a total of 2051 private units and 420 local authority units equates to an 83:17 private: social mix and within Ballinacurra Weston, a total of 397 private units and 103 local authority units equates to a 79:21 private: social mix. Finally, within St. Mary's Park and King's Island, a total of 302 private units and 166 local authority units

equates to a 65:35 private: social mix.

Due to the present and anticipated state of the housing market, the delivery of 4400 units by 2022 within the four regeneration areas may be challenging. However, from an analysis of the re-focused framework plans for Southill, Moyross, Ballinacurra Weston and St. Mary's Park there is sufficient land for additional private housing (approximately 4671 additional private units) in these areas to begin the process of counteracting undue segregation and achieving a desirable tenure mix. Consideration of targeted economic, housing and land use policies will need to be put in place to ensure new private investment and paths to home ownership are delivered within the regeneration areas during the Strategy period.

Table 14 below highlights the quantum of additional private units required for each of the regeneration areas and how the units can be delivered on a phased basis (phase 1 units by 2016 and phase 2 units by 2022).

Limerick City Core Strategy Population Land Use and Housing Unit Requirements 2010-2022	2006 Population	2016 Population	2022 Population	Phase 1 House No. Units Req. by 2016	Phase 2 House No. Units Req. by 2022	Total House No. Units Req. by 2022	Phase 1 Land to be Zoned in Hectares 2016	Phase 2 Land to be Zoned in Hectares 2022	Total Land to be Zoned in Hectares 2022
Limerick City	59790	70768	81240	9149	4364	13513	272	135	407
Increase		10978	10472						
Regeneration Areas Overall		4800	5760	2000	2400	4400	60.6	72.4	133.0
Southill				1166	1426	2593	22.7	27.8	50.46
Ballinacurra Weston				114	140	255	2.29	2.8	5.09
Moyross				775	948	1725	14.16	17.3	31.47
King's Island				44	54	98	0.34	0.42	0.76
Total				2099	2568	4671	39	48	88
Coonagh/Clondranagh		1618	1051	674	438	1112	20	13	33
Clonmacken		1212	566	540	236	776	16	7	23
Former Racecourse		1778	1132	741	472	1213	22	14	36
Corbally		648	0	270	0	270	8	0	8
Balance		4448	1092	1853	455	2308	55	13.5	68.5
Mixed Use / Brown Field *2									
City Centre		3638	607	1516	253	1769	45	7.5	52.5

Table 14: Quantum of additional private units and land required for each regeneration area (highlighted in red) to comply with the Limerick City Development Plan 2010-2016 Core Strategy

Appendix 4: Crime Prevention through Design

4.0 Crime Prevention through Design

by Alan Roughneen, National Crime Prevention through Design Officer

Crime, and Crime Prevention, is an issue which concerns and affects everyone. Law-abiding citizens, however, may find it difficult to understand how and why criminals commit crime and how this can be prevented. In Building and Environmental design, this lack of sufficient understanding of the criminal can unwittingly lead to the creation of opportunities, which the criminal readily exploits.

Through designing out crime, modern preventative policing seeks to deter the opportunist criminal, whose decision whether or not to commit crime is usually influenced by two main factors:

1. The physical opportunity, and
2. The probability of being caught

Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) is the creation, through effective design, of a physical environment conducive to the overall security of the community. This is achieved, through the establishment of 'defensible space' by extending the citizen's area of territorial concern from private through to public space whilst encouraging a sense of collective responsibility.

The Key Principles of CPTED are –

- Territoriality (Defined Areas of Influence)
- Collective Responsibility, and
- Detailed Security Design

Territoriality

The levels of crime and anti-social behaviour in a residential area are influenced by the degree of psychological control the residents can exert over the area.

Defensible Space

At the heart of this preventative concept of territoriality, is a theory first put forward by an American architect / criminologist. This proposes that all human beings need a degree of space around them which they can defend and over which they can exercise some form of territorial control. This 'defensible space' is particularly important in buildings and other parts of the designed environment, e.g. footpaths, car parks, park and ride facilities etc. The theory put forward is that the

designed environment can be divided into a hierarchy of different types of space ranging from entirely private to public.

Private Space is that area of space under the total control of the occupant and not visually or physically accessible to the public e.g. the inside of a house or private office.

Semi-Private Space is that area of space under control of the occupant, but which is visually and physically accessible to the public e.g. front garden of a house or an office reception.

Semi-Public Space is that area of space under control or within the area of responsibility of a specific group of occupants and which is accessible to the public e.g. hallways and lobbies of high rise flats, common recreational and parking areas of multiple housing complexes and office car parks.

Public Space is that area of space to which the public has access by right e.g. a public road.

To create this feeling of territoriality, consideration should be given to:-

- Maximising surveillance opportunities – good lighting, CCTV etc.
- Providing shared access routes
- Designing an appropriate pedestrian network

Collective Responsibility

Development design should not only extend the occupiers' influence over the public space - it should also create a feeling of responsibility. Central to the concept of collective responsibility is the idea of problem ownership. If users of an area are only concerned with their own private interests, and ignore crime and behaviour which does not affect them personally, crime becomes easier to commit. In an area where there is a high degree of social cohesion, a crime against one is seen as a crime against all. The community becomes more observant, which in turn makes it more difficult for the criminal to operate.

Detailed Security Design

Detailed Security Design is very much an integral part of Crime Prevention through Environmental Design. Detailed Security Design incorporates any measure, which can influence the criminal's decision whether or not to commit crime, e.g. landscaping, good lighting,

modern CCTV, natural surveillance and building design. Detailed Security Design also includes 'target hardening' measures which is a term used to describe physical features which will resist crime or deter the criminal e.g. locks, bolts, shutters, grilles and ironmongery.

Stages of Design

In providing a solution for any given design problem, it is important to be in full possession of all the relevant facts, which could ultimately determine the success of the design. Designing out crime, calls for the same approach. To evaluate fully the security issues which potentially affect any development, there are four main steps to be considered.

Stage 1: The Crime Profile

Profile on local crime trends – (provided by Garda Crime Prevention Officer)

Stage 2: The Crime Risk

Profile on anticipated crime risks and the probable impact on both the proposed development and its environs (based on type of building/area etc).

Stage 3: Detailed Evaluation

Identifying where the security of the development may be compromised.

Stage 4: The Design Proposal

A package of measures commensurate with the crime risk to the development will be produced.

Some General Examples of Crime Prevention through Environmental Design Principles

Layout of Footpaths:

Pedestrian routes should be designed to ensure that they are visually open, direct, well used and health and safety proofed. They should not undermine the defensible space of all stops and underground stops. Design features can help to identify the acceptable routes through an area, thereby encouraging their use, and in doing so enhancing the feeling of safety. Where it is desirable to limit access / use to residents and their legitimate visitors, appropriate design features may be used.

Footpath Design:

Routes for pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles etc. should not be segregated from one another. Networks of separate footpaths to unsupervised areas facilitate

crime and anti-social behaviour and should be avoided. Public footpaths should not run to the rear of, and provide access to gardens, rear yards or dwellings as these have been proven to generate crime. Where a segregated footpath is unavoidable, for example a public right of way, designers should consider making the footpath a focus of the development and ensure that it is:

- as straight as possible
- wide
- well lit
- devoid of potential hiding places
- overlooked by surrounding buildings and activities

Where isolated footpaths are unavoidable, and where space permits, they should be at least 3 metres wide (to allow people to pass without infringing personal space), with at least 2 metre verge on either side.

Seating Next to a Footpath:

Before placing seating (or any structure capable of being used for seating) next to a footpath, always consider the context in terms of the physical and social environment. Seating can be a valuable amenity or a focus for anti-social behaviour. In some areas there may not be a problem, in others seating may have to be provided only very judiciously. On the same footpath seating at one point may be a focus for trouble. Whereas at a different point on the same footpath, perhaps with better natural surveillance, it may be trouble-free. Where existing seating appears to be a problem, relocation is often an option worth considering. The following specific points should be considered:

- Who is most likely to be using the footpath? For example, is it likely to be used by older people? Can it be made more/less attractive to certain groups of users by the way it is designed?
- Is the footpath required simply as a means for travelling from one place to another without stopping?
- Is it the intention to encourage stopping and social interaction at particular points along the footpath?
- Would seating encourage or attract inappropriate loiterers such as drinkers or drug users?
- Is vandal-resistant seating necessary?
- Should seating be placed right next to the footpath or set at the back of the verge?

Lighting of Footpaths:

The need for lighting will be determined by local circumstances. Good lighting prevents crime and incidents of public order / vandalism and security is further enhanced if it is matched with a high degree of natural surveillance from surrounding buildings where reaction to an incident can be expected i.e. a witness calls the police, or the footpath is well used. It is important that the landscape architect and lighting engineer co-ordinate their plans. This will help avoid problems such as conflict between lighting and tree canopies

Communal Areas:

Communal areas such as playgrounds and seating areas have the potential to generate crime, the fear of crime, and anti-social behaviour. They should be designed to allow supervision from nearby dwellings with safe routes for users to come and go. Boundaries between public and private space should be clearly defined and open spaces must have features which prevent unauthorised vehicular access. Communal spaces as described above should not immediately lie alongside residential buildings.

The provision of open, public amenity space, as an integral part of new residential developments, should make a valuable contribution towards the quality of the development and the character of the neighbourhood. In order to do this it must be carefully located and designed to suit its intended purpose – mere residential space unwanted by the developer is very unlikely to be suitable. In particular:

- The open space must be designed with due regard for natural surveillance.
- Adequate mechanisms and resources must be put in place to ensure its satisfactory future management.
- Care should be taken to ensure that a lone dwelling will not be adversely affected by the location of the amenity space.
- Positioning amenity/play space to the rear of dwellings can increase the potential for crime and complaints arising from increased noise and nuisance.

Side and Rear Boundaries:

Vulnerable areas, such as side and rear gardens, need more robust defensive barriers by using walls or fencing to a minimum height of 1.8m. There may be circumstances in which more open fencing is required

to allow for greater surveillance. Trellis-topped fencing can be useful in such circumstances. Additional deterrent features such as increasing the height of fencing or planting thorny shrubs may be considered as an alternative.

Rear Access Paths/Laneways:

It is preferable that paths / laneways are not placed at the rear of properties. Research studying the distribution of burglary in terraced housing with rear laneways has shown that up to 85% of entries occurred at the back of the house. They also encourage anti-social behaviour and cause serious litter problems. If they are essential to allow residents access to the rear of properties then they must be gated. The street lighting should be designed to ensure that the gates are well illuminated. The gates should have a key operated lock and have anti-climb features. The minimum height of gates should be 2m.

Climbing Aids:

Boundary walls, bins and fuel stores, low flat roofs or balconies should be designed so as not to provide climbing aids to gain access to properties.

Car Parking:

With many developments now being designed with parking and underground parking, the following points should be considered at the design stage;

- Vehicular access points are electronically controlled, the use of a simple pole barrier is not acceptable as they do not restrict pedestrian access.
- External pedestrian entrances are kept separate from vehicular access points and gained internally via locked stairwells.
- Parking spaces should be arranged in straight rows to avoid blind spots.
- Support pillars should be as slim as possible within structural requirements.
- Ensure that external pedestrian entrances and routes to them have good natural surveillance and that any adjacent landscaping is low level.
- Maximise natural surveillance into and out of lifts, preferably with a vision panel.
- Good lighting is essential. There should be minimum colour distortion, no shadowed areas or pools of darkness. Bright coloured walls and ceilings should be used throughout.
- Access and exit points should be clear, well signed and lit.

Appendix 4: Crime Prevention through Design

- All proposals for underground parking should incorporate modern CCTV systems. Developers should install good quality, high resolution, recorded CCTV and help points.

CCTV

Consider drawing up a 'Memo of Understanding' with relevant stakeholders to include An Garda Síochána, to cover clear protocols on issues relating to:

- The retrieval of CCTV footage for crime Investigation and detection purposes.
- The potential use of CCTV feeds to local Garda Stations

▶ Burnt out houses at Salvia Court, Keyes Park, Southill





Appendix 5: Social Housing in Limerick City

5.0 Social Housing in Limerick City

By Matthew Potter & Lorcan Byrne

The role of Limerick Corporation/City Council in the provision of housing has, arguably, been its greatest contribution to the city in the Twentieth Century. Although Limerick Corporation has had a role in the provision of social housing since the 1690s when the Forty Shilling or Corporation Almshouses were built, the history of modern municipal social housing in the city only commenced in 1887. While the towns and cities of Ireland in the Nineteenth Century had the worst housing conditions in Europe, it was generally agreed that Limerick ranked next only to Dublin in terms of its social problems, poverty and appalling housing conditions. In Limerick City, employment was mainly concentrated in the areas of casual labouring on the docks, railways and related enterprises. In 1913, 20% of Limerick's housing stock consisted of 1,050 tenement houses, and another 15% were one-room flats. In 1915, the Medical Officer of Health for the city recorded a total of 1,669 houses unfit for human habitation, 962 owing to dilapidated conditions and 977 owing to want of ordinary sanitary conditions (McGrath 1915). It was with this miserable situation, so graphically described by Frank McCourt in *Angela's Ashes*, that the Corporation began to grapple in the 1880s. Local government provision of social housing in Limerick City may be divided into three periods: 1887-1932, 1932-87 and 1987-present.

Private Enterprise 1874-1904.

The earliest provision of social housing in Britain and Ireland was by private enterprise. The Labouring Classes (Lodging Houses and Dwelling) Act 1866, enabled the Irish Board of Works to provide public loans to private companies at a rate of four percent over forty years. This enabled such companies to offer attractive dividends to potential investors. In 1874, the Limerick Labourers Dwelling Company was established by Fr Edward Thomas O'Dwyer (1842-1917), of St. Michael's Parish, which constructed a scheme of 50 social housing units in the Watergate area. Later, as Bishop of Limerick, he was instrumental in setting up another such company, the Thomond Artisans Dwellings Company. The Cross Act of 1879 permitted local authorities to clear slum areas, and then to sell or lease these lands to third parties for the provision of housing for the working classes. Two areas around John Street and Nicholas Street were cleared and sold to the Thomond Artisans Dwellings Company, which

built 70 units in Bishop Street (1904). The Cross Act was more successful than its predecessor as it enabled the provision of more favourable loan terms and higher dividends to investors.

More than simply investment opportunities, these Acts sought to encourage the philanthropic inclinations of investors by encouraging 'a great moral and hygienic reform' of Irish and British cities. However charitable their intentions, these enterprises had to be financially viable, and so the rents were high and out of the reach of Limerick's poorest citizens. Furthermore, these houses were considered more than simply housing units, they were to be transformative instruments: the improvement of the city through the improvement of its citizens. As elsewhere in Britain and Ireland, broad support from the local power base was necessary, and this was O'Dwyer's greatest housing success, to rally financial, social and political support from a broad base in Limerick. A number of parties were rallied and involved as investors and key supporters, but for a number of overlapping reasons: Limerick's industrial base sought a more productive, healthy and contented workforce; Limerick's merchants needed an affluent consumer base; Limerick Corporation sought to eliminate disease, poverty and crime through hygiene and public order initiatives; while religious bodies such as the Redemptorist Arch-Confraternity were keen to cultivate the virtues of sobriety, industry and thrift. For the tenants, the artisan dwelling schemes acted as aspirational horizons, to orientate towards the goals of respectability and upward social mobility. These were economic enterprises but with a philanthropic ethos. As fitting the political liberal orthodoxy of the times, the 'remoralisation' of the working classes was seen as the key element in the fight against poverty. As a testament to their build quality and upkeep, the vast bulk of these homes still stand today. These houses became the homes, and were the making of Limerick's respectable working classes.

Despite their successes the Artisan Dwellings Model was poorly equipped and ultimately unable to manage the housing problems in Limerick City as a whole. In Britain and Ireland it was becoming increasingly clear that philanthropy and private enterprise could not solve the housing crisis, the only actor with the finances to provide solutions was the state itself.

Limerick Corporation 1887-1932

Social housing during this period was relatively small scale, constructed in the city centre and in-fill in nature. In 1887, Limerick Corporation built its first social housing scheme, when it constructed 18 houses in Sir Harry's Mall and lanes adjoining it and 6 on Athlunkard Street and an adjoining lane. The Housing of the Working Classes Act (1890) enabled local authorities to directly fund and, for the first time, build new dwellings on virgin lands that had been previously undeveloped. This gave Limerick Corporation access to highly subsidised public loans at a rate of 3.125 percent over a 60-year period. This enabled the construction of 7 units in Mary Street (1894) and 13 in Nolan's Cottages (1895). The Housing Act of 1908 created a boom in Irish social housing by ending borrowing limits, extending loan repayment periods to eighty years, and most significantly introduced an improved subsidy for urban housing which covered the cost of the interest charges. In Limerick, this resulted in the construction of 23 units in John's Street (1911), 48 in Quin's Cottages (1913) and 18 in Rossa Villas (1913).

After a decade-long hiatus caused by war and revolution, the Government introduced the Million Pound Scheme in 1922, under which 64 units were built by Limerick Corporation in 1922-23, consisting of 18 in Church Street, Kings Island,

28 on Cassidy's Lane (now Garryowen Road), and 18 in Mulgrave Street, St. Lelia's Street, and Clare Street. In the 1920s, the emphasis shifted to State assistance for private sector housing inaugurated by the Housing (Building Facilities) Act of 1924. This era witnessed the emergence of the Irish Free State Government, and the first decade of independence was characterised by a commitment to lowering government spending, and the avoidance of public borrowing. While the British State was moving toward a commitment to the public provision of housing, the new Irish Government of this era held no such commitments. The 1924 Act subsidised the construction of dwellings for better off households. By decades end, two third of all houses built with state aid in Ireland were in private ownership. Under these provisions, Limerick Corporation bought a four-acre site in Farranshone, on part of which it built twenty-six houses, which were then sold under tenant purchase agreements. Subsequently, a private company, the Limerick Commercial Public Utility Society, was formed and

received both a loan of £1,800 and a grant of £900 from the Corporation. It built 18 houses on the Farranshone site, and 20 in Eden Terrace. Towards the end of the decade, the focus returned to the direct provision of social housing, of which Limerick Corporation built 74 units in 1931-32, at Donnellan's Buildings (32) and Rossa Avenue (42).

Limerick Corporation constructed a total of 297 houses between 1887 and 1932, of which 26 were sold under a tenant purchase scheme. That more were not built was due to the necessity for the Corporation to recoup the cost of building social housing through the charging of high rents, which thus excluded most of those in need. High rents meant that only prosperous families enjoying a comparatively good and reliable source of income could afford to be housed in the new schemes. The subsidies paid under the Act had made a significant impact, but did not solve the problem of how the Corporation could make large amounts of social housing available at affordable rents without incurring huge and unacceptable levels of indebtedness. In consequence, limited inroads had been made on the housing needs of the city. The 1926 census reveals that 36.8 per cent of Limerick's citizens occupied dwellings at a rate of 2 persons or more per room. By 1932, one third of the city still consisted of lanes and courts, without proper water supply or sanitary facilities.

The message of housing policy during this time period up to 1932 was that the state saw its function as first and foremost to assist private housing activities. This attitude has always persisted in some form, being an ever-present feature of the Irish housing policy landscape.

Limerick Corporation 1932-87

In the early 1930s, a major programme of slum clearance and construction of social housing commenced as a result of the Housing Acts of 1931 and 1932. These Acts ushered in the golden age of social housing provision in Ireland which lasted until the late 1980s. These Acts also strongly emphasised the support of private housing activity, providing grants to private persons and public utility societies. The principal reason for this revolutionary development was the availability of greatly increased and generous subsidies under the Acts of 1931-32 coupled with the willingness of the Exchequer to make loans available, which thus finally provided the local authorities with

the necessary financial resources to build houses on a large scale. Indeed, the de Valera government was the first one to make housing a priority and to provide the leadership as well as the finance that would make this goal a reality. The 1930s saw the first major programme of slum clearance and the first large-scale construction of social housing in Ireland.

In Limerick the transformation was even more dramatic. In contrast to the 297 units built in 1887-1932, 942 were provided in 1932-40, (O'Connell, 2007: 30) which increased the local authority's housing stock by an incredible 277 per cent. In 1932 the Corporation built a scheme of 22 houses in the courtyard of King John's Castle, the most bizarre location of any housing estate, public or private, in the history of the State. This was occasioned by the collapse of a tenement in Bank Place and the provision of tent accommodation for residents near the site of the collapsed building. In the run up to the 1932 general election, in the thrust of the campaign Eamon de Valera saw the tents and promised to do something. In government he pressed Minister Seán T. O'Kelly, Minister for Local Government and Public Health, to sort out the housing shortage crisis in Limerick. It seems under some pressure directly from cabinet the Corporation built these famous 22 houses in Castle Barracks.

In contrast, the St Mary's Park Scheme of 454 houses constructed in two phases of 380 and 74 units was to be the proto-type of the large-scale housing estates constructed in the succeeding five decades. Funding for each housing estate was accessed on an estate-by-estate basis through the 'Local Loans Fund'. Interestingly, there is a big variance in the build quality of each estate. The high cost of loan terms meant that Limerick Corporation had to adopt several different strategies to qualify for loan subsidy payments. Loan charges were paid on a per house basis. Therefore constructing a greater number of houses with cheaper materials enabled Limerick Corporation to access a higher subsidy. This subsidy was passed onto tenants through lower rents. This practice was known as 'skinning down'. St Mary's Park is a typical example of a 'skinned down' estate.

The alternative to 'skinning down' was to build fewer houses but with more expensive materials at a higher cost, enabling Limerick Corporation to access a generous subsidy via a different route. These houses

had to be let at higher rents. Janesboro (152 units) is a good example of such an estate. The other principal housing schemes constructed in the 1930s were in O'Dwyer Villas, (99 units) (Distillery scheme received the name of which was a fitting tribute to the bishop who had done so much to provide social housing in the city) and Kilalee (90 units). The poor build quality of St Mary's Park is evident by the Remedial Works Scheme in the 1980s when many homes there required a near total refurbishment. Between 1932 and 1940, 1,329 dwellings were constructed under the Housing (Financial and Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 942 by Limerick Corporation and 387 by private persons or Public Utility Societies. The long-term effect of Irish housing policy on Limerick city, created a pattern that would see a deepening gulf between social housing and a publically subsidised private housing sector, this gulf increasingly took on a spatial character. In total, 1,137 social housing units were constructed by Limerick Corporation in the 1940s, but space was running out in the inner city core, resulting in the construction of social housing in the suburbs for the first time.

The differential rents scheme, the famous Monahan Scheme, was introduced shortly after the allocation of homes in St Mary's Park and Janesboro. The differential rents scheme was designed to overcome the kinds of issues where the poor and the more affluent were spatially segregated from one another into different social housing estates. It separated out ability to afford rent payments from entitlement to housing need. It gave local authorities the ability to promote social mixing on housing estates by letting dwellings to families of varying income levels adjacent to one another, as neighbours. This was an incredibly farsighted and enlightened approach. However the Monahan Scheme was too late for these Limerick estates, because these houses had already been allocated along class lines, in terms of ability to pay. The long-term effect of the differential rent scheme meant that the employed classes were already paying a relatively high rent, and so when the Tenant Purchase Scheme was extended to urban areas with the 1966 Housing Act, the scheme was very attractive and affordable for them. So even by 1981, 262 of the 272 houses in Janesboro had been bought by their tenants. In effect, Limerick Corporation bore the lion's share of the cost of the construction of the Janesboro homes, and sold them on to their tenants at a considerable discount. On the whole that was a very

Appendix 5: Social Housing in Limerick City

good investment, Janesboro people take great pride in their community and Janesboro continues to be a thriving community today.

According to the Housing Survey of 1943, 2,100 new dwellings were required in Limerick to replace its overcrowded and insanitary tenements and slums. The effects of World War Two hindered Limerick Corporation's building programme. The introduction of the Housing White Paper (1948) kick-started the construction of social housing again in the city. These new measures reduced interest rates via the Local Loans Fund from 4.50 per cent to 2.50 per cent, and extended the repayment period from 35 to 50 years. The city boundary was extended in 1950, mainly to acquire more land for social housing. In the 1950s the territory acquired as a result of the boundary extension was extensively built upon and a total of 1,751 units were built during the course of the decade. The principal housing schemes constructed in the 1950s were Ballinacurra Weston (356 units), Ballynanty Beg (469 units), Rathbane (222 units), Carey's Road (175 units), Garryowen (330 units) and Island Road (85 units). In terms of the proportion of the total housing stock in the city, Limerick Corporation was the most productive social housing provider of all Irish local authorities. The differential rents scheme ensured a better social mix of tenants within each estate. Though the allocation of houses was done on a discretionary basis by Limerick Corporation, it is unclear what formula or policy was implemented at this time.

The Housing Act of 1966 modernised and streamlined the legislation governing the provision of social housing by among other things incorporating a shift in emphasis from slum clearance, which was largely complete, to the provision of housing for all those in need. In the 1960s some 2,044 units were completed in Limerick City (including 503 in Southill and 253 in Kennedy Park) and the city's notorious slums had been finally eliminated. The 1970s and 1980s constituted the final phase in the construction of large scale housing schemes by local authorities throughout the state. In Limerick City some 1,384 units were built in the 1970s, including 657 in Southill and 607 in Moyross, while the 1980s produced 851 units including 554 in Moyross. These represented the culmination of the suburbanisation of the municipal housing programme for they were all situated a considerable distance from the business and retail core of the city, although there was also a number of smaller schemes

▶ Cutting the sod at St. Mary's Park



CUTTING THE SOD — ST. MARY'S PARK

Left to Right : D. O'Dwyer (Mace Bearer) ; P. Forest (City High Constable) ; Mrs. C. Stenson ; J. Casey (Mayor of Limerick) ; Mrs. P. Molloy ; P. Molloy (Builder) ; P. O'Mara (Mace Bearer) ; Miss P. Molloy ; C. Stenson (City Architect).

constructed in the inner city. The build quality of all of these estates was generally good, and demand for tenancies there was very high. And yet, by the end of this era severe problems began to emerge in several of Limerick's housing estates. Estates like Moyross, St Mary's Park, Ballinacurra Weston and Southill were on a route to becoming low demand neighbourhoods, with increasing numbers of the city's most disadvantaged and impoverished households becoming clustered together in the same estates.

Limerick Corporation/City Council 1987-present

The late 1980s saw a significant decline in the role of the public sector in the provision of social housing. Limerick Corporation was affected by these

developments. In the ten years to 2003 the Corporation built 580 houses and purchased 123 more, making a total of 703 new social housing units. These were mainly small-scale inner city developments. There was also an increasing involvement in social housing by the private voluntary sector, which was similar to the role of Bishop O'Dwyer's housing companies in the late Nineteenth and early Twentieth Centuries. In 1993, for example, work commenced on 19 retirement dwellings by the Villiers Housing Association; 45 units for elderly people by the Good Shepherd Convent; and 15 units by the Associated Charities Trust for homeless women. Other voluntary bodies involved in this area were Focus Ireland and the Respond Voluntary Housing Association. Both the

Corporation and the Department of the Environment contributed financial and other assistance to such projects.

This overview of social housing in Limerick City would be incomplete were it not to make reference to the boom in the private housing sector during this period. It is particularly relevant as the boom altered the demography of Limerick's most disadvantaged estates through social filtering, where the most affluent families tended to move away from social housing estates to buy homes elsewhere. Home ownership is a key marker of status in Irish society and Ireland has one of the highest rates of home ownership in Europe and the OECD, at around 80 per cent. A number of housing policies through the Twentieth Century sought to support home ownership. Here is a list of the most influential housing initiatives that accelerated rates of homeownership and particularly influenced a move from social renting: First Time Buyers Grants (1987); the abolishment of local rates (1977); Tenancy Surrender Grant (1984); Mortgage Allowance Scheme (1991); Shared Ownership Scheme (2000s); Mortgage Interest Tax Relief (1980s); and the Affordable Housing Scheme (1991, remodelled in 2000).

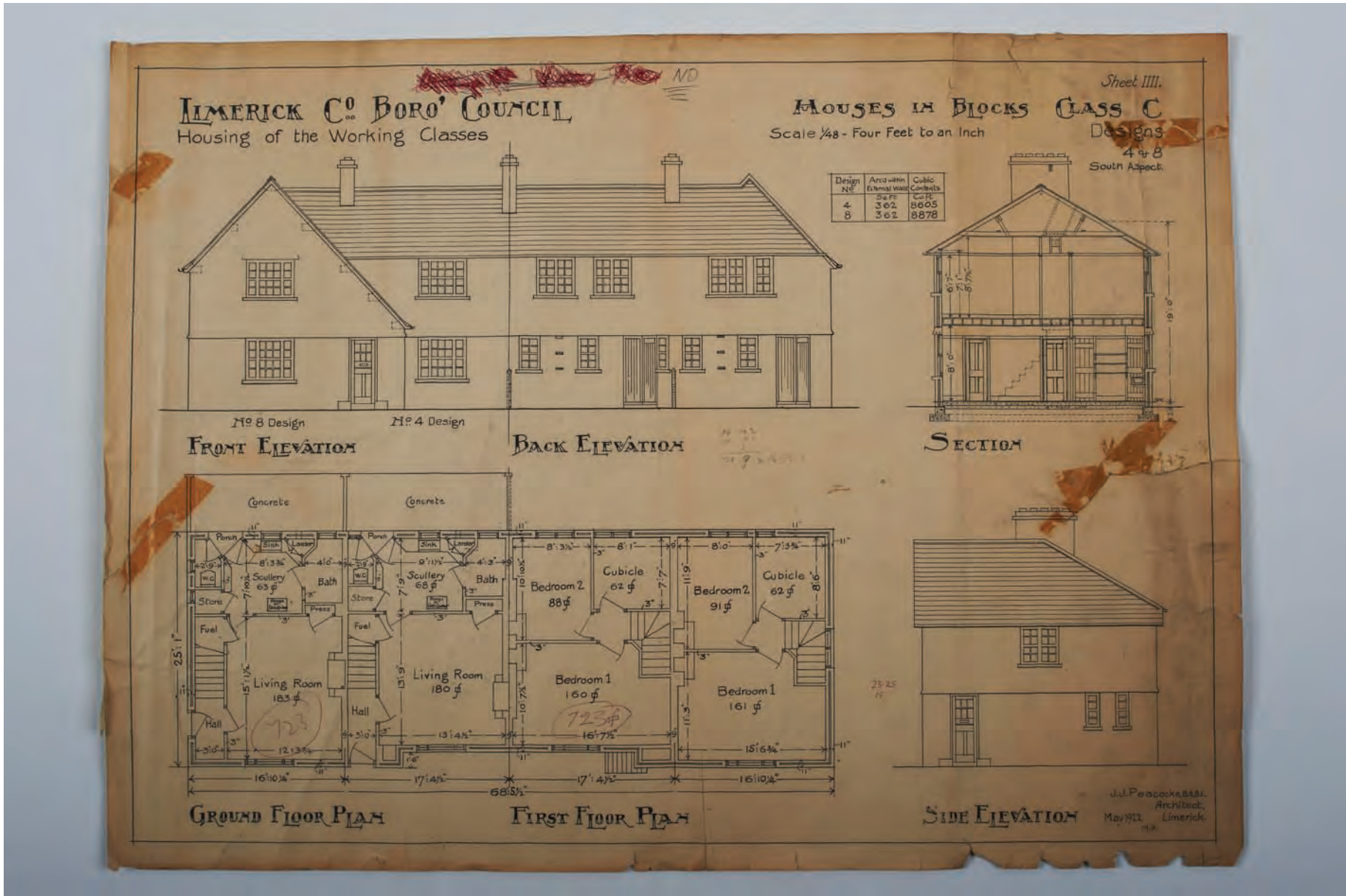
Conclusion

The involvement of the local authority in the provision of social housing was the most striking contribution it made to the life of Limerick City in the Twentieth Century. In 2003, the area within the city boundary had around 18,000 housing units of which the Corporation had built some 7,800 (43%). Proportionally, this is by far the greatest contribution made by any of the Irish local authorities to the provision of housing for its citizens. Within forty-five years (1932-87) the slums were eliminated and replaced. While many other persons on lower incomes were able to acquire modern and affordable houses. In addition, the Corporation also made an enormous contribution to the private sector through the provision of the home loans under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Act of 1899 and its successors. Throughout this chapter we have sought to highlight some inherent problems with State level housing policy, and the valiant effort by Limerick Corporation/City Council to respond to the housing need of its most vulnerable citizens. But Limerick is a city of stark contrasts in housing provision, and several social housing estates are in crisis. To date the

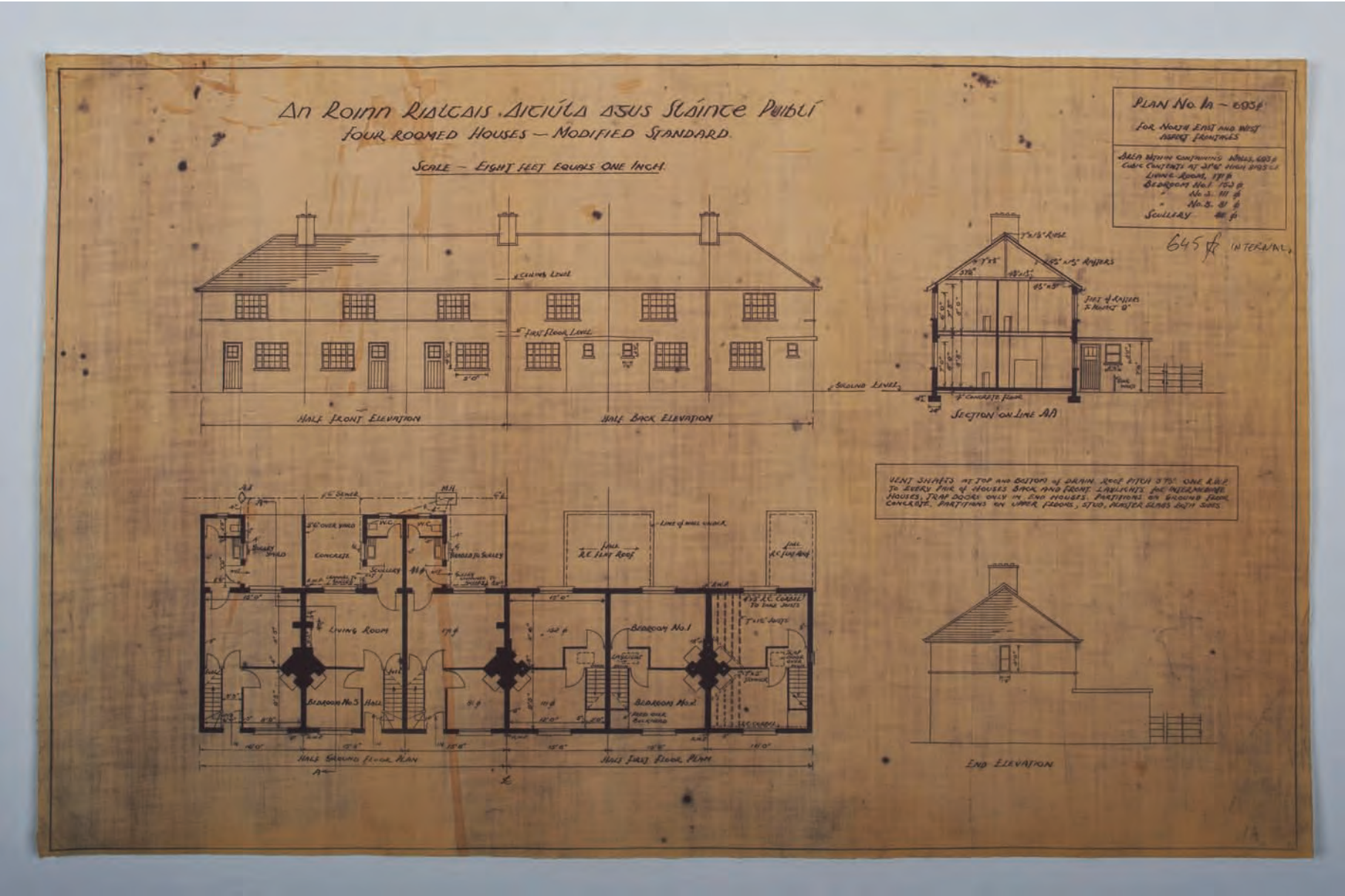
regeneration project is seeking to overcome these issues, but Limerick is a city where the preferential treatment of the private housing sector, to the detriment of public provision, has been a continuous feature of the city's housing history, and has ultimately led to an increasing level of class segregation. This is a trajectory that must surely, somehow, be reversed.

Appendix 5: Social Housing in Limerick City

Plans and elevations for 'Housing of the Working Classes' (1922)



Plans and elevations for 'Housing of the Working Classes' (1922)



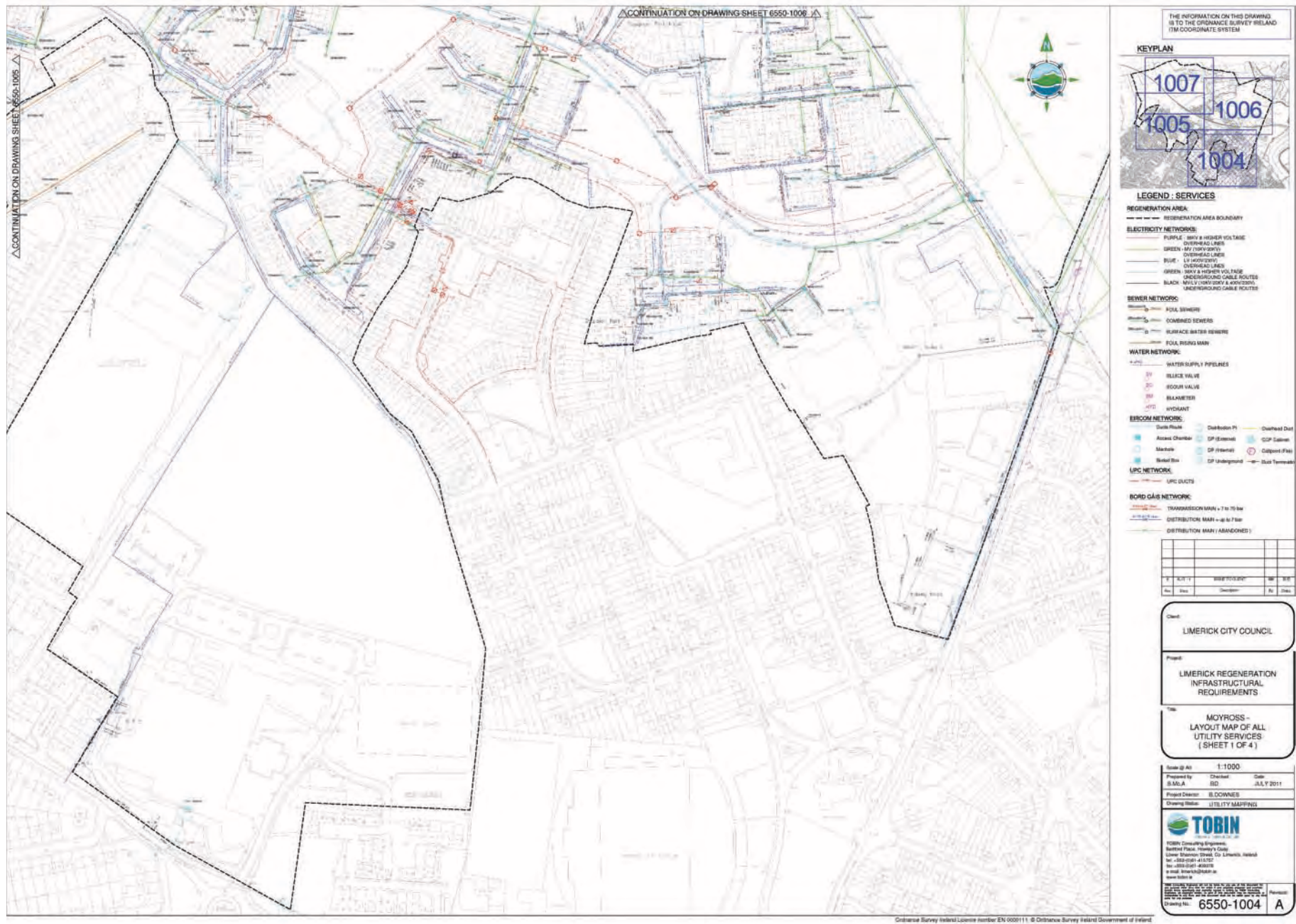
Appendix 5: Social Housing in Limerick City

Residents of St. Mary's Park (Photographs courtesy of the Jim Kemmy Municipal Museum, Limerick)

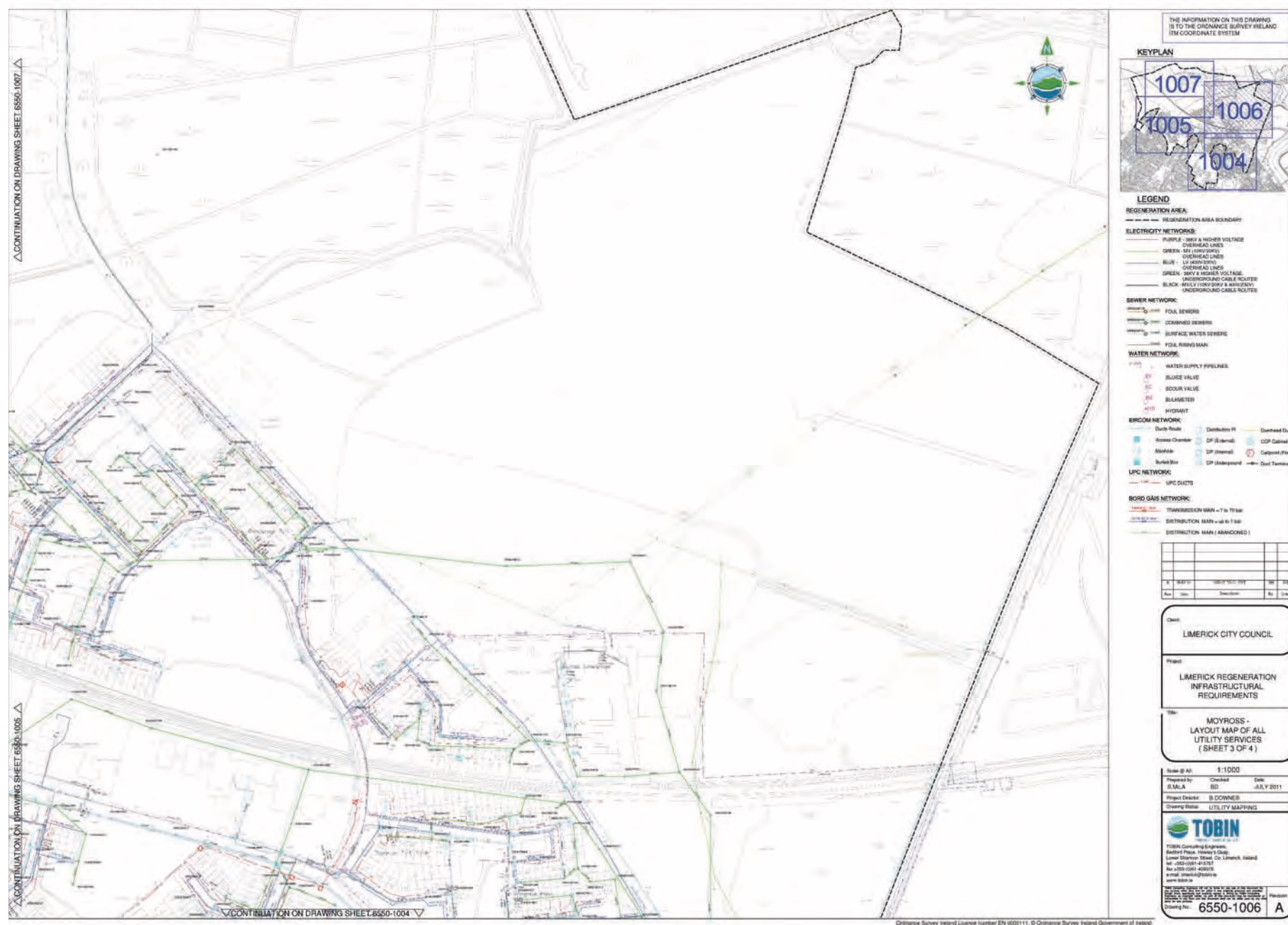




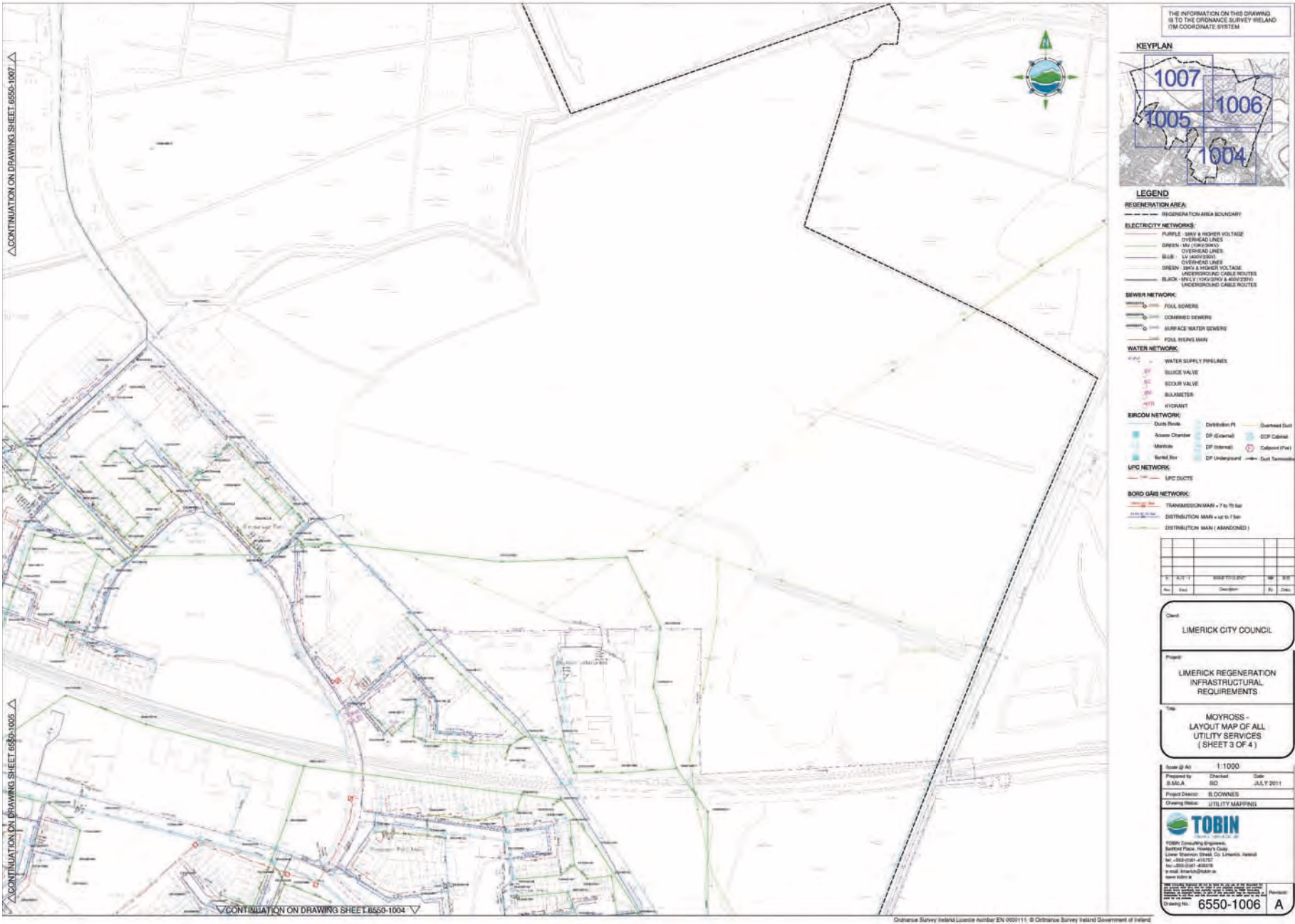
 [Moyross - Layout map of all utility services](#)



▼ Moyross - Layout map of all utility services

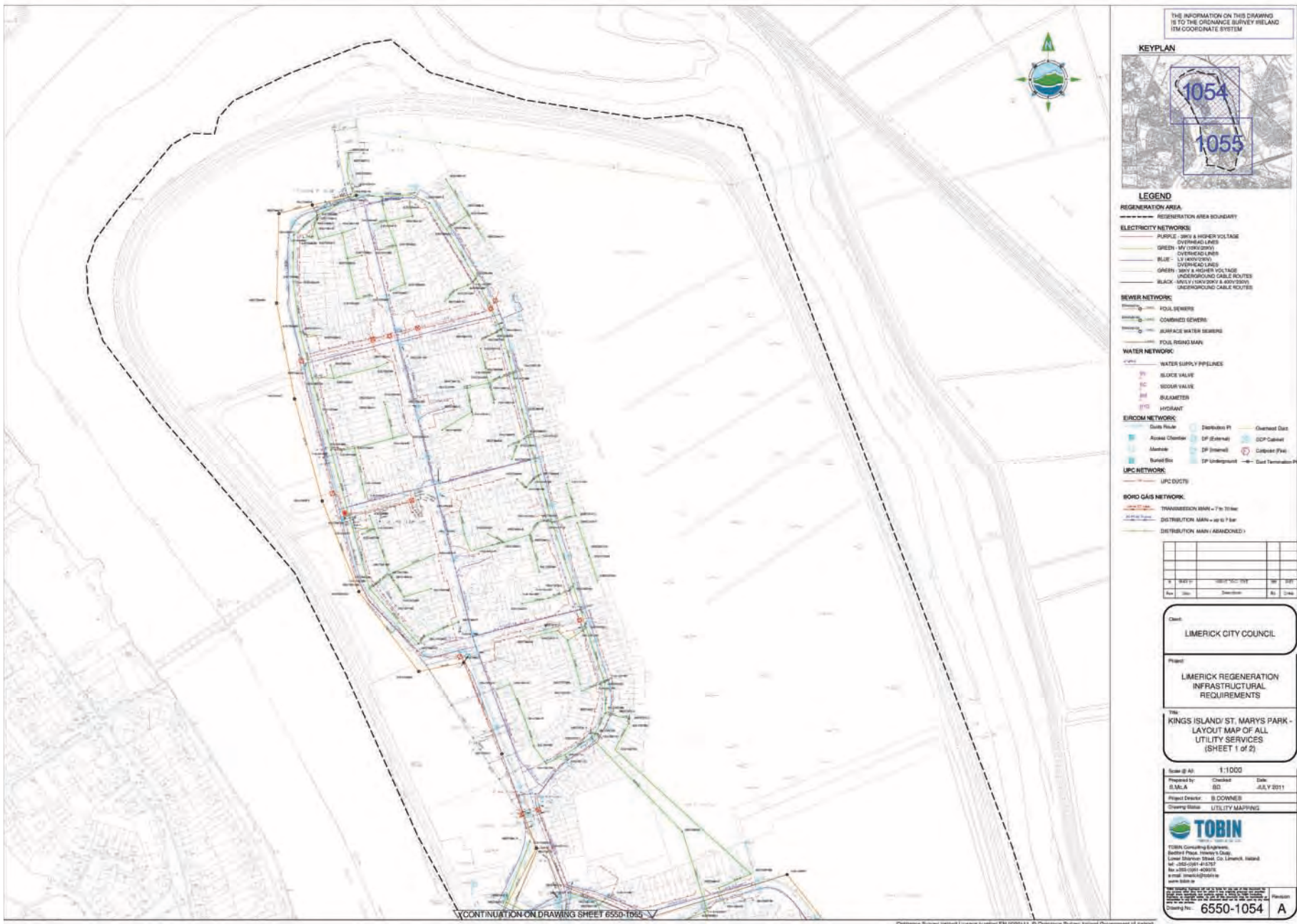


Moyross - Layout map of all utility services

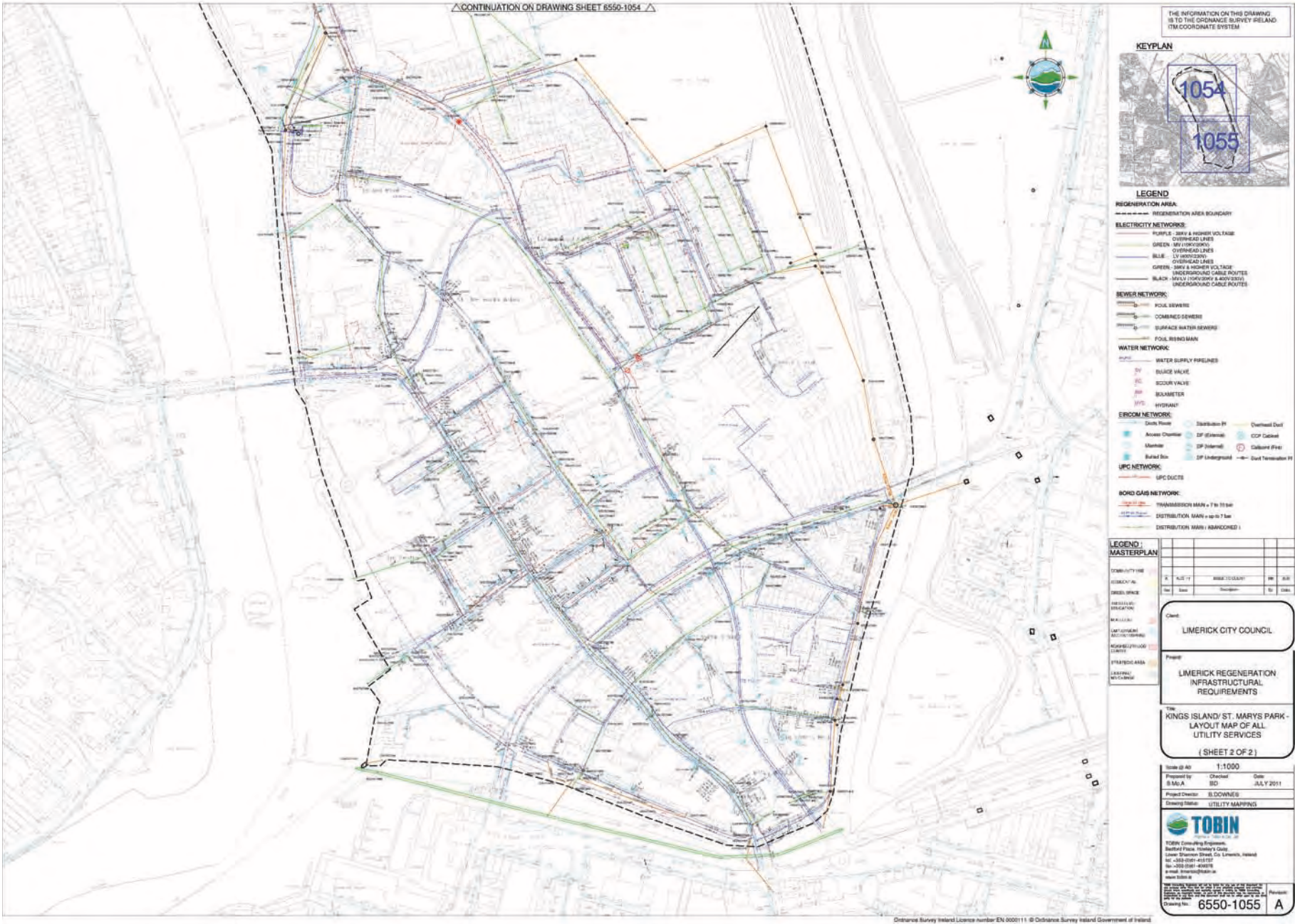


Appendix 6: Existing Services Infrastructure

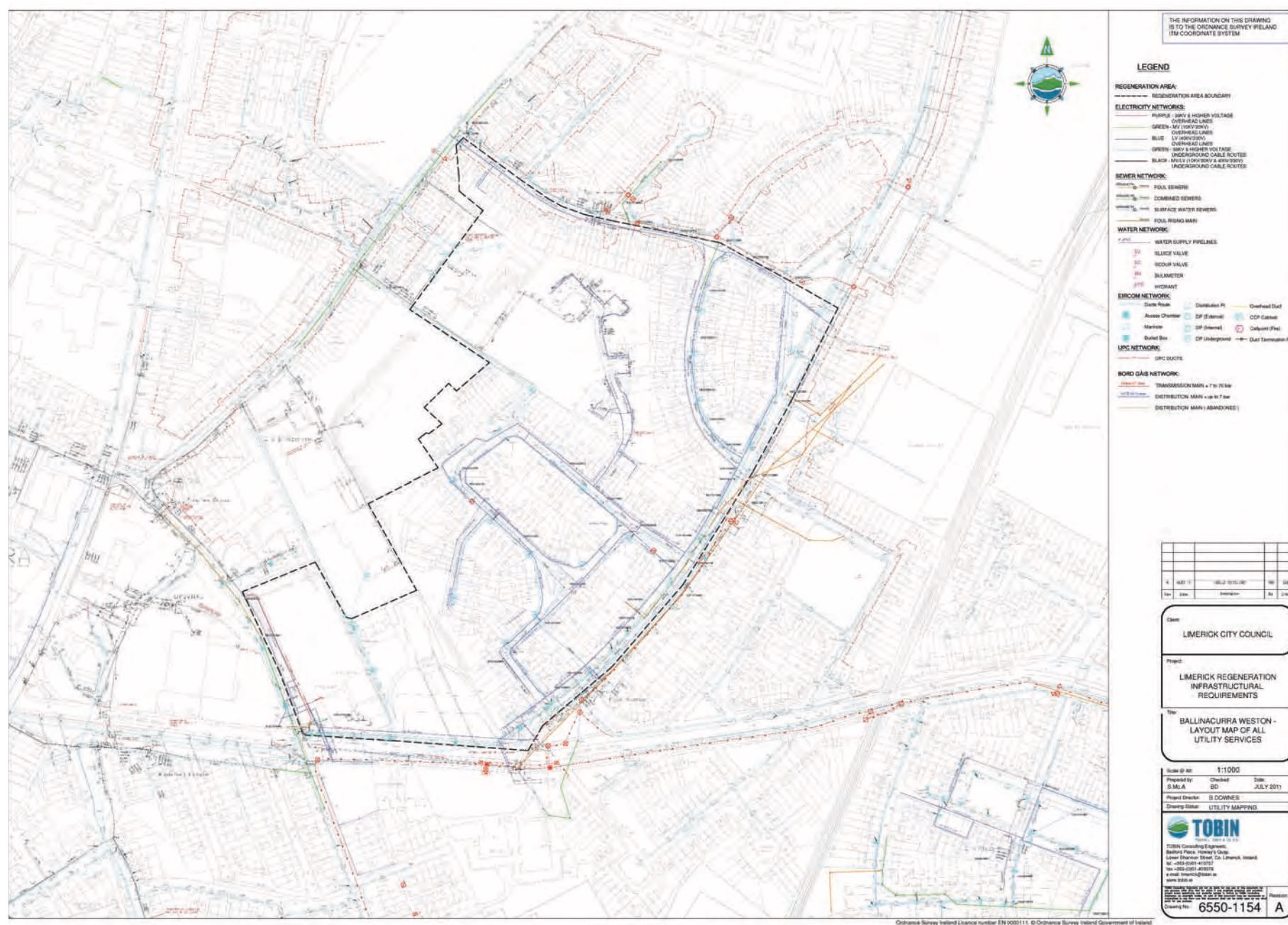
St. Mary's Park - Layout map of all utility services



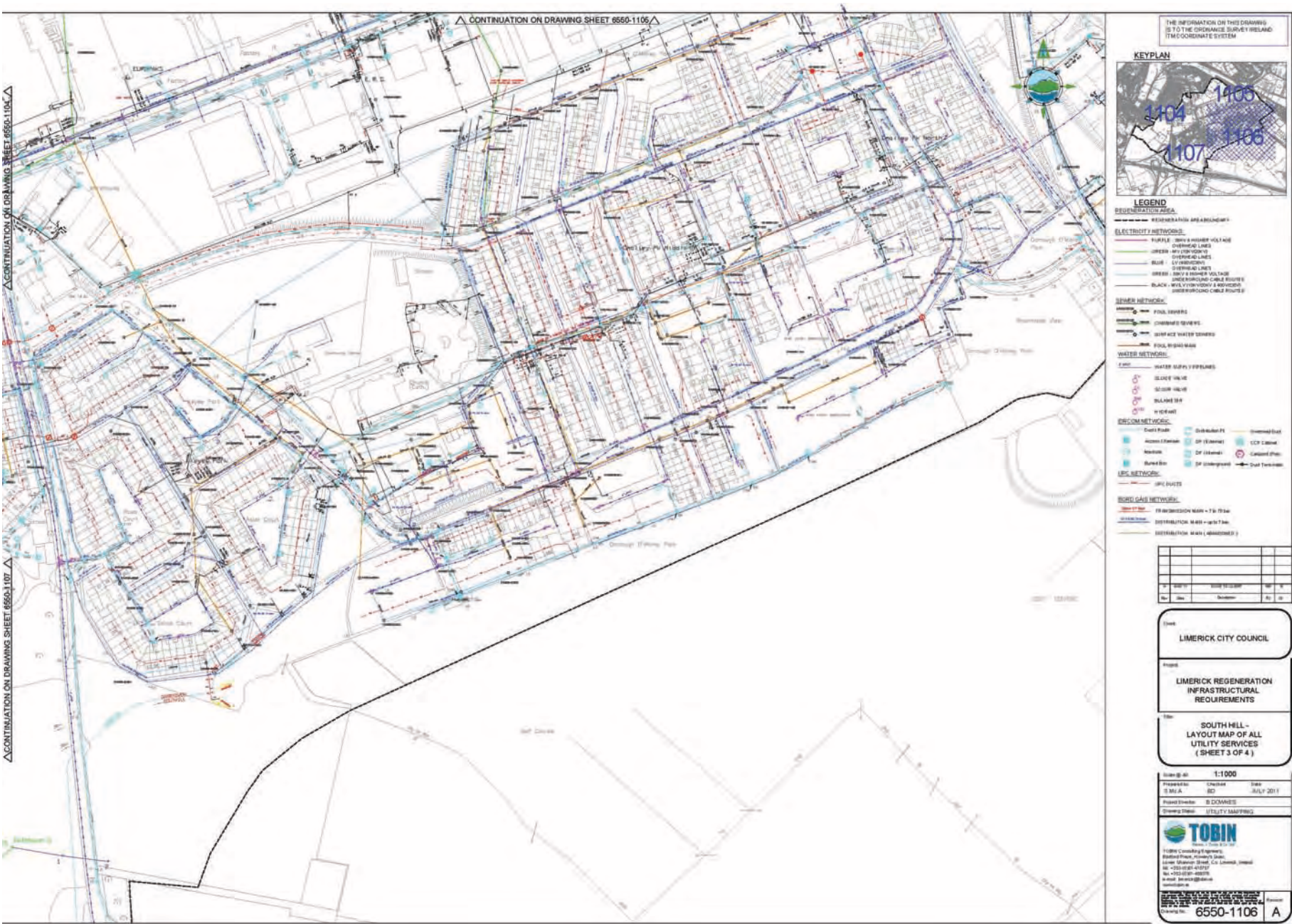
St. Mary's Park - Layout map of all utility services



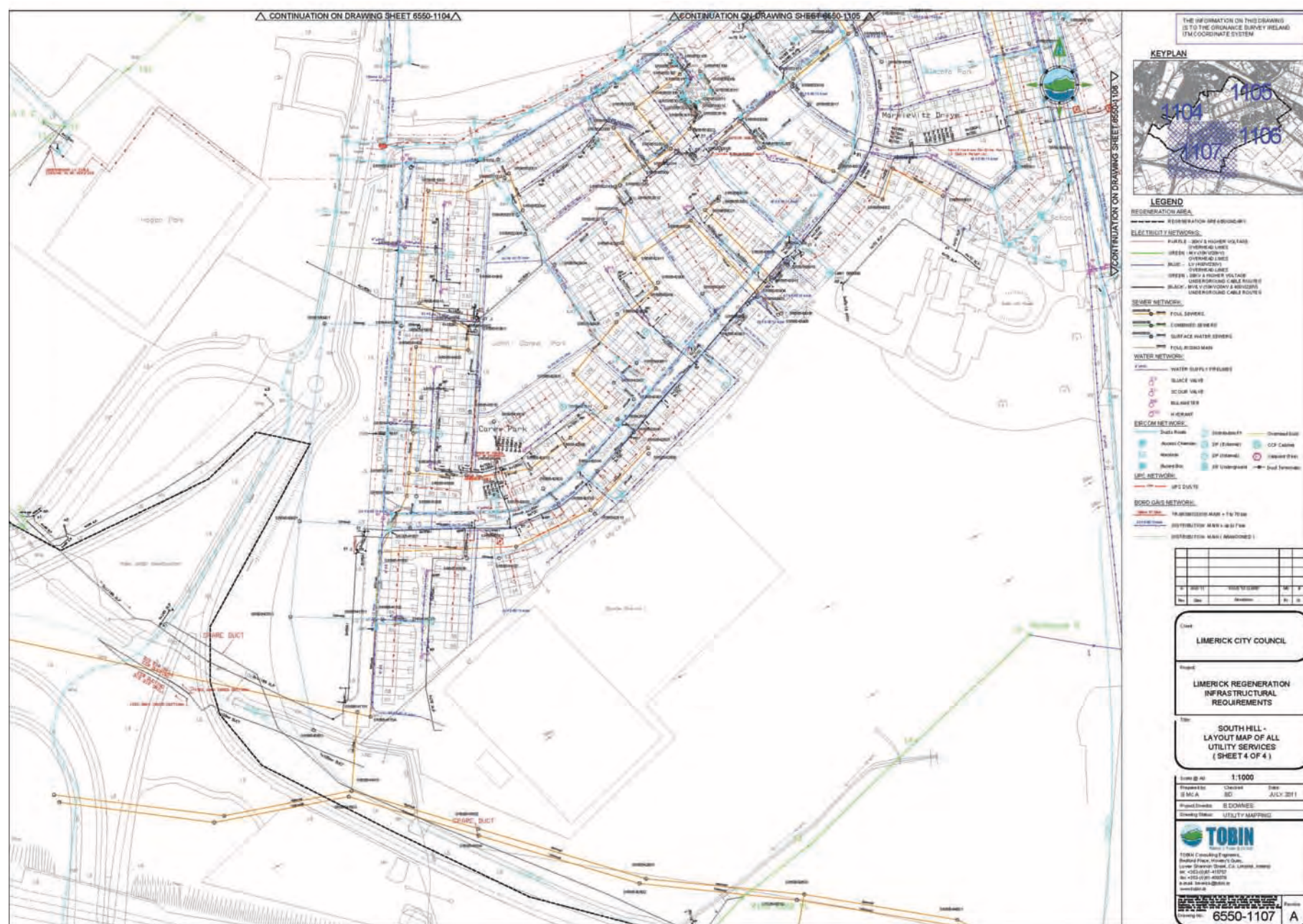
 Ballinacurra Weston - Layout map of all utility services



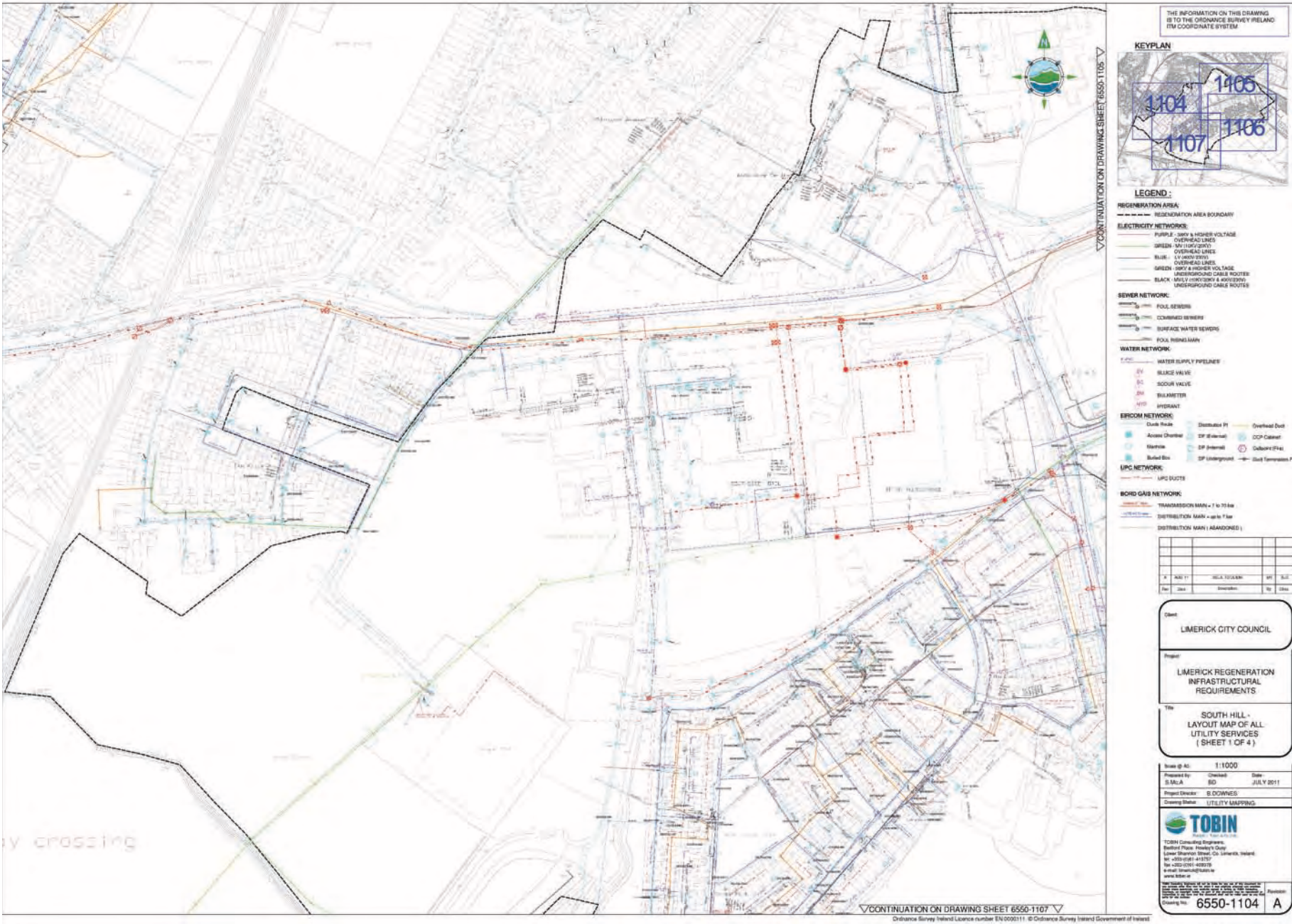
Southhill - Layout map of all utility services



▼ Southill - Layout map of all utility services

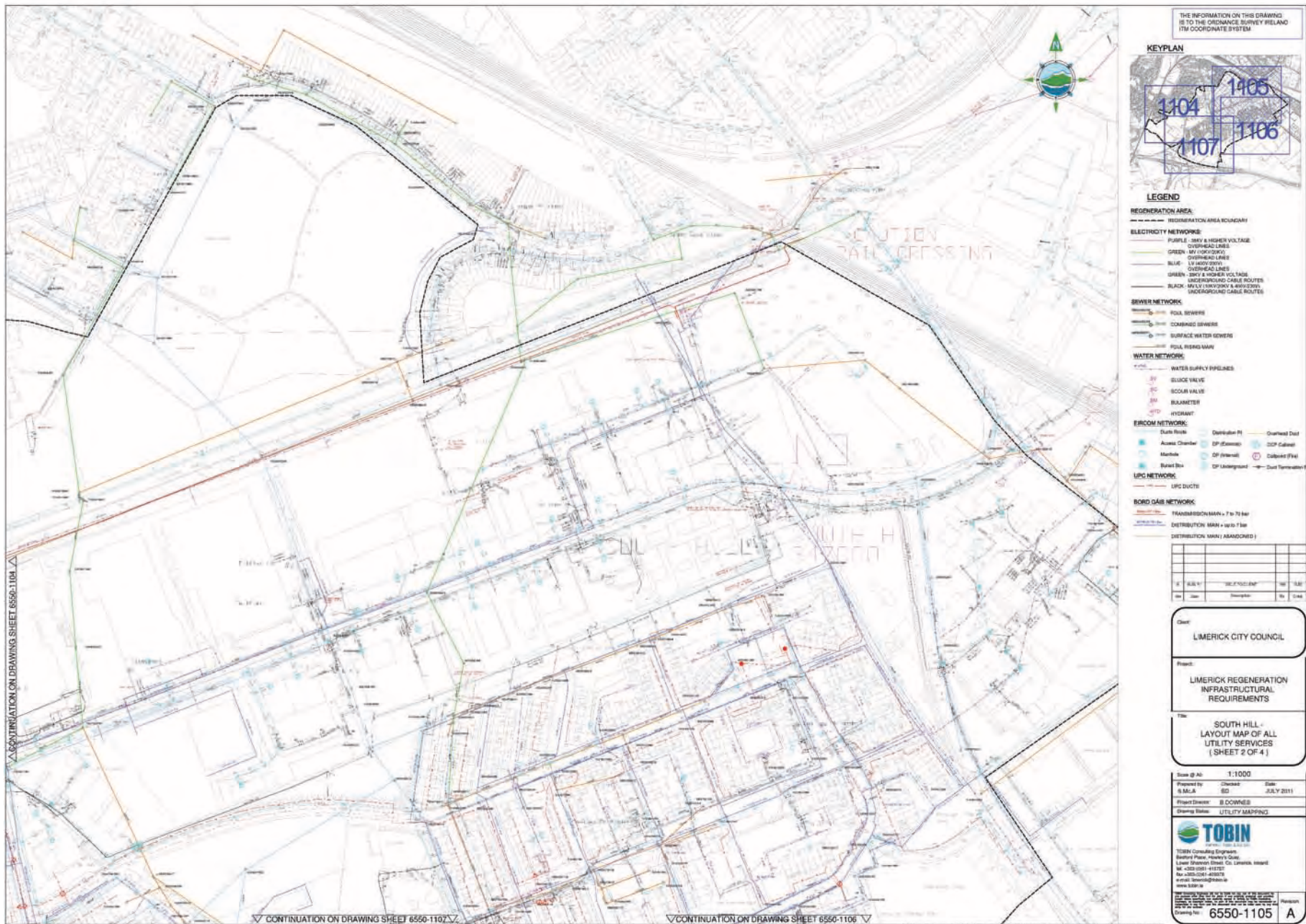


Southill - Layout map of all utility services



Appendix 6: Existing Services Infrastructure

Southhill - Layout map of all utility services






▼ Moyross: Existing Situation



KEY

-  Densities as at December 31 2013
-  Community Use
-  Local Authority Units
-  Local Authority Unoccupied
-  Private Units Occupied
-  Private Unoccupied

[illegible]

 **Comhairle Cathrach Luimnigh**
Limerick City Council
CITY HALL
MERCHANTS QUAY
LIMERICK
Tel. 061-407100
Fax 061-415266
Office of Regeneration

Project Status

Project Name:
**MOYROSS FRAMEWORK
IMPLEMENTATION PLAN**

Growing Name(s):
Moyross as at December 31st 2013

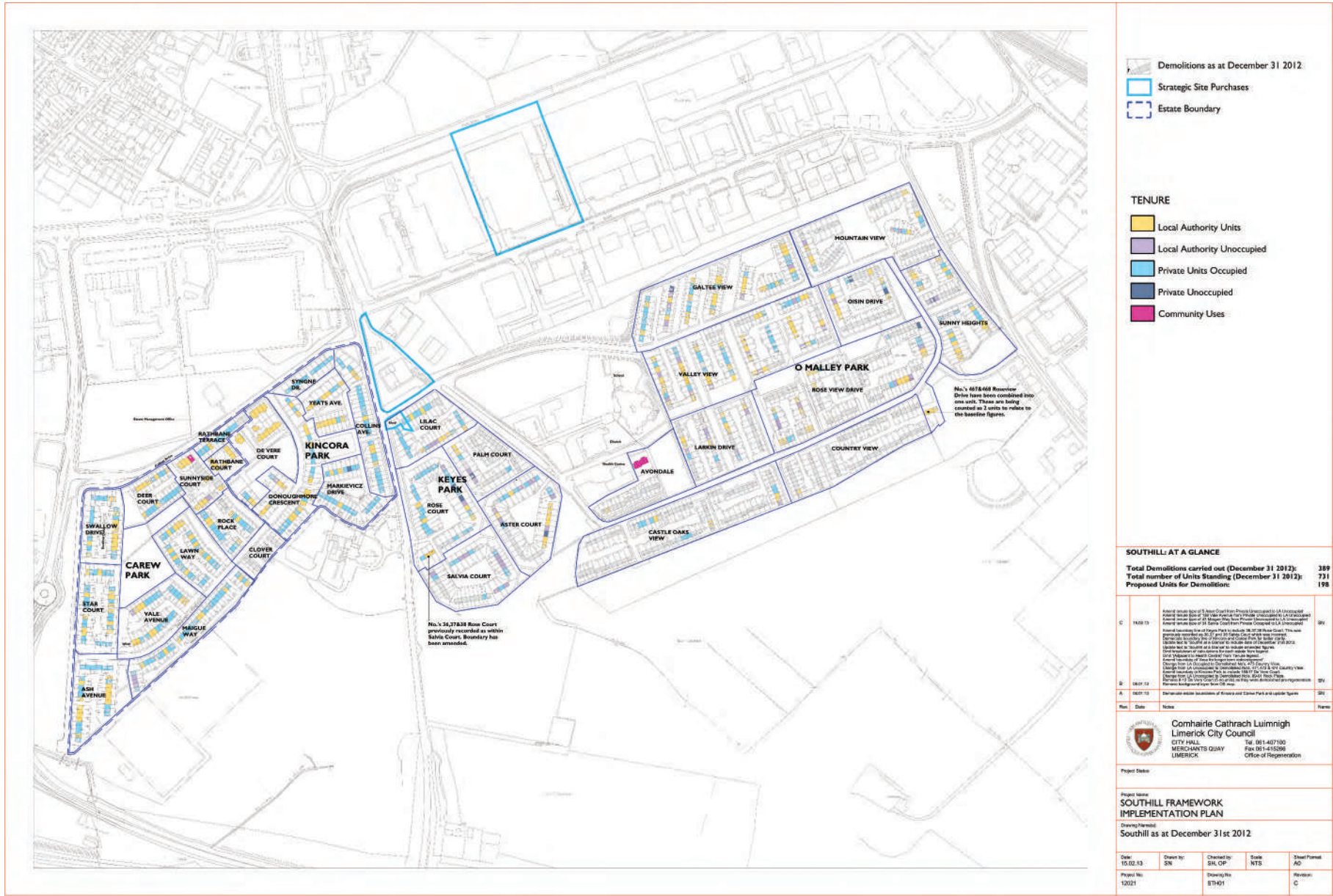
Date: 16.01.2013	Drawn by: SN	Checked by: SH, CP	Scale: NTS	Sheet Format: A0
Project No: 12022		Drawing No: MY01		Revision: 1

Moyross: Existing Situation as at December 31st 2012															
	Dalgaish	Cliona	College Park	Cosgrave Park	Craeval Park	Pineview Gardens	Delmege	Castle Park	Sarsfield Gardens	Hartigan Villas	Whitecross Gardens	Total	Family Units and Group Housing	Shanabooley	Total
Demolished	0	10	9	0	54	59	93	38	37	19	34	353	0	0	353
LA	25	84	43	85	9	80	41	9	34	17	18	445	0	8	453
LA Unoccupied	1	8	3	3	13	27	7	7	3	4	1	77	0	0	77
Private	34	61	23	46	4	20	18	0	7	13	5	231	25	0	256
Private Unoccupied	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	4	8	0	12
Community Use	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	0	7	0	3	15	1	0	16
Total Number of Houses to be Accounted for	60	164	78	134	80	188	163	54	89	54	61	1125	34	8	1167
Number of Houses Boarded as at 31st December 2012	1	9	3	3	13	27	8	7	4	5	1	81	8	0	89
Remaining as at December 31st 2012	59	145	66	131	13	102	62	9	48	30	26	691	26	8	725
Proposed Demolitions															
LA	11	31	7	11	9	80	11	9	13	4	2	188	0	8	196
LA Unoccupied	1	3	1	3	13	27	2	7	3	1	0	61	0	0	61
Private	0	21	0	0	3	20	7	0	3	0	1	56	0	0	56
Private Unoccupied	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Community Use	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	3	5	0	0	5
Total	12	56	8	14	26	129	20	16	19	5	6	311	0	8	319
Number of LCC and Private Boarded Houses to be Demolished	1	4	1	3	13	27	2	7	3	1	0	62	0	8	70
Number of LCC Boarded Houses to be Refurbished and Re-Let	0	5	2	0	0	0	5	0	0	3	1	16	0	0	16
Number of Private Boarded Houses where Owners Intention is Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	3	8	0	11
Number of Private and LCC Occupied Houses to be Demolished	11	52	7	11	13	102	18	9	16	4	6	249	0	8	257
Southill Overall Totals															
Total number of houses to be accounted for <i>*excludes 8 Local Authority Occupied units at Shanabooley and 34 units at Respond (1 Community unit and 33 residential units)</i>															1125
Number of houses demolished as at 31st December 2012															353
Number of houses boarded as at 31t December 2012 <i>*excludes 8 unoccupied units at Respond Housing Scheme</i>															81
Remaining houses as at December 31st 2012															691
Number of LCC and private boarded houses to be demolished															62
Number of LCC boarded houses to be refurbished and Re-Let															16
Number of private boarded houses where owners intention is unknown															3
Number of private and LCC occupied houses to be demolished <i>*excludes 8 Local Authority Occupied units at Shanabooley and includes 5 no. Community Use buildings</i>															249

Table 15: Moyross - Existing Situation as at December 31st 2012

Appendix 7: Existing Situation

Southill: Existing Situation



Southill - O'Malley Park: Existing Situation as at December 31st 2012											
	Galtee View	Mountainview	Sunny Heights	Oisín Drive	Valley View	Larkin Drive	Avondale Court	Roseview Drive	Country View	Castle Oaks	Total
Demolished	6	33	13	17	22	26	14	55	54	66	306
LA	24	6	15	7	33	7	1	18	1	4	116
LA Unoccupied	5	3	2	1	10	5	0	6	0	1	33
Private	21	5	11	3	23	4	0	8	0	7	82
Private Unoccupied	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	5
Community Use	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	4
Total Number of Houses to be accounted for	57	47	42	30	88	42	19	88	55	78	546
Number of Houses Boarded as at 31st December 2012	6	3	3	3	10	5	0	7	0	1	38
Remaining as at December 31st 2012	45	11	26	10	56	11	5	26	1	11	202
Proposed Demolitions											
LA	0	3	6	7	16	7	1	18	1	4	63
LA Unoccupied	0	2	2	1	5	5	0	6	0	1	22
Private	0	4	3	3	11	4	0	8	0	7	40
Private Unoccupied	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	4
Community Use	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	9	12	13	32	16	1	33	1	12	120
Number of LCC and Private Boarded Houses to be Demolished	0	2	3	3	5	5	0	7	0	1	26
Number of LCC Boarded Houses to be Refurbished and Re-Let	5	1	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	11
Number of Private Boarded Houses where Owners Intention is Unknown	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Number of Private and LCC Occupied Houses to be Demolished	0	7	9	10	27	11	1	26	1	11	103

Table 16: O'Malley Park - Existing Situation as at December 31st 2012

Appendix 7: Existing Situation

Southill - Kincora Park: Existing Situation as at December 31st 2012							
	Synge Drive	Yeats Ave	Collins Ave	Crescent	Markievicz Drive	De Vere Court	Total
Demolished	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
LA	0	11	6	17	3	15	52
LA Unoccupied	0	1	0	1	0	0	2
Private	10	4	23	16	19	2	74
Private Unoccupied	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Community Use	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Number of Houses to be Accounted for	10	16	29	34	23	17	129
Number of Houses Boarded as at 31st December 2012	0	1	0	1	1	0	3
Remaining as at December 31st 2012	10	15	29	33	22	17	126
Proposed Demolitions							
LA	0	6	0	2	0	0	8
LA Unoccupied	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Private	0	1	4	2	0	0	7
Private Unoccupied	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Community Use	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	8	4	4	0	0	16
Number of LCC and Private Boarded Houses to be Demolished	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Number of LCC Boarded Houses to be Refurbished and Re-Let	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Number of Private Boarded Houses where Owners Intention is Unknown	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Number of Private and LCC Occupied Houses to be Demolished	0	7	4	4	0	0	15

Table 17: Kincora Park - Existing Situation as at December 31st 2012

Southill - Keyes Park: Existing Situation as at December 31st 2012						
	Lilac Court	Palm Court	Rose Court	Aster Court	Salvia Court	Totals
Demolished	2	24	4	10	17	57
LA	7	2	6	8	0	23
LA Unoccupied	3	2	2	6	8	21
Private	17	2	24	8	10	61
Private Unoccupied	0	1	2	2	0	5
Community Use	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Number of Houses to be Accounted for	29	31	38	34	35	167
Number of Houses Boarded as at 31st December 2012	3	3	4	8	8	26
Remaining as at December 31st 2012	24	4	30	16	10	84
Proposed Demolitions						
LA	0	2	2	6	0	10
LA Unoccupied	0	2	0	4	8	14
Private	0	2	4	4	10	20
Private Unoccupied	0	1	0	1	0	2
Community Use	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	7	6	15	18	46
Number of LCC and Private Boarded Houses to be demolished	0	3	0	4	8	15
Number of LCC boarded Houses to be Refurbished and Re-Let	3	0	2	2	0	7
Number of Private Boarded Houses where Owners Intention is Unknown	0	0	2	2	0	4
Number of Private and LCC Occupied Houses to be Demolished	0	4	6	10	10	30

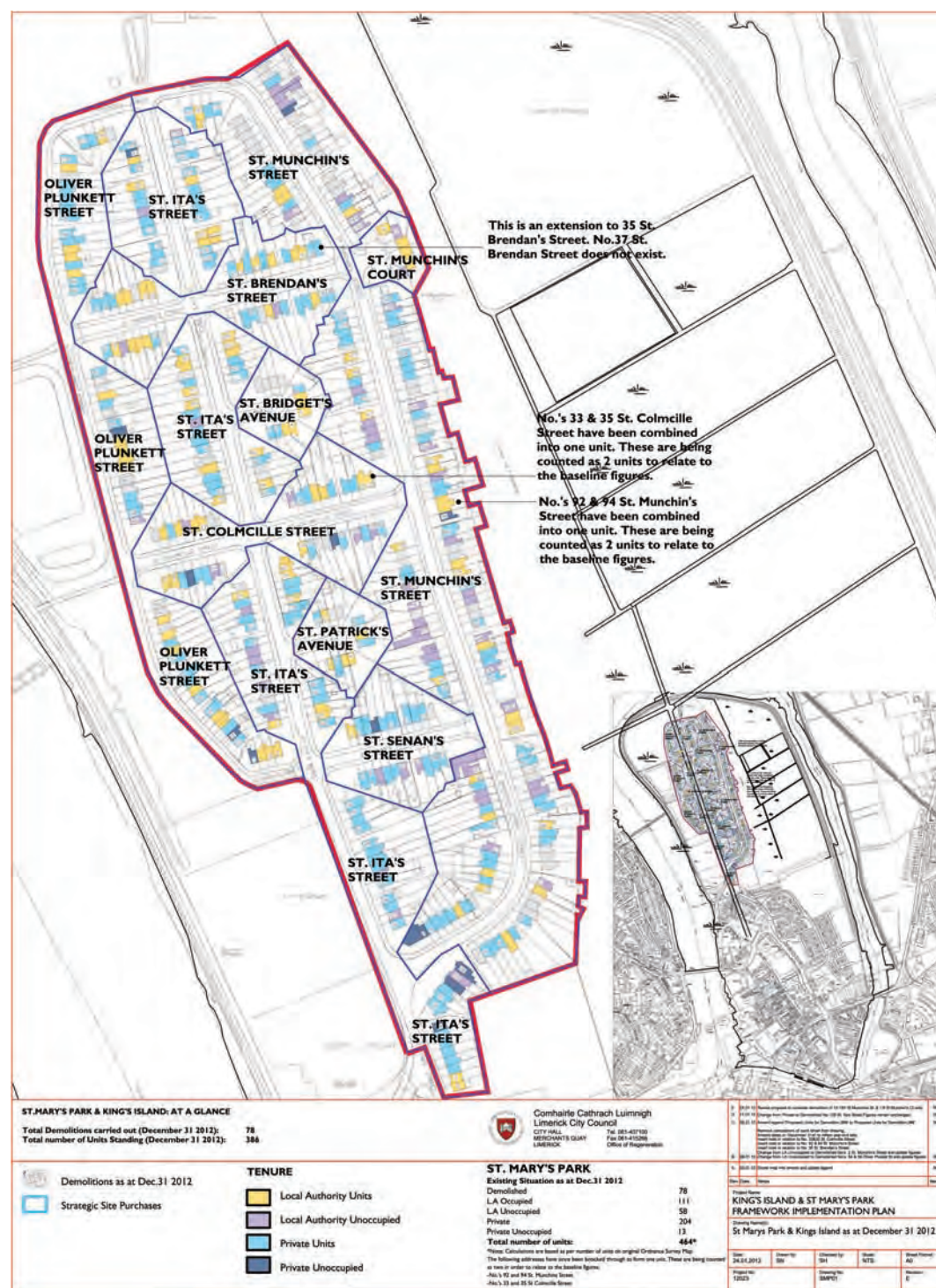
Table 18: Keyes Park - Existing Situation as at December 31st 2012

Southhill - Carew Park: Existing Situation as at December 31st 2012													
	Rathbane Terrace	Sunnyside Ct	Rock Place	Deer Court	Lawn Way	Clover Court	Maigue Way	Vale Avenue	Swallow Drive	Star Court	Ash Ave	Rathbane Court	Total
Demolished	2	10	3	1	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	26
LA	1	8	5	8	11	0	8	9	12	12	13	7	94
LA Unoccupied	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	3
Private	7	0	15	12	20	0	25	18	16	22	18	0	153
Private Unoccupied	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Community Use	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total Number of Houses to be Accounted for	10	20	23	21	31	10	36	27	28	34	31	7	278
Number of Houses Boarded as at 31st December 2012	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	8
Remaining as at December 31st 2012	8	9	20	20	31	0	33	27	28	34	31	7	248
Proposed Demolitions													
LA	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	8
LA Unoccupied	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Private	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Private Unoccupied	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Community Use	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	8
Number of LCC and Private boarded houses to be demolished	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number of LCC Boarded Houses to be Refurbished and Re-Let	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	3
Number of Private Boarded Houses where Owners Intention is Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Number of Private and LCC Occupied Houses to be Demolished	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	8
Southhill Overall Totals													
Total number of houses to be accounted for													1120
Number of houses demolished as at 31st December 2012													389
Number of houses boarded as at 31t December 2012													71
Remaining houses as at December 31st 2012													660
Number of LCC and private boarded houses to be demolished													42
Number of LCC boarded houses to be refurbished and Re-Let													22
Number of private boarded houses where owners intention is unknown													7
Number of private and LCC occupied houses to be demolished													156

Table 19: O’Malley Park - Existing Situation as at December 31st 2012

Ballinacurra Weston: Existing Situation as at December 31st 2012												
	Beechgrove Avenue	Clarina Avenue	Clarina Court	Clarina Park	Crecora Avenue	Lenihan Avenue	Byrne Avenue	Hyde Avenue	Hyde Road	Weston Gardens	Prospect Hill	Total
Demolished	0	26	5	42	30	2	0	0	0	0	0	105
LA	2	12	0	0	7	15	10	9	1	0	0	56
LA Unoccupied	2	3	0	0	3	6	3	0	0	3	0	20
Private	11	35	0	0	6	27	22	10	20	6	5	142
Private Unoccupied	1	0	0	0	2	2	3	3	1	0	0	12
Community Use	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Total Number of Houses to be Accounted for	16	76	5	44	48	52	38	22	22	9	5	337
Number of Houses boarded as at 31st December 2012	3	3	0	0	5	8	6	3	1	3	0	32
Remaining as at December 31st 2012	13	47	0	2	13	42	32	19	21	6	5	200
Proposed Demolitions												
LA	1	1	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	5
LA Unoccupied	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	3
Private	1	5	0	0	0	3	4	0	0	0	0	13
Private Unoccupied	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	4
Community Use	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Total	2	6	0	2	3	6	6	2	0	0	0	27
Number of LCC and Private Boarded Houses to be Demolished	0	0	0	0	3	1	1	2	0	0	0	7
Number of LCC Boarded Houses to be Refurbished and Re-Let	2	3	0	0	2	5	2	0	0	3	0	17
Number of Private Boarded Houses where Owners Intention is Unknown	1	0	0	0	0	2	3	1	1	0	0	8
Number of Private and LCC Occupied Houses to be Demolished	2	6	0	2	0	5	5	0	0	0	0	29
St. Mary's Park Overall Totals												
Total number of houses to be accounted for												337
Number of houses demolished as at 31st December 2012												105
Number of houses boarded as at 31t December 2012												32
Remaining houses as at December 31st 2012												200
Number of LCC and private boarded houses to be demolished												7
Number of LCC boarded houses to be refurbished and Re-Let												17
Number of private boarded houses where owners intention is unknown												8
Number of private and LCC occupied houses to be demolished												20

Table 20: Ballinacurra Weston - Existing Situation as at December 31st 2012



St. Mary's Park: Existing Situation as at December 31st 2012										
	Brendan's Street	Bridget's Avenue	St. Patrick's Avenue	St. Senan's Street	Oliver Plunkett St.	Colmcille Street	Munchin's Court	Munchin's Street	St. Ita's Street	Total
Demolished	3	4	3	1	10	5	0	43	9	78
LA	15	5	5	1	19	11	4	26	25	111
LA Unoccupied	2	0	0	3	1	5	2	34	11	58
Private	17	3	4	14	27	13	0	61	65	204
Private Unoccupied	0	0	0	1	3	2	0	3	4	13
Community Use	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Number of Houses to be Accounted for	37	12	12	20	60	36	6	167	114	464
Number of Houses Boarded as at 31st December 2012	2	0	0	4	4	7	2	37	15	71
Remaining as at December 31st 2012	32	8	9	15	46	24	4	87	90	315
Proposed Demolitions										
LA	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	12	0	16
LA Unoccupied	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	19	0	21
Private	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	27	0	27
Private Unoccupied	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
Community Use	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	60	0	66
Number of LCC and Private Boarded Houses to be Demolished	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	21	0	23
Number of LCC Boarded Houses to be Refurbished and Re-Let	2	0	0	3	1	5	0	15	11	95
Number of Private Boarded Houses where Owners Intention is Unknown	0	0	0	1	3	2	0	1	3	10
Number of Private and LCC Occupied Houses to be demolished	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	39	0	43
St. Mary's Park Overall Totals										
Total number of houses to be accounted for										464
Number of houses demolished as at 31st December 2012										78
Number of houses boarded as at 31t December 2012										71
Remaining houses as at December 31st 2012										315
Number of LCC and private boarded houses to be demolished										23
Number of LCC boarded houses to be refurbished and Re-Let										95
Number of private boarded houses where owners intention is unknown										10
Number of private and LCC occupied houses to be demolished										43

Table 21: St. Mary's Park - Existing Situation as at December 31st 2012



Appendix 8: Cost and Cash Flow Information

Project Number	Project	Project Cost
1	Access from Southern Ring Road	€7,000,000.00
2	Upgrading of Childers Road (Including link to Southill and removal of Roxborough Roundabout)	€5,000,000.00
3	Replacement housing	€7,800,000.00
4	Refurbishment of public and private houses	€16,070,000.00
5	Improvement works to Roxborough Road	€2,000,000.00
6	Playground in Carew Park / Kincora Park	€150,000.00
7	Playground in O’Malley Park / Keyes Park	€150,000.00
8	CCTV upgrade works	€1,000,000.00
9	Public realm / environmental upgrade works	€2,000,000.00
10	Strategic demolitions (residential) in Southill	€4,975,000.00
11	Strategic demolitions (residential) in Ballinacurra Weston	€675,000.00
12	Strategic demolitions (non residential)	€400,000.00
13	Strategic site purchases (including 10 houses and development site at Waller’s Well)	€3,000,000.00
14	Primary Healthcare facility at Ballinacurra Weston	€2,000,000.00
15	Upgrade of Our Lady of Lourdes Community Centre	€500,000.00
16	Travellers Accommodation upgrade	€1,000,000.00
17	Elderly and conventional housing at Lord Edward Street	€15,350,000.00
18	Replacement housing at Waller's Well	€1,800,000.00
19	Integrated Youth Centre, Southill	€10,170,000.00
20	Reorganisation of primary educational facilities, Southill	€11,650,000.00
21	Urban Farm and allotments	€250,000.00
22	Southill House campus works	€400,000.00
	Total	€93,340,000.00

Table 1: Area: Southill and Ballinacurra Weston

Project Number	Project	Project Cost
1	Elderly housing at the Orchard Site	€4,143,500.00
2	Replacement infill housing in St. Mary's Park	€7,350,000.00
3	Strategic demolitions	€1,625,000.00
4	Remediation works to historic landfill site to the east of St. Munchin's Street	€2,500,000.00
5	Replacement housing at Sheep Street / Athlunkard Street / Meat Market Lane	€1,678,000.00
6	Infill replacement housing at Gaol Lane	€660,850.00
7	Refurbishment of 8-10 Gaol Lane	€406,000.00
8	Refurbishment / Infill project on King's Island	€800,000.00
9	Social Innovation Hub, Fireplace Site and No. 35 Nicholas Street	€1,500,000.00
10	Refurbishment of public and private houses in St. Mary's Park	€9,090,000.00
11	Strategic site purchases	€1,000,000.00
12	Island Road improvement works	€1,500,000.00
13	Watermain upgrade works	€822,392.00
14	Refurbishment / upgrade of Thomond Weir	€1,000,000.00
15	Access roads and associated infrastructure	€10,000,000.00
16	Community Centre building	€2,500,000.00
17	Public realm / environmental upgrading works	€2,000,000.00
18	CCTV upgrade works	€300,000.00
19	Stabilisation works to Opera Centre site Phase 1	€500,000.00
20	Consolidation of Opera Centre site including demolitions	€1,000,000.00
21	Pop-up park and playground at the Parade Site	€100,000.00
22	Environmental works to clear rear gardens and dispose of waste material	€700,000.00
23	Small scale environmental works.	€300,000.00
	Total	€51,475,742.00

Table 2: Area: St. Mary's Park, King's Island

Appendix 8: Cost and Cash Flow Information

Project Number	Project	Project Cost
1	Coonagh Knockalisheen Distributor Road	€40,000,000.00
2	Moyross Avenue upgrade	€2,000,000.00
3	Northside Regional Park	€2,500,000.00
4	Moyross Community Enterprise Centre expansion and refurbishment	€2,502,273.00
5	Replacement housing in Moyross	€37,050,000.00
6	Housing refurbishment in Moyross	€10,385,000.00
7	Strategic demolitions	€7,850,000.00
8	New entrance to St. Nesson’s College	€250,000.00
9	Strategic site purchases	€2,000,000.00
10	Public realm improvements	€800,000.00
11	CCTV upgrade works	€200,000.00
12	Upgrade works to the Moyross Enterprise Centre	€1,000,000.00
	Total	€106,537,273.00

Table 3: Area: Moyross

Project Number	Project	Project Costs
1	Equestrian Centre	€2,000,000.00
Sum Total		€2,000,000.00

Table 4: City-wide project

Areas	Project Costs
Southill and Ballinacurra Weston	€93,340,000.00
St. Mary's Park	€51,475,742.00
Moyross	€106,537,273.00
City-wide project	€2,000,000.00
Sum Total	€253,353,015.00

Table 5: Sum Totals