### Triax Neighbourhood Partnership Board

**Board Meeting**

**Triax Offices, Iona Business Park**

**12.30pm Friday, 6th April 2012**

## Staff Report

**Foyle Valley Gateway**

The Paul Hogarth Company the consultants commissioned by Derry City Council to draw the Masterplan have held two Information Sessions with residents, community groups and user groups, the first was in the Fountain on the 20th March and the second in Long Tower Youth Club the boards were on show at the Cathedral Youth Club and Triax Offices for the past two weeks. At this stage its implementation and delivery which will need substantial commitment and finances from a range funders and bodies.

**Delivery of Action Plan**

As part of the Neighbourhood Renewal Process going forward the Neighbourhood Action Plan will be reviewed at every Triax Board Meeting and we will take reports from Triax Sub-Groups. To attempt to streamline and make the process effective I have initiated discussions with the community sector and the representatives from the statutory sector. At present we have numerous working groups and to have them all reporting to the Board would take forever and be a administrative nightmare. I am proposing that we have three or four Sub Groups with the chair of the sub-group being a member of the Triax Board and they make the report back to the board. This will allow space for more discussion and make monitoring of the Action Plan more effective.

The Health Sub Group has met and agreed to meet on the 8th May to review the NAP and prioritise actions and themes over the next three years.

**Roundtable Discussion on Child Poverty**

Triax Neighbourhood Partnership Board on behalf of the four Neighbourhood Partnerships and RAPID organised a roundtable discussion with the Junior Ministers at OFMDFM Martina Anderson and Jonathon Bell on Child Poverty its causes and more importantly how do we collectively attempt to eradicate it.   Child Poverty has constantly been identified as a major issue within this community and many other deprived communities which has a detrimental effect on the health, education, employment opportunities and life chances of many of our children and young people.  OFMDFM have a co-ordinating responsibility for this issue and are currently developing an Action Plan to complete the Children and Young Peoples Strategy and are also developing a Child Poverty Action Plan and it is with this in mind that we believe it would be opportune to have this discussion with the Ministers.

A follow up meeting has been arranged for 17th April with a working group to look at taking a number of actions forward. One of the key themes we are exploring is Family Support.

**DSD Way Forward**

Groups funded under the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund have now received their confirmation of three year funding. Due to the pressure of the deadline DSD are now in the process of delivering the Contracts for Funding. Triax has received our confirmation letter.

**Escape**

DSD has not invited the Escape project to make a further application. The Steering Group are in the process of winding the project up. John and Elaine have both found new employment. I would like to wish both of them well in the future.

**Early Intervention**

A number of conversations have been taking place locally and across the city on the development of our thinking around Early Intervention initiatives for children, young people and families.  Triax has been asked to convene a discussion on this topic to look for greater collaborations and partnership development across the Triax area to ensure the maximum benefits. The second meeting of this group is due to take place on Wednesday 4th April.

**Social Investment Fund**

The Strategy Board has adopted a proposal from the four Neighbourhood Partnership Boards to establish a Working Group of the Strategy Board, consisting of the 4 Derry NPBs, RAPID, ILEX, DSD and DCC to prioritise themes/actions from the ‘One Plan’ and Neighbourhood Action Plans (mapped against the SIF priority themes) – and this would form the basis of the Strategic Area Plan. The Working Group will report directly to the full Strategy Board where all relevant approvals will be sought, before submission to OFMDFM.

**Tourism**

Following on from the workshop a number of meetings have taken place and work is ongoing around signage and promotion of the Tourist Product in the Triax area. The tourist orientation scheme funded by Iona Enterprises has seen the erection of a number of high quality signs in the Bogside which provide heritage information about the areas key monuments as well as a map showing the location of major attractions in the area. This will result in increased dwell time and visitor spend in the area

**St Peters**

As part of a review into post primary education in the north by CCMS it is recommended that St Peters School will close in June of this year after consultation, if all the pupils can be facilitated at nearby schools. The priority for Triax in the immediate time ahead is to speak with CCMS to ensure that all current pupils are facilitated and their education is not harmed. In the medium to long term we would like to work with CCMS to ensure that the site is secured and then brought back into use for the people of Creggan. I have been in contact with the Bishops Office and due to the fact that a consultation process is taking place they are not in a position to enter into discussion.

**Interface**

The IFI have opened a new funding programme aimed at bringing downs walls at interface areas, Triax and the Neighbourhood Management Team have been in discussion with groups in Bishop Street, the Fountain and have made an expression of interest. Our intention is to look at a Leadership Programme to build community capacity and leadership skills of local residents.

We are meeting the Community Relations Council on Wednesday 4th April to discuss making a full application. Triax and the Neighbourhood Management Team have held a number of meetings with

**Youth Intervention**

As was reported at the last meeting the four NPBs have been meeting with WELB and DSD to prepare an agreed application to DSD. It was agreed that the programme would focus on disengaged young people between the ages of ten and eighteen with a particular on the older age range. YMCA will lead the proposal and if successful there will be service level agreement with local providers. There are currently three youth providers in the Triax area funded under the DSD Neighbourhood Renewal Programme and within the current application provision has been made for similar service to be provided in this area.

An update from this has been that the Youth Projects currently funded under the NR Programme will be funded for one further year. During this year the Partnership Boards, WELB and DSD will work to develop a city wide youth project.

**Community Safety**

The NeIghbourhood Management Team has been convening and running the Community Safety Forum which held its quarterly meeting last week. A number of key issues are currently being addressed such as domestic violence, drugs and alcohol, physical environment, anti social behaviour and disaffected young people. As part of the ongoing monitoring of the Neighbourhood Action Plan the NMT will make a presentation at the next Triax Board meeting in May.