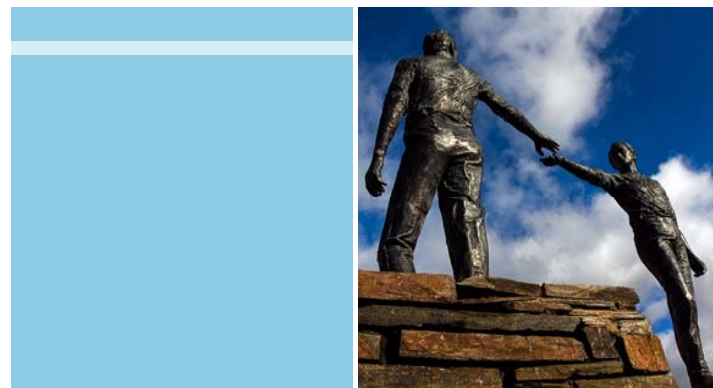


Regenerating and Transforming Our City

This is our Moment

May 2009



Valerie Watts
Derry City Council

Contents

- Where we have come from – An engaging story
- Where we are now
- Where we are headed – ‘Happy, Healthy, Wise and Wealthy’
- The challenges that we face
- Getting the Job Done



Our City – A City of Beauty & Unique Character

- The River Foyle
- The Walls
- The Guildhall
- The Memorial Hall
- St Columb's Cathedral
- Magee College
- Ebrington and the Star Fort
- Free Derry Corner



Our City – Our World Class Story

- Colmcille and the early Christians
- The plantation and creation of Londonderry
 - the Urban Regeneration of its time
- The apprentice boys and the siege of Derry
- The civil rights movement
- The troubles
- The emerging peace & the potential for reconciliation



Where we are - Our People, Place and Economy

People

- Population growing
- Skills miss-match – what we have v what we need
- Low propensity to work

Place

- Sharp deterioration in housing affordability
- **Reported Crime** up
- Long way off our goal of being a 'University City'



Where we are - Our People, Place and Economy

Economy

- Faltering Economic Transition
- Lower Wages
- Lower Jobs Growth
- Lower Productivity
- High Inactivity



Where we are - Our People

- **Population trends** – population growing but not in the inner city – Urban spread, some Cross-Border;
- **Age structure** – Derry has an average working age share but a below average young working age share;
- **Migration** – consistent outflow – not producing enough jobs for people entering the labour market;
- **Skills base** – lower share of graduates: significant proportion with no qualifications.



Where we are - Our Place

- **House prices and affordability** – Ratio of house price to annual wages rose from 3:1 (1998) to 8:1 (2006);
- **Crime** – increases in reported crime; and
- **Higher education capacity** – not fulfilling our potential as a University City.



Where we are - Our Economy

- **Economic structure** – slow transformation from ‘factory to office’;
- **Employee jobs** – lower growth than NI average;
- **Economic inactivity rate** – remains alarmingly high;
- **Productivity** – Similar to NI average but lags behind Dublin & South West Rol;
- **Enterprise levels** – lower business stock and business starts; and
- **Wages** – lower workplace and resident wages.



Where are we headed – the Place

- Happy
- Healthy
- Wise
- Wealthy
- Clean
- Green
- Vibrant
- Safe
- Attractive
- Self reliant
- University City



The Regeneration Challenge

- Correcting the mismatch between labour availability and employment opportunities
- Creating an environment that fosters new business creation and investment
- Encouraging the economically inactive to re-engage in labour market
- Addressing the decline in demand for labour from agriculture and older manufacturing
- Raising the level of value added in the local economy
- Build new connections, improve our infrastructure.



Regeneration Opportunities – The Economy

- **Building on the Education System**

- Bigger/Better University
- More Students in Further Education
- Supporting our schools
- Working with parents and at Pre-School
- Better educational outturns

- **Enterprise and employment**

- Increasing employment rates
- Increasing productivity
- Maximising returns from Health, Knowledge Economy, Creative Technologies, the Public Sector,



Regeneration Opportunities – The Economy

- **Tourism, Arts, Culture & Leisure**
 - Embracing our story
 - Culture, Arts and Heritage
 - Vibrant evening economy
 - Sports



Regeneration Opportunities – The Physical Side

- **Transport and Infrastructure**

- Roads
- Rail
- Air
- Sea; and
- Telecommunications

- **Our Assets**

- The Walls
- The River
- The Former Security Sites at Fort George & Ebrington

- **Sustainability & Conservation**

- Energy
- Waste
- Protection of the environment



Regeneration Opportunities – The Community

- **Building Civic Leadership and Civic Pride**
 - Good Relations
 - Shared Space
 - Sense of belonging
- **Health & Wellbeing**
 - Services
 - Structures
- **Children & young people**
 - Play Space
 - Aspiration
 - Sports & Leisure
- **Creating Successful Neighbourhoods**
 - Community Engagement
 - Safety
 - Community Leadership



Where are we headed – the Behaviours

- Trust
- Generous
- Committed
- Determined
- Co-operation
- Past behind us – Life in us
- Outward looking
- Respecting of diversity
- Confident
- Visionary
- No Blame
- Can do – Will do
- Professional



Now's the Time

- Life is full of moments
- First you have to recognise them
- Then make sure they don't become missed moments
- We are underway
- We need our friends here, in Belfast, in Dublin, in London and elsewhere
- We're giving this a real go this time

