



# THE ARMAGH PLACE PLAN

DISCOVER REPORT &  
CITY CENTRE HEALTH CHECK

Armagh Banbridge and Craigavon  
Community Planning Partnership



**Housing  
Executive**



An Roinn  
Pobal

Department for  
Communities

A stylized illustration of a city skyline at night. The scene is set against a dark blue background with a pattern of small white dots. In the foreground, there are silhouettes of various buildings, including a church with a tall spire and a modern building with a flat roof. A large, bright yellow star is prominent in the sky. To the right, a large, stylized gear is visible. In the bottom right corner, two people are walking. The text 'CELEBRATING OUR STARS AND STORIES' is written in a large, white, sans-serif font across the middle of the illustration.

CELEBRATING  
OUR STARS  
AND STORIES

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Armagh Place Shaping Plan

# 01 Introduction







# US<sup>SCALE</sup> INTERVENTIONS

## Who we are and what we do

We are a multidisciplinary team of researchers and designers that work on city challenges by creating public value.

Cultural Projects

Public Space and Wellbeing

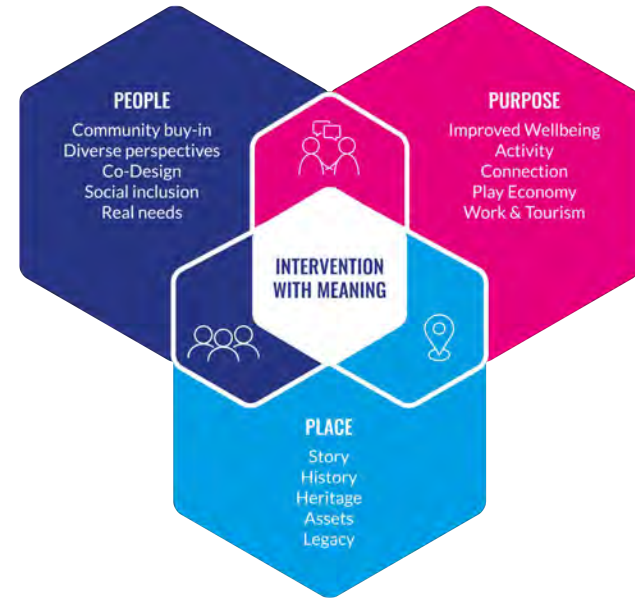
Co-Designing Policies and Strategies



## 01 Introduction

# We can see clear synergies between how we work and your community plan

At Urban Scale Interventions (USI) we believe an intervention with meaning happens when people are involved from the beginning, making it possible to tackle real needs and place specificity.



We can enhance...

**COMMUNITY**  
**ECONOMY**  
**PLACE**

To increase...

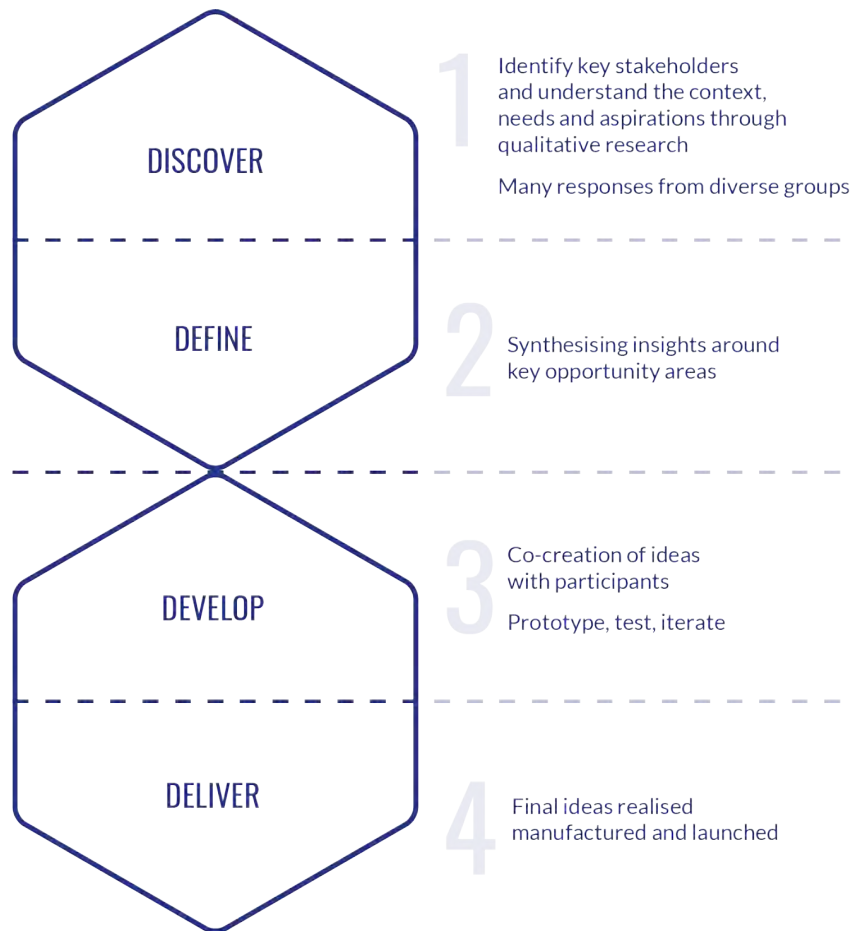
**CONNECTIVITY**  
**EQUALITY**  
**SUSTAINABILITY**

## 01 Introduction

# We use the Double Diamond Inclusive Design Process

An inclusive design process that involves people at every stage. We are not coming with solutions, only with questions about you and your place, and to find out who needs to be involved.

If you design for the widest needs of society, then you design for everyone.



## 01 Introduction

# The Brief

This is to be the first locality plan under the community plan for the District.

Bring some of the existing strategies to life locally.

Bridge the gap between community and spatial planning.

How can we enable connectivity, equality and sustainability for Armagh city and region? What could that look like?

Connected Community Plan Vision:

*"have a happy, healthy and connected community, a vibrant and sustainable economy and appealing places for living, working and learning."*





# Placing culture at the heart of doing things differently



### Culture as a catalyst for change

Sometimes in order to move forwards you first have to look back. By mapping what culture means to the people of Armagh we can better identify areas of opportunity. Engagement workshops, identify key community groups, create dialogue between existing offerings and potential stakeholders.



### Culture that inspires innovation

For culture to mean something to a community it must be contextual and have support from all members of the community. Particular emphasis should be placed on the youngest members of society; any cultural offering new or existing must be accessible, engaging and empowering.



### Culture that stimulates investment

With local support and a vibrant, contextual offering new and exciting experiences can be created. Capturing real voices, celebrating local stories will create a tailored neighbourhood offering. A diverse offering be it food, music, art or history will build resilience, retain local talent and attract outside visitors.



## 01 Introduction

# The Plan Making Process



## 01 Introduction

# The Plan Making Process



DEC 2020

## CITY CENTRE HEALTH CHECK

City Walkabout

JAN 2021

## CONTEXT & POLICY

Emerging Themes

JAN 2021

## KEY THEMATIC AREAS

Strategic Alignment

FEB - APR 2021

## ONLINE ENGAGEMENT

Schools  
Interactive Public Sessions

MAY 2021

## DRAFT PLAN

Vision and Key Principles

JUN - AUG 2021

## PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Creative Challenges  
Building partnerships

SEP 2021

## PLAN ADOPTION

Active piloting  
Implementation



## 01 Introduction

# The Plan Making Process



### SUMMARY TABLE OF NINE OUTCOMES

We have a happy, healthy and connected community, a vibrant and sustainable economy and appealing places for living, working and learning.

#### COMMUNITY

Outcome	Indicator	Target
Community Wellbeing	Percentage of people who feel a sense of belonging to their community	70%
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#### ECONOMY

Outcome	Indicator	Target
Economic Wellbeing	Percentage of people who feel a sense of belonging to their community	70%
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#### PLACE

Outcome	Indicator	Target
Place Wellbeing	Percentage of people who feel a sense of belonging to their community	70%
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CONNECTIVITY, SUSTAINABILITY & EQUALITY

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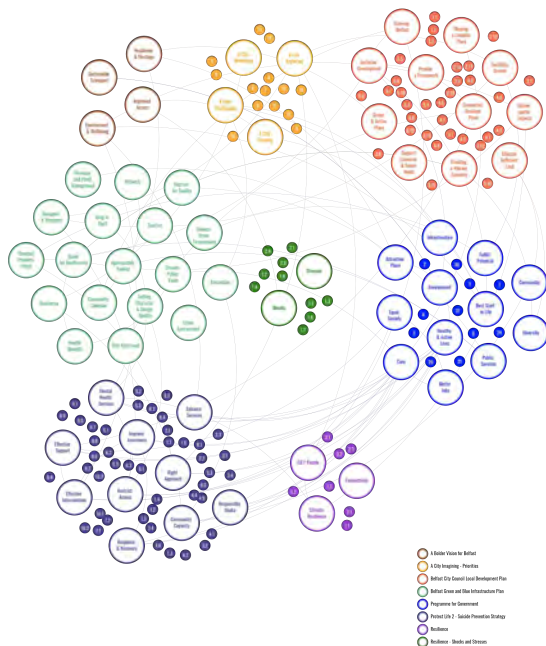
SEP 2021

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LUMINOUS CITY: A LIGHTING STRATEGY FOR BELFAST

Furthermore, a series of seven design principles were created taking into account insights from the workshops and in collaboration with representatives during the city stakeholder meetings.

The co-developed design principles act as a 'checklist' when commissioning and delivering new lighting projects in the city, to ensure lighting is consistent whilst still responding to specific project aims. The seven principles are:



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Health	Avoid unpreventable deaths
	A reduction in suicide behaviour
	Improve health data for trends, patterns and collection
	Reduce suicide in public space
	Reduce the effect of unsafe media reporting
	Empower those with lived experience of bereavement as part of the solution
Place	Develop hybrid suicide prevention barriers, which cut across themes of health, tourism, infrastructure and smart technologies

Place	Enable safe and shared space
	Provide solutions through co-design
	Deliver people focused infrastructure
	Create iconic tourist attractions that benefit locals
	Develop community landmarks
	Improve our public spaces
Innovation	Promote active travel through animation of places
	Develop destinations of cultural activity

Innovation	Create potential for knowledge transfer and upscale
	Advance digital technology in suicide and health challenges
	Develop global learning
	Provide learnings for the regions city deal objectives

Social	Build community resilience around mental health concerns
	Change the negative perception of the places we live work and play
	Create technology for good which put people and social challenges first



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DEC 2020	<b>CITY CENTRE HEALTH CHECK</b> City Walkabout
JAN 2021	<b>CONTEXT &amp; POLICY</b> Emerging Themes
JAN 2021	<b>KEY THEMATIC AREAS</b> Strategic Alignment
FEB - APR 2021	<b>ONLINE ENGAGEMENT</b> Schools Interactive Public Sessions
MAY 2021	<b>DRAFT PLAN</b> Vision and Key Principles
JUN - AUG 2021	<b>PUBLIC CONSULTATION</b> Creative Challenges Building partnerships
SEP 2021	<b>PLAN ADOPTION</b> Active piloting Implementation



## Measurements

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### To Take Forward Now

From the Hills to the Lagan

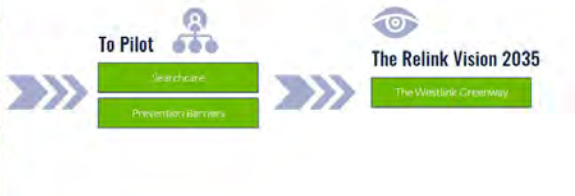
Improved Data and CCTV

Reflections in Water

Design Principles

Technical Design Criteria

When Droplets Create Space



DEC 2020

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Armagh Place Shaping Plan

## 02 The Story of Armagh



## 02 The Story of Armagh

# History and Evolution

Cathedral city

Compact urban form

Urbanism strongly influenced by Archbishop Robinson who set out very strong vision for the city.





## History and Evolution

1832



## 02 The Story of Armagh

# History and Evolution

1900

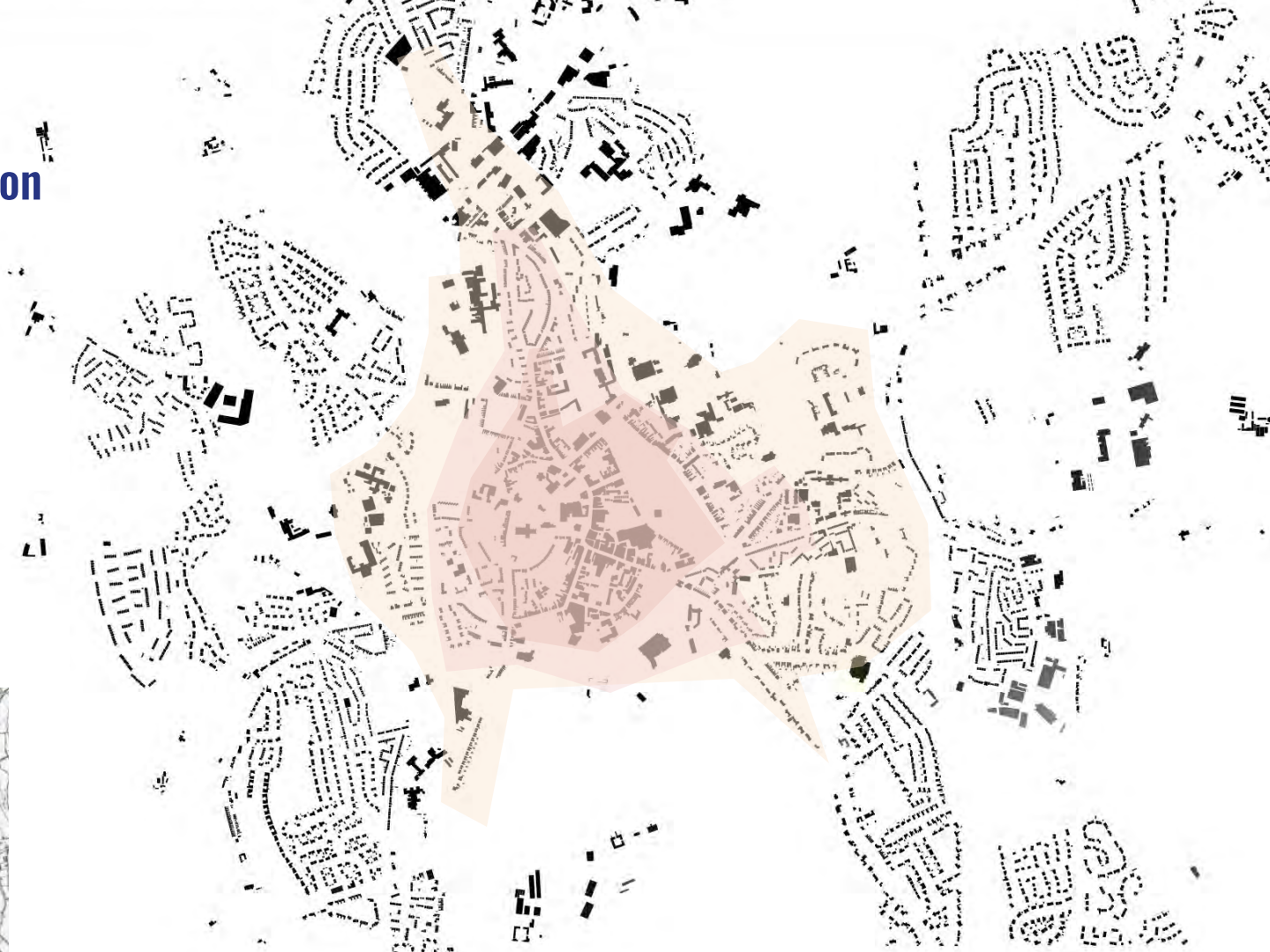




## 02 The Story of Armagh

# History and Evolution

1957



## 02 The Story of Armagh

# History and Evolution

Today: Compact urban growth up to 1950s. Followed by period of low density, suburban sprawling neighbourhoods as rise of car.





## A woman with short brown hair, wearing a purple quilted jacket, stands in a gallery. She is looking towards a framed portrait on the wall. The portrait is a circular medallion featuring a person's head and shoulders, set within a decorative frame. To the left of the portrait, there are two vertical informational panels on the wall. The room has light-colored walls and a wooden door or paneling on the left.

A photograph of a street in Belfast, Northern Ireland, viewed from a pedestrian's perspective. The street is lined with buildings, including a prominent white building with a clock tower in the distance. A blue banner is overlaid across the middle of the image, containing white text. Below the banner, a white box contains the text 'Welcoming city for all'.

**The most active borough in Northern Ireland**

**Welcoming city for all**

## Welcoming city for all

## A place for young and old to be themselves

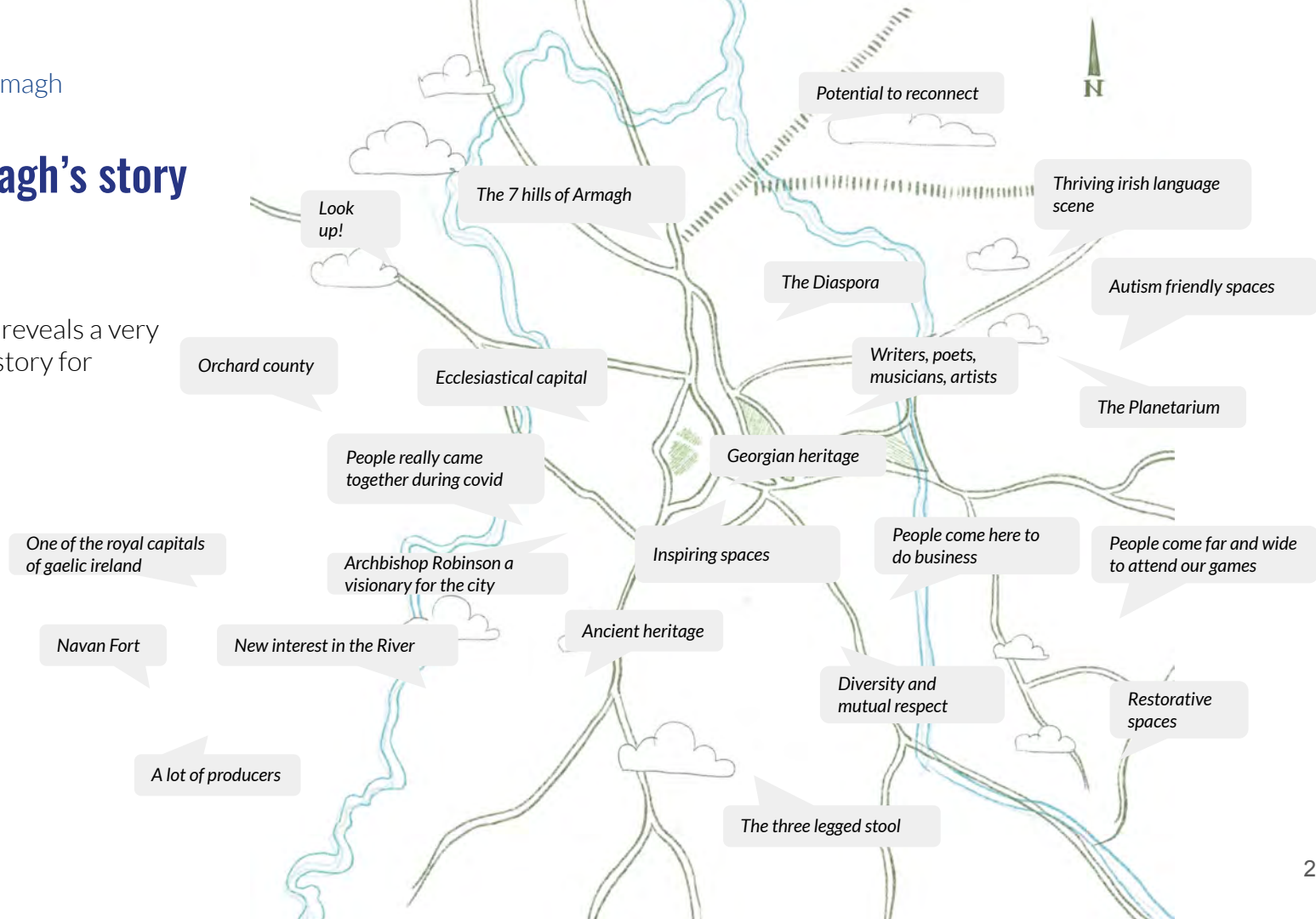
A photograph of a city street scene. In the foreground, there is a dark asphalt road and a light-colored sidewalk. A blue banner with the text "A luminous city" is overlaid on the image. The background shows a green lawn, several trees, and a row of buildings under a clear sky.

A luminous city



## What is Armagh's story today?

Initial engagement reveals a very unique and varied story for Armagh....



Armagh Place Shaping Plan

## 03 City Centre Health Check





*For smaller towns and regional centres, there is a need to **question investment and marketing plans that focus on attracting new external audiences** to their centres.*

*Successful repositioning in many cases does not necessarily mean replacing existing markets or existing users of a place, but **adapting local services to match their needs***

Highstreet task force

”

## Liveability

Sprawling suburbs make car the choice of transport in the city.



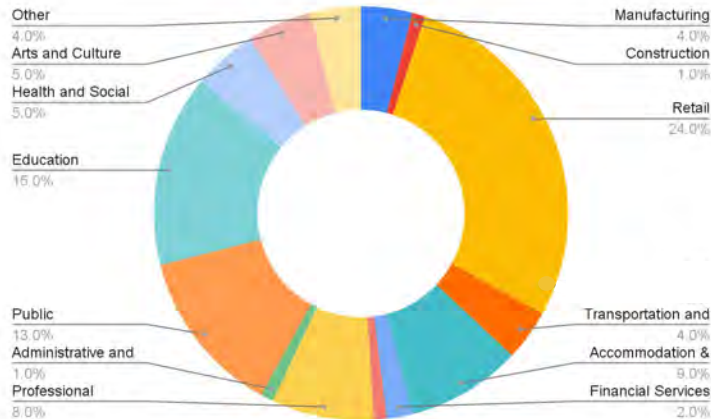
### 03 City Centre Health Check



## Liveability

High proportion of public sector workers in the city help support the local economy. Walkable compact city centre but high levels of traffic, air pollution hotspots and restrictions of use of green space.

**431 applicants on the waiting list in the Armagh City area. Of these, 58% were in housing stress** (March 2020)



Employee Jobs, DfC Town Centre Database 2019

*We're not allowed to use the Mall...*

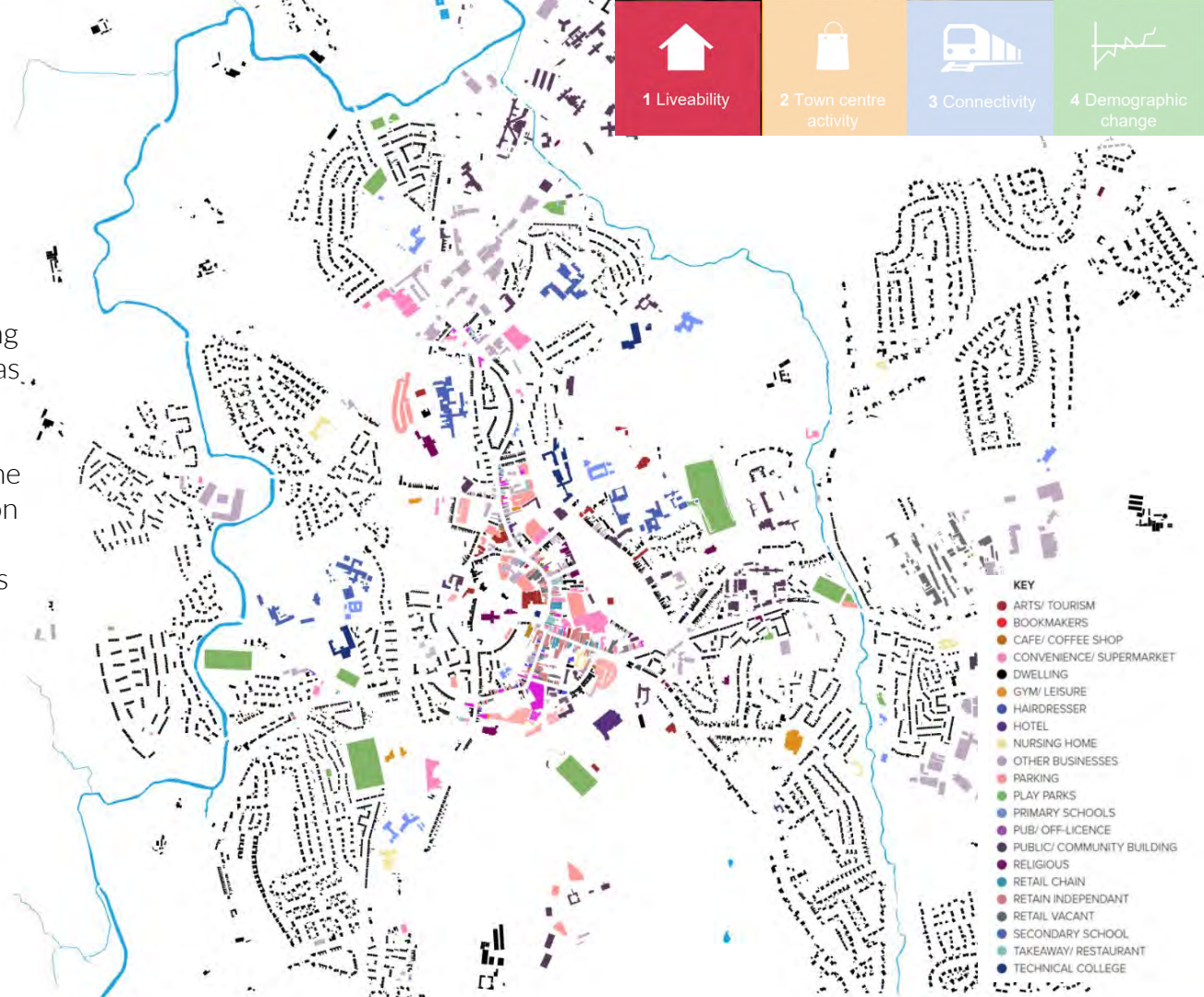


## 03 City Centre Health Check

### Liveability

Key services are not located in the residential neighbourhoods surrounding the city so there is a lack of walkability as you move out from the centre.

Key institutional buildings located on the periphery of the city centre so no reason to travel inwards (come in, park, leave again) and reinforces dominance of cars through city.

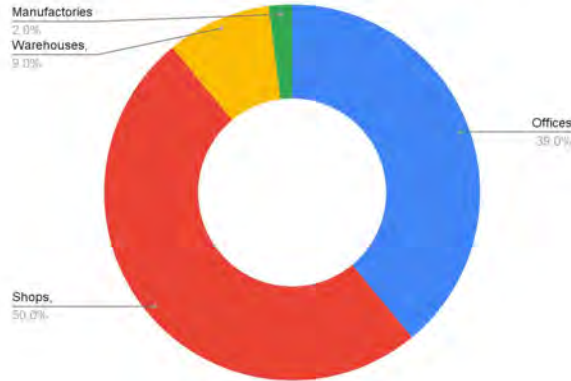




### 03 City Centre Health Check

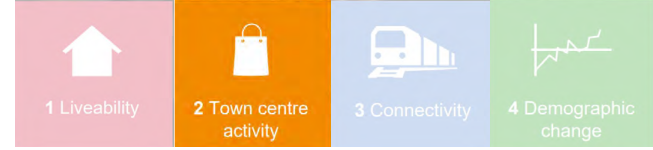
## Town Centre Activity

City acts as a big service centre for the wide rural hinterland surrounding. There is a lack of diversity in the city centre with over half floor space dedicated retail activity, leaving it extremely vulnerable to rising trend of online shopping.



Non Domestic Floor Space, DfC Town Centre Database 2020

"A lot of farmers and rural businesses come into the city to use the banks and professional services" (City Centre Manager)



City centre vacancies (QUB, 2020)





## Connectivity

Armagh city is walkable at its core, but the streetscape is dominated by cars. The city acts as a through route for heavy traffic as it has no ring road. Its train station is closed with work ongoing to investigate the feasibility of reopening the line to Portadown. Bus services are too infrequent for most people, so the only logical way to get around is by car.

Whilst services may be close ‘as the crow flies’ it is important we dig underneath this data to reveal and understanding of the quality of the journey, how safe it is, and what’s there when you arrive (is it what you need?).

**“89% households in NI live within 2 miles of a library service”**

### Armagh rail link plans given a boost



The 10 miles of line between Portadown and Armagh railway station were closed in 1957

Adam Morton, Local Democracy Reporter

November 12 2020 06:22 PM



Hopes of restoring a railway line between Armagh and Portadown have been given a boost.

Both Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council and the Infrastructure Minister are keen to see the project advanced.

At a meeting of the council's economic development and regeneration committee, members agreed to share the findings of a scoping study on the viability of railway line connecting Armagh and Portadown with the Department for Infrastructure.

*“If I want to come into the city on public transport, I have to wait 8 hours for a return bus!”*



Car Parks in the city centre (QUB, 2020)

## Connectivity

The city centre is anchored by a number of key institutions, which attract people into the city largely by car, only to leave again without being drawn into the city centre.

Mapping all land uses throughout the city centre reveals a high proportion of commercial activity, but a low residential population in the city core.



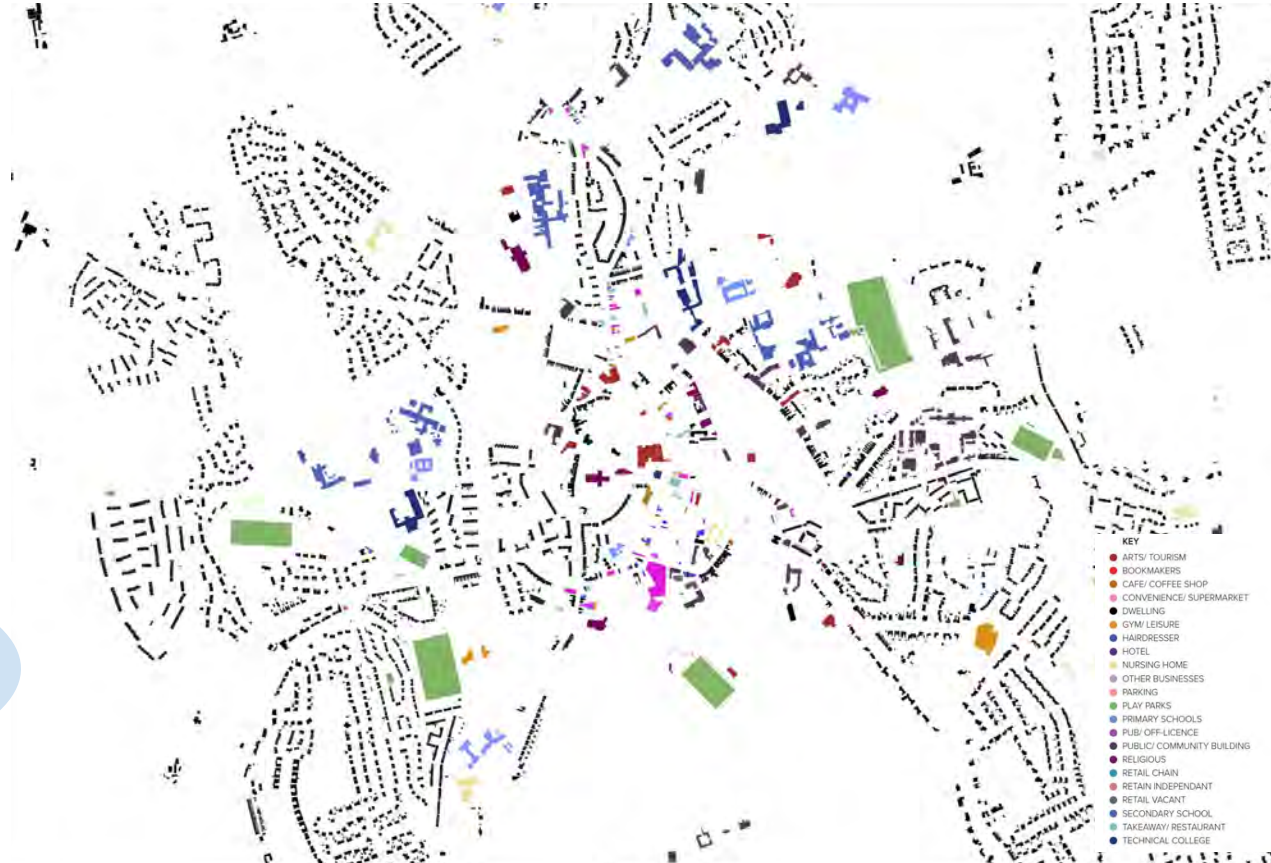
## Connectivity

Services available in the city range from schools to nursing homes to hairdressers.

Ecosystem services such as green space tend to be out of the city core (except the Mall).

Informal meeting spaces and services such as coffee shops, hairdressers etc. in city centre.

*The Mall doesn't feel as connected to the city centre as it should, given how close it is...*





## Challenges for an equitable city

If you live in an area of high deprivation in Armagh, you are less likely to have access to a car, which means designing the city around the car and accommodating it creates issues of equity across the city. Also when we look at potential climate change impacts such as flooding, they are concentrated in areas of the city with significantly higher deprivation in the west.



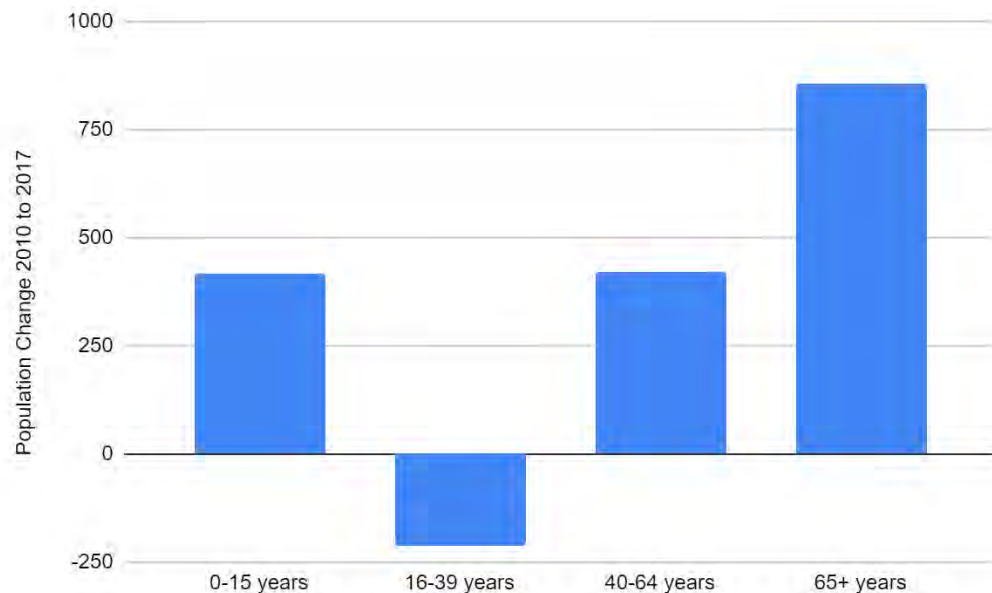
Rivers Agency Climate Change Flood Maps

Approximately 1 in 4 people in Armagh have no access to a car or van (NISRA, 2011)



## Demographic Change

The population of Armagh is relatively small for a city, at 14,777 population in 2011. The population is rising modestly but not equally across age groups. There has been a decline in young people aged 16-39 living in the city. There is a growing older population in Armagh.





## Health Check - Next Steps

During the engagement we will continue to adjust and update the city centre health check with any further insights or evidence to add to the assessment.

Questions we will ask will include:

#### Liveability

Would you want to live in the city? What's it missing that would make you consider it?

#### City Centre Activity

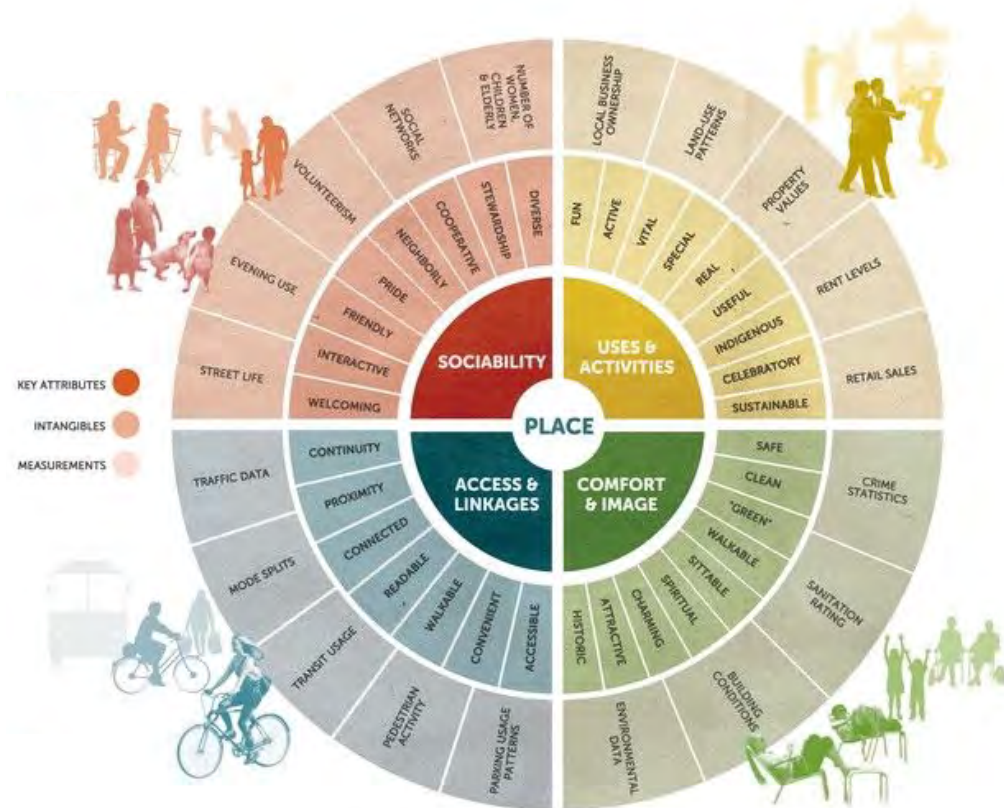
Can you work here? Can you set-up a business here?  
What's its USP? What are the challenges?

#### Connectivity

Can you get around your city without a car?  
How do you get into the city?

#### Demographic Change

What are the opportunities for the city from a growing population?  
(Older people) what makes the city work for you?



Armagh Place Shaping Plan

## 04 Policy Analysis



# Armagh City Centre Masterplan

### Key Objectives:

1. Enhance the quality of life for Armagh's residents
2. Maintain and enhance Armagh's historic character and identity
3. Develop a sustainable economy built on existing strengths
4. Develop Armagh as a leading tourist destination
5. Develop a sustainable transportation network

### Delivered through:

30 Development Projects  
29 Public Realm Improvements  
17 Transport Actions  
11 Strategies

“The City of Armagh will be a **safe, lively** and **attractive** place in which to **live, work** and **visit**. Its **historic centre** will form the heart of the island's **oldest City** known far and wide as a **cultural** and **religious capital** of Ireland. Its well-maintained **historic buildings, streets** and **spaces** will provide the backdrop for a **forward-thinking** City, with excellent amenities for its **residents**, provision for **retail, business** and **enterprise** and a **welcoming environment** for those who come to **visit**. Improved transportation **connections** and **environmental quality** will facilitate the development of a **friendly, people orientated** City Centre.”



## Armagh City Centre Masterplan

### City wide proposals

The reintroduction of rail travel to Armagh should remain a long-term objective for the city.

Gateway markers, environmental improvements and lighting prominent buildings

Greenway routes proposed following the Callan and Ballynahone Rivers, while other Greenways would follow the routes of the disused Monaghan, Portadown and Castleblayney railway lines, until such time as they are viewed feasible once more for rail travel.

Improve physical connections between the city centre and Navan Fort through greenway route.

Establish a Centre for Sporting Excellence on doorstep of city centre.

Relocation of council staff to city centre and improvements to Demesne.

Redevelopment of key sites





# Armagh City Centre Masterplan

## City centre proposals

New pedestrian connections

Enhanced streets and public spaces

Improve shop frontages and encourage living over the shop

Signage and Interpretation

Focus on Evening Economy

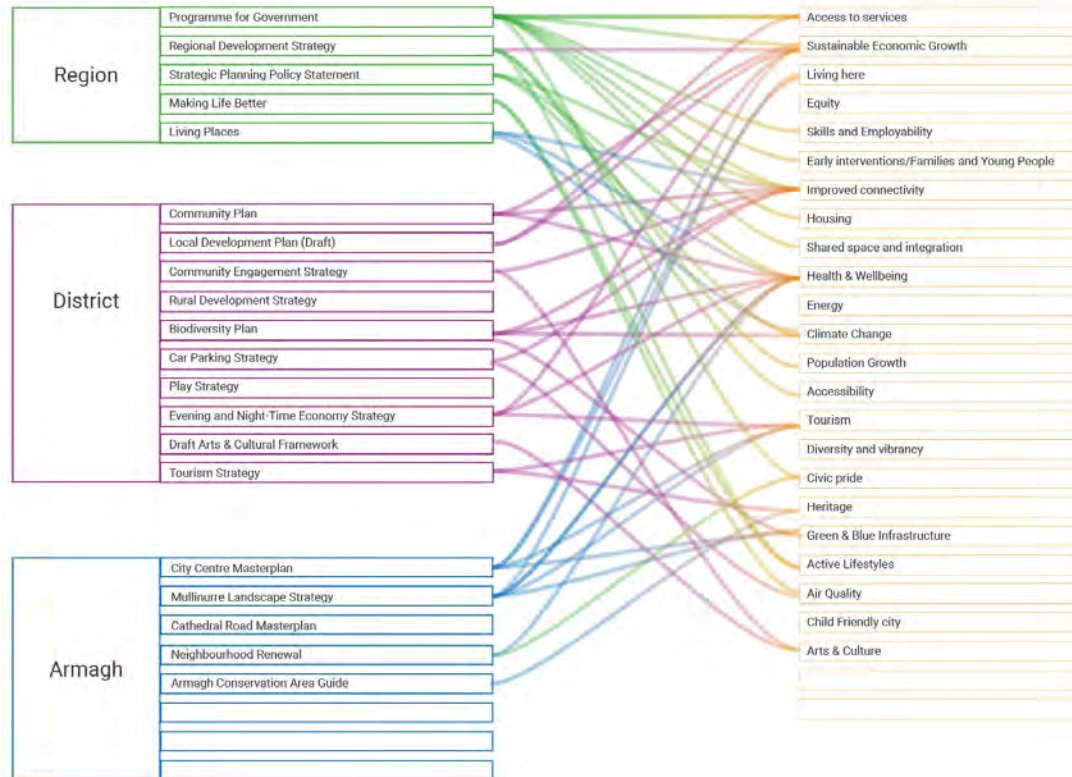
City Investment Strategy

Creation of a Parking Strategy

Redevelopment of the Shambles Market



# What are the various policies and strategies saying?



Green Infrastructure



Climate Change



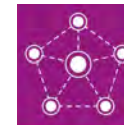
Health and Wellbeing



Sustainable Growth



Connectivity





# Green Infrastructure

In supporting urban and rural renaissance (RG 7), the RDS places importance in promoting recreational space within cities, towns and neighbourhoods,,,,Green infrastructure is also seen as a means of improving the health and well-being of communities.

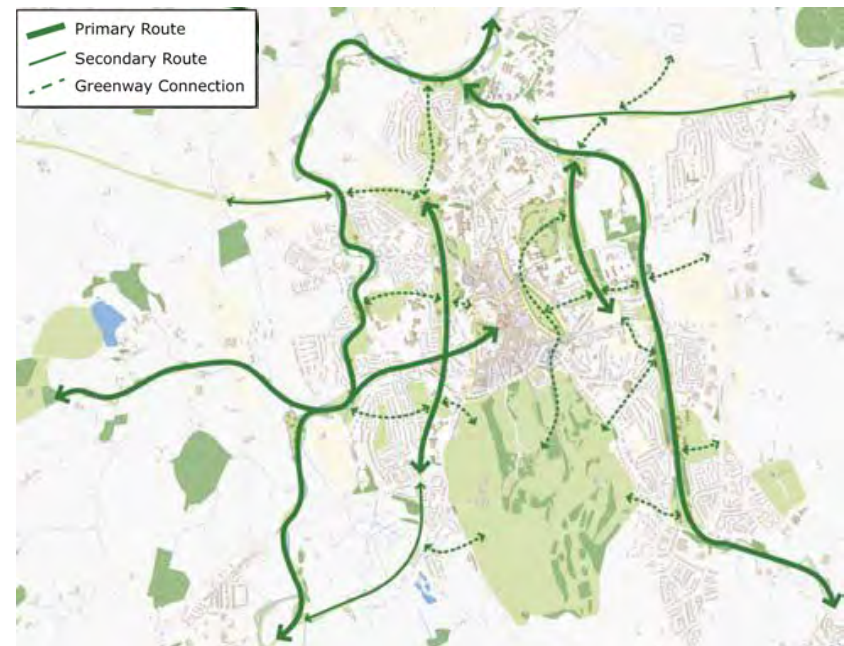
### **Regional Development Strategy for Northern Ireland**

Networks of green spaces, commonly referred to as green infrastructure, provide a wide range of environmental benefits (in both rural and urban areas) including flood water storage, urban cooling, improved air quality and habitats for wildlife. Additionally, they can provide opportunities for social interaction by serving as a focal point for recreation and community activities. This green infrastructure should be designed and managed as a multifunctional resource capable of delivering on a wide range of environmental and quality of life benefits for communities.

### **Strategic Planning Policy Statement**

Linking open spaces with a system of paths, often using rivers and former railway lines, can contribute to a valuable network of green infrastructure.

### **Living Places Urban Design and Stewardship Guide**





## Green Infrastructure

Where green space adjoins fixed play areas council should seek to maximise playability by enhancing the space through minor landscaping, planting, incorporation of natural materials and features etc.

**ABC Play Strategy 2018-2026**

Establish Sustainable Green Infrastructure.

**Mullinure Landscape Strategy**

Greenway routes are proposed following the Callan and Ballynahone Rivers, while other Greenways would follow the routes of the disused Monaghan, Portadown and Castleblayney railway lines, until such time as they are viewed feasible once more for rail travel.

**Armagh City Centre Masterplan**

Developer contributions could secure blue/green infrastructure depending on size, scale and location of the development.

**Local Development Plan POP**



Improve connectivity for safe movement across the city



Provide space for biodiversity

£1.66-£2.78  
per visit



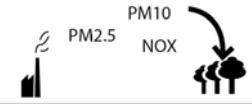
Attracts visitors and tourists



Increase safety



Elevated property prices



Improve air quality



Provides demonstrable cardio, respiratory and mental health benefits



Reduces the urban heat island effect



Supports sustainable approaches to drainage and flood risk management/ improves water quality



High rate of return on investment through job creation, tourism expenditure, social cost saving and well-being benefits





# Climate Change

Necessary infrastructure, should avoid, where possible, areas at risk from flooding. Housing growth should be managed so that it mitigates the risk of flooding by avoiding those areas known to be at risk. Promoting a more sustainable approach to flood risk management, including encouraging the greater use of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS).

### **Regional Development Strategy**

A central challenge in furthering sustainable development is mitigating and adapting to climate change, whilst improving air quality. A key pledge of the Executive is 'to continue to work towards a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by at least 35% on 1990 levels by 2025'.

### **Strategic Planning Policy Statement**

Climate change necessitates a major change in development practice, as well as urban lifestyles. Furthermore, increased energy efficiency must also go hand in hand with a reduced dependency on carbon emitting sources of energy and transport.

### **Living Places Urban Design and Stewardship Guidance**

**“70% of households in the borough are concerned about the environment. 26% of households identified climate change as the most common environmental problem.”**

### **Connected Community Plan**





## Climate Change

A key environmental objective is to assist with climate change adaptation and place-making.

Climate change mitigation will be proactively promoted, in the main design criteria, with the developer required to demonstrate what energy efficiency measures have been incorporated and considered in all relevant development proposals.





### Local Development Plan POP

There is a greater need to be resilient, sustainable and adaptive in responding to issues such as climate change and events such as Covid-19.

### Town Centres Positioning Study

The more efficient use of fossil fuels in transport and the move to less-polluting alternatives will all reduce the emission of carbon dioxide.

### Air Quality Action Plan

Examples of Climate Impacts on Human Health				
	Climate Driver	Exposure	Health Outcome	Impact
 Extreme Heat	More frequent, severe, prolonged heat events	Elevated temperatures	Heat-related death and illness	Rising temperatures will lead to an increase in heat-related deaths and illnesses.
 Outdoor Air Quality	Increasing temperatures and changing precipitation patterns	Worsened air quality (ozone, particulate matter, and higher pollen counts)	Premature death, acute and chronic cardiovascular and respiratory illnesses	Rising temperatures and wildfires and decreasing precipitation will lead to increases in ozone and particulate matter, elevating the risks of cardiovascular and respiratory illnesses and death.
 Flooding	Rising sea level and more frequent or intense extreme precipitation, hurricanes, and storm surge events	Contaminated water, debris, and disruptions to essential infrastructure	Drowning, injuries, mental health consequences, gastrointestinal and other illness	Increased coastal and inland flooding exposes populations to a range of negative health impacts before, during, and after events.
 Vector-Borne Infection (Lyme Disease)	Changes in temperature extremes and seasonal weather patterns	Earlier and geographically expanded tick activity	Lyme disease	Ticks will show earlier seasonal activity and a generally northward range expansion, increasing risk of human exposure to Lyme disease-causing bacteria.
 Water-Related Infection (Vibrio vulnificus)	Rising sea surface temperature, changes in precipitation and runoff affecting coastal salinity	Recreational water or shellfish contaminated with Vibrio vulnificus	Vibrio vulnificus induced diarrhea & intestinal illness, wound and blood-stream infections, death	Increases in water temperatures will alter timing and location of Vibrio vulnificus growth, increasing exposure and risk of water-borne illness.
 Food-Related Infection (Salmonella)	Increases in temperature, humidity, and season length	Increased growth of pathogens, seasonal shifts in incidence of Salmonella exposure	Salmonella infection, gastrointestinal outbreaks	Rising temperatures increase Salmonella prevalence in food; longer seasons and warming winters increase risk of exposure and infection.
 Mental Health and Well-Being	Climate change impacts, especially extreme weather	Level of exposure to traumatic events, like disasters	Distress, grief, behavioral health disorders, social impacts, resilience	Changes in exposure to climate- or weather-related disasters cause or exacerbate stress and mental health consequences, with greater risk for certain populations.



# Health and Wellbeing

Healthy Community is a key outcome of the Borough's community plan. The long term goal is that people lead healthy, fulfilling lives and take pride in shaping, nurturing and enriching community life.

Three indicators have been identified that will help monitor progress towards with goal.

- Number of preventable deaths per 100,000
- Gap in life expectancy between most deprived areas and the borough overall
- Percentage of people who participate in sport or physical activity on at least one day a week

### Connected Community Plan

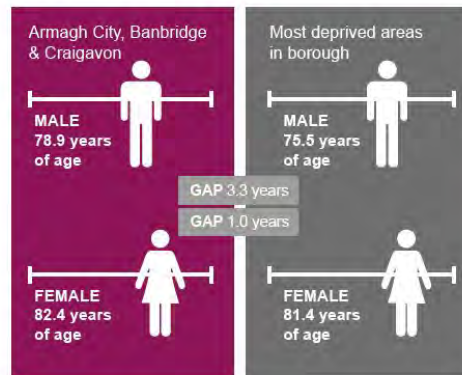
The Impulse to play is innate. Play is a biological, psychological and social necessity and is fundamental to the healthy development and wellbeing of individuals and communities.

### ABC Play Strategy

### The Vision for the LDP is:

"Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough will be a place of choice to live, work and visit with a vibrant and sustainable economy supported by a healthy and connected community."

### Life Expectancy at Birth (2012-2014)



NI Health and Social Care Inequalities Monitoring System,  
Department of Health



# Health and Wellbeing

Improving Health and Wellbeing is one of five core planning principles for Northern Ireland. The SPPS states that capitalising on the synergies that exist between spatial planning and health and well-being can provide better outcomes, and this could include:

Safeguarding and facilitating quality open space, sport and outdoor recreation;  
Providing for safe and secure age-friendly environments;  
Encouraging and supporting quality, environmentally sustainable design;  
Better connected communities with safe pedestrian environments;  
better integration between land-use planning and transport;  
facilitating the protection and provision of green and blue infrastructure;  
supporting the provision of jobs, services, and economic growth;  
supporting delivery of homes to meet the full range of housing needs,  
contributing to balanced communities; and  
supporting broader government policy aimed at addressing for example obesity, and health and well-being impacts arising through pollution.

**Strategic Planning Policy Statement**







## Sustainable Growth

The Regional Development Strategy sets out the framework for the spatial development for NI up to 2035. The Strategy reflects the Programme for Government approach of balanced sub-regional growth and recognises the importance of key settlements as centres for growth and investment. One of eight aims of the RDS is to support strong, sustainable growth for the benefit of all parts of NI.

The Strategy identifies Armagh as part of a cluster of hubs with Craigavon and Banbridge and sets out three key policies for their development (see right).

### Regional Development Strategy 2035

One of the priority pillars of the Government's Industrial Strategy for Northern Ireland Economy 2030 is Driving Inclusive, Sustainable Growth.

### Industrial Strategy for Northern Ireland



### 6. HUBS AND CLUSTERS OF HUBS

- SFG10 Identify and consolidate the roles & functions of settlements within the clusters
- SFG11 Promote economic development opportunities at Hubs
- SFG12 Grow the population in the Hubs



# Sustainable Growth

Delivery and funding must be drawn from both the public and private sectors to provide the basis for sustainable growth and prosperity of this important City.

**Armagh City Centre Masterplan 2008**

The LDP POP outlines a number of strategic priority areas in which sustainable and inclusive growth can be achieved.

- The provision of an accessible and well connected society in terms of both telecommunication/ fibre and transportation infrastructure.
- Developing the Borough as a centre of excellence for entrepreneurship, innovation and investment

**Local Development Plan Preferred Options Paper**

Delivery and funding must be drawn from both the public and private sector to provide the basis for sustainable growth and prosperity of this important City.

**Armagh City Centre Masterplan 2008**

One of the priority pillars of the Government's Industrial Strategy for Northern Ireland Economy 2030 is Driving Inclusive, Sustainable Growth.

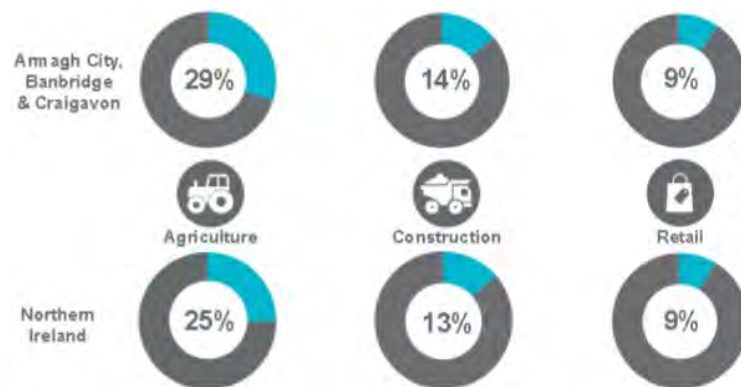
**Industrial Strategy for Northern Ireland**

**Table 1: The ACBCBC Settlement Hierarchy urban / rural household split at 2011**

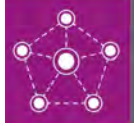
Settlement Category	2011 H/hold (No)	2011 H/hold (%)*
Hubs (Armagh City, Banbridge Town & Craigavon Urban Area)	38279	51
Local Towns	7519	10
Villages	8812	11
Total Urban *	54610	72
Rural Remainder (Small Settlements & C'side)	20896	28
Total ACBCBC Borough	75,506	100

Source: - NISRA Census 2011.

\*Total Urban is the sum of city, urban area, towns & villages. Rural Remainder relates to remainder not urban.



## 04 Policy Analysis



# Connectivity

One of the Programme for Government's long term goals is to connect people and opportunities through infrastructure.

### Programme for Government

Connectivity is a cross cutting theme of the Community Plan for the Borough:

*We believe connectivity is integral to improving quality of life. Through our plan we will work to transform and connect all areas of our borough physically, digitally and socially through shared collaborative approaches.*

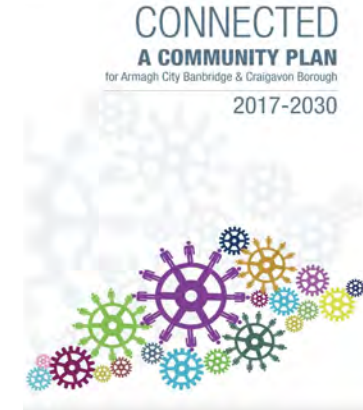
### Connected: A Community Plan 2017-2020

Connectivity is a corporate priority for the Borough, as outlined in the Council's Corporate Plan. Place is a key pillar of the plan with a focus on increasing prosperity through developing the economy, employment, connectivity and environment;

### ABC Corporate Plan

Connectivity and accessibility of pedestrian routes and spaces are identified as fundamental qualities that new development in Armagh must support.

### Armagh City Centre Masterplan, 2008





# Connectivity

The Good Relations Strategy will support Council to deliver against its overarching Community and Corporate Plan objectives. However, it stresses that successful delivery requires connectivity between each of the Council functions. The Strategy also highlights the importance of community connectivity through an improved environment.

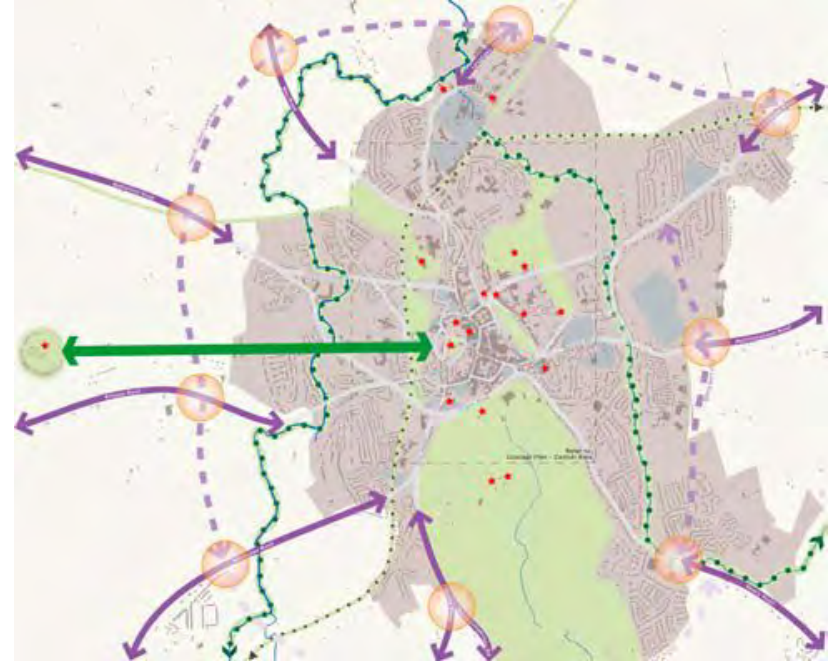
### **Good Relations Strategy**

Connectivity is a corporate priority for the Borough, as outlined in the Council's Corporate Plan. Place is a key pillar of the plan with a focus on increasing prosperity through developing the economy, employment, connectivity and environment;

### **ABC Corporate Plan 2018-2023**

Connectivity and accessibility of pedestrian routes and spaces are also fundamental qualities that new development in Armagh must support (see right).

### **Armagh City Centre Masterplan, 2008**





Armagh Place Shaping Plan

## 05 Emerging Themes



## 05 Emerging Themes

**We are clogged up...how  
can we take advantage  
of every space?**



Armagh Place Shaping Plan

**These are not leftovers....**

# 1

---

**“It’s not about filling leftover spaces  
with cars...it is about designing for an  
active city”**





## It's not about filling leftover spaces with cars...it's about designing for an active city



[Link](#)



[Link](#)



## It's not about filling leftover spaces with cars...it's about designing for an active city



Moesgaard Museum, Aarhus DN

[Link](#)



OB Nursery School, Nagasaki JP

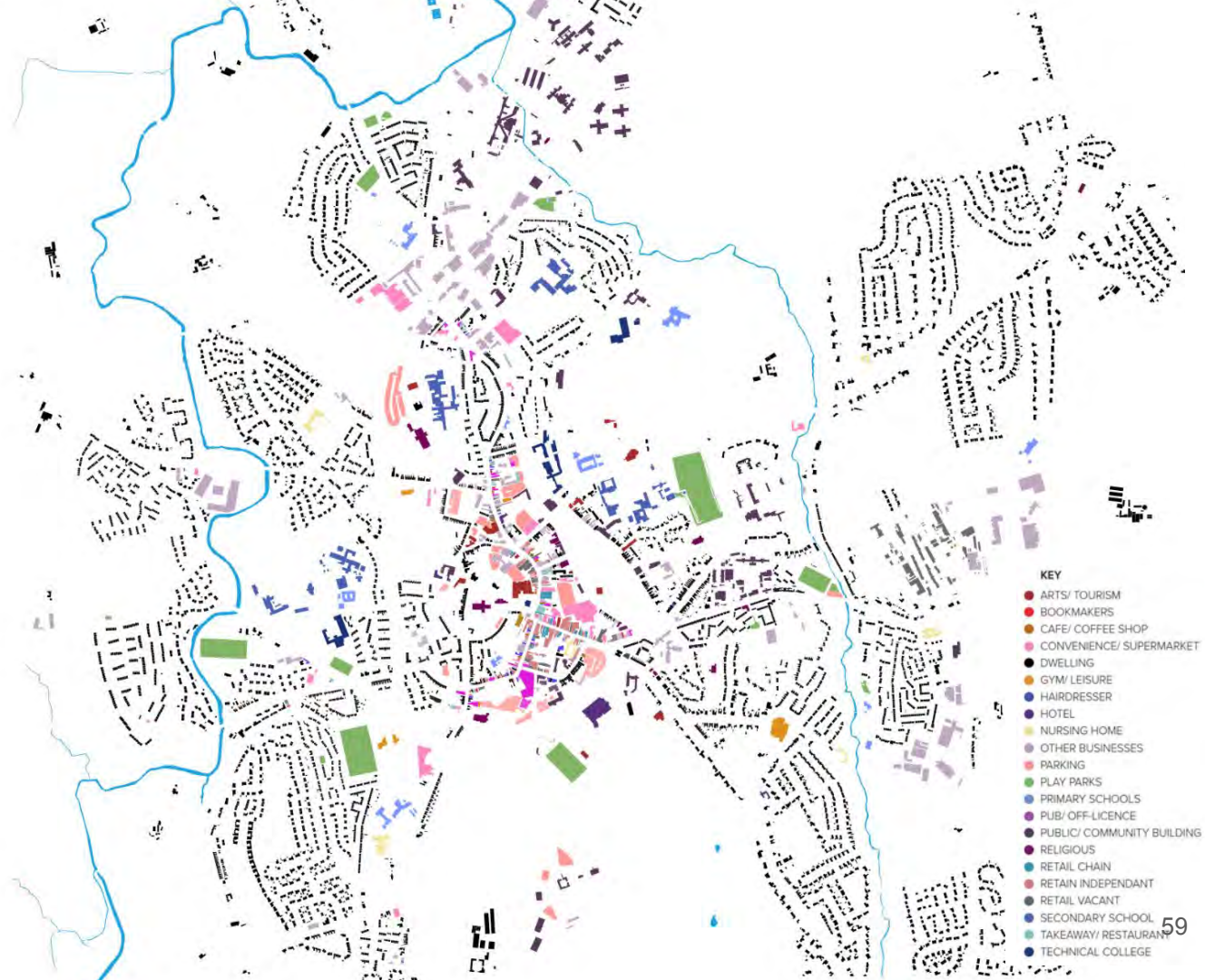
[Link](#)



## 05 Emerging Themes

# People are cut away from services... how can we relink the city?

Approximately  
1 in 4 people in  
Armagh have  
no access to  
a car or van. (NISRA,  
2011)



Armagh Place Shaping Plan

**This is not a street....**



## 2

---

**“It’s not about designing better access to services...it is about designing a liveable city”**



## People are cut away from services... how can we relink the city?



[Link](#)



## People are cut away from services... how can we relink the city?

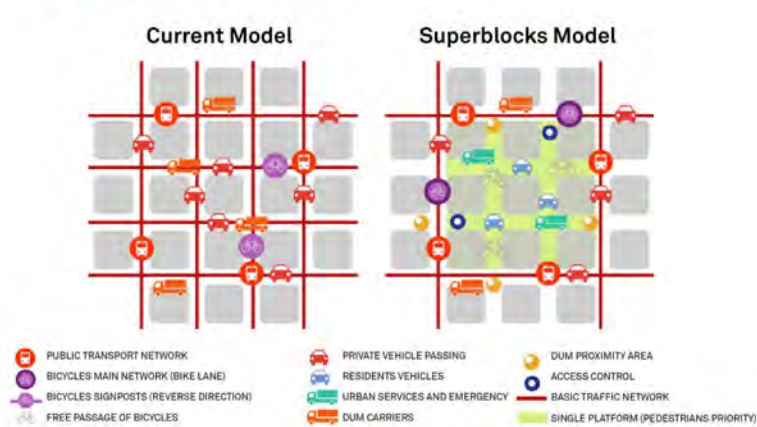


The 15 minute city, Paris





## People are cut away from services... how can we relink the city?



- Barcelona superblocks freed 92% of public space
- Inhabitants rate the city quality higher than before
- Retail activity increased by 30%



**Superblocks, Barcelona**

[Link](#)



## We are getting old...how can we remain active?

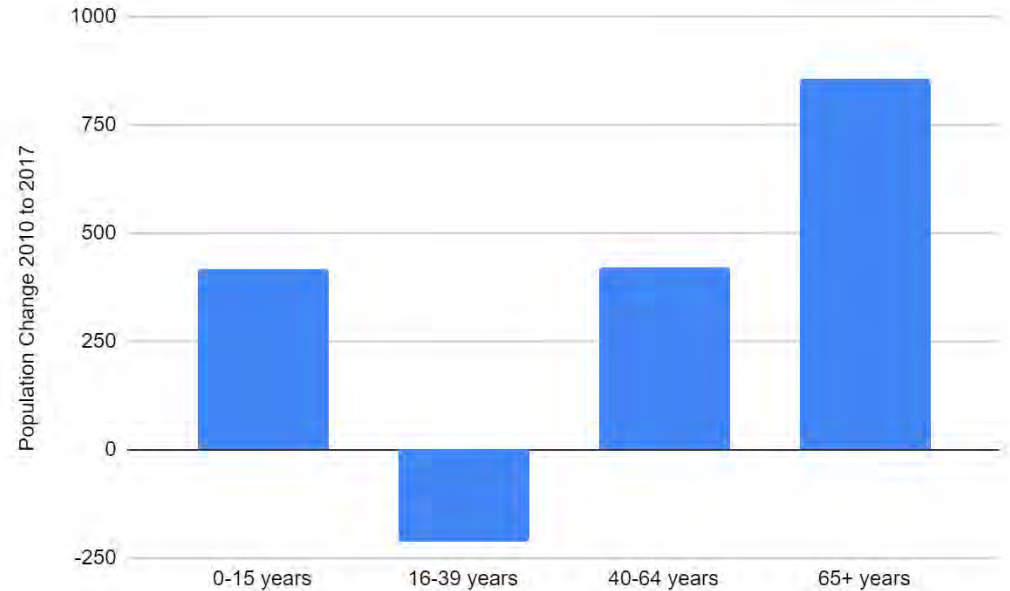
Growing population

Growing older population

Lack of diversity, although slightly higher in urban than rural



Population in Armagh is going up



Armagh Place Shaping Plan

**This is not a piece of infrastructure**

# 3

---

**“It’s not about designing for an ageing population...it is about inclusion”**



## We are getting old...how can we remain active?

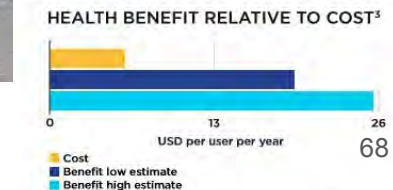


- Street closures to traffic regularly invoke behaviour change in residents
- Provide space for physical activity
- Promote healthy habits
- Reduce obesity and chronic diseases
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions
- Alleviate social inequality
- Reduce noise levels



La Ciclovia, Bogotá

[Link](#)







## We are getting old...how can we remain active?



[Link](#)



[Link](#)



## We are getting old...how can we remain active?



[Link](#)

Armagh Place Shaping Plan

**This is not a tourist attraction**

4

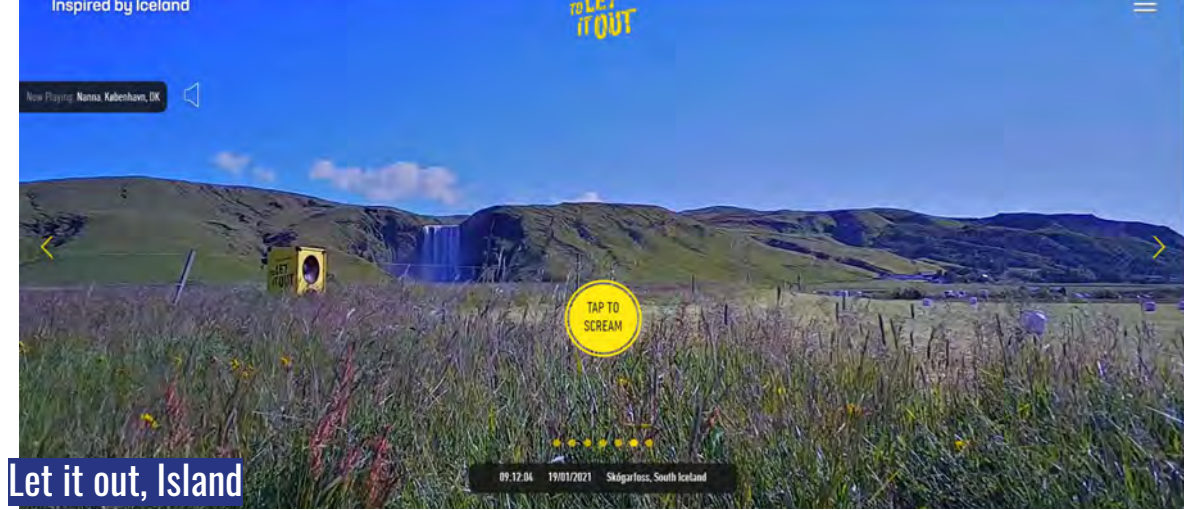
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**“It’s not about designing tourist attractions...it’s about designing for meaningful experiences of Armagh”**

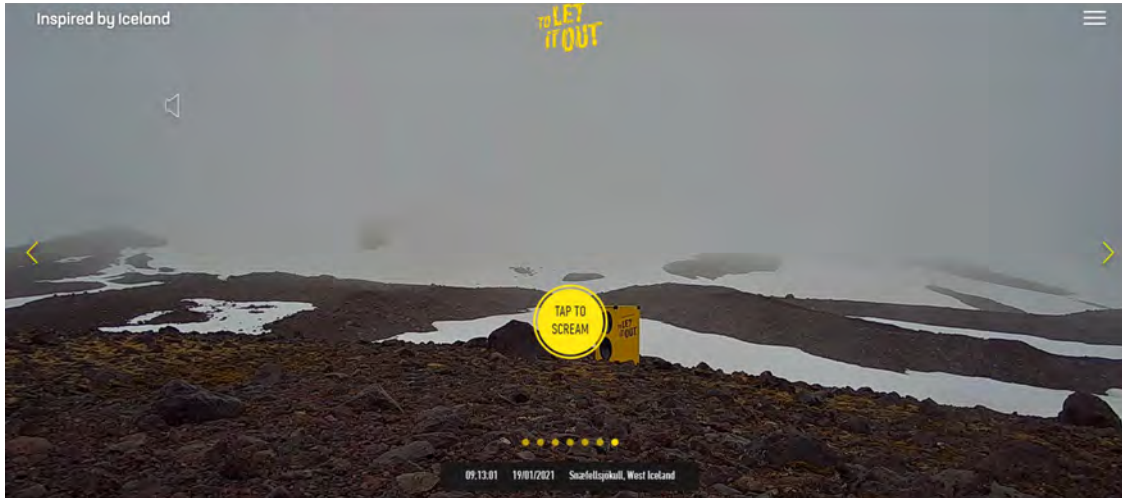


## 05 Emerging Themes

**Tourism is changing...  
we are connecting people to  
places in new and exciting  
ways**



[Link](#)



**Tourism is changing...  
we are connecting people to  
places in new and exciting  
ways**

## Weed Dating

Help on an urban farm and meet cool new people

€32.50

**Experiential**

**Community**

**Funtribution**



**Weed dating, The Netherland**

Source: <https://www.untouristguide.com/bookings-checkout/weed-dating>

[Link](#)

## 05 Emerging Themes

**Tourism is changing...  
we are connecting people to  
places in new and exciting  
ways**



**Keep your job. See the world.  
Leave the planning to us.**

Live and work in different cities around the world as part of an immersive cultural and community experience.

[Get Started](#)

**Workcation**

**Business**

**Community**

The New York Times CNN Forbes TIME CNBC THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

**Global community**

We stand with the Black community

[Link](#)





## Tourism is changing... we are connecting people to places in new and exciting ways



Water tower, Debrecen HU







## Tourism is changing... we are connecting people to places in new and exciting ways

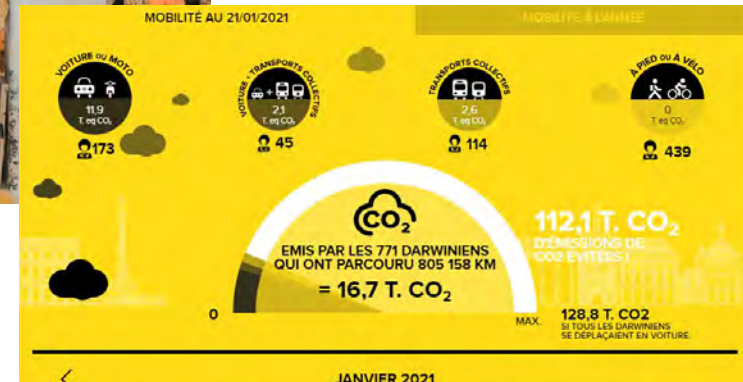


Darwin eco village, FR

[Link](#)



- Rehabilitation of former barracks
- Shared work space
- An alternative education model
- Training
- Leisure activities

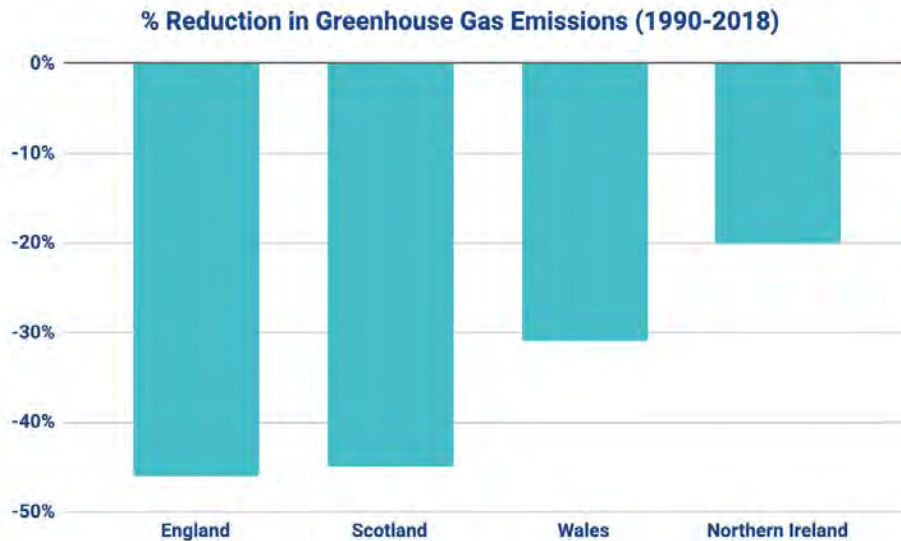


## 05 Emerging Themes

# Climate change is happening... we need to learn to adapt



USI, 2020



## 05 Emerging Themes

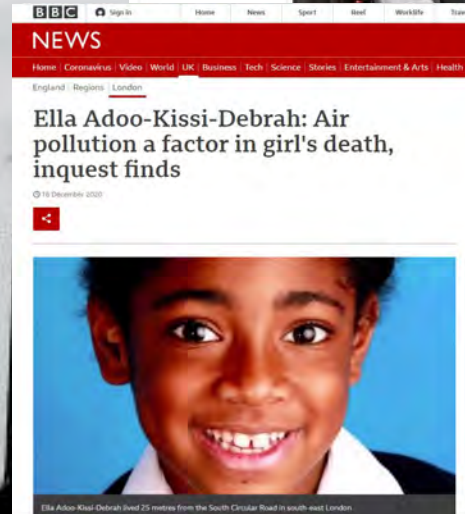
# Our cities are making us ill...

One billion people inhale polluted outdoor air, causing 0.8 million (1.2%) premature deaths and 6.4 million (0.5%) years of life lost (YLL).

The lack of engagement and access to nature impacting physical and mental wellbeing



The screenshot shows the top section of The Guardian's website. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'Support The Guardian' and 'Available for everyone, funded by readers'. Below this, there are links to 'Contribute' and 'Subscribe'. The main navigation bar includes 'News', 'Opinion', 'Sport', 'Culture', 'Lifestyle', and 'More'. A sub-navigation bar for 'Environment' includes links to 'Climate change', 'Wildlife', 'Energy', and 'Pollution'. The main article is titled 'Air pollution verdict shines political light on UK's invisible killer' by Damian Carrington, Environment editor. It includes a sub-headline 'Analysis: death of Ella Kissi-Debrah means MPs can no longer ignore dangers of dirty air' and a link to 'Air pollution a cause in girl's death, coroner rules in landmark case'. To the right, there's a sidebar with 'Exclusive features for you, independent journalism for everyone' and a '50% off for three months' offer. Below this, a 'most viewed' section lists several articles, including 'Dutch officials seize ham sandwiches of drivers arriving from UK', 'Trump charged with impeachment count as FBI warns of armed protests', 'Live: Coronavirus live news: German lockdown could last up to 10 weeks; China locks down Langfang city', 'Our sons are dead: how I survived a Chinese re-education camp for Uighurs', and 'More violence planned as extreme rightwing groups draw Trump backers'.



The screenshot shows the BBC News website. The main article is titled 'Ella Adoo-Kissi-Debrah: Air pollution a factor in girl's death, inquest finds'. It includes a sub-headline 'in but also unacknowledged on the 1 sends to an early grave in the UK 1st time, the lethal impact of toxic air Debrah, a nine-year-old girl from'. Below the headline, there's a photo of Ella Adoo-Kissi-Debrah, a young girl smiling. The article is dated '16 December 2020'.

Armagh Place Shaping Plan

**This is not waste**



# 5

---

**“It’s not about protecting the  
natural and built environment...  
it’s about adapting it”**



## This is not waste.....

### WHAT WE ACHIEVED



1222

Tones of recovered food

espigoladors nube co2

875

Tones of CO2 avoided emissions



790

Million litres of saved water



3869869

Portions of food served (300 g)



109

Farmers committed



1367

Awareness actions #dontwaste

- Reduce food waste
- Donate food to people at risk of social exclusion
- Promote healthy eating habits
- Create equitable job opportunities
- Reduce CO2 emissions and conserve water



Espigoladors, Catalonia SP

[Link](#)



## This is not waste.....



**Costruiamo saperi (building knowledge), Sicily**

[Link](#)

## What if culture could help close the equity gap?



La Guarimba film festival

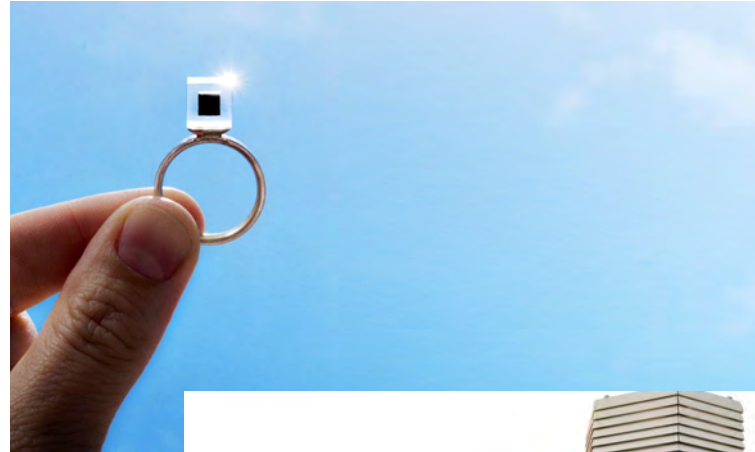




## This is not waste.....



Making ink from pollution



Smog free tower - Beijing  
Transforming pollution in diamonds

[Link](#)

1

“It’s not about filling leftover spaces with cars...it’s about designing for an active city”

2

“It’s not about designing better access to services...it is about designing a liveable city”

3

“It’s not about designing for an ageing population...it is about inclusion”

4

“It’s not about designing tourist attractions...it’s about designing for meaningful experiences of Armagh”

5

“It’s not about protecting the natural and built environment...it is about working with it”

Armagh Place Shaping Plan

## 06 Next Steps



## 06 Next Steps

# Project Timeline

Agree key thematics  
Identify any gaps in research to date  
Sign off Engagement Plan









## INTERESTED IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF ARMAGH,

for further information or  
to get involved with the  
delivery of an action?

### **We want to hear from you.**

Please contact the **Community  
Planning Department** at  
Armagh City, Banbridge and  
Craigavon Borough Council

 0300 0300 900

 [communityplanning@armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk](mailto:communityplanning@armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk)

 [armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk](http://armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk)