

BANBRIDGE PLACE PLAN

Discovery Report

Armagh Banbridge and Craigavon
Community Planning Partnership



**Armagh City
Banbridge
& Craigavon**
Borough Council



Department for
Communities

An Roinn
Pobal

Department for
Communities

www.communities-ni.gov.uk

WOVEN BY TRADITION
SCULPTED WITH AMBITION



1. Introduction	3
2. Why Place shaping	4
3. Learnings From Armagh Place Plan	5
Armagh Place Plan Learnings by Dr Gavin Rafferty, Ulster University	5
Ministerial Advisory Group, Armagh Place Plan Process Review report	7
4. The Team	8
Studio idir + Starling Start	8
Banbridge Place Plan Project Board	9
5. Historical Context - The story of Banbridge	10
6. Banbridge Today	14
Geography	14
Land Use Overview	15
Housing	16
Green Spaces	17
Built Heritage and Listed Buildings	18
Vacancy	21
Car Parking	22
Flood Risk	23
Planning Applications	24
7. Demographics and Statistical Profile	26
Population	26
Households	26
Religion	26
Main Language	27
Health	28
Education Levels	29
Further and Higher Education	30
Employment	31
Areas of Multiple Deprivation	31
8. Banbridge Health check	32
9. Banbridge Town Centre Masterplan 2016 SWOT	40
10. Strategy and Policy Context	43
10.1 Banbridge Place Related Plans	43
10.2 Council Wide Policy and Strategy	44
10.3 NI and Regional Policies	48
11. Toolkits, Support and Theory	52
11.1 Inclusive Design	52
11.2 Community Capacity Building and Volunteering	54
11.3 Climate Emergency tools	55
11.4 Placemaking tools and theory	56
11.5 New ideas and further reading	58

12. Appendices
Further mapping

60
60

1. Introduction

The Discovery Report complements the Banbridge Place Plan by documenting desktop research, and providing an evidence base for the plan - a starting point. The report provides the geographical, historical, social and strategic context for the Place Plan. It also provides a town centre analysis and health check for Banbridge in 2023, and beyond.

The purpose of the discovery phase is first to gather and sift through all the relevant existing information about Banbridge from previous masterplans, development plans, strategic documents and policies, as well as gauging current thoughts on and plans for the town through group workshops and meetings with key partners. The task is then to ascertain what actions and proposals have been carried out and what haven't, and of those which haven't, what still has relevance or merit today, and what more might need to be added, to be taken forward as part of the Banbridge Place Plan.

This project is being delivered through the Community Planning Strategic Partnership (CPSP) for the Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough. The CPSP has a focus on collaboration, through building relationships and seeking active participation of partners, including local residents, in all decisions and activities.

Please note that the figures included within this report are based on the Banbridge Statistical Report, November 2023.

2. Why Place shaping

“I see place-shaping as a way of describing my view that the ultimate purpose of local government should not be solely to manage a collection of public services that take place within an area, but rather to take responsibility for the well-being of an area and the people who live there, and to promote their interests and their future.” Lyons (2007)

Sir Michael Lyons, author of the Lyons Inquiry into Local Government (2007), defined place-shaping as a wider role for local government to act as agents of place, voicing the needs and wishes for a whole community, focusing on its economic, social and environmental well-being. But if functions operate only in genuine, collaborative partnership with members of the local community, making it *“contingent, complex, multi-layered and contested.”* Arefi (2014)

Within the context of Banbridge, Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council aim to:

- improve the economic social and environmental well-being of the place, through harnessing place shaping powers and functions within Council and from partners.
- ensure that the aspirations of the Community Plan are realised at a local level and bring other borough-wide plans to life locally to include spatial elements, and following key messages from the preferred options paper.

The Borough’s Community Plan ‘Connected’ asserts that:

‘Everyone has opportunities to engage in community life and shape decisions – we have a strong sense of community belonging and take pride in our area’

The Strategic Planning Policy Statement for Northern Ireland (SPPS) 2015 identifies five core planning principles, one of which is *‘Supporting Good Design and Positive Place Making’*.

The Local Development Plan - Preferred Options Paper - 2018:

‘aims to create new positive places, that work well for everyone [and...] Make positive use of heritage and environmental assets where communities flourish’

3. Learnings From Armagh Place Plan

The Armagh Place Plan has provided valuable learning that can be adapted for the Banbridge Place Plan. Feedback from Dr Gavin Rafferty and the Ministerial Advisory Group for Architecture and the Built Environment (MAG) are included.

Armagh Place Plan Learnings by Dr Gavin Rafferty, Ulster University

Being the first of its kind in Northern Ireland, the preparation of a 'place plan' represents a departure from previous plans and strategies prepared for a local place. This innovative attempt to create a 'hybrid' plan at a local scale – that combines an outcome-based and collaborative gain logic to promoting wellbeing, associated with evolving community planning practices, with development processes influencing land use change and shaping physical urban environment, chiefly associated with spatial planning and regeneration practices – signifies experimentation with novel place-based working to meet the unique needs of people in a particular location.

Initial findings indicate this new model has significant merit for facilitating collaborative gain between stakeholders, stimulating inclusive community engagement practices (with the prospect of engendering meaningful co-production and achieving community empowerment), and co-designing outcomes that better appreciate the complex interrelationship between people and place. The current climate poses challenges for both conducting such work and responding to the immediate pressures emerging from a pandemic and tackling the climate emergency.

Notwithstanding the achievements in the experimental approach, there appears to be emerging lessons that offer direction for refinement. The learning and recommendations provide an opportunity to feed into future local 'place plan' work that will likely continue to emerge in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council – and across the rest of Northern Ireland. The parameters of any future work should try to clearly distinguish between process requirements and plan functionality. The need to build a shared understanding between stakeholders of what 'place-shaping' is, and what it offers for that particular place, has emerged as an essential early activity in any future work. The value of, and clearer parameters for, engendering meaningful engagement should be more strongly stipulated in future.

Initial Learning Lessons

- Partners see merit in a 'place plan' and value the opportunity to work collaboratively to advance social, economic and environmental wellbeing
- Acknowledgement that such working is embryonic, iterative and continues to evolve
- Offers new way of thinking about place and adopting place-based working
- Northern Ireland's governance demands such 'place plans', given the fragmented responsibilities across local and central government, and in a time where localised community planning is progressing and with the lack of adopted 'local policies plan' in the Local Development Plan (LDP) system
- Time available to initiate and engender meaningful engagement is challenging in place plan timeframe (in comparison to community planning and spatial planning)
- Future processes should include the Department for Infrastructure to enrich discussions on strategic infrastructure, preferably through multilateral engagement or, at a minimum, via unilateral engagement
- The immediate 'fit' of a place plan into some partners' operations, e.g. DfC, is a challenge, particularly with it being a departure from traditional documents, e.g. masterplans, and with a place plan being non-statutory
- Further consideration should be given to the reliability of existing quantitative data, and the balance of this alongside qualitative data, particularly for informing future indicators used for measuring progress
- Consideration of the establishment of a separate 'Place Board' structure that includes key representatives from central government departments, particularly those with a remit on influencing land and infrastructure, to act as a strategic reference group to inform place-based working
- A wider discussion is needed to explore and define 'place-shaping' better to inform future 'place plan' work

Ministerial Advisory Group, Armagh Place Plan Process Review report

The MAG and the Panel support the Council's ambition for a review of the Plan process, thereby learning the lessons of the work to date, in advance of developing the next Place Plan for other areas and towns in the Borough.

The Panel agreed that the Armagh Place Plan has good, clear engaging graphics and messaging, and articulates proactive engagement with a broad range of stakeholders and interested groups in the plan area. The Panel agreed that the Place Plan approach has the capacity to supersede current masterplans which tend to suffer from loss of credibility.

There is, however, little detail in the Plan and the tone appears to 'hover above the issues', which have, however, been well-identified. The Panel view was that projects and proposals need to be tangible.

Suggestion to use precedent studies and case studies as means to inspire and demonstrate what good places look like. 'Sparking the imagination' can be a good starting point in the process and has value when used in response to issues raised by those consulted in the process.

4. The Team

Studio idir + Starling Start

The Banbridge Place Plan is developed by and facilitated by Dr Aisling Rusk and Amberlea Neely, long-time collaborators around matters of people, connection and space. Together we bring a wealth of experience to the brief presented ‘to develop and produce a place plan for Banbridge’. We have previously been involved in the development of urban place plans through our work at *PLACE*, Northern Ireland’s Architecture and Built Environment Centre, which has been described by Councillor Goodman at *Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council* as “a step change in community engagement and good practice”. We have also done so through more recent urban analysis, engagement and planning across Belfast on both a neighbourhood scale, involving communities either side of a peace wall in North Belfast and Reimagining Elderhood in Ballyhackamore in East Belfast, and on a city wide scale analysing potential of spaces as part of a co-design process, involving a wide variety of stakeholders and creative engagement methods.

Dr Aisling Rusk leads Studio idir, a design-led architecture practice. Its community engagement work is informed by Aisling’s PhD on spatial practices that build connection in divided/contested contexts. *Idir*, the Irish word for between, reflects a philosophy of collaboration, and celebrates the meeting of differences, such as old with new, inside with out, contrasting materialities and connections between people. Studio idir seeks creative opportunity in leftover space.

Amberlea Neely leads Starling Start, a creative practice and consultancy with a focus on arts, place and collaboration. Projects are always rooted in understanding place and creating positive change. Amberlea is former Director of *PLACE*, Belfast’s Centre for the Built Environment where she led on developing cutting edge creative, intelligent and inclusive public engagement in the built environment.

Peter McKinney is a local small-holder in Laurencetown, who is acting as a consultant. Peter has worked in the third sector for many years, in hands-on and leadership roles for charities that work to tackle homelessness and create equal opportunities for children.

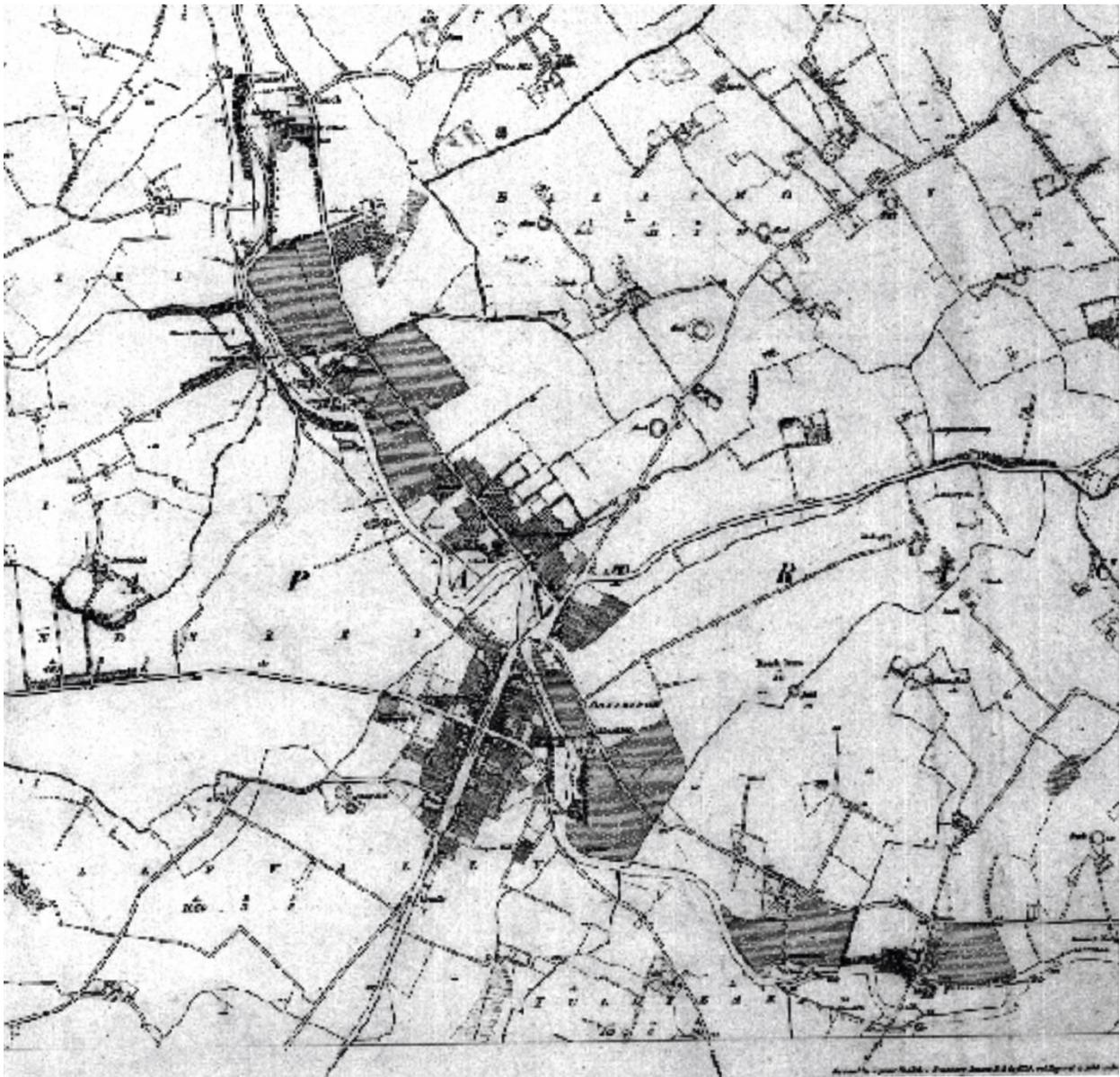
Grace Carney is a trainee architect at Studio idir who has been working on mapping and spatial analysis for the Banbridge Place Plan.

Banbridge Place Plan Project Board

The Working Group comprises Dr Aisling Rusk, Studio idir; Amberlea Neely, Starling Start; Lissa O'Malley, Place and Strategic Project Manager, Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council; Jennifer McKibben, Project Officer, Community Planning, Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council; Lynne McDonald Deputy Director, Regional Development, Department for Communities, Stephen Kerr, Urban Development Manager, Department for Communities, John Downey, Regional Development Project Manager, Department for Communities.

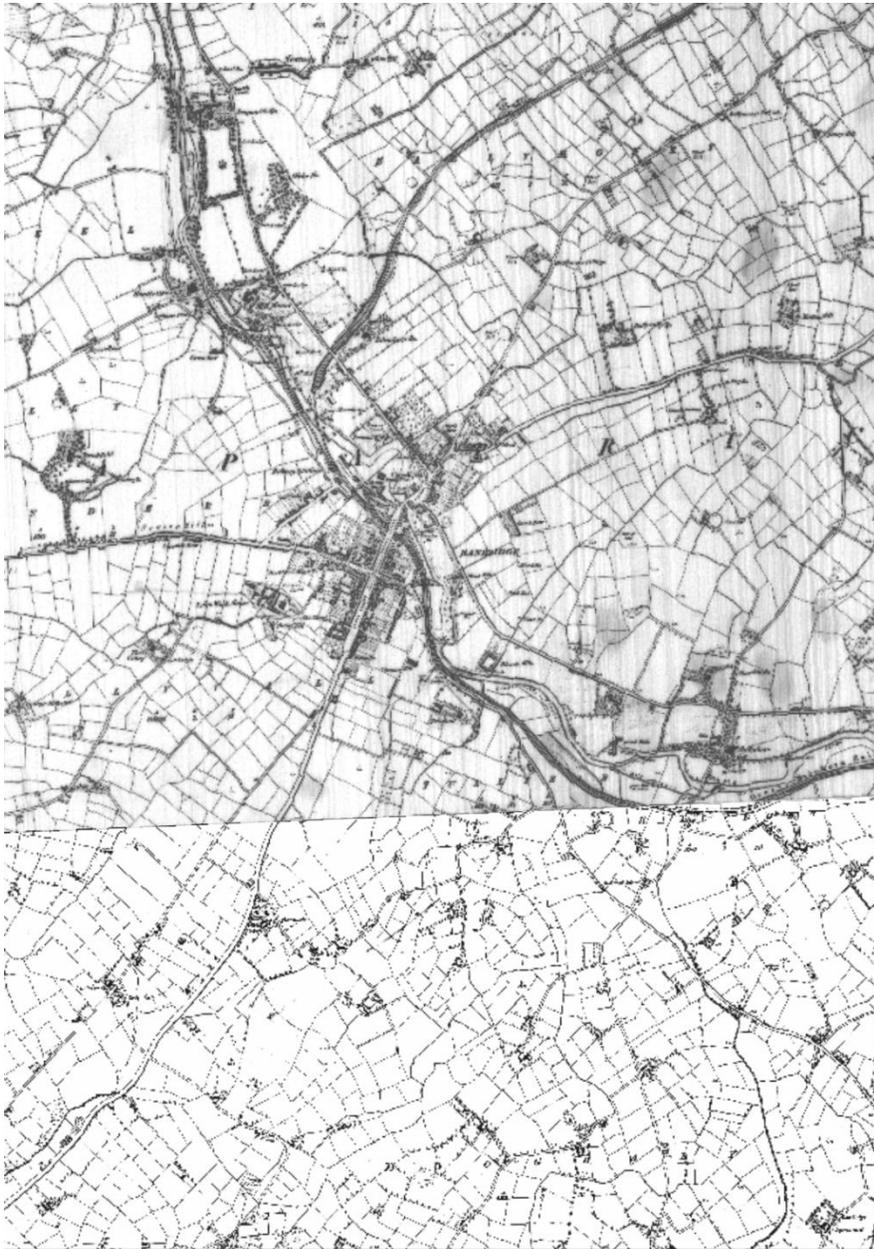
5. Historical Context - The story of Banbridge

Banbridge takes its name from a bridge that was built across the river Bann in 1712, on what was then the main route between Belfast and Dublin. The town was a popular coaching stop along that route. It was a linen-producing town, with bleach greens lining the river Bann, and by 1772 had become the principal linen-producing district in Ireland.



Map: Banbridge 1832-46 (First Edition)

Historical maps show that by the 1830s, Banbridge had grown into a vibrant town with a dense main street surrounded by thread, flour and bleach mills. The main street was on a significant hill, and at this time the Downshire Bridge, locally known as ‘The Cut’, had just been built, which sliced through the hill to allow horses and carriages to bypass it. This is said to be Ireland’s first underpass commissioned by the Marquis of Downshire in 1832. The Old Town Hall was completed in 1834 at the very top of the hill, replacing the former market house. Banbridge was then, and remains, a market town.

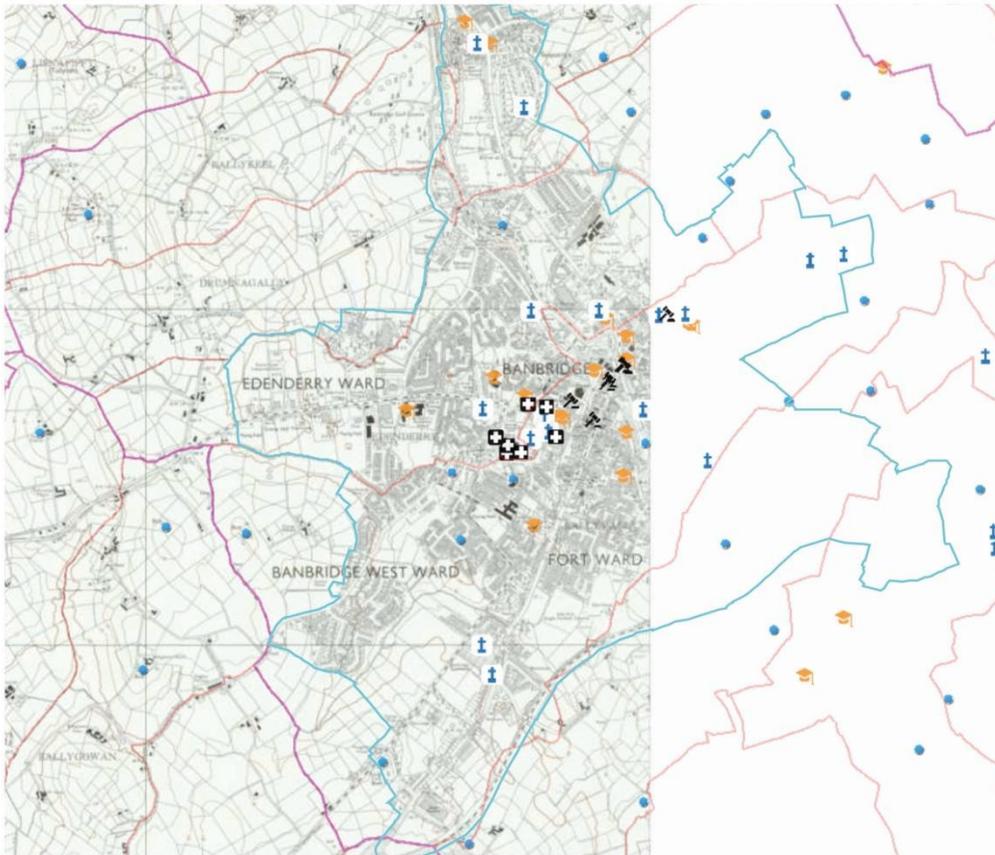


Map: Banbridge 1846-62 (Second Edition)



Map: Banbridge 1905-57 (Fourth Edition)

By 1905, the railway had come to Banbridge, better connecting it to Belfast, Dublin and beyond. Like an unfortunate amount of Ireland, and particularly Northern Ireland's railways, it was sadly gone again by the 1960s. Also of note is the union workhouse (1840-41) which was later demolished in 1930 to make way for the Banbridge Hospital on what is now the site of Banbridge Health and Care Centre.



Map: Banbridge 1952-67 (OSNI Six Inch to One Mile Irish Grid, incomplete)

Noteworthy people who came from Banbridge have included the polar explorer Captain Francis Crozier, (1796-1848) who discovered the North Passage; Joseph Scriven (1818-1886), author of the hymn 'What a Friend we have in Jesus'; artist John Butler Yeats (1839 - 1922), father of writer William and artist Jack Butler Yeats and, more recently, surrealist sculptor FE McWilliam (1909-1992), whose legacy lives on in Banbridge's ABC Council-run contemporary gallery, opened in 2009. The writer and Irish Anglican priest Patrick Bronte, father of Charlotte, Emily, and Anne Brontë, was also from just outside Rathfriland, 10 miles from Banbridge.

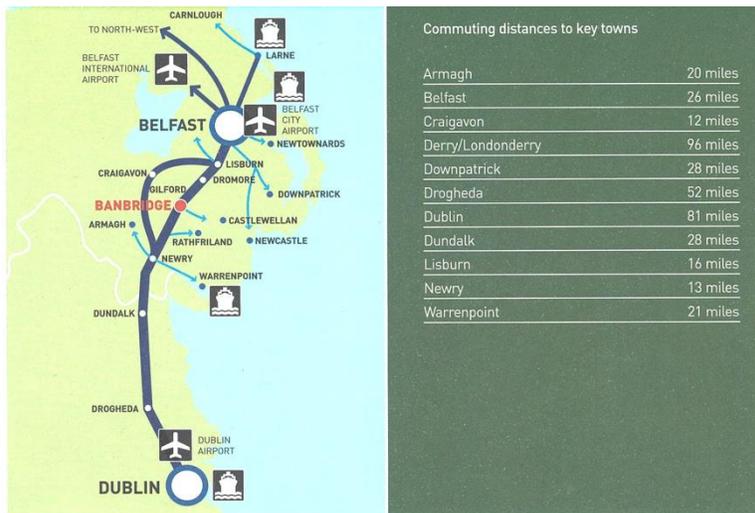
6. Banbridge Today

Geography

Banbridge is part of the wider Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Council Borough. Banbridge is one of 6 main town centres within the council area. Banbridge has been identified within the Regional Development Strategy 2035 as one of 3 hubs in the borough.

Banbridge is situated in County Down, Northern Ireland. It is located on the A1 Belfast Dublin corridor, with links to Belfast 26 miles north and Dublin 81 miles south.

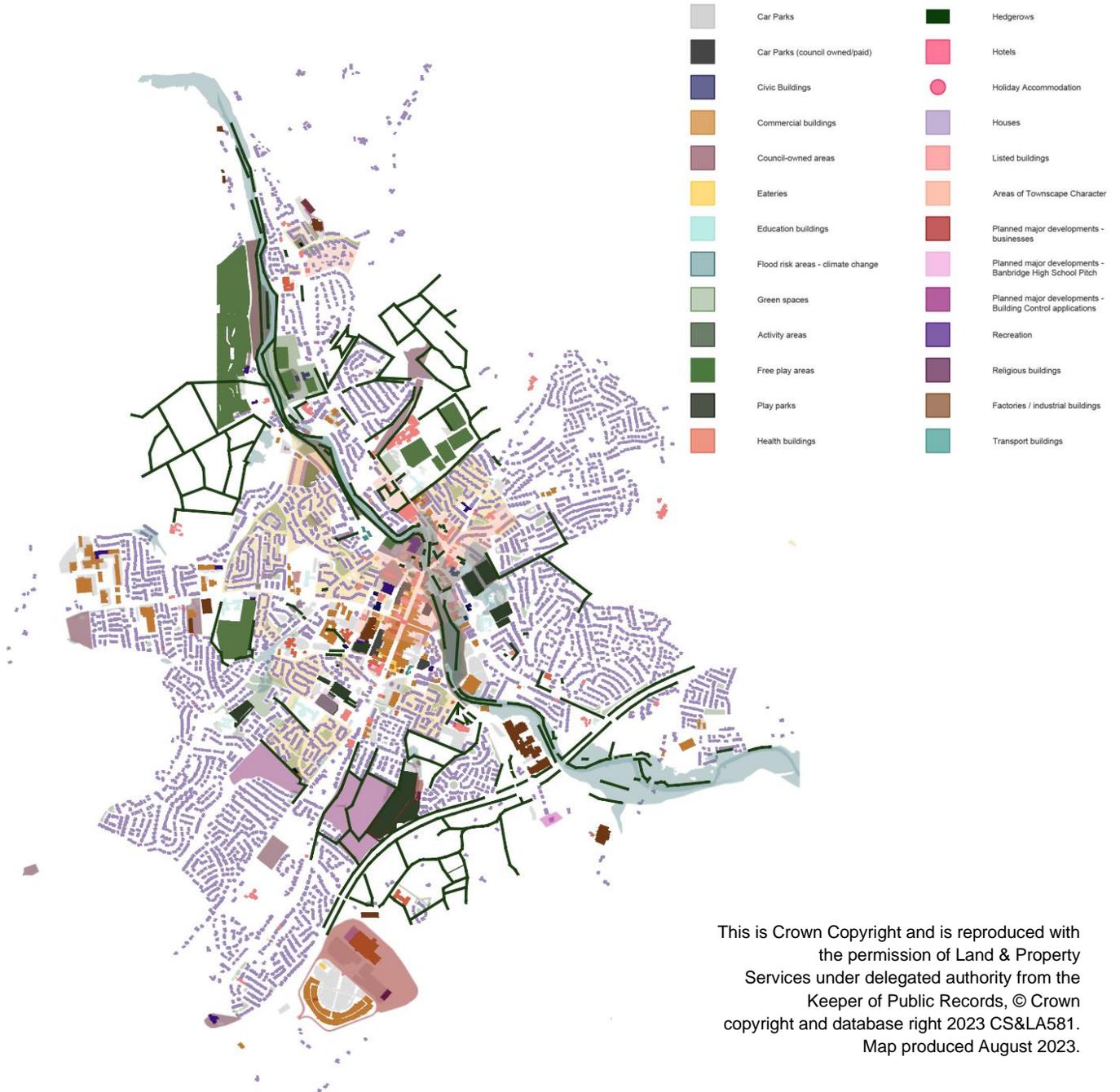
Banbridge Bus Station offers connectivity to Belfast, Newry and Dublin and other towns via the A1 Belfast Dublin Carriageway. The town benefits from electric car charging points, a Park and Ride, and a Park and Share. However, Banbridge is not currently connected to the Northern Ireland Rail system, with the closest train halt in Scarva 5 miles away, where few trains stop, and there are no connecting shuttle bus or pedestrian/cycle routes.



Map: Showing Banbridge in relation to commuting distance to key towns

Land Use Overview

The Banbridge Place Plan boundary is determined by the Settlement Development Limit. The Land Use Overview provides an analysis of the land use of Banbridge town. It shows the myriad of building types: from housing to civic, and land: from car parks to playgrounds.



This is Crown Copyright and is reproduced with the permission of Land & Property Services under delegated authority from the Keeper of Public Records, © Crown copyright and database right 2023 CS&LA581. Map produced August 2023.

Map: Land Use of Banbridge 2023

Housing

According to the 2021 Census, approximately 67% of homes in the Banbridge Settlement Area were either owned outright or owned with a mortgage. In the borough overall, the proportion is slightly higher with around 71% of homes either owned outright or with a mortgage.

Consequently, a slightly higher percentage of homes in the Banbridge Settlement Area were rented, 30% compared to 26% in the borough overall. The majority of rented properties were rented from private landlords while only 3% were rented from housing associations.

As at April 2023, there were a total of 7,766 dwellings in the Banbridge Proxy Area.

Banbridge Town exhibits one of the highest levels of social housing need in the borough with a projected 170 units required for the period 2022-2027. Of the 449 social housing applicants from Banbridge Town (at March 2023), there were 297 (68%) in housing stress. A total of 46 applicants were allocated social housing in Banbridge Town in the year ending March 2023, a decrease on the previous year.



This is Crown Copyright and is reproduced with the permission of Land & Property Services under delegated authority from the Keeper of Public Records, © Crown copyright and database right 2023 CS&LA581. Map produced August 2023.

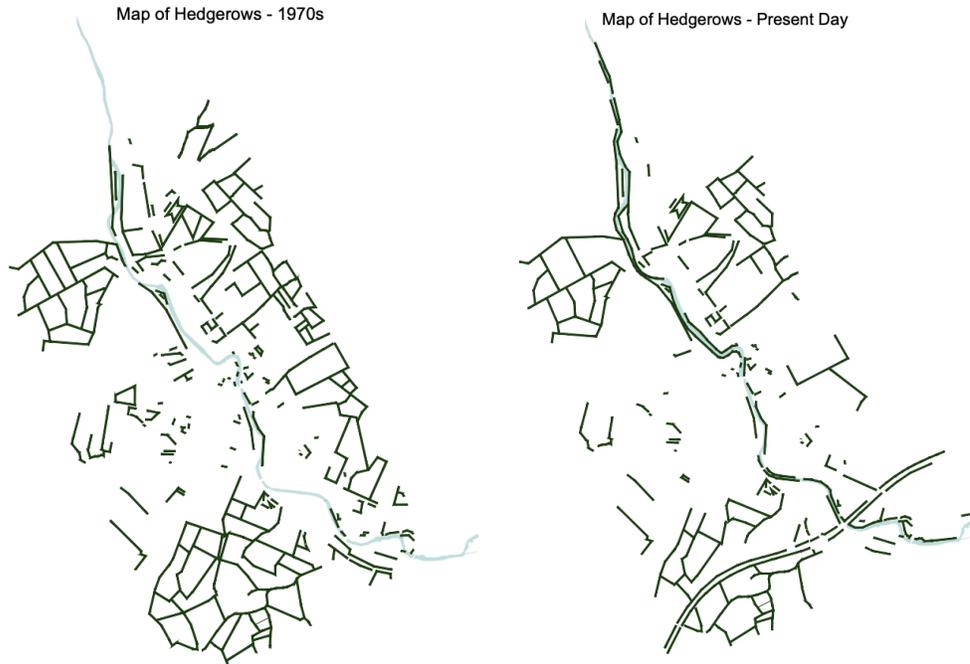
Green Spaces

Banbridge benefits from a good offering of green spaces including a river walk, woodland, parks, a golf club and free play spaces. However, the Open Spaces Strategy identifies a future shortfall per population of open space for play and sports.

The second set of maps show the decrease in hedgerows, and associated biodiversity that have occurred in the town, and many like it across the UK and Ireland, since the 1970s.



This is Crown Copyright and is reproduced with the permission of Land & Property Services under delegated authority from the Keeper of Public Records, © Crown copyright and database right 2023 CS&LA581. Map produced August 2023.

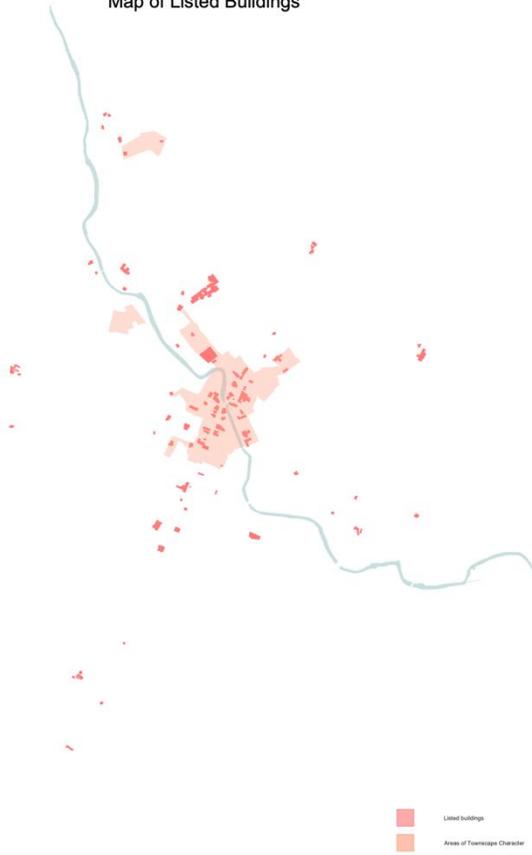


This is Crown Copyright and is reproduced with the permission of Land & Property Services under delegated authority from the Keeper of Public Records, © Crown copyright and database right 2023 CS&LA581. Map produced August 2023.

Built Heritage and Listed Buildings

Banbridge today has three Areas of Townscape Character (ATC); Banbridge Town Centre, Hayes Park and Peggy’s Loaning, implemented to protect the heritage of the town, particularly Church Square and Bridge Street, which consist of a mixture of late Georgian, Victorian and Edwardian structures and distinct buildings groupings. Landmark buildings in Church Square include the Holy Trinity Church, the former police station and the Crozier Monument. Downshire Bridge, ‘The Cut’ is also listed, as is Captain Croziers Monument. Banbridge has 140 listed buildings (September 2023). The table below presents the number of buildings by their current use. Of those whose use is described, 37 are houses, 15 are offices and 15 shops.

Map of Listed Buildings



This is Crown Copyright and is reproduced with the permission of Land & Property Services under delegated authority from the Keeper of Public Records, © Crown copyright and database right 2023 CS&LA581. Map produced August 2023.

	Number of Listed Buildings
Bank	1
Bridge	1
Church	8
Court House	1
Entertainment Building	1
Gallery/ Museum	1
Gates/ Screens/ Lodges	3
Hall	3
Hotel	2
House	25
House - Terrace	12
Memorial	3
Office	10
Office - Terrace	5
Police Station	1
Post Office	1
Public House	1
Public House - Terrace	2
Residential Home	1
School	2
Shop	3
Shop - Terrace	12
Telephone Kiosk	1
Warehouse	1
Current use not listed	39
Total	140

Table: Listed buildings within Banbridge Settlement Development Limit by current use. Source: Historic Environment Division, Department for Communities (September 2023)

Vacancy

The vacancy rates in Banbridge Town Centre have fallen between 2017 and 2023 by 5.6 percentage points to 16.5% at 30th April 2023. Banbridge has the second lowest vacancy rates after Craigavon and is now 5.9 percentage points lower than the average rate for Northern Ireland.

According to Land and Property Services via Town Centre Database, Department for Communities, as at 30th April 2023, Banbridge had 437 properties of which 72 were vacant representing 16.5%.

Town Centre	7th May 2017	30th April 2018	30th April 2019	17th May 2020	30th April 2021	30th April 2022	30th April 2023
Armagh	22.0%	22.8%	22.9%	21.7%	22.6%	21.2%	17.5%
Banbridge	22.1%	20.8%	20.1%	18.0%	15.9%	16.0%	16.5%
Craigavon	10.5%	5.4%	5.9%	8.7%	10.0%	8.9%	10.8%
Dromore	29.5%	29.1%	28.0%	27.4%	27.1%	25.4%	25.2%
Lurgan	24.2%	25.3%	26.0%	23.0%	22.5%	22.1%	20.1%
Portadown	25.6%	25.7%	25.7%	22.3%	21.7%	21.1%	20.6%
Northern Ireland	24.2%	25.3%	25.0%	24.1%	24.3%	23.7%	22.4%

Table: Town Centre Vacancy Rates, Banbridge Statistical Profile 2023

There are key vacant buildings on the approach to Banbridge and at prominent locations in the town centre which creates a negative image on arrival.

Car Parking

Banbridge is a car dependent town serving a rural community. The town has 16 car parks (8 of which are owned by the council), with a total of 1,017 spaces; 362 charged and 655 free. On average, car parks are between 60-70% full during the week (approximately 700 parkers). 3 of 8 council sites are continually full, 2 of which are free of charge.

There are continuing issues with footway parking along Kenlis Street. In regard to parking durations there are on average 216 long stay weekday parkers at council sites (60% of weekday demand), having low space turnover at a number of sites (e.g. Gospel Lane, Kenlis Court, Church Square and Downshire Road).

There are also the Park and Share / Park and Ride car parks at Tullyear Terrace, Rathfriland Road, 62 spaces and at The Creamery, 75 spaces.



This is Crown Copyright and is reproduced with the permission of Land & Property Services under delegated authority from the Keeper of Public Records, © Crown copyright and database right 2023 CS&LA581. Map produced August 2023.

There are currently 151 on-street spaces in the public realm area but that does not cover all the shopping streets. It is estimated that around 10% of the town centre land is carpark. Although there are no NI policies on reduction of car usage and space. Department for Infrastructure (DFI) is focusing on sustainable transport with a range of transport policies primarily focused on cycling and walking in Northern Ireland.

Flood Risk

Banbridge is at risk of flooding along the route of the river Bann and into historically significant areas like Church Square.

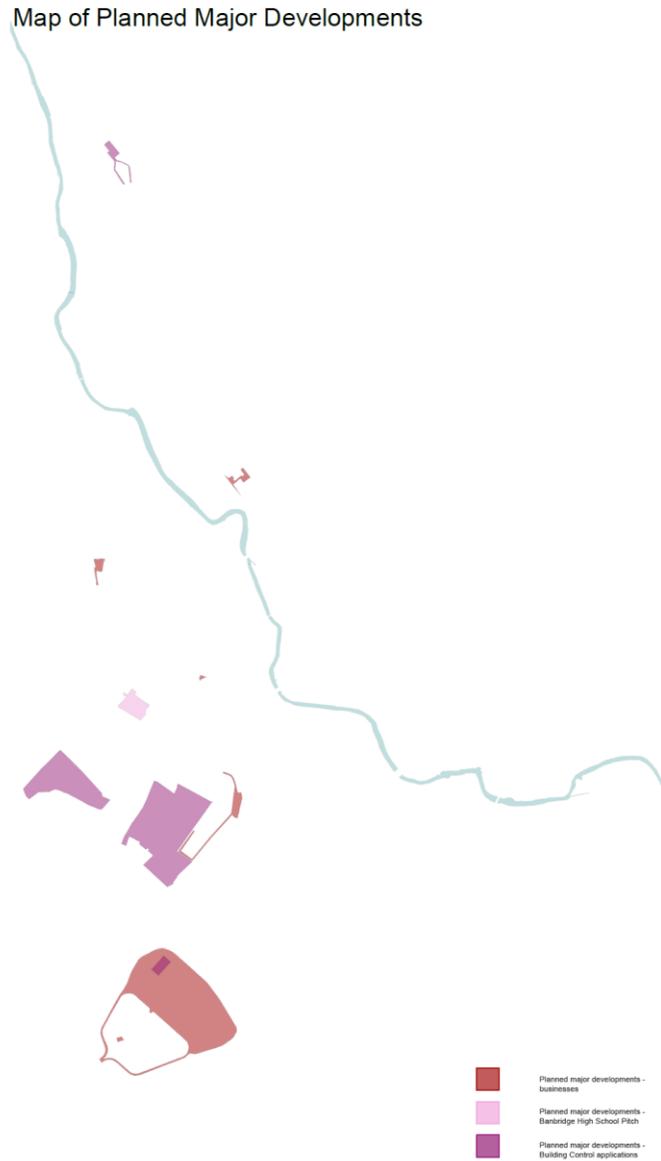


This is Crown Copyright and is reproduced with the permission of Land & Property Services under delegated authority from the Keeper of Public Records, © Crown copyright and database right 2023 CS&LA581. Map produced August 2023.

Planning Applications

In the five years from 2017-2022, there were a total of 51 planning applications decided for Banbridge Town Centre. Approximately 43% of these were decided in 2019/20 and only two were refused in total. Over 45% of the applications were categorised as 'other' while civic and residential use had just one application each.

Map of Planned Major Developments



This is Crown Copyright and is reproduced with the permission of Land & Property Services under delegated authority from the Keeper of Public Records, © Crown copyright and database right 2023 CS&LA581. Map produced August 2023.

Decision Type	Category	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Approved	Commercial	2	2	1	1	0
	Civic	0	0	0	0	1
	Mixed Use	0	0	5	1	2
	Other	1	6	10	0	5
	Residential	0	0	0	0	1
	Industrial	0	0	0	0	0
	Agricultural	0	0	0	0	0
	Change of Use	0	2	5	1	3
Refused	Other	0	0	1	0	0
	Change of Use	0	0	0	0	1
Total Applications		3	10	22	3	13
Approval Rate		100%	100%	95%	100%	92%

Table: Planning Applications, Banbridge Statistical Report, 2023

7. Demographics and Statistical Profile

Population

On Census Day 2021, Banbridge Settlement Area had an estimated population of 17,400 which accounted for 8% of the population of the Borough and just 0.91% of the Northern Ireland total. In terms of gender, females made up a slightly higher percentage, accounting for approximately 51% of the total.

	Banbridge Settlement Area			Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon Borough		
	2011	2021	% Change	2011	2021	% Change
All Persons	16,637	17,400	4.6%	199,693	218,656	9.5%
Males	8,118	8,525	5.0%	98,713	108,268	9.7%
Females	8,519	8,875	4.2%	100,980	110,388	9.3%
Persons aged 0-15 Years	3,647	3,468	-4.9%	44,206	48,246	9.1%
Persons aged 16-64 Years	10,713	10,919	1.9%	127,860	135,421	5.9%
Persons aged 65+ Years	2,277	3,011	32.2%	27,627	34,993	26.7%

Table: Gender and age profile of Banbridge Settlement Area and Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough at Census 2011 and 2021. Source: Census 2011 & Census 2021, NISRA.

Households

As per the 2021 Census, there were a total of 7,346 households in the Banbridge Settlement Area, of which more than 63% were one (31.8%) or two (31.4%) person households.

Households with 6 or more people accounted for just 1.6% of the Banbridge Settlement Area

Religion

The 2021 Census shows that the majority of the Banbridge settlement belonged to or were brought up in the Protestant religion (53%) compared to 35% who belonged to or were brought up in the Catholic religion. Since 2011, there has been just a 1 percentage point increase in the proportion of the population belonging to or brought up in the Catholic religion while the most notable change has been the decrease in the percentage of the population who belonged to or were brought up in the Protestant religion which has fallen from 59% in 2011 to 53% in 2021.

Those belonging to or brought up with no religion has increased from 6% to 10% in the Banbridge Settlement area. Similar changes have been observed in the Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough overall where the majority still belong to or were brought up in the Protestant religion but the percentage has fallen by 5 percentage points from 52% in 2011 to 47% in 2021.

Religion or Religion Brought Up In	Banbridge Settlement		Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon Borough	
	2011	2021	2011	2021
Catholic	34%	35%	43%	44%
Protestant	59%	53%	52%	47%
Other	1%	1%	1%	1%
None	6%	10%	5%	8%
Total	16,637	17,400	199,693	218,656

Table: Religion or Religion brought up in of residents in Banbridge Settlement Area and Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough at Census 2011 and Census 2021. Source: Census 2011 and Census 2021, NISRA. Please note percentages may not sum due to rounding.

Main Language

According to the 2021 Census, the Banbridge Settlement Area had a higher proportion of residents aged 3+ whose main language was English (96.8%) than the borough overall (93.2%). Polish was the second most common main language for residents of Banbridge Settlement and in the borough overall and this is unchanged from the 2011 census. Persons with Romanian as a main language account for 0.31% of residents in the Banbridge Settlement area while those with Chinese as a main language account for 0.27%. Lithuanian and Portuguese as a main language is less common in Banbridge Settlement area compared to the borough overall.

Main Language	Banbridge Settlement		Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon Borough	
	2011	2021	2011	2021
English	98.22%	96.77%	95.72%	93.17%
Polish	0.86%	1.08%	1.53%	1.69%
Romanian	-	0.31%	-	0.37%
Chinese	0.05%	0.27%	0.07%	0.09%
Bulgarian	-	0.18%	-	0.70%
Arabic	-	0.17%	-	0.11%
Hungarian	0.01%	0.11%	0.05%	0.17%
Russian	0.02%	0.10%	0.09%	0.15%
Irish	0.06%	0.10%	0.13%	0.20%
Lithuanian	0.10%	0.09%	0.91%	1.24%
Portuguese	0.01%	0.05%	0.44%	0.84%
Spanish	-	0.04%	-	0.06%
Latvian	0.01%	0.04%	0.18%	0.22%

Cantonese	-	0.03%	-	0.05%
Tagalog/Filipino	0.03%	0.01%	0.09%	0.06%
Slovak	0.03%	0.01%	0.10%	0.18%
Other languages	0.61%	0.64%	0.68%	0.71%
Total (Aged 3+)	15,851	16,824	190,526	210,402

Table: Main Language of residents aged 3+ in Banbridge Settlement Area and Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough at Census 2011 and Census 2021. Source: Census 2011 and Census 2021, NISRA. Note: The breakdown of languages has been taken from the 2021 Census. Those with no data for 2011 were likely included in the 'other languages' category. Percentages may not sum due to rounding.

Health

As per Census 2021, just under 78% of residents in the Banbridge Settlement area stated that they were in good or very good health. This is a fall of two percentage points since 2011. The percentage of residents reporting that they were in bad or very bad health has increased by 2.6 percentage points from 5.5% in 2011 to 8.1% in 2021. While this has increased in both the borough overall and Northern Ireland, the percentage of residents reporting that they were in bad or very bad health is currently higher in Banbridge Settlement area than the Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon borough (6.9%) and Northern Ireland (7.7%)

	Banbridge Settlement		Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon Borough	
	2011	2021	2011	2021
General health: Very good health	47.8%	48.9%	48.7%	52.0%
General health: Good health	32.3%	29.0%	31.5%	28.4%
General health: Fair health	14.4%	14.1%	14.6%	12.8%
General health: Bad health	4.3%	6.3%	4.2%	5.3%
General health: Very bad health	1.2%	1.8%	1.1%	1.7%

Table: Health in general in Banbridge Settlement Area and Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough at Census 2011 and Census 2021. Source: Table KS301NI Census 2011, NISRA, Table MS-D01 Census 2021 and Settlement level information drawn from NISRA Flexible Table Builder. Please note percentages may not sum due to rounding.

The Health Inequalities annual publication presents a comprehensive analysis of health inequality gaps between the most and least deprived areas of NI, and within Health & Social Care (HSC) Trust and Local Government District (LGD) areas across a range of indicators. Within each LGD, data is also presented by District Electoral Area (DEA).

In Banbridge DEA, male life expectancy at birth has increased by just 0.6 years to 79.6 between 2014-16 and 2019-21. Male life expectancy at birth in Banbridge DEA is currently higher than

the borough overall and the Northern Ireland average. In Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon borough deprived areas, the average male life expectancy at birth is just 75.9 which is now 3.2 years younger than the average for the borough and 3.7 years younger than the average for Banbridge DEA.

Female life expectancy at birth is higher than that for males. In Banbridge DEA, female life expectancy at birth is 82.2 years for the combined years 2019-21. This represents a further decrease of 0.5 years since 2018-20 and the third year running that female life expectancy at birth has decreased in Banbridge DEA. In Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough, female life expectancy at birth is currently 83, having increased from 82.5 in 2014-16 however, this is the first year a decrease has been recorded. In the Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough deprived areas, life expectancy at birth for females had increased by 1.2 years from 81.2 years in 2014-16 to 82.4 years in 2018-20. However, it has fallen by 0.7 years between 2018-20 and 2019-21 and is currently estimated at 81.7 years. However, as noted in the Health Inequalities Annual Report 2023, the most recent figures reported typically include data from 2020 and 2021, and therefore reflect to an extent, the impact of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Education Levels

On Census Day 2021, approximately 23.7% of the Banbridge Settlement Area (aged 16+) had no qualifications compared to 25.2% in the borough overall. When compared with 2011, the percentage of the population aged 16+ with no qualifications in the Banbridge Settlement area has fallen by approximately 3.6 percentage points. Conversely, there has been a large increase in the percentage of the population with level 4 qualifications and above which has increased from 22.8% in 2011 to 31.2% in 2021 in the Banbridge Settlement area. This is currently above the average for the borough overall at 30.4%.

Within the Borough, Banbridge DEA has the third highest proportion of students achieving 5+ GCSE's grades A*-C at 91.4%. While this is above the average for the borough overall, it is just below the NI average of 91.9%. In contrast, however, when we include GCSE English and Maths and disaggregate for those in receipt of free school meals, Banbridge DEA has the lowest proportion of free school meal entitled (FSME) students achieving 5+ GCSEs grades A*-C including GCSE English and Maths, at just 50%.

Further and Higher Education

Further education (FE) includes any study after secondary education (after the age of 16) that's not part of higher education i.e. it is not an undergraduate or postgraduate degree.

In 2021/22 there were a total 6,860 individuals from the borough enrolled at Further Education Institutions with almost 40% studying a Level 3 qualification and 18% studying Level 4 and above qualifications. In Banbridge DEA the proportions are broadly similar although there is a slightly lower proportion studying Level 3 qualifications. In Banbridge DEA, Level 2 is the highest level of study for 45% of students enrolled at FE colleges. In Northern Ireland overall, there is a higher proportion studying Entry and Level 1 qualifications compared to both Banbridge DEA and the borough overall and a higher proportion (41%) studying at Level 3.

Level of study	Banbridge DEA		Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon Borough		Northern Ireland	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entry and Level 1	40	3%	390	6%	4,380	9%
Level 2	535	45%	2,585	38%	16,885	33%
Level 3	410	34%	2,660	39%	21,305	41%
Level 4 and above	215	18%	1,225	18%	8,915	17%
Total	1,195	100%	6,860	100%	51,485	100%

Table: Students enrolled on regulated courses in Banbridge DEA, Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Local Government District and Northern Ireland overall by highest level of study at FE Colleges in 2021/22. Source: Department for the Economy, Northern Ireland. Note: Figures are rounded to ensure against statistical disclosure. Percentages are based on unrounded figures.

In Banbridge DEA in 2021/22 there were 1,190 individuals enrolled in Higher Education Institutions, the majority of which (42%) were aged 20 and under. The age profile of students is broadly similar to that for the borough and Northern Ireland overall. Approximately 22% of students from Banbridge DEA are enrolled in Higher Education Institutions in England, Scotland or Wales. Of the seven DEA's in the borough, Lagan River has the highest percentage of students studying outside Northern Ireland at 25%.

Employment

In 2022, 75.2% of the working age population in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough were in employment. This is an increase of 4.3 percentage points on 2021 and 3.3 percentage points higher than the NI average of 71.9%. The employment rate (aged 16-64) in the borough has increased from 67.2% in 2009 and while growth in the borough has been more sporadic, the employment rate has remained higher than the Northern Ireland average each year from 2009-2021.

In 2021, the employment rate for males was estimated at 74.5% in the borough which is 7.2 percentage points higher than the rate for females (67.3%). The male employment rate was higher than the female employment rate in Northern Ireland overall.

Areas of Multiple Deprivation

Of the SOAs that make up the Banbridge Proxy Area, The Cut has the highest proportion of the population living in households whose equivalised income is below 60% of the NI median at 15.8%. Ballydown_1 has the lowest at 9.8%.

In terms of the proportion of the working age population who are employment deprived, Edenderry and The Cut, at 29.1% and 32.4% respectively, are significantly higher than the average for the borough at 18.9%. Banbridge DEA is just slightly higher than the borough average but below the proportion for NI overall.

Rank of 1 is the most deprived, 890 is the least deprived	Multiple Deprivation Measure Rank	Income Domain Rank	Employment Domain Rank	Health Deprivation and Disability Domain Rank	Education, Skills and Training Domain Rank	Access to Services Domain Rank	Living Environment Domain Rank	Crime and Disorder Domain Rank
Ballydown_1	806	708	719	704	757	510	813	675
Banbridge West	430	388	413	354	267	458	794	372
Edenderry	224	357	170	145	182	648	775	132
Fort	503	638	307	393	383	561	777	230
The Cut	120	190	119	130	184	763	69	15
Ballydown_2	805	670	798	785	730	399	861	626
Seapatrick	672	621	490	604	731	423	682	409

Table: Overall Multiple Deprivation Measure Rank and individual domain ranks for SOAs in Banbridge Proxy Area. Source: Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure 2017, NISRA. Key: Shaded dark blue are ranked in the 10% most deprived and those in light blue are in the top 11-20% most deprived areas in Northern Ireland. Shaded yellow are ranked among the 10% least deprived in Northern Ireland and orange are in the top 11-20% least deprived in Northern Ireland within that specific domain.

8. Banbridge Health Check

The Banbridge Health Check has been carried out using the Essential Qualities of Living High Streets Craft Kit, 2023 (MAG), as a reference.

<https://www.communities-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/communities/mag-living-high-streets-craftkit.pdf>

Essential Quality	Health Check	Opportunity for Improvement
The local landscape, culture and heritage - <i>The heart and soul of the place</i>	<p>The River Bann, one of the longest rivers in Northern Ireland, runs through the town centre, linking woodland and parks.</p> <p>Identified as Local Landscape Policy Area (LLPA) River Bann Corridor</p> <p>River is at risk of flooding</p>	<p>Town does not embrace the river. Few river activities on offer. Opportunity to reconnect and pilot river activities.</p> <p>Potential to alleviate flood risk and for water energy technologies to be used.</p>
	<p>Area of Townscape Character (ATC)</p> <p>There are 140 listed buildings within the Banbridge Settlement Development Limit.</p>	<p>Share the wealth of heritage through a programme of short talks and walking trails.</p> <p>Seek funding opportunities to restore and repair historic built fabric.</p>
	<p>Number of built heritage and natural conservation planning designations, eg. ATCs, AAP's</p>	<p>Preserve and celebrate.</p>
	<p>In addition to the listed buildings in Banbridge, there is an Historic Park/Garden at Brookfield House, a small number of defence heritage sites of note, a number of scheduled raths located on the outskirts of the development limits and there are a great number of industrial heritage sites.</p>	<p>Preserve and celebrate.</p>
	<p>Areas of archaeological interest on both sides of the river and at the old hospital site</p>	<p>Preserve and celebrate.</p>

Essential Quality	Health Check	Opportunity for Improvement
	<p>The Cut makes for an unique town centre experience and piece of living heritage</p>	<p>Could 4 lanes of traffic in a small town centre be reduced?</p> <p>The hilly nature of the town centre creates barriers for use on foot.</p> <p>Research on how Banbridge can be more accessible in collaboration with partners.</p>
	<p>Good array of green spaces with Solitude Park, Havelock Park, Huntly Wood.</p>	<p>Parks are all relatively small and do not connect. Currently no 'Park Run' and lack of connection between green spaces.</p> <p>Opportunity to increase mobility and create longer walking routes to link green spaces.</p>
	<p>Solitude Park - amphitheatre, skate park, river, viewing platform, play park, outdoor gym, many entrances</p> <p>Lack of programmes in the park</p>	<p>Programming of events within park and use of amphitheatre. Encourage dwell time.</p> <p>Opportunity for better signage and interpretation in Solitude.</p>
	<p>FE McWilliam Gallery - 52,273 visitors in 2022 - £3.5 m Levelling Up investment granted 2023</p>	<p>Further outreach potential, to work within neighbourhoods and town centre. Potential to have the Boulevard busy bus stop here for ease of access.</p>
	<p>Game of Thrones Studio Tours</p>	<p>Potential for on site educational programme.</p>
	<p>Thomas Ferguson Irish Linen Mill</p>	<p>There is currently no tourism offering but this could be of interest to GoT studio tourists as an add-on.</p>

Essential Quality	Health Check	Opportunity for Improvement
	Market Town with a Saturday Flower market	Potential for better promotion of the existing flower market and development of other markets by making use of underutilised spaces.
	Array of historical stories and connections to Banbridge's places and people	<p>Opportunities to promote these stories.</p> <p>Further promotion of trails such as Historic Trail (2002) by Banbridge Heritage Development Ltd and Banbridge Historical Society and opportunity for a digital trail.</p>
Togetherness, collaboration and living well - <i>The fundamental human need to be together</i>	Educational offering includes: 5 primary schools (of which one is integrated); 3 secondary schools; Donard School plus the Southern Regional College campus	<p>Potential for further integrated school status.</p> <p>SRC campus potential asset for theatre/ Community use in evenings.</p> <p>Schools could share resources and facilities with local groups.</p>
	NI Libraries - Banbridge Banbridge Youth and Resource Centre	Library revolution - spreading the word of extended opening hours Extended opening of youth centre as drop-in space.
	<p>Leisure offering includes: Banbridge Leisure centre</p> <p>Solitude Park - amphitheatre, skate park, river, viewing platform, play park, outdoor gym, many entrances</p> <p>Havelock Park</p> <p>Huntly Wood</p>	<p>Encourage sports clubs to share their resources.</p> <p>Currently no Park run or river activities and lack of joint upness between green spaces.</p>

Essential Quality	Health Check	Opportunity for Improvement
	<p>Football pitches, GAA, Rugby, Sports Clubs (running/ cycling), tennis club, hockey, Soccer, golf club</p> <p>Play parks</p> <p>River Bann Walk to Dunbar Link</p>	
	Neighbourhoods	Extending of public realm strategy beyond town centre.
<p>Being safe and welcoming - <i>A public realm of streets and spaces, which are safe and well connected</i></p>	New public realm investment of £5.5m commencing May 2023	Continued joined up approach to installing new utilities.
	Parking represents around 10% of land use in town centre with a mixture of on street spaces, public and private car parking	New parking strategy, free short-stay and further afield, but expensive to park all day in town centre. More accessible spaces.
	238 accounts of ASB in 2021 (perhaps due to high reporting rate)	High concentration of Neighbourhood Watch Schemes.
	Cafe culture - excellent food offering during the day	<p>Opportunity to extend cafe opening hours, to build evening economy.</p> <p>Avail of outdoor spaces in appropriate locations eg Solitude Park.</p>
Multi-layered purpose and meaning	Introduction of public art, and street art on building facades	<p>A current lack of cultural programming.</p> <p>Better explanation of existing murals (eg. interpretation plaque)</p> <p>Involvement of community in producing any new artworks.</p>

Essential Quality	Health Check	Opportunity for Improvement
	Excellent independent retail offering during daytime hours	Lack of space to sell locally produced goods. Potential to push Sunday and evening economy.
	Noteworthy people coming from Banbridge	Celebrate and share their stories.
	Business and enterprise units at maximum capacity Manufacturing and distribution firms located at Scarva Road Industrial Estate Banbridge Business Centre (17 units fully occupied by 14 businesses) Banbridge Enterprise Centre – Hot desk facilities, 34 industrial units & business support programme.	Create spaces for business start ups and assess economic land development availability. Adapt and reuse existing buildings.
	City of Culture Bid - legacy	ABC Culture - a way to join up art creative place projects.
Having adaptable buildings and spaces	Vacancy rate at 16.5% 72 of 437 properties (Below NI average of 22.4%)	Low occupancy rate but high perception of occupancy due to high profile/large vacant buildings, several of which are currently being renovated. Opportunity to shift that perception.
	Housing 7,766 dwellings Banbridge Town exhibits one of the highest levels of social housing need in the borough	Potential for mixed tenure housing developments. Town Centre living.

Essential Quality	Health Check	Opportunity for Improvement
<p>Being well serviced and connected - <i>Accessible services and facilities</i></p>	<p>Banbridge Bus Station offers connectivity to Belfast, Newry and Dublin and other towns via the A1 Belfast Dublin Carriageway. The town benefits from electric car charging points, a Park and Ride, and a Park and Share.</p>	<p>Banbridge is not currently connected to the Northern Ireland Rail system, with the closest train halt in Scarva 5 miles away and no linking bus. Potential for a walking/cycling route to Scarva.</p> <p>With more car charging points, Banbridge is well-placed to become a charging point between Belfast and Dublin, giving opportunities to capitalise on those visitors for a couple of hours while waiting for their car to charge.</p>
	<p>Banbridge benefits from a thriving array of independent retailers and food offerings. Markets include a weekly fresh flower market and an annual Sundown Market. The independent shopping is complemented by The Boulevard (designer brands) and Banbridge's Retail Park (Tesco, Marks and Spencer, Home Bargains, The Range).</p>	<p>Poor connection between town centre and Boulevard.</p> <p>Opportunity to improve bus service, walking route, and signage to reconnect.</p>
	<p>Employment figures show 2,338 jobs over 305 businesses</p>	<p>More well paid jobs needed to retain young people living in the area.</p> <p>Potential to attract new businesses to this strategic location to increase employment opportunities through development of economic land</p>

Essential Quality	Health Check	Opportunity for Improvement
		and adapting and reusing properties.
	Cars are the primary mode of transport, but traffic is an issue.	Making the town centre more pedestrian-friendly, so people do more of their short journeys on foot.
	<p>Good range of health facilities: Health Village; Southern Health and Social Care Trust, Banbridge Health and Care & Day Care Centre; Polyclinic, Banbridge Group Surgery</p> <p>The offering includes dentists, opticians, podiatrists and physiotherapists.</p>	
	<p>Banbridge Business Centre (17 units fully occupied by 14 businesses)</p> <p>Banbridge Enterprise Centre – Hot desk facilities, 34 industrial units & business support programme.</p>	Centre at capacity. Need for further space to support start-ups and expansion of existing businesses, plus attract new businesses to set up in the area as well as bringing new enterprise into vacant town centre buildings.
	Manufacturing and distribution firms located at Scarva Road Industrial Estate	Industrial development on A1 would be strategically beneficial to grow Banbridge.
	Digital infrastructure	Public realm scheme being future-proofed with ducting, etc. Opportunity to add charging hubs and high-speed wifi throughout public buildings.
Being sustainable <i>Social, environmental and economic</i>	Economic - Jobs for graduates; space for businesses	Need to create more jobs locally to keep young people in the area.

Essential Quality	Health Check	Opportunity for Improvement
	<p>In 2021, the employment rate for males was estimated at 74.5% in the borough which is 7.2 percentage points higher than the rate for females (67.3%).</p>	<p>Co-working space for remote workers to reduce commuting.</p> <p>Current lack of economic development land/ space to attract new business.</p>
	<p>Environmental - GOT Studios biodiversity hub</p> <p>River Bann</p> <p>Car dependency</p> <p>Solitude Park</p>	<p>Educational opportunity at GOT eco site</p> <p>River - hydro power; biodiversity; educational trails.</p> <p>Opportunity to be forward-thinking in planning for the future beyond widespread car ownership - e-car pools? Electric bikes for hire?</p> <p>Opportunity to engage people with biodiversity and nature trails.</p> <p>Integrate biodiversity walks, engagement with schools.</p>
	<p>Social - Banbridge as an exemplar shared (non-sectarian) town</p>	<p>Opportunity to showcase Banbridge as a model for other towns - civic pride.</p>
	<p>Lack of allotments</p>	<p>26% out of 260 respondents in the ABC borough said that they would like to see allotment provision in Banbridge.</p>

9. Banbridge Town Centre Masterplan 2016 SWOT

This SWOT analysis is taken from the 2016 Masterplan. In comparison with 2023 engagement, the points in bold are still relevant.

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This plan for Banbridge centre could be realised in tandem with the ongoing preparation of the new statutory plan • Diverse range of food and unique offering as well as the more mainstream offering at The Outlet. Explore the link between both • Comber is a good example for Banbridge to follow • Banbridge is very welcoming however there is a need to improve the welcome from the A1 • High quality existing and proposed housing developments • Commercial Road is a convenient area for people to park and shop. This is what people need and want • Banbridge has a good sense of community. It is a harmonious and safe place to live • Retail offering is as good as you will find in any town in NI • Shop fronts have benefitted from recent investment and are in good condition however there is room for improvement • New coffee shop at Downshire roundabout is a great asset. More of this type of facility would benefit the town • Banbridge feels like a safe town • The town is accessible – people want to live here. It could be considered an area of wealth – a commuter town which 5000 leave from each morning • Independent nature of shops is a major strength however some business is leaking to neighbouring centres such as Newry • Wildlife – otters have been spotted along the River Bann corridor • River Bann is a strong asset 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The town is not promoted to its potential • Lack of physical police presence in town • There is not enough car parking spaces and some of it is in the wrong place • Too many vacant units in the Outlet – it is believed it could be in the region of 26% • No physical connection to The Mournes despite trying to brand itself as the gateway to The Mournes • Leisure facilities are always operating at capacity • Working with council to access land has been difficult • Once in town no punctuation – no small squares or green space to enjoy • Need new housing in the town – either new build or living above shops • Stronger community presence in the past – slight deterioration potentially down to lack of funding in recent years • Poverty still exists in Banbridge. It is better than the NI average but we can't forget it exists in some parts of the town • Food banks opening up and debt queries still high • Design Compendium should include secure by design principles • There is a lack of shops for men • Newry Street has many large vacant units • Cycling on the towpath is a great idea however it creates conflicts between pedestrians and cyclists. • Traffic congestion in Church Square creates an unsafe environment • Linenhall street – reconnect this street with the rest of the town • Huntley Road link to Lurgan Road has been mooted for almost 30 years yet no delivery • Areas of litter/dog mess – not enough dog bins

Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The link road in the area plan between Ballygowan Road and Newry Road – will it ever happen? • Create a leisure/cinema/restaurant area • A1 Corridor – 25,000 cars a day. Banbridge needs to exploit this huge resource on its doorstep • High quality existing and proposed housing developments • Build on the strong sports heritage and culture within the town with the potential multi-purpose use of facilities • Offer incentives to shop owners to invest in their properties • Brookfield House is listed and has TPOs. Great potential for this estate to be developed into an attraction • “Cut” as important as the Bann – currently car dominated. Need to think about options to reduce flow • Ensure the library links to the wider developments • More laneways into shopping area, such as Jingle’s Court and The Mall • Banbridge has a Growing evening economy. There is need to further develop this • To promote the River Bann’s heritage and to provide a coffee dock • Park and Ride scheme could be introduced on A1 • The River Bann should provide a sporting opportunity • River and green corridor is under utilised • Architectural – Heritage can be promoted • The temporary use of buildings and spaces should be considered for derelict sites • Temporary uses on the Tesco site should be explored prior to potential reuse of land • Develop a heritage trail around the town, based on the Cut which was the first of its kind • Office accommodation needed in the town centre to attract businesses into the area • 14 development opportunity sites – vacant lands could be developed for offices. This requires a more active role from DSD and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We cannot rest on our laurels. If the town is not marketed it will decline. It is important to allocate funds to this area • Too many vacant units in the Outlet - 26% vacancy • Not enough leisure facilities. People may start using facilities in other towns meaning a loss of potential custom • Parking and access in general is holding back Banbridge from further flourishing • Funding and budget cuts • Crime figures are obscure. Despite the figures Banbridge is safe at night. Figures may be exaggerated due to Saturday night life • Congestion and poor access is throttling business • Traffic – people driving round in circles creating further congestion because they have nowhere to park • Redundancy of landmark buildings • Roundabout at Downshire is a serious road safety issue • Local cinema in town is expensive and dated, but if lost would be detrimental to town. • Scarva Road very dangerous, small footpaths, cycling dangerous – route to towpath needed • Flood plain out to Castlewellan Road but measures can be employed to protect the town

Opportunities	Threats
<p>Council to deliver these sites</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Masterplan can provide cover for CPO sites • New planning powers means Council can compel owners to make better use of their properties and remove eyesores • 176 on waiting list in Housing stream, 50 units – next 5 years, 33 Clanmil. <p>Demonstrates need for social housing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Living over the shops – single males need accommodation in the town • Opportunities for those on low incomes • Young people – designing out crime, whole place needs improved • Perception that Solitude park is unsafe not backed up by crime figures • Link Banbridge to Gilford and onto Scarva – could expand to Madden Road – connecting into the wider Newry Canal route • Old Police station – need to make a difference as a key heritage building in Banbridge • Better balance between involvement of independents and national traders – finite expenditure • Outside Seapattrick church – could do a scheme to make more of the heritage in this area • Collaboration with the community is key to achieving realisation of the Masterplan • Newry Road – 22 acre site for sale. This is a massive opportunity for Banbridge • Rugby club – new pitch and they need another one. Potential to relocate and create another large development site 	

10. Strategy and Policy Context

10.1 Banbridge Place Related Plans

Policy Document	Overview
Banbridge Public Realm Plans	Update of Banbridge town centre public realm. Public realm plans include a phase 2 and 3, so these should be taken into account
Banbridge Town Centre Masterplan, AECOM, 2016	<p>A vision and action plan for the next 15 years of Banbridge Town Centre. The plan included 30 ‘actions’. 16 have been completed and a further 9 actions have been explored. 4 actions have not progressed. See Banbridge Masterplan 2016 – Actions Table for update.</p> <p>The Banbridge Place Plan process will consider the actions that have not been progressed, carrying forward any that are deemed to be relevant.</p>
Banbridge A Vision for the Future, Ferguson McIlveen, 2000	<p>The vision was ‘to promote Banbridge as a major shopping town by creating a vibrant environment that encourages private investment’.</p> <p>The aim was ‘to help revitalise the economy of the town by environmental enhancement, resolving traffic issues and improving marketing and management’</p> <p>Some aspirations are still relevant and could be realised</p>
Banbridge Riverside Walkway Plan WJ Cairns & Partners, 1977	<p>A strategic case for the development of the riverside walkway.</p> <p>Some aspirations are still relevant and could be realised</p>
Banbridge / Newry and Mourne Area Plan, 2015	The purpose of the Plan is to inform the general public, statutory authorities, developers and other interested bodies of the policy framework and land use proposals that will be used to guide development decisions within the Plan area over the period of the Plan.

10.2 Council Wide Policy and Strategy

Policy Document	Overview
<p>Connected Community Plan, 2017-2030</p>	<p>The “Connected” Community Plan is the first for Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough and covers the period 2017-2030 with ongoing review. The vision for Connected is to “have a happy, healthy and connected community, a vibrant and sustainable economy and appealing places for living, working and learning”. Connected has three strategic themes – Community, Economy and Place and each of these have three long term outcomes. At the heart of everything are three cross-cutting themes – Connectivity, Equality and Sustainability. The strategic themes are defined as follows:</p> <p>COMMUNITY We live in a caring and safe borough, where people lead healthy, fulfilling lives and take pride in shaping, nurturing and enriching community life.</p> <p>ECONOMY We are an internationally renowned destination – our competitive industries, productivity and outward facing economy provides the global platform to attract, develop and maintain talent, investment and high growth opportunities.</p> <p>PLACE The borough is a place of discovery, where unique cultural and natural assets are cherished and people are inspired to be creative, to grow and to flourish.</p> <p>The long term goal is that people lead healthy, fulfilling lives and take pride in shaping, nurturing and enriching community life.</p> <p>Themes will be interwoven within the Banbridge Place Plan.</p>
<p>ABC 25 UK City of Culture Bid, 2022</p>	<p>A borough wide bid for culture led regeneration as listed in the Community Plan (Connected). Responding to the needs of the borough over 5 themes: Arts and culture/ Placemaking, infrastructure and the environment/ Social and wellbeing/ Organisations and partnerships</p> <p>Actions included Bow-Breaker and Moving Statues: Moving Statues – a festival of sculpture - exploring both traditional and new definitions of sculpture. It will engage with today’s hot debates about public sculpture including issues of representation, colonialism, gender and permanency. It would be hosted in various</p>

Policy Document	Overview
	<p>iconic sites throughout the borough, including the F.E. McWilliam Gallery & Studio. The central tenet of Moving Statues is the realisation of Locky Morris’s major public sculpture Bow-Breaker. Developed through open competition in 2016 and intended for a site on the main road between Belfast and Dublin and adjacent to the F.E. McWilliam Gallery & Studio, Bow-Breaker is partly inspired by Banbridge-born, polar explorer Captain Francis Crozier (1796-1848): a central figure in Sir John Franklin’s ill-fated quest to find the Northwest Passage.</p> <p>Possible programming and public art recommendations. May include evidence base for any Banbridge Place Plan actions on arts and culture.</p>
<p>ABC Corporate Plan 2018-2023 (ABC)</p>	<p>Strategic goals for ABC</p> <p>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.</p> <p>The Place Plan will help implement strategic goals</p>
<p>Arts, Culture and Heritage: A Framework for the Future 2021-2031 (ABC)</p>	<p>Aims include: A place where arts, culture and heritage are valued and our citizens will find the conditions to allow their creativity to flourish.</p> <p>Art and artists play an important role in society. How can enhanced cultural activity and support for artists be enhanced?</p>
<p>Armagh Place Plan (CPSP)</p>	<p>Plan which highlights the imperative for cultural regeneration.</p> <p>Banbridge Place Plan is the 2nd in a suite of borough plans. The Armagh plan is taken as inspiration in terms of format.</p>
<p>Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon's Car Parking strategy, 2023 (Draft)</p>	<p>Highlights a connectivity need within the town, with the ‘Car Parking Strategy Trader Consultation Presentation (2019)’ identifying the following points;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The town has 16 car parks (10 of which are owned by the council), with a total of 1,017 spaces; 362 charged and 655 free. • On average car parks are between 60-70% full during the week (approximately 700 parkers). • 3 of 10 council sites are continually full, 2 of which are free of charge. • There are continuing issues with footway parking along Rathfriland Street.

Policy Document	Overview
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In regard to parking durations there are on average 216 long stay weekday parkers at council sites (60% of weekday demand), having low space turnover at a number of sites (e.g. Gospel Lane, Kenlis Court, Church Square and Downshire Road). <p>There are currently 151 on-street spaces in our public realm area but that does not cover all the shopping streets.</p>
ABC Play Strategy 2018-2026	<p>The Strategy advocates for the <i>'closure of streets for a set time period (1 to 3 hours) on set days to enable children and young people to play freely on the road and pavement within their community without risk from traffic'</i></p> <p><i>'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'</i></p> <p>Banbridge town centre and surrounding neighbourhoods offer areas for informal play. Liaison with the Play Officer required.</p> <p>ABC Play Strategy 2018-2026</p>
ABC Local Development Plan Preferred Options Papers, 2018	<p>The Vision for the LDP is:</p> <p>“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.”</p> <p>The main purpose of the POP is to promote focused debate on key issues of strategic significance which are likely to influence the direction of future development within the Borough up to 2030. Developer contributions could secure blue/green infrastructure depending on size, scale and location of the development.</p> <p>Local Development Plan POP</p> <p>Page 12 of POP: the recommended allocation of economic development lands is as follows: Banbridge = 59ha</p> <p>A key environmental objective is to assist with climate change adaptation and place-making.</p> <p>Local Development Plan (Residents) - Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council</p>
Vacancy Study	Town Centre Vacancy Audit. Although town centre vacancy is the second lowest after Craigavon in the borough, the town has key buildings unoccupied

Policy Document	Overview
Invest NI Council Briefing, 2023	<p>Business profile of the ABC Borough.</p> <p>investni-performance-council-area-armagh-banbridge-and-craigavon.pdf</p>
ABC Recovery and Growth Framework	<p>Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council has outlined an ambitious framework aimed at helping the local economy to quickly recover and forge a path to future inclusive growth. The Framework focuses on how Council can create the right social and economic conditions to help the borough recover from the pandemic and drive sustainable long-term growth for the region.</p> <p>Dublin Belfast Economic Corridor is listed as an advantage to recovery. Areas for improvement are the physical infrastructure to connect to Armagh and Craigavon and the lack of development lands.</p> <p>https://www.armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk/recoveryandgrowth/</p>
The Mid South West Regional Economic Strategy	<p>The four pillars: ‘future-proofing the skills base’; ‘enabling infrastructure’; ‘boosting innovation and digital capacity’; and ‘building a high performing tourism economy.’</p> <p>https://midsouthwestregion.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/PDF-Regional-Economic-Strategy-Document-4SEPT20.pdf</p>
ABC Environmental Policy Statement 2018	<p>The statement seeks to: Enhance Environmental Performance; Conserve Natural Resources; Protect the Built and Natural Environment; and Ensure Everyone is Involved</p>
ABC Open Spaces Strategy	<p>The strategy provides the council with an overview of proposed land use implications. Banbridge is mentioned with its retail, sports and leisure facilities.</p>
ABC Air Quality Action Plan 2022-2024	<p>‘The increasing desire for good air quality and the realisation that health, well-being, tourism, economic growth and regeneration of any area can all be adversely affected by pollution is gaining more and more public and media attention.’</p> <p>https://www.armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/ACBCBC-Air-Quality-Action-Plan.pdf</p>

Policy Document	Overview
ABC Allotment Survey 2022	To ascertain if and where there is a need for allotment provision. High proportion of respondents suggested allotment provision in Banbridge
Get Moving ABC Framework 2020-2030	Get Moving ABC is a Borough wide targeted initiative, with a collective effort by a range of local organisations and groups, to motivate and support as many people as possible, to work towards and achieve the recommended physical activity levels.

10.3 NI and Regional Policies

Policy Document	Overview
Programme for Government, 2016-2021 (PfG)	Aims include: 'We are an innovative, creative society, where people can fulfil their potential'; 'We are a shared, welcoming, and confident society that respects diversity' and 'We give our children and young people the best start in life'.
Regional Development Strategy, 2035	<p>3.79 Banbridge has a good quality natural and built environment, excellent sports and leisure facilities, an abundance of parks and open spaces and a robust telecommunications infrastructure. The sectors with the strongest employment are manufacturing, construction and retail. The economic development of the district in recent years has been mirrored by significant investment in wider social and environmental improvements. Banbridge benefits from its strategic location on the Belfast Dublin Corridor and will continue to have a key role as an important retail and commercial centre within the cluster. P.71</p> <p>https://niopa.qub.ac.uk/bitstream/NIOPA/4336/1/regional-development-strategy-2035.pdf Hits the following aims: 'Promote a sustainable approach to the provision of tourism infrastructure'; 'Strengthen community cohesion; Reduce our carbon footprint and facilitate mitigation and adaptation to climate change whilst improving air quality'; 'Conserve, protect and, where possible, enhance our built heritage and our natural environment'.</p> <p>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</p>

	<p>management, including encouraging the greater use of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS).</p> <p>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.</p>
Integrated Tourism Development & Marketing Strategy & Action Plan, 2017-2022	This strategy has the central aim: 'To be a market-leading cultural tourism destination'.
Strategic Planning Policy Statement, DFI, 2015	It is widely recognised that well designed buildings and successful places can have a positive impact on how people feel. The way in which places and buildings are configured, patterns of movement in the space around us and the level of access to quality open space are all factors that can make us feel good. Successful places also influence the choices we make which may contribute positively to improving our health and well-being e.g. whether to walk or cycle, or whether to stay longer in a good place.
Inspire Connect Lead: A 5 year Framework for Developing the Arts, 2019-2024 (ACNI)	Through their commitment to creative placemaking and their following aims: Improve the living and working conditions of artists; Encourage innovative practices that cross artform boundaries; Capitalise on increased tourism; inspire local communities to engage in transformative, high quality arts.
10X Economy: An Economic Vision for a decade of innovation, (DfE)	'Focusing on innovation in areas where we have strengths, ensuring the gains from innovation mean something to all businesses, people and places in Northern Ireland.'
Economic Recovery and Action Plan, (DfE)	'Growing and maintaining the Apprenticeship system as a critical skills pipeline for industry and valuable employment.'
NI Domestic Tourism Strategy	'Nature and Outdoors' and 'Cultural Heritage' are two of the three key themes for domestic tourism in NI
MAG Living High Streets Craft Kit, 2022	A co-designed approach to placemaking in high streets.
The Mental Health Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic in Northern Ireland	Research on the impact of the pandemic.

Belfast Dublin Economic Corridor (BDEC) Report	The report outlines areas for cooperation to further develop the economic corridor on which Banbridge is strategically placed.
Outdoors NI Report	The report evidences the benefits of being outdoors and how this contributes to improved wellbeing, environmental protection, inequality, economic growth, active travel and education.
The Sustainability for the Future - DAERAs Plan to 2050	<i>Sustainability at the heart of a living, working, active landscape valued by everyone.</i> The report presents plans for a sustainable future including the Green Growth Strategy and Framework for Northern Ireland
Green Growth Strategy and Framework for Northern Ireland	A response to climate emergency with an ambition to radically reduce climate emissions and create a robust ecosystem
Rural Policy Framework – Connecting to the Rural areas	Aligns with programme for government <i>to create a sustainable rural community where people want to live, work and be active</i>
Designing places for children and young people 2021	Guidelines for Child Centred Planning, Design and Stewardship for the Built Environment in Northern Ireland
High Street Task Force – Delivering a 21 st Century High Street, March 2022	The vision is a <i>“Sustainable city, town and village centres which are thriving places for people to do business, socialise, shop, be creative and use public services as well as being great places to live.”</i>
Housing Supply Strategy 2022 – 2037, Objective 4 Better Places	<i>‘Access to a safe and secure home is a basic human right’</i> A call for a collective response to housing crisis, including from local government

The 2030 Agenda - UN Sustainable goals 2015	Goals include combating climate change as well as promoting peaceful and inclusive societies, ‘ensuring responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels’.
UK Net Zero Strategy: Build Back Greener, 2021	Since 1990 the UK has almost halved our greenhouse gas emissions. Thanks to the efforts of successive governments, we are almost half-way to ending the UK’s domestic contribution to man-made climate change, and in 2019 the UK became the first major

	economy in the world to legislate to finish the job with a binding target to reach net zero emissions by 2050.
All-Island Strategic Rail Review (DoT & DFI), 2023 (draft)	The vision of the Review is to provide a “high quality, sustainable and integrated railway for passengers and goods across the Island of Ireland”.

11. Toolkits, Support and Theory

11.1 Inclusive Design

Title	Overview
<p>A new approach to travel, our streets and our places (July 2022)</p> <p>The Inclusive Mobility and Transport Advisory Committee (IMTAC)</p>	<p>IMTAC is a committee of disabled people and older people as well as others including key transport professionals. The role of the Committee is to advise the Government and others in Northern Ireland on issues that affect the mobility of Deaf people, disabled people and older people.</p> <p>This is a paper developed by Imtac setting out its vision and priorities for developing a new approach to how we design and operate travel, our streets and places in the future.</p> <p>A new approach to travel, our streets and our places The Inclusive Mobility and Transport Advisory Committee (IMTAC)</p>
<p>Seeing Streets Differently, Royal National Institute of Blind People (RNIB)</p>	<p>RNIB campaign ‘Seeing Streets Differently’ calls for inclusive design that the whole community can benefit from. They highlight the importance of walking.</p> <p>Seeing Streets Differently report RNIB</p> <p><i>Blind and partially sighted people have fewer transport options available to them. Driving or cycling independently is not an option, so walking is even more important. Whether walking down the street to get a taxi, a walk to the bus stop, or a trip on foot to the town centre, being able to make walking journeys is fundamental....</i></p>

<p>Inclusive Street Design Checklist, Sent by RNIB</p>	<p>Use this quick checklist to find out how accessible your local streets are. If you answered no to any of the questions, refer to the Key Principles of Inclusive Street Design above to see what is needed to make your street accessible.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Are all pavements, walkways and routes for pedestrians kept free for pedestrian use only?</i> 2. <i>Are there enough connected pedestrian-only routes to take people safely from the start to the end of their walking journeys?</i> 3. <i>Are pedestrians always separated from vehicles by a detectable kerb?</i> 4. <i>Do roads and cycleways have accessible, signal controlled crossings so pedestrians can cross safely?</i> 5. <i>Do all pavements, walkways and routes for pedestrians have clear and unobstructed pathways of at least 2 meters wide?</i> 6. <i>Are transport hubs like train stations and bus stops, and community facilities, easily accessible for everyone?</i> 7. <i>Is access for disabled people travelling in cars or taxis maintained on any pedestrianised or low traffic routes?</i> 8. <i>Do new designs or proposed changes comply with existing guidance on accessibility?</i> 9. <i>Have new designs or proposed changes been consulted on, and undergone Equality Impact Assessments?</i> 10. <i>Have any accessibility issues highlighted in the consultation or EIA processes been resolved?</i> 11. <i>Have all local people been informed of changes made to their local area, including those who may need different information formats?</i>
--	---

11.2 Community Capacity Building and Volunteering

Title	Overview
<p>Keep NI Beautiful (Live Here Love Here)</p>	<p>Live Here Love Here is Northern Ireland's largest civic pride programme. It's about loving where you live and feeling empowered to take positive environmental action. They offer a range of grants for groups, schools and individuals who want to make a difference in their community.</p> <p>Opportunity for funding for small civic action ideas that arise through the Place Plan process. Grants are available for un-constituted groups or individuals.</p> <p>Live Here Love Here</p>
<p>Social Farms and Gardens NI</p>	<p>The leading UK charity dedicated to supporting city farms, community gardens, care farms & other green spaces.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Focused on capacity-building by advising allotment and community garden groups, organising training and facilitating visits to established sites. ● Convened the biannual Northern Ireland Allotment and Community Garden Forum, bringing together a range of stakeholders from Northern Ireland and the South - councils and local authorities, government agencies, NGOs and allotment and community garden representatives - to meet, share ideas, get to know each other and find out what's going on around the country ● Stimulated cooperation between statutory agencies and the community sector, for example through the workplace allotments at Parliament buildings <p>Opportunity for facilitated support to enhance community level growing like community gardens.</p> <p>Northern Ireland Social Farms & Gardens</p>
<p>Spirit of 2012</p>	<p>Spirit of 2012 was established as an independent Trust by the National Lottery Community Fund in 2013 to build on the legacy of the London 2012 Games. We do this by funding projects and research that enable people to participate in a wide variety of activities from physical activity to the arts and volunteering, and focus on evaluation to fully understand why and how taking part can make people feel better and more connected to their communities.</p>

	<p>ABC won a Spirit of 2012 award in 2022 in partnership with Volunteer Now</p> <p>About - Spirit of 2012</p>
The Conservation Volunteers	<p>A better environment is at the core of everything The Conservation Volunteers does. TCV works ‘to give everyone access to a good quality natural environment where biodiversity is enhanced, and environmental inequalities, along with the social and economic consequences, are minimised.’ They also believe ‘that the quality of our natural environment is a powerful driver of health and well-being. Our Green Gyms, a social alternative to conventional gyms, promote better health and well-being.’</p> <p>Opportunity for facilitated support to enhance community level growing like community gardens.</p> <p>TCV in Northern Ireland Connecting People and Green Spaces</p>
ABC Council Schemes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adopt a street - Small Floral grant Scheme - Business Watch area - FAP

11.3 Climate Emergency tools

Title	Overview
Julie’s Bicycle	<p>“We’re committed to supporting the environmental ambitions of the sector and strengthening creative climate action through partnerships and collaboration.”</p> <p>Mobilising arts and culture to take action on climate issues</p> <p>Julie's Bicycle</p>
Eden Project - Learning at Home	<p>Create Eden wherever you are with free resources and ideas for everyone at home, from den building to composting.</p> <p>Potential ideas for grass roots community response and small civic actions</p> <p>https://www.edenproject.com/learn/eden-at-home</p>

11.4 Placemaking tools and theory

Title	Overview
<p>Living Places Urban Design and Stewardship Guide</p>	<p>A key ingredient of most successful urban places is good streets. Quite different from 'roads', 'streets' not only act as important movement routes for traffic and people, they also serve as vital public spaces used by us all. Street design is therefore a vital skill of urban stewardship and design.</p> <p>Learnings on street design and urban stewardship</p> <p>An Urban Stewardship and Design Guide for Northern Ireland</p>
<p>PPS What makes a great place image...</p>	<p>As both an overarching idea and a hands-on approach for improving a neighbourhood, city, or region, placemaking inspires people to collectively reimagine and reinvent public spaces as the heart of every community. Strengthening the connection between people and the places they share, placemaking refers to a collaborative process by which we can shape our public realm in order to maximize shared value. More than just promoting better urban design, placemaking facilitates creative patterns of use, paying particular attention to the physical, cultural, and social identities that define a place and support its ongoing evolution.</p> <p>Best practice on building communities around places</p> <p>What is Placemaking?</p>

<p>MAG Living High Streets Craft Kit, 2022</p>	<p>MAG has co-designed a fresh approach to placemaking in our Living High Streets. This is not a design guide or template to rejuvenate high streets. It is a fresh approach to placemaking that challenges communities to work together through a series of questions about all aspects of their place. The desired output from these conversations will be a co- designed Living High Streets Framework, underpinned by local knowledge, agreed priorities and means of delivery. The emerging Living High Streets will reflect the purpose and meaning each community envisions for themselves.</p> <p>Used as a framework for the Banbridge Town Centre Health Check</p> <p>https://www.communities-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/communities/mag-living-high-streets-craftkit.pdf</p>
<p>Scottish place standard toolkit</p>	<p>The Place Standard with a Climate Lens has been developed to help people understand how climate change might play out in a local area and support them to design their future place with climate in mind. It builds on the core Place Standard tool and is designed to support a joined up, collaborative, and participative approach to climate action within a place.</p> <p>Could be used to interrogate climate action in Banbridge</p> <p>New! - Place Standard with a Climate Lens</p>
<p>15 minute neighbourhoods</p>	<p>The concept of a 15-minute city (or neighbourhood) is simply the idea of making it a target that most things that people need are within a <u>15-minute walk or cycle of their home</u></p> <p>Concept for walkable neighbourhoods that could be applied to Banbridge</p>
<p>A Health Check for High Streets and Town Centres, BIS, 2010</p>	<p>A five minute health check for streets. Another possible health check</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/36651/10-1224-healthy-high-street.pdf</p>

11.5 New ideas and further reading

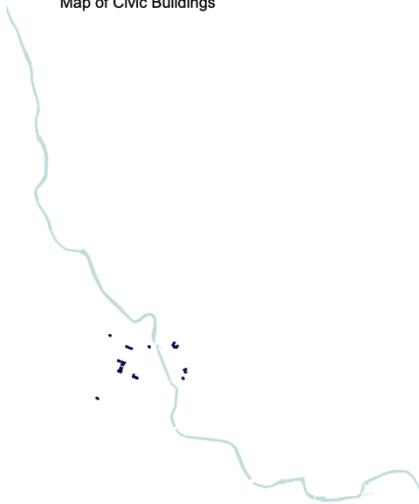
Title	Overview
<p>Rekindling Democracy, Cormac Russell</p>	<p><i>“How can agencies create more space so that communities can produce the things they value?” The answer, at least in part, is to start with what’s strong, not what’s wrong...’ p.xiii</i></p> <p><i>Setting aside our preconceived maps and genuinely coming alongside a given local community (assuming there is an invitation to do so) demands an act of radical humility on the part of helping agencies. Its the opposite of diagnosing, fixing, or prescribing. It means our attention shifts from “deliverables” to “discoverables”. p.13</i></p> <p>Approach of starting with what is strong in Banbridge</p>
<p>Freemarket</p>	<p><i>[S]mall towns can be extraordinary places, with their own identity and a sociable and enjoyable way of life for their inhabitants. We live both in and through places, and the scale of traditional market towns offers plenty of opportunities for informal, casual meetings and gossip; friendly bars and pubs and a variety of settings in which to purchase and/or consume food; street markets; a variety of comfortable places to sit, wait, and people-watch; a sense of ease with changing seasons; and, above all, a sense of belonging, affection, hospitality, vitality, and historical and cultural continuity. They can be havens in a fast world, places whose inhabitants think globally but act locally.</i> http://www.freemarket.ie/01_news_7.php</p> <p>Learnings on irish market towns that could be applied to Banbridge</p> <p>Free Market</p>
<p>Eden Project Mission</p>	<p><i>‘There is a planetary emergency. Only by deepening our collective understanding of the interconnections between all living things and seeing them as a whole can we protect the Earth and engender environmental harmony and social equity.</i></p> <p><i>We need to inspire citizenship over consumption in order to care for this planet, Spaceship Earth, our only home, that provides us – and all life – with fresh air, clean water, fertile soil, rich biodiversity, a stable climate and an awesome recycling system. Exploring how it all interconnects can transform our understanding of the world and help us see, how together, our actions can make a difference.’</i></p> <p>Applying climate action</p>

	About our mission Eden Project
Cities Alive - Designing cities that work for women, Arup 2023	Inclusive design for women https://indd.adobe.com/view/51c0d3b5-4bad-4496-9052-f8480e7aeb30
Open Local Government - Community Engagement in Local Planning in Northern Ireland, Andy McDevitt 2022	Challenging community engagement in Northern Ireland https://www.opengovernment.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/NIOGN-OLG-REPORT.pdf

12. Appendices

Further mapping

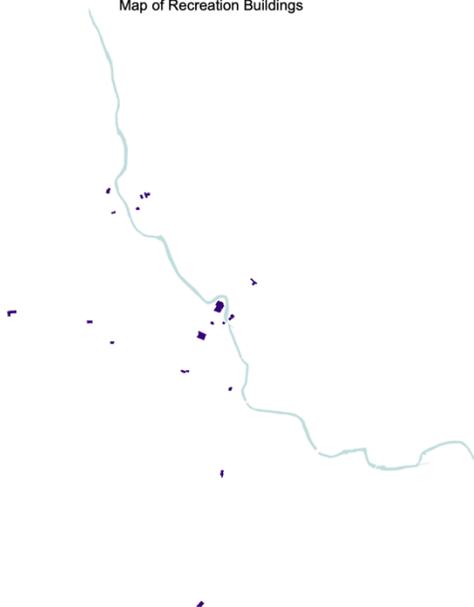
Map of Civic Buildings



Map of Council Owned Land



Map of Recreation Buildings

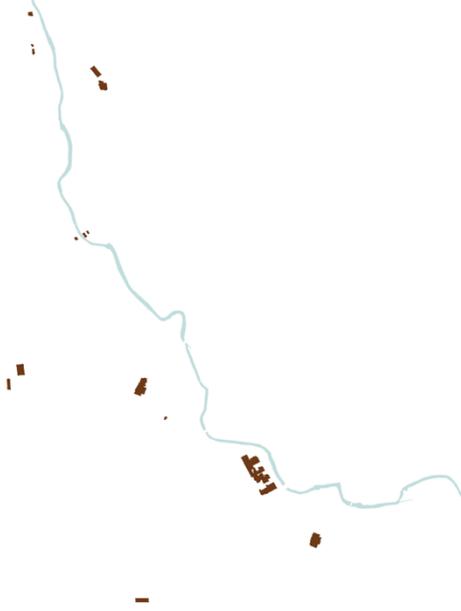


Map of Religious Buildings



This is Crown Copyright and is reproduced with the permission of Land & Property Services under delegated authority from the Keeper of Public Records, © Crown copyright and database right 2023 CS&LA581. Map produced August 2023.

Map of Factories / Industrial Buildings



Map of Transport Buildings



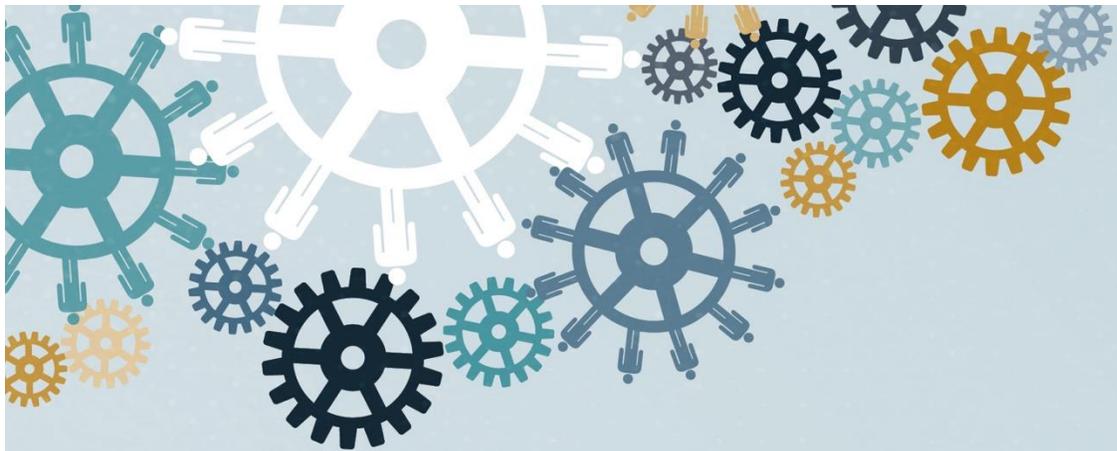
Map of NIHE Land



Map of Guest Accommodation



This is Crown Copyright and is reproduced with the permission of Land & Property Services under delegated authority from the Keeper of Public Records, © Crown copyright and database right 2023 CS&LA581. Map produced August 2023.



INTERESTED IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF BANBRIDGE,

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

 armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk