

EVALUATION OF MONKSTOWN & NEW MOSSLEY PILOT PLACE SHAPING PROJECTS

September 2024



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1.0 Background

1.1 Introduction

The Monkstown and New Mossley Place Shaping Pilots, funded by Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council (ANBC) and the Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE), explored and developed community-led spatial plans through co-design with local stakeholders. The projects aimed to assess spatial planning potential by engaging with the local community and public bodies to identify opportunities for sustainable development, social cohesion, and economic growth. The Pilots highlighted the strengths and challenges of each of the areas, recommending a Place Shaping Forum to unite various stakeholders for collaborative future projects.

In the long term, this approach aims to enhance and optimise service delivery and improve the quality of life for local residents. The findings and objectives of the study will guide the continued development of the area, fostering a cohesive community, strengthening local centres, and enriching the natural landscape. As a new way of working together, this Pilot Project represents a significant step forward in Community Planning.

1.2 Place Shaping

Place Shaping was defined by Lyons (2007) as *‘the creative use of powers and influence to promote the general well-being of a community and its citizens’*. It refers to the process of creating attractive, sustainable, and vibrant places that meet the needs of the community. It involves strategic planning and collaboration among various stakeholders, including local authorities, businesses, community groups, and residents. Place Shaping aims to enhance the quality of life by improving physical spaces, stimulating economic growth, and promoting social cohesion.

Greater Monkstown Place Shaping

The Greater Monkstown Place Shaping Pilot was carried out by ANBC and NIHE in 2016. Its aim was to optimise local assets and inform Community and Development Planning through a collaborative process. Key findings from stakeholder engagement included a strong sense of community in Monkstown, but identified challenges relating to socio-economic deprivation, housing shortages, health disparities, and physical fragmentation due to transport infrastructure. The report highlighted the need for strategic regeneration, including mixed-use development, improved connectivity, enhancement of green spaces, and revitalisation of key neighbourhood centres. It outlines specific opportunities for development, such as vacant sites and improving local amenities, while focusing on creating a cohesive and vibrant community.

New Mossley Place Shaping

The New Mossley Place Shaping Project aimed to develop a Regeneration and Implementation Plan for the area which set out how the priorities identified would be addressed over the next five years. The process was conducted in 2017 by ANBC and NIHE, and involved stakeholders from various sectors including community, public, and private organisations. The Project focused on improving infrastructure, housing, and open spaces, while addressing local concerns about road safety, litter, and community facilities. Key outcomes included plans for new social housing, enhanced green spaces, better transport connectivity, and creating a community hub to foster social interaction and engagement. The strategy also emphasised improving local pride and addressing the area's negative image.

1.3 Approach

Lara Goodall Consulting was appointed to evaluate the Pilot Projects, focusing on assessing their success and determining how well each delivered on the agreed outcomes. The overarching goal of this evaluation is to guide future decision-making for Monkstown and New Mossley, ensuring benefits for both current and future generations.

To measure the impact and outcomes of the Pilot Projects, a comprehensive methodology was developed. This included desk research to review existing local and regional plans, a review of project materials, and statistical data analysis for each area.

Engagement with key stakeholders and community partners was central to the process. This involved consultations across various sectors, including businesses, community organisations, voluntary groups, social enterprises, schools, faith groups, and statutory bodies. Semi-structured interviews were conducted with stakeholders and project partners from the Three Mile Water District Electoral Area (DEA), complemented by focus group sessions within each community. Additionally, individual consultation sessions provided further valuable insights.

The evaluation seeks to ascertain the following:

- Did the pilots build on existing and previous plans for Monkstown and New Mossley areas and the Borough, articulating on an agreed vision, aspirations, narrative, and unique selling points for both areas?
- Did the pilots provide a strong evidence base to identify strengths, assets, and areas for action and to measure progress towards realising the aspirations in the plan?
- Did the pilots prioritise actions from existing plans and strategies for inclusion in the plan that will be delivered over the life of the plan?
- Did the pilots include a spatial element and options (similar to the brief previously fulfilled by masterplans), utilising visual mapping and visioning techniques to make the plan clear and accessible?
- Did the pilots involve local residents, businesses, communities, and relevant statutory agencies & government departments in agreeing the aspirations and in the development of both areas?
- Did the pilots promote partnership working to realise the plan's aspirations?
- Did the pilots attract investment through having a strong vision and energy around the plan?
- Did the pilots generate discussion and ideas for living with and recovery from COVID-19 and prioritise resilience to future stresses and shocks?
- Did the pilots evaluate the role of housing led regeneration, detailing how previously identified opportunity sites have progressed, and highlighting any new assets that have been incorporated in the area since the previous study?
- Did the pilots highlight opportunities for housing-led regeneration through identification of existing and new opportunity sites for residential and mixed-used development that should be undertaken?

Following an analysis of findings from desk research and feedback from consultations, the project outcomes detailed above were considered to assess their impacts.

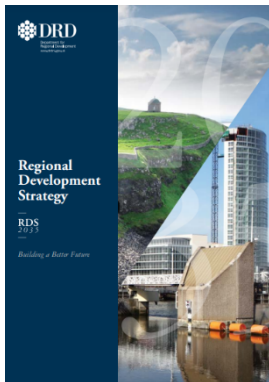
The remainder of this report will focus on highlighting key learnings gained from the delivery of the Project. As such, the report will conclude with a recommendations actions based on the feedback from those involved.

2.0 Strategic Context

As part of the evaluation, we have reviewed relevant strategic documents to fully consider the Place Shaping projects within the wider Northern Ireland context. Key strategies were found to have consistent key objectives and principles, affirming that local plans have been cognisant of national strategic context. Local plans, such as those in Monkstown and New Mossley, can be tailored to suit the priorities of specific locations while still contributing to achieving nationwide goals.

ANBC's new 2030 Local Development Plan (LDP) will be prepared within the context of the Council's Corporate Plan. The development of the Plan will co-ordinate with the Community Planning process to enable the Council to plan positively and proactively for the future of the Borough. The policies and proposals defined in the LDP will be a vital tool in facilitating the implementation of any land use related objectives contained in the Community Plan. Therefore, any spatial planning perspective identified in the pilot study will contribute to future Community Planning, and Local Development Planning within the context of ANBC's Corporate Planning.

2.1 Regional Development Strategy



Background: The Department for Infrastructure's Regional Development Strategy 2035 is the principal spatial strategy of the Northern Ireland Executive. The Strategy takes account of the economic ambitions and needs of the Region, and puts in place spatial planning, transport and housing priorities that will support and enable the aspirations of the Region to be met. Within the Strategy, Monkstown and New Mossley fall within the Belfast Metropolitan area. The Strategy clearly outlines strategic guidance to achieve its economic, societal, and environmental visions which are delivered by Councils at a local level to enhance the overall Metropolitan area of Belfast.

Relevance: Within a strategic context, the Regional Development Strategy considers key elements which create the foundation stones of Place Shaping and assist and enhance the delivery mechanisms of the pilot projects.

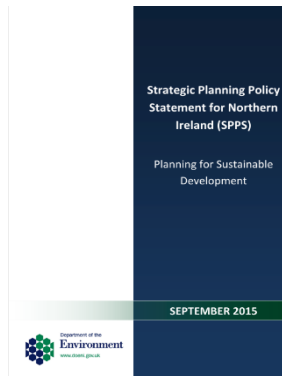
2.2 NIHE Corporate Strategy



Background: The NIHE Corporate Strategy highlights the role of Community Planning, with eleven community plans developed in collaboration with Northern Ireland Councils and key stakeholders. NIHE works closely with local Councils to address Place Shaping and housing regeneration needs through close working relationships with its partners.

Relevance: The Strategy is particularly relevant to Place Shaping projects, as it highlights a successful partnership-based delivery model in Armagh. In Armagh, a sub-group was created to focus on housing development, which has been instrumental in advancing local projects. Based on this success, NIHE plans to replicate this approach in other areas of Belfast, facilitating community development through similar collaborations, which will be of real benefit to the Monkstown and New Mossley areas.

2.3 Strategic Planning Policy Statement for Northern Ireland



Background: The Strategic Planning Policy Statement for Northern Ireland (SPPS) emphasises the importance of strategic planning, community development, and good design as core elements in the planning system of Northern Ireland. One of its five key planning principles is focused on "supporting good design and positive place making." The SPPS guides Councils in developing detailed operational policies through their Local Development Plans.

Relevance: The Policy Statement is highly relevant to Place Shaping as it aligns with the goals of Community Planning, aiming to improve the economic, social, and environmental well-being of areas. The SPPS is directly connected to initiatives like the "Love Living Here" plans, which focus on enhancing social, economic, and environmental well-being, demonstrating how strategic planning underpins successful Place Shaping efforts. By integrating Place Shaping into the planning system, the SPPS provides Councils with a strategic framework to guide local development and community-focused improvements.

2.4 ANBC Corporate Plan 2024 - 2030



Background: The ANBC Corporate Plan 2024-2030 sets out the Council's strategic vision and objectives for the next six years. It focuses on five key priorities: economic growth, community cohesion, environmental sustainability, health and well-being, and efficient public services. The Plan serves as a framework for delivering initiatives that support these priorities, aiming to enhance the quality of life for residents and businesses within the Borough.

Relevance: The Place Shaping projects in Monkstown and New Mossley are directly aligned with the Corporate Plan's objectives. These projects focus on community engagement, improving infrastructure, and supporting social initiatives, all of which contribute to the plan's broader goals. By fostering economic growth, promoting environmental sustainability, enhancing public health, and delivering high-quality services, these Place Shaping efforts ensure that both communities develop in a way that is cohesive, inclusive, and sustainable, reinforcing the Corporate Plan's strategic vision.

2.5 Local Development Plan – draft Plan Strategy

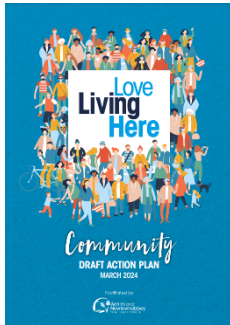


Background: The LDP is currently under preparation with the draft Plan Strategy (dPS) having gone through Independent Examination by the Planning Appeals Commission (PAC) in June 2022. Following the conclusion of the Independent Examination, the PAC has now completed its Advisory Report. On 4 October 2023, the PAC forwarded this Advisory Report to the Department for Infrastructure (DfI) for consideration. Having considered the Advisory Report from the PAC, on 27 September 2024, DfI issued a direction to the Council. The dPS was found to be sound, subject to ninety-three modifications identified by DfI. DfI now directs the Council to adopt the dPS under section 12(1)(b) of the Planning Act (NI) 2011. This is expected imminently.

The next stage within the preparation of the LDP is for the Council to prepare a Local Policies Plan. Its main purpose is to set out local policies and site-specific proposals in relation to the development and use of land across the Borough. This work is ongoing.

Relevance: The dPS includes many of strategic themes/terms of reference identified during the pilot. Notably, it sets out the framework for future housing development, ensuring sustainable growth while meeting the needs of residents. It outlines policies on housing supply, location, and design, aiming to balance demand with environmental and infrastructure considerations. The dPS has highlighted that there is continual demand for additional affordable housing throughout the Borough. The dPS highlights that housing growth for Metropolitan Newtownabbey (which includes New Mossley and Monkstown) over the plan period is 3,900 units, of which affordable housing must also be considered. Policy SP4: ‘Homes’ within the dPS stresses the development of balanced communities and strengthened community cohesion, and states that the Council will work with its statutory partners, Registered Housing Associations and developers to facilitate the delivery of an appropriate housing mix that meets the needs of the local community.

2.6 Love Living Here Community Draft Action Plan



Background: The Love Living Here Community Plan is the overarching strategy for improving the quality of life in Antrim and Newtownabbey up to 2030. It focuses on creating connected, safe, and vibrant communities by enhancing economic, social, and environmental well-being. Place Shaping is a key outcome within this plan, guiding the Council and stakeholders in developing projects that improve life for residents across the Borough.

Relevance: The Place Shaping Pilots in Monkstown and New Mossley are closely aligned with the Love Living Here Community Draft Action Plan's vision. This plan plays a crucial role in place shaping by fostering a strong sense of community identity, promoting housing diversity and housing-led regeneration, and enhancing access to services and facilities. It prioritises public health and wellbeing, aiming to bridge social and economic divides. The Plan also seeks to improve perceptions of local areas by tackling environmental concerns and strengthening neighbourhood cohesion. Emphasising the value of natural landscapes, it encourages their safe and accessible use. Additionally, it identifies key development opportunities to drive regeneration and create more connected, vibrant, and inclusive communities. The Pilots aim to improve social, economic, and environmental well-being by harnessing the Council's powers and collaborating with stakeholders. The activities within these Place Shaping Projects directly contribute to the goals of the draft Community Action Plan, ensuring that the development of these areas supports the Council's broader objectives for a thriving, vibrant, and sustainable Borough. The Community Plan is now at its midpoint, and ANBC has reviewed and updated its original actions following consultations with various stakeholders and partners.

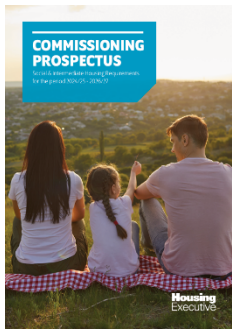
2.7 NIHE Housing Investment Plan



Background: The Antrim and Newtownabbey Housing Investment Plan (HIP) is produced annually by NIHE, and provides an overview of housing needs, priorities, and planned investments within the Borough. It serves as a strategic framework for improving housing conditions, supporting vulnerable groups, and addressing key challenges such as homelessness and social housing demand. The report highlights progress on housing initiatives over the past year and outlines future priorities, ensuring alignment with regional and local housing strategies.

Relevance: The Antrim and Newtownabbey HIP Update 2024 highlights how housing supply and tenure mix shape community cohesion, the role of new developments in revitalising neighbourhoods, and the impact of investment on local infrastructure and services. It also offers a framework for understanding how housing policy can address social inequalities, improve living conditions, and contribute to wider regeneration efforts. By aligning place shaping objectives with housing strategies, the HIP provides a foundation for ensuring sustainable, inclusive, and well-connected communities.

2.8 NIHE Commissioning Prospectus 2024/25 to 2026/27



Background: The NIHE's Commissioning Prospectus is an annual publication, the latest being the Commissioning Prospectus 2024/25 to 2026/27, that provides a strategic overview of housing need and demand across Northern Ireland, including specific assessments for areas like Antrim and Newtownabbey. It serves as a critical tool for housing associations, developers, and stakeholders, offering detailed data to inform decisions on land acquisition and the development of new affordable housing projects. By aligning with the Social Housing Development Programme (SHDP) and supporting Community Planning initiatives, the

Prospectus ensures that housing strategies are effectively integrated with Local Development Plans, thereby addressing regional housing requirements in a coordinated manner.

Relevance: The Prospectus provides a framework for assessing housing needs and investment priorities in the area. By aligning with the SHDP and other strategic housing policies, it offers valuable insight into how housing provision can support broader Place Shaping objectives, including community cohesion, regeneration, and service delivery. The Prospectus helps evaluate how new developments and investment in social housing contribute to tackling issues such as fragmentation, health inequalities, and negative perceptions in Monkstown and New Mossley.

2.9 Summary of Strategic Context

The Monkstown and New Mossley Place Shaping Projects are strategically aligned with key Regional and Local Development Plans, including the Regional Development Strategy 2035, NIHE Corporate Strategy, ANBC Corporate Plan 2024-2030, and the emerging Local Development Plan. These projects embody principles of sustainable development, community engagement, and strategic planning, contributing to broader goals of economic growth, social cohesion, and environmental sustainability. Their strong alignment with the "Love Living Here" Community Plan and the NIHE's Housing Investment Plan (HIP) and Commissioning Prospectus ensures that these place shaping initiatives effectively drive community development, enhance quality of life, and address specific needs within the Three Mile Water DEA.

3.0 Area Profiles

3.1 Monkstown Area Statistics

The Monkstown Place Shaping report references statistics from the 2011 Census for three electoral wards to provide context around the socio-economic issues highlighted in the report. These were broken down by ward to show the contrast between Monkstown and Jordanstown wards with significant differences between the two. Monkstown ward ranked higher only by proximity to services but lower in all other characteristics.

The key statistics were:

- A higher-than-average percentage of under 16-year-olds
- 8.4% less than average qualification attainment.
- 32% of households had no access to a car.
- A low level of employment opportunities and income.
- A poor living environment in comparison to neighbouring wards; and,
- Health and disability deprivation.

Data from Monkstown Place Shaping Report

The following statistics from the most recent census data highlight socio-economic characteristics of the three electoral wards that comprise Greater Monkstown.

They show a sharp contrast between the Monkstown ward and the wards at Jordanstown and Rostulla.

This information provides the context for a range of issues highlighted through the analysis process that informs this study

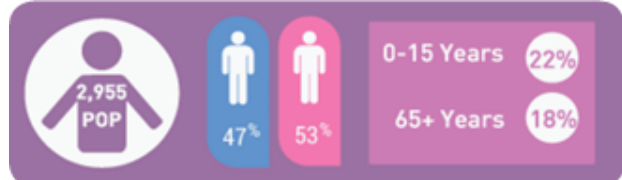
Jordanstown Ward	Monkstown Ward	Rostulla Ward
Economically Active 68% higher than NI average Degree/Higher qualifications 16.15% higher than NI average No/low qualifications 16.6% less than NI average Health (reported good/very good) 8.39% higher than NI average	Age Profile 3.35% more under 16 years than NI average Degree/Higher qualifications 8.4% less than NI average Housing Almost 32% of households don't have access to car/van	Age Profile 74% less under 16 years than NI average. 28 years was average median age Degree/Higher qualifications 10.12% higher than NI average No/low qualification 20.68% less than NI average
Multiple Deprivation Measure 577 Income Deprivation 572 Employment Deprivation 566 Health and Disability Deprivation 562 Education Skills & Training Disability 561 Proximity to Services Deprivation 353 Crime and Disorder 499 Living Environment 573	Multiple Deprivation Measure 143 Income Deprivation 130 Employment Deprivation 161 Health and Disability Deprivation 155 Education Skills & Training Disability 78 Proximity to Services Deprivation 424 Crime and Disorder 317 Living Environment 123	Multiple Deprivation Measure 507 Income Deprivation 491 Employment Deprivation 534 Health and Disability Deprivation 510 Education Skills & Training Disability 473 Proximity to Services Deprivation 438 Crime and Disorder 100 Living Environment 300
Jordanstown Ward ranks well in relation to a number of indicators most notably living environment and income deprivation resulting in a healthy MDM of 577 (out of 582). It's weakest ranked indicator related to proximity to services.		

3.2 New Mossley Statistics

The New Mossley report used statistics from the 2011 Census and deprivation measures index figures from 2010 – 2017.

Data from Place Shaping Report – New Mossley

- The estimated population of New Mossley in 2016 was 2,955.
- 22% of the population was under 15 years and 18% were over 65 years.
- 82% belong to or were brought up in the Protestant and Other Christian Religion with 5.48% belonging to or brought up in Catholic Religion.
- Approximately 80% indicated they were of British National Identity; 27% Northern Irish National Identity and 4% Irish National Identity. Respondents could indicate more than one national identity. Only 1% of the population did not have English as a first language.



The statistics from the New Mossley Place Shaping Report provide crucial insights for aligning local development goals with broader Council and NIHE objectives. With a population of 2,955 in 2016, the area had significant age-related needs as 22% of residents were under 15 and 18% were over 65 years old. These demographics highlighted the need for youth services and elder care infrastructure as part of place shaping efforts. The religious and national identity data showed that 82% of the population were from a Protestant background, and approximately 80% identify as British, suggesting that cultural sensitivity and community cohesion should be prioritised in policymaking. Furthermore, with only 1% of the population not having English as a first language, there was less need for large-scale language support services compared to more diverse areas.

3.3 Comparable Data from Three Mile Water DEA 2011 / 2021

2021 Census data for the three Greater Monkstown wards and New Mossley was unavailable at the time of the evaluation, therefore Census data from the Three Mile Water DEA was used as a substitute source of data to understand the area, with key differences between the 2011 and 2021 Census listed below and taken into consideration when making recommendations.

The graphics below outline the key statistics for both sets of Census Data:

Figure 1 - 2011 Census Data for Three Mile Water DEA (ANBC, 2024)

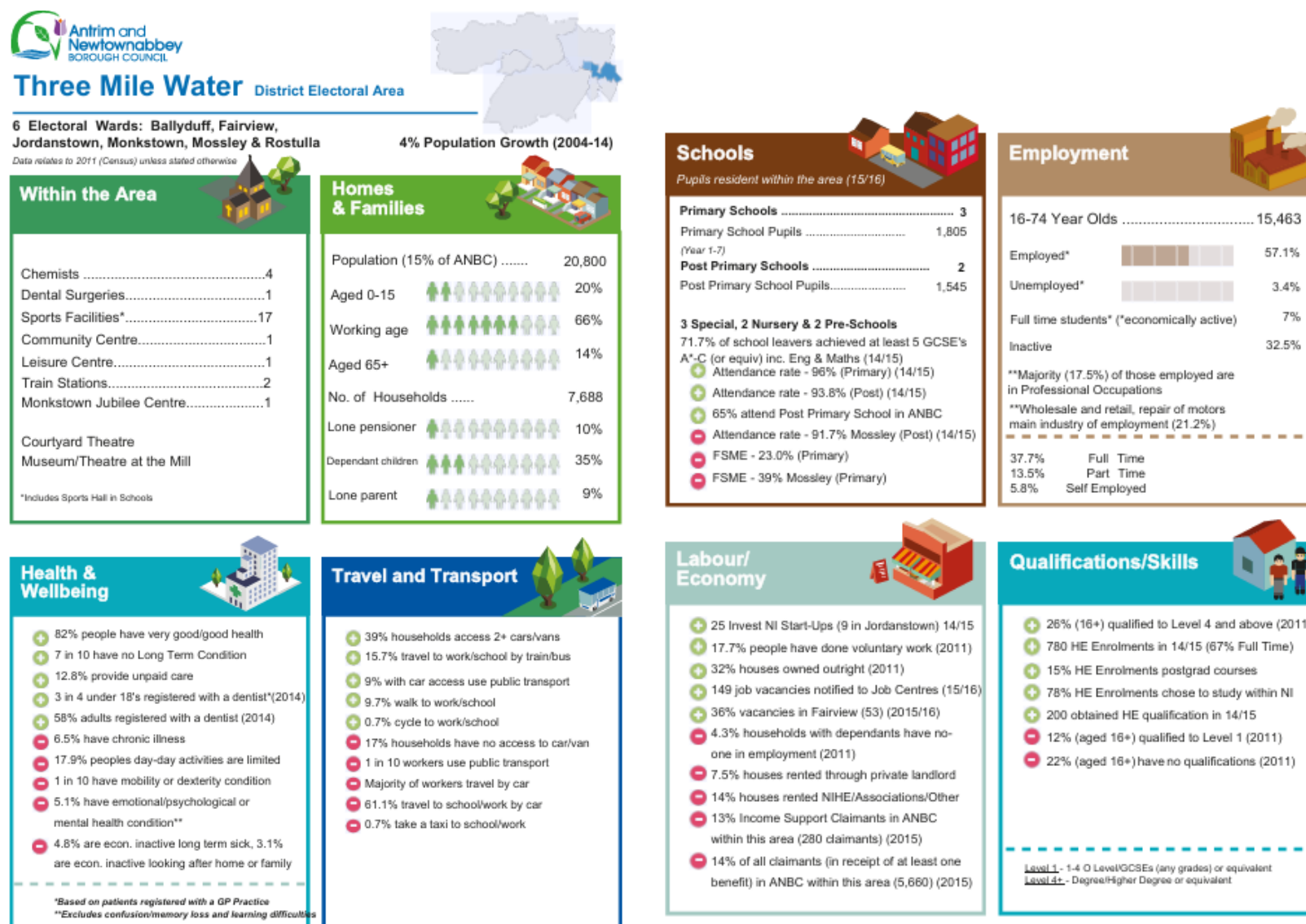
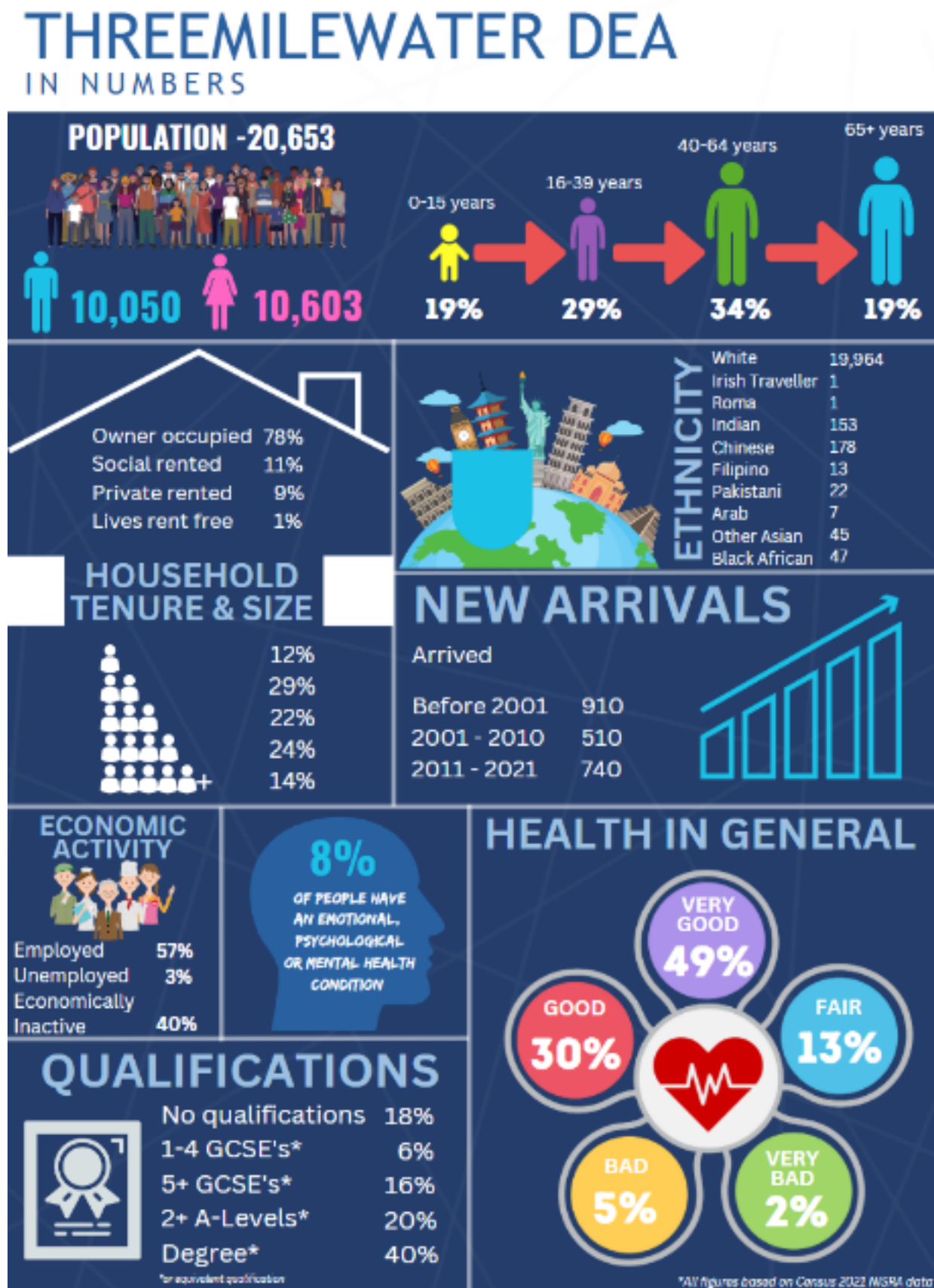


Figure 2 - 2021 Census Data for Three Mile Water DEA (NISRA, 2024)



3.4 Key Changes from Three Mile Water DEA between 2011-2021:

- **Population Changes:** Working-age population decreased by 3%, while those aged 65+ increased by 5%.
- **Household Composition:** Lone households increased by 2%.
- **Health:** Those reporting good/very good health decreased by 3%, and emotional/mental health conditions increased by 3%.
- **Economic Activity:** Economically inactive individuals rose from 32.5% to 40% (+7.5%).
- **Education:** Level 4+ qualifications increased by 14%, while those with no qualifications dropped by 4%; and,
- **Housing:** Social rented properties decreased by 3%, with a 1.5% rise in private rentals.

The key changes and comparisons between the 2011 and 2021 census data for the Three Mile Water DEA reveal significant shifts that have important implications for place shaping. The decrease in the working-age population, alongside a 5% rise in those over 65, signals an ageing community, increasing demand for healthcare and elderly support services. Stakeholders need to prioritise developing infrastructure that addresses these needs. The rise in lone households and economically inactive individuals suggests potential issues with social isolation and financial insecurity, potentially straining local services. Targeted employment support and social inclusion programmes could mitigate these effects. Shifting housing dynamics, marked by a 3% decline in social housing and increased private rentals, may lead to affordability challenges, calling for responsive housing policies. The decline in self-reported good health and a rise in mental health conditions highlight the urgency for enhanced healthcare resources, especially for mental well-being. While the employment rate remains steady at 57%, the 14% increase in higher-level qualifications represents an opportunity; stakeholders should focus on attracting skilled job opportunities to the area, leveraging the growing educated workforce to drive economic growth, reduce unemployment, and improve local services.

4.0 Consultations

A key element of the evaluation was in-depth consultations and focus groups with community groups, stakeholders, and local leaders to gather their perspectives on progress in their areas, based on the actions and outcomes from the project reports. Additionally, one-to-one interviews we conducted with key stakeholders, including statutory agencies and Community Planning partners, to discuss their involvement and efforts in shaping the future of these communities. These consultations provided valuable insights into the challenges communities face. While there has been notable progress in some areas, others still require attention, with certain issues needing additional funding and resources to address effectively.

4.1 Stakeholder Consultations:

Consultations with key stakeholders took the format of one-to-one interviews and small focus group sessions. The consultations adopted a semi-structured approach to enable the team to probe and delve further into specific issues relating to each of the stakeholders. Feedback highlighted several areas for future developments in Place Shaping activities, with improved and increased community-based engagement being top of the list.

Stakeholders provided valuable insights into their experiences of New Mossley and Monkstown over the past few years, highlighting achievements, challenges, and concerns.

Monkstown:

In contrast, feedback in Monkstown was positive in relation to its development and leadership. The community groups were commended for their self-sufficiency, with stakeholders suggesting that statutory bodies could use this as an example of best practice. However, there were still concerns about some anti-social behaviour, highlighting the need for more age-appropriate facilities and activities for young people.

Stakeholder engagement and communication remain challenges in Monkstown, however to a lesser extent than in New Mossley. There is a need for improved communication regarding project progress and achieving its aims, as well as concerns about the lack of awareness and involvement from some stakeholders. This has created gaps in engagement with local groups.

Despite these challenges, there were notable successes. Local councillor Mark Cooper has been a strong advocate for community development in Monkstown, and as a result initiatives such as housing and mural projects have seen positive results.

New Mossley:

Community challenges and social issues were a major focus. There is a sense of frustration over the lack of influence and respect needed to drive change within the community. Tensions and anti-social behaviour, particularly near the railway station and Global Point development, have led to community concerns, which also impacts PSNI engagement. A recurring theme was the need for greater community cohesion to address these issues.

Youth engagement and lack of opportunities were also identified as key concerns. The lack of opportunities for young people is seen as contributing to vandalism and damage in the area. Stakeholders emphasised the need for Community Planning that addresses the specific challenges and opportunities for youth.

Community infrastructure is seen as a significant obstacle in New Mossley. The absence of facilities has hindered progress, and stakeholders expressed difficulties in maintaining community involvement during times of continuous change in representatives. Discussions also covered the ownership and management of community centres and the pavilion, suggesting that in the future service-level agreements could provide a solution.

In terms of stakeholder engagement and project management, there were concerns about insufficient stakeholder input and frustration over the lack of progress in key projects. High turnover rates in personnel, especially within the Core Community Group, were cited as hindrances to steady progress. Stakeholders called for a more consistent and collaborative approach moving forward.

Funding challenges were also discussed, with the need for stronger collaboration between partner agencies to secure grants and address the funding crisis. There was optimism that grant applications could succeed with proper support.

The impact of COVID-19 was a significant issue as it disrupted communication between stakeholders and the community, further slowing progress.

Overall:

Across both communities, there is a general need for improved communication and stakeholder engagement to fully implement a Place Shaping approach in the longer term. Continuous changes have made it difficult to maintain community involvement, and working groups expressed concerns about the lack of input from stakeholders. A more collaborative approach, potentially through a place-based strategy, was suggested to address issues like childhood poverty and mental health. Linking these initiatives to the Community Plan would add value and allow flexibility as the communities evolve.

Economic development and employment were key areas of focus, with stakeholders stressing the importance of engaging with businesses to understand their needs and the skills required for jobs. There is also potential to connect communities with employment opportunities at Global Point, despite its current lack of development.

Tourism and leisure development opportunities were discussed, particularly around Global Point and areas like the Valley Park and Carmony Hill, with a focus on nature-based activities that could benefit local businesses.

Volunteering and capacity building continue to face challenges, as low volunteer rates have in some cases hindered progress. Raising awareness of available support and reconnecting with groups that withdrew during the pandemic was highlighted as a key need. Additionally, the importance and benefits from strong leadership and community relationships were recognised, with appreciation for Mark Cooper's contributions.

4.2 Key Findings from Community Consultations

Community consultations were carried out to gain an understanding of how local residents in Monkstown and New Mossley perceive progress across the various objectives set out in the Pilot project. These insights were gathered through a series of interviews and focus group discussions, which provided valuable qualitative data on both the successes and ongoing challenges experienced at community level.

The tables that follow offer a summary of the findings from these engagements, organised by theme and objective. For each objective, a RAG (Red, Amber, Green) status has been assigned based on perceived progress, with supporting comments to reflect the collective feedback shared by participants during the consultation process.

Note: Within the theme of ‘Moving Around, Road Safety and Parking’, two objectives relating to New Mossley were raised by consultees as areas of concern. These objectives were flagged as requiring urgent attention.

- Traffic and safety concerns: Traffic lights are urgently needed at key crossings, including Manse Road and Prince Charles Way. Road safety around schools, especially Earlview Primary, remains a high priority, with parents raising concerns.
- Urgent safety concerns: Hedging needs to be trimmed as it blocks pathways, creating unsafe conditions. Better signage is also needed.

RAG Status Key

-  Red – No Progress / Action Required
-  Amber – Limited Progress
-  Green – Good Progress / Complete

Monkstown

The focus group and one to one consultation findings reveal notable progress in fostering community cohesion and improving local perceptions. Collaboration between community groups and events that bring people together have strengthened community spirit, while initiatives to re-image murals and enhance the area’s image have been well-received. However, strategically planned housing remains an area to be addressed. In terms of social and commercial centres on Jordanstown Road, development has progressed, though public realm improvements and attracting services have seen limited success. Outdoor spaces are underutilised, with more effort needed to engage the community and maximize benefits from green areas like Three Mile Water. Positive strides have been made in improving connections between neighbourhoods, though sustainable travel options are still lacking. Lastly, while economic and physical links to employment areas have progressed, there is a need for better communication and inclusivity in these developments.

Cohesive Community

Objective/Action Notes	Community / Stakeholder Perception of Progress	Overall Findings from Focus Group
Grow more cohesive community		• Collaboration and events have positively influenced perceptions. • Collaboration between groups is strong. • Events have successfully brought people together and have helped improve community spirit. • Negative perceptions are being tackled. • Efforts to re-image murals have been well received, only one remains. • Initiatives to improve the area's image are yielding positive results. • There is a need for more strategically planned housing.
Help overcome fragmentation and build community spirit		
Tackle negative perceptions of the area		
'Re-imaging' of murals		
Collaboration between groups		
Events that bring people together		

Strengthened Core

Objective/Action Notes	Community / Stakeholder Perception of Progress	Overall Findings from Focus Group
Sustain and grow social/commercial centres on Jordanstown Road		• Efforts have been made, but more work is required to sustain and grow these centres. • More public realm improvements are needed. • Development has progressed despite public challenges, aided by lobbying efforts. • Statutory services have not been successfully attracted or retained. • There is a notable gap in outdoor spaces. • Community events have been effective in challenging stereotypes and attracting investment. • Promotion efforts have led to some positive developments, but more investment is needed.
Mixed use development and public realm		
Attracting and retaining services		
Provision of flexible indoor and outdoor spaces		
More community events		
Promotion of Monkstown - challenge negative stereotypes and attract investment		

Positive Connections

Objective/Action Notes	Community / Stakeholder Perception of Progress	Overall Findings from Focus Group
Continue improving connections between neighbourhoods and surrounding areas		• Significant progress in improving connections. • More focus on sustainable travel is needed. • Sustainable travel options are lacking, particularly beyond Doagh Road. • Economic and physical links to employment areas need improvement. • Well-developed but not family friendly. • Effective for those with personal contacts but shows a consultative disconnect for others. • Highlighted the importance of inclusive & better communication strategies.
Emphasis on walking, cycling and sustainable travel		
Strengthen physical and economic links to places of employment		
Development of the greenway network		
Improve communication between Council, groups, businesses, and residents		

Enriched Landscape

Objective/Action Notes	Community / Stakeholder Perception of Progress	Overall Findings from Focus Group
Strengthen relationship between green space and local people		• Community links with and use of green spaces needs improvement. • Insufficient planning to maximize benefits from these areas. • Opportunities exist but are under-promoted and underutilised.
Three Mile Water, Carnmoney Hill and others should be planned to realise further benefits		
Building of local skills and the development of specific destinations that provide entrepreneurial opportunities		

New Mossley

The focus group and one to one consultation findings reveal that overall, the community acknowledges some progress has been made, however there is a need for consistent action and improved communication to address key issues. Environmental improvements are ongoing, but maintenance challenges, such as overgrown bushes and litter, persist. Safety and transport concerns, particularly around a lack of zebra / pedestrian crossings and parking near schools, remain urgent priorities. Housing improvements to date have been welcomed, yet there is a clear demand for better maintenance of older properties and more social housing options. Upgrading public spaces and enhancing community involvement through better communication were deemed essential to ensure all areas, including Middle Mossley, feel equally supported and connected.

Appearance, Image, and Sense of Pride

Objective/Action Notes	Community / Stakeholder Perception of Progress	Overall Findings from Focus Group
Develop a programme of environmental improvements		- Green spaces: Improvements made, but overgrown bushes are blocking pavements, and litter bins need better maintenance. - Bonfire site was cleared by local officials, which is good, but more dog fouling and litter bins required, along with winter salt bins. - Street cleaning: Grass clippings had been left after mowing but this was discussed and addressed by NIHE. - Bins obstruct current cleaning schedule as carried out on refuse collection day – request to change. - Litter picking: Regular efforts by community groups; seeking more resident involvement. - Flooding is an ongoing issue requiring urgent attention. - Re-imaging: Successful mural removal, but better communication needed for future efforts. - Lighting: Upgrades done, but brighter lights needed in new developments.
Meet with ANBC and NIHE to discuss street cleansing, additional litter/dog fouling bins and maintenance of trails and pathways		
Develop a Keep New Mossley Tidy campaign including an annual 'Big Spring Clean' Day		
Upgrade the appearance of the underpass at Earlview Primary/Nursery School		
Environmental improvement scheme - re-imaging area (i.e. Removal of Mural and kerb painting and developing welcoming entrances)		
Annual estate inspection		
Liaise with DfI re: street light upgrades/improvements		

Housing and Enhanced Open Space Provision

Objective/Action Notes	Community / Stakeholder Perception of Progress	Overall Findings from Focus Group
Liaison NIHE and Connswater re: site acquisition		- The new Connswater social housing development at Ballyearl Drive has been well-received however, while the project is complete - feedback indicated the community feel strongly that more social housing is needed. - Older properties lack upkeep, with issues like missing gates and safety risks for children. - Pensioner bungalows: Require better exterior maintenance and care. - Pest control: Rats are a problem in some areas, prompting calls for improved control. - Parking and safety: Increased street activity raises parking and safety concerns, especially for children. - Middle Mossley: Communication breakdown has left some residents feeling neglected. - Downsizing: Successful for pensioners, but concerns over adequate family housing remain.
Work with NIHE and Connswater to develop a quality housing scheme and design concept which enhances open space		
Regular communications between community / NIHE / Connswater from pre-app design to site completion		
Liaise with Council Planning regarding proposed housing and engage in LDP process		
Improved communications between NIHE and community regarding improvement schemes and maintenance		
Housing transfer scheme - scope interest from those wishing to downsize		

Creating Connections and Quality Green Space

Objective/Action Notes	Community / Stakeholder Perception of Progress	Overall Findings from Focus Group
Liaise with DfI re: acquiring surplus land to develop Green Ribbon Trail		- Green space up to Corrs Corner has improved, a pathway has been added and redeveloped to allow new walking spaces. - Path added for quicker access to shops and bus stops. Overall, the estate has greatly improved but will always be ongoing.
Develop a Green Ribbon Trail proposal in conjunction with local schools (pursue ALPHA or BIFFA funding)		

Develop a programme of activities and spaces to animate the Green Ribbon Trial		• Annual inspections of trails and public areas need to be updated regularly to keep up with the community's needs. • Funding from Lottery has really helped vulnerable and deprived areas.
Engage in LDP process to incorporate the Green Ribbon Trial and zone land as Open Space or LLPA		

Moving Around, Road Safety and Parking

Objective/Action Notes	Community / Stakeholder Perception of Progress	Overall Findings from Focus Group
Lobby Transport NI for traffic light crossings at Manse Road, Prince Charles Way, and opposite Ferguson Centre		• Urgent safety concerns: Hedging needs to be trimmed as it blocks pathways, creating unsafe conditions. Better signage is also needed. • Speed signs: Community-installed speed signs are in place, but ongoing maintenance would be helpful. • Traffic and safety concerns: Traffic lights are urgently needed at key crossings, including Manse Road and Prince Charles Way. Road safety around schools, especially Earlview Primary, remains a high priority, with parents raising concerns. • Salt bins: There is a call for more salt bins in hill areas to improve safety during winter. • School parking: Lack of parking is hindering progress on this issue, with particular need for parking solutions around schools like Hillcroft and Earlview Primary. Larger car parks at Hillcroft have been helpful. • Bus services: Bus timetables have worsened, and local shelters need improvements after seating was removed.
Lobby Transport NI to introduce drop off/pick up and turning circle adjacent to underpass at Manse Way along with additional parking, calming measures and improve disability access at Manse Way		
Earlview PS to join Sustrans Active School Travel Programme		
Earlview PS to communicate to parents not to block Bryans Fold		
Undertake feasibility study to provide additional parking at Milewater Drive		
Liaise with Translink regarding bus routes and improve timetables		
Maintain trails and paths throughout the area		

Link to and promote existing Community Transport services to address unmet need		• Overgrown areas: Some areas continue to be overgrown, requiring attention. • South Antrim Community Transport: The service needs better communication and more resources. Community members are seeking updates on these issues.
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Making Better Use of Existing Facilities and Future Opportunities

Objective/Action Notes	Community / Stakeholder Perception of Progress	Overall Findings from Focus Group
Assessment exercise to explore making better use of existing facilities within the area		• Pavilion usage: Pavilion is being used, with programmes for kids. PSNI and other groups are involved, with some funding provided to date, but more is needed.
Lobby EA to reinstate youth provision within the estate		• Football pitch development: This is being explored with CORE group, Mossley Pavilion, and Earview PS. • **Ballyearl Drive redevelopment: An opportunity was identified however consultation with the community is needed to address concerns.
Longer term feasibility options for redevelopment scheme at Ballyearl Drive to provide community space		• Allotment scheme: This is up and running successfully, with garages now better maintained. • Park improvements: The park is good but could be upgraded to cater to all abilities, given the nearby housing with additional needs provisions and Hillcroft School.
Feasibility study for youth, education and learning facility		• Education & Learning: Computer courses have been provided but training and employability opportunities would be beneficial.
Existing Youth Services (church based) continue to promote their services		• Church involvement: BB, Scouts, Girl Guides, football teams, first aid courses and mental health initiatives are available.

Building Community Confidence and Involvement

Objective/Action Notes	Community / Stakeholder Perception of Progress	Overall Findings from Focus Group
Map what capacity building and employability training is available and promote		• A monthly meeting with one large group and subgroups would help maintain momentum. Core Community Group's new chairperson feels the community is united and working well with figures like stakeholders, who have supported housing and community projects. • CORE group's engagement with children is progressing, but areas like Middle Mossley feel disconnected. • Social media, especially Facebook (with 1,200 members), and WhatsApp have improved communication, but there is still room for improvement. • Collaborative events like the Christmas Fair and summer schemes are popular, but youth programmes need more coordination and funding support is urgently required for activities and pensioner initiatives.
CORE undertake a campaign to encourage new members to get involved		
Promote allotments		
Improve communications (e.g. Newsletter or Facebook page)		
Develop a programme of community events including a community festival to promote community interaction and build positive relationships and confidence		

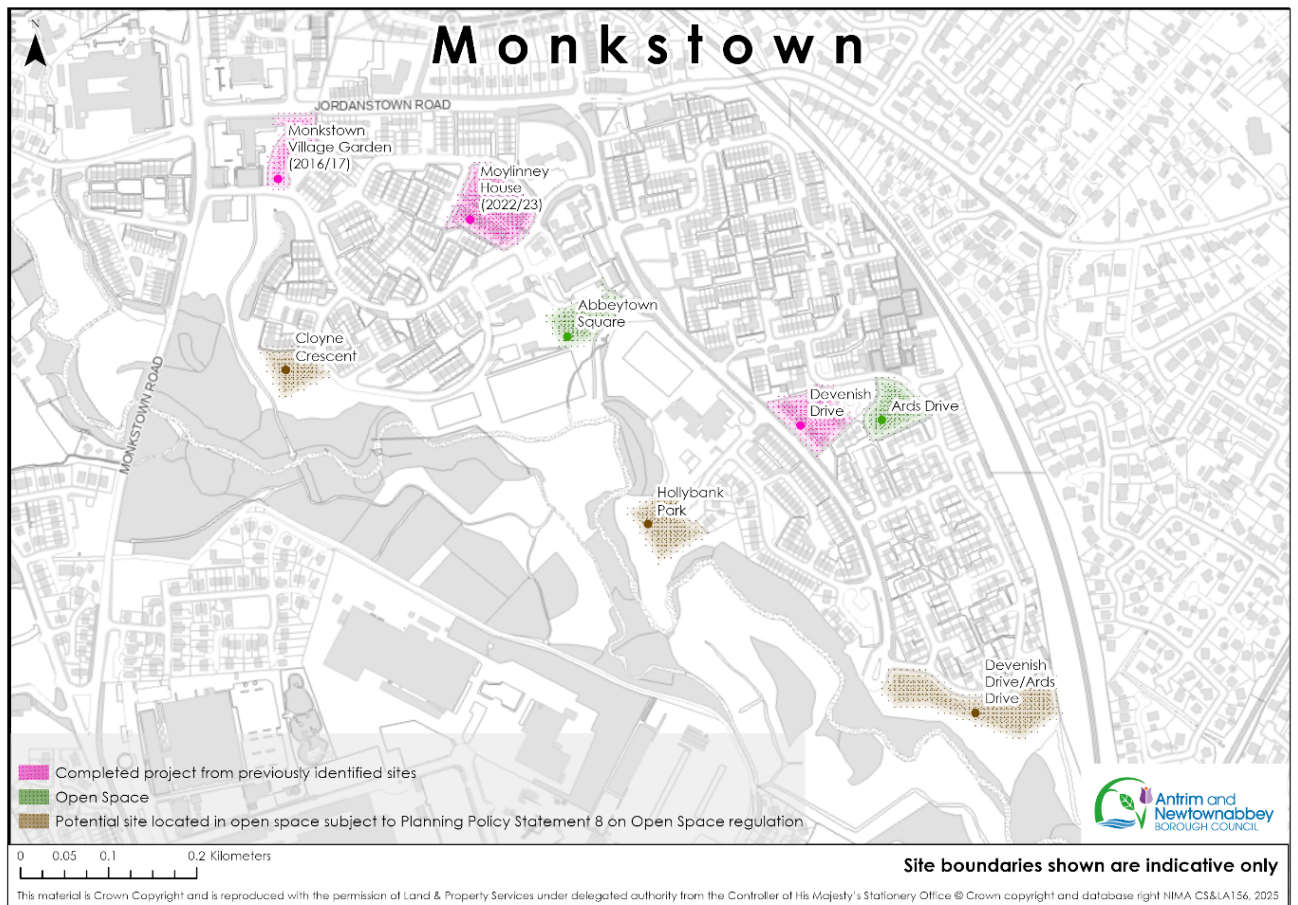
4.3 Mapping Exercise: Housing

As part of the Place Shaping evaluation, a mapping exercise was undertaken to visually assess the Monkstown and New Mossley area's progress since the Place Shaping Pilots and identify opportunities for future housing-led regeneration. This exercise seeks to establish how local assets have been developed or maximised to date, ascertain the progression of previously identified opportunity sites, and highlight any additional sites in the area since the previous study. This also re-evaluates existing opportunities and identifies new sites for residential and mixed-use development, providing a spatial planning perspective on achievements and potential for further development within both areas. The mapping exercise contributes to future planning efforts by providing a comprehensive visual assessment of completed projects, current assets, and potential development sites in Monkstown and New Mossley.

NIHE's Commissioning Prospectus 2024/25-2026/27 has identified a need for 20 social housing units in Monkstown and 56 in New Mossley. This need is derived from a comprehensive assessment of housing demand, considering factors such as the current waiting list for social housing, levels of homelessness, population demographics, and trends in household size. These figures are part of the broader SHDP, which aims to address unmet housing needs across Northern Ireland. The specific number for each area reflects a strategic guideline based on the analysis of local market issues and projected housing requirements. This need was reflected in feedback from community consultations. Stakeholder consultations indicated that the ongoing evaluation of potential sites for housing has identified some areas that may be viable to develop. Projected housing need is kept under annual review by the Housing Executive through the annual Housing Needs Assessment.

To identify the areas for assessment and to determine the status of various sites, this study utilised a multi-source methodology. Data was gathered from Place Shaping reports, which provided a foundational understanding of local assets and development potential. Consultations with NIHE offered valuable insights into current projects, challenges, and strategic priorities. Furthermore, the NIHE's Commissioning Prospectus (2024/25 - 2026/27) was a key resource, outlining social and intermediate housing requirements and strategic guidelines. The information from these sources was synthesised to create a comprehensive overview of the study area and to inform the evaluation of opportunity sites. The maps and accompanying tables below show the current status of previously identified sites, and planning history of potential sites identified during the evaluation.

Monkstown Mapping



Monkstown – Sites Identified in Place Shaping Pilot 2016

Site	Type	Status	Year Completed	No of Properties	Comments
Monkstown Village Garden	Community Space	Complete	2016/17	N/A	Continued to be a successfully used community space.
Moylinney House	Social Housing	Complete	2022/23	20	All properties allocated to applicants from the social housing waiting list.
Devenish Drive	Social Housing	Complete	2020/21	20	All properties allocated to applicants from the social housing waiting list.

Monkstown - Potential Sites Identified

Site	Type	Planning History	Comments
Ards Drive	Open Space	U/2009/0136/F – Temporary Open Space Pending Redevelopment (now expired).	Area of Open Space.
Devenish Drive/Ards Drive	Local Landscape Policy Area (under dBMAP 2015, Ref: MNY53) and Zoned Open Space (under dBMAP, Ref: 0S/NA/0006)	U/2009/0138/F - Temporary Open Space Pending Redevelopment (now expired).	Local Landscape Policy Area.
Hollybank Park	Area of Constraint on Mineral Development (under dBMAP 2015, Ref: NY 05/29), Site of Local Nature Conservation Importance (under dBMAP 2015, Ref: MNY 39/08), Local Landscape Policy Area (under dBMAP 2015, Ref: MNY53) and Zoned Open Space (under dBMAP, Ref: 0S/NA/0006)	None Noted	Various zonings in place including Local Landscape Policy Area.
Cloyne Crescent	Local Landscape Policy Area (under dBMAP 2015, Ref: MNY53) and Zoned Open Space (under dBMAP, Ref: 0S/NA/0006)	U/2008/0264/F – Site for Temporary Accommodation for NIHE improvement works (now expired).	Local Landscape Policy Area.
Lands opposite Abbeytown Square	Local Landscape Policy Area (under dBMAP 2015, Ref: MNY53)	N/A	Local Landscape Policy Area.

New Mossley – Sites Identified in Place Shaping Pilot 2018 - 2022

Site	Type	Status	Year Completed	No of Properties	Comments
Milewater Drive	Social Housing	Complete	2022/23	50	All properties allocated to applicants from the social housing waiting list.

New Mossley - Potential Sites Identified

Site	Type	Planning History	Comments
Ballyearl Drive	Zoned Housing Land (under dBMAP 2015, Ref: MNY05/20).	U/2010/0511/F – Residential Development of 215no. units – Granted July 2014 (partially completed). U/2012/0177/F – Residential Development of 25no. units – Granted April 2014 (now expired).	Housing Association currently considering feasibility for 69no. social housing units.
Manse Way	Zoned Open Space (under dBMAP 2015, Ref: OS/NA/0048).	U/2006/0477/F – Temporary Decant Site (now expired).	Lands northeast of this have been developed for social housing. Any additional development would be subject to PPS 8 on Open Space.

4.4 Summary of Consultations

The consultations with stakeholders and the community revealed several key findings for the Monkstown and New Mossley areas:

- **Community Cohesion:** Both areas demonstrated the importance of community cohesion. Monkstown has been successful in building and strengthening its community cohesion which has amplified the positive impact of the project. Conversely New Mossley has not had the same level of success in building cohesion in the community which has negatively impacted on progress.
- **Youth Engagement:** Lack of youth opportunities has contributed to anti-social behaviour in both areas. However, there is significantly less anti-social behaviour in Monkstown than in New Mossley. Youth programmes should be further developed in each area.
- **Infrastructure and Facilities:** New Mossley faces ongoing challenges with community infrastructure, with the lack of proper facilities hampering progress. Monkstown, on the other hand, has shown more stability in leadership and infrastructure development, though improvements in sustainable travel and green spaces are needed.
- **Communication Gaps:** There is a call for improved communication between community groups and statutory bodies / stakeholders to better coordinate projects and manage expectations in New Mossley.
- **Economic Development:** Stakeholders emphasised the need for greater economic links to local businesses, especially at Global Point, and where possible, to promote tourism opportunities in proximity to each area.
- **Funding and Resources:** Both communities face funding challenges, which are exacerbated by inconsistent collaborations between agencies and stakeholder engagement.
- **Housing Led Regeneration:**
 - Monkstown: While recent years have seen the completion and allocation of three schemes including Devenish Drive and Moylinney House, consultations emphasised some key areas for improvement. These included the need for strategically planned housing developments, greater transparency regarding wait times for single-occupancy properties, and enhanced maintenance of existing housing stock.
 - New Mossley: Community consultations revealed a positive reception to the social housing development completed in 2019. However, residents expressed a clear and ongoing need for additional housing options within the area to address unmet demand.

5.0 Outcomes – Strengths and Assets

Stakeholder feedback indicated that while the projects have successfully built on previous plans for Monkstown and New Mossley, aligning local development with regional goals, there is still work to do within each community. Although feedback and input from the community were gathered at the beginning of the projects and organised into actionable themes, communication and coordination gaps between stakeholders have slowed progress, particularly for initiatives requiring funding. While the initial visual mapping exercises were designed to engage the community, recent evaluations revealed that some participants were unaware of the outcomes from the Place Shaping consultations. Notably, progress has been made in housing-led regeneration, with completed projects in both areas, however, stakeholders emphasised the need for continued focus on strategically planned housing developments and addressing ongoing demand. Stakeholders highlighted the need for improved partnership working and better linkages and community involvement with local residents and businesses to fully realise the plan's aspirations. The table below details outcomes in relation to the parameters of the evaluation:

Project Parameter	Outcome
Did it build on existing and previous plans for Monkstown and New Mossley areas and the Borough, articulating on an agreed vision, aspirations, narrative, and unique selling points for both areas?	The project built on existing strategic plans for both areas, successfully aligning local development with regional goals.
Did it provide a strong evidence base to identify strengths, assets, and areas for action and to measure progress towards realising the aspirations in the plan?	A robust evidence base was established, identifying strengths, assets, and areas for action through consultations and data analysis. The resulting action areas formed the basis of the consultations with community and stakeholders
Did it prioritise actions from existing plans and strategies for inclusion in the plan that will be delivered over the life of the plan?	Actions from existing plans were identified, although progress on some was slower than expected due to funding and coordination challenges.
Did it evaluate housing-led regeneration opportunities and progress of previously identified sites?	The project assessed the progress of previously identified opportunity sites for housing-led regeneration in both Monkstown and New Mossley. New potential sites were identified, and existing opportunities were re-evaluated. However, community awareness of these efforts could be improved.
Did it include a spatial element and options (similar to the brief previously fulfilled by masterplans), utilising visual mapping and visioning techniques to make the plan clear and accessible?	Visual mapping was incorporated, intending to make the plan more accessible and engaging to the community, however it was not communicated as well as it could have been with many in the community unaware of the visual mapping.

Did it involve local residents, businesses, communities, and relevant statutory agencies & government departments in agreeing with the aspirations and in the development of both areas?	Local residents and businesses were involved, but there were some gaps in stakeholder input and communication due to changing roles and personnel.
Did it promote partnership working to realise the plan's aspirations?	Partnerships were promoted, but improvements are needed in consistency and communication.
Did it attract investment through having a strong vision and energy around the plan?	The plan fostered discussions on investment and attracted some funding, though more is needed for sustainability.
Did it generate discussion and ideas for living with and recovery from COVID-19 and prioritise resilience to future stresses and shocks?	Limited progress was made in relation to prioritising resilience to future stresses and shocks.

6.0 Recommendations

The following recommendations are based on the outcomes from consultations with stakeholders and the local community along with learnings from desk research.

Recommendations

- **Road Safety Infrastructure in New Mossley:** Urgent action is required to address road safety issues at the Manse Road / Ferguson Centre. A pedestrian crossing / zebra crossing needs to be actioned as a matter of urgency as the pathway here is used by local school children with no safety measures in place.
- **Establish Quarterly Community & Stakeholder Forums:** Regular forums in each area would improve communication and collaboration between stakeholders and community groups. These should focus on updates, challenges, shared goals, and open dialogue, with a consistent handover process within stakeholder bodies to maintain continuity.
- **Identify an Individual to Act as an Ambassador/Advocate for New Mossley:** An individual who could be a direct link and a trusted advocate for communities in New Mossley could improve the structure and progress of cohesion by driving direction and establishing priorities for residents. Consultations showed that this has been effective in accelerating progress in Monkstown.
- **Create a “Continuum of Community Development”:** Partnering with experienced community groups from areas like Monkstown or Ballyduff could inspire progress in New Mossley by offering mentorship, sharing best practices, and supporting the development of a structured volunteer team. This could involve knowledge exchange, capacity-building workshops, and training to strengthen networks and boost confidence for local change.
- **Housing Led Regeneration:** Evaluate previously identified opportunity sites to monitor progression. Highlight new assets that have been incorporated in the area since the Pilot and re-evaluate opportunities for housing led regeneration.
- **Secure Funding and Investment:** To build on Place Shaping outcomes, develop a clear, strategic plan to identify funding sources, including central funding and potential philanthropic sources, to support ongoing projects and ensure long-term growth and resilience for the area.
- **Youth Activity Hub:** Evaluate potential locations, particularly in New Mossley, including underused public buildings, to establish a safe, dedicated space for youth, offering activities to promote positive engagement.
- **Strengthen Infrastructure in New Mossley:** Develop community facilities and ensure that service level agreements are in place for their management to keep spaces accessible and well-used.
- **Address Anti-Social Behaviour:** Engage PSNI, PCSP, community groups and youth organisations to address vandalism and promote safer community environments.
- **Improve Volunteering and Community Involvement:** Create campaigns to raise awareness about volunteer opportunities and build community capacity. Assist with sourcing or provide training and resources to build confidence and skills, fostering a stronger community spirit and involvement.
- **Enhance Green Spaces:** Develop a comprehensive plan to revitalise green spaces with community-led initiatives such as clean-ups, planting projects, and outdoor activities, integrating these areas into daily community life to promote health and well-being.
- **Invest in Sustainable Travel Options:** Continue to develop infrastructure for walking and cycling to improve connections between neighbourhoods and key areas.
- **Promote Local Employment Opportunities:** Connect communities with job opportunities at Global Point and facilitate skills training aligned with business needs. Consider how each community could be further included within local job fairs.

7.0 Action plan

The tables below identify actions to outline specific steps to contribute towards long-term achieving objectives identified during the evaluation process. These are designed to provide direction for stakeholders and community organisations in Place Shaping activities. The 'Potential Partners' column indicates suggested organisations or stakeholders who could potentially lead or significantly contribute to the successful implementation of each action. Assignment of lead partners for each objective will be formally determined by the Community Planning Partnership, taking into account their respective mandates, resources, and strategic priorities. The Community Planning Partnership will facilitate discussions and agreements to ensure appropriate partner involvement and accountability for driving these actions forward, recognising that successful implementation will rely on collaborative efforts and the allocation of responsibilities to suitable partners. It is expected that actions will be delivered by suitable partners, for example, NIHE may be the lead partner for actions in relation to housing-led regeneration.

General Actions		
Objective	Action	Potential Partner
Establish quarterly community & stakeholder forums	Organise initial meetings and establish Terms of Reference for the forums.	ANBC, NIHE, Local community groups, key stakeholders
	Establish a clear handover process within stakeholder bodies to ensure that the status of objectives is communicated effectively when personnel changes occur.	ANBC, NIHE, Local community groups, key stakeholders
Address Anti-Social Behaviour	Engage with PSNI, PCSP, and youth organisations to develop action plans.	Community Groups, PSNI, PCSP, NIHE, ANBC
	Implement community outreach programmes to promote safer environments.	Community Groups, PSNI, PCSP, ANBC
	Secure funding for partnership delivery.	Community Groups, PSNI, PCSP, ANBC
Improve Volunteering and Community Involvement	Launch awareness campaigns to promote volunteering opportunities.	Volunteer Now, Community Groups, ANBC
	Provide training and resources to build community capacity.	ANBC Community Groups, Volunteer Now
Secure Funding and Investment	Develop a strategic plan for securing funding and resources.	ANBC, NIHE
	Implement funding initiatives to support ongoing projects.	ANBC, NIHE
Housing Led Regeneration	Annual review of projected housing need.	NIHE

Monkstown Actions		
Objective	Action	Potential Partner
Healthcare Need – Travel Concern	Engage with healthcare providers and transport authorities to improve access for the community.	ANBC, NHSCT, Translink
	Develop a sustainable transport strategy to support healthcare access.	ANBC, NHSCT, Translink
Address youth anti-social behaviour at Global Point site	Establish an ASB subgroup and set up meeting with PSNI and local youth organisations.	ANBC, PCSP, PSNI, Community Groups
	Make better use of community facilities and ensure better coordination between statutory bodies.	ANBC, Community Groups
	Identify a range of diversionary activities and secure funding to develop.	ANBC, PCSP, PSNI, Community Groups
Lobby for infrastructure improvements along Jordanstown Road.	Establish a committee of community members and stakeholders to identify key infrastructure needs and the potential benefits of improvements. Other objectives include developing a timeline, conducting consultations for input and support, developing a clear proposal to present to local officials to lobby for proposed improvements; and tracking progress against agreed timeline.	Community Groups ANBC, NIHE, DfI, DfC
Strengthen relationship between green space and local people	Nurture linkages with the local community and Three Mile Water. Carnmoney Hill and others could be planned to realise further benefits.	Community Groups, ANBC, Tourism NI
	Promote increased use of existing walkways and sustainable travel.	Community Groups, ANBC, Sustrans

New Mossley Actions		
Objective	Action	Potential Partner
Identify an individual to act as an advocate / ambassador for New Mossley	Identify and nominate an individual as a community advocate.	ANBC, Community Groups
Develop a programme of community events	Increase the number of community events / festivals to promote community interaction and build positive relationships and confidence.	ANBC, Community Groups
Create a “Continuum of Community Development”	Initiate mentorship programmes between Monkstown/Ballyduff and New Mossley community groups.	ANBC, Community Groups
	Conduct training sessions and workshops to build capacity in New Mossley.	ANBC, Community Groups
	Assist community groups to develop a strategic action plan to focus their activities.	ANBC, Community Groups

Improving communications	Assist local community group to develop quarterly newsletter similar to newsletter that has been developed in Monkstown.	ANBC, Community Groups
Improve Lighting in Area	Undertake a review of lighting in the area to identify hotspots where there is a need to enhance lighting.	ANBC, DfI, NIHE, Community Groups
Youth Activity Hub	Assess potential sites for repurposing existing buildings.	ANBC, NIHE, PCSP, Community Groups
	Lobby EA to reinstate youth provision within the estate.	ANBC, NIHE, PCSP, Community Groups
	Develop a dedicated space for youth engagement activities.	ANBC, Community Groups, NIHE, PCSP, EA
Enhance Green Spaces	Organise community clean-ups and planting projects, linking with allotment projects	ANBC, Community Groups,
	Develop a strategic plan to integrate green spaces into community life.	ANBC, NIHE
Strengthen Infrastructure in New Mossley	Improve road safety to alleviate concerns around school children. Road/zebra crossing needed as a matter of urgency.	ANBC, DfI
	Develop community facilities with clear management plans.	ANBC
	Ensure service level agreements for ongoing maintenance of and accessibility of walkways and roads.	ANBC, NIHE, DfI
Invest in Sustainable Travel Options	Action maintenance of walking and cycling infrastructure to improve connectivity.	Community Groups, Local Schools, ANBC, NIHE, DfI, DfC, Sustrans
	Establish safe, accessible pathways linking neighbourhoods and key areas.	Community Groups ANBC, NIHE, DfI

8.0 Conclusion

This evaluation reviewed the Place Shaping Pilots in Monkstown and New Mossley, assessing the delivery of key outcomes through desk-based research, stakeholder interviews, and community engagement. It found that the Pilots had a broadly positive impact, with meaningful progress in both areas.

In Monkstown, the strongest outcomes related to a cohesive community and a strengthened core, with a well-connected and engaged local network. However, further work is needed to improve physical connections through green spaces and enhance the wider landscape.

In New Mossley, there was evidence of increased pride in place, improved housing and open space, and growing community confidence and participation. Concerns around travel, road safety, and parking were frequently raised, indicating the need for further attention to mobility and accessibility. While physical regeneration and new housing have been welcomed, residents expressed a desire for continued investment and long-term improvements.

A significant shared finding was the clear call for structured, consistent communication to support community involvement. The Place Shaping Pilots were well aligned with the strategic direction for Northern Ireland, and the accompanying mapping, recommendations, and action plan provide a strong foundation for a collaborative, multi-agency approach to sustaining progress and supporting future opportunities in both communities.

Appendices

Appendix A - Stakeholder Consultees

- NHSCT
- Volunteer Now
- PCSP
- Invest NI
- Sport NI
- NIFRS
- PSNI
- Tourism NI

Appendix B - Community Consultees

- Monkstown Village Centre
- Monkstown Community Association
- Church of Ireland
- Abbey Presbyterian Church
- New Mossley Allotment Group
- CORE New Mossley
- Mossley West Community Group

Appendix C - Glossary of Acronyms

- **ANBC:** Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council
- **NIHE:** Northern Ireland Housing Executive
- **DEA:** District Electoral Area
- **Dfi:** Department for Infrastructure
- **dPS:** draft Plan Strategy
- **LDP:** Local Development Plan
- **PAC:** Planning Appeals Commission
- **SPPS:** Strategic Planning Policy Statement
- **NHSCT:** Northern Health and Social Care Trust
- **PSNI:** Police Service of Northern Ireland
- **EA:** Education Authority
- **PCSP:** Policing and Community Safety Partnerships
- **DfC:** Department for Communities



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