

Public Space Management Action Group

Thursday 1st December 2022



Belfast
City Centre Management

Agenda

1. **Introductions & Apologies**
2. **Minutes & Actions of the last meeting**
3. **Translink Update**
 - 3.1 **Weavers Cross Update - Gemma Thompson**
 - 3.2 **Glengall Street Working Group - Daniel Donnelly**
4. **City Centre Overview**
 - 4.1 **DfC Update - Gary Hammond**
 - 4.2 **Key Milestones - Geraldine Duggan**
 - 4.3 **Events - Niall Burke**
5. **City Centre Developments - Niall Burke**
6. **Any Other Business**
7. **Date Of Next Meeting - Thursday 2nd March 2023, 2pm**



2. Minutes of the last meeting - Agreed Actions

	Action	Lead
2.1	Action: Gary to engage with colleagues at DfC regarding High Street design proposals and forward to BCCM if available.	GH
2.2	Action: Geraldine to engage with Paul King, Dfl, regarding much needed improvements on York Street/Frederick Street junction, also on Dunbar Link and Donegall Street/Frederick Street to improve safety for pedestrians.	GD
2.3	Action: Niall to circulate presentation, including events given at the meeting.	NB
2.4	Action: BCCM to circulate link to both Translink presentations kindly given at the meeting today.	BCCM
2.5	Action: Hannah to forward requirements that should be included for an assistance dog spending area to Translink for consideration.	HL



Belfast Grand Central Station

at WEAVERS CROSS



Member of the SNC-Lavalin Group



WX BY NUMBERS



Economic Value to NI economy

£1billion+

additional spending in the economy*

8000+

FTE jobs in Grade A offices with FDI potential

30%+

potential for uplift in property values and rates

20m+

per annum public transport passenger footfall with all island connectivity



Social Value to Belfast

1000+
social value activities

5000+
construction employment years

20
acre brownfield site regeneration

£25m
urban renewal investment



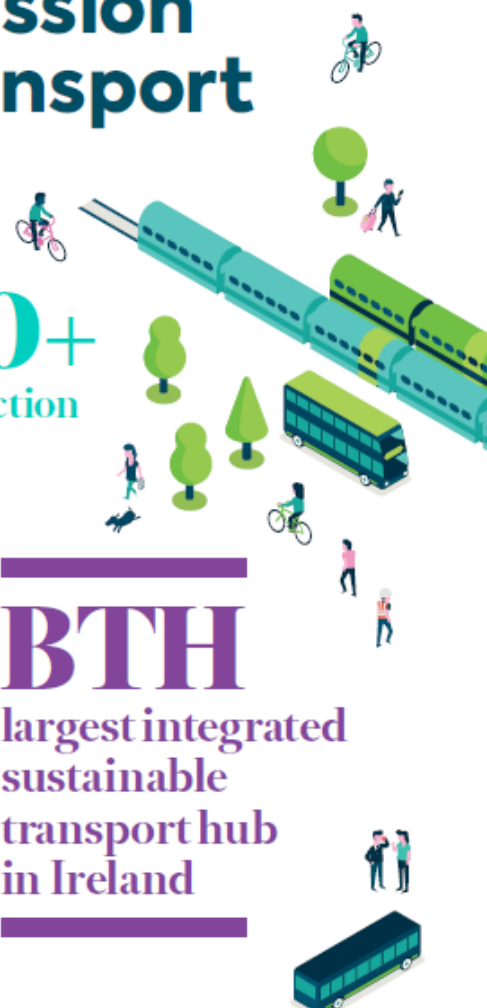
Environmental Value to NI

ZERO emission public transport by 2040

20,000+
tonnes per year reduction in GHG emissions

★★★★
BREEAM
Excellent
the worlds leading sustainability assessment for infrastructure

BTH
largest integrated sustainable transport hub in Ireland



*Fine Margins Report 2020 by CBI and Oxford Economics





Translink



**WEAVERS
CROSS**







Useable public space



The problem









*How can we affect
change?*





Lights



Camera



**24 hour
CCTV in
operation**

Action?



- Security systems - better linkages
- Co-ordination - sharing of information
- Addressing recesses and other 'hotspots'
- Working with PSNI and third sector



*How can we work
together?*



4. City Centre Overview

4.1 DfC Environmental Schemes– Gary Hammond

- **Belfast: Streets Ahead – Phase 3;** The Design Team are reviewing the original scheme designs and updating to take account of changes, such as A Bolder Vision for Belfast. Work is ongoing to address a number of issues before a new planning application can be submitted and a new business case completed.
- **Belfast: Streets Ahead – Phase 5;** The Design Team continues to develop the concept designs for the project area. DfC has engaged with DfI to ensure that the design proposals are in line with DfI's revised Belfast Metropolitan Transport Plan which is currently being developed. It is intended that the construction phase will take place following the completion of Phase 3.
- **High Street** – This is a DfI lead project with DfC contributing funding towards the public realm improvements. DfC is waiting to hear from DfI regarding when the project will be progressed.
- **Clifton Gateway Project** – Work to re-design the carriageway from Carlisle Circus to the Clifton Street/Frederick Street junction is ongoing with this work anticipated to be completed for the end of the year. Following this DfC will consider the next steps.
- **Five Cs Public Realm Scheme** – Developed design is underway with Key Stakeholder engagement planned for the coming months. It is intended that a planning application for the project area will be submitted in mid 2023.

NB: progression of all schemes are subject to completion of a business case, planning approval and budget being in place.



OPEN SPACES

- **Blackstaff Square** – DfC is currently considering taking forward a section of the Phase 5 project around Blackstaff Square ahead of the main project. Discussions regarding this is ongoing.
- **Bank Square** – New bollards have been ordered to close off the Square to traffic now that the cordon for the Bank Buildings have been removed. A one-way system is in place, entering via Bank Street and exiting via Berry Street. Work is continuing with the Council and local businesses to bring the Square back to life.
- **Custom House Square** – The Square is currently being used to facilitate the refurbishment of Custom House. Completion date is estimated to be W/C 2/1/23
- **Writer's Square** – Tumble Circus's Winter Circus will be on site from 12th December through to the first week in January. The Department are currently exploring options for animation of the area.



4.2 Key Milestones – Geraldine Duggan

4.2.1 Ulster University

- Significant uplift in footfall and activity in the city centre since start of term.
- Vibrant and high impact city dressing campaign to welcome students and staff to the new Campus and the city centre.

4.2.2 CastleCourt

- Development ongoing and on programme.
- Starbucks café bringing activity onto Royal Avenue.

4.2.3 Castle Junction

- Cordon Removal has reopened Castle Place and linkages to Royal Avenue, Castle Street & Bank Square.
- Cycle only & pavement café on junction at Castle Street.

4.2 Key Milestones – Geraldine Duggan

4.2.4 Dunbar Link/ York Street Junction

- Interim works commenced to increase central reservation for safer pedestrian crossing.
- Longer term plans in place for Fredrick Street / Dunbar Link junction
- timings of works to be agreed.

4.2.5 Glider G3 (BRT2)

- Preferred North / South route announced.
- Proposed G3 route along the Antrim Road in the north, and along the Ormeau Road and Saintfield Road in the south.
- The Titanic Quarter Glider G2 service will also be extended to connect with Queen's University and the City Hospital.
- <https://www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/news/odowd-announces-preferred-route-north-south-glider-extension>

4.3 Events – Niall Burke

Events / Festivals	Date
Belfast Christmas Market (Belfast City Hall)	Sat 19 th Nov - Thu 22 nd Dec
The Cure (SSE Arena)	Fri 2 nd Dec
Bowling for Soup (Belfast Telegraph Building)	Fri 2 nd Dec
Blossoms (Belfast Telegraph Building)	Mon 5 th Dec
The Vamps (SSE Arena)	Mon 5 th Dec
Boxing - Michael Conlon V Karim Guerfi (SSE Arena)	Sat 10 th Dec
Westlife: The Wild Dreams Tour (SSE Arena)	Thu 15 th Dec - Sun 18 th Dec
Winter Circus by Tumble Circus (Writer's Square)	Fri 16 th Dec - Mon 2 nd Jan
Rod Stewart (SSE Arena)	Tue 20 th Dec
Winter Skate (SSE Arena)	Thu 22 nd - Wed 4 th Jan
Shine NYE Rebuke, Dense & Pika + More (Belfast Telegraph Building)	Sat 31 st Dec
Arrival From Sweden with the Ulster Orchestra (SSE Arena)	Sat 7 th Jan
Dropkick Murphys (Belfast Telegraph Building)	Fri 13 th Jan

4.3 Events – Niall Burke

Events / Festivals	Date
The Arenacross Tour (SSE Arena)	Fri 20th & Sat 21st Jan
Lewis Capaldi (SSE Arena)	Sun 29th Jan
The 1975 (SSE Arena)	Mon 30th Jan
2023 Cazoo Premier League Darts (SSE Arena)	Thu 2nd Feb
Shine + Mark Blair (Belfast Telegraph Building)	Sat 4th Feb
Strictly Come Dancing Live Tour 2023 (SSE Arena)	Tue 7th & Wed 8th Feb
Peter Kay (SSE Arena)	Thu 23rd - Sat 25th Feb
Belters Only (Belfast Telegraph Building)	Sat 25th Feb

5. City Centre Developments – Niall Burke

BCC Planning decisions between 10th August 2022 and 3rd November 2022

Reference Number	Location	Proposal	Application Status
LA04/2022/0780/F	Units 3 and 4 Cleaver House 56 Donegall Place Belfast BT1 5BB.	Change of use from retail (class A1) and cosmetic clinic (class D1) at ground floor and amalgamation of hot food bar (sui generis) at ground and first floor to deliver 2No. restaurants (sui generis), including internal and external alterations and all associated site works.	PERMISSION GRANTED



Reference Number	Location	Proposal	Application Status
LA04/2021/2882/F	Footpath outside Pizza On The Square Donegall Square West Belfast BT1 6JA	Removal of existing BT phone box and installation of a proposed replacement BT Street Hub and associated display of advertisement to both sides of the unit	PERMISSION GRANTED

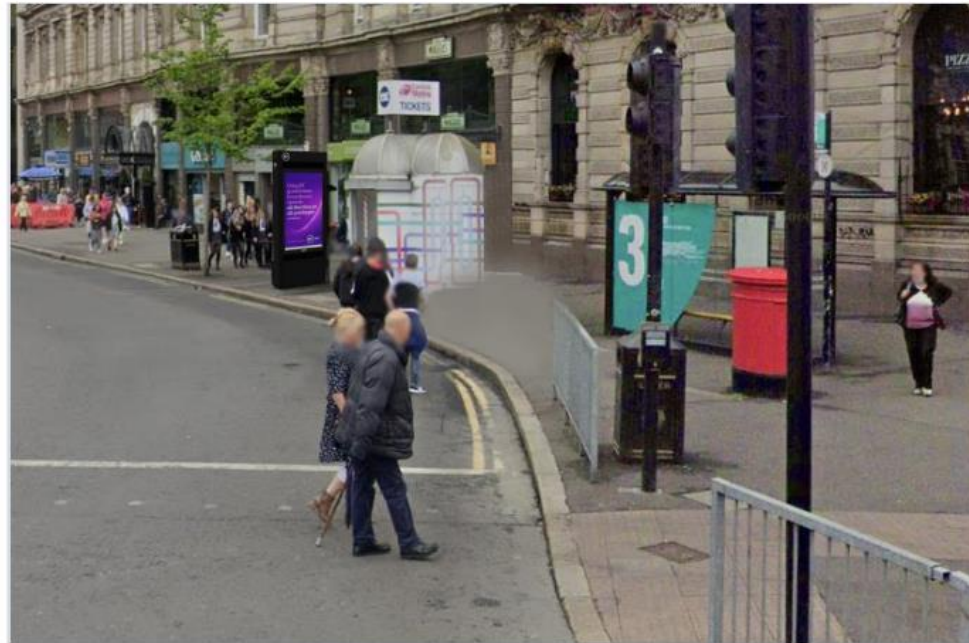


STREET HUB

Existing & Proposed Views



Existing

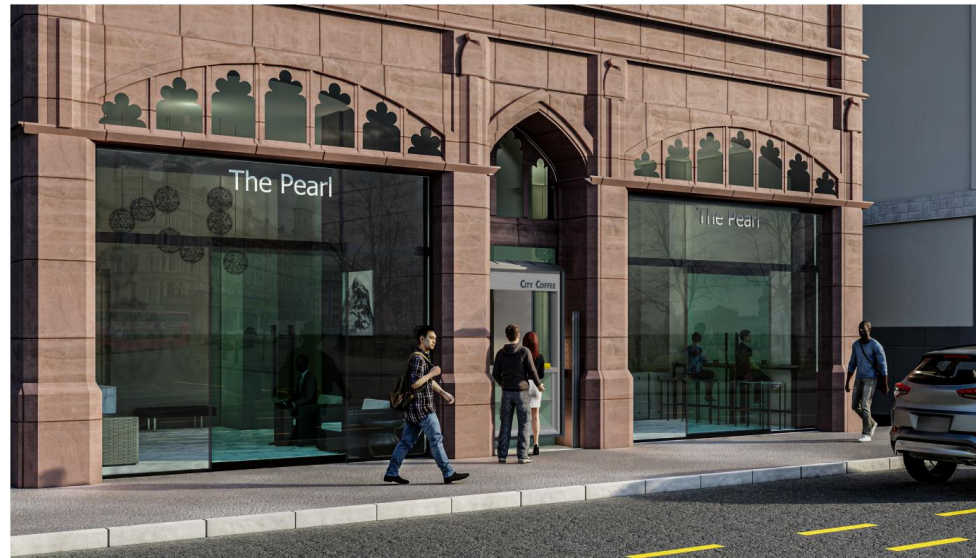


Proposed

Reference Number	Location	Proposal	Application Status
LA04/2021/1157/F	Great Victoria Street Baptist Church 1 Hope Street Belfast BT12 5EE.	Construction of replacement Church with provision of in-curtilage parking and all associated site works (amended drawings / additional information)	PERMISSION GRANTED



Reference Number	Location	Proposal	Application Status
LA04/2022/0178/F	Pearl Assurance House 1-3 Donegall Square East 1-5 Chichester Street Belfast BT1 5HB.	Change of use from storage at basement level, and retail/temporary cafe at ground floor level to a new restaurant; cafe/coffee shop and coffee dock at ground level; refurbishment and extension of existing offices at first to fifth floors; new glazed opening with access to balcony area to west elevation, and dormer window to south elevation and all associated works.	PERMISSION GRANTED



Reference Number	Location	Proposal	Application Status
LA04/2022/0358/F	9 Arthur Square Belfast BT1 4FD	Change of use from class A1 shop to Sui Generis Restaurant with associated internal alterations	PERMISSION GRANTED
LA04/2022/0360/LBC	9 Arthur Square Belfast BT1 4FD.	Internal alterations, including the part demolition of modern partitions to create a back-of-house area; new wall and floor finishes; installation of a new lighting scheme; installation of banquet seating and servery; and minor rerouting of internal ducting to facilitate a Change of use from Class A1 shop to Suis Generis Restaurant.	PERMISSION GRANTED



Reference Number	Location	Proposal	Application Status
LA04/2022/1752/PAN	Lands immediately north of Cross Harbour Bridge (M3) east of Donegall Quay and south of AC Marriott Hotel City Quays Belfast.	Erection of residential apartment development comprising circa. 270 residential units, landscaping and associated site works.	APPLICATION RECEIVED (Wed 14 Sep 2022)



6. Any Other Business

7. Date of Next Meeting

- **Thursday 2nd March 2023**

