

The Old Belfast

- Growth as industrial port and city in 19th century
- Communities developed around industries
- History of sectarian division
- Economic disadvantage, alienation
- 'Troubles' created insular communities
- Economic development localised
- North Belfast a microcosm of the Northern Ireland conflict

The New Belfast

- Knowledge based economy
- Attracting new investment
- Education a major advantage
- Thriving city centre
- Developing unique city quarters
- Strong community leadership
- Vision for the future of the city
- Part of the international community

North Belfast Statistics

- Population 86,000
- 23% under 16
- 45% Catholic: 52% Protestant
- 6% unemployed
- Patchwork of small communities
- Interface areas between communities
- Fragmented communities
- Potential to destabilise other parts of Northern Ireland



INTERFACE COMMUNITIES

- Segregation - Community Culture
 - Alienation – insecurity = hostility
 - Confidence – aggression = hostility
- Generational sectarianism/violence
- Contested space/shared space
- Identity / territoriality - paramilitaries
- Insular
- Competing needs
- “Political competitiveness”

THE CHALLENGES

- Create 'shared' space
- Identify mutual needs and benefits
- Secure land to address need for housing and business
- Business and industry are key drivers for change
- Acknowledging impact on the 'other' community
- Balance local community needs with City needs
- Connect North Belfast to the growth and investment in the rest of Belfast

Issues

- Capacity Building - create strong communities
- Build on best practice
- Focus on long term impact
- Develop effective partnerships - within and between communities
- Develop leadership within communities - not gatekeepers.
- Physical development joins communities
- Challenge political competition.

Crumlin Rd Gaol/ Girdwood Park

- Gaol and former military site
- Located on major interface and close to city centre
- Create benefits for people living locally
- Benefit people in North Belfast
- Open north Belfast up to visitors and investment
- Join north Belfast to the city
- Challenge perceptions
- Create an international focus

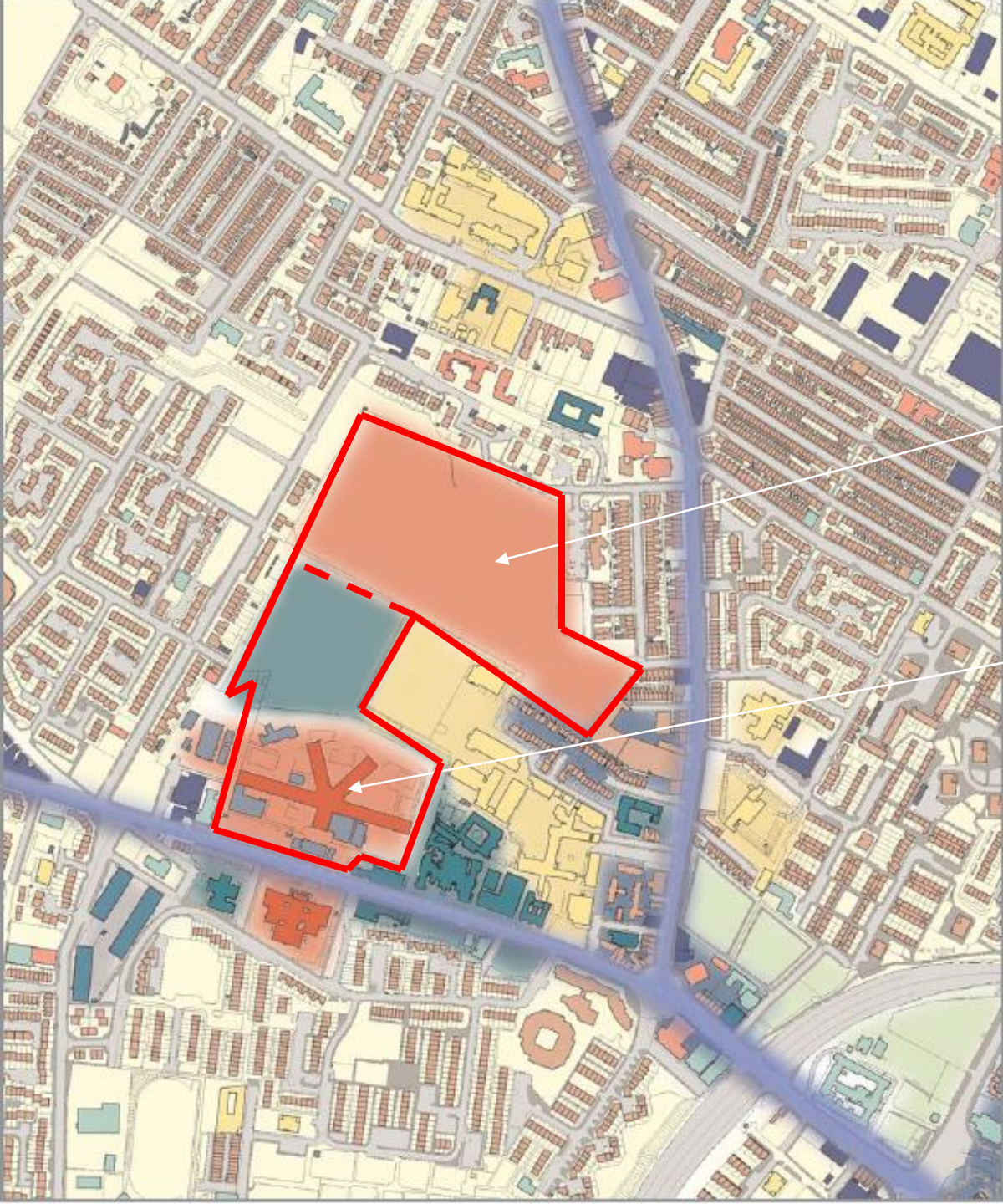
Mission Statement

To create a regeneration project of international significance which brings maximum economic, social and environmental benefits to the local and wider community and in so doing creates a vibrant, inclusive and diverse environment which attracts present and future generations of people to live, work and visit.

What type of community do we want here in 20 years time?



The site



Girdwood Park
14 acres

Crumlin Road Gaol
13 acres, listed buildings

Masterplan

- Build on the assets of the site
- People & community focussed approach
- Build local skills, provide training & advice
- Create more jobs for local people
- More cohesive society – shared use
- Attract, create and maintain wealth in the community
- Significant added value
- Safety & Security

Public Consultation - Key Stages

Advisory Panel

Best practise visits

Consultation Stage

- 5 public meetings on draft Masterplan
- Series of meetings with a range of stakeholders
- 908 responses received.

Equality Impact Assessment

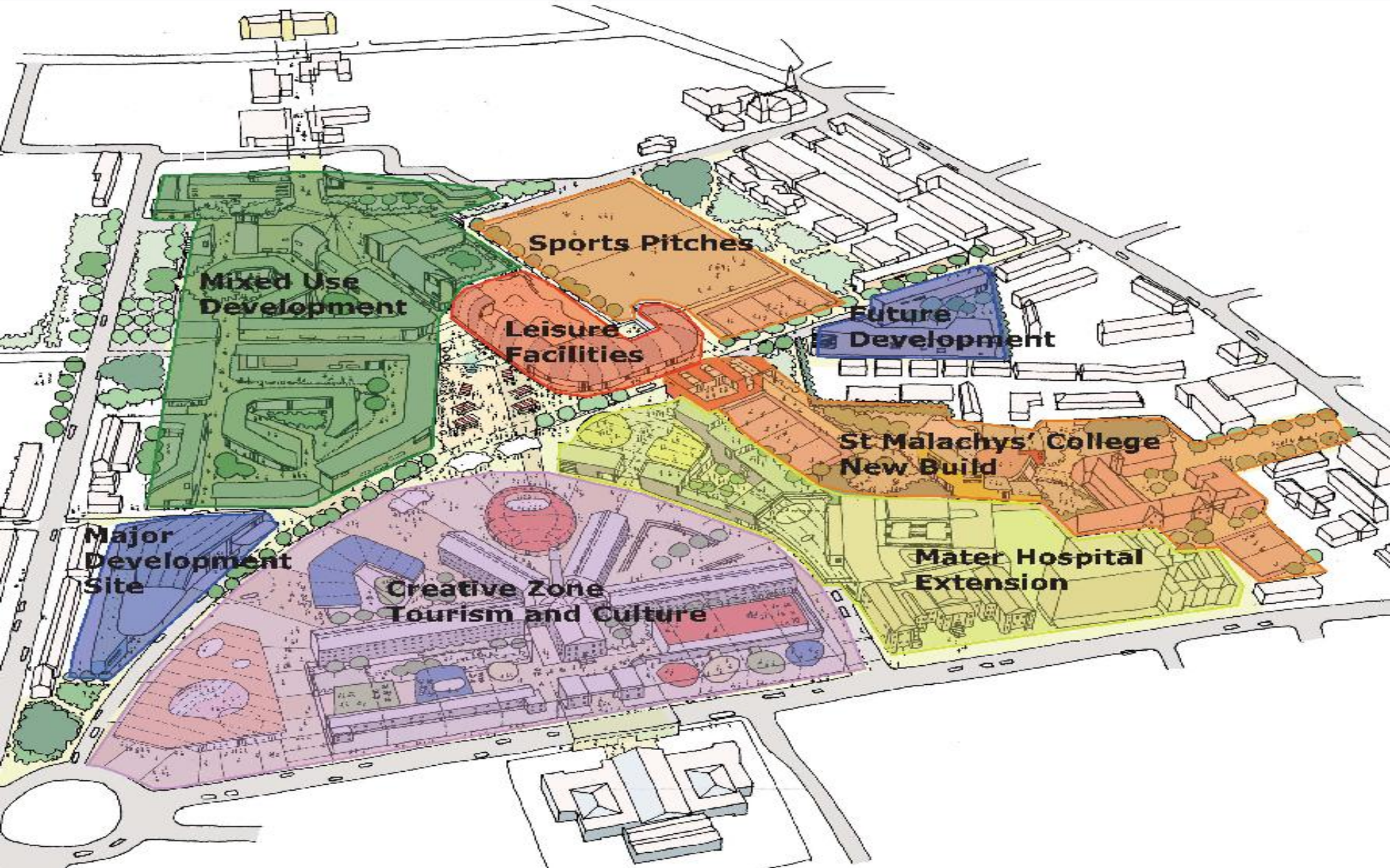
- 527 organisations canvassed

Proposed Potential Use

- International tourist destination
- Training and learning zone
- Centre for Citizenship and Youth activity
- Museum
- Art gallery
- Hotel accommodation
- Public and private housing
- Sports & leisure zone
- New shared travel routes
- Industrial units and unique shopping
- Health Zones

Crumlin Road Gaol - August 2007





Implementation and Development

- Ensure economic & social benefits reach all communities
- Ensure inclusivity
- Build fairness, equality of opportunity into implementation processes.
- Work with partner organisations
- Promote Good Relations
- Attract and secure support and resources
- Cost effective

Key Challenges

- Manage expectations – local & regional
- Must attract people & money to North Belfast
- Equality of opportunity, addressing diversity,
- Sustain momentum - Public Access = public confidence
- Agreement of key stakeholders to proposals
- Housing – community agreement
- Implementation of government policy on Shared Future
- Ensure Value for Money