



# Belfast Region City Deal

It's a big deal



# What is the Belfast Region City Deal?

The Belfast Region City Deal (BRCD) is a once in a generation opportunity to press the fast forward button on inclusive economic growth.

Six councils in the Belfast Region have partnered with Queen's University Belfast and Ulster University to work with the UK government and NI Civil Service to secure up to £1 billion of investment for innovation, digital, transport and tourism infrastructure over the next decade.

The BRCD partners will jointly invest in the most rapidly growing sectors of our economy; digital and ICT, health and life sciences, advanced manufacturing, creative industries and tourism; generating tens of thousands of new and better jobs across the region over the next 10 years.

**innovation and digital**

**tourism-led regeneration**

**infrastructure**

**employability and skills**



# Delivering jobs through innovation

What's the Deal? £1 billion investment to boost the economy and create jobs.

We're focused on making the Belfast Region a global investment destination by creating outstanding innovation and research facilities - including the Global Innovation Institute, housing NI's first peta scale 'AI-Cloud' Supercomputer.

In an unprecedented collaboration, our two universities are working together with our business partners to plan major new innovation and research investment into creative industries, life and health sciences and advanced manufacturing.

Collectively, this investment will support job growth and improve productivity in the sectors where NI can lead the way.

And we'll be sharing our world class expertise in cybersecurity and data analytics with the private sector through regional innovation centres.

These will build business capacity and encourage people of all ages and backgrounds to fully engage in the Knowledge Economy.

We're also prioritising tens of millions of investment in superfast digital connectivity to enable businesses across the region to connect to new markets and opportunities.

**Belfast Region City Deal is a big deal.**

Can we count on your support to help make it happen?



# Boosting tourism

Our regional tourism industry is experiencing unprecedented growth.

We want to capitalise on that by investing almost £200 million in additional world class visitor attractions, capable of helping to create 25,000 new jobs across NI by 2030. These visitor attractions play to our unique strengths; our culture, history, heritage and natural environment. They'll also benefit from our leading edge capabilities in Virtual and Augmented Reality.

We want visitors to stay longer and spend more. We plan to do this by extending the tourist route from Belfast through Carrickfergus, towards the breathtaking Causeway Coast

and Glens along North Down and into the majestic Mourne Mountains. Our investment will also extend the Gobbins Cliff and Coastal Path.

We will enhance existing investment plans for Hillsborough Castle. By integrating the Castle Fort, forest and gardens, we'll create a heritage attraction to rival Powerscourt in Wicklow.

Our proposed £100 million Belfast Destination will showcase the city's creative and artistic talent, heritage and real life stories in three enthralling elements: the Belfast Story, the Belfast Film Centre and the Belfast Exhibition Space - all in one state-of-the-art, city centre location.



## Connecting people to opportunity

All partners will deliver accessible training and job opportunities, specifically targeting people living in areas of deprivation who've been unable to access or maintain employment due to challenges associated with skills, caring responsibilities or ill health.

We'll realign investment into an employability and skills programme to ensure that people living in the Belfast Region are primed to secure and deliver on the jobs we're creating. With the support of local business, contractors, further education colleges and government agencies, we'll radically increase regional upskilling opportunities through apprenticeship hubs and a variety of apprenticeship schemes, with a specific focus on digital skills.

An investment of over £200 million in infrastructure will significantly enhance physical access to jobs. Phase two of the Belfast Rapid Transit system would extend connectivity with employment centres in north Belfast, Newtownabbey and neighbouring Lisburn and Castlereagh council areas; providing low cost access to educational institutes, hospitals and employment centres in central and south Belfast. The Southern Relief Road is also poised to play a critical role by supporting Newry's regional retail and tourism offer and facilitating trade via Warrenpoint Port and Harbour.

Our proposed investment of over £100 million would catalyse tourism-led regeneration around Carrickfergus - one of Europe's oldest castles and walled towns and regenerate Bangor Waterfront, a key regional town; building on the tourist potential of the magical Ards Peninsula and Strangford Lough.



 #brcitydeal

 [www.belfastcity.gov.uk/  
belfastregioncitydeal](http://www.belfastcity.gov.uk/belfastregioncitydeal)

# Belfast Region City Deal is a big deal.

Can we count on your support  
to help make it happen?

 #brcitydeal

 [www.belfastcity.gov.uk/belfastregioncitydeal](http://www.belfastcity.gov.uk/belfastregioncitydeal)



**Belfast  
City Council**



**LCCC  
Lisburn &  
Castlereagh  
City Council**



**Mid & East  
Antrim  
Borough Council**



**Ards and  
North Down  
Borough Council**



Comhairle Ceantair  
an Iúir, Mhúrn  
agus an Dúin  
**Newry, Mourne  
and Down  
District Council**



**QUEEN'S  
UNIVERSITY  
BELFAST**



**NORTHERN**  
Regional College **nrc**



**SERC**



Southern  
Regional  
College

## How you can help:

- Raise awareness of the Belfast Region City Deal in your network
- Support on social media using **#brcitydeal**
- Collaborate with us to secure economic growth across the region
- Identify and share opportunities for government, education and business sectors to work together

