

NEWRY CITY CENTRE RE:GENERATION

Your Questions Answered

Q Will the project result in a loss of car parking spaces in the city?

A The Council is committed to relocating car parking spaces to match future car parking demand.



Q Will the Newry City Centre Regeneration proposals decrease footfall to businesses?

A No, the proposals aim to increase footfall, not reduce it.



Q Why are we planning the Newry City Centre Regeneration scheme in the midst of COVID-19?

A Increasing footfall to Newry is more important than ever to assist recovery from COVID-19 and the decline in high street retail.



Q Who is funding the regeneration scheme?

A Council is funding the:

- theatre/ conference
- civic and regional hub

Belfast Region City Deal is funding:

- public realm
- additional office fund.

Region deal funding is reliant on Council funding.



Q Why is the Albert Basin Park not part of the current consultation?

A The Albert Basin Park is a Newry City Centre Regeneration project, and was consulted on in 2020, but it is not a Belfast Region City deal funded project.



Q Can the Belfast Region City Deal fund the Albert Basin Park?

A No, Belfast Region City Deal funding is linked to projects identified within the original deal submission. When the concept design and business case is completed for the Albert Basin Park the necessary funding will be identified.

Q COVID-19 means everyone works from home, why does Council need offices?

A A blended home / office worker style is acknowledged as the future operating model by many organisations. Council will adopt a more blended working style to deliver services when restrictions are lifted.



Q Why does Council need a new civic hub?

A The Council's Newry premises are approaching end of life, are not fit for purpose, and cannot effectively deliver agile services or accommodate a more blended working style.

Q Why has the proposed civic hub not got smaller due to home working?

A Blended working will free up space in the civic hub for use by the region's Northern Ireland Civil Service staff - hence revised name 'civic and regional hub'.

Q Why is the Council proposing extra office space in Newry?

A Newry needs to retain and attract new investment and business; to do so Newry needs significant office space of a high standard. The Council will use the Belfast Region City Deal funding to motivate the private sector to develop the office space.



Q Who calculated the benefits in the outline business case?

A Our independent economists have calculated benefits that have been challenged through the Belfast Region City Deal business case review process.



re:launch

