



Northern Ireland  
Assembly

## Research and Information Service Briefing Paper

Paper 000/00

2 March 2015

NIAR 9-15

**Dr Dan Hull, Anne Campbell & Christopher Eisenstadt**

# Local council spending on culture and heritage

## 1 Comparison across 26 councils

The following table provides a comparison of culture and heritage expenditure for each of the 26 councils. The figures are derived from the annual reports of each council which provide standardised headings for a number of different categories of service expenditure, including, for example, 'culture and heritage', 'recreation and sport', 'cemetery, cremation and mortuary', and 'waste disposal'.

It can be seen from this table that there is a high degree of variation among the 26 councils. This may in part be caused by contrasting policy choices, but also differences in the nature of culture and heritage assets within each council area. For example, some of the councils with a purpose-built arts centre will tend to spend more on culture. Similarly, some council areas will contain heritage assets such as archaeological sites for which there is a degree of cost for conservation and presentation.

The following table also indicates that during the financial year 2013/14, two councils varied their gross expenditure significantly. This is due to a number of accounting adjustments, possibly made in preparation for the merging of councils from 2015 onwards.

	£ 2011/12	£ 2012/13	£ 2013/14
Antrim	871,315	982,019	<a href="#">866,349</a>
Ards	<a href="#">290,750</a>	<a href="#">272,822</a>	<a href="#">309,804</a>
Armagh	<a href="#">1,681,483</a>	<a href="#">1,722,459</a>	<a href="#">1,650,409</a>
Ballymena	2,655,871	2,543,696	<a href="#">2,487,187</a>
Ballymoney	<a href="#">476,849</a>	<a href="#">627,857</a>	<a href="#">-1,021,662</a>
Banbridge	<a href="#">590,285</a>	<a href="#">603,966</a>	<a href="#">-440,139</a>
Belfast	<a href="#">10,605,761</a>	<a href="#">10,914,605</a>	<a href="#">7,346,506</a>
Carrickfergus	586,462	515,543	<a href="#">501,054</a>
Castlereagh	<a href="#">108,225</a>	<a href="#">108,219</a>	<a href="#">118,981</a>
Coleraine	1,220,383	1,096,047	<a href="#">820,422</a>
Cookstown	<a href="#">882,959</a>	<a href="#">872,479</a>	<a href="#">954,087</a>
Craigavon	<a href="#">648,284</a>	<a href="#">620,069</a>	<a href="#">605,260</a>
Derry	<a href="#">3,395,540</a>	<a href="#">11,762,057</a>	<a href="#">16,060,248</a>
Down	<a href="#">1,490,221</a>	<a href="#">1,719,165</a>	<a href="#">1,987,470</a>
Dungannon & South Tyrone	<a href="#">302,213</a>	<a href="#">1,218,598</a>	<a href="#">893,035</a>
Fermanagh	<a href="#">978,668</a>	<a href="#">1,057,200</a>	<a href="#">1,130,754</a>
Larne	280,592	210,381	<a href="#">210,381</a>
Limavady	762,938	747,228	<a href="#">1,539,946</a>
Lisburn	<a href="#">3,707,547</a>	<a href="#">3,493,276</a>	<a href="#">2,183,894</a>
Magherafelt	<a href="#">25,000</a>	<a href="#">25,000</a>	<a href="#">25,000</a>
Moyle	80,993	85,039	<a href="#">89,477</a>
Newry and Mourne	<a href="#">1,479,971</a>	<a href="#">1,521,138</a>	<a href="#">3,134,468</a>
Newtownabbey	<a href="#">4,412,885</a>	<a href="#">3,305,070</a>	<a href="#">1,924,875</a>
North Down	<a href="#">745,856</a>	<a href="#">834,180</a>	<a href="#">1,429,898</a>
Omagh	<a href="#">1,346,282</a>	<a href="#">1,210,897</a>	<a href="#">839,234</a>
Strabane	<a href="#">693,805</a>	<a href="#">783,605</a>	<a href="#">507,070</a>
TOTAL	2,040,087	1,994,502	1,346,304

**Table 1: Culture and heritage expenditure by local councils<sup>1</sup>**

Clearly, the population levels within each of the 26 councils vary significantly. Per capita totals for each of the councils are provided in the following table. Due to the accounting adjustments mentioned above, these calculations were made for 2011/12 and 2012/13 only.

<sup>1</sup> The table provides links to the relevant council annual reports, where available, online.

	Current Population (MYE 2013)	£ Per capita 2011/12	£ Per capita 2012/13	% change
Antrim	53,978	16.14	18.19	▲ 13%
Ards	78,549	3.70	3.47	▼ -6%
Armagh	60,423	27.83	28.51	▲ 2%
Ballymena	64,762	41.01	39.28	▼ -4%
Ballymoney	31,659	15.06	19.83	▲ 32%
Banbridge	48,905	12.07	12.35	▲ 2%
Belfast	281,735	37.64	38.74	▲ 3%
Carrickfergus	39,015	15.03	13.21	▼ -12%
Castlereagh	67,883	1.59	1.59	▲ 0%
Coleraine	59,043	20.67	18.56	▼ -10%
Cookstown	37,552	23.51	23.23	▼ -1%
Craigavon	95,474	6.79	6.49	▼ -4%
Derry	108,610	31.26	108.30	▲ 246%
Down	70,825	21.04	24.27	▲ 15%
Dungannon & South Tyrone	59,298	5.10	20.55	▲ 303%
Fermanagh	62,527	15.65	16.91	▲ 8%
Larne	32,220	8.71	6.53	▼ -25%
Limavady	33,886	22.51	22.05	▼ -2%
Lisburn	121,990	30.39	28.64	▼ -6%
Magherafelt	45,826	0.55	0.55	– 0%
Moyle	17,111	4.73	4.97	▲ 5%
Newry and Mourne	101,612	14.56	14.97	▲ 3%
Newtownabbey	85,558	51.58	38.63	▼ -25%
North Down	79,424	9.39	10.50	▲ 12%
Omagh	51,838	25.97	23.36	▼ -10%
Strabane	40,022	17.34	19.58	▲ 13%
TOTAL	91,860	18.46	21.66	▼ -2%

**Table 2: Culture and heritage expenditure per capita**

It can be seen from this table that a number of councils have increased or decreased their spending on culture and heritage significantly. Derry City Council increased its per capita expenditure as a result of the Derry/Londonderry UK City of Culture programme. Dungannon and South Tyrone also increased its expenditure by a large amount, and it can be seen from the figures in the table in Annex 1 that this higher level of spending was largely sustained by Dungannon and South Tyrone into 2013/14.

By contrast, large decreases in culture and heritage spending have taken place in Larne and Newtownabbey. It can be seen from the map in Annex 2 that Newtownabbey is one of the council areas with an Arts Council-funded arts centre.

## 2 Comparison across 11 councils

The per capita figures for 2012/13 have been used to create an estimate of council spending on culture and heritage within the 11 new council areas in Annex 3. This estimate is an approximation due to the complexities of the transition from the old to the new council areas. This is particularly the case with the outline of the new councils in Belfast, in Newry, Mourne and Down, and in Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon, where the estimates should be treated with caution.

For the sake of clarity, Annex 4 sets out the nature of the transition between the old council areas and the new jurisdictions.

The estimates displayed on the map in Annex 3 indicate that a number of previously low spending councils will be merged with areas of higher expenditure. For example, Moyle spent £4.97 per head on culture and heritage in 2012/13, but may spend around £18.04 as part of the Causeway, Coast and Glens council. Similarly, Castlereagh spent £1.59 per head, but within Lisburn and Castlereagh may spend £18.97. Magherafelt has consistently spent £0.55 per head for the last three financial years, but will spend significantly more as part of the larger Mid-Ulster council area. The amalgamation of Derry with Strabane may significantly add to Strabane's previous spending of £19.58 per head.

It follows, therefore, that some councils will be spending less per head as a result of their amalgamation with lower spending councils. Armagh spent £28.51 per head in 2012/13, but may halve this to around £14.39 as a result of amalgamation with Banbridge and Craigavon.

## Annex 1: Culture and heritage expenditure by local councils

	£ 2011/12	£ 2012/13	£ 2013/14	Percentage Change 2011/12 - 2012/13	Current Population (MYE 2013)	£ Per capita spend 2011/12	£ Per capita spend 2012/13	£ Per capita spend 2013/14
<b>Causeway Coast District Council:</b>								
Ballymoney	<a href="#">476,849</a>	<a href="#">627,857</a>	<a href="#">-1,021,662</a>	32%	31,659	£15.06	£19.83	-£32.27
Coleraine	1,220,383	1,096,047	<a href="#">820,422</a>	-10%	59,043	£20.67	£18.56	£13.90
Limavady	762,938	747,228	<a href="#">1,539,946</a>	-2%	33,886	£22.51	£22.05	£45.44
Moyle	80,993	85,039	<a href="#">89,477</a>	5%	17,111	£4.73	£4.97	£5.23
TOTAL	2,541,163	2,556,171	1,428,183	1%	141,699	£17.93	£18.04	£10.08
<b>Mid-Antrim District Council:</b>								
Ballymena	2,655,871	2,543,696	<a href="#">2,487,187</a>	-4%	64,762	£41.01	£39.28	£38.41
Carrickfergus	586,462	515,543	<a href="#">501,054</a>	-12%	39,015	£15.03	£13.21	£12.84
Larne	280,592	210,381	<a href="#">210,381</a>	-25%	32,220	£8.71	£6.53	£6.53
TOTAL	3,522,925	3,269,620	3,198,622	-7%	135,997	£25.90	£24.04	£23.52
<b>Antrim &amp; Newtownabbey:</b>								
Antrim	871,315	982,019	<a href="#">866,349</a>	13%	53,978	£16.14	£18.19	£16.05
Newtownabbey	<a href="#">4,412,885</a>	<a href="#">3,305,070</a>	<a href="#">1,924,875</a>	-25%	85,558	£51.58	£38.63	£22.50
TOTAL	5,284,200	4,287,089	2,791,224	-19%	139,536	£37.87	£30.72	£20.00
<b>Armagh, Banbridge &amp; Craigavon:</b>								
Armagh	<a href="#">1,681,483</a>	<a href="#">1,722,459</a>	<a href="#">1,650,409</a>	2%	60,423	£27.83	£28.51	£27.31
Banbridge	<a href="#">590,285</a>	<a href="#">603,966</a>	<a href="#">-440,139</a>	2%	48,905	£12.07	£12.35	-£9.00
Craigavon	<a href="#">648,284</a>	<a href="#">620,069</a>	<a href="#">605,260</a>	-4%	95,474	£6.79	£6.49	£6.34
TOTAL	2,920,052	2,946,494	1,815,530	1%	204,802	£14.26	£14.39	£8.86

	£ 2011/12	£ 2012/13	£ 2013/14	Percentage Change 2011/12 - 2012/13	Current Population (MYE 2013)	£ Per capita spend 2011/12	£ Per capita spend 2012/13	£ Per capita spend 2013/14
<b><u>Belfast:</u></b>								
Belfast	<a href="#">10,605,761</a>	<a href="#">10,914,605</a>	<a href="#">7,346,506</a>	3%	281,735	£37.64	£38.74	£26.08
<b><u>Derry &amp; Strabane:</u></b>								
Derry	<a href="#">3,395,540</a>	<a href="#">11,762,057</a>	<a href="#">16,060,248</a>	246%	108,610	£31.26	£108.30	£147.87
Strabane	<a href="#">693,805</a>	<a href="#">783,605</a>	<a href="#">507,070</a>	13%	40,022	£17.34	£19.58	£12.67
TOTAL	4,089,345	12,545,662	16,567,318	207%	148,632	£27.51	£84.41	£111.47
<b><u>Fermanagh &amp; Omagh:</u></b>								
Fermanagh	<a href="#">978,668</a>	<a href="#">1,057,200</a>	<a href="#">1,130,754</a>	8%	62,527	£15.65	£16.91	£18.08
Omagh	<a href="#">1,346,282</a>	<a href="#">1,210,897</a>	<a href="#">839,234</a>	-10%	51,838	£25.97	£23.36	£16.19
TOTAL	2,324,950	2,268,097	1,969,988	-2%	114,365	£20.33	£19.83	£17.23
<b><u>Mid-Ulster:</u></b>								
Magherafelt	<a href="#">25,000</a>	<a href="#">25,000</a>	<a href="#">25,000</a>	0%	45,826	£0.55	£0.55	£0.55
Cookstown	<a href="#">882,959</a>	<a href="#">872,479</a>	<a href="#">954,087</a>	-1%	37,552	£23.51	£23.23	£25.41
Dungannon & South Tyrone	<a href="#">302,213</a>	<a href="#">1,218,598</a>	<a href="#">893,035</a>	303%	59,298	£5.10	£20.55	£15.06
TOTAL	1,210,172	2,116,077	1,872,122	75%	142,676	£8.48	£14.83	£13.12
<b><u>Newry, Mourne &amp; Down:</u></b>								
Newry and Mourne	<a href="#">1,479,971</a>	<a href="#">1,521,138</a>	<a href="#">3,134,468</a>	3%	101,612	£14.56	£14.97	£30.85
Down	<a href="#">1,490,221</a>	<a href="#">1,719,165</a>	<a href="#">1,987,470</a>	15%	70,825	£21.04	£24.27	£28.06
TOTAL	2,970,192	3,240,303	5,121,938	9%	172,437	£17.22	£18.79	£29.70

	£ 2011/12	£ 2012/13	£ 2013/14	Percentage Change 2011/12 - 2012/13	Current Population (MYE 2013)	£ Per capita spend 2011/12	£ Per capita spend 2012/13	£ Per capita spend 2013/14
<b><u>North Down &amp; Ards:</u></b>								
North Down	<a href="#">745,856</a>	<a href="#">834,180</a>	<a href="#">1,429,898</a>	12%	79,424	£9.39	£10.50	£18.00
Ards	<a href="#">290,750</a>	<a href="#">272,822</a>	<a href="#">309,804</a>	-6%	78,549	£3.70	£3.47	£3.94
TOTAL	1,036,606	1,107,002	1,739,702	7%	157,973	£6.56	£7.01	£11.01
<b><u>Lisburn &amp; Castlereagh:</u></b>								
Lisburn	<a href="#">3,707,547</a>	<a href="#">3,493,276</a>	<a href="#">2,183,894</a>	-6%	121,990	£30.39	£28.64	£17.90
Castlereagh	<a href="#">108,225</a>	<a href="#">108,219</a>	<a href="#">118,981</a>	0%	67,883	£1.59	£1.59	£1.75
TOTAL	3,815,772	3,601,495	2,302,875	-6%	189,873	£20.10	£18.97	£12.13
NOTES:								
Per-capita spend based on amounts spent divided by 2013 population estimates.								
Larne 2013/14 spend based on unaudited accounts for that year.								
Ballymoney 2013/14 figure represents an accounting adjustment relating to the revaluation of the Council's Town Hall.								

# Annex 2:

## Spending per capita on culture and heritage by the 26 Local Government Councils (2012/13)

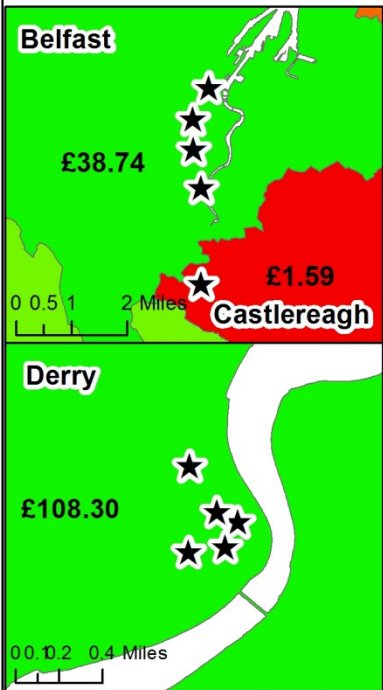
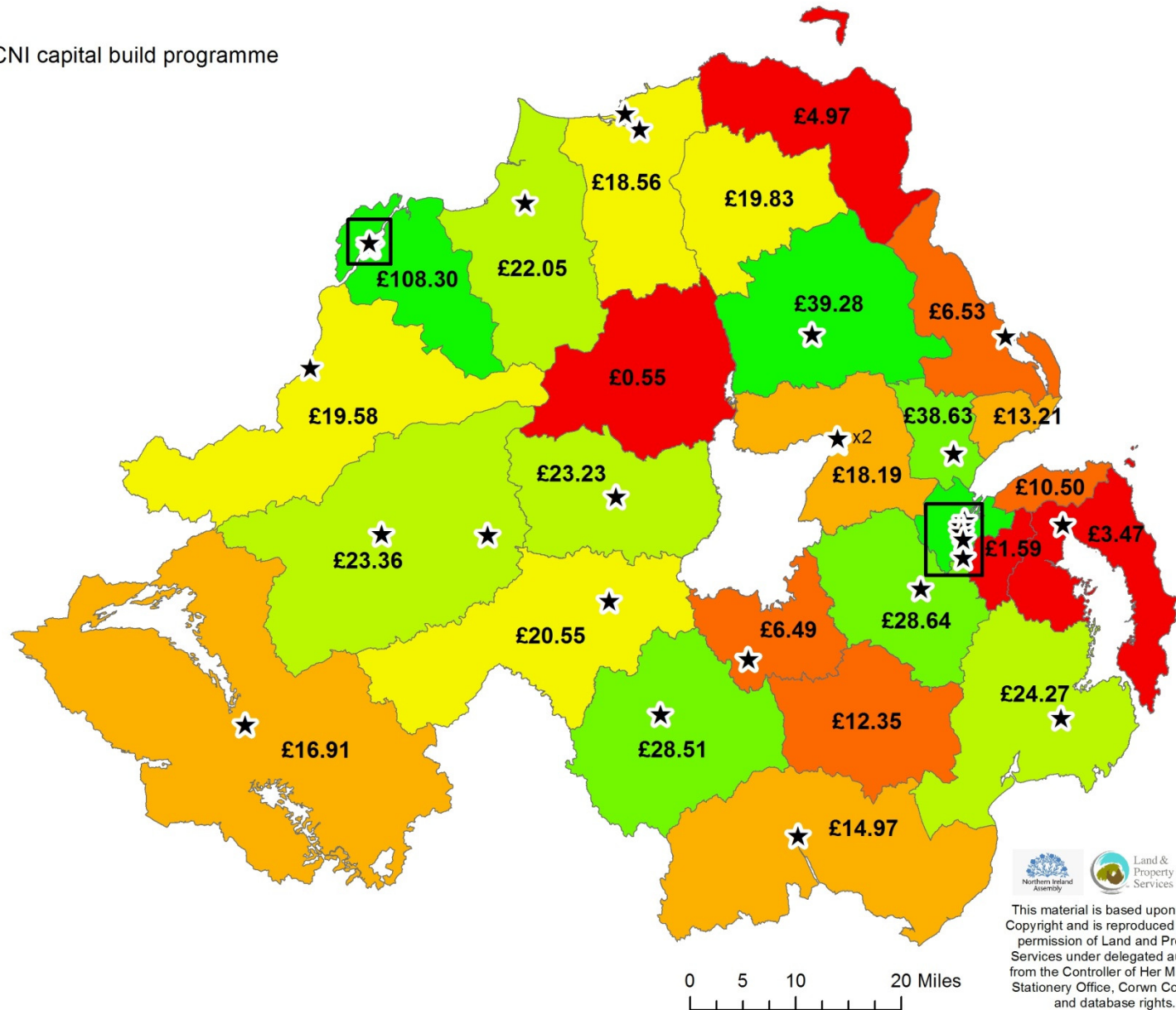
### Legend

★ Arts centres funded by ACNI capital build programme

### Spend per capita

Pounds (£)

- £0.55 - £4.97
- £4.98 - £12.35
- £12.36 - £18.19
- £18.20 - £20.55
- £20.56 - £24.27
- £24.28 - £38.63
- £38.64 - £108.30



Northern Ireland Assembly  
Land & Property Services

This material is based upon Crown Copyright and is reproduced with the permission of Land and Property Services under delegated authority from the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, Crown Copyright and database rights.



# Annex 3:

## Estimated spending per capita on culture and heritage by the 11 Local Government Councils

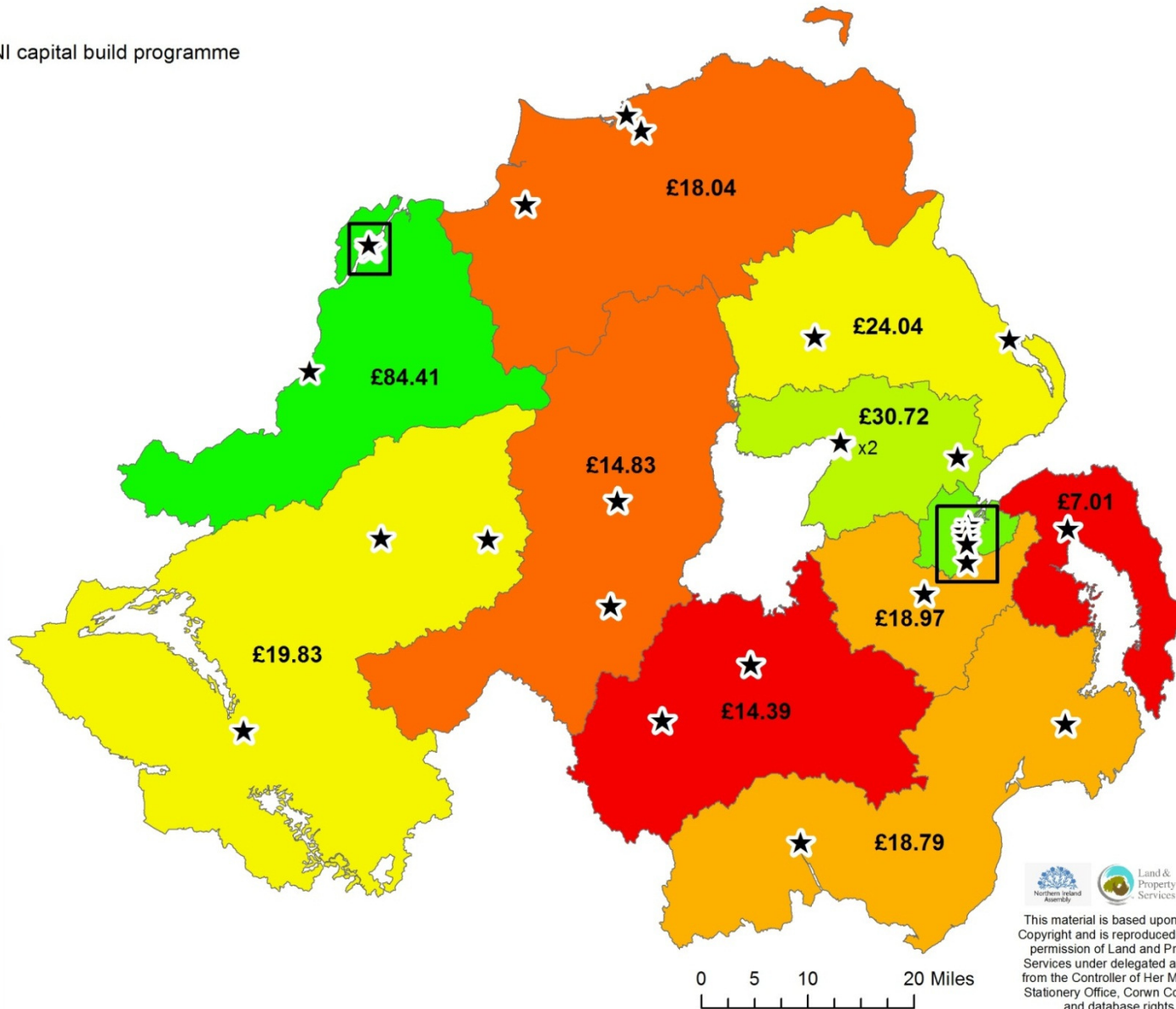
### Legend

★ Arts centres funded by ACNI capital build programme

### Spending per capita

Pounds (£)

- £7.01 - £14.39
- £14.40 - £18.04
- £18.05 - £18.97
- £18.98 - £24.04
- £24.05 - £30.72
- £30.73 - £38.74
- £38.75 - £84.41



Northern Ireland Assembly  
Land & Property Services

This material is based upon Crown Copyright and is reproduced with the permission of Land and Property Services under delegated authority from the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, Crown Copyright and database rights.

# Annex 4:

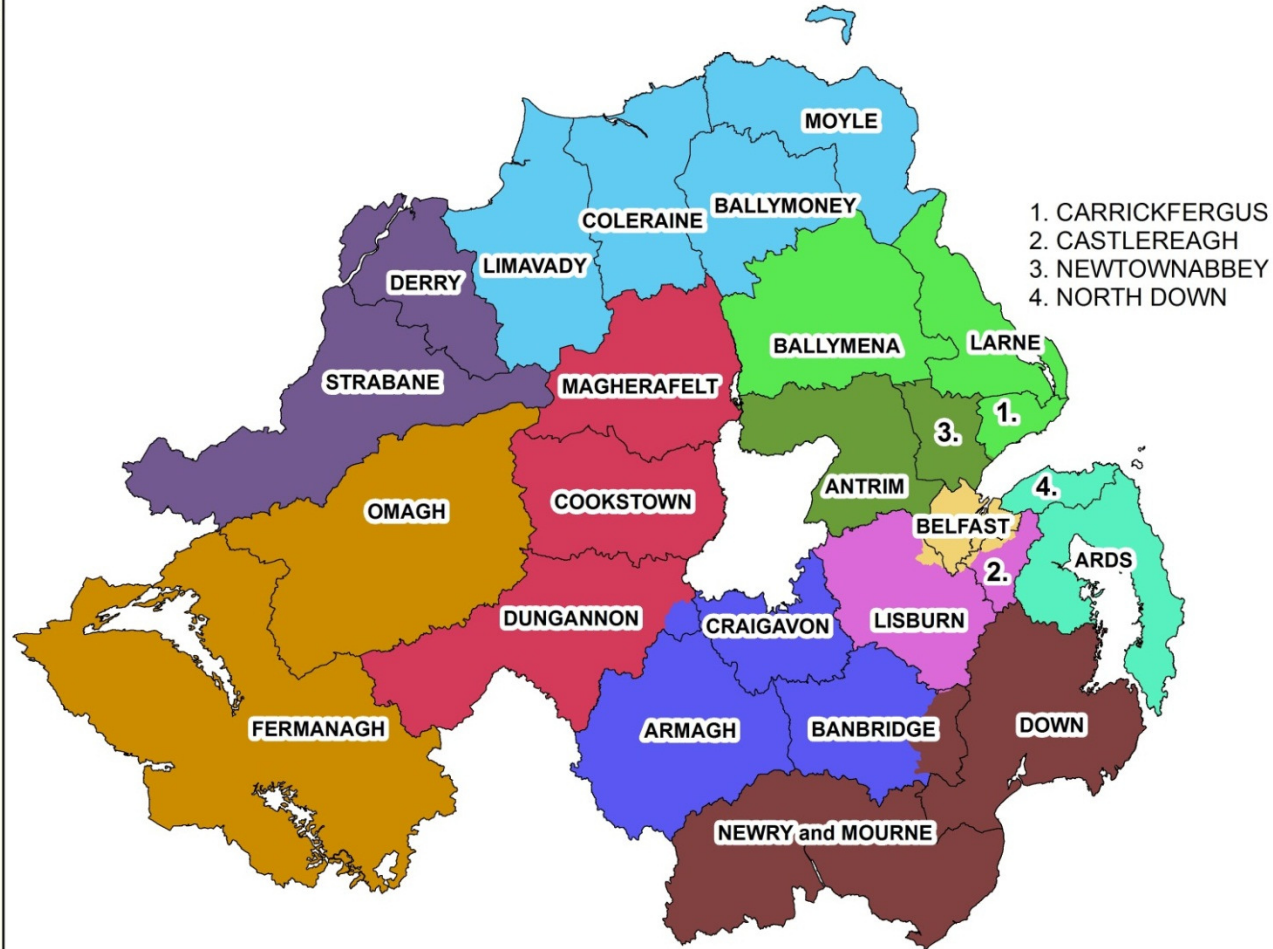
## Local Government District Boundaries Order 1993 and Order 2012

### Legend


Local Government District Order 1993

### Local Government District Order 2012

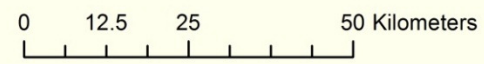
- Antrim and Newtownabbey
- Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon
- Belfast
- Causeway Coast and Glens
- Derry and Strabane
- Fermanagh and Omagh
- Lisburn and Castlereagh
- Mid Ulster
- Mid and East Antrim
- Newry, Mourne and Down
- North Down and Ards



1. CARRICKFERGUS
2. CASTLEREAGH
3. NEWTOWNABBEY
4. NORTH DOWN



  
 This material is based upon Crown Copyright and is reproduced with the permission of Land and Property Services under delegated authority from the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown copyright and database rights.



\*At the time of publishing this map (April 2014) the Local Government Districts (Order 1993) are the current boundaries. Powers are to be transferred to the 11 Local Government Districts (Order 2012) by April 2015.