

**From: Minister Lyons**  
**Via Email**

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Our ref: AQW 41537/22-27

13 March 2026

Carál Ní Chuilín MLA  
Northern Ireland Assembly  
Parliament Buildings  
Ballymiscaw  
Stormont

Dear Carál

**AQW 41537/22-27** - The Minister for Communities to detail any funding awarded to community and voluntary sector groups in North Belfast, including a breakdown of each funding award and the groups awarded, since February 2022.

The answer to the above Assembly Question has been placed in the Assembly library due to the volume of information provided in the response.

Yours sincerely



**Gordon Lyons MLA**  
**Minister for Communities**

### **AQW 41537/22-27**

Since February 2022, Voluntary and Community Division has provided £4.65 million in direct funding to community and voluntary groups in North Belfast, plus £10.2 million to Belfast City Council through the Community Support Programme to support local community and voluntary initiatives.

Community Empowerment Division has delivered approximately £12.5million in funding through the Neighbourhood Renewal Revenue and Capital, Areas at Risk (AaR) and Small Pockets of Deprivation (SPODs) programmes.

Funding awarded by public funders should be uploaded to the Government Funding Database, which is publicly accessible at <https://govfundingpublic.nics.gov.uk>.

**Table 1** – details funding provided to the Voluntary and Community Sector groups in North Belfast via Department for Communities programmes, including:

- Women’s Regional Infrastructure Support Programme
- Regional Infrastructure Support Programme (Generic and Faith)
- Community Investment Fund
- Best Practice and Innovation
- Community Support Programme

**Table 2** – details funding provided by the Community Empowerment Division to Voluntary & Community Sector groups in North Belfast via Department for Communities programmes, including:

- Neighbourhood Renewal Revenue and Capital

- Areas at Risk (AaR)
- Small Pockets of Deprivation (SPODs)

**Table 1**

**DfC/VCS Funding Programmes**

<b>Funding Programme</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Feb 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022</b>	<b>2022/23</b>	<b>2023/24</b>	<b>2024/25</b>	<b>2025/26</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Women's Regional Infrastructure Support Programme</b>	<b>Women's Support Network</b>	£ 14,458.14	£ 88,203.79	£ 87,983.28	£ 92,613.98	£ 92,613.99	£ <b>375,873.18</b>
<b>Regional Infrastructure Support Programme (Generic and Faith)</b>	<b>Northern Ireland Council for Voluntary Action (NICVA)</b>	£ 145,736.62	£ 1,096,092.14	£903,255.28.	£ 952,492.04	£ 1,239,226.32	£ <b>3,433,547.12</b>
<b>Community Investment Fund</b>	<b>Ashton Community Trust</b>	£ 7,221.39	£ 45,556.96	£ 45,065.56	£ 47,318.84	£ 51,557.53	£ <b>196,720.28</b>
<b>Best Practice and Innovation</b>	<b>Development Trusts NI (DTNI)</b>	£ 20,490.27	£ 148,501.24	£ 145,408.10	£ 157,594.52	£ 169,528.03	£ <b>641,522.16</b>
<b>Community Support Programme</b>	<b>Belfast City Council</b>	£ 288,543.29	£ 2,164,729.32	£ 2,231,055.72	£ 2,575,577.30	£ 2,939,450.49	£ <b>10,199,356.12</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 476,449.71</b>	<b>£ 3,543,083.45</b>	<b>£ 2,509,512.66</b>	<b>£ 3,825,596.68</b>	<b>£ 4,492,376.36</b>	<b>£ 14,847,018.86</b>

**Table 2****Community Empowerment Division Funding**

<b>Community Empowerment Division Organisation</b>	<b>Funding Stream</b>	<b>Feb/Mar '22</b>	<b>2022/23 GFA</b>	<b>2023/24 GFA</b>	<b>2024/25 GFA</b>	<b>2025/26 GFA</b>	<b>Total</b>
Northern Ireland Housing Executive	Areas at Risk	£ 10,001.09	£ 58,084.23	£ 57,914.30	£ 57,914.30	£ 57,914.30	£ <b>241,828.22</b>
174 Trust	Neighbourhood Renewal Revenue	£ 2,122.14	£ 10,970.91	£ 15,309.75	£ 16,228.50	£ 16,054.07	£ <b>60,685.37</b>
Action Mental Health	Neighbourhood Renewal Revenue	£ 19,308.17	£ 115,849.00	£ 117,349.00	£ 121,641.45	£ 132,589.18	£ <b>506,736.80</b>
Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council	Neighbourhood Renewal Revenue	£ 13,411.61	£ 78,537.32	£ 81,728.24	£ 86,174.94	£ 89,457.07	£ <b>349,309.18</b>
Ardoyne Youth Enterprises	Neighbourhood Renewal Revenue	£ 27,795.40	£ 153,332.37	£ 153,653.13	£ 168,993.18	£ 180,932.57	£ <b>684,706.65</b>
Arts For All	Neighbourhood Renewal Revenue	£ 3,088.10	£ 10,679.39	£ 10,625.04	£ 11,081.29	£ 10,443.61	£ <b>45,917.43</b>
Ashton Community Trust	Neighbourhood Renewal Revenue	£ 33,775.27	£ 176,540.69	£ 179,439.69	£ 188,817.60	£ 204,176.18	£ <b>782,749.43</b>
Ballysillan Community Forum	Neighbourhood Renewal Revenue	£ 20,333.29	£ 118,847.44	£ 119,272.87	£ 130,205.03	£ 141,532.19	£ <b>530,190.82</b>
Belfast City Council	Neighbourhood Renewal Revenue	£ 6,161.39	£ 8,549.00	£ 12,007.09	£ 36,853.75	£ 38,535.59	£ <b>102,106.82</b>
Cancer Lifeline	Neighbourhood Renewal Revenue	£ 13,437.09	£ 77,211.57	£ 77,947.67	£ 84,633.69	£ 90,615.72	£ <b>343,845.74</b>
Carrick Hill Residents Assoc.	Neighbourhood Renewal Revenue	£ 7,190.86	£ 45,601.97	£ 42,852.73	£ 49,377.00	£ 51,120.62	£ <b>196,143.18</b>
Cliftonville Community Regeneration Forum	Neighbourhood Renewal Revenue	£ 48,111.78	£ 248,940.49	£ 253,908.98	£ 271,336.84	£ 290,852.16	£ <b>1,113,150.25</b>
Extern	Neighbourhood Renewal Revenue	£ 45,382.79	£ 257,878.74	£ 256,785.69	£ 268,407.33	£ 290,928.99	£ <b>1,119,383.54</b>
Glenbank Community Association	Neighbourhood Renewal Revenue	£ 3,927.04	£ 23,856.88	£ 23,816.12	£ 25,243.27	£ 27,395.08	£ <b>104,238.39</b>
Good Morning North Belfast	Neighbourhood Renewal Revenue	£ 16,138.49	£ 69,960.15	£ 75,435.41	£ 76,834.23	£ 82,114.31	£ <b>320,482.59</b>

Grace Women's Development Limited	Neighbourhood Renewal Revenue	£ 13,621.06	£ 69,214.92	£ 73,788.83	£ 80,370.67	£ 85,366.05	£ <b>322,361.53</b>
Jigsaw Community Counselling	Neighbourhood Renewal Revenue	£ 11,137.17	£ 64,807.68	£ 64,653.97	£ 72,773.65	£ 77,688.28	£ <b>291,060.75</b>
Ligoniel Improvement Association	Neighbourhood Renewal Revenue	£ 24,855.58	£ 136,184.02	£ 135,537.81	£ 143,394.30	£ 154,664.79	£ <b>594,636.50</b>
Mount Vernon Community Development Forum	Neighbourhood Renewal Revenue	£ 16,302.41	£ 86,992.89	£ 88,492.89	£ 95,841.51	£ 102,832.25	£ <b>390,461.95</b>
North Belfast Womens Initiative	Neighbourhood Renewal Revenue	£ 13,482.30	£ 70,115.32	£ 69,035.06	£ 75,771.81	£ 80,956.27	£ <b>309,360.76</b>
North City Business Centre	Neighbourhood Renewal Revenue	£ 6,761.09	£ 31,556.56	£ 33,066.56	£ 43,585.05	£ 45,872.70	£ <b>160,841.96</b>
Northern Ireland Alternatives	Neighbourhood Renewal Revenue	£ 52,407.86	£ 296,166.87	£ 294,221.40	£ 309,857.47	£ 336,109.64	£ <b>1,288,763.24</b>
Star Neighbourhood Centre	Neighbourhood Renewal Revenue	£ 22,280.70	£ 1,500.00	£ 125,629.14	£ 135,773.10	£ 146,357.68	£ <b>431,540.62</b>
Vine Community And Advice Centre	Neighbourhood Renewal Revenue	£ 48,351.39	£ 272,442.09	£ 272,128.21	£ 289,706.30	£ 312,509.87	£ <b>1,195,137.86</b>
Wishing Well Family Centre	Neighbourhood Renewal Revenue	£ 8,781.01	£ 50,510.89	£ 51,641.27	£ 54,448.33	£ 57,713.68	£ <b>223,095.18</b>
Bawnmore & District Residents Association	SPoDs	£ 2,357.88	£ 14,140.69	£ 15,640.69	£ 16,347.72	£ 16,184.02	£ <b>64,671.00</b>
White City, Belfast	SPoDs	£ 1,328.83	£ 7,966.39	£ 9,466.39	£ 8,364.71	£ 9,117.54	£ <b>36,243.86</b>
<b>Total Revenue</b>		<b>£ 491,851.80</b>	<b>£ 2,556,438.47</b>	<b>£ 2,711,347.93</b>	<b>£ 2,919,977.02</b>	<b>£ 3,130,034.40</b>	<b>£ 11,809,649.62</b>
<b>Capital Costs</b>							
Ashton Community Trust	Neighbourhood Renewal Capital	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 48,000.00	£ <b>48,000.00</b>
Ballysillan Community Forum	Neighbourhood Renewal Capital	£ -	£ 25,850.04	£ 3,100.00	£ -	£ -	£ <b>28,950.04</b>
Belfast City Council	Neighbourhood Renewal Capital	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 430,000.00	£ <b>430,000.00</b>
Cancer Lifeline	Neighbourhood Renewal Capital	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 31,848.00	£ <b>31,848.00</b>

Extern	Neighbourhood Renewal Capital	£ -	£ -	£ 4,941.94	£ -	£ -	£ 4,941.94
Ligoniel Improvement Association	Neighbourhood Renewal Capital	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 22,500.00	£ 22,500.00
North City Business Centre	Neighbourhood Renewal Capital	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 33,000.00	£ 33,000.00
Star Neighbourhood Centre	Neighbourhood Renewal Capital	£ -	£ -	£ 7,976.00	£ -	£ -	£ 7,976.00
Wishing Well Family Centre	Neighbourhood Renewal Capital	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 29,868.00	£ 29,868.00
Ballysillan Community Forum	Neighbourhood Renewal Capital	£ 1,100.00	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 1,100.00
Benview Community Centre	Neighbourhood Renewal Capital	£ -	£ 4,850.40	£ -	£ 5,000.00	£ -	£ 9,850.40
Westland Capacity Building Project	Neighbourhood Renewal Capital	£ -	£ 1,268.99	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 1,268.99
Forthspring Youth Project	Neighbourhood Renewal Capital	£ -	£ -	£ 14,216.87	£ -	£ -	£ 14,216.87
Belfast City Council	Neighbourhood Renewal Capital	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 74,000.00	£ 74,000.00
<b>Total Capital</b>		£ 1,100.00	£ 31,969.43	£ 30,234.81	£ 5,000.00	£ 669,216.00	£ 737,520.24
<b>Grand Total</b>		£ 492,951.80	£ 2,588,407.90	£ 2,741,582.74	£ 2,924,977.02	£ 3,799,250.40	£ 12,547,169.86

