

IRELAND NORTHWEST

*gateway to growth*

Place-Shaping Role of Local Authorities:  
A New Vision for the North West  
9<sup>th</sup> February 2017

John Kelpie  
Chief Executive

Seamus Neely  
Chief Executive

 Derry City & Strabane Council  
Comhairle Cathair & Cionannail na hEirann  
Derry, City & Strabane

 Comhairle Contae  
Dhúin na nGall  
Donegal County Council

## North West City Region

- **Derry/Londonderry** – 4<sup>th</sup> largest city on the Island
- **Cross-Border City Region** - > 300,000 population
- **35% of population** <25 years (youngest in Europe)
- **40,000 3<sup>rd</sup> level students** – UU; NWRC; LYIT
- **2 major acute regional hospitals**
- **Sub-Regional Economic Driver** – both North and South



## Our Overseas Investors



NORTH WEST ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE



## Overseas Investment

- **Over 40 overseas companies**
- **75% investors re-invest**
- **\$3.8billion CapEx in Northwest Region in last 10 years**

## Recent substantial growth & progress...

- **Environment** – Built and natural
- **Skills and Education**
- **Business** – Job growth, FDI & SME
- **Connectivity** – Virtual and physical
- **Community Cohesion & Partnership Working**
- **Tourism**
- **Inward Investment**

## Challenges

- **Legacy of underinvestment**
- **Low economic activity; high social deprivation**
- **Poor connectivity and peripherality**
- **Only City Region in UK/Ireland on an International jurisdictional border**
- **Back-to-back planning/engagement of governments**
- **Brexit ...**

## New Opportunities

- Review of Local Government in both NI & ROI 2015
- New powers & responsibilities
- Track record of partnership working and cross border collaboration
- Clear strategic focus & unity of purpose
- Political and civic consensus on key issues
- NSMC/NWGI/Fresh Start Agreement & PFGs

## A New and Integrated Approach

- **Council Level**
  - NI; Community Planning
  - ROI; Local, Economic & Community Planning (LECP)
- **North West** – New structures, governance and Partnership Agreements
- **National/Regional** – In collaboration with NI Executive & ROI Government
- **International** – Trade & diaspora links

## New ways of working

- Clear, strategic, place-based leadership
- Shared objectives and partnership working
- Results and outcomes focused
- Collaborative, inclusive and integrated approach

***A thriving, sustainable,  
prosperous City Region with  
equality of opportunity for all.***

## Local Level – Derry City & Strabane District Council

- **Strategic Community Plan** – Delivering inclusive growth 2017-2030
- **Purpose** – Driving social, economic, environmental regeneration and wellbeing
- **Method** – Evidence and needs based. Fully consultative
- **Measured** – 8 outcomes, 40 Indicators, 200+ actions. Aligned to Programme for Government objectives and targets

## Local Level – Derry City & Strabane District Council

### **Economic Wellbeing**

- There is a good job for everyone
- We are better skilled and educated
- We are the cultural destination of choice

### **Environmental Wellbeing**

- We connect people and opportunities through our infrastructure
- We live in sustainable communities

### **Social Wellbeing**

- We live long, healthy and fulfilling lives
- Our children and young people have the best start in life
- We have a shared, equal and safe community

## Local Level – Donegal County Council

- **Local Economic & Community Plan 2016 – 2022**
- **Purpose** - To identify and implement actions to strengthen and develop the economic and community dimensions of the County
- **Method** - Extensive profiling and consultation
- **Measured** - Extensive Plan with 7 Goals and 107 Objectives. Aligned to and supports the implementation of existing and proposed National and Regional spatial, community and economic strategies.

## Local Level – Donegal County Council

- Develop Donegal as a **Connected Place**
- Harness Donegal's **Natural and Human Capital**
- Value, Sustain and Develop **Our Culture and Creative Resource**
- Promote **Sustainable, Inclusive and Healthy Communities**
- Develop Donegal as a Lead region for **Learning, Research and Innovation**
- Develop the '**Donegal**' Brand
- Promote **Entrepreneurship, Investment and Enterprise**

## NW Regional Level

- New collaborative arrangements
- Local and central government – New strategic relationship
- Co-ordination of planning and resources
- Positive impact on the region's growth potential
- Value for money in public investment in both jurisdictions
- Development of engagement through NSMC/NWGI and 2015 Fresh Start Agreement

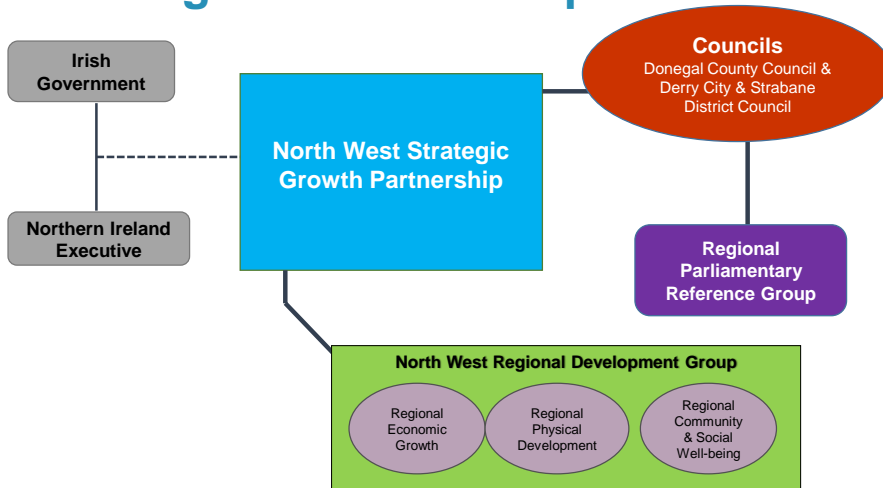


## NW Regional Level

- **A new and integrated approach**
- **One Voice** for the North West City Region
- **Agreed regional objectives:**
  - Economic growth and investment
  - Physical and environmental development
  - Social and community cohesion and wellbeing

*- Realise the full and considerable potential of the North West City Region – the 4<sup>th</sup> largest on the Island - as a positive contributor to the economy, North and South.*

## Agreed Partnership Model



## North West Development Group

- Both Councils;
- Senior Officers and Elected Members;
- Key Sectoral Stakeholders;
- Meets every 2/3 months.

***- Builds and drives work programme across Council departments aligned to 3 regional objectives and respective community plans***

## North West Strategic Growth Partnership

- Chief Executives and Mayor / Cathaoirleach
- Chair and Deputy Chair of NW Development Group;
- Senior Representatives of Departments from both governments;
- Meets twice per year.

***- Drives the strategic priorities for the region - aligned to the respective Programmes for Governments***

## Agreement and Implementation

- Unanimous endorsement of both Councils – Summer 2015;
- Recognition of both Governments 'Fresh Start' Agreement November 2015
- Establishment of €5m support fund – early 2016;
- North South Ministerial Council endorsement in June 2016;

**Joint Management Teams established early 2015**

**NWRDG Meeting since mid 2015**

**NWSGP First meeting took place in December 2016**

## Developing Work Programme

- Job Creation, Growth and Investment Initiatives
- Skills and Training
- Tourism
- Energy and Renewables
- Green Infrastructure
- Rural Connectivity
- Health & Well-being

# Summary ...

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