

# 'LIBRARY SQUARE' and 'BT1 GATEWAY' BELFAST CITY CENTRE

# REGENERATION SCHEMES FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION

#### WE WANT YOUR VIEWS

The Department for Social Development (DSD) has published a design statement for 'Library Square', a proposed new city centre square to the rear of Belfast Central Library. DSD has also published a draft development proposal for the gateway site at the corner of Upper North Street on the edge of BT1 to be known as the 'BT1 Gateway'.

DSD is now seeking views from members of the public, all interested parties and stakeholders in the area on its proposals for <u>both</u> Library Square and the BT1 Gateway.

Additional copies of the design proposals can be obtained by telephoning (028) 90277653. The documents are also available on our website, by going to **www.dsdni.gov.uk** and clicking on the 'consultation zone' in the main menu.

Alternative formats of the document will be available on request. Please contact the address below.

#### **HOW TO RESPOND**

The consultation process starts on 27 November 2012 and continues until 12 noon on 22 February 2013.

Written comments on the report should be sent to:

Department for Social Development
Belfast City Centre Regeneration Directorate
4<sup>th</sup> Floor
Oxford House
Belfast
BT1 4HL

Email: librarysquare@dsdni.gov.uk OR BT1@dsdni.gov.uk

#### 1. CONSULTATION ON DESIGN CONCEPT

You are invited to respond to either/both schemes. Responses are encouraged and all those received by 22 February 2013 will be considered in finalising the proposals for the area. Please indicate which consultation you are responding to.

### **Library Square & BT1 Gateway**

We would welcome your comments on the design, concept and details of the proposal along with any other comments you wish to make:

Belfast Healthy Cities welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Library Square and BT1 Gateway Regeneration Schemes.

- 1. About Belfast Healthy Cities: Belfast is a leading member of the World Health Organization European (WHO) Healthy Cities Network which has a membership of 98 cities, and has a strong track record of delivering the WHO goals and objectives within each five year phase. Belfast Healthy Cities (BHC) is an independent partnership organisation that is responsible for delivering the WHO goals and objectives and is supported by a small staff team dedicated to working with partner organisations and other stakeholders to facilitate and support change to improve health and wellbeing and address inequalities in health for people living and working in Belfast and beyond. Belfast Healthy Cities was invited in Phase V (2008-2013) to provide the WHO Secretariat function to the WHO European Healthy Cities Networks.
- 2. Role of Belfast Healthy Cities: The role of the organisation is through 'leadership and innovation, to inspire and utilise the collective and individual strengths of partners to deliver the WHO European Healthy City goals and requirements and maximise their impact on health and inequalities'. The focus of the global Healthy Cities movement is on the wider physical and social living conditions that shape health and wellbeing and creating conditions that support health and tackle inequalities.

In the current Phase V (2009 – 2013) the overarching aim for Belfast and all WHO European Healthy Cities, is Health Equity in All Local Policies, supported through the core themes of Healthy Urban Environment (including Climate Change and Health, Child Friendly Cities and Age Friendly Cities) and Healthy Living, (including Active Living and Wellbeing).

It is within the context of Belfast Healthy Cities role and commitment to current themes and tackling inequalities that we offer comments. Our views in this response reflect and support particularly that of both *Child Friendly Cities* and *Age Friendly Cities*, but predominantly Child Friendly Cities. Belfast Healthy Cities offers comments on the vision for library square and its 5 priorities and also the 8 main features outlined.

Belfast Healthy Cities previously submitted a paper to Department for Social Development (DSD) in September 2012 'Suggestions for way to integrate child friendly elements into regeneration initiatives in Belfast City Centre'. This paper suggests a network of child friendly spaces throughout the city of which Library Square is one and also outlines recommendations for each space.

A quick summary of the proposals outlined in the paper are:

- Utilising the forthcoming regeneration initiatives to develop a network of child friendly spaces in the city centre, by incorporating small elements indicating children, and young people, are welcome within all spaces
- Ensuring children and families feel welcome by incorporating child friendly elements in central locations, while locating potentially disruptive elements (play areas, elements using sound) towards edges of sites
- Utilising existing streetscape and standard features in creative ways to generate both a child friendly and generally playful feel; e.g. using bins and street furniture for arts displays
- Utilising art to engage children and young people with spaces; where possible
  engaging a number of senses (e.g. sound and light, possibly sculpture and
  greenery as well as visual art)
- Utilising site design to incorporate child friendly elements, e.g. through ground material choices and treatments, siting of seating etc.
- Maximising green space to create 'urban oases' for all; creates interest for children and offers opportunities to consider special needs as well as promote sustainability/eco city messages
- Engaging with children, young people and families both on an ongoing basis and on specific proposals is key to creating popular spaces and enabling people to take ownership; this is particularly important in the case of teenagers

Belfast Healthy Cities reinforces that Library Square be one of a network of Child Friendly and Age Friendly Spaces throughout the city. Several smaller spaces rather than one or two 'child friendly destinations' would help families visit the city centre more often and stay longer. The idea also aims to support opportunities to create a diverse but coherent public realm and to support appropriate linkages across the range of current and forthcoming regeneration initiatives in the city centre.

The key of the network idea is that each of the public spaces offers some child and family friendly elements, which enables families to feel welcome and use the city centre more extensively. These elements should, wherever possible, be flexible so they can be used by a number of age groups and also designed to fit into the overall space to create a people – rather than simply child friendly oriented public realm

Belfast Healthy Cities welcomes the regeneration of this area of the city. The area of North Belfast provides a main thoroughfare to other parts of the city however at present there is not much in the way of attraction to bring people to congregate here or use this area on a frequent basis in terms of recreation.

Belfast Healthy Cities supports the vision for Library Square it main 5 priorities:

- The creation of an animated shared space with active ground floor uses
- Create a high quality pause point in the North Belfast Cultural Corridor
- A high quality environment in line with the Belfast: Streets Ahead public realm programme
- An accessible leisure destination, for both residents and visitors to the city;
   and
- A catalyst to help promote the regeneration for the wider Northside

Belfast Healthy Cities offers feedback on the 8 design features reinforcing some of the content of the 'Suggestions for way to integrate child friendly elements into regeneration initiatives in Belfast City Centre' paper.

# A unique Street Paving Pattern

A unique street paving pattern could involve using permanently engraved letters. In a consultation carried out by Belfast Healthy Cities on behalf of DSD parents felt that engraved letters would be of benefit to children in terms of learning phonetics and engaging both young and old. The letters complements the history of the area i.e. Library and Belfast Telegraph and also the proposed letter stamps seating.

# Decorative Spiralling Typographic Montage Incorporated Into the Street Paving Pattern

If appropriate, the ground treatment (paving etc) could incorporate a pattern or texture that encourages physical movement – options could range from a border to a chess board effect (a version of the latter is used e.g. on the central square in Stockholm, Sergels torg<sup>1</sup>) – this treatment could also be restricted to part of the site to create a 'play corner'.

#### Sculptural Graphic 'Word Trees'

'Word Trees' could provide children, young people and adults with an opportunity to stop and think play and imagine. Again, complements the history of the area and supports children's learning and promotes engagement of young and old.

#### Kiosks

Kiosks in the square particularly in terms of coffee and snack kiosks can be an invitation for people to spend time here for example 'meeting friends for a coffee' or providing an incentive to staying longer than anticipated. It is also a positive selling point for parents and grandparents.

# Permanent seating 'letter stamps' tables and chairs throughout the square

Adequate seating is an important aspect of any square and public realm for both children and older people. Seating could include child size seats dotted around site, potentially next to conventional benches – the 'letter stamps' increase appeal and playable aspect. These could be manufactured for example by Belfast based social economy businesses if possible.<sup>2</sup>

Street furniture could be used to create play opportunities, and encourage young people to engage with their environment; in Sofia in Bulgaria, traffic bollards double up as football goalposts<sup>3</sup>

#### • Agua graphic fountain

The proposed aqua graphic fountain will be an interesting and innovative feature and could provide an interesting talking point. This could incorporate some form of letters

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See e.g. http://www.panoramio.com/photo/56564208

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Ideas and advice on accessible seating is available for example at http://www.sensorytrust.org.uk/resources/connect/infosheet\_seatingshelter.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> http://www.altuseguide.com/home/tag/sofia

or words to complement the theme and history of the area which would support children's learning and engagement of young and old.

# • Temporary screen wall concealing the barren side entrance to the library extension

The temporary screen wall could be used to engage children and young people. A section of wall could be designed as a 'public blackboard' that invites, rather than prohibits, scribbles; blackboard paint suitable for outdoor use is widely available – use of chalk as a material that washes and wears out relatively quickly could help minimise impacts of any inappropriate use, but issue of providing chalk would need to be considered as part of maintenance e.g. with nearby businesses

# • Wi-fi hotspots throughout

People are likely to become regular patrons if they know they can access the Internet there. Hosting a hot spot will encourage guests to stay longer as they don't have to rush back home, work or college to check their e-mail. Wi-fi is a particular attraction for younger people.

#### Additional suggestions for library subject to cost and space available:

# **Design elements**

- Could also provide an amenity for older people and encourage intergenerational contact
- Ideally 'sensory approach' integrating different senses, different textures rough and smooth surfaces would be also support people with disabilities and sensory impairment
- Sound based elements could be located towards edges of site to minimise noise and generate a sense of discovery
- A 'discovery trail' could be implemented also within a smaller site. For
  example using small sculptures, shaped stones of informative boards; this
  could be themed for example to link to other aspects of the site and could
  invite visitors to explore the site more widely
- Ensuring art pieces include content at child height, as well as adult height, could help generate a child friendly feel and create interest for child users – one option might be 'kinetic art', images which create an illusion of movement as the user walks along (e.g. a moving person or animal)
- Options could explore engaging a number of senses, e.g. lighting that interacts with or produces sound – this could create interest and animate the path towards Royal Avenue, and provide a potential meeting space for young people; appropriate lighting could be used to both increase safety and discourage public drinking and anti social behaviour
- Paving slabs that generate sound (as used in Custom House Square) could offer opportunity for children to engage with the space, while acting as a marker of child friendly space. Slabs could be located towards the edges of the site, to reduce noise impacts
- Should a play area be implemented, the area should offer opportunities for all ages
- Child elements in the space should be located away from areas near to the road – one option might be to locate this type of space in the middle
- Lighting both in the square and on access routes can be used to provide safety and discourage anti-social behaviour

- One option might be to integrate some lighting with motion sensors which could serve both to encourage activity within the space and save energy
- Solar powered lighting could also be considered to integrate an eco friendly element
- As a general point, it is widely recognised that active frontage around an open space is important to encourage usage. One option to animate the area, while it is developing, might be to utilise an available unit as a 'youth café', this might offer opportunities for collaboration for example with (mental) health services and community services
- To give children and young people an opportunity to engage with the space, while acting as a marker of child friendly space that still respects overall site character

#### **Natural elements**

- Locating planters of flower beds in ways that allow playing around them this would in particular support children with disabilities
- A green wall is likely to attract people of all ages. Elements such as small sculptures, images or patterns integrated into the wall could increase its appeal and provide a sense of discovery, as well as opportunities for story telling
- Planting along surrounding streets could be used to attract people of all ages to the space
- Integrating a water feature perhaps a green wall could help create an 'urban oasis', which invites people of all ages and also supports people with disabilities

# Using existing space

- Street furniture, for example bins, could also be used for this purpose, e.g. to display art, quizzes etc (on a temporary or longer term basis)
- Creative elements could also be used to provide playful elements in the cityscape while encouraging appropriate use; in the town of Lucerne's in Switzerland, goal lines and basked ball hoops were painted around bins to encourage people to put litter in them, rather than beside them<sup>4</sup>
- More interactive uses are also possible, for example peg boards installed on billboards as in Montreal<sup>5</sup> (these will naturally be at child height)
- In Ceara in Brazil, musical instruments have been incorporated into the streetscape, sometimes integrated with street signs<sup>6</sup>

#### **Belfast Healthy Cities strongly suggest:**

- As a general note, access to toilets is important for children, and also older people and people with disabilities. It might be appropriate to link public toilet facilities to the main public spaces, both to encourage and facilitate effective use of these spaces
- A covered area needs to be considered e.g. tent type structure offering roof coverage/temporary awning to cover seating areas and perhaps outdoor heaters which can be switched on by visitors this would encourage usage all year round

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> http://www.altuseguide.com/home/swiss-city-turns-trash-bins-into-opportunities-for-street-ba.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> http://www.altuseguide.com/home/tag/montreal

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> http://www.altuseguide.com/home/street-signs-as-public-music-instruments-in-ceara-brazil.html

#### **BT 1 Gateway**

We would welcome your comments on the concept and details of the proposal along with any other comments you wish to make:

Belfast Healthy Cities welcomes the opportunity to respond on the proposed BT1 Gateway regeneration plans. Our comments echo those contained in a former piece of work 'Health Impact Assessment of the North West Quarter Masterplan for Belfast City Centre' which was commissioned by Belfast Healthy Cities in 2007 and written by Erica Ison affiliate of the Public Heath Resource Unit, Oxford.

Belfast Healthy Cities welcomes the regeneration of this area. We recognise the importance of BT1 Gateway in linking the North West and North East Quarters to the city centre. It also serves as a prominent gateway to the city centres Northside. Belfast Healthy Cities particularly supports the regeneration schemes in this area as communities in both these quarters and the wider surrounding area experiences particular social and economic problems for example pockets of severe deprivation. long-term unemployment, economic inactivity and a legacy of poor mental and physical health.

Planning and regeneration have a crucial impact on health outcomes for example in tackling the social determinants of health for example housing, physical environment, employment and poverty. Planning and regeneration play a central role in achieving sustainability and encouraging more active and healthy lifestyles, as well as creating more attractive environments that support well-being.

Belfast Healthy Cities supports the principles outlined in the draft document which are expected to be incorporated into regeneration proposals:

- Improved connectivity from the city centre to adjoin residential neighbourhoods
- Promotion of a mix of uses which maximise the physical, the social and sustainable economic regeneration of the area;
- Respecting the historic character of the area by reflecting the old street grid and the Victorian architecture:
- Tackling social exclusion through physical development addressing problems such as housing need, unemployment, ill health, benefit dependency and educational under achievement; and
- Environmental sustainability should be given regard by development proposals.

Belfast Healthy Cities offers comments under the headings as contained in the document - transport, access and servicing and design concept and considers these broad elements in relation to Child Friendly Environments (children and families) and Age Friendly Cities (older people).

#### Transport

Active forms of transport/public transport

As outlined in the draft document the lack of pedestrian crossings in the Carrick Hill link has created in places barriers to movement between the city centre and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Jordan. A et al (2006) Health Systems in Transition: the Northern Ireland report. WHO regional Office for Europe, Copenhagen, on behalf of the European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies

surrounding neighbourhoods particularly for pedestrians and cyclists due to there being few formal crossings and/or long distances between them. Options have been suggested to improve this. Belfast Healthy Cities would suggest that any options to re-address this take into consideration potentially vulnerable groups such as cyclists, older people, children, people with prams, disabled people and visually impaired.

Adequate public transport and active forms of travel such as walking and cycling are important for people to access the site. Slightly over a quarter (26%) of households in Northern Ireland do not have access to a car while 30% of households in Northern Ireland have access to two or more cars.<sup>8</sup> In comparison to the whole of Northern Ireland, fewer households in Derry-Londonderry and Belfast have access to a car, 38% and 29% respectively.<sup>9</sup> Car ownership levels/access to private transport in the surrounding area is low:

#### Access to private transport:

The percentage of households that have access to a car or van in the following wards is approximately 25% - Falls Ward, New Lodge Ward and Shankill Ward. Car ownership is linked to income. Over half of lone parent families and two-thirds of single pensioners do not have a car. The Falls and New Lodge have high numbers of people who claim Job Seekers Allowance. 10

In terms of public transport there are a number of bus stops located near the site, the closest being on North Street and the Metro provides a comprehensive service throughout the city with drop off points in the city centre from which the site is approximately 800 metres/10 min walk. It is important though that these walking routes are safe and appropriate e.g. adequate crossings for potentially vulnerable i.e. dropped kerbs which are frequently spaced.

Safe traffic conditions can help older people stay active. Concerns about traffic can discourage older people from walking in their neighbourhood. This can contribute to social isolation and reduces physical activity.<sup>11</sup>

#### The importance of active forms of travel

Active forms of travel are an important aspect of city life. The flow of pedestrians and cyclists create life on the street, which improves safety both in itself and through providing natural surveillance. This can, in the longer term, reduce anti-social behaviour and the need for security measures. It can also encourage new population groups to use the street, including children and older people and further strengthen communities.<sup>12</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Department for Regional Development (2008) Northern Ireland Transport Statistics. Belfast: DRD

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Kenway, P., MacInnes, T., Kelly, A, and Palmer, G., (2006) Monitoring Poverty and Social Exclusion in Northern Ireland. York: Joseph Rowntree Foundation

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Northern Ireland Census 2001

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Future health: sustainable places for health and wellbeing. Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment. London: November 2009 www.cabe.org.ik/publications/future-health

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Barton, H (2009) Land use planning and health and wellbeing. Land Use Policy 26s (2009) S115-S123

### Access and Servicing

Access to the site

The detailed design of all pedestrian routes needs to take account directness (reducing distance to facilities and neighbourhoods) and convenience (avoiding steep hills, steps and kerbs that might inhibit physically less mobile people and people using wheelchairs or pushchairs.

Walking is the most common form of movement, open to almost everyone; it constitutes most trips for people who do not own cars (particularly women, older people and children) and it involves minimal resources but it can be a healthy and pleasurable aesthetic and physical experience. The World Health Organization recommends that pedestrians have top priority in the movement system and where there are conflicts with road traffic pedestrian routes should be given priority. The WHO recommends the creation of a dense network of footways to link all main activities and public transport facilities to ensure safety, directness and ease of use, especially for people who are less mobile, and the provision of an attractive and secure pedestrian environment.

#### Active frontages

Belfast Healthy Cities reinforces that it is important when promoting access that every development should have direct, convenient and visible access for pedestrians, with shops and other facilities fronting onto a street or square. It is evident within the proposals that the hotel lobby, food store, café and entrance to parking are all accessible and visible from the ground floor and front out onto street level.

Active frontages and streets that are populated for most of the day provide natural surveillance, which can improve both actual and perceived safety. Over time this can reduce antisocial behaviour and crime. Safe communities also support mental wellbeing and are important for social cohesion.<sup>15</sup>

#### Adequate bicycle stands/racks

As well as the undercroft provision for cars and bicycles we would suggest easy accessible bike racks/stands on the ground level which would promote ease of use to cyclists and potential cyclists when visiting the site. Belfast Healthy Cities supports cyclists as a sustainable form of transport within our city and for health benefits of the population. Physical activity, such as cycling has the capacity to reduce morbidity and mortality from various diseases and conditions e.g. coronary artery disease, stroke, systematic hypertension, obesity, emotional disorders, the incapacity associated with ageing, osteoporosis, diabetes mellitus, colon cancer, chronic back disease and athletic injuries.<sup>16</sup>

#### Design Concept

Mixed use

In terms of the design concept Belfast Healthy Cities supports the mixed use concept. 'Mixed use' incorporates a mix of uses, civic components and a variety of materials, spaces and places. Mixed use developments in town centres and

<sup>13</sup> World Health Organization (WHO) Regional Office for Europe (1997) Walking and cycling in the city. Local Authorities Health and Environment briefing No. 35 WHO: Copenhagen

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> World Health Organization (WHO) Regional Office for Europe (1997) Walking and cycling in the city. Local Authorities Health and Environmental Briefing No.35 WHO Copenhagen

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Barton H & Tsourou C (2000) Health Urban Planning, London Spon Press

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Cave et al (2004) Healthy Sustainable Communities: What works? Milton Keynes and South Midlands Health & Social Care Project

commercial environments can help to widen social options by facilitating social cohesion through the creation of safe and permeable environments with natural foci where people can meet informally, for example coffee shops within rejuvenated buildings.<sup>17</sup>

#### Inclusion

We would reinforce the importance of inclusion – strive to create a thriving inclusive city destination, not just a gated community of shoppers and hotel patrons enclosed and exclusive. The principle of inclusion is important for health and well-being, especially in view of the health and other inequalities experienced by the communities surrounding this quarter. To this end we would suggest that the hotel facilities – the restaurant, bar and roof garden are advertised and promoted within the local community to welcome everyone and not just those residing in the hotel accommodation.

## Good urban design which supports/complements surroundings

Belfast Healthy Cities supports and promotes good urban design as is outlined in the draft document. Urban design largely determines the character of an area, which affects how people perceive and use it. Good urban design can support revitalization of an area and a community, while respecting its original character.

We support the concept behind the BT1 Gateway Site is to create an 'iconic, well recognised structure which forms a positive relationship with the surrounding area'. Locally distinctive architecture or townscape that reflects the traditional materials and culture for the area is important. This will help to give residents a sense of local identity, which is important to mental well-being.

The creation of places where it is natural for people to stop and look is important to the potential pleasure and social benefits of walking. The design and provision of streets and places where people can meet (incidental spaces and squares) increases social contact, with the potential to foster local networks of support and improve people's quality of life. Casual meetings between people increase and facilitate friendship networks and a sense of community. Access to open spaces and safe streets can increase the amount of exercise taken e.g. walking, contributing to the reducing obesity, cardiovascular disease, diabetes and arthritis and can increase the level of social contact and interaction, contributing to a reduction in stress-related problems.

Belfast Healthy Cities supports the theme of a ship crane being used for the entrance of the hotel and food store as this complements the history of the city and also the theme used in other notable building for example Titanic Belfast. In addition, the lighting arrangement proposed for night time which will display a variety of colours and lighting sequences would be a talking point for visitors and city goers alike.

#### Coffee shop

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Coffee shops frequently attract people to the highstreet. The purpose of the coffee house does sometimes take on the purpose of the centre of society. People may visit the coffee house to meet up with friends, do some work, read a book, entertain, or simply to just pass some time. A coffee house is one place that can be a great meeting ground and can help promote social interaction therefore targeting social isolation. Many coffee houses have readings or art displays which could be a suggestion for the new development.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Barton and Tsourou (2000) Healthy Urban Planning

#### Public space amenity

As well as the coffee shop Belfast Healthy Cities would suggest a space within the development which would act as a general space for people. This could take the form of a meeting point for people or a play area for children. This space could give local people a space to frequent and certain small events could be planned for here for example stalls selling small crafts, exhibitions and other small events such as book launches. This space could provide opportunities for people of all ages and encourage intergenerational contact.

#### Play area

Belfast Healthy Cities supports the provision of a play area. Play areas allow expression of independence and play mobility may have positive behavioural and mental health benefits for children. Children who have access to play areas have less behavioural problems and better health than children who do not.<sup>18</sup>

#### WI-FI Access

Availability of WI-FI could be suggested especially in terms of attracting business people and students especially with the proposed increase in student numbers in this part of the city by 2018 which will greatly increase the level of footfall throughout the area.

#### Rooftop garden

Within urban centers, even small green spaces offer a vital break from the built environment which supports mental wellbeing. Belfast would suggest that this facility is open to all members of society – not exclusively to patrons of the hotel.

# **Employment**

The two main industries of employment in the area are wholesale and retail and health and social work. Therefore, the location of a flagship food store would offer employment opportunities to people in the area. The hotel and coffee shop would also offer new job prospects.

#### Toilet facilities

Belfast Healthy Cities reinforces the importance of adequate toilet facilities throughout the site. Access to toilets is important for all but especially for children, older people and those with disabilities.

#### Seating provision

Adequate seating is important throughout the site to encourage people to spend time there, especially older people. Child sized seats dotted around the site could promote inclusion of children and families.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Cave & Molyneux (2004) Healthy Sustainable Communities: A Spatial Planning Checklist. Milton Keynes and South Midlands Health & Social Care Project

#### 2. EQUALITY SCREENING

Following on from the EQIA Report on the Northside Urban Village Regeneration Framework (2008) DSD intends to carry out equality screening on Library Square and BT1Gateway in line with the Department's Equality Scheme and Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998. In light of this we would appreciate your comments in order to inform the screening process.

Do you consider that any element(s) of the proposals impacts adversely on any of the Section 75 groups?

# **Section 75 Groups are:**

- · persons of different religious belief,
- political opinion,
- racial group,
- age,
- marital status,
- sexual orientation,
- men and women generally,
- persons with a disability and persons without, and
- persons with dependants and persons without.

Library Square NO	BT1 Gatewa	<i>y</i> NO (please de	lete as appropriate)
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If the answer is "Yes", please tell us:	
Which groups do you think the proposal affects?	
Library Square	

BT1 Gateway

How do you think these groups would be adversely affected?

Library Square

**BT1 Gateway** 

groups?
Library Square
BT1 Gateway
What changes to the proposals might better achieve the promotion of equality of opportunity and good relations?
Library Square
See comments on each proposal above
BT1 Gateway
See comments on each proposal above
SIGNED: Laura McDonald
ORGANISATION: Belfast Healthy Cities
DATE: 21st February 2013
Thank you for your interest in this consultation process and we look forward to receiving your comments.