

## SOCIAL REGENERATION FRAMEWORK

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# 2

## SOCIAL REGENERATION FRAMEWORK



NATIONAL COLLEGE OF IRELAND

## 2.1 CONTEXT

### 2.1.1 INTRODUCTION

In tandem with the evident physical changes in the Docklands, there is a less visible, but equally important transformation taking place – the social regeneration of the Docklands. Since its inception, the Authority has pursued an exciting, ambitious (and sometimes controversial) set of activities in the educational, housing and community development spheres. This investment is considered the foundation stone of the Docklands project and aims to ensure equal opportunity and participation in the Docklands project across all communities.

#### Objectives

The primary objectives set by the Authority are:

- Social and economic regeneration of the Dublin Docklands Area ('the Area') on a sustainable basis
- Continued improvement of the physical environment of the Area
- Continued development of the Custom House Docks area, including services for and ancillary to the financial sector of the local economy

From its inception, the Authority has been committed to developing a model of social regeneration majoring on community gain, believing that the people of Docklands should have a sense of ownership in their Area and derive pride from participation in its development.

The Social Regeneration Directorate bases its operation on the pivotal importance, in human development terms, of (a) a sense of belonging to families and communities, and (b) 'self-actualisation' – the sense that one can influence and help shape the context of one's life.

At the beginning of the Docklands project, this objective was arguably the most challenging of the goals facing the Authority. This was because of the generations of marginalisation experienced by people in Docklands, the consequent 'learned helplessness' of some of its residents and the low level of educational achievement which was common in the Area.

Today, when the sense of belonging and self-actualisation within Docklands is examined, a measurable transformation is clearly evident. Community groups representing all age cohorts are actively involved in the creation of housing, recreational and educational infrastructure.

This transformation is also evident in even more measurable areas, delivering social and community gain, while carrying enormous promise for the future sustainability of Docklands as a place to live, work and play.

Having been an educational blackspot, Docklands has moved, within a decade, to a position of educational leadership in the capital city, as will be seen below in the section on Social Class and Education.

Nowadays, the overwhelming trend is for young Docklanders to value education and stay in school until they have achieved immeasurably higher levels of numeracy, literacy and social competence than previous generations, or until they have gained sufficient points to undertake the third-level course of their choice.

The result is that the social fabric of Docklands has been changed for the long term, with the inherent likelihood that more people from the area will gain higher-level employment within their own area and, in turn, add to the confidence and empowerment of Dockland communities.

## 2.1.2 DEMOGRAPHIC, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROFILE

### Population

The population of the Docklands rose by 26.8% in the period 1996–2006, a much greater increase than in almost all other places in Ireland during the same period. The level of growth witnessed in the Docklands moderated slightly in the 2002–2006 period compared to that experienced in the 1996–2002 period. Overall, the increase of population between 1996 and 2006 was distributed in these areas:

• North Dock A	1%
• North Dock B	1%
• North Dock C	73.3%
• Mansion House A	42.2%
• South Dock	54.9%
• Pembroke East A	9.3%
• Pembroke West A	29.5%

### Age Demographics for the Docklands

The Docklands has a huge preponderance of people in the 15-24 and 25-44 age groups when compared to Dublin City, Dublin County and the State in general. In 2006, the Docklands age distribution was:

• 0-14 Years	11.2%
• 15-24 Years	19.4%
• 25-44 Years	43.5%
• 45-65 Years	17%
• 65+ Years	8.9%

In the same year, the population profile of Dublin City was 15.0%, 16.9%, 35.7%, 19.7% and 12.7% for the age groups respectively. So Docklands has a lower proportion of the population in the cohorts 0-14 years and 65+ years compared to the City as a whole.

### Social Class and Education

The Docklands experienced an increase in the number of professional, managerial and technical residents between 1996 and 2006. During the same period, the number of unskilled workers and, to a lesser extent, skilled-manual and semi-skilled workers in the Area underwent significant decline. In 2006, the Docklands working population was distributed thus:

• Professional Workers	9.6%
• Managerial and Technical	21.8%
• Non Manual	14.4%
• Skilled Manual	11.7%
• Semi Skilled	9.9%
• Unskilled	5.1%
• Others Gainfully Employed	27.6%

The Docklands has a level of educational attainment higher than that of Dublin City, Dublin County and the State generally. Docklands' representation across all the key third-level classifications – primary degree, postgraduate and doctorate – increased between the 2002 and 2006. This trend was common across Dublin City, Dublin County and the State also, but not at the pace of growth seen in the Docklands. The proportion of the Docklands population attaining a postgraduate qualification or doctorate (14.9%) is significantly higher than comparable figures for Dublin City (10.6%), Dublin County (10.5%) and the State (7.1%) in 2006. The sustainability of this major trend is underpinned by a concurrent decline in the proportion of the population leaving the education system after primary and upper and lower secondary school levels.

### Economic Status

Employment levels within the Area have hit unprecedented levels. More people are working at more highly skilled jobs, while fewer Docklands residents are unemployed or working at home than in earlier decades. This extends to older people, who are tending to postpone retirement, preferring to stay in the workforce and finding it possible to do so.

The 2006 Census highlights that the Docklands has the highest labour force participation rate (62.5%) of any of the areas considered. This is particularly notable given that in 1996 the labour force participation rate in the Docklands (44.1%) lagged that of Dublin City (46.7%), Dublin County (49.5%) and the State (47.3%). However, the Authority acknowledges that some parts of the Docklands have unemployment rates twice the average for the Area and, in particular, that pockets of higher unemployment remain.

The dynamism of the Docklands Area is also illustrated by the declining numbers of workers classified as retired. This is in sharp contrast to City, County and State trends which all show increases in the numbers of retirees over the 1996–2006 period. In 2006, the economic status of the Docklands population was distributed as follows:

• At Work	62.5%
• 1st Time Job Seeker	0.9%
• Unemployed	5.1%
• Student	12.6%
• Home Duties	6.0%
• Retired	8.8%
• Unable to Work	3.8%

To further monitor unemployment and poverty levels, the Authority supports the provision for a Poverty Impact Assessment, aimed at analysing the need for further focused and integrated measures to identify target areas and to increase economic standing and quality of life of those living within the Docklands.

### Household Types

Apartments are the primary type of residential accommodation being constructed in the Docklands. Over the 2002–2006 period, the proportion of private households classified as 'house/bungalow' has fallen across all of the areas considered, with the largest proportionate falls evident in the Docklands and County Dublin. Accordingly, the average household size in the Docklands has decreased from 2.5 persons in 1996 to 2.3 persons in 2006.

The proportion of family units consisting of couples with children in the Docklands has reduced significantly, from 46.1% in 1996 to 32.5% in 2006. The proportion of couples with no children

has more than doubled in the Docklands in the period 1996-2006. These figures reflect the wider social trend of co-habiting couples postponing having children until later than historically has been the case.

### Modes of Transport

The proportion of the Docklands population is broadly in line with City and County trends in choice of bicycle, train/Luas/Dart or motorcycle to travel to school, college or work. However, the integration of employment and residential uses within and surrounding the Docklands means that the proportion of the Docklands population walking to school, college or work (44.2%) is significantly greater than that evidenced in Dublin City (27.6%), Dublin County (20.2%) or at State level (15.5%). In 2006, the modes of transport being used throughout the Docklands were distributed as follows:

• On Foot	44.2%
• Bicycle	6%
• Bus/Minibus/Coach	12.5%
• Train/Dart/Luas	7%
• Motorcycle	2%
• Car Driver	17.5%
• Car Passenger	4%
• Other	4%

### Summary

The Docklands Area has witnessed a significant degree of socio-economic change in the period 1996-2006. The key trends are that:

- The Docklands population grew more than five times faster than Dublin City's in the period, with significant variations in growth within the Docklands.
- A high proportion of the population is found in the 15-24 and 25-44 age groups with relatively low numbers in the 45-64 and 65+ age brackets when compared to City, County and State level.
- The proportion of workers classified as 'professional' more than doubled and the figure is now higher than at City, County and State level.
- In 2006, the Docklands has a greater proportion of its population attaining degree, postgraduate or doctorate levels of education when compared to all of the other areas considered. The period 2002-2006 also witnessed a marked reduction in the number of Docklands residents citing primary as their highest level of educational attainment.
- During the 1996-2006 period, significantly more of the Docklands population were classified as 'at work' with a corresponding drop of more than 50% in the proportion of the Docklands population classified as 'unemployed'. However, some areas of higher unemployment persist.
- The accelerating City, County and State trend towards smaller family units and apartment living has been magnified in the Docklands Area in the period since 2002. Flats/bedsits/apartments account for over half of Docklands households and over 40% of dwellings are occupied by couples without children.
- In 2006, the Docklands has the highest proportion of its population – relative to all the other areas considered – engaging in commerce.
- In 2006, more than 50% of the Docklands population walked or cycled to school, work, or college and significantly fewer drove than in Dublin City, County or in the State.

## 2.2 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

### 2.2.1 INTRODUCTION

Since its establishment in 1997, the Authority has promoted the social regeneration of the Docklands community as a key part of its mission. From the start, it was recognised that the project was not only a bricks-and-mortar project, but also a people project. The importance of fully considering the opinions, needs and welfare of the local community has always been top of the Authority's agenda.

The Docklands Social Regeneration Programme embraces the entire community with a customised range of programmes including community development, social infrastructure, housing, employment and education.

Integral to the Authority's Social Regeneration Programme has been the Active Citizenship Course, designed to ensure the local community can take ownership of the regeneration of the area to ensure its sustainability when the Authority's remit has ended. In addition, the Authority introduced the Community Development Project Initiative (CDPI) programme into Docklands in 1999. Under this programme, community groups can apply for a 60% grant for approved non-commercial/non-profit community projects. To date, almost €620,000 has been approved for allocation to a total of 43 projects from community groups in Docklands and its immediate hinterland under the CDPI's programme of 2006/2007.

Colin Buchanan (CB), commissioned by the Authority in 2006 to carry out a 'Civic Infrastructure Audit Review' (dated June 2006) of a previous 2004 audit, found that the number of community facilities increased from 19 to 207 between 2004 and 2006. Of these, most were found to be in adequate working order and, accordingly, should be incorporated and, where necessary, upgraded, to ensure maximum community benefit.

Functions provided in local community groups include primary and secondary level educational assistance, community development and training, parish work, crèche and playgroup facilities, sports and youth volunteers, community credit, enterprise and employment resources, and recycling enterprises. Private fundraising is a common element of many community groups and many earn money from trading activities. Other funding sources include charitable institutions, the Eastern Health Board, the Combat Poverty Agency, the Department of Social and Family Affairs, Dublin City Council, FÁS and the Dublin Inner City Partnership.

Through the Master Plan 2008, the Authority will seek to continue community development towards achieving a sustainable platform for community growth. The CB report cited the need for various facilities to be provided. The Point Village and Poolbeg, where significant growth is envisaged, will be developed to incorporate facilities such as community centres, libraries, churches, and health clinics. The Plot 8 Community Facility development, when complete, will accommodate community training, crèche and subvention enterprise space. In addition, facilities for youths and senior citizens will be further developed, including expansion of the Young People's Forum, the opening of youth cafés in Ringsend and North Wall and the identification of pilot projects for seniors groups.

New housing development in the Docklands Area has been significant in past years, creating a new living model and generating a major input to the overall Docklands regeneration. The number of couples with children in the Docklands has fallen significantly from 46.1% in 1996 to 32.5% in 2006, and the percentage of childless family units has doubled during the same period. The Authority will continue to encourage appropriate housing to promote "family living" in Docklands in order to strengthen the sense of community and help the interaction between residents in different age groups.

It is an objective of the Master Plan 2008 to promote sustainable employment throughout the Docklands. Training and administrative support have been identified as key requirements. The



AFTERNOON TEA DANCES, DUBLIN FRINGE FESTIVAL



DOCKLANDS FESTIVAL OF HURLING



'AUDIO DETOUR', PART OF 'WE ARE HERE 2.0', 2007

Enterprise Network has been developed to build a business community in the Docklands. This will become a common forum to help transform the local economy by creating jobs and opportunities for local residents.

A community enterprise course, provided to increase local people's skills and confidence, includes the following modules: starting and structuring community business, fundraising and financial management, customer care and people management, and strategic business planning.

### 2.2.2 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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Sustainable community development requires the conscious and deliberate harmonisation of social and economic growth through the strategic direction of investment toward community issues. This in turn brings mutual socio-economic benefits and economic/physical improvement. Within Docklands, sustainable community development is fostered through the establishment and support of community organisations and community integration. The over-riding imperative is ensuring that community benefits go hand in hand with every proposed physical development.

#### Community Organisations

Community organisations have collectively played a crucial role in the regeneration of the Docklands. Partnership between the Authority, local community groups, local business and statutory agencies has provided a strong basis for development and, accordingly, should be continually strengthened.

The Community Liaison Committee (CLC) members have, over the past five years, lobbied the Authority to set up a community trust for the long-term sustainability of social regeneration within Docklands. In response, the Authority has recently set up the Docklands Community Trust with an initial endowment of €1.2 million. It is intended that the Trust will build on this initial capital sum to support current and future programmes after the Authority itself ceases to exist. In addition, the CLC members have worked together with the Authority to set up a Housing Trust for the long-term sustainability of housing within the Docklands. The Authority has now finalised the setting up of the Housing Trust, which will give the community responsibility for the management of the social housing stock in the post-Authority years.

Underlining its unwavering commitment to the promotion of integrated communities and the attraction of different age groups to reside in the Docklands, the Authority has set up a Seniors' Forum to establish a 'senior model' for the Area. Integral to the success of the established community groups is realistic empowerment. They must see the initiatives proposed implemented, wherever that is practicable. Locally elected representatives should be available to liaise with community groups on such matters through a formal committee, formulated with the assistance of the Authority.

## Policies

The Authority will:

### Policy SR1

Maintain the Community Liaison Committee (CLC), whose functions are: to maximise the involvement of the communities; to provide a forum for direct communication; to maximise the social regeneration opportunities for the Docklands Area.

### Policy SR2

Ensure that a Seniors' Forum is developed and supported to promote issues relevant to seniors in the Docklands.

### Policy SR3

Ensure that a Young People's Forum is developed and supported to promote issues relevant to young people in the Docklands.

### Policy SR4

Facilitate and promote environmental improvements in areas with poor amenities through engagement with Dublin City Council and the promotion of community initiatives.

## Community Integration

Before 2002, Docklands was principally made up of five communities: East Wall, North Strand, Sheriff Street/North Wall, City Quay/Westland Row and Ringsend/Irishtown. Each maintained independent community facilities, schools and retail outlets. Infrastructure improvement in Docklands has now created the opportunity to encourage interaction between existing communities and the development of new communities such as East Point, North Lotts, City Quay, and Grand Canal Docks, creating increased potential for fostering community integration.

The integration of activities between communities will assist with their individual growth over time. Each of the communities was assessed during the preparation of the Buchanan report and found to be in need of childcare facilities, healthcare facilities, corner shops, libraries and youth clubs for their sustainable growth into the future. Acknowledging that the implementation of such facilities takes time, community integration (along with the appropriate connections) will be integral to the growth of the Docklands over time.

Over the last five years, efforts have been made to encourage social integration within and between the communities. Such integration is necessary to sustain and build communities, and enable individuals, groups and communities to actively participate in identifying and addressing local needs.

Preparation and implementation of the 2008 Master Plan will be a pivotal catalyst, a crucial opportunity for all groups and community organisations to have access to decision-making structures and the participatory process. It is a comprehensive guarantee that all members of Docklands society have equal access to services and facilities to counteract social exclusion, enabling groups and individuals to fulfil their potential as they work and live in a unique location filled with possibility.

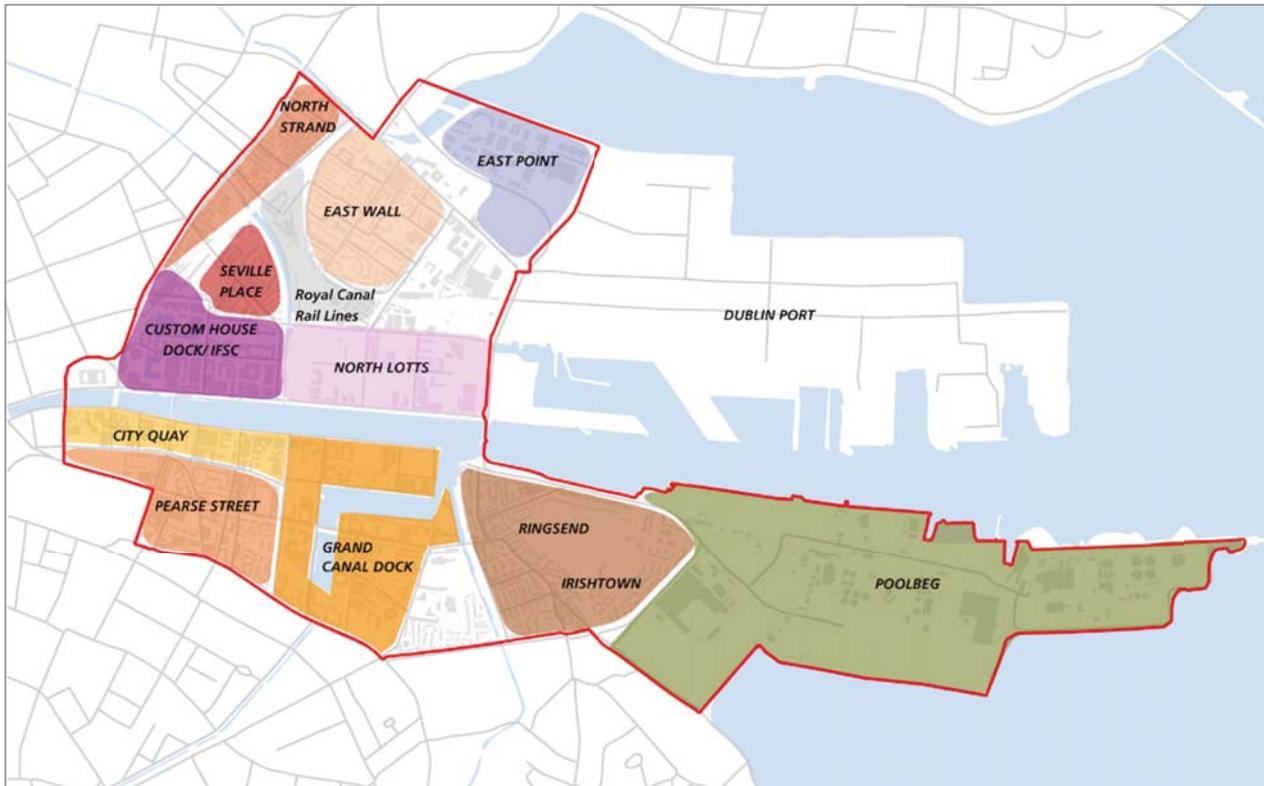


FIGURE 2.1 DISTINCT CHARACTER AREAS

### Policies

The Authority will:

#### Policy SR5

Encourage integration between indigenous communities and new communities to ensure the long-term sustainability of the Docklands Area. Seek to ensure the objective of social, economic, cultural, and environmental sustainability in all areas and their interactions and interdependencies within the Docklands.

### Community Gain

To develop a sustainable community in the Docklands it is necessary to ensure that the community continues to benefit from ongoing development through the provision of additional community facilities and other resources. Such benefits are termed 'Community Gain'. Instead of profits accruing solely to private developers, the goal of Community Gain is to ensure entitlements and improved quality of life for local people. These entitlements include additional jobs, apprenticeships and training initiatives negotiated through a Local Employment Initiative ('Employment for Docklands'), additional social and/or affordable housing, providing and/or improving public open space, social and community infrastructure, or the renewal, extension or provision of premises for community uses. Less tangibly, Community Gain finds expression in pride-of-place, a sense of belonging, and what Abraham Maslow called in 'A Theory for Human Motivation' "the capacity for self-actualisation".

The Authority will use its resources strategically to gain maximum impact through direct investment in the development and strengthening of an inclusive, assertive and representative community-based infrastructure. The infrastructure will operate to promote and strengthen civil participations in Docklands' social regeneration process. Further, the Authority has established a sustainable Community Trust Fund as an independent source of finance to support innovative and creative projects in the community sector. A working group of the trustees will be established to investigate the service scope of the trust and unite players from the community, local authority and private sector. Provisions will be examined and initiated to enable the continuity of the Fund into the future, once the Authority has completed its statutory remit.

### Policies

The Authority will:

**Policy SR6**

Promote 'Community Gain' and ensure that its aim is communicated to the wider communities.

**Policy SR7**

Promote initiatives that harness and develop the creativity, confidence and self-esteem of all Docklanders.

**Policy SR8**

Ensure the Community Trust Fund, with the support of the Authority, is established on a financially sustainable basis, within the lifetime of the Authority.



DOCKLANDS FUN RUN

### 2.2.3 HEALTHY DOCKLANDS

Healthy Docklands is to be promoted by the continuation of initiatives for social integration, better quality of life and the provision of a range of accommodation types. It is generally recognised that quality of life is determined not simply by healthy living, activity and diet, together with protection against pain and disease, but is crucially influenced by stress, worry, pleasure and other positive or negative emotional states. The active promotion of the living experience as a whole in Docklands will contribute to improving the quality of life. This will be achieved by supporting physical and environmental improvements in Docklands, fostering a comfortable and safe environment and by maintaining an inclusive community.

#### Community Facilities, Recreation and Amenity

At the 2008 Social Regeneration Conference in Killarney, Docklands residents suggested that retail, healthcare and youth facilities need to be enhanced at certain locations. In addition, further space for the use of local schools and sports groups is considered necessary, particularly to the north of the River Liffey. These matters also fall in line with the findings of the Buchanan 'Civic Infrastructure Audit Review' (June 2006). The latter stressed the importance of establishing a range of facilities (including those for recreation and amenity purposes) for communities developing in the Area, stating that while much civic infrastructure had been, and was in the process of being, developed, there remained a need for the following in the Grand Canal Dock area (inter alia):

- Two or three doctors' surgeries
- A community centre
- A youth centre
- Formal and informal play areas
- Childcare facilities
- A multimedia and arts facility



GRAND CANAL DOCK

Access to public waterways and full utilisation of water bodies including the canals and Grand Canal Dock Basin, as well as public access to green spaces has been called for by local residents and is to be further explored. Recreation and amenity use of the Docklands waterways must match the terrestrial equivalent. And, on land, hitherto unexplored possibilities are coming into focus. For example, developed on the site of waste ground on Church Road, Sean O' Casey Park has become an appealing and attractive amenity for the East Wall area and its residents. It shows that the brown field sites in the Docklands have excellent potential for local amenity and recreational use, notwithstanding years of neglect and existing poor conditions.

The authority recognises existing clubs / facilities and the important role they play in the social regeneration of the Dockland's community.

The importance of internet facilities in education, training and the community generally has been emphasised by the community. The availability of such digital media is considered integral to the growth of both living and working communities and should be encouraged wherever possible.



DOCKLANDS URBAN BEACH

## Policies

The Authority will:

### Policy SR9

Seek to ensure that new development is supported by the provision of adequate community and recreation facilities and services, consisting of new and / or enhanced existing facilities, in tandem with the phasing of development.

### Policy SR10

Collaborate with Dublin City Council and other agencies to promote the early provision of key infrastructural works.

### Policy SR11

As a priority, arrange for the provision of the highest standards of digital media infrastructure and capacity within the new development areas.

### Policy SR12

Further develop affordable home ownership models in cooperation with Government departments and relevant agencies.

### Policy SR13

Seek the provision, in accordance with identified need, of step-down care facilities, nursing home care and supported housing both North and South of the Liffey for older people within the Docklands Area.

## Comfort and Safety

A constant concern voiced by communities relates to drug and crime problems, especially among younger residents. The Authority recognises the critical link between policies on recreation, leisure, youth development, employment and the whole issue of crime prevention and drug abuse. Developing policies and initiatives in these areas can help reduce crime and drug abuse within the Docklands. The Authority will contribute to the establishment of a working relationship between relevant community groups and the Gardai to ensure that a holistic approach to these issues is taken. The Authority has already installed the first phase of CCTV at Grand Canal Square and at IFSC, with further provision to be phased as Docklands develops.

A healthy neighbourhood should also offer residents safe pedestrian and cycle paths. Some of the neighbourhood streets in the Docklands, including interface areas with residential development, may not require the provision of cycle paths, but should include traffic-calming surfaces. It is the Authority's objective to develop streets, open spaces and play areas as safe and pleasant spaces, particularly for children, the elderly, pedestrians and cyclists.

### Policies

The Authority will:

**Policy SR14**

Work with communities, relevant agencies and the Gardai to promote a safe environment for living, working and recreation and to address anti-social behaviour.

**Policy SR15**

Seek to ensure safe and pleasant streets through the provision of appropriate surfaces, street furniture and planting.

**Policy SR16**

Work with Dublin City Council to ensure provision and retention of public parks, open play areas and pedestrian and cycle networks for all and ensure that the parks and open spaces are well equipped and accessible to all.

### Public Realm

Local community groups have highlighted the lack of sufficient public open spaces in the form of parks and play areas adjacent to housing, particularly in the North Docklands area. Improved open spaces and play areas, as well as safe pedestrian and cycle networks, enhance quality of life and promote a healthy Docklands. The completion of public transport initiatives and the development of amenities are expected to further enhance the sustainability of urban development in Docklands.

### Policies

The Authority will:

**Policy SR17**

Encourage the participation of the local communities in the design and maintenance of the open space provision in the Master Plan. A sense of ownership of open space by the community would enhance the use of such spaces.

### Movement and Access

Port-related and commuter traffic has increased significantly over the last five years. The new Samuel Beckett Bridge is expected to carry 1,500 cars per hour, increasing the volume of new traffic in the area. It is imperative that only two of the four lanes are used for private vehicular traffic, while the other two lanes remain open for public transport. Transport-related policies are outlined in Part 5 of this Master Plan.

### 2.2.4 HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

The provision of a broad range of housing options throughout the Docklands, including social and affordable housing and the accommodation of people from all social backgrounds and age groups, can provide the diversity that will sustain the unique character of the Area. Achieving this requires the surmounting of some current problems, including the fact that new residential development in the Docklands is failing to attract owner-occupier and rented family groups. This, added to the rapid increase in land values and house prices, which has placed the purchase of residential accommodation beyond the reach of most local residents and has hindered the regeneration of some local communities. Social and affordable housing is delivered through both the Planning Schemes and Part V of the Planning and Development Act, 2000. The balancing of the benefits of community consolidation, while providing the level of housing required, is and will continue to be a complex and necessary task for the Authority's Social Regeneration team.

New housing development should be promoted with the aim of enhancing sustainability, both through the design and layout of buildings and residential areas and through the use of appropriate materials. Living accommodation should be tailored to the residents and their lifestyles and provide a range of tenure options. The CLC recognises the need to have a "family-living" character in Docklands and has already succeeded in securing the construction of two-bedroom units for seniors, as well as larger social and affordable homes with storage space and play facilities suitable for families in all new developments. That said, it is acknowledged that the accommodation needs of seniors in particular needs to be further addressed, including via the promotion and provision of 'step-down' accommodation, which in turn would release dwellings for family use. Refer to Policy SR13 relating to this issue.

The 2008 Docklands Master Plan will promote the continued delivery of high-quality housing for contemporary urban living. The challenge is to continue to position Docklands as a place that attracts a variety of residents and family types, providing them with the opportunity to raise their families in a safe, people-friendly environment. In consultation with the local community, the Authority has developed familiarisation courses for people moving into social and affordable homes in the Area. In order to fully integrate all sections of the community in Docklands, the Authority has devised a template for an integrated management system for housing, play areas and public spaces within new residential complexes.

#### Policies

The Authority will:

**Policy SR18**

Promote the development of living space adequate in size and appropriate in layout to facilitate contemporary living for all, and to encourage architects to create new innovative and attractive homes.

**Policy SR19**

Promote the development of living space that reflects the range of different users including single people, couples, couples with children, one parent families, persons with disabilities and seniors.

**Policy SR20**

Promote the provision of appropriate seniors' housing together with associated facilities in co-operation with Dublin City Council and other relevant housing organisations.

**Policy SR21**

Develop, promote and implement an integrated management system for housing, play areas and public realm within new residential complexes.

**Policy SR22**

Support the Docklands Housing Trust, in association with the Dublin City Council and other housing agencies, in the development and implementation of housing policy in the Area.

**Policy SR23**

Develop and implement a programme of supported housing in cooperation with the relevant housing agencies and providers.

### 2.2.5 LOCAL EMPLOYMENT INITIATIVE

Employment sectors such as construction, retail, wholesale, education and health have grown in recent years, partly because of the opportunities that have arisen as a result of economic regeneration. These sectors currently offer most employment opportunities for residents, while manufacturing in the Docklands has shown a continuous decline. Increased employment for residents in education and healthcare in particular, illustrates the job opportunities arising from the social economy sector. However, the relatively high proportion of residents in the unskilled and semi-skilled category, combined with the decline in traditional manufacturing in the Docklands, reinforces the need for retraining in such areas as computer, healthcare and administrative skills.

The employment context of the Area is complicated by the fact that higher office and residential land values are displacing marginal low-value uses such as warehousing, which heretofore provided employment for many low-skilled residents.

The Authority's Social Programmes Unit oversees employment, training and educational programmes. The Schools Jobs Placement Scheme, the introduction of the Financial Services Programme, the Apprenticeship Programme and the Local Employment Charter have resulted in a total of 225 direct job placements within the last five years. This is in addition to other general employment opportunities for residents in the Area. The Local Employment Initiatives Review Group has delivered 120 jobs in IFSC II, over 90% of them going to residents who had been on the long-term unemployment register.

The Authority's Enterprise Development Programme has been established to identify the needs of local businesses and entrepreneurs. It will continue to support access to employment and promote local employment initiatives that enable people living in the area to work there also. Local businesses should be assisted in providing jobs through development of talent and skills.

Ongoing communication between community groups and businesses is encouraged by the Authority. In addition to large corporate businesses, job opportunities for young people will continue to become available within local businesses catering for local needs. Accordingly, it is important that job opportunities continue to be identified within the community at all levels to the benefit of the residents in the Docklands and its hinterland.

## Policies

The Authority will (or will require):

### **Policy SR24**

Promote community employment projects which create sustainable employment.

### **Policy SR25**

Promote the implementation of the Docklands Local Employment Charter.

### **Policy SR26**

The Local Employment Charter, which targets 20% on all construction employment, shall be a requirement in all Section 25 Planning Schemes and consents thereunder.

### **Policy SR27**

Facilitate all agencies engaged in employment initiatives in Docklands to work together in a coordinated manner in order to maximise employment for residents of Docklands Area and its hinterland.

### **Policy SR28**

Promote projects with employment needs that complement the skills base existing in the Area, and those being provided through employment and training initiatives.

### **Policy SR29**

Promote the employment of local school-leavers within the IFSC and other Docklands businesses through the School Jobs Placement Programme and similar initiatives.

### **Policy SR30**

Identify, with the aid and support of local communities, job opportunities in small business.

## 2.3 EDUCATION AND TRAINING

### 2.3.1 INTRODUCTION

Investment in education is the cornerstone of the Authority's Social Regeneration Programme. Up to 2008, over 30 successful educational development projects have been implemented at primary, post primary and third level. They are designed to bring fun and passion into school life, encouraging participation and improving future prospects for young Docklanders. Dublin 1 and Dublin 3 have an Education Welfare Officer (EWO) assigned.

Since 1997, policies promoting education in Docklands have resulted in significant success in counteracting educational disadvantage. The ESRI survey shows that from 1997 to 2005, the percentage of Docklands children dropping out of school before the age of 12 went down from 35% to 13%, before age of 15 from 65% to 30%; in 2005, 60% of local young people sat Leaving Certificate exams in contrast to just 10% in 1997. The percentages of those who chose to pursue further education has increased from 1% to 10%. Having regard to the following schemes: *'Towards 2016, National Action Plan for Social Inclusion 2007-2016'*, *'DEIS the Action Plan for Educational Inclusion'*, *'School Completion Program (SCP)'*, *'Home School Community Liaison Scheme (HSCL)'*, *'National Education Welfare Board (NEWB)'*, *'Education Welfare Officers (EWO)'*, and other relevant documents, the authority will promote the feasibility of setting specific goals and targets to encourage the growing trend of school-retention rates and Leaving Certificate Exams. The main issues to be addressed are:

- To continue this clearly beneficial trend action must be taken to solve identified problems such as: the requirement for affordable crèche and childcare facilities within existing and new residential areas
- The fact that approximately 33% of the schools are at capacity
- 75% of primary schools are in need of expansion or repair
- More internet facilities in education and training provision are needed
- It is recommended that pre-school facilities follow relevant national documents such as Siolta, the National Quality Framework for Early Childhood Education, and the NCAA's Framework for Early Learning to address quality in the provision of their pre-school facilities and services.

Under this Master Plan, a sustainable education module will be promoted at pre-primary, primary, secondary and third level, stimulating parental commitment, facilitating mature/ second-time learners, working-for-life, vocational training, and community support and development.

Seven schools in the Docklands Area benefit from the DEIS through the following means: access to the SCP (three projects in the DDDA) and HSCL, reduced class size in primary schools, additional non-pay funding based on level of disadvantage, additional funding under School Books Grant Scheme and access to School Meals Program, literacy / numeracy supports, access to Junior Certificate School Program and Leaving Certificate Applied, and provision for school library and librarian supports.

### 2.3.2 SUSTAINABLE EDUCATION

Education and training are key factors in allowing residents to avail of employment opportunities and realise their full potential, thereby ensuring long-term sustainable social and economic regeneration. Some of the least visible but most innovative aspects of the Authority's work are to be found in the range of educational programmes it has developed within the community. These focus on a sustainable approach to improve the personal development, education and employment potential of local people.

The objectives of encouraging sustainable education include the promotion of productive education, addressing gaps in provision, removing barriers to participation, supporting parental and community involvement, specific targeting of resources to high-need groups and expanding qual-

ity early education opportunities for pre-school children. Overall it aims to develop a mechanism for the improved coordination of education in the local area so that services can respond quickly and effectively to the specific educational needs of local people in various age groups.

The authority will engage with the Department of Education to provide various measures and schemes aimed at addressing adult education in the Docklands Area: City of Dublin VEC (CDVEC), Intensive Tuition in Adult Basic Education (ITABE), NCI and DDDA Parents in Education course, and the Trinity voluntary Tutor Program.

An Interregional School Principals' Forum has been developed to experience best practice and establish 'twinning' links between Dublin Docklands schools and schools in Ennis, Belfast, Strathclyde, London, Liverpool, Sunderland and Cork.

## Policies

The Authority will:

### Policy SR31

Encourage and support initiatives designed to reduce educational disadvantage in the Docklands Area.

### Policy SR32

Seek to ensure that pupils in the Docklands achieve educational success on a par with other pupils in the Dublin City area by continuing to support the Docklands School Principals' Forum, identifying and providing educational programmes, supplementing existing schools provision, and auditing school resources.

### Policy SR33

Network with local school principals through the Docklands School Principals' Forum and the Department of Education and Science to identify optimum interventions to secure best provision of educational facilities, resources and initiatives within the Area to meet capacity needs of the current and growing population of the Docklands Area.

## Early School-Leaving

The most critical aspect of educational disadvantage in Docklands is the level of early school leaving. Despite the remarkable and measurable progress evident in this area, too many young people in Docklands still leave school without qualifications and often without adequate literacy skills. The cooperation of all relevant agencies will be sought to tackle this issue. The development of new initiatives and approaches within individual schools and through community-based activities will be encouraged.

## Policies

The Authority will:

### Policy SR34

Work with local schools and communities to increase school retention rates.



DOCKLANDS SCHOOLS DRAMA PROGRAMME



DISCOVERING UNIVERSITY



DOCKLANDS MUSIC IN SCHOOLS

### 2.3.3 EDUCATION PROGRAMMES AND FACILITIES

The Authority promotes initiatives aimed at providing education for the entire community and works closely with the communities, school principals, teachers, the National College of Ireland, FÁS and all other relevant providers in the continued development of these initiatives.

The Authority acknowledges the continuing effort of St. Joseph's Co-ed in East Wall to relocate the school to a new and suitable location.

A great deal of innovation, creativity and informed responsiveness is evident in the range of educational programmes the Authority has established. These focus on improving the personal development, education and employment prospects of local people and they include:

- Third-Level Scholarship
- Discovering University
- School Database
- Docklands Schools Music Programme
- Docklands Schools Drama Programme
- School Principals' Forum
- Adult Education/Behaviour Schools
- Therapeutic Crisis Intervention

#### Policies

The Authority will:

**Policy SR35**

Support the provision of the necessary programmes and facilities to meet the identified skill shortages in the IFSC and other employment sectors, and support the National College of Ireland (NCI) in its provision of such appropriate programmes and facilities

**Policy SR36**

Work with all third-level colleges to lever the maximum local advantage from the resource presence of the Docklands campus.

**Policy SR37**

Facilitate and promote the provision and expansion of education facilities as required to serve Docklands' indigenous and new communities.

**Policy SR38**

Promote the Schools Principals' Forum and its role in the development of educational facilities and in education provision in the Docklands Area and its immediate hinterland.

### Pre-School Education

The value of quality childcare and early education to the long-term development of the child is inarguable. A number of additional childcare and pre-school facilities and services have been provided throughout the Area within the last five years. It is intended to continue to support the expansion and quality improvement of facilities at pre-school level and the involvement of the Docklands Childcare Forum in the development and design of new pre-school facilities. In this regard it is recommended that such facilities should follow the principles of the best-practice model at Pen Green in Corby, Northampton in the UK.

### Policies

The Authority will:

**Policy SR39**

Work with local communities and relevant agencies to implement the recommendations from the Childcare Forum, and to expand the pre-primary education and childcare facilities to promote the provision of a viable high standard crèche, in accordance with identified need, in every community of the Docklands Area.

### Third-Level Education

The National College of Ireland (NCI) located in the IFSC with the assistance of the Authority and opened its doors to more than 3,000 full and part-time students in September 2002. It offers courses in business, management and information technology. A major element of the first phase of the Master Plans (1997 and 2003) was to develop a centre for educational excellence, access and community development. The NCI phase two was granted 0.5 Ha for the development of a Centre for Educational Opportunity, which is committed to providing education for Docklands residents. Its current portfolio of courses includes certification in community work and management of voluntary workers. The Trinity Access Programme also assists local residents in accessing third-level education. In addition, the Authority has awarded 239 third-level scholarships to date and operates a part-time scholarship programme to assist Docklands residents who wish to further their education through post-Leaving Certificate courses and part-time certified courses in association with the IFSC Dublin Inner City Trust.

### Policies

The Authority will:

**Policy SR40**

Support NCI in the further development of the number and range of its programmes and to market the recognition of those programmes to secure a wider remit throughout the community. Encourage and support NCI in achieving its HEA aspirations. Monies will be committed by the Authority to fund agreed programmes which can be accessed by, or bring benefits and opportunities to, the local communities.

**Policy SR41**

Encourage research and development operations at a number of strategic sites, in co-operation with the city's universities and third-level colleges.

### 2.3.4 CONTINUING EDUCATION

It is essential to pursue policies and initiatives that increase the number of students who leave the education system with the appropriate standard of education, and to constantly aim to improve educational facilities and programmes in the area.

The Authority strongly supports Lifelong Learning (Saol Scoil), which requires the ongoing development of a wide range of educational initiatives from infancy to adulthood. These initiatives will be the subject of ongoing evaluation and monitoring.

#### Adult Education and Training

Due to the levels of educational disadvantage many local adults have experienced in their early lives, they can face severe difficulties in gaining access to formal education and training programmes. A number of initiatives have been taken to counter these difficulties, including courses run at St Andrew's Resource Centre. The Authority fully endorses these initiatives and will continue to work closely with the communities and programme providers in this area over the duration of the Plan. It will also support others which meet the identified needs of people in the local communities wishing to re-enter the education system. During the first phase of the Master Plan, the Authority sponsored the adult literacy programme, computer courses and a joint programme with the NCI promoting Parents in Education. More than 160 Docklands parents have enrolled on this programme.

The Authority, with the co-operation of local communities, will continue to work with FÁS, CERT and the Department of Education and Science to provide a range of training, personal development and other programmes and services to help residents of the Area find employment.

The Authority is also committed to providing a training and community facility as part of the Plot 8 development at Grand Canal Dock and is enabling the relocation of the Ringsend Community Training Workshop and other organisations, together with enterprise spaces, into the new facility.

#### Policies

The Authority will:

**Policy SR42**

Provide, with the co-operation of local schools, FÁS and Failte Ireland job-specific training and education programmes as the need is identified.

**Policy SR43**

Promote the realisation of an e-society, particularly through ongoing establishment of e-learning initiatives.