Reform of local government (began in 2002)
March 2012 the NI Executive published its Programme for Government (PFG) which included a commitment to reduce the number of councils
26 councils replaced with 11 ‘super’ councils
First elections to new councils on May 22\textsuperscript{nd} 2014
Super councils came into being on 1\textsuperscript{st} April 2015
Average size of councils in population terms increased from 70,000 to 166,000
## The New Super Councils!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Belfast City</td>
<td>Belfast City Council plus parts of Castlereagh, Lisburn and North Down</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Down and Ards District</td>
<td>Ards and North Down, except for a small part of the Knocknagoney area of North Down District which was to be transferred to Belfast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antrim and Newtownabbey District</td>
<td>Antrim and Newtownabbey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lisburn City and Castlereagh District</td>
<td>Lisburn and Castlereagh, though with the transfer of &quot;the localities of Gilnahirk, Tullycarnet, Braniel, Castlereagh, Merok, Cregagh, Wynchurch, Glencregagh and Belvoir, Collin Glen, Poleglass, Lagmore, Twinbrook, Kilwee and Dunmurry&quot; to Belfast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newry City, Mourne and Down District</td>
<td>Newry and Mourne and Down together with half of Slieve Croob</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon District</td>
<td>Armagh City and District, Banbridge and Craigavon, though with the loss of half of Slieve Croob to Newry City and Down District</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid and East Antrim District</td>
<td>Ballymena, Larne, and Carrickfergus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Causeway Coast and Glens District</td>
<td>Ballymoney, Coleraine, Limavady and Moyle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-Ulster District</td>
<td>Magherafelt, Cookstown and Dungannon and South Tyrone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Derry City and Strabane District</td>
<td>Derry and Strabane.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fermanagh and Omagh District</td>
<td>Fermanagh and Omagh</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LARGELY SIMILAR POPULATION PROFILES EXCEPT ....

Population & Working Age Population (aged 16-64 yrs)

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

Source: NISRA
Wide disparity in population change over next decade ...

Population Change 2015 - 2025

- Northern Ireland: 4.9%
- Mid Ulster: 10.0%
- Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon: 9.9%
- Lisburn & Castlereagh: 8.8%
- Newry, Mourne & Down: 7.9%
- Fermanagh & Omagh: 4.1%
- Antrim & Newtownabbey: 3.8%
- North Down & Ards: 3.0%
- Mid & East Antrim: 2.3%
- Belfast: 2.3%
- Causeway Coast & Glens: 1.9%
- Derry & Strabane: 0.9%

Source: NISRA
AND MIXED PROJECTIONS FOR WORKING AGE POPULATION CHANGE …

Change in Working Age Population (2015-2025)

-4.4% Derry & Strabane
-3.9% Causeway Coast & Glens
-2.9% Mid & East Antrim
-2.8% North Down & Ards
-2.8% Belfast
-1.2% Fermanagh & Omagh
-0.4% Antrim & Newtownabbey
-0.0% Newry, Mourne & Down
-0.0% Lisburn & Castlereagh
3.1% Armaph, Banbridge & Craigavon
4.4% Mid Ulster
6.0% NI
DISPARITY IN EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS ...

Qualifications, 16+ (Census of Population 2011)

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

- No qualifications
- Level 4+ qualifications
Labour market participation low for some ....
SOME HIGH SELF EMPLOYMENT RATES!
Two cities with largest Claimant Count Unemployment Rates....

- Northern Ireland: 3.9%
- Derry and Strabane: 7.2%
- Belfast: 5.3%
- Causeway Coast and Glens: 4.0%
- Newry, Mourne and Down: 3.7%
- Fermanagh and Omagh: 3.7%
- North Down and Ards: 3.2%
- Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon: 3.2%
- Mid Ulster: 2.9%
- Mid and East Antrim: 2.9%
- Antrim and Newtownabbey: 2.8%
- Lisburn and Castlereagh: 2.4%
AND LITTLE SIGN OF CONVERGENCE …
LARGEST CITIES also with highest long-term sick/disabled inactivity rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Long-Term Sick/Disabled Inactivity Rate % (2011)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Northern Ireland</td>
<td>7.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Derry and Strabane</td>
<td>10.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belfast</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newry, Mourne and Down</td>
<td>7.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fermanagh and Omagh</td>
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<td>Lisburn and Castlereagh</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Some large differences between wages for those working in and living in some councils ...

Mean wage 2014

- Belfast: £25,384
- Antrim and Newtownabbey: £22,626
- Mid and East Antrim: £22,127
- Derry and Strabane: £20,297
- Mid Ulster: £20,099
- Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon: £19,945
- Newry, Mourne and Down: £19,254
- Lisburn and Castlereagh: £18,868
- North Down and Ards: £19,415
- Causeway Coast and Glens: £19,103
- Fermanagh and Omagh: £17,829

Average wage for those working in area: £22,400
Average wage for those living in area: £19,934
Some areas with a strong focus on manufacturing....
## Occupational Focus

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Highest % Share</th>
<th>Lowest % Share</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Professional Occupations</td>
<td>• Lisburn &amp; Castlereagh (21%)</td>
<td>• Causeway Coast &amp; Glens (15%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Belfast (21%)</td>
<td>• Mid &amp; East Antrim (15%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Skilled Trades</td>
<td>• Mid Ulster (22%)</td>
<td>• Belfast (8%)</td>
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<td>• Fermanagh &amp; Omagh (20%)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• North Down &amp; Ards (11%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administrative &amp; Secretarial</td>
<td>• North Down &amp; Ards (18%)</td>
<td>• Mid Ulster (10%)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Antrim &amp; Newtownabbey (16%)</td>
<td>• Fermanagh &amp; Omagh (11%)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Lisburn &amp; Castlereagh (16%)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Process, Plant &amp; Machinery Operatives</td>
<td>• Armagh, Banbridge &amp; Craigavon (11%)</td>
<td>• Belfast (5%)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Mid Ulster (11%)</td>
<td>• North Down &amp; Ards (6%)</td>
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CONTRIBUTION TO ECONOMIC OUTPUT (GVA)

- Belfast, 28%
- Mid and East Antrim, 10%
- Antrim and Newtownabbey, 10%
- Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon, 9%
- Newry, Mourne and Down, 7%
- Lisburn and Castlereagh, 7%
- Mid Ulster, 8%
- Derry and Strabane, 7%
- Causeway Coast and Glens, 5%
- Fermanagh and North Down and Ards, Omagh, 4%
- North Down and Ards, Omagh, 5%
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FUNCTIONS TRANSFERRED

- A number of functions which were previously delivered by NI Executive departments are now carried out by local councils.
- These include:
  - Local planning functions
  - Local economic development
  - Community development (will transfer in April 2016)
  - Urban regeneration (will transfer in April 2016)
  - Off-street parking
- The new councils will also have a new statutory duty of Community Planning – ‘a process led by councils in conjunction with partners and communities to develop and implement a shared vision for their area’
NEW LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUNCTIONS

- Start a Business Programme and Enterprise Shows (previously InvestNI)
- Youth entrepreneurship (such as Prince’s Trust and Shell Livewire)
- Social entrepreneurship
- Investing for Women
- Neighbourhood renewal funding relating to enterprises initiatives
Policy Implications for New Councils

- Very different issues facing different Councils
- Is there a gap in adjusting central interventions towards the labour market at a local level? Enterprise covered but what about the labour market?
- Role of Community Planning Framework key – linked with capacity of councils
- If policy interventions have to be prioritised – should the focus be on accessibility to key labour markets or focus on creating local jobs for local people?
- Mention of employment strategies for Belfast and Derry/L’Derry. Is that enough?
THANK YOU!