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Breaking Barriers, Creating Connections: A physical Environment Action plan for the Northwest Inner City.

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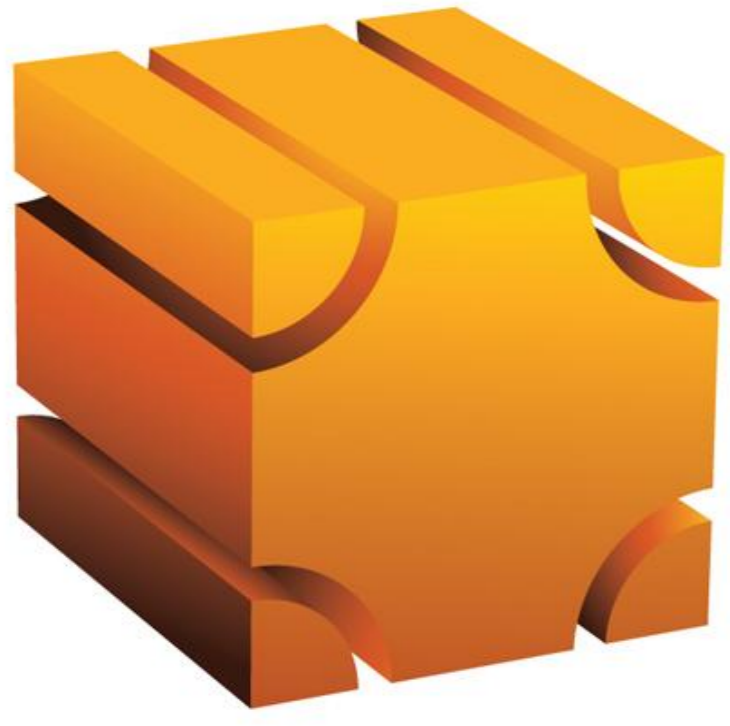
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Breaking Barriers, Creating Connections: A Physical Environment Action Plan for the Northwest Inner City



Breaking Barriers, Creating Connections – A Physical Environment Action Plan for the North West Inner City

Study prepared by DIT Graduates and Students on behalf of RAPID /
Dublin City Council

Written by:

Niall Byrne, Sarah Culleton, Fiona Egan, Sean Garvey, Kevin O'Brien

Produced for:

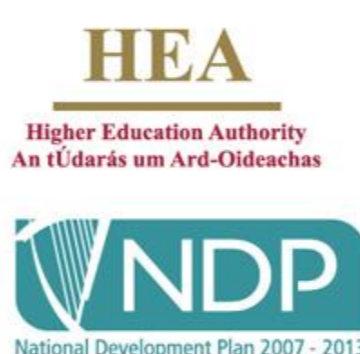
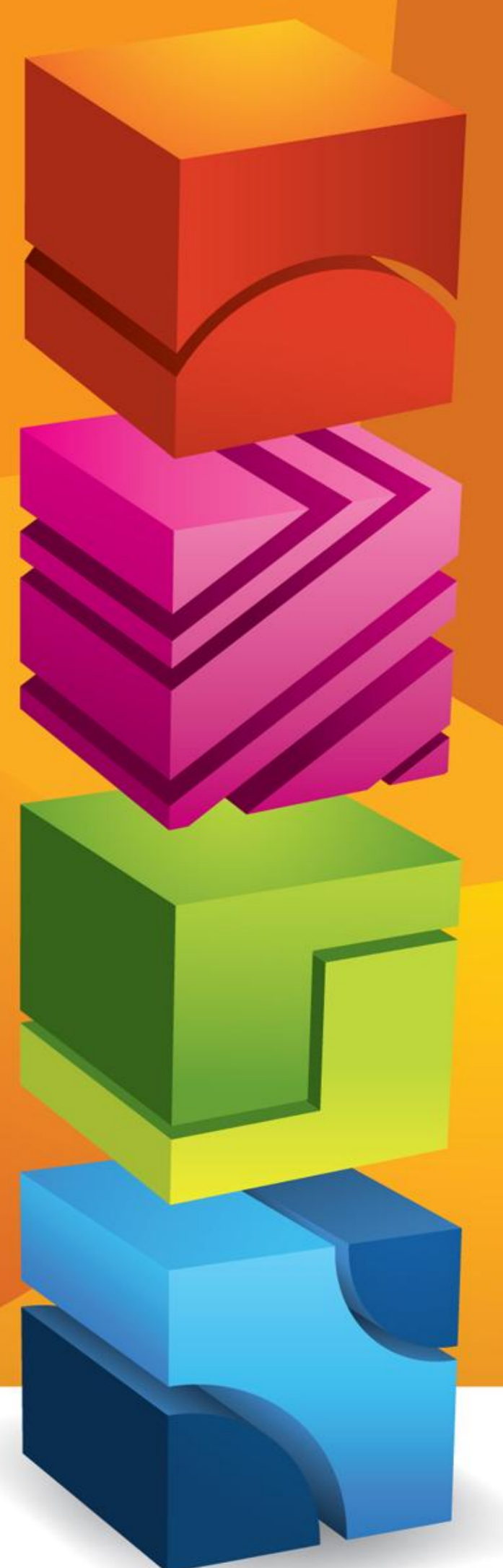
Revitalising Areas through Planning, Investment and Development (RAPID) and
Dublin City Council

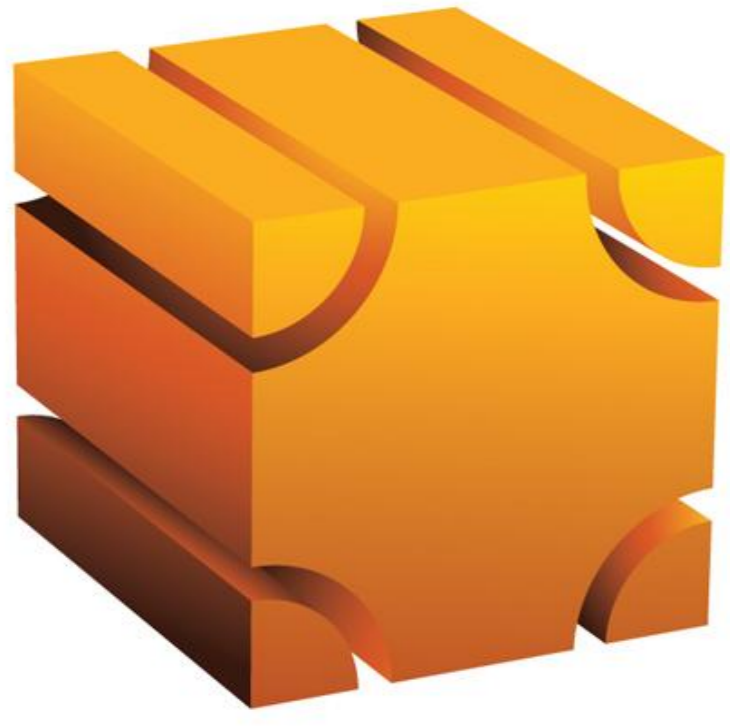
On behalf of the:

School of Spatial Planning, Dublin Institute of Technology, July 2009

Project Steering Group:

Deirdre Ni Raghallaigh – Dublin City Council
David O'Donovan – North West Inner City RAPID/Dublin City Council
Dr. Noel O'Connor – Dublin Institute of Technology
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Breaking Barriers, Creating Connections

Some of the Existing and Possible Future Sports and Community Facilities in the Area.

SAVIOURS
A long established boxing club, Saint Savours has a long list of talented boxers including Darren Sutherland. The club is one of the most famous in Dublin and very welcoming to new beginners.

Friends of the Elderly is a voluntary, non-denominational organisation that brings friendship and social opportunities to the elderly, especially those who live alone. There are over 175 volunteers in the Greater Dublin area who have made a commitment to visit elderly people in their homes.

The Macro Community Resource Centre is a non-profit making facility which provides office accommodation and activity space to community and voluntary organisations which serve the people of the Markets Area of Dublin's North Inner City.

Carmichael Centre for Voluntary Groups is a centre for small voluntary organisations. The principal objective of the Centre is to nurture and support the development of small voluntary groups, providing an environment which stimulates this development.

St Michan's Park, located between Green Street and Halston Street in Dublin's north inner city, had been underutilised due to anti-social behaviour and poor facilities. It has since been renovated and is now home to GreenSt, outdoor handball alley.

Smithfield is the largest purpose-built open civic space in Europe. The dramatic gas braziers light up the square on event evenings. The space is ideal for large community gatherings in terms of sports or community occasions.

Project Area.

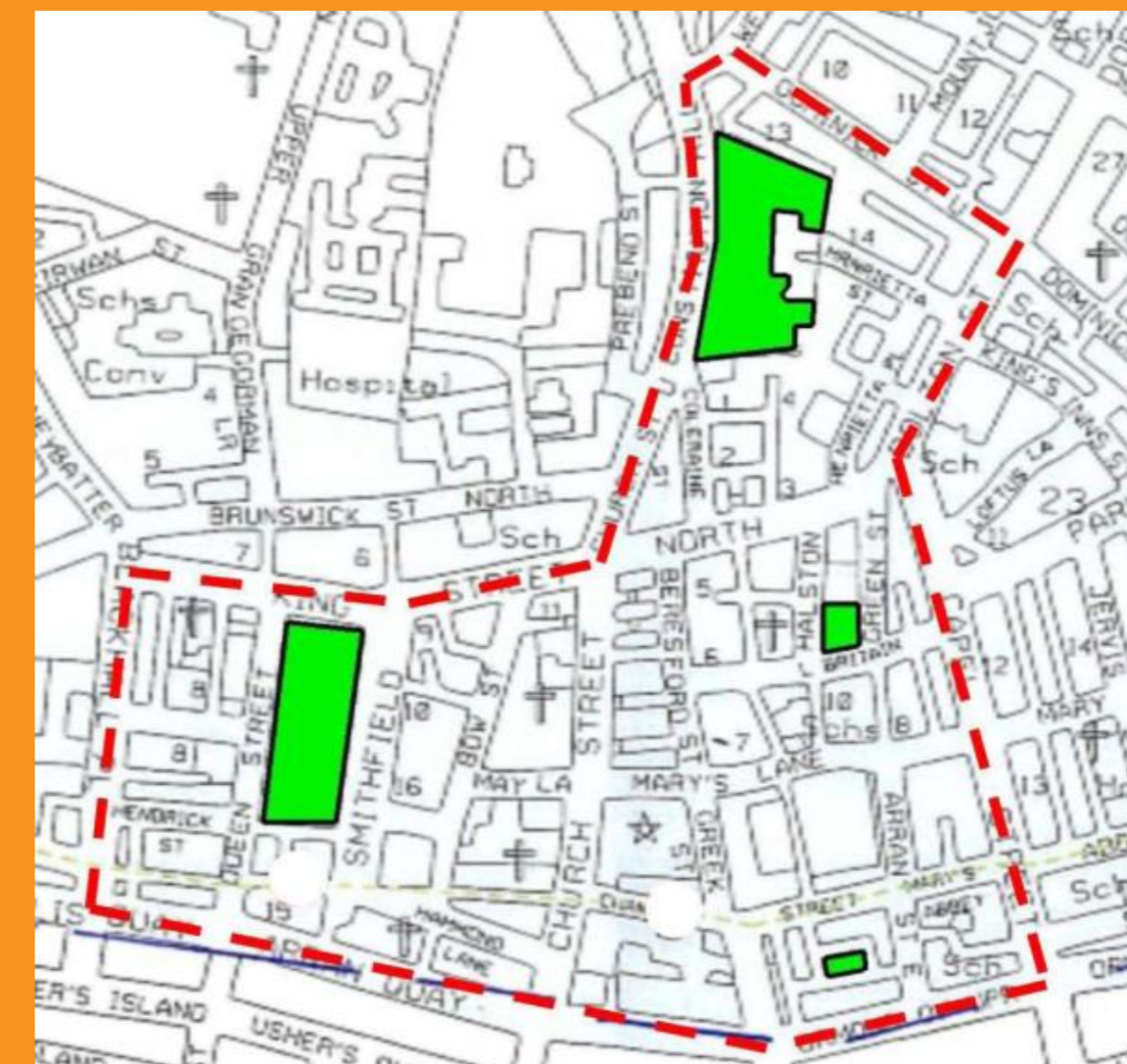


Section A – Community & Cultural Profile

The project commenced with a community and cultural profile which examined the historical and socio-economic context of the study area. This was in order to gain an understanding of the area and its spatial planning context.

Section B - Survey

As part of the community and cultural programme the project team surveyed the area extensively. In-depth interviews were carried out with key community and local stakeholders based on the key topics in the project brief. Local business leaders were interviewed and a public spaces user survey was carried out.



Section C - Themes

In-depth surveys of the area were carried out based on the key topics identified in the project brief. A series of brainstorming workshops analysed the information gathered from stakeholders and the community at large in these surveys. From this research five key themes emerged to address the issues raised in a holistic and spatially connected manner; Information and Networking, Public Realm, Sports and Community, Economic Development and Cultural Development – Creating a Coalition.

