



# Anne-Marie Campbell

Policy and Research Manager, Belfast City Council



## Belfast's North Foreshore Development Plans

# History of Belfast

- Settlement at the mouth of the lagan '**Beal Feirste**' since 1177
- Granted **City status in 1888** by Queen Victoria
- Over the last 100 years the population has fluctuated from 349,000 in 1901, peaking at 450,000 in 1960's.
- Rapid urbanisation is the result of a flourishing linen industry in the 19th century
- **RMS Titanic** was built and launched here in 1912.
- WWII saw shipbuilding and engineering industries in Belfast boom





## Belfast Context

- Capital city of Northern Ireland, with 277,391 residents
- Young population
- Anti-social behaviour is an issue in all of Belfast
- North and West Belfast
  - The most deprived areas
  - Highest unemployment and low economic activity levels
  - Lowest levels of educational achievement



## North Belfast

- Area **divided** by culture, religion or political opinion
- **Tension** between communities
- **Deprived** area
- Large number of **interfaces**
- **Exclusion** of new immigrant population and young people

# North Foreshore – overall plans

**330 acres** of reclaimed land 2 miles from the city centre which will include:

- **Waste management** facilities managed by Arc 21
- An **eco business park** to develop environmental industries
- **Park and ride** facility
- Landfill gas will be used to generate sustainable '**green**' electricity
- **Giant's Park**, 200 acres of public open space.



North Foreshore 1974

# Impact on Belfast and other cities

## Belfast

- Health benefits
- Educational facilities
- Economic impact
- Environmental
- Regeneration of north Belfast

## Other cities

- Best practice landfill redevelopment – SUFALNET

