

Bangor West's designation as an ATC follows the formal adoption of the Belfast Metropolitan Area Plan by the Department of the Environment on 9 September 2014. Unbelievably, it has taken 13 years from the commencement of work on BMAP to its formal adoption.

BWCG warmly welcomes the designation which it has been campaigning for since its formation over 10 years ago. The designation should greatly assist in enhancing the unique character of Bangor West and protecting the area from inappropriate or unsympathetic development.

Over the next few months, BWCG will be pressing the DOE Planners to take all decisions on development proposals in Bangor West within the spirit as well as the letter of the planning policies relating to ATCs. The new North Down and Ards Council will become the Planning Authority in April 2015 and we will be expecting our local Councillors to have, as one of their main planning priorities, the protection of the character of Bangor West and other ATCs in the Council area.