

'Making a Mark'

Mark Holder Social Impact Declaration

ARC Healthy Living Centre

The award winning ARC Healthy Living Centre, a refurbished building based within Sallyswood estate in Irvinestown, aims to improve the well-being of local people by bringing together a partnership of community health activities and services.

The centre provides shared space, with a range of health and wellbeing services located within the centre. The ARC responds to the needs of the local community by providing opportunities to enable and empower people to develop their own resources for creative and healthy living. Services are run for local people, by local people.



The Social Enterprise Mark criteria includes a requirement for all applicants and renewing Mark Holders to provide at least three 'social impact statements', which illustrate how they are striving to meet their social/environmental objectives.

Below are examples of how **ARC** is making a mark, striving to make a difference to our local community:

Expansion and development of community services

ARC has expanded its areas of benefit significantly; sustaining and developing core services.

For example, ARC has completed a feasibility exercise on an environmental project addressing rural fuel poverty - **Grass to Gas**.

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This is an exciting, strategic rural project actively addressing fuel poverty in NIHE housing stock. ARC wishes to establish a community owned bio gas facility serving the residents of Irvinestown.

Community transformation through volunteers

ARC has an exemplar track record in the development and delivery of services, and is widely regarded as being at the forefront of one most transformational changes in the UK. Our HQ is still based in Sallyswood estate, once regarded as one of the most problematic estates in Northern Ireland.

In the past 12 months, ARC Healthy Living Centre was honoured with the **'Healthcare & Social Care Social Enterprise Award'** at the 2015 Social Enterprise NI awards.

The ARC strives on encouraging volunteers across all projects within the ARC Healthy Living Centre. The ARC has 104 registered volunteers. During our summer programme last year, we had a team of 18 youth volunteers who undertook almost 1,500 hours of volunteering over 7 weeks.



Our CHIT CHAT programme has been running without external funding, and delivery is facilitated with support from 5 permanent volunteers (3 of whom have disabilities). The use of the volunteers across the ARC is a vital assistance to the core team of workers in rolling out successful programmes.

Improved communications

ARC has launched a new website and focused on wider communication of our services, to actively promote health and wellbeing in the Northern Ireland context. We do this by sharing relevant reports and interesting stories via online communication channels.

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