

## Appendix 1 SCP Workshop

Workshop Action	Update
<p>Consider the Support in the Good Relations Action Plan</p>	<p>Within the Good Relations Action Plan there are a series of Projects and Programmes which are supporting BAME Communities and promote inclusion: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>BBC1 Small Grants Programme:</b> - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>4 Corners Festival</b> - The 2025 Festival will take place in February. Through a range of events featuring discussion, music, drama, poetry and storytelling in venues across Belfast as well as online, attendees will be encouraged to encounter new places, people and ideas; share stories and consider community issues from a range of perspectives.</li> <li>○ <b>Ballynafeigh Community Dev. Assoc. - We Love Where We Live 2024:</b> We will highlight and celebrate the good relations and diversity inherent in Ballynafeigh by promoting the health and social well-being of local people and groups from all backgrounds across the life cycle. BCDA has built strong relationships with and delivered relevant projects in partnership with Ethnic Minority groupings such as the Chinese Welfare Association (CWA) and the N.I. Migrant Centre.</li> <li>○ <b>Belfast YMCA Moving Forward:</b> A Summer Good Relations Residential Camp for young people between 10-15 years old from the BCC area. The camp will have Good Relations at the core with structured activities as well as informal time for building connections. The expected outcomes of this project are: To increase participants' knowledge of ethnic and religious diversity achieved through sessions looking at hate crimes and migration.</li> <li>○ <b>Conway Education Centre Getting There:</b> The project offers eight short courses to 80 individuals, including those from refugee and asylum-seeking communities. Participants will enhance their confidence, foster positive connections, heighten cultural awareness, acquire new skills, enhance emotional and physical well-being, and engage actively in their community.</li> <li>○ <b>Cooltura Polish Community Centres: Colours of Ligoniel:</b> Tailored multicultural workshops for 11-16-year-olds in Ligoniel. Exploring self-expression, build relationships through art, and flourish in a diverse, inclusive space. Census data from 2021 further illuminates the diverse fabric of Ligoniel, revealing that 1 in 5 residents hails from a minority background. Let's foster creativity and unity together!</li> <li>○ <b>Ethnic Minority Sports Organisation N.I. Development of Roadmap of Interculturalism through Sports 2024:</b> This is to use our annual intercommunity football tournament to organise intercultural roundtable workshops for community sport leaders, player and coaches to highlight the importance of sports beyond fitness or the collective joy of celebrating a victory but also a huge platform to integrate cultures to foster cohesion and relationships.</li> <li>○ <b>Footprints Woman's Centre: Cultural Cuisines and Traditions:</b> The Cultural Cuisines and Traditions programme will bring together women from a wide range of ethnicities from Footprints and Windsor Women's Centres to cook and eat together, sharing skills, knowledge and traditions, whilst celebrating food culture and diversity.</li> <li>○ <b>Lower Ormeau Residents Action Group: Community Cohesion Programme:</b> The programme has been designed by a group of local residents who have shown an interest in meeting up and learning more about</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

each other and other cultures. The group is made up of local community and newcomers' communities in Inner South and Botanic. This initiative, collaboratively designed by both the local community and members of the BME community, is intended to facilitate the celebration of diverse cultures.

- **Markets Development Association: *Market Spring festival 2025***: A festival to celebrate Imbolc/Saint Brigid's Day and Chinese New Year both of which occur on the 1st of February 2024, the first day of spring for both culture's traditional calendars. The Market area has a strong connection to our traditional Irish cultural heritage and a large Chinese community within the Hong Ling Garden senior's fold. We held our first community celebration of The Chinese New Year in 2020 continuing with a community-wide festival of Imbolc in 2022 and now in 2025.
- **Whiterock Childrens Centre Diversity Empowerment Initiative**: Whiterock Children's Centre - Diversity Empowerment Initiative: This project seeks to foster comprehension and celebrate the life experiences of families who are refugees and asylum seekers currently residing in West Belfast. It aims to raise awareness of cultural diversity, challenge perceptions, and cultivate positive relationships within the local community.

- **BBC4 Civic Engagement and Learning Programme**

- Support Refugee Week (19<sup>th</sup> June 24) Completed
- September 24 Support Good Relations Weeks Events
- October 24 Support Black History Month
- January 25 Holocaust Memorial Day
- March 25 – EID Event
- March 25 – Visit my Mosque.

- **BCC5 Minority Ethnic Equality and Inclusion Programme**

- **Refugee Language: Monthly Local Welcome meals bringing Refugees and Asylum Seekers together**: Local Welcome brings people together in their community to build trust, connections and friendship. We do this by hosting Local Welcome meals where local residents come together to cook, chat and eat as a group. Based at Ballynafeigh Methodist Church, a venue close to asylum accommodation and already known to some in the asylum-seeking community as a safe and welcoming location. We will also work through other groups supporting asylum seekers in Northern Ireland such as Refugee Language, Migrant Help and Mears, to promote the meals and engage attendees. (City Wide Programme)
- **Local Welcome CIC: Accredited ESOL courses to promote integration and inclusion of Asylum Seekers**: This programme will run 2 ESOL accredited ESOL courses: one Beginners / Entry 1 and one Advanced / IELTS. These courses aim to:
  - Provide asylum seekers with qualifications that they can use to access education and voluntary employment.
  - Provide asylum seekers with a safe space to practice speaking with native English speakers from NI.
  - Raise awareness of the issues felt by asylum seekers in the local community.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Tackle loneliness felt by asylum seekers by providing opportunities to socialise with people both from their own community, and people from the NI community.</li> <li>▪ Provide support inside and outside the classroom by signposting within our network of partners. (Citywide Programme)</li> <li>▪</li> <li>○ September 24 Roma Support Activity</li> <li>○ City of Sanctuary – Winter Drop</li> <li>○ Commissioning of 4 (or 2) integration and inclusion projects/programmes</li> <li>○ Facilitation of the Migrant Forum</li> <li>● <b>BBC9 Strategic Connections and Support</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Embedding Good Relations Workshops</li> <li>○ Anti Sectarianism Anti Racism Initiative</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>Information for Members on the £70,000 Asylum Dispersal</p>	<p><b>Acacia Path Limited</b> – <i>iHUB Project</i> to establish three ‘integration hubs’ in North, West and South Belfast/City Centre which provides a weekly space for RAS community and local residents Each i-Hub will provide befriending services, mixed ability ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) classes and supervised space for children and young people. Project budget £14,830.00.</p> <p><b>Ashton Centre Trust</b> - <i>North Belfast integration of new communities</i>. This project is part of the newly formed North Belfast Community Partnership and seeks to develop a North Belfast wide inclusion project to support communities to share their ideas, resources, skills and knowledge supporting refugee and asylum seekers. Project budget £13,500.00.</p> <p><b>Conservation Volunteers</b> - <i>Community Garden project</i> will enable the delivery of 2 sessions a week mainly at the TCV’s community garden “The BUG” in Belfast city centre for 30 weeks until March 2025. The sessions give opportunity to learn new horticultural skills and environmental learning, while improving social, health &amp; wellbeing and will support the integration and inclusion of Asylum Seekers accommodated across Belfast. Project budget £13,000.00.</p> <p><b>East Belfast Mission</b> - <i>Welcome Women’s Group for Asylum Seekers</i>. Weekly meetings in East Belfast Mission to allow participants to engage in support and social activities including workshops, art, and cookery &amp; sharing traditions from their homes. The group has a trauma focused approach &amp; engages with each of the women on a 1-1 level as well as through the group which builds community connections across cultures and backgrounds. Project budget £13,000.00.</p> <p><b>Whiterock Children and Family Centre</b> - <i>Inclusivity Champions Programme (ICP)</i>. The ICP is a 16-week pilot initiative aimed at advancing inclusivity, diversity, equality, and integration for families seeking asylum in Belfast. The project will be based at the Whiterock Centre but will attract participants and local residents citywide for monthly meetings to deliver recruitment development and training, community engagement workshops and awareness raising events through to March 2025. Project budget £14,802.92.</p>

Consider a Migrant Forum Meeting in Advance of September	All members of the Migrant Forum were all very busy in their own organisations dealing with the outworkings following the events of the weekend of the 3 <sup>rd</sup> of August; Council Officers have been in contact and forwarded an email of support to members of the Migrant Forum. At this juncture it is not planned to have a meeting in advance of the scheduled date in September as it may add more pressure on organisations already engaged in support.
Consider an Event to Oppose Recent Racist Attacks	<p>There are a number of Events which have been scheduled across the city over the next 6 – 8 weeks which promote inclusion and a shared city; since the initial intensity following the events of the weekend 3<sup>rd</sup> August had eased Officers felt at this juncture it would be best to concentrate on supporting and promoting the scheduled events such as: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mela Weekend 17<sup>th</sup> August</li> <li>• Open Botanic 15<sup>th</sup> September</li> <li>• Good Relations Week 16th to 22nd September</li> </ul>
Heat Mapping in Belfast City to Target Funding	<p>The Good Relations Manager attended a multi-Agency Forum hosted by TEO; present at this meeting were colleagues from Home Office, NIHE, PSNI, MEARS, SOLACE NI, Department of Health, Education NI, Red Cross and Department of Justice.</p> <p>In terms of Heat Mapping, it was stated at the meeting that PSNI did not have the resources to do this and that TEO are currently reviewing this.</p>
SCP Meeting with MEARS	<p>The Good Relations Manager met with MEARS, and the meeting can be summarised as follows: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GRM felt it would be beneficial for MEARS to attend SCP and invited to a future partnership meeting.</li> <li>• Hotel sites still had increased security.</li> <li>• Additional Welfare Support was Still available on site.</li> <li>• Families who were in established accommodation outside of hotels were offered the opportunity to return, however there was little uptake of this and any that did avail of this requested to return to their homes within a few days</li> <li>• Mears cannot place anyone under the age of 18 into accommodation.</li> <li>• Mears are attending the PCSP Event on 9<sup>th</sup> September.</li> </ul>
Community Relations Council Discussions	The Good Relations Manager has spoken to the Director in Community Relations Council, and they are keeping lines of communication open. It is worth noting that budgets are extremely tight.
Narrative to Challenge/Myth busting	<p>This is something that is possible and can be promoted both in paper version and on social media through the development of a facts sheet. City of Sanctuary in Northeast England produced a fact sheet which covered the following: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facts and Figures – i.e. the Actual Number of Refugee Asylum in proportion to the population</li> <li>• They're Taking our Jobs.</li> <li>• What they Receive</li> <li>• They're Here Illegally</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Migrants Bring Crime</li> <li>• Migrants are given Preferential Access to Social Housing</li> <li>• What do Migrants Contribute to the Economy</li> </ul> <p>There is potential to complete this through our current GR Action Plan and Budget</p>
<p>Good Relations Manager to meet Active Communities Network</p>	<p>The Good Relations Manager met the Chief Executive of Active Communities Network. This was an extremely useful discussion in relation to addressing the challenges Belfast City faces. Active Communities Network is embarking on an exciting 5-year programme worth £2.8 Million with partners in London, Wales, Manchester and Birmingham.</p> <p>The Good Relations Manager would request that Active Communities Network present this programme at the October Shared City Partnership.</p>
<p>Review of T:BUC and PeacePlus</p>	<p>When developing the PeacePlus Local Action Plan cognisance was taken of the T:BUC strategy to ensure Belfast's Plan aligned itself to its priorities. Further to this the Good Relations Unit fed into the T:BUC review over a year ago but there has been no feedback from The Executive Office.</p>
<p>Peace Plus 2024-2027</p>	<p><b>Specific migrant and minority ethnic projects</b> to be delivered as part of the PEACEPLUS Programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TPC5 Employability – Language Up: combines vocationally oriented language learning with practical aspects of living and working in Belfast for non-native English speakers. 816 participants / 3yrs (£447,513).</li> <li>• CCD2 Ethnic Minority Community Connections: to support the integration and inclusion of people from new communities, to grow their representation and voices within the city and develop familiarity and links with other communities. 726 participants / 3yrs (£638,135).</li> </ul>
<p>S P &amp; R – Consideration of Business Support Programme</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A special SP&amp;R committee on the 16<sup>th</sup> of August agreed to provide support to the businesses in the form of free legal advice and guidance for businesses impacted by the attacks to navigate their insurance policies and process relevant claims. At present Officers are awaiting this support to be finalised and it will communicate with the businesses accordingly.</li> <li>• An independent GoFundMe was set up by two members of the public which raised over £142,000 with 6 businesses named, Officers worked with Forward South Partnership board as a conduit to disperse these funds to the businesses. This included preparation of the legal agreements between the fundraiser, the organisations and Forward South as the mechanism for dispersal.</li> <li>• Officers have also liaised with Land and Property Services to put a hold on rates for two businesses that are unable to continue operating due to complete loss of premises. Officers are continuing to explore other opportunities to support the businesses, including working on contacting DoJ to expediate their compensation claim scheme (currently estimated at a 1–2-year process).</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Officers are working with two of the businesses to explore opportunities to utilise our City &amp; Regen matchmaking and Vacant to Vibrant schemes to relocate. Officers are continuing to work with the businesses to engage with our business support services, where appropriate, to access 1-1 mentoring and explore growth potential.</li> </ul>
Updates from Partners	<p>NIHE – Update on GR Engagement Officers Linking with the Community  NIHE – Update on Myth busting</p> <p>EA – Update on Myth busting and Schools Support</p>
Memorandum of Understanding	<p>Given the time frame around procurement and the requirement that the money must be spent by March 2025, Belfast City Council is proposing to use the funding to commission 8 proposals, through an open call, that support the integration and inclusion of people that have been granted Refugee Status.</p> <p>Council will invite projects that specifically address some or all of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposals that are innovative and do not duplicate the work of other services.</li> <li>Proposals that engage host communities and people who have been granted Refugee Status</li> <li>Proposals that foster contact and connections with host communities to improve the welcome that people who have been granted Refugee status receive.</li> <li>Proposals that encourage and support groups to involve people who have been granted Refugee Status to get involved in the life of their communities through participation in local activities, networks, and organisations.</li> <li><b>Proposals that are delivered in areas where, to date, there has been limited infrastructure / funding for interventions supporting the inclusion of people granted Refugee Status</b></li> <li>Proposals that provide transition / move on support.</li> <li>Proposals that provide orientation and advocacy support</li> </ol> <p><b>The fund does not support one -off events / festivals.</b></p>