

Public Document Pack

**Democratic Services Section
Legal and Civic Services Department
Belfast City Council
City Hall
Belfast
BT1 5GS**

MEETING OF STRATEGIC POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Dear Alderman/Councillor,

In addition to those matters previously notified to you, the following item(s) will also be considered at the meeting to be held at 9.30 am on Friday, 21st August, 2026.

Yours faithfully,

John Walsh

Chief Executive

AGENDA:

6. Physical Programme and Asset Management

- (c) Physical Programmes - SEUPB Grant Funding Increase Request for Additional Activity (Pages 1 - 4)

8. Equality and Good Relations

- (a) Minutes of Shared City Partnership Meeting of 12th August 2026 (Pages 5 - 48)

9. Operational Issues

- (e) Request for Illumination of City Hall to mark International Safe Abortion Day 2026 (Pages 49 - 54)

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Belfast
City Council

Subject:	Physical Programmes SEUPB Grant Funding Increase Request for Additional Activity
Date:	Friday 21 st August 2026
Reporting Officer:	Sinead Grimes, Director of Property & Projects
Contact Officer:	David Logan, Senior Programme Delivery Manager

Restricted Reports									
Is this report restricted?	Yes ☐ No ☒								
Please indicate the description, as listed in Schedule 6, of the exempt information by virtue of which the council has deemed this report restricted. Insert number 1. Information relating to any individual 2. Information likely to reveal the identity of an individual 3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the council holding that information) 4. Information in connection with any labour relations matter 5. Information in relation to which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained 6. Information showing that the council proposes to (a) to give a notice imposing restrictions on a person; or (b) to make an order or direction 7. Information on any action in relation to the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime									
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted? <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 70%;">After Committee Decision</td> <td style="width: 30%; text-align: center;">☐</td> </tr> <tr> <td>After Council Decision</td> <td style="text-align: center;">☐</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sometime in the future</td> <td style="text-align: center;">☐</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Never</td> <td style="text-align: center;">☐</td> </tr> </table>		After Committee Decision	☐	After Council Decision	☐	Sometime in the future	☐	Never	☐
After Committee Decision	☐								
After Council Decision	☐								
Sometime in the future	☐								
Never	☐								

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes ☒ No ☐

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	The purpose of this report is to seek approval from the Committee to make a grant funding increase request for additional activity.

2.0	Recommendation
2.1	The Committee is asked to: (i) Approve the grant funding increase request to SEUPB for 26/27 monies.
3.0	Main Report
	<u>Grant Funding Increase Request for Additional Activity</u>
3.1	Council have been approached by the Urban Villages (UV) team within The Executive Office (TEO) to make a request for grant funding increase to SEUPB for the Ballysillan Redevelopment project that is currently on site.
3.2	The funding request relates to the Council's Letter of Offer which is in place for the Local Action Plan (LAP) and, if successful, the Council would receive additional monies through this Letter of Offer to be spent (or claimed back from spend) on the Ballysillan project (which is being delivered in partnership with UV).
3.3	Discussion on this matter took place at the Shared City Partnership meeting on 12 th August and the minute of the Partnership and its recommendation form a separate item on the Committee's agenda.
	<u>Application Process</u>
3.4	Members will note that SP&R agreed in April 2026, for proposals to be submitted to SEUPB for additional funding in the region of £2-3m. This application (included the Fleadh and Forthmeadow Greenway signage) was considered in July 2026 by SEUPB as "not sufficiently meeting the selection criteria".
3.5	SEUPB have since advised that they will accept a new application relating to the Ballysillan Project as outlined above. The application deadline has been extended to Tuesday 18th August and is due to be assessed on Thursday 20 th August at a special panel. We understand the deadline cannot be extended further.
3.6	As advised at the Party Group Leaders Consultative Forum meeting of 13 th August 2026, the application will need to be submitted by officers under delegated authority, in advance of committee, owing to the immovable deadline restriction. We will maintain the right to withdraw the application if it is not subsequently ratified.
3.7	The grant funding increase request will focus primarily on a 3G pitch, event space and programming. The application (including programming) is for approx. £1.4m. The grant funding must be spent / claimed by the end of September at the latest and the entire claim process completed within the 2026 calendar year. For this reason, it is not feasible to submit other projects.

	<u>Financial and Resources Implications</u>
3.8	In line with the established Local Action Plan Letter of Offer arrangements with SEUPB, if successful, Council will receive additional funding up to £1.4m.
	<u>Equality and Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u>
3.9	None associated with this report.
4.0	Appendices - Documents Attached
	None

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Subject:	Minutes of Shared City Partnership Meeting on 12 August 2026
Date:	21 st August 2026
Reporting Officer:	Jim Girvan, Director of Neighbourhood Services
Contact Officer:	Godfrey McCartney, Good Relations Manager (6015)

Restricted Reports

Is this report restricted?

Yes

☐

No

☒

Please indicate the description, as listed in Schedule 6, of the exempt information by virtue of which the council has deemed this report restricted.

Insert number

1. Information relating to any individual
2. Information likely to reveal the identity of an individual
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6. Information showing that the council proposes to (a) to give a notice imposing restrictions on a person; or (b) to make an order or direction
7. Information on any action in relation to the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime

If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?

After Committee Decision

After Council Decision

Sometime in the future

Never

☐
☐
☐
☐

Call-in

Is the decision eligible for Call-in?

Yes

☒

No

☐

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	To report to committee on the key issues discussed at the Shared City Partnership meeting held on the 12 th August 2026.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	That the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee approve the minutes and recommendations from the Shared City Partnership Meeting held on the 12 th August, including:
2.2	<u>Members Updates</u> • Updates were received from the North and East Belfast Community representatives and are noted in the minutes for members information.
2.3	<u>Good Relations Q1 Action Plan Update</u> • The Shared City Partnership recommends that the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee note the contents of the report
2.4	<u>PEACEPLUS – Local Community Action Plan Secretariat Update</u> • The Shared City Partnership recommends that members of the Strategic Policy and Resources (SP&R) committee note the contents of the report and agree an additional funding proposal of up to £1.5m (10% of the LAP LoO) for the Ballysillan Urban Villages project is explored and submitted to SEUPB. • Shared City Partnership also recommends to SP&R, that Officers correspond on behalf of the Shared City Partnership to SEUPB to outline Council's disappointment that the four projects which had been submitted for support within the programme-wide underspend had not been deemed eligible for funding and request the specific and detailed reasons for the decisions be provided.
2.5	<u>Peace Plus Thriving and Peaceful Communities Thematic Update</u> • Shared City Partnership noted the contents of the report and agree and recommends that the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee note the contents of the report and agree TPC1 Community Empowerment – a change request to enable flexibility regarding the duration of the Local Community Empowerment Programme (LCEP) delivery of between 7-18 months, to enable condensed delivery.
2.6	<u>Peace Plus Celebrating Culture and Diversity Thematic Update</u> • The Shared City Partnership recommends that the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee Members note the contents of the report and agree CCD1 – Interfaith and Belief - a contract extension to 31 March 2028
2.7	<u>Community Regeneration & Transformation Thematic Update</u> • The Shared City Partnership recommends that the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee note the contents of the report
2.8	<u>Update from June Special SCP</u> • Shared City Partnership noted the update provided by the Good Relations Manager
2.9	<u>Any Other Business</u> • There was no further business reported.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<u>Key Issues</u>

	The Shared City Partnership is a Working Group of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee which consists of Elected members and representatives from various sectors across the city. The minutes from the Partnership are brought before the Committee for approval on a monthly basis.
3.2	The key issues on the agenda at the 12th August 2026 meeting were: • Partnership Papers of the 3rd June 2026 • Members Update North and East Belfast • Good Relations Q1 Action Plan Update • PEACEPLUS – Local Community Action Plan Secretariat Update • PEACEPLUS – Thriving and Peaceful Communities Thematic Update • PEACEPLUS – Celebrating Culture and Diversity Thematic Update • PEACEPLUS – Community Regeneration & Transformation Thematic Update • Update from June Special Meeting • Any Other Business
3.3	More details regarding the above issues and recommendations are included in the following minutes of the meeting attached in Appendix 1: further details of Good Relations small grants awards in Appendix 2; further details of Q1 Summary of 2026 27 DCGRP Action Plan are attached in Appendix 3; further details of the SEUPB Memo - N+3 Decommitment and New Activity attached in Appendix 4 and further details of the PEACEPLUS Performance Dashboard are attached in Appendix 5.
3.4	<u>Financial and Resource Implications</u> All financial implications are covered through existing budgets, and the Good Relations Action Plan is included in the current estimates process.
3.5	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u> The recommendations of the Partnership are to promote the work of the Council in promoting good relations and will enhance equality and good relations impacts for the City of Belfast.
4.0	Appendices - Documents Attached
	Appendix 1 – Minutes of the Shared City Partnership from the 12th August 2026 Appendix 2 – Good Relations small grants awards Appendix 3 – Q1 Summary of 2026 27 DCGRP Action Plan Appendix 4 – SEUPB Memo - N+3 Decommitment and New Activity Appendix 5 – PEACEPLUS Performance Dashboard

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	Reference	Name	Amount Awarded
1	GR2627/400061	Diverse Youth NI	£4,450.00
2	GR2627/400058	Ardoyne Youth Enterprise	£4,450.00
3	GR2627/400013	Rosario Youth Centre	£3,468.16
4	GR2627/400044	Tackling Awareness of Mental Health Issues	£3,624.00
5	GR2627/400046	Forthspring Intercommunity Group	£5,000.00
6	GR2627/400054	Black Mountain Shared Space	£5,000.00
7	GR2627/400038	Doyle Football Club	£1,780.00
8	GR2627/400037	Newhill Football Club	£4,160.00
9	GR2627/400039	Ligoniel Primary School/ St Vincent de Paul PS	£2,036.00
10	GR2627/400048	Hannahstown Heritage and Cultural Society	£3,900.00
11	GR2627/400064	St Matthew's Football Club	£4,200.00
12	GR2627/400003	Castle Community Trust	£4,300.00
13	GR2627/400006	4 Corners Festival	£4,700.00
14	GR2627/400014	Belfast South Community Resources	£3,650.00
15	GR2627/400018	Donegall Pass Community Enterprises	£5,000.00
16	GR2627/400019	Belfast YMCA	£2,741.70
17	GR2627/400023	Clonard Monastery Youth Centre	£4,876.50
18	GR2627/400034	Fairhill Musical and Cultural Society	£2,900.00
19	GR2627/400036	WAVE Trauma Centre	£5,000.00
20	GR2627/400050	Ardbone Festival	£2,000.00
21	GR2627/400052	HAPPY WOMEN OF BELFAST LIMITED	£3,200.00
22	GR2627/400057	Mornington Community Project	£5,000.00
23	GR2627/400059	Bloomfield Community Association	£2,874.00
24	GR2627/400062	Star Neighbourhood Centre	£1,850.00
25	GR2627/400063	Ballynafeigh Community Development Association	£3,875.00
26	GR2627/400065	Ligoniel Improvement Association	£3,900.00
27	GR2627/400067	Holy Family Youth Centre	£4,340.00
28	GR2627/400070	Shankill Juniors FC	£3,495.00
29	GR2627/400072	Belfast Bands Forum	£4,750.00
30	GR2627/400077	Windsor Womens Centre	£3,989.00
31	GR2627/400080	SOUL STUDIO – Belfast C.I.C	£3,700.00
32	GR2627/400085	Marrowbone Community Association	£3,700.00
33	GR2627/400094	Market Development Association	£3,000.00
34	GR2627/400002	Blackmountain Action Group	£4,520.00
35	GR2627/400004	Lower Oldpark Community Association	£4,300.00
36	GR2627/400011	Annadale and haywood residents association	£3,100.00
37	GR2627/400028	PeacePlayers - Northern Ireland	£4,360.00
38	GR2627/400033	R City Youth CIC	£3,650.00
39	GR2627/400073	Engage with Age	£4,400.00
40	GR2627/400092	McDonald Centre	£3,180.00
41	GR2627/400025	East End Great War Society	£3,200.00
42	GR2627/400031	Greater Village Regeneration Trust - South Belfast	£3,890.00
43	GR2627/400086	Shorts Football Club Academy.	£3,100.00
44	GR2627/400091	Manor Street Cliftonville Community Group	£4,900.00
45	GR2627/400024	Cliftonville Community Regeneration Forum	£4,992.00
46	GR2627/400066	Church of Ireland Diocese of Down & Dromore	£3,102.00
47	GR2627/400081	EMSONI	£1,950.00
48	GR2627/400090	Spórtlann na hÉireann	£3,735.00
49	GR2627/400010	Corpus Christi Youth Centre	£4,520.00

£185,808.36

2026/27 Quarter 1 Action Plan Summary Report

Code	Key Priority	Project Summary	Budget	Progress in Quarter 1	Total Q1 allocation
BCC1	All 4 themes – projects will be aligned to relevant theme	Good Relations Small Grants Prog Criteria focusing on the 4 T:BUC themes and providing opportunities for organisations across Belfast to engage in activities which promote Good Relations.	Total: £180,000	49 projects were awarded letters of offer following an open application process in Q1. Projects ongoing. List of groups in Appendix 1.	£185,808.36 allocated to 49 projects Total: £185,808.36
BCC2	Cultural expression	St Patrick's Day Civic Events programme This programme will support a Carnival Parades and other associated events, before, during and after the parade, that are diverse, inclusive and reflective of the make-up of our City.	Total: £20,000	3 projects for Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann supported. - Belfast Bands Forum Showcase - ArtsEkta - Lectures and talks Overspend noted by SCP in May.	£25,000 £12,500 £10,000 Total: £47,500
BCC3	Cultural expression	Positive Cultural Expression Programme - Beacons To support positive cultural expression especially regarded as important within the broad Unionist community but with a focus on cross community sharing and inclusion, and intra community development of understanding of Unionist cultural expression in a positive way.	Total: £40,000	15 Beacon sites assessed. Engagement with Beacon groups. Additional support for events. Agreements with groups progressed.	£0
BCC4	Shared Community	Building Trust & Celebrating an Intercultural Future This programme will continue to develop and deliver events and training on good relations/diversity. It will not just focus on ethnic minority or refugee communities, but given that 'trust building of public agencies' is a focus within the new audit, it will also include established communities especially where there has been/is ongoing issues of trust and support of public agencies.	Total: £20,000	June Migrant Forum meeting. Annual Day of Reflection delivered	£0 £4,679.85 Total: £4,679.85
BCC5	Safe Community	The Inclusive Minority Ethnic programme To facilitate partnership working with Migrant and Minority Ethnic Communities to continue to support initiatives that seek to support the integration and inclusion of all Communities, through good relations related projects as well as supporting advice giving organisations.	Total: £70,000	3 projects allocated support: - Happy Women's Group - Ashton Community Trust - Belfast City of Sanctuary	£14,040.00 £19,350.00 £2,500 Total: £35,890
BCC6	Safe Community	Interface Communities Engagement Programme This programme will support relationship building across interface communities. It will include an aim of facilitating progress towards the softening, transformation and/or		10 projects allocated support: - Short Strand Community Forum - Ardoyne Youth Enterprises	£6,000.00 £6,000.00

		removal of interface barriers through Good Relations engagement through a focus on common social justice issues recognised in the audit and build a consensual approach to cross community plans to tackle those issues or their alleviation in the different communities.		- Upper Springfield Development Trust - Citylife Projects - Duncairn Community Partnership - Clonard Neighbourhood Development Partnership - Ligoniel Improvement Ass. - Lower Oldpark Community Association - Suffolk Community Forum - TAMHI	£4,510.00 £6,000.00 £6,000.00 £1,600.00 £6,000.00 £5,900.00 £6,000.00 £2,865.00 Total: £50,875
			Total £70,000		
BCC7	Children & Young people	Shared Education & Relationship with Agencies This initiative will be delivered in partnership with Education Authority and will focus on developing an understanding of diversity with young people in schools, as well as uniformed and non-uniformed youth organisations. It will work in schools with teachers, parents and boards of governors. The initiatives developed will explore sensitive and controversial issues through a variety of engagement sessions and events.		Programme planning for delivery in Q3.	£0
			Total £20,000		
BCC 8	All 4 themes – projects will be aligned to relevant theme	Capacity & Cultural Competence Programme The aim of the Programme is to develop capacity within the wider Council, communities and decision-makers in order to ensure a systemic approach to both the development, and delivery, of projects within the Council's new Good Relations Strategy with its wider impact on decision-making on an ongoing basis.		1 project allocated support: - Mountainview Battlefields Association	£750
			Total £28,862.20		Total: £750
			£448,862.20	Quarter 1 allocation	£325,503.21
			£448,862.20	Quarter 2 allocation	
			£448,862.20	Quarter 3 allocation	
			£448,862.20	Quarter 4 allocation	
			£448,862.20	Total allocation	

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Belfast

PEACEPLUS

Priority 1.1 Local Community
Peace Action Plan

Programme Board Report

As of

23/07/2026 09:11:23



PEACEPLUS
Northern Ireland - Ireland

Co-funded by the
 European Union  UK Government



Belfast
City Council

The Belfast Local Community Action Plan is supported by PEACEPLUS, a programme managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB).

16

Projects Added Data

Number of projects with activities added: 16

4,815

Participants Registered

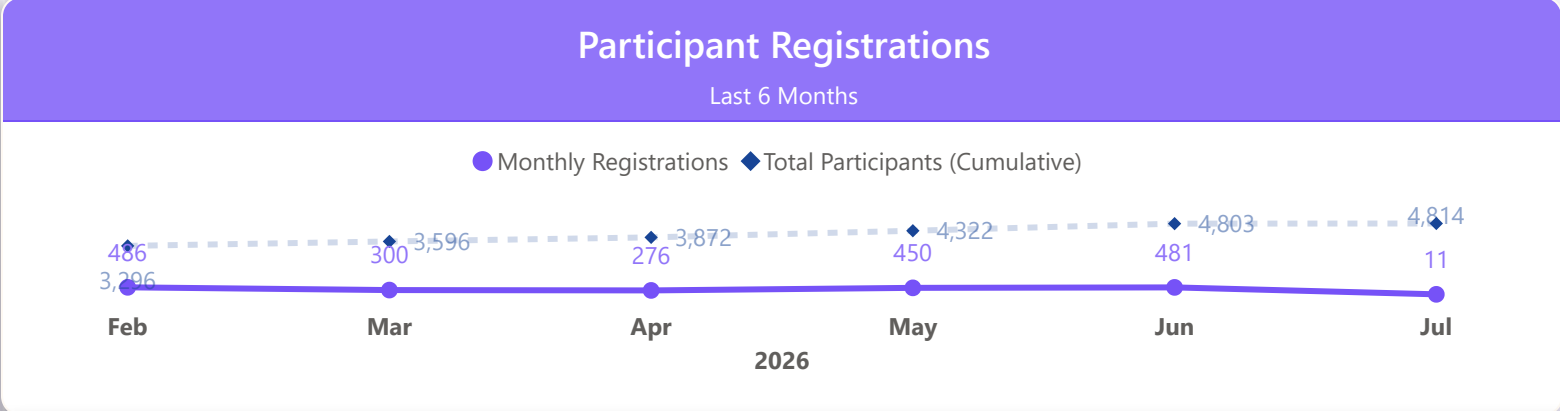
Participants registered this month: 11

98% (-470) vs. last month

Participants last month: 481

3,763

Participants Attending Activity More Than Once



Last Refreshed

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Total Participants by Project			
Theme and Project		Total Participants	Non-Participating
CRT		36	21
The Sanctuary Theatre		36	21
TPC		3,800	313
Community Empowerment Programme		371	3
Health & Wellbeing Programme		765	8
Youth Empowerment: Juniors (9-12)		540	115
Youth Empowerment: Intermediate (12-15)		182	15
Youth Empowerment: Seniors (16-18)		150	6
Youth Empowerment: Young Adults (19-25)		62	20
Sport for Peace		694	28
Employability (Language Up)		461	57
Arts Across the Genres		575	61
CCD		979	158
Interfaith and Belief Programme		105	13
Community Connections		179	42
Belfast LGBTQIA+ Community Engagement Programme		96	2
Community Empowerment - Ex Political Prisoners		234	75
From Multiculturalism to Interculturalism: Cultural Spaces		168	25
From Multiculturalism to Interculturalism: Festival and Flagship Events		197	1
Total		4,815	492

Project Activity Tracker		
Theme Abbv	Times Activity Held	Total Unique Participants
CRT	10	15
The Sanctuary Theatre		
	10	15
TPC	1203	3507
Community Empowerment Programme		
	83	388
Health & Wellbeing Programme		
	110	757
Youth Empowerment: Juniors (9-12)		
	49	425
Youth Empowerment: Intermediate (12-15)		
	85	167
Youth Empowerment: Seniors (16-18)		
	139	144
Youth Empowerment: Young Adults (19-25)		
	53	42
Sport for Peace		
	313	666
Employability (Language Up)		
	219	404
Arts Across the Genres		
	152	514
CCD	325	821
Interfaith and Belief Programme		
	44	92
Community Connections		
	105	137
Belfast LGBTQIA+ Community Engagement Programme		
	38	94
Community Empowerment - Ex Political Prisoners		
	74	159
From Multiculturalism to Interculturalism: Cultural Spaces		
	8	143
From Multiculturalism to Interculturalism: Festival and Flagship Events		
	56	196
Total	1538	4343



3K

Total Achieved Participants

Progress to Target 2824/17,434 16%

Achieved Participants (This Month) 2 99% (-296) vs. last month

Achieved Participants (Last Month) 298



44%

% Woman or Girl Participants

Woman or Girl Participant Programme Target: 40% (+4% over target)



22%

% Ethnic Minority



Total Achieved Participants by Project

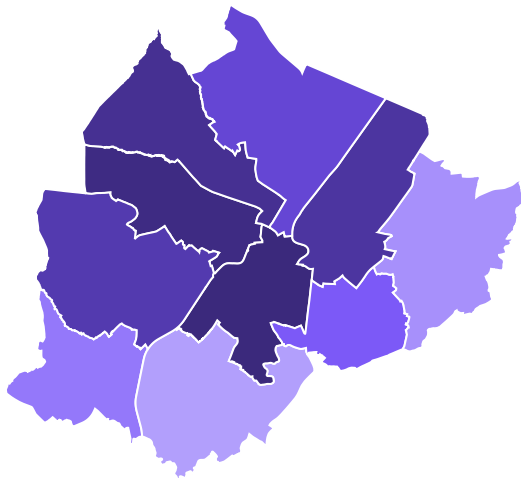
Theme and Project	Total Achieved	Total Remaining	Project Target	%
CRT	13	1,067	1,080	1%
The Sanctuary Theatre	13	1,067	1,080	1%
TPC	2,577	5,061	7,638	34%
Community Empowerment Programme	337	663	1,000	34%
Health & Wellbeing Programme	677	943	1,620	42%
Youth Empowerment: Juniors (9-12)	411	1,089	1,500	27%
Youth Empowerment: Intermediate (12-15)	164	186	350	47%
Youth Empowerment: Seniors (16-18)	42	118	160	26%
Youth Empowerment: Young Adults (19-25)	20	76	96	21%
Sport for Peace	502	1,098	1,600	31%
Employability (Language Up)	161	655	816	20%
Arts Across the Genres	263	233	496	53%
CCD	234	3,141	3,375	7%
Interfaith and Belief Programme	4	866	870	0%
Community Connections	29	697	726	4%
Belfast LGBTQIA+ Community Engagement Programme	52	573	625	8%
Community Empowerment - Ex Political Prisoners	1	749	750	0%
From Multiculturalism to Interculturalism: Festival and Flagship Events	148	256	404	37%
Total	2,824	9,269	12,093	23%

Project Progress to Community Split Targets

Theme and Project	% Catholic	% Protestant	% None	% Other
CRT	↓ 23% 29%	↑ 46% 36%	↓ 8% 31%	↑ 23% 4%
The Sanctuary Theatre	↓ 23% 29%	↑ 46% 36%	↓ 8% 31%	↑ 23% 4%
TPC	↓ 40% 45%	↑ 31% 24%	↓ 12% 26%	↑ 17% 5%
Community Empowerment Programme	↓ 21% 49%	↓ 26% 27%	↓ 20% 21%	↑ 33% 3%
Health & Wellbeing Programme	↓ 48% 56%	↑ 40% 24%	↓ 7% 18%	↑ 5% 2%
Youth Empowerment: Juniors (9-12)	↓ 44% 47%	↑ 25% 24%	↓ 22% 26%	↑ 8% 3%
Youth Empowerment: Intermediate (12-15)	↓ 45% 47%	↑ 44% 24%	↓ 5% 26%	↑ 6% 3%
Youth Empowerment: Seniors (16-18)	↓ 29% 47%	↑ 33% 24%	↓ 17% 26%	↑ 21% 3%
Youth Empowerment: Young Adults (19-25)	↓ 20% 47%	↑ 25% 24%	↓ 15% 26%	↑ 40% 3%
Sport for Peace	↓ 48% 49%	↑ 29% 26%	↓ 7% 22%	↑ 15% 3%
Employability (Language Up)	↓ 7% 23%	↓ 5% 14%	↓ 6% 42%	↑ 83% 21%
Arts Across the Genres	↓ 41% 43%	↑ 35% 30%	↓ 18% 24%	↑ 6% 3%
CCD	↓ 35% 43%	↓ 18% 30%	↑ 26% 24%	↑ 21% 3%
Interfaith and Belief Programme	↓ 25% 43%	↓ 0% 30%	↓ 0% 24%	↑ 75% 3%
Community Connections	↓ 0% 43%	↓ 14% 30%	↓ 7% 24%	↑ 79% 3%
Belfast LGBTQIA+ Community Engagement Programme	↓ 23% 43%	↓ 4% 30%	↑ 46% 24%	↑ 27% 3%
Community Empowerment - Ex Political Prisoners	↓ 0% 43%	↑ 100% 30%	↓ 0% 24%	↓ 0% 3%
From Multiculturalism to Interculturalism: Festival and Flagship Events	↑ 47% 43%	↓ 23% 30%	↓ 23% 24%	↑ 7% 3%
Total	↓ 39% 43%	↑ 30% 27%	↓ 13% 25%	↑ 17% 4%

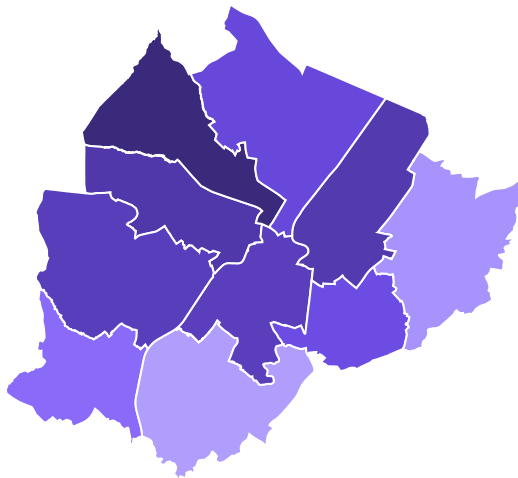
All Participants Heatmap

by DEA



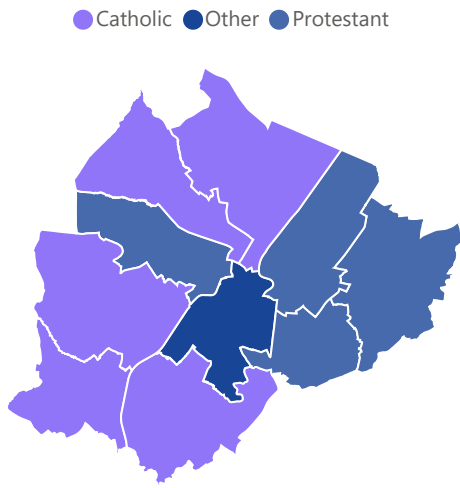
Achieved Participants Heatmap

by DEA



Most Represented Religious Beliefs by DEA

Achieved Participants



City Region & DEA		Total Participants	% Total
[-] North Belfast		1,106	23%
Castle		458	10%
Oldpark		648	13%
[-] South Belfast		841	18%
Balmoral		127	3%
Botanic		713	15%
N10000303		1	0%
[-] East Belfast		1,115	23%
Lisnasharragh		335	7%
Ormiston		171	4%
Titanic		609	13%
[-] West Belfast		1,502	31%
Black Mountain		566	12%
Collin		244	5%
Court		692	14%
[+] Outside Council District		238	5%
Total		4,802	100%

City Region & DEA		Total Participants	% Total
[-] North Belfast		713	25%
Castle		273	10%
Oldpark		440	16%
[-] South Belfast		411	15%
Balmoral		83	3%
Botanic		327	12%
N10000303		1	0%
[-] East Belfast		709	25%
Lisnasharragh		255	9%
Ormiston		102	4%
Titanic		352	13%
[-] West Belfast		863	31%
Black Mountain		328	12%
Collin		176	6%
Court		359	13%
[+] Outside Council District		111	4%
Total		2807	100%

City Region & DEA		Top Religious Belief	Count
[-] North Belfast		Catholic	373
Castle		Catholic	114
Oldpark		Catholic	259
[-] South Belfast		Other	135
Balmoral		Catholic	35
Botanic		Other	124
N10000303		Other	1
[-] East Belfast		Protestant	322
Lisnasharragh		Protestant	114
Ormiston		Protestant	44
Titanic		Protestant	164
[-] West Belfast		Catholic	422
Black Mountain		Catholic	218
Collin		Catholic	144
Court		Protestant	217
[+] Outside Council District		Catholic	36
Total		Catholic	1111

2.814K

Total Respondents

Number of projects with surveys added: 11

41%

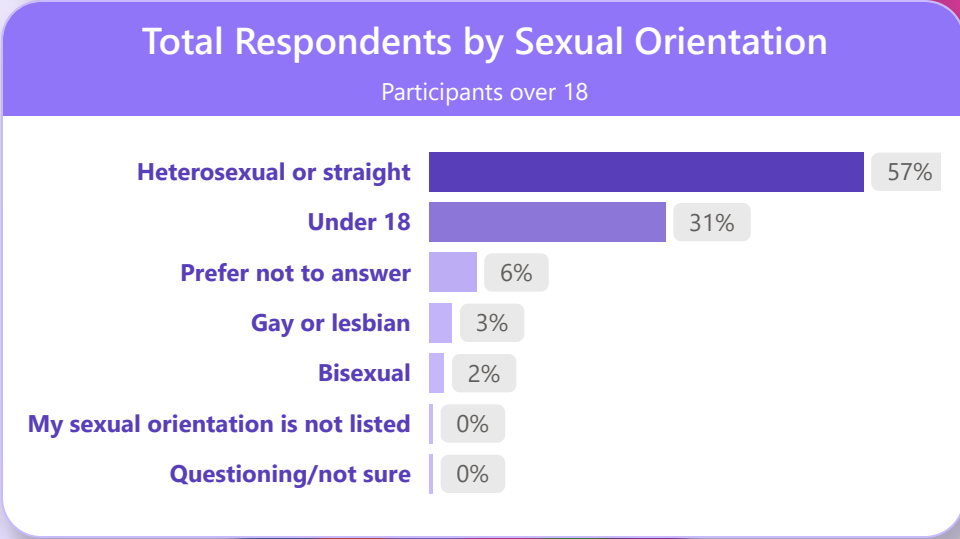
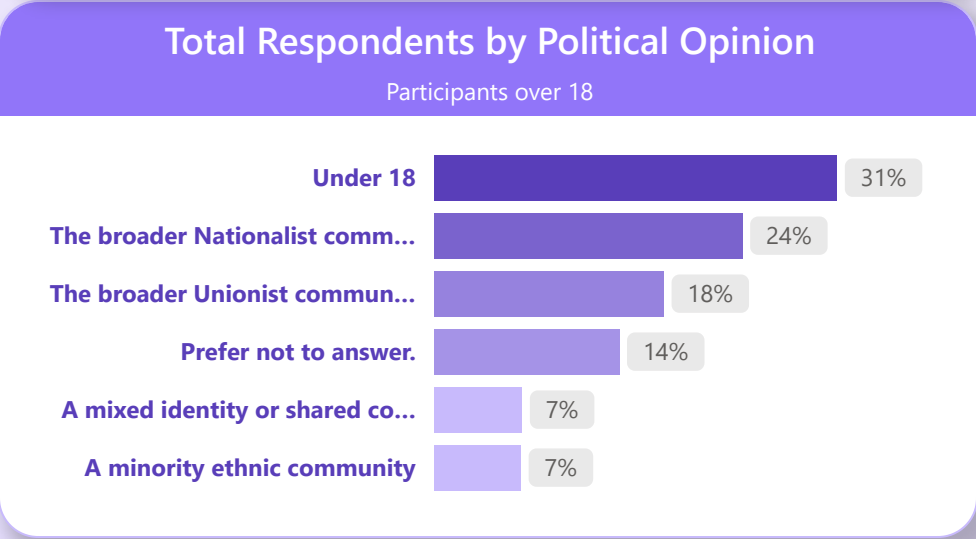
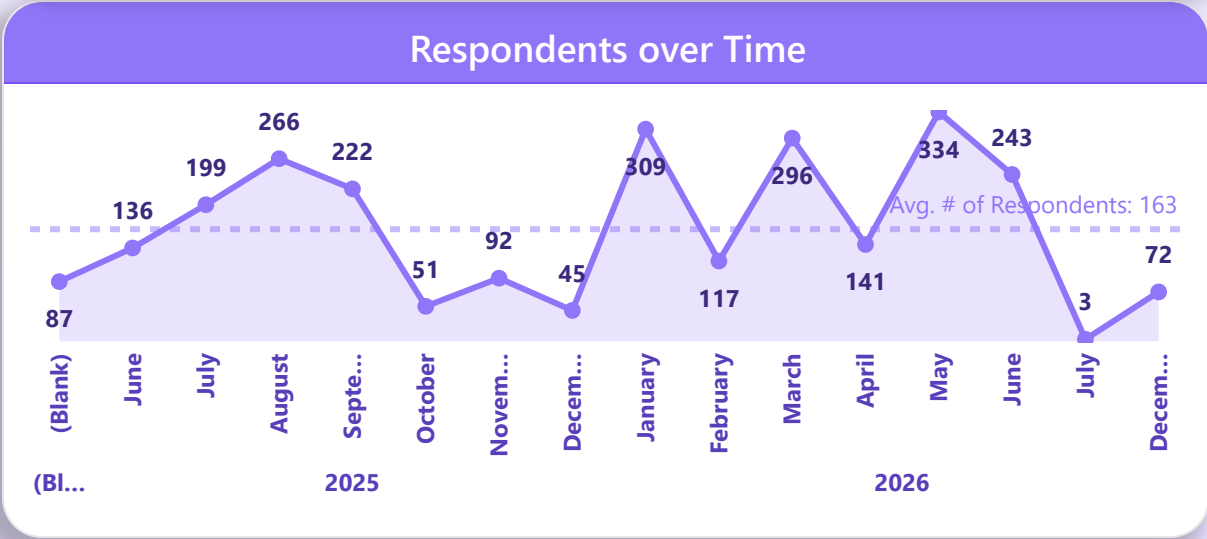
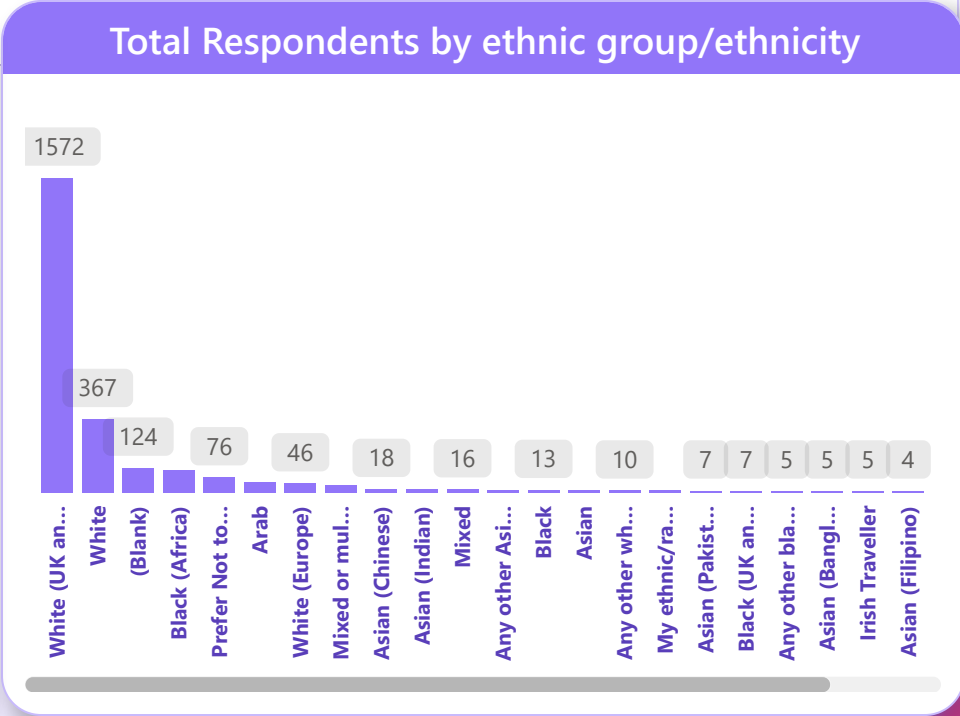
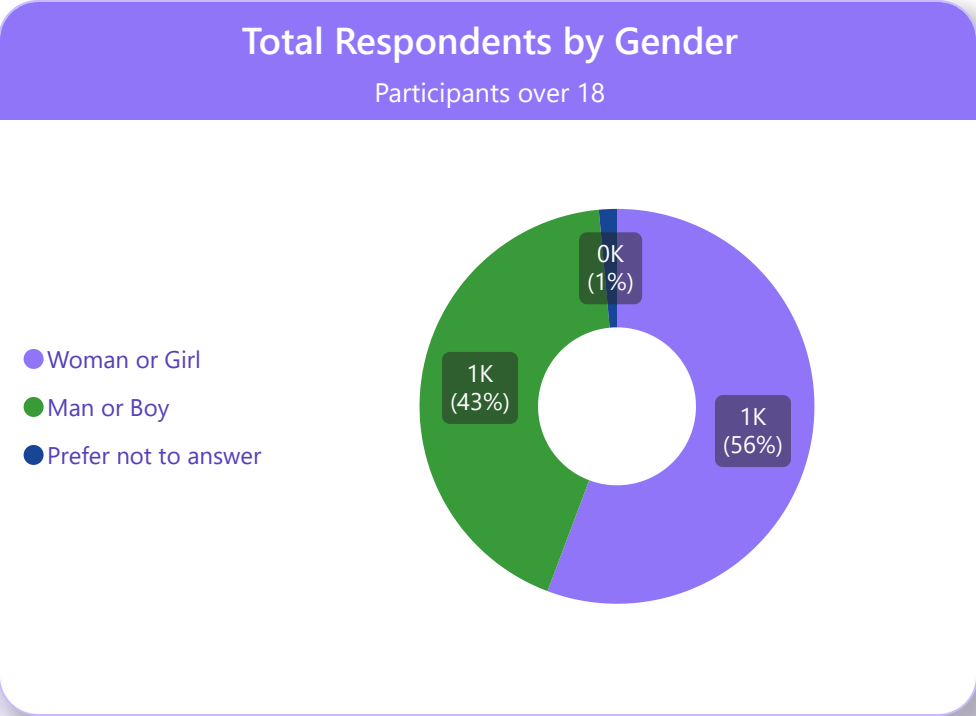
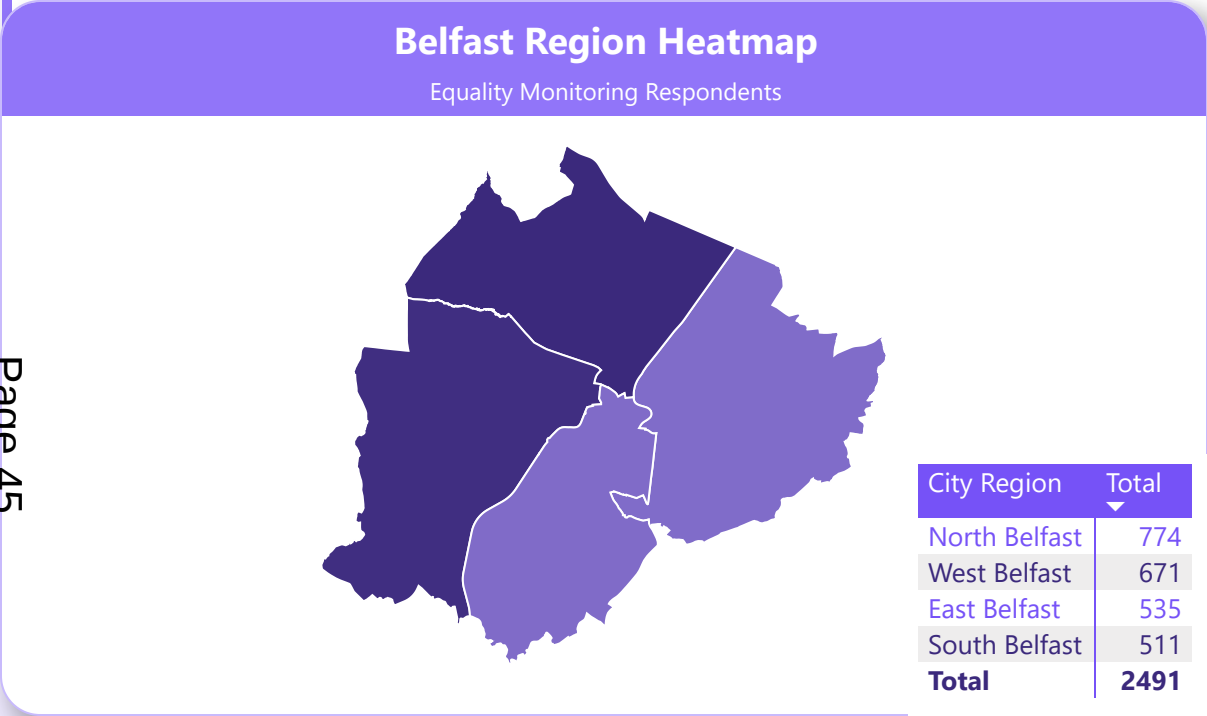
% Female Respondents

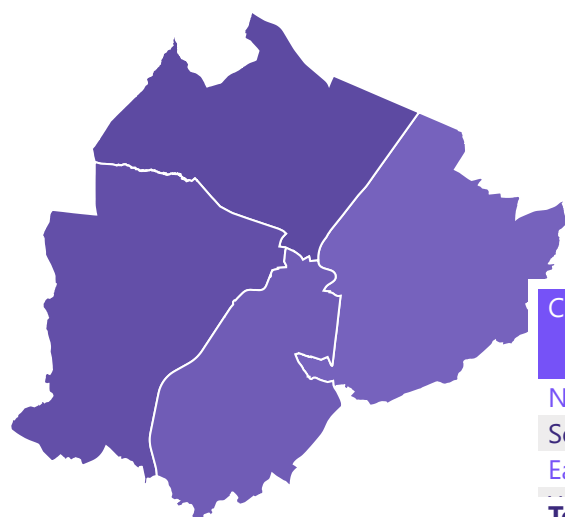
93%

Respondents to Achieved

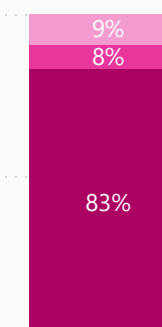
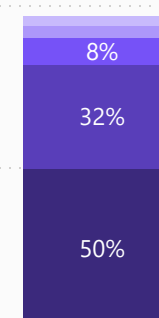
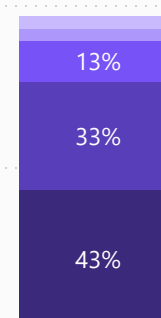
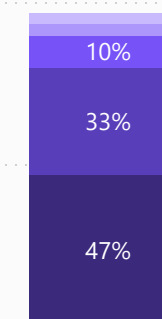
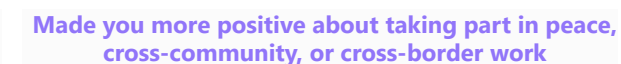
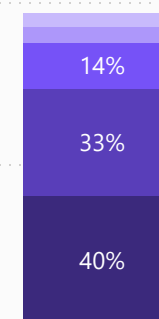
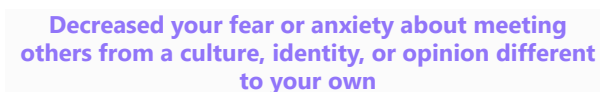
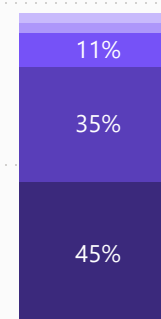
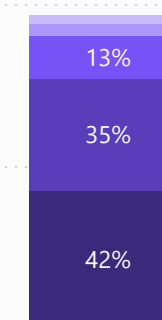
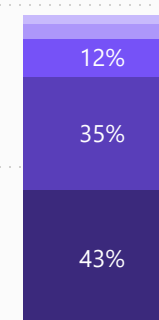
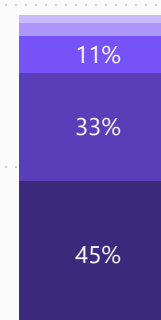
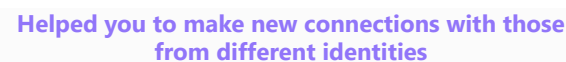
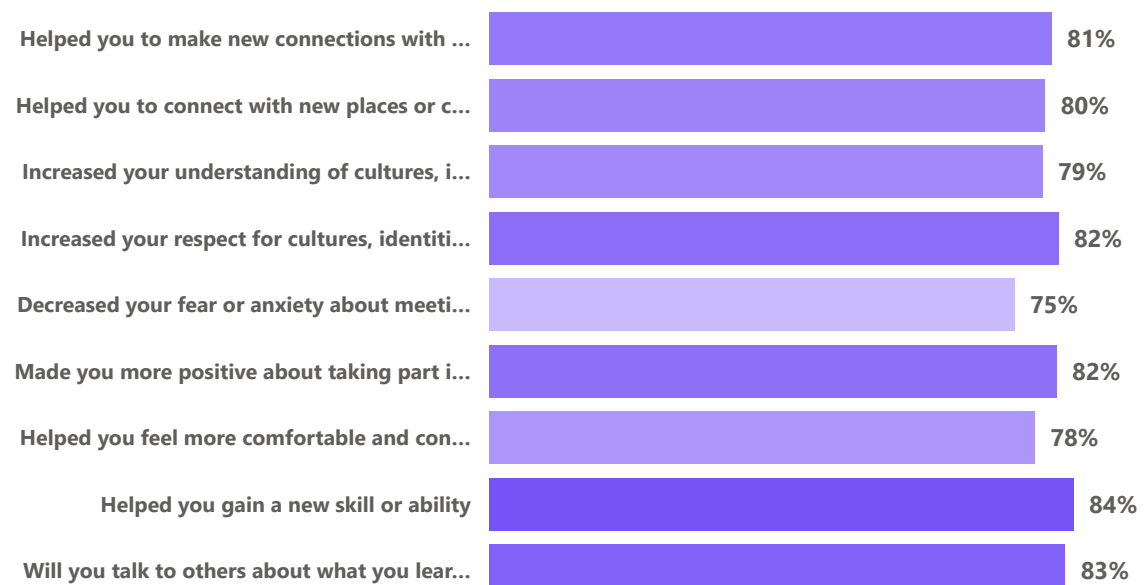
18%

% Ethnic Minority





City Region	% Positive Responses
North Belfast	85%
South Belfast	77%
East Belfast	74%
Total	80%



792

Total Participants (All)



554

Total Achieved Participants



50%

% Woman or Girl Participants

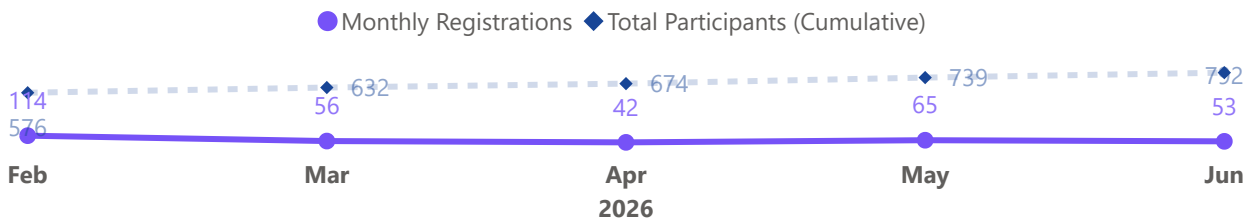


12%

% Ethnic Minority

Participant Registrations

Last 6 Months



Total Participants by Project

Theme and Project	Total Participants	Non-Participating
[-] CRT	4	4
The Sanctuary Theatre	4	4
[-] TPC	641	36
Community Empowerment Programme	41	1
Health & Wellbeing Programme	156	
Youth Empowerment: Juniors (9-12)	82	15
Youth Empowerment: Intermediate (12-15)	24	2
Youth Empowerment: Seniors (16-18)	13	
Youth Empowerment: Young Adults (19-25)	13	5
Sport for Peace	68	
Employability (Language Up)	35	5
Arts Across the Genres	209	8
[-] CCD	147	15
Interfaith and Belief Programme	5	1
Community Connections	19	3
Belfast LGBTQIA+ Community Engagement Programme	27	1
Community Empowerment - Ex Political Prisoners	43	10
From Multiculturalism to Interculturalism: Cultural Spaces	8	
From Multiculturalism to Interculturalism: Festival and Flagship Events	45	
Total	792	55

Project Activity Tracker

Theme Abbv	Times Activity Held	Total Unique Participants
[-] TPC	873	605
[+] Community Empowerment Programme	64	40
[+] Health & Wellbeing Programme	99	156
[+] Youth Empowerment: Juniors (9-12)	48	67
[+] Youth Empowerment: Intermediate (12-15)	80	22
[+] Youth Empowerment: Seniors (16-18)	99	13
[+] Youth Empowerment: Young Adults (19-25)	33	8
[+] Sport for Peace	204	68
[+] Employability (Language Up)	115	30
[+] Arts Across the Genres	131	201
[-] CCD	140	132
[+] Interfaith and Belief Programme	6	4
[+] Community Connections	37	16
[+] Belfast LGBTQIA+ Community Engagement Programme	27	26
[+] Community Empowerment - Ex Political Prisoners	39	33
[+] From Multiculturalism to Interculturalism: Cultural Spaces	2	8
[+] From Multiculturalism to Interculturalism: Festival and Flagship Events	29	45
Total	1013	737

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Subject:	Request for Illumination of City Hall to mark International Safe Abortion Day 2026
Date:	21 August 2026
Reporting Officer:	Nora Largey, City Solicitor and Director of Legal and Civic Services
Contact Officer:	Christopher Burns, Interim Functions and Exhibition Manager

Restricted Reports									
Is this report restricted?	Yes ☐ No ☒								
Please indicate the description, as listed in Schedule 6, of the exempt information by virtue of which the council has deemed this report restricted. Insert number 1. Information relating to any individual 2. Information likely to reveal the identity of an individual 3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the council holding that information) 4. Information in connection with any labour relations matter 5. Information in relation to which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained 6. Information showing that the council proposes to (a) to give a notice imposing restrictions on a person; or (b) to make an order or direction 7. Information on any action in relation to the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime									
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted? <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 70%;">After Committee Decision</td> <td style="width: 30%; text-align: center;">☐</td> </tr> <tr> <td>After Council Decision</td> <td style="text-align: center;">☐</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sometime in the future</td> <td style="text-align: center;">☐</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Never</td> <td style="text-align: center;">☐</td> </tr> </table>		After Committee Decision	☐	After Council Decision	☐	Sometime in the future	☐	Never	☐
After Committee Decision	☐								
After Council Decision	☐								
Sometime in the future	☐								
Never	☐								

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes ☒ No ☐

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	To consider a request received from the National Women's Council of Ireland for illumination of City Hall in the colour green to mark International Safe Abortion Day, on the 28 September 2026.

2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to: review the request in line with the illumination criteria and make a recommendation to approve or decline this request and rationale for decision.
3.0	Main report
3.1	<u>Background Information</u> Members will be aware that requests for the use of City Hall LED illumination system are managed by the Function Management team who review requests in line with criteria approved by members. <i>Criteria in Appendix One.</i>
3.2	Members from time to time as the criteria allows make specific requests to the Chief Executive (or his/her nominee) who see if the request meets the criteria and can be facilitated and liaise with party group leaders to see if a consensus to proceed exists. If so, the request is facilitated; if not the request will either be rejected or, exceptionally, as in this case may be presented to Committee for a decision if time permits.
3.3	While all requests are assessed against the current criteria, it should be noted also that Members frequently do approve requests which fall outside the current agree criteria. Recent examples would include <i>World Refugee Day 2026, International Overdose Awareness Day 2026</i> and <i>Palliative Care Week 2026</i>.
3.4	This request has been received the National Women’s Council of Ireland who in their request to Council noted that “<i>International Safe Abortion Day is a global day of action to demand access to safe and legal abortion care everywhere. The day highlights the public health importance of ensuring access to safe and legal abortion care for all those who need it.</i>” They asked if Elected Members would consider illuminating City Hall in green on 28 September, “<i>to mark progressive abortion law and policy across Europe and to stand with those across Europe who still experience harmful obstacles to abortion care. The colour of the campaign is green to call for safer and more accessible abortion.</i>” The request forms part of a wider, coordinated illumination and visibility effort taking place across European cities this year, building on similar actions in 2025.
3.5	<u>Financial & Resource Implications</u> Any costs incurred by delivery of an additional illuminate will be met from existing budgets.
3.6	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u> None identified at this time.

4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	Appendix 1 - Current Illumination governance

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Current City Hall Illuminate System - Governance Arrangements

The current governance scheme for the illumination system as approved by Committee in September 2016. Illumination will take place as follows

- a)** on the 10 agreed annual days, plus any council-run events, plus charities nominated by the council's three civic dignitaries.
- b)** where a charitable, community or other non profit-making organisation based in or having a strong connection to Belfast is celebrating a significant anniversary;
- c)** where a sporting team or organisation with a connection to Belfast has achieved a significant accolade;
- d)** where an event not organised by Belfast City Council but which can legitimately be regarded as being of significant benefit to the city from a promotional or tourism perspective is taking place;
- e)** no applications in respect of medical or other support groups will be accepted, and nor will requests to observe UN-recognised days where this is the sole reason for the request (i.e. where there is no local, Belfast-specific component)
- f)** no applications can be approved or facilitated during the festive lighting programme at City Hall annually a date mid-November until 7 January
- g)** in other specific circumstances where approved by the Strategic Policy & Resources Committee.

NB: in relation to requests falling under (b), (c) and (d) above the Committee has currently delegated authority to the Director of Property & Projects (now Director of Legal and Civic Services) in these circumstances.

Internal member's requests

Members are reminded that where a request is made by an individual civic dignitary or elected member or officer to mark a specific event or occurrence (*e.g. natural disaster, terrorist atrocity, one-off sporting achievement, birth/death of notable person etc*) the request should be made to the Chief Executive (or his/her nominee) who will see if the request meets the criteria and can be facilitated and then will liaise with party group leaders to see if a consensus to proceed exists. If so, the request will be facilitated; if not the request will either be rejected or, exceptionally, may be presented to the full Committee for a decision if time permits.

Where a request is facilitated either under delegated authority or by decision of the Committee this can be done on a '**once-in-three-years**' basis to prevent annual requests for the same dates being made repeatedly.

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