

Community Recovery Fund Action Plan – 2025 – 2026

CRF001 Safer Neighbourhood Officer Community Engagement Project

<u>Amount Allocated: £20,000</u> Start Date: July 2025 Completion: March 2026	Aims and Objectives <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To support communities affected by the 2024 public disorder by providing direct assistance that safeguards life and property, alleviates suffering, and prevents future unrest, while fostering social trust, inclusion, and cohesion across Belfast.• Deploy Safer Neighbourhood Officers to provide visible reassurance in key areas.• Tackle antisocial behaviour and hate crimes through community engagement and responsive policing.• Support ethnic minority events to build trust and enhance safety.• Promote social cohesion in diverse areas like the Wider University and Lower Ormeau.• Encourage integration through targeted outreach.• Deliver leadership and anti-racism workshops for ethnic minority groups.• Strengthen relationships with Muslim, migrant, refugee, and asylum-seeking communities.• Co-design inclusive community events that foster intercultural understanding.
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CRF002 - Integration and Inclusion

<u>Awarded to: Wheelworks</u> <u>Amount Awarded: £29,400</u> Start Date of Project: June 2025 Completion: March 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The programme aims to promote diversity awareness, challenge stereotypes and misinformation, and support integration within communities.• It targets teachers, Boards of Governors, community youth leaders, and young people, equipping them with tools to foster inclusion and counter hate.• Key components include training programmes, interactive toolkits, workshops, and youth-led initiatives.• The content focuses on understanding prejudice, critical thinking, cultural awareness, hate crime prevention, and relationship-building. Overall, it seeks to build cohesive, informed, and inclusive communities through education and engagement.
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CRF003**Belfast City Council Community Centre Programme – Reaching Out**

<u>Belfast City Council Community Centre Programme – Reaching Out</u> <u>Amount Allocated: £30,000</u> Start Date: August 2025 Completion: March 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Funds have been allocated to the Community Development Department, who are currently planning local neighbourhood projects across both Council-run and independent community centres in Belfast.
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CRF004 - Challenging the Narrative

<u>Amount Allocated: £29,800</u> <u>Awarded to: Edie Shillue Consulting</u> Start Date: August 2025 Completion: March 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>Challenging the Narrative: Understanding Migration and Immigration</i>", will be delivered by March 2026 for beneficiaries in the Belfast City Council area.The programmes focus is to educate community leaders, statutory services, educators, and grassroots organisations on migration and immigration, aiming to reduce tensions, challenge hate and stereotypes, and foster integration—particularly in areas affected by hate crime following the July–August 2024 violence.The project will include a comprehensive training package and a booklet covering migration patterns, asylum journeys, forced migration, and the contributions of immigrants, while addressing trauma, bias, and misinformation.
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CRF005 - Expansion of Schools of Sanctuary

<u>Amount Awarded: £20,000</u> <u>Awarded to: Schools of Sanctuary – Education Authority</u> Start Date: May 2025 Completion: March 2026	<p>The project has been awarded and the objective is to expand the number of Schools of Sanctuary in South and North Belfast, particularly in areas affected by recent racist incidents. The project seeks to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Promote social cohesion by making schools safer and more welcoming for asylum seekers, refugees, and other newcomers.Support school communities—including leaders, governors, parents, and students—in developing inclusive practices and anti-racism curriculum content.Foster partnerships between schools and local stakeholders to rebuild social trust and reduce the risk of future disorder.Provide leadership training and community engagement opportunities to ensure broad participation in the programme.Deliver family support services, including multilingual drop-in clinics, to assist with integration and community relations.
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CRF006 – Belfast City Council, Economic Development - Business Mentoring, Engagement, and Integration Programme

<u>Allocated Amount: £20,000</u> Start Date: April 2025 Completion: March 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The aim of this initiative is to stimulate enterprise and support business growth in the WULO area through targeted investment from the Community Recovery Fund.• The Enterprise and Business Growth Team seeks to engage the local community, encourage entrepreneurship as a pathway to employment, and provide tailored support to existing businesses.• Objectives include delivering at least three business drop-in sessions, distributing promotional materials, and leveraging existing funded programmes. This approach ensures inclusive access to mentoring, workshops, and business development resources.
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CRF007 – WULO**Amount Allocated: £40,000****CRF007 - WULO – LORAG****Engaged Citizens****Amount Awarded - £15,000****Start Date: June 2025****Completion: March 2026**

The *Engaged Citizens* project seeks to enhance community cohesion, restore trust, and promote meaningful integration in the Wider University and Lower Ormeau area of Belfast. It aims to support communities impacted by racist hate crime and public disorder by creating inclusive spaces for dialogue, empowering residents to challenge harmful narratives, and celebrating cultural diversity through creative and participatory engagement.

Aims and Objectives

- Facilitate inclusive conversations on racism, hate speech, and extremism to build mutual understanding and respect among diverse community members.
- Train residents to serve as community ambassadors who actively welcome and support newcomers, fostering inclusive and resilient neighbourhoods.
- Develop and implement a community-led strategy to identify and counter misinformation and far-right narratives.
- Engage participants in a creative programme that highlights cultural identities and culminates in a public exhibition to showcase shared experiences.
- Partner with local organisations to ensure the project reflects lived experiences and addresses the needs of both migrant and host communities.
- Facilitate co-designed planning sessions to develop sustainable approaches for promoting inclusion and preventing future unrest.

<p><u>WULO - Forward South</u> <u>Creating a shared vision</u> <u>through building a Shared</u> <u>Space</u> <u>Amount Awarded - £15,000</u> Start Date: June 2025 Completion: March 2026</p>	<p>Aims</p> <p>This project seeks to build community cohesion, inclusion, and resilience in South Belfast in response to recent racist hate crimes and unrest. Forward South Partnership will lead:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Storytelling workshops for children • Community dialogue sessions • Interactive discussions with unionist women on prejudice and misinformation <p>Objectives</p> <p>Activities will take place in a new inclusive space, supporting services like the Roma Support Hub and social supermarket. The project will engage minoritised and migrant communities—especially in the Wider University and Lower Ormeau areas—through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Culturally sensitive programming • Translation and interpretation support • Collaborative planning with local partners <p>The goal is to foster dialogue, counter disinformation, and promote trust, empowerment, and a shared vision for an inclusive South Belfast.</p>
<p><u>WULO</u> <u>Programming Fund</u> <u>Amount: £10,000</u></p>	<p><u>Development of Project has commenced – Not allocated</u></p>

CRF008b - Focused Consortium Projects**Amount Allocated: £160,000**

<u>North Belfast</u> <u>Greater Shankill</u> <u>Alternatives</u> <u>Community Navigator</u> <u>Support Programme</u> <u>Amount Awarded: £39,500</u> Start Date: June 2025 Completion Date: March 2026	Aims <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Appoint a Community Navigator to connect newcomers with services.• Run diversity and inclusion workshops in schools and communities.• Distribute hate crime safety packs and awareness materials.• Provide training on rights and responsibilities for newcomers and professionals.• Conduct youth outreach during tense periods to promote safety.• Foster ongoing support between host and migrant communities. Objectives <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support integration of ethnic minority and migrant communities.• Raise awareness of rights, responsibilities, and services.• Improve safety through hate crime prevention and support.• Strengthen ties with agencies like PSNI, NIHE, and schools.• Reduce tensions through targeted outreach.• Amplify local voices, especially those with lived experience.
<u>South Belfast</u> <u>Application is still pending.</u>	
<u>West Belfast</u> <u>Blackie River</u> <u>Newcomer Family Liaison</u> <u>Project</u> <u>Amount Awarded: £40,000</u> Start Date: June 2025 Completion Date: March 2026	Aims <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support and integrate migrant communities—particularly those affected by the racist hate crime and public disorder in West Belfast during July–August 2024.• Promote social cohesion and rebuild trust between migrant, refugee, asylum-seeking, and host communities in the Greater Falls area.• Prevent future disorder by addressing root causes of tension and misunderstanding through proactive community engagement. Objectives <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Employ part-time Liaison Officer to engage with newly arrived families.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide welcome packs with essential local information (e.g., services, bin collection, sports groups). • Act as a point of contact between new families and community/statutory organisations.
<p><u>East Belfast</u> <u>East Belfast Alternatives</u> <u>Connswater Community</u> <u>Recovery Project</u> <u>Amount Awarded: £39,400</u></p> <p>Start Date: June 2025 Completion Date: March 2026</p>	<p>Aims</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote dialogue, understanding, and collaboration across communities. • Heal divisions from the 2024 unrest and foster community cohesion. • Encourage shared experiences and mutual respect. • Strengthen ties between host and migrant communities. • Tackle root causes of conflict like racism, inequality, and misinformation. <p>Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage communities affected by the 2024 unrest, including Muslim, migrant, refugee, asylum, and host groups in East Belfast. • Run community conversation courses on cultural exchange and public services. • Revive the East Belfast Race Relations Network with better planning and representation. • Support emerging leaders from minority ethnic backgrounds. • Use restorative youth programs and joint activities to build empathy. • Offer welfare and housing support clinics. • Host multi-sport sessions to promote integration. • Partner with PSNI for hate crime awareness and trustbuilding. • Organise educational visits across Northern Ireland for cultural learning.

CRF008 – Open Call**Allocated Budget: £160,000****12 Projects Funded**

<u>Community Recovery Fund – Open Call</u>	<u>Project Description</u>
<u>ACSONI</u> <u>Amount Awarded:</u> <u>£17,900</u> <u>Completion Date:</u> <u>31 March 2025</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ACSONI proposes a community-led initiative to address hate crime and rebuild trust following the 2024 public disorder in Belfast.• The project focuses on anti-racism training, leadership development, and the creation of sustainable educational resources.• It will engage with minority ethnic leaders through workshops and advanced training.• A multimedia anti-racism toolkit will be developed for long-term use in schools and community groups.• Training will be CPD-approved and delivered by experts in cultural competence and non-violent communication.• The initiative bridges migrant and host communities to foster empathy, dialogue, and mutual respect.• It aims to reduce future disorder by equipping communities with tools to challenge hate and misinformation.• The project is innovative, sustainable, and rooted in real community needs and feedback.
<u>Annadale Community Centre</u> <u>Amount Awarded:</u> <u>£18,400</u> <u>Completion Date:</u> <u>31 March 2025</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The project responds to increased hate speech and division following the 2024 public disorder in South Belfast.• It aims to rebuild social trust and cohesion through inclusive community engagement.• A part-time Community Engagement Officer will be hired to lead outreach and programme delivery.• Activities include leadership training, volunteer management, and inclusive programme design.• Media literacy workshops will target misinformation about migrants and refugees for both youth and adults.• The initiative fosters mutual understanding between host and migrant communities through shared activities.• The goal is to create a safer, more inclusive community where diversity is embraced and respected.
<u>Voicing the Void</u> <u>Amount Awarded:</u> <u>£19,600</u> <u>Completion Date:</u> <u>31 March 2025</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The project addresses the aftermath of 2024's public disorder in Belfast, focusing on hate crime, racism, and community division.• It uses trauma-informed restorative storytelling to foster empathy, inclusion, and healing across newcomer and host communities.• Four 10-week storytelling courses will engage 36–40 participants, including refugees, asylum seekers, and local residents.• Participants will earn accredited OCN qualifications and develop leadership, advocacy, and public speaking skills.• Activities include storytelling workshops, resilience training, creative media production, and public events.• Outreach will be delivered through school sessions, community events, and digital campaigns.• The project is co-designed with partners like PBNI, ArtsEkta, Queen's University, and the PSNI.• It promotes integration by empowering marginalised voices and challenging harmful narratives.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public events and media outputs will raise awareness and promote upstanding behaviour against hate.
Cliftonville Community Regeneration Forum <u>Amount Awarded:</u> <u>£11,900</u> <u>Completion Date:</u> <u>31 March 2025</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project addresses the needs of minority ethnic residents in North Belfast, particularly in Cliftonville and Lower Oldpark, following the 2024 public disorder. It aims to reduce hate crime, build trust with statutory services, and promote integration through structured engagement. Key issues identified include barriers to accessing services, low trust in authorities, and widespread misinformation about Muslim communities. The programme includes thematic workshops on housing, benefits, education, healthcare, and hate crime reporting, with interpreters and direct agency engagement. History and myth-busting sessions will challenge stereotypes and foster cross-community understanding. Accredited hate crime and hate speech training will be delivered to residents and service providers, empowering them as peer leaders. Visual signposting materials in multiple languages will be coproduced and distributed to improve access to key services. The project is delivered in partnership with the Northern Ireland Muslim Culture Association (NIMCA), ensuring grassroots involvement. Activities will be hosted at Cliftonville Community Centre and Girdwood, with a focus on dialogue, inclusion, and cultural awareness.
Upper Andersonstown Community Forum <u>Amount Awarded:</u> <u>£7,150</u> <u>Completion Date:</u> <u>31 March 2025</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project responds to increased hate crime and racial tension in Belfast, particularly targeting the Syrian Muslim community but not (exclusively) after the 2024 public disorder. It is a partnership with “Happy Life Together N.I.” (HLTNI), a Syrian family support group, to promote integration, safety, and cultural understanding. The project will provide HLTNI with office space and access to meeting rooms for 9 months at Tullymore Community Centre. Activities include cultural awareness workshops, Syrian cooking sessions, and discussions on hate crime legislation and Section 75. A Level 1 OCN-accredited Community Safety Awareness course will be delivered to 10 participants, enhancing their confidence in engaging with statutory services. Youth and community groups will participate in joint workshops to build relationships and understanding with the Syrian community. Evaluation will be conducted through surveys and feedback, with political representatives invited to key events to reinforce community support.
Dreamscheme NI <u>Amount Awarded:</u> <u>£8,160</u> <u>Completion Date:</u> <u>31 March 2025</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project targets young people in South Belfast, especially those from Belvoir and Milltown estates, affected by the 2024 public disorder and exhibiting racist attitudes. It partners with Breda Academy, a diverse school with over 40 nationalities, to support newcomer pupils and foster inclusion. Activities include one-to-one mentoring, small group workshops, and after-school youth cafés to build empathy and challenge prejudice.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The programme addresses social exclusion, bullying, and emotional distress among migrant-background students. • It promotes integration between Protestant/Loyalist youth and newcomers through relationship-based interventions. • Youth leadership is developed through training in communication and project delivery, empowering participants to co-lead sessions. • The project is co-designed with school staff and young people, ensuring responsiveness to real needs and experiences. • Partnerships with community safety officers and youth services ensure alignment with broader anti-hate crime efforts. • The initiative aims to reduce future disorder, rebuild social trust, and create a more inclusive, resilient school and community environment.
NI Food to Go <u>Amount Awarded:</u> <u>£16,400</u> <u>Completion Date:</u> <u>31 March 2025</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project responds to hate crimes targeting migrant-owned food businesses in South Belfast during August 2024, aiming to rebuild trust and cohesion. • It will deliver nine multicultural food and cultural events across Belfast over nine months, starting June 2025. • Events will showcase cuisines, music, and traditions from newcomer communities alongside local Belfast culture. • The programme is coordinated by the NI Food to Go Association, representing 1,200 food businesses, one-third of which are ethnic minority-owned. • Events will be held in both affected areas and neutral city centre venues to promote inclusivity and safety. • The project includes skills development and entrepreneurship support for migrant food businesses, in partnership with Belfast Met and the Council's Enterprise Team. • Activities will feature cookery demos, taster sessions, workshops, and cultural performances linked to Belfast's UNESCO City of Music status. • Communications will be multilingual and community-driven to ensure broad engagement and accessibility.
West Belfast Partnership Board <u>Amount Awarded:</u> <u>£16,000</u> <u>Completion Date:</u> <u>31 March 2025</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project addresses rising racial tensions and hate crimes in West Belfast, particularly affecting newcomer and asylum-seeking families. • It aims to build integration and social cohesion between newcomer and host communities through community-led initiatives. • Activities include co-designed training programmes, a "Community Neighbourhood Guide," and a "Good Neighbour Agreement" tailored to five Neighbourhood Renewal Areas. • The project will engage 50 participants (10 per area) from both minority ethnic and local communities, including youth and emerging leaders. <p>Training topics include cultural awareness, safeguarding, restorative practices, and anti-racism education, with a focus on building leadership and resilience.</p> <p>A three-month community consultation will inform the design of training and guides, ensuring relevance and inclusivity.</p> <p>The project will use workshops, community events, and strategic engagement to dispel myths, reduce fear, and promote mutual understanding.</p> <p>The initiative is designed to leave a lasting legacy by empowering participants to become community champions and role models.</p>

<p>Northern Ireland Somali Association <u>Amount Awarded:</u> <u>£11,385</u> <u>Completion Date:</u> <u>31 March 2025</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project supports refugees and asylum seekers, mainly from Somalia but also from Sudan, Eritrea, Syria, and other communities in Belfast. • It responds to the fear and disruption caused by the 2024 race-related violence, which led to the suspension of community services and increased anxiety. • The initiative includes 10 workshops covering racism awareness, supporting children, online safety, legal rights, and bystander intervention. • A final cultural community event will bring together migrant and local residents to promote understanding through food and storytelling. • Workshops will be delivered in English, Somali, and Arabic to ensure accessibility and cultural relevance. • The project is community-led and co-designed with members who have lived experience, ensuring it meets real needs. • It aims to empower individuals with practical tools to respond to racism, report hate crimes, and support others. • The programme strengthens intergenerational support by working with both parents and young people.
<p>Market Development Association <u>Amount Awarded:</u> <u>£16,000</u> <u>Completion Date:</u> <u>31 March 2025</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project addresses racial tensions and lack of integration in the Market area of Belfast, where diverse communities live side by side but with limited interaction. • It aims to reduce hate crime and promote social cohesion through two strands: a local multicultural programme and a citywide partnership training initiative. • Strand 1 includes a 6-week multicultural cooking course where participants share traditional meals, fostering dialogue and cultural exchange. • This strand also includes anti-racism and political economy training, encouraging participants to explore racism at personal, cultural, and structural levels. • Strand 2 involves seven partner organisations from across Belfast in an Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD) course. • The ABCD approach focuses on community strengths and assets, empowering residents to lead inclusive development and challenge discriminatory narratives. • The project is supported by the Belfast Community Research & Innovation Network (BCRIN), which includes partners from diverse neighbourhoods and Queen's University. <p>The initiative promotes sustainability through follow-up mentoring, community leadership development, and the creation of a digital multicultural cookbook.</p> <p>It includes expert facilitation from organisations to support dialogue, training, and practical tools for addressing racism.</p>

<p>Rosario Youth Club <u>Amount Awarded:</u> <u>£17,268.44</u> <u>Completion Date:</u> <u>31 March 2025</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project targets young people aged 14–17 in the Ballynafeigh/Ormeau area, which has a high number of newcomer and minority ethnic residents affected by racism and hate crime. • It aims to reduce future disorder and rebuild social trust through a shared programme of youth work activities focused on inclusion and good relations. • Delivered in partnership with St Malachy's Youth Centre, the programme will engage 24 young people identified as vulnerable to exploitation and involvement in unrest. • Activities include groupwork sessions, cultural celebration events, art creation, pro-social outings, and a residential experience. • Young participants will become community inclusion ambassadors and co-create a community inclusion charter to promote long-term cohesion. • The programme will explore the causes, impact, and consequences of hate crime, racism, and discrimination through structured workshops. • It promotes empathy, critical thinking, and experiential learning to challenge misinformation and encourage understanding across cultures. • Monthly cultural events and art sessions will celebrate diversity and foster positive relationships within the community. • The project includes training in leadership, advocacy, and teamwork, empowering young people to influence peers and contribute to policy.
<p>Féile an Phobail <u>Amount Awarded:</u> <u>£18,500</u> <u>Completion Date:</u> <u>31 March 2025</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project responds to the 2024 public disorder in Belfast by addressing its root causes—social division, racism, and community disconnection—through inclusive, community-led programming. It aims to rebuild trust and cohesion by engaging children, youth, and the wider community across political, cultural, and religious backgrounds in arts, cultural, sporting, and educational activities. • Key components include community connection workshops, antiracism education campaigns, storytelling and cultural events, and youth exchange programmes to foster empathy and understanding. • A Diversity Ambassadors Programme will train and mentor young people, especially from minority ethnic backgrounds, to become community leaders and role models. • The project includes cultural orientation workshops, mentorship schemes, and collaborative community projects like public art and gardens to promote integration and shared achievement. • It uses innovative methods such as dialogue circles, youth-led debates, and community mapping to explore and challenge hate speech, stereotypes, and misinformation. • Activities are designed to be inclusive and accessible, with continuous feedback and adaptation to ensure relevance and impact across diverse communities.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The programme will be delivered in partnership with local schools, community organisations, and stakeholders, ensuring broad engagement and sustainability. • The project's long-term goal is to create a more inclusive, resilient Belfast by empowering communities to celebrate diversity, reduce hate, and build lasting social cohesion.

CRF009 – Hate Crime Hardship Programme

<u>Belfast City Council</u> <u>– PCSP</u> <u>Amount Allocated:</u> <u>£20,000</u> Start Date: July 2025 Completion: March 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The initiative's aim is to offer practical support to people who have been victims of hate crime. Working through the Belfast PCSP's Home Security Service, sensitive referral mechanisms are being developed with appropriate organisations, PCSP, PSNI and Bryson to ensure victims are offered support services and practical measures to improve their personal safety at home.• The initiative's aim is to offer practical support to people who have been victims of hate crime. Working through the Belfast PCSP's Home Security Service, sensitive referral mechanisms are being developed with appropriate organisations, PCSP, PSNI and Bryson to ensure victims are offered support services and practical measures to improve their personal safety at home. <p>Groups to be engaged include but not exclusively:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Association Darfur NI• Sudanese Community Association NI• Flowers of Belfast• Happy Women's Group• Belfast City of Sanctuary• NI Somali Association
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