

## GOOD RELATIONS PARTNERSHIP

MONDAY, 28th NOVEMBER, 2011

### MEETING OF THE GOOD RELATIONS PARTNERSHIP

- Members present: Councillor Hendron (Chairman); and  
Councillors Attwood, Kyle, Maskey and Reynolds.
- External Members: Mr. S. Brennan, Voluntary/Community Sector;  
Rev. L. Carroll, Presbyterian Church;  
Ms. A. Chada, Minority Ethnic Groups;  
Archdeacon B. Dodds, Church of Ireland;  
Ms. J. Hawthorne, Northern Ireland Housing Executive;  
Mrs. M. Marken, Roman Catholic Church;  
Mr. P. Scott, Catholic Church; and  
Ms. M. de Silva, Voluntary/Community Sector.
- In attendance: Mrs. H. Francey, Good Relations Manager;  
Mr. I. May, Peace III Programme Manager;  
Mr. D. Robinson, Senior Good Relations Officer;  
Ms. E. Dargan, Community Relations Council; and  
Mrs. P. Scarborough, Chief Executive's Support Officer.

#### Apologies

Apologies for inability to attend were reported from Mr. O'Donnell and Mr. R. Galway.

#### Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 7th November were taken as read and signed as correct, subject to the amendment of the minute under the heading "Proposals for the Development of a Strategy and Action Plan Focussed on Interface Areas", to reflect within the fifth bullet point that any changes to interface barriers being undertaken in consultation with the Police Service of Northern Ireland and other relevant agencies, should be extended as a last resort.

#### Suffolk Lenadoon Interface Group

The Partnership was reminded that in considering the aforementioned item at its meeting on 7th November, it had agreed that the Good Relations Manager investigate the possibility of holding the next meeting of the Partnership at the offices of the Suffolk Lenadoon Interface Group.

The Good Relations Manager reported that key personnel from that organisation would not be available to attend the meeting in their offices and it had therefore, been advisable to hold the meeting in the City Hall as usual. She advised the Partnership that she would consult with the organisation with a view to holding a future meeting at their offices early in the new year.

Noted.

**PEACE III – Implementation Update**

The Partnership considered a report which provided an update in respect of the implementation of the Belfast PEACE III Plan including a summary of each of the approved Phase II projects, key tasks and expenditure as at 31st October. The Peace III Programme Manager informed the Partnership that verification of expenditure related to Phase One projects and claimed in July and September was on-going by staff of the Special European Union Programmes Body, and that a systems'-audit on the programme was continuing which included inspection of a number of sub-projects and expenditure related to Phase One. He added that the Special European Union Programmes Body economist had commented upon the preferred option identified following an economic appraisal of the Youth Engagement Programme and had requested that additional supporting information before final approval was granted. A response to the queries raised on this project and on the Tension Monitoring Programme was being prepared by staff in the Community Safety Unit.

The Peace III Programme Manager further advised that the call for applications to the Strategic Grants Programme opened on 21st October and would close on 16th December, following which, applications would be checked to ensure their eligibility before being initially assessed against the pre-set criteria. An Assessment Panel, consisting of members of the Good Relations Partnership and supported by Council staff, would be convened on 17th and 18th January, with the option of an additional session being held on 19th January, to consider eligible applications prior to a formal recommendation being submitted to the Good Relations Partnership in March. He advised that those Partnership Members wishing to participate in the assessment would be requested to indicate their availability by Wednesday, 21st December.

After discussion, the Partnership noted the content of the report.

**Good Relations Grant-Aid Fund**

(The Chairman, Councillor Hendron, declared an interest in this item in that she was involved with two of groups which had been recommended to receive grant-aid funding.)

The Partnership was reminded that, at its meeting on 12th September, it had approved expenditure in the sum of £99,205 in the second stage of Good Relations Grant-Aid Funding for 2011/2012. The Good Relations Manager reported that a third call for applications had been made on 3rd October, with a closing date of Friday, 28th October. She advised that, at the closing date for receipt of applications in this round, a total of 38 applications requesting grant-aid in the sum of £165,816 had been received. Following the assessment of the applications using pre-agreed criteria, 33 organisations had been recommended for funding. Accordingly, the Partnership endorsed the undernoted recommendations which totalled £81,385 and which had been assessed in accordance with the pre-agreed criteria:

Organisation	Recommended Amount, up to £
St. Stephen's Scouts	1,000
GEMS NI Ltd	923
P.S. 150	1,000
Donegall Pass Events Committee	1,000
Immaculata Amateur Boxing Club	1,000
Ullans Academy	1,000
Cosy Historical & Cultural Society	1,000
Lagan Village Somme Society	1,000
Mountainview Battlefields Association	600
Ulster Covenant & Historical Society	1,000
Belfast Unemployed Resource Centre	5,000
Lower Shankill Community Association	5,727
Inner East Youth Project	2,000
Ardoyne Youth Club	5,000
Willowfield Parish Community Association	3,000
Shankill Area Project	5,000
Hazelwood College	3,000
WAVE Trauma Centre	1,000
Woodvale Community Initiative	1,000
East Belfast Historical and Cultural Association	2,500
Short Strand Community Forum	10,000
Women's Common Path Network	1,200
Divis Youth Project	8,565
Black Box	850
Crossover Basketball NI	2,320
The Bytes Project	1,200
Community Relations in Schools	6,000
Chinese Welfare Association	3,000
Migrant Help	1,000
Mornington Community Project	1,000
Northern Ireland Tennis Open League	1,000
Polish Saturday School in Belfast Association	500
Women's Information Northern Ireland	1,000
Belfast Interface Project	1,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>81,385</b>

### Community Cohesion Initiatives

The Partnership agreed to defer consideration of this item until the next meeting to enable the Good Relations Officer with responsibility for this initiative to be in attendance.

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**Geographical Information System**

The Partnership was advised that Mr. D. Carver from Groundwork was in attendance in order to provide an update on Geographical Information Systems and he was welcomed by the Chairman.

Mr. Carver informed the Partnership that Groundwork, in conjunction with the Voluntary and Community Sector, had developed Geographical Information System software to enable mapping to identify, search and query information in terms of, for example, the location of derelict sites and what had been planned for those sites, within specific areas. Such information could be used to aid discussion, highlight key issues and thus improve services by targeting resources appropriately.

Mr. Carver then answered a number of questions which were put by the Partnership and, having been thanked by the Chairman, he retired from the meeting.

**David Robinson**

The Partnership congratulated David Robinson, Good Relations Officer, in achieving a Making a Difference Award under the category 'People on the Frontline'.

**Next Meeting**

The Partnership was reminded that its next meeting would be held on Monday 5th January 2012, venue to be advised in due course.

Chairman