

GOOD RELATIONS PARTNERSHIP

MONDAY, 9th SEPTEMBER, 2013

MEETING OF THE GOOD RELATIONS PARTNERSHIP

Members present: Councillor Hendron (Chairman);
Alderman Stoker; and
Councillors Attwood, Kyle, Mac Giolla Mhín and Reynolds.

External Members: Ms. O. Barron, Belfast Health and Social Care Trust;
Mr. S. Brennan, Voluntary/Community Sector;
Ms. A. Chada, Minority Ethnic Groups;
Archdeacon B. Dodds, Church of Ireland;
Mr. R. Galway, Confederation of British Industry/
Shorts Bombardier;
Dr. C. Hughes, Belfast Regeneration Office;
Mr. P. Mackel, Belfast and District Trades Union Council;
Ms. C. Moore, Irish Congress of Trade Unions; and
Mr. B. McGivern, Belfast City Centre Management.

Also attended: Ms. D. O'Loan, Community Relations Council/Pobal.

In attendance: Mrs. H. Francey, Good Relations Manager;
Mr. I. May, PEACE III Programme Manager;
Mr. D. Robinson; Senior Good Relations Officer; and
Mr. H. Downey, Democratic Services Officer.

Apologies

Apologies were reported from Mrs. M. Marken, Mr. P. Scott and Mr. U. Tok.

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 12th August were taken as read and signed as correct.

Declaration of Interest

Mr. S. Brennan declared an interest in respect of agenda item 3, viz., PEACE III – Implementation Update, in that he had facilitated recently a seminar for the Belfast Interface Project, which was delivering the Inner East/Outer West project under the PEACE III Programme.

New Member

It was reported that Ms. Clare Moore had replaced Mr. Peter Bunting as the Irish Congress of Trade Union's representative on the Partnership. The Chairman, on behalf of the Members, welcomed Ms. Moore to her first meeting and thanked Mr. Bunting for the contribution which he had made during his time on the Partnership.

PEACE III – Implementation Update

The Partnership considered the undernoted report:

“Purpose of Report

To update the Partnership on implementation of the Belfast PEACE III Plan.

PEACE III Projects Forum

The next all projects forum will be held on the 11th September in the Park Avenue Hotel. An agenda for the forum has been forwarded to the Partnership.

Consortium PEACE III Conference

The Community Relations Council and POBAL is holding a conference on 24th September at the Templeton Hotel, Templepatrick. This Conference will conclude the Consortium’s programme of development support for the Peace Partnerships. An agenda for the event has been forwarded to the Partnership. To register for the conference please email doloan@nicrc.org.uk stating any dietary or access requirements. Registration will close on 17th September, 2013.

PEACE III Project Extensions

Further to consideration at the August Partnership meeting those projects scheduled to finish activity on 30th September were invited to indicate whether they wished to seek an extension to their project into the final quarter of 2013. Ten requests were received and assessed as to the feasibility of the proposal, what the additional time would be used to deliver and whether there was sufficient budget available to fund any extension under the current letter of offer. Project specific issues and any additional conditions were noted.

A short summary of each proposed extension is given below:

Lead Organisation:	<i>Ashton Community Trust</i>
Project Title and Ref:	REAL Project – 035695
Rationale for extension	
Extension of project worker for one month to allow for completion of final production of action plan and North Belfast Voices booklet.	

**Good Relations Partnership,
Monday, 9th September, 2013**

Costs to be met from small slippage in approved salary budget.
Activities
Area based Good Relations Strategy development with project steering group. Completion of Action Plan and delivery of North Belfast Voices booklet.
New end date: 31/10/2013
Issues/ Conditions: n/a

Lead Organisation: <i>Belfast Interface Project</i>
Project Title and Ref: Inner East/ Outer West - 035652
Rationale for extension
Delays in implementing the project in line with the original timetable given project partnership issues. Costs to be met from slippage in programme costs.
Activities
Substantive programme activities to be complete by 31/10/13 with additional time possibly required in the event of unavoidable activity over-run e.g. delay in production and publication of photography booklet produced by participants and for receipt and collation of final evaluation information.
New end date: New end date of 31/10/13 proposed with possibility of extension to 31/12/13 subject to evidence of satisfactory progress.
Issues/ Conditions
Weekly progress reports have been requested detailing achievement against the revised plan submitted in July 2013. Progress to be reviewed in October 2013 to assess if satisfactory progress made on delivery.

**Good Relations Partnership,
Monday, 9th September, 2013**

Lead Organisation: <i>Forthspring InterCommunity Group</i>
Project Title and Ref: Cross Interface Community Planning - 35827
Rationale for extension
Delayed project start - recruitment of project co-ordinator in autumn 2012. Costs to be met from resulting slippage in approved salary budget.
Activities
Consolidate work of the inter-agency group and prepare an exit strategy with University of Ulster's Built Environment Department. Launch and initial consultation on community plan.
New end date: 31/12/2013
Issues/ Conditions
n/a

Lead Organisation: <i>LORAG/ South Belfast Round Table</i>
Project Title and Ref: Creating Cohesive Community - 035901
Rationale for extension
Delay in project commencing and recruitment of project co-ordinator. Costs to be met from slippage in approved salary budget.
Activities
Activity to embed processes and strategies developed by the project to date and cover the period when students are returning to the area for the new term. Implementation of key strategies developed by the project – early engagement/ intervention; Housing and emergency response with PSNI. Additional training sessions on ending hate; migration awareness etc. Delivery of an intercultural family support programme to 15 families from the BME

**Good Relations Partnership,
Monday, 9th September, 2013**

community in Inner South area – lower Ormeau; Markets; Donegall Pass and Botanic areas in collaboration with Belfast Health Trust.
New end date: 31/12/2013
Issues/ Conditions
n/a

Lead Organisation: <i>PeacePlayers</i>
Project Title and Ref: Belfast Interface Games - 035841
Rationale for extension
To roll out a junior Belfast Interface League in September/ October/ November to prepare for a planned Belfast Interface Games event in 2014 with the aim of recruiting approximately 160 young people from across Belfast. Costs to be met from programme slippage.
Activities
Delivery of additional two OCN Level 2 courses in Building Positive Relations Through Sport.
New end date: 30/11/2013
Issues/ Conditions
Case for proposed residential to be submitted in advance for consideration. New format of Game of 3 halves manual to be approved by PEACE III. Some clarification required on salary breakdown for part/time posts supported in any extended project period.

Lead Organisation: <i>Public Achievement</i>
Project Title and Ref: WIMPS (Where is my Public Servant) Belfast - 035709

**Good Relations Partnership,
Monday, 9th September, 2013**

Rationale for extension
The project wishes to deepen the working relationship with Council including staff, Councillors and the Youth Forum and also to continue to support the existing local Belfast WIMPS crews to continue to make films, campaign and cover issues. Costs to be met from slippage in approved salary budget arising from vacancy.
Activities
Continued support for existing WIMPS Belfast crews; participation of these crews in proposed two day conference run with Youth Action in November titled 'We need to talk about Europe'; crew residential in November for coaches and induction of new coaches.
New end date: 31/12/2013
Issues/ Conditions
n/a

Lead Organisation: <i>Small Steps</i>
Project Title and Ref: Walk of Faith - 035886
Rationale for extension
Due to project commencing later than anticipated all of the original proposed activities will be unable to be delivered by 30 th September. Resulting project underspend is proposed to be used for delivering class based activities to this year's schools intake.
Activities
Delivery of 1 week Halloween scheme for participating schools; 1 culture market and 16 additional visits to faith buildings
New end date: 31/12/2013
Issues/ Conditions
New procurement exercise recommended to cover additional activities within the proposed timescale. Clarification required

Good Relations Partnership,
Monday, 9th September, 2013

around hourly rate for part-time staff assigned for the proposed extension period.

Lead Organisation: <i>Training for Women Network</i>
Project Title and Ref: Visions of Peacebuilding – 035904
Rationale for extension
Delays experienced in completing all project related events and deliverables within the existing timescale. Costs to be met from slippage in approved programme costs budget.
Activities
The extension will allow for the delivery of exhibition and training for participants as per original plan.
New end date: New end date of 31/10/2013 proposed with possibility of extension to 31/12/13 subject to satisfactory progress
Issues/ Conditions
Weekly progress reports detailing achievement against plan. Progress to be reviewed in October 2013 to assess if satisfactory progress made on delivery.

Lead Organisation: <i>Fellowship of Messines</i>
Project Title and Ref: Citizens for Peace - 035884
Rationale for extension
To maximise participation in final events from project stakeholders. Costs to be met from small slippage in approved programme costs budget.
Activities

**Good Relations Partnership,
Monday, 9th September, 2013**

Additional two weeks for delivery of final project seminar and final reporting.
New end date: 31/10/2013
Issues/ Conditions.
n/a

Lead Organisation: <i>Good Relations Unit</i>
Project Title and Ref: Migrant & Minority Ethnic Project - 034058
Rationale for extension
The proposal will assist in the ongoing development of the mainstreaming strategy for PEACE III and build upon the integrated delivery approach adopted in delivery of the project.
Activities
Production and distribution of diversity resource that will promote integration activities amongst communities in Belfast. Development of proposals for future partnership projects that will meet current and existing needs of migrant and minority ethnic communities in Belfast.
New end date: 31/10/2013
Issues/ Conditions.
n/a

Next Steps

If the recommendations are accepted, then an addendum to Letters of Offer will be issued to project promoters and required changes made to the Special European Union Programmes Body's System 2007 database. Claims under the Strategic Grants Programme for the July to September period must be submitted by the 28th October with a final claim deadline of 15th January 2014 for the October to December period.

Resource Implications

Financial Implications

None at present

HR Implications

None at present

Equality Implications

There are no equality implications arising from this report.

Recommendation

The Partnership is recommended to approve the proposed time extensions to the projects and any associated conditions as outlined above.”

The Peace III Programme Manager provided an overview of the report and circulated for the Partnership’s attention details of two additional events which were being held later in the month. The first of those, which would take place in the City Hall on 25th September, was being organised by the Council in order to showcase the Creative Legacies project. The second event was being facilitated by Mediation Northern Ireland and would take place on 30th September in the Riddel Hall, Stranmillis. Participants would have an opportunity to hear from speakers who would reflect on stories of connection and resilience which had emerged from communities in which they had worked.

After discussion, the Partnership noted the information which had been provided and approved the project extensions as set out within the report, together with any associated conditions.

Annual Review of Bonfire Management Programme

The Partnership agreed to defer until its next meeting consideration of a report providing information on the outcome of an independent evaluation of the Council’s Bonfire Management Programme and recommendations for its future delivery, including funding, to enable briefings to be provided to the Political Parties and any external members. The Partnership commended those Council officers who had been involved in the delivery of the Programme and agreed that representatives of those groups which had, under the 2013 initiative, attended awareness-raising workshops on cultural identity, flags and emblems, be invited to attend a future meeting in order to outline their experiences.

Chairman