

GOOD RELATIONS PARTNERSHIP

MONDAY, 8th SEPTEMBER, 2014

MEETING OF THE GOOD RELATIONS PARTNERSHIP

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

External Members: 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, Department for Social Development;
Mr. B. McGivern, Belfast City Centre Management; and
Mr. U. Tok, Northern Ireland Inter-Faith Forum.

In attendance: Ms. N. Lane, Good Relations Manager;
Mr. I. May, PEACE III Programme Manager;
Ms. A. Deighan, Good Relations Officer; and
Mr. H. Downey, Democratic Services Officer.

Apologies

Apologies were reported on behalf of the Chairman (Councillor Hendron),
Rev. L. Carroll, Ms. M. Marken, Ms. C. Moore and Mr. P. Scott.

Chairing of Meeting

In the absence of the Chairman and of the Deputy Chairman at the commencement of the meeting, the Partnership agreed that Councillor Attwood chair the meeting.

(Councillor Attwood in the Chair.)

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 11th August were taken as read and signed as correct. It was reported that those minutes had been adopted by the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee at its meeting on 22nd August, subject to the amendment of the minute under the heading "Bonfire Management Programme 2014", to provide for the addition at the end of point (ii) of the decision of the words "subject to any breaches being properly assessed and taking into account all of the steps which had been taken by organisers to rectify any problems which had arisen and any actions to ameliorate those breaches".

Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were reported.

Planning for Peace IV

The Partnership considered the undernoted report:

“1 Background

1.1 A public consultation on the draft Operational Programme for the PEACE IV and INTERREG V Programme opened on 3rd June with responses sought by 29th July 2014. Consequently, officers submitted a response to SEUPB by the deadline, with the caveat that it was subject to ratification by the Shadow Policy and Resources Committee in August. A copy of the response as submitted has been forwarded to the Partnership.

2 Key Issues

2.1 The PEACE IV Programme has been approved with a budget of €229 million ERDF plus 15% match funding. The key aims of the Programme are:

- to promote social inclusion, combating poverty and any discrimination;**
- to contribute to the promotion of social and economic stability in the regions concerned, in particular through actions to promote cohesion between communities.**

2.2 The main focus will be on Children and Young people with a strong role for local authorities. Approximately 30% of funding has been ring-fenced for Local Authority led Action Plans (11 NI Councils and 6 Border Region Plans) building upon the experience of delivery under the PEACE III Programme. The programme has been designed to fit with Community Planning and Local Government Reform and the Together Building a United Community strategy.

2.3 The Programme will be presented to the Northern Ireland Executive, the Irish Government and Scottish Government for approval before being submitted by 22 September 2014 to the European Commission for negotiation and final approval.

2.4 It is estimated that the first call for applications is unlikely to happen before March / April 2015.

2.5 Key themes and indicative funding allocation in the proposed Peace IV Programme are as follows:

- Shared Education – €45 million**

**Good Relations Partnership,
Monday, 8th September, 2014**

- **Children and Young People – €50 million (€20million through Local Action Plans)**
- **Shared Spaces & Services – €90 million (€20million through Local Action Plans)**
- **Civil Society – €30 million through Local Action plans**

2.6 The North Belfast Cultural Corridor has already been proposed to SEUPB as a key Council project for PEACE IV. This would fit as a capital project under the Shared Spaces theme. PEACE III Projects along similar lines to the PEACE IV themes identified above include the Migrant & Minority Ethnic Project (Good Relations Unit); Youth Engagement Project (Community Safety Unit); Interfaces Project (Good Relations Unit); Growing Respect (Parks & Leisure Department) and Creative Legacies project (Tourism, Culture & Arts Unit) plus various projects run by 3rd sector organisations under the PEACE III Plan.

2.7 Results focus - all funded projects and all eligible groups or organisations that apply for funding under Peace IV, will be required to identify how they will contribute towards the achievement of the results that the Programme sets out to achieve.

2.8 *Consultation Response*

The response sets out answers to specific questions relating to each of the themes in both draft operational programmes, as set out above. INTERREG V is addressed first in the response and then PEACE IV.

2.9 Key points made in the consultation response include:

- The focus on children and young people is welcomed and SEUPB are asked to note that Council has developed a Children & Young People Framework within which any programmes will be developed.
- The potential to bid for long term pieces of work i.e. 6-7 years duration is to be welcomed and will allow for more focused and strategic interventions as well as allowing for the implementation of robust monitoring and evaluation processes capturing the real impact of changes and lasting outcomes of any intervention.
- SEUPB should commence engagement with Shadow Councils in consultation with the relevant accountable

**Good Relations Partnership,
Monday, 8th September, 2014**

departments in advance of finalising the match funding requirements for the Programme.

- SEUPB guidance on developing Local Action Plans should be issued as soon as possible to Local Authorities.

3 Resource Implications

- 3.1 Match funding of 15% will be required. This can come from a range of non EU sources including central or local government or other public or private sources. Match funding can be in cash or non cash contributions such as staff time.**
- 3.2 There will be a requirement for significant additional officer time and resources in developing outline proposals for submission to SEUPB.**

4. Equality and Good Relations Implications

- 4.1 Screening conducted by SEUPB in developing the Operational Programme concluded that there were major positive impacts across four of the nine S.75 grounds and neutral or minor impact upon other S.75 grounds. These were all considered as impacts that would help to promote equality of opportunity and good relations with the result that the Programme will not be subject to a further Equality Impact Assessment at present. The proposed Local Action Plan will also require equality screening.**
- 4.2 Screening by SEUPB of the new INTERREG V Programme concluded that there were minor, positive impacts across four of the nine Section 75 grounds. It found that there were neutral impacts upon sexual orientation, marital status, men and women generally, political opinion and religious belief and hence the programme should not be subject to a further Equality Impact Assessment.**

5. Recommendation

- 5.1 The Partnership is requested to note the contents of the above report.”**

The Partnership adopted the recommendation.

Update on Summer Camps/Schools

The Partnership was reminded that, at its meeting on 11th August, it had agreed that the Council commission, on behalf of the Office of the First Minister and the Deputy First Minister (OFMDFM), a regional evaluation of a range of activities and projects which would inform the design of the summer camps/schools programme for 2015 onwards.

**Good Relations Partnership,
Monday, 8th September, 2014**

The Good Relations Manager reported that a specification for the evaluation had been compiled and that a procurement exercise would close on 18th September. She explained that OFMDFM had confirmed recently that it was making available to the Council, within the current financial year, funding of £50,000 to enable further intervention work to be undertaken over the summer and Halloween periods. Whilst OFMDFM had recognised that the Council would be limited in terms of the timescale available for delivery, it had requested that the intervention be of a strategic nature and that it be aligned, as closely as possible, to the Ministerial vision of summer camps/schools, as that would facilitate the evaluation and future design of the programme.

She informed the Partnership that a youth provision programme, which had been developed under the Children and Young People's priority within the OFMDFM's 'Together: Building a United Community' strategy, would provide for 100 projects to be delivered from the summer of 2015. She pointed out that those could be brought forward to Halloween and should cater for young people between 11 and 19 years of age. The projects would operate on a cross-community basis, involve a significant good relations element and use mediums such as sport, music and arts. She added that discussions had taken place with the Parks and Leisure Department, which was best placed to draft a proposal to operate summer camps/schools in the lead up to and over the Halloween period and that OFMDFM had endorsed that arrangement.

The Partnership noted the information which had been provided.

European Union Open Days 2014

The Partnership was advised that the European Commission, in partnership with the Committee of the Regions and cities across Europe, would, from 6th till 9th October, be holding in Brussels the annual European Union Open Days event. The Good Relations Manager reported that the event would be structured around a series of seminars, each of which would provide information on emerging European Union policies and funding opportunities. In 2010, the Chairman of the Partnership, Councillor Hendron, had accepted an invitation from the Special European Union Programmes Body, which had been allocated a workshop within the Open Days programme, to outline the ways in which the Council had used PEACE III funding to deliver its good relations and cultural diversity work. The Programmes Body had met the cost of Councillor Hendron's attendance at the event.

She stated that the Directorate General for Justice, in conjunction with the Directorate General for Regional and Urban Policy, had arranged for a workshop to be held on 8th October around the theme of 'Inclusion of Mobile EU Citizens: EU Funds and Best Practices for Cities and Regions'. The Chairman had been invited to brief delegates on the work which had been undertaken from 2008 till 2011 by the Council, in conjunction with eight other cities, around the URBACT funded Open Cities Project, which had, amongst other things, led to the establishment of a Migrant Forum, the provision of training and employment programmes and the delivery through PEACE III of the Migrant and Minority Ethnic Project. She highlighted the fact that one of the main themes within the Council's Good Relations Plan focused upon the need to improve the participation of migrant and minority ethnic communities in community life and to

**Good Relations Partnership,
Monday, 8th September, 2014**

strengthen the ethnic diversity of the City and made the point that the attendance at the workshop of the Chairman and an officer of the Good Relations Unit would provide an opportunity to showcase the Council's work in terms of the Plan.

She stated that the estimate cost per delegate of attending the workshop would be £760 and that authority had been granted by the Development Committee, at its meeting on 26th June, 2012, for a Political Champion from each Political Party (or their nominee) to attend the annual Open Days.

The Partnership noted the information which had been provided.

Decade of Centenaries Programme 2014/2015

The Partnership was reminded that a series of events was being delivered by the Council as part of its Decade of Centenaries Programme. The Good Relations Manager reported that the Programme had been divided into three phases, covering the periods from 1912 – 1914, 1914 – 1916 and 1918 – 1922, and reviewed the events and activities which had been delivered within the first phase. In terms of the second period, she pointed out that the Council had hosted, on 4th August, a candlelight vigil at the Cenotaph as part of the United Kingdom-wide event to mark Britain's entry into World War I.

She provided details of two events which would be taking place later in the year, the first of which would relate to the challenges faced by Unionism and Nationalism following Britain's entry into World War I. The second event would focus upon music, poetry and stories from the early war years. In early 2015, an exhibition, displaying memorabilia from each of the Irish regiments which had fought in the Great War, would be located in the East Entrance of the City Hall. In addition, a talk and theatre performance to mark the lives of Winifred Carney, a Suffragist and member of Cumann na mBan and the Irish Citizens Army, and George McBride, a Trades Unionist who had fought with the Ulster Volunteers in World War I, would take place in the City Hall. She pointed out that funding of £20,000 had been set aside from within the District Council Good Relations Action Plan to deliver events within the current financial year, 75% of which could be recouped from the Office of the First Minister and the Deputy First Minister.

After discussion, the Partnership agreed to seek the approval of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee to deliver the aforementioned four events and agreed also that the World War I exhibition be extended to include memorabilia from other Regiments in which people from Northern Ireland had served.

Engagement on Migrant and Minority Ethnic Issues

The Good Relations Manager informed the Partnership that the Safe Community and the Shared Community portions of the Council's Good Relations Action Plan contained a number of elements which sought to support the participation and inclusion of migrant and minority ethnic communities. It included also a number of actions to support the Council's City-wide initiative on the issue of hate crime.

**Good Relations Partnership,
Monday, 8th September, 2014**

She drew the Partnership's attention to a number of interventions which were planned for the coming months in response to the recent rise in race hate attacks within the City. For example, tailored training sessions would be provided around migrant awareness and ending hate. The Migrant Forum could also be supported in order to organise a number of collective Small World events across the city, with a view to generating awareness of the issues of migration. It was proposed also that a local community organisation would undertake a scoping exercise with key community influencers and stakeholders on issues surrounding community belonging, cultural identity and migration. She pointed out that the cost of delivering the aforementioned work would be £10,880, 75% of which would be met by the Office of the First Minister and the Deputy First Minister under the District Council Good Relations Programme.

After discussion, during which the Good Relations Manager undertook to seek from the Police Service of Northern Ireland information on conviction rates for the perpetrators of hate crimes in Belfast and examples of best practice which it had employed to deal with hate crime and related issues, the Partnership noted the information which had been provided.

(The Deputy Chairman, Councillor Kyle, in the Chair.)

Update on Interfaces Strategy

The Partnership deferred consideration of a report providing information on an offer of funding which had been made by the Department of Justice to enable discussions to take place around what could be achieved within the proposed timeframe and the possibility of extending the scope of the work which would qualify for funding.

Bonfire Management Programme 2014

(Mr. C. Campbell, Divisional Solicitor, attended in connection with this item.)

The Partnership deferred consideration of a report in relation to the 2014 Bonfire Management Programme to enable the Divisional Solicitor to review the information which had been tabled at the meeting on the nine bonfires where breaches of the criteria had been detected and to obtain clarification on whether the approval of the Programme, on 7th April, had been based upon the understanding that any organisation found to be in breach of the funding conditions would be penalised if they failed to use reasonable endeavours to prevent such breaches.

Good Relations Grant-Aid Fund

The Partnership was advised that the second call for applications for funding under the 2014/2015 Good Relations Grant-Aid Fund, to undertake activities between October, 2014 and March, 2015, had closed on 2nd July. The Good Relations Manager reported that, by that date, a total of sixty applications had been received, requesting in total £385,518.04. Those had been assessed using pre-agreed criteria, following which forty-one submissions had been recommended for funding totalling £121,963.40. She pointed out that 75% of the expenditure would be recouped from the Office of the

**Good Relations Partnership,
Monday, 8th September, 2014**

First Minister and the Deputy First Minister under the District Council Good Relations Programme and would be dependent upon a Letter of Offer being received from that Office confirming that sufficient funding was available.

Accordingly, she recommended that the Partnership agree that grant-aid of £121,963.40 be awarded under the delegated authority of the Interim Strategic Director of Health and Environmental Services to the following organisations:

Ref No	Organisation	Recom. Amount
4041	The Educational Shakespeare Company	£1,700.00
4224	Youth Link NI	£5,590.00
4248	Wheelworks	£5,615.00
4381	Cliftonville Community Regeneration Forum	£5,563.00
4272	Lower Ormeau Residents Action Group (LORAG)	£4,997.00
4359	Belfast Interface Project	£5,250.00
4164	Community Relations in Schools	£4,892.40
4203	Twaddell Women's Inter-Community Group	£5,968.00
4266	GLOW	£4,460.00
4240	Interaction Belfast	£6,835.00
4057	Belfast South Community Resources	£3,890.00
4116	PeacePlayers International - Northern Ireland	£4,260.00
4278	Community Dialogue	£3,940.00
4305	Lamb Films	£3,340.00
4178	Manor Street/Cliftonville Community Group	£4,080.00
4128	Teach na Failte	£1,824.00
4163	The John Hewitt Society	£6,120.00
4192	Holy Trinity Youth Centre	£3,300.00
4065	The Rivers Community Project	£1,400.00
4361	Northshore Somme Society	£3,220.00
4051	Annadale Haywood Residents Association	£1,950.00
4017	Northern Ireland Association for Mental Health	£4,140.00
4106	Seaview Enterprises	£600.00
4408	Early Years - The Organisation for Young Children	£5,008.00
4374	Federation for Integrated Development Association	£3,000.00
4082	Friends of Fallen Farset	£1,295.00
4073	Belfast Print Workshop	£2,220.00
4120	Marrowbone Community Association	£3,716.00
4387	The Mac	£1,650.00
4348	Gleann ABC	£1,000.00
4149	Parkgate Community Association	£200.00
4318	Albert Foundry FC	£440.00
4267	Stadium Projects	£1,400.00

**Good Relations Partnership,
Monday, 8th September, 2014**

4420	Suffolk Lenadoon Interface Group	£1,000.00
4152	Women's Common Path's Network	£960.00
4146	Ligoniel Family Centre	£1,000.00
4327	Mornington Community Project	£2,630.00
4102	St Patrick's Parish Trust	£550.00
4027	Artillery Youth Centre	£1,400.00
4244	Norman Whiteside Sports Facility	£600.00
4171	Bruiser Theatre Company	£960.00
TOTAL		£121,963.40

The Partnership adopted the recommendation and noted that it would receive details on the activities to be undertaken by the successful applicants.

Inquiry into Building a United Community Strategy

The Good Relations Manager informed the Partnership that the Committee for the Office of the First Minister and the Deputy First Minister had initiated an inquiry into the Building a United Community Strategy. She explained that the inquiry would seek to inform the Northern Ireland Executive's approach to tackling sectarianism, racism and other forms of intolerance and to make recommendations in order to support and enhance policy in uniting communities and community integration. In addition, it would explore perspectives on sectarianism, division and good relations and obtain the views of respondents on their understanding of the term 'good relations' and how sectarianism and division could be addressed. Good Relations Officers would be attending a number of forthcoming consultation events, with the aim of formulating a draft response for submission to the Committee for the Office of the First Minister and the Deputy First Minister by the deadline date of 26th September.

The Partnership noted the information which had been provided and that a copy of the response would be submitted to its next meeting.

International Day of Peace and Inspirational Awards 2014

The Partnership noted that an event to mark International Day of Peace and to present the annual Inspirational Awards would take place in the City Hall at 11.30 a.m. on Friday, 19th September and that a place could be secured by completing the registration form on the Springboard NI website.

Chairman