

SHARED CITY PARTNERSHIP

MONDAY 10th DECEMBER, 2018

MEETING OF SHARED CITY PARTNERSHIP

Members present: Councillor Kyle (Chairperson);
Alderman Sandford; and
Councillors Attwood, Johnston and Walsh.

External Members: Mr. M. Baker, Education Authority;
Mr. K. Gibson, Church of Ireland;
Ms. J. Irwin, Community Relations Council;
Mr. P. Mackel, Belfast and District Trades Union Council;
Mr. I. McLaughlin, Community and Voluntary Sector; and
Mr. P. Scott, Catholic Church.

In attendance: Mrs. R. Crozier, Director of Neighbourhood Services;
Miss. N. Lane, Good Relations Manager;
Mrs. D. McKinney, Programme Manager; and
Mrs. S. Steele, Democratic Services Officer.

Apologies

Apologies were recorded on behalf of Councillor Armitage and Ms. B. Arthurs, Mrs. O. Barron, Mr. J. Currie, Mr. J. Donnelly, Mrs. G. Duggan, Mrs. J. Hawthorne, Mr. A. Cole, Mr. M. O'Donnell and Ms. A. M. White.

Resignation

The Partnership was advised that Mr. R. Murdie had resigned from the Shared City Partnership as he had taken on a different role within the PSNI.

The Partnership noted the contribution that Mr. Murdie had made to the Partnership and that replacement for the vacant position would be sought from the PSNI.

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 5th November were taken as read and signed as correct.

Declarations of Interest

Schedule of Meetings 2019

The Partnership noted the following schedule of meetings for the Shared City Partnership between January and April, 2019:

Monday, 14th January;
Monday, 11th February;
Monday, 11th March; and
Monday, 8th April.

All meetings would commence at 1.30 p.m.

Request to Present to the Shared City Partnership

The Partnership agreed to receive a presentation at the January meeting from the Integrated Education Fund in respect of integrated education and how it aligns with Belfast City Council's commitment to good relations.

Update on Peace IV

The Partnership considered the undernoted report:

“1.0 Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues

To provide the Shared City Partnership (SCP) with a progress report in respect of the PEACE IV Local Action Plan.

2.0 Recommendations

Members are requested to note the contents of the report.

3.0 Main report

Key Issues

Implementation and delivery of the Belfast PEACE IV Local Action Plan is progressing as outlined in Appendix I.

Children and Young People (CYP)

Tech Connects (Ashton Community Trust), Playing Our Part in the City (Active Communities Network), Young Advocates (Cooperation Ireland) and Networks (NI Housing Executive) all projects within CYP's first round of funding are all mobilised and are currently working towards achieving their interim targets for year 1 of their delivery model. Although as members are aware the interim targets remain a challenge, the Council is providing support to projects to enable the achievement of the targets.

The tender call for the delivery of On the Right Track! Sports training element working with young people and sports clubs is currently open. This project has been rebranded from Gamechanger. The tender call for the Personal Change Element of this project has just closed and applications and will be assessed and awarded by mid-December, with the view to beginning delivery early in 2019. This project was approved as a part of the rebid activity earlier in 2018.

Building Positive Relations (BPR)

BPR2 - Creative Communities is progressing well with positive feedback from community engagement.

The contract for BPR5 – Supporting Connecting Communities has been awarded to consortium led by Northern Ireland Alternatives. Mobilisation actions are underway with key strategic partners and local community organisations to form the Neighbourhood Forums.

The re-scoping of the Traveller and Roma element has been approved by SEUPB. Tender and quotation opportunities will be open in the coming weeks.

NIHE is awaiting the formal letter of offer from SEUPB prior to commencement of BPR1 Cross Community Networks project.

Shared Space and Services (SSS)

The planning application for the Springfield Dam Park masterplan project (joint funded by SEUPB and DfC) will be submitted over the coming weeks, following a 3 month community consultation. In terms of the wider ‘necklace’, over the coming months there will engagement activity with key community stakeholders to seek feedback on the draft proposals – a scoping exercise has been conducted to inform this process, focussing on linking Springfield Road/Dam northwards towards Woodvale Park; Paisley Park and Glencairn. The feedback and discussions as part of this engagement process will input not only to the capital project proposals but also to inform the development of community lead, area based programmes/initiatives under the SSS Programming element.

Rebid

A response to the pre commencement and implementation conditions has been submitted to SEUPB. The Council is awaiting SEUPB confirmation to progress the rebid modification on the electronic monitoring system (eMS). However the mobilisation of projects is progressing as outlined above.

Financial & Resource Implications

To date the value of claims (period 1 January 2015 – period 15 July 2018) submitted to the SEUPB for reimbursement totals £315,400.00. Processing of claim period 15, 1st May 2018 – 31st July 2018, is ongoing. To date £203,084.98* relating to expenditure across all 3 themes up to and including claim period 14, 1st February 2018 – 30th April 2018, has been reimbursed to Council with all expenditure verified as eligible. *£200,019.31 relates to Council expenditure and £3,065.67 relates to NIHE partner delivery expenditure for claim period 14.

Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment

The draft plan has been equality screened and discussed at the Equality Consultative Forum on 13 May 2015.”

The Programme Manager advised the Members that the challenging interim targets were unlikely to be fully achieved. It was anticipated that 80% of the 1060 target would be achieved.

In response to a query from a Member, she advised that implications of the targets need to be discussed with the SEUPB. She advised that the issue of the interim target had been raised with the SEUPB on a number of occasions, including during a meeting with its Chief Executive. She advised that the Members would be further updated on discussions with the SEUPB around this matter.

The Partnership noted the update provided.

Update on Draft Good Relations Strategy

The Good Relations Manager provided the Partnership with an update in respect of the development of the new Good Relations Strategy.

Following the update given to the Members at the November meeting of the Partnership she advised that, as agreed, the draft report had been referred to the November meeting of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee for its consideration and approval. At this meeting, the Committee had requested that a report would be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee which would give consideration to the wording of a notice of motion regarding the definition of anti-Semitism which was also being considered at the November meeting and which the Committee had felt might impact on the Good Relations Strategy and the associated policies.

The Members noted that this deferment had resulted in a delay in respect of the public consultation which it was anticipated would now commence in January, pending the approval of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee and subsequent Council ratification.

The Partnership noted that the following dates had been provisionally scheduled:

- 17th January, 1.00 p.m. – 2.00 p.m. – launch of public consultation at Crumlin Road Jail;
- 21st February, 12.00noon – 2.00 p.m. – engagement event at Girdwood;
- 26th February, 7.00 p.m. – 9.00 p.m. – engagement event at Crescent Arts Centre;
- 4th March, 1.00 p.m. – 3.00 p.m. – engagement event at East Belfast Networking Centre; and
- 7th March, 12.00noon – 2.00 p.m. – engagement event at Colin Allotments.

The Members were encouraged to attend the launch of the public consultation to show the multi sector support for the Strategy.

The Partnership noted the update provided.

Monitoring Outcomes Report Action Plan

The Partnership considered the following report:

“1.0 Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues

1.1 To provide a prioritised action plan based on the recommendations contained within the Good Relations Outcome Monitoring Report in relation to a future outcomes monitoring framework.

2.0 Recommendations

2.1 To ask the Shared City Partnership to consider the action plan document and recommend its adoption to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee approve the Action Plan.

3.0 Main report

Key Issues

3.1 As part of the review of the Shared City Partnership members requested that officers should develop a framework to capture the good relations outcomes that are achieved through the work of the Good Relations Unit, including the Belfast City Council District Council Good Relations Programme (DCGRP) and that would relate to the good relations outcomes contained in the Belfast Agenda.

3.2 The Good Relations Unit also had a requirement to report on the outcomes delivered through the 2017/18 DCGRP and these two requirements were combined in one exercise.

3.3 SJ Consultancy was appointed to carry out this work. The consultant engaged with a range of stakeholders including the Shared City Partnership and participants on the DCGRP over the period May – July 2018. A copy of the full report was provided to members along with an update at the October meeting. The report is attached at Appendix 1 for ease of reference.

3.4 Further to approval of the SCP and Council, Officers have drawn up a prioritised action plan to address the recommendations in the report given the extensive number (19), This Action Plan will help to prioritise the steps to the development of the outcomes framework.

3.5 Members will be aware that one of the recommendations advised that a further resource was required to implement the recommendations, particularly in relation to the production of a simplified process and training for groups and programmes funded under the DCGRP.

3.6 As reported at the October meeting, TEO had advised that additional funds for the Programme were available n year and a request for funding towards a resource for monitoring resource

was submitted and approved. The recruitment process is currently being undertaken for this resource which is funded until 31 March 2019. An extension of 1 year will be included in the 19/20 application to TEO to allow for the process to be embedded within the programme thus creating the capacity to capture the outcomes robustly in a sustainable model.

- 3.7 Members are asked to consider the action plan and to recommend its adoption to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee.

Financial & Resource Implications

This work was undertaken through existing resources within the DCGRP. The report highlighted a need to review the capacity of the Unit to capture the outcomes delivered through its work. TEO has allocated additional funds to cover 75% of the required costs of the monitoring resource with Council match funding 25%. A further bid for funding will be included in the 19/20 application to TEO.

Equality or Good Relations Implications//Rural Needs Assessment

The development of a process to capture good relations outcomes will be equality screened to ensure that there are no negative good relations/equality/ Rural Needs Assessment implications.”

The Good Relations Manager advised the Members that she had met with representatives from TEO who had offered comments in respect of the action plan and that these would be followed up in due course.

The Partnership recommended to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee that it approve the Good Relations Monitoring Report Action Plan.

Update on Funding Awards for Christmas Goodwill Events

The Partnership was asked to note that, as agreed at the last meeting, the funding of £3,000 that had been allocated to this programme of works had been awarded under the delegated authority of the Strategic Director of Neighbourhood Services and the following successful organisations had been notified:

- Duncairn Community Partnership – cross-community Christmas event to be held on 7th December, in McCrory Hall, Duncairn Gardens;
- Shankill Women’s Centre – cross-community Christmas Market, including children’s play area at Lanark Way to be held on 1st December;
- Forthspring Inter Community Group – to hold 2 shared Christmas events during the week commencing December 17th, for children, young people and adult community members resident on both sides of our local interface wall that separates the Shankill/Woodvale and Clonard/Springfield communities;

- Greater Whitewell Community Surgery – cross-community ‘Santa’s Adventure Trail’ with 28 youth participates from the Whitewell area, 11th December;
- North Belfast Interface Network - cross-community Christmas Event to be held on 15th December in the Ambulance Station, Crumlin Road; and
- Springfield Star – A cross-community youth football tournament to attract 6 youth teams and to be held across the first three weeks in December.

Following a query from a Member in respect of participation numbers at events which received Council funding, the Good Relations Manager confirmed that an evaluation would be undertaken with the funded organisations following the events and a report would be submitted to a future meeting.

Monthly Update on Good Relations Events

The Good Relations Manager drew the Members’ attention to the forthcoming events, as detailed below:

Event	Date	Contact	How to register
Diversecity - Visit to Belfast Jewish Synagogue	22 nd Jan 10am – 12pm	Leish Dolan, ext: 6028	goodrelations@belfastcity.gov.uk or telephone 02890 270663
2019 regional Holocaust Memorial Day event City Hall	24 th January Evening event	Free public event led by TEO	hmd@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk

Noted.

Update on International Fund For Ireland (IFI) Consent Paper

The Partnership considered the following report which was tabled at the meeting in relation to the IFI Peace Walls Programme.

“1.0 Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues

To update the Partnership on feedback from the International Fund for Ireland’s Peace Walls Programme (IFI PWP) on the Partnership’s comments regarding the IFI’s proposed Consent paper regarding community support for barrier removal.

2.0 Recommendations

That the Partnership note the comments below from the IFI Peace Walls Programme in relation to the Partnership’s response to the IFI paper regarding community support for barrier removal.

That the Partnership advise IFI of their wish to be kept updated of progress regarding the concept of community consent.

3.0 Main report

Key Issues

The Partnership provided comment on a proposed Consent Paper from IFI presented to the Partnership at September's meeting. The SCP feedback was presented to the IFI PWP in November 2018 and IFI has requested that thanks be conveyed to the Partnership for their attention to the draft Consent Paper.

- IFI advised that the SCP response to the paper was, 'by far the most detailed and useful response received,' The points raised were subsequently discussed at the Peace Walls group meeting in November.
- A key issue raised in the SCP paper related to the proposal to include a quasi-legal Review Process in cases where an impasse developed between the wishes of local people and the agency or Department with responsibility for the Peace Wall/Barrier. Groups accept totally that the Review process proposed brought its problems and required more discussion/guidance. They included it in the hope that it would prompt a good discussion at the October meeting with the stakeholder agencies so that it could be built upon with the benefit of collective thinking and knowledge, including clarification on what might be legally feasible.
- It is such an important issue impacting progress on removal/reduction of barriers. The groups believe a set of agreed Guidelines for the Consent aspect of the delivery of TBUC 2023 is essential to progress, consistency and transparency as, indeed, is the need for a strategy for the delivery of TBUC 2023 itself.
- Thanks to the Partnership for their contribution to date was expressed again and a wish to keep the Partnership updated on progress.

Financial & Resource Implications

None.

Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment

None. The IFI PWP is designed to bring communities together either side of an interface to develop positive relations and support the T:BUC headline Action on 'removal of all barriers by 2023.'

The Partnership noted the update provided.

Chairperson