



Derry City & Strabane
District Council
Comhairle
Chathair Dhoire &
Cheantar an tSrátha Báin
Derry Citty & Strábane
Districk Council



PEACEPLUS
Northern Ireland - Ireland

Co-funded by the



European Union



UK Government

Derry City and Strabane District PEACEPLUS Partnership Board

Meeting Date: Tuesday 11th February 2025
Time: **10.00am – 11.30am**
Venue: Glenelly Room, DCSDC Offices, Strabane.

AGENDA ITEM

1. Meeting Opening

1.1 Welcome and Apologies

Note welcome to our NWRC PEACE PLUS project *Inspire, Enthuse, Equip* representatives.
Ciarán Hanna (SEUPB) was to attend – sends apologies due to half-term. Will attend next meeting.

1.2 Conflict of Interest.

Members are reminded to declare any specific conflicts of interest as and when any issues arise in the agenda which are over and above what is already held on the written declarations.

1.3 Minutes of previous meeting / Matters arising (p.5-10)

Recommendation: Review minutes for any changes and/or actions and adopt.

1.4 Chair / Co-Chair Positions

The positions of Chair and Co-Chair are elected by the Board. These are routinely for 1 year. The positions were last elected in September 2023 when Catherine Cooke and Martin Duffy were chosen by the board. Their term was technically up in September 2024, so discussion is overdue. It is helpful if possible, for the positions to have a gender balance, religious / community background balance and balance between the 'pillars' represented e.g. Statutory, elected reps, DEA reps, social partners. Options include keeping the existing arrangements until September 2025 or electing a new chair and co-chair until either September 2025 or January 2026.

Recommendation: The Board should consider what approach it wishes to take to this.

2. Guest presentation

Francine Moran – NWRC 'Inspire, Enthuse, Equip' project (TPC theme) and 'Green Clubs' project (CRT theme). The presentation will focus more on Inspire, Enthuse, Equip as Green Clubs is just starting.

3. Update from PEACE Team (Sue)

3.1 Update on SEUPB

Our Case Officer, Ciarán Hanna is unable to join the meeting due to half-term break. He has provided updates as follows:

- Auditing/First Control Function – no update yet.
- JEMS claims and reporting – financial claims can be submitted (but not paid until control function is in place). A written guide is available. A video guide will be available soon. Written reports should not be submitted yet – a guide will be available soon.
- Progress with CPD on the two SLA projects – 5 Feb two options given.

If any further updates are received these will be brought to the Board meeting.

‘Changemakers Funds’ (Small Grants under measures 1.2 and 6.2) are opening imminently for applications up to €100K. The Board have been circulated information. The PEACE team intent to work with Community Services and Donegal PEACE Manager to hold a local awareness event around this for local groups. Initial contact has been made with Co-operation Ireland who have indicated they would welcome the opportunity. Groups can also register for support and direct updates on <https://cooperationireland.org/projects/peace-plus-change-makers-funds/>

3.2 General update on PEACE Team work

HR/Recruitment: Gemma Scarlett has now moved on since end January to a new role with the NHS in Birmingham. She is a huge loss to the team. Impact currently on Financial processes, but most acutely on logistics of evaluation and monitoring. The post was trawled internally but was unable to appoint. It is now being advertised externally. Closes Monday 24th February 4pm. A recruitment for temporary clerical/administrative support until end June 25 is also underway.

PEACEPLUS Procurement: 2 final tenders (Issued for 3rd time) remain. These are Ballyarnett Early Years and Ballyarnett Women’s Programme. Both close on 7th March. If they are appointable, decisions will be ratified at April Committee. If not appointable, they be impacted by the new UK legislation and timescales/consequences of that are not currently clear.

PEACE Managers Meeting: PEACE team held an informal meeting of the NI & RoI Council’s PEACE Managers Forum on 28th January. Coincided with other managers observing our project training. Useful for networking.

February and March: Focus is strongly on pre-contract checks and completion of remaining e-tenders processes to take the programme close to fully contracted this financial year / pre-Easter. Hopefully, subject to SEUPB, in a position to begin reporting and claims on JEMS and to appoint a Controller. Also aim to promote the Changemakers small grants opportunity.

4. Confidential Update on Tender Assessments. (Detail at meeting only) – PEACE Team

4.1 Tenders Update: Non-confidential (processes fully ratified in January 2025)

Key information included in Traffic Lights.

Tender Ref:	Tender Title:	Awarded to	Amount
T24-127BUS	PEACEPLUS A Centre of Hope	Derg Valley Care Ltd.	£52,035
T24-133BUS	PEACEPLUS Our Shared History	Tar Abhaile	£83,200
T24-137BUS	PEACEPLUS Victims/Survivors Social Programme	Koram Centre Ltd.	£21,720
T24-138BUS	PEACEPLUS Culture Club	Derg Valley Care Ltd.	£62,999.81
T24-163BUS	PEACEPLUS Journey to Peace (Reissue)	Gasyard Development Trust PLC	£95,955
T24-191BUS	PEACEPLUS Fit for Purpose – Soccer (Reissue)	The Ryan McBride Foundation	£79,149

4.2 Tenders Update: Confidential (February 2025 Committee)

Update on what has been sent to committee for approval. A separate paper will be presented at the meeting. If any conflicts of interest with organisations which tendered for the following, Board members need to leave the room:

Theme	Tender
CCD	T24-210BUS PEACEPLUS LGBTQIA+ Awareness (Re-issue)
TPC	T24-201BUS PEACEPLUS Arts and Collaborative Resilience (Re-issue)
CCD	T24-213BUS PEACEPLUS Distance Travelled (Re-issue)

4.3 Reissues currently live and closing 7th March 12 noon.

Note, if these are unable to appoint, they will be impacted by the new UK legislation. If able to appoint, they would be ratified at April committee and have pre-contract checks in May.

Theme	Tender	Previous Issue	Closing date
TPC	T25-009BUS PEACEPLUS Ballyarnett Early Years Project (Re-issue)	Fail on stage 2 Q 1a	7 th March 25
TPC	T25-008BUS PEACEPLUS Ballyarnett Women's Programme (Re-issue)	Fail on Stage 1	7 th March 25

Recommendation: That the Board should note the outcomes of the assessment panels and the decisions sent to council for ratification. That any tenders not awarded should be readvertised.

5. CRT (Comm Regen & Transformation)/ Management / Comms Update

5.1 CRT workplan update (PEACE Team)

Management Workplan: HR/Recruitment update given above. Board will note that the traffic lights have had an overhaul as we move to delivery phase. On evaluation and monitoring, all live projects now have access to their Sharepoint folders and to their Excel monitoring sheets. For the most part going well, though team and projects are troubleshooting some issues. All contracted projects are supposed to have sent in a bi-monthly report by this stage to learn the system. Next bi-monthly report due for every project at the end of February. Groups will have to include the reporting tab of Excel monitoring sheet for the first time. PEACE Team will be learning the back end systems on this to collate information for Board and programme management.

Communications Workplan: Mandatory training delivered to groups Tue 28th Jan. Next session booked for 25th February. SEUPB have updated their logo. This has a knock-on impact going forward on us as lead partner and our projects. Further e-zines issued in December and January. Next magazine will wait until all projects are contracted. We're in the process of ordering further branded merchandise – probably pens, seed sticks, mints. See press coverage in Appendix.

CRT Workplan: See traffic lights for updates on CRT Workplan implementation. Mary Claire / Fiona will talk board through the specific projects and new layout of traffic lights. Board can feel free to ask questions. Reminder of the Policy on Support to Groups.

6. TPC (Thriving Peaceful Communities Theme) Update

6.1 TPC Workplan Update (PEACE Team / Mary Claire / Fiona)

See traffic lights for updates on TPC Workplan implementation. Mary Claire / Fiona will talk board through the specific projects and new layout of traffic lights. Board can feel free to ask questions. Reminder of the Policy on Support to Groups.

7. CCD (Celebrating Cultural Diversity Theme)

7.1 CCD Workplan Update (PEACE Team / Mary Claire / Fiona)

See traffic lights for updates on CCD Workplan implementation. Mary Claire / Fiona will talk board through the specific projects and new layout of traffic lights. Board can feel free to ask questions. Reminder of the Policy on Support to Groups.

8. Meeting Closing

8.1 AOB – Reminder that Board Members whose travel expenses are not claimable elsewhere, can claim expenses for attending meetings. Any claims for 24-25 are due before Financial Year end.

8.2 Date of Next Meetings (see appendix as well):

The next Board Meeting is Tuesday 8th April 2025 Glenelly Room, Strabane DCSDC Office.

Steering Groups: CRT 11th March 10am Venue TBC
TPC 5th March 10am Strabane, Glenelly Room DCSDC Offices.
CCD 13th March 10am Shared Future Centre

Derry City and Strabane District PEACEPLUS Partnership Board

Minutes of Meeting

Meeting Date: Tuesday 10th December 2024
Time: 11.00 am – 12.00pm
Venue: Bishop's Gate Hotel, Derry

Sue Divin	DCSDC	Ruairi McHugh*	SF
Mary Claire Kerlin	DCSDC	Grace Uí Niallais	SF
Connor Crawford	DCSDC	Patricia Logue	SF
Fiona Lafferty	DCSDC	Declan Norris	SDLP
Gemma Scarlett	DCSDC	Martin Reilly	SDLP
Declan Gallagher	EA	Chelsea Cooke	DUP
Marie Gallagher	Dept for Communities	Gerard Deane	Holywell Trust
Seamus Ward	Western Trust	Catherine Cooke	FWIN
Jacki Connolly	Ballyarnett	Sharon Doherty	St. Columb's Pk Recon. Trust.
Martin Duffy	Derg	Noelle Donnell	Hummingbird CIC
Gus Hastings	Faughan	Derek Moore	NW Cultural Partnership
Charles Lamberton	Moor	Chris McDonagh	BBI
Claire Russell	Sperrin	Nikki Yau	FREF
Alison Wallace	Waterside	Pauline Smyth	Donegal County Council
Christopher Jackson	SF		

*Members who attended online

1 Meeting Opening

1.1 Welcome and Apologies

Apologies received from Darren Guy, Aodhan Harkin, Aisling Hutton, Ciaran McLaughlin, Paul Gallagher, Mary O'Neill, Dominic Bonner, Ruairi McHugh, Brian Tierney, Gerard O'Neill.

The Board noted condolences on the sad passing of Kenny McFarland and noted the significant contribution to community development and Good Relations work Kenny had made over the years. A card will be sent on behalf of the PEACE Board.

1.2 Conflict of Interest –

Note appendix D now in place as standing conflicts of interest. Members to update with Fiona.

-The team will no longer update the summary table on declarations of interest. It has fulfilled its purpose of raising awareness about managing conflicts of interest during the key procurement phase. Formal written declarations of conflicts from Board members are still kept on file.

- Sue updated the Board that, now we are nearing completion of the procurement phase, conflicts of interest will be of reduced potential impact when we move fully into delivery management phase. The overall policy and written declarations around Conflict of Interest and Code of Conduct remain in place. New conflicts need only be brought up verbally if there is financial benefit or direct links. Going forward, members may still contact Fiona in the PEACE Team if they wish to update their written and held conflict of interest forms.

1.3 Minutes of Previous meeting/Matters arising - Board meeting of Tuesday 11th June 2024 were held to be an accurate record.

Proposed: Gus Hastings

Seconded: Claire Russell

2. Update from PEACE Team (Sue)

2.1 Update on SEUPB

Our Case Officer, Ciarán Hanna will join us online at our February Board Meeting.

- Members agreed to invite Ciarán Hanna to every other meeting
- Gus said how it was good to keep SEUPB in the loop.
- Martin agreed and restated the space for freedom of speech in the board.
- SLA capital projects have been delayed due to issues with CPD forms and a lack of direct communication. Mary-Claire is helping to resolve this.

2.2 General update on PEACE Team work

Sue provided the following update from the team

PEACEPLUS Procurement: Two tenders (re-issues) are closing in December, and four tenders (all re-issues) will close in January. If these tenders are awarded, it will mark the final stage of the procurement process. This means the procurement phase is expected to be completed by the end of February 2025, with all projects either in contracting or delivery.

In December and January, the focus will be on assessing the remaining tenders, moving them through the standstill period, conducting pre-contract checks, and finalizing contracts. Efforts will also be made to ensure all files are audit ready. Additionally, work with HR continues, and we are pleased that Connor will be staying with the team until at least February 23, 2025.

2.3 Cross-border Donegal update.

- Welcomed Pauline Smyth – stood to speak
- Tendering all Programmes – 23 tendered, 13 live
- Donegal County Council PEACEPLUS launch on February 5th

3. Confidential update on Tender Assessments.

Sue gave the Board updates on the Tender Assessments

Gerard Deane, Claire Russell and Derek Moore left the room.

3.1 Tenders Update: Non-confidential (processes fully completed since last Board Meeting)

Sue provided an overview on the following Key information.

Tender Ref:	Tender Title:	Committee
T24-109BUS	PEACEPLUS IDEA Project	October
T24-089BUS	PEACEPLUS War and Peace Project	October
T24-110BUS	PEACEPLUS Out and About (BAME)	October

3.2 Confidential (November Committee)

Sue provided an update on what has been sent to committee for approval.

Theme	Tender
CRT	T24-120BUS PEACEPLUS Street Art Reimaging
CRT	T24-152BUS PEACEPLUS Urban Social Farm (Reissue)
CRT	T24-155BUS PEACEPLUS Unlocking Silent Heritage (Reissue) Lot 1
CRT	T24-155BUS PEACEPLUS Unlocking Silent Heritage (Reissue) Lot 2
TPC	T24-126BUS PEACEPLUS Reimage-Recycle
TPC	T24-128BUS PEACEPLUS Art: Recovery to Discovery
TPC	T24-122BUS PEACEPLUS Be Driven
TPC	T24-125BUS PEACEPLUS Ballyarnett Men's Programme
CCD	T24-130BUS PEACEPLUS Our Present Past
CCD	T24-131BUS PEACEPLUS Forward Thinking
CCD	T24-135BUS PEACEPLUS Cecil Frances Alexander Celebrated
CCD	T24-134BUS PEACEPLUS The Exodus Project

-Both Gus and Patricia raised questions on which graveyards are included in Unlocking Silent Heritage, Fiona elaborated, giving a list of the involved graveyards in the restoration.

3.3 Currently live and/or recently closed and due to be assessed

Sue then informed members of the following tenders:

Theme	Tender	Issue	Closing date
TPC	T24-123BUS PEACEPLUS Arts & Collaborative Resilience	Failed Stage 1	10 th Jan
TPC	T24-124BUS PEACEPLUS Ballyarnett Early Years Project	Failed Stage 1	10 th Jan
TPC	T24-121BUS PEACEPLUS Ballyarnett Women's Programme	Failed Stage 1	10 th Jan
CCD	T24-136BUS LGBTQIA+ Awareness	No tenders	10 th Jan
CCD	T24-132BUS PEACEPLUS Distance Travelled	No tenders	6 th Dec
CCD	T24-129BUS PEACEPLUS Fit for Purpose (Soccer)	No tenders	13 th Dec

After information on tenders was completed, Gerard Deane, Claire Russell and Derek Moore rejoined the room.

4.0 CRT (Comm Regen & Transformation) Management / Comms Update

4.1 Update from Steering Group Meeting - Chair Gerard Deane

Held 12th November, Fountain Street, Strabane. Not quorate, but minutes approved by email afterwards. Full update on issues that have taken 4 months to successfully resolve with SEUPB over Skeoge United tendering. Discussion around updates on the auditing/control function and costing of that. Also, discussions around the engagement by the team to date with Evaluation and Monitoring staff from SEUPB (Ciara Kane, Ciarán Hanna and IT/Statisticians). SEUPB have now given the go ahead with our approach to monitoring. Strabane area was delighted to see Riverine Capital project funded. Some conversations/concerns around what level of engagement contracted projects have with Local Growth Partnerships.

4.2 CRT workplan update (PEACE Team)

Management Workplan: Gemma presented a brief powerpoint overview of the interim evaluation and monitoring system, which has now begun rollout to projects.

Gemma stood to speak to run through the monitoring and evaluation/bi-monthly reports

- Groups will be given forms and can alter questions
- Explained innerworkings of the database and the reduction of human error.
- Bi-monthly forms are easier to collate progress info
- Gemma explained it would be available on sharepoint and would be a communication point between the team and groups.

Various Board members noted approval that this was a definite improvement on the iPads system from PEACE IV and should be a helpful tool for all projects. It would also protect the Board and Council in terms of GDPR that the system does not report sensitive data to council.

CRT Workplan: See traffic lights for updates on CRT Workplan implementation. Mary Claire / Fiona briefly presented their projects and answered any queries raised. It was noted that the Traffic Lights system will be overhauled for the next meeting as the implementation moves into delivery phase.

Communications workplan: Further e-zines issued in October and November. Next magazine will wait until all projects are contracted.

5. TPC (Thriving Peaceful Communities Theme) Update

5.1 Update from Steering Group Meeting - Chair Alison Wallace

Meeting held 6th November, Glenelly Room in Strabane. Similar general update as CRT steering group. TPC noted significant workload and progress in Tenders going through procurement. Discussed issues the sector is currently having in the recruitment of suitable staff, and how the Inspire, Enthuse, Equip programme is genuinely helpful to meet a significant need.

5.2 TPC Workplan Update (PEACE Team / Mary Claire / Fiona)

Fiona and Mary Claire updated members on TPC workplan implementation. Significant numbers of tenders currently live. No issues raised.

6. CCD (Celebrating Cultural Diversity Theme)

6.1 Update from Steering Group Meeting - Chair Sharon Doherty

The meeting was held in Shared Future Centre on 14th November. Similar general update to previous steering groups. Noted some projects are still in the procurement phase whilst others are successful in launch phase. As with other steering groups, they opted not to meet in January, partly due to the fact that there would be little to update due to holidays, and to allow PEACE Team to progress through procurement paperwork.

6.2 CCD Workplan Update (PEACE Team / Mary Claire / Fiona)

Fiona and Mary Claire discussed the CCD Workplan implementation. No issues raised.

7. Guest presentations

Sharon Doherty – Dare 2 Dream (TPC Theme) delivered a powerpoint presentation to the meeting. Key highlights included:

- Dare 2 Dream launched 7th November
- Key elements-peaceful project to build relations between Tullyally/Currynrierin
- Empowerment Programme/Strategic Planning
- First joint resident action meeting last week-lots of activity and excitement
- If an idea meets the criteria it will go onto the next stage-not the resident action meetings place to decide if the people want it or not. Encourage the residents, the youth especially to put ideas forward.
- Bids-vote for 5 projects-up to the bidder to encourage support-build collective approach to promote both cities.
- Christopher mentioned that he felt the co-design process was good and a project like this is what both estates needed-both areas have been neglected for too long.

Noelle O'Donnell – Farming & Environmental Champions (TPC Theme) delivered a powerpoint presentation to the meeting. Key highlights included:

- Farming and Environmental Champions contract signed in July 2024.
- 100 participants
- 3 hours minimum participation
- cross border and cross community
- Local people are very interested in preserving the local area
- Doing their best to exceed targets

8. Meeting Closing

8.1 AOB

8.2 Date of Next Meetings (see appendix as well):

PLEASE NOTE – There will be no steering groups in January. The next meeting is the Board Meeting on 11th February 2025 Glenelly Room, Strabane DCSDC Office.

Appendix A: Board Member's Attendance 2023/24

Statutory Pillar		9/23	11/23	1/24	3/24	6/24	10/24	12/24
William Calderwood (d. Shannagh Farren)	PSNI		x				x	
Deborah Cross (d. Declan Gallagher)	EA		x			x	x	x
Marie Gallaher (d. Sharon McCullagh)	DfC		x		x	x		x
Mary O'Neill (d.Noel McNulty)	NIHE	x		x	x	x	x	
Seamus Ward (d.Bronach McMonagle)	WHSCNI	x		x	x		x	x
Ciaran McLaughlin (d. Gerard O'Neill)	DAERA			x	x		x	
Social Partners – Local Growth Partnerships								
Jacki Connolly (d.Darren Kirby)	Ballyarnett	x	x	x	x			x
Martin Duffy (d. Andy McKane)	Derg	x		x	x	x	x	x
Aodhán Harkin (d.Ursula Doherty)	Strabane	x	x	x		x	x	
Gus Hastings (d.Martin McCartney)	Faughan	x	x	x		x	x	x
Charles Lamberton (d.Seamus Breslin)	Moor			x		x		x
Claire Russell (d.Patricia McNulty)	Sperrin	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Alison Wallace (d.Geraldine Doherty)	Waterside	x		x		x	x	x
Lisa Moore-Maguire (d. Jim McColgan)	Foyleside	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Elected Representatives Pillar								
Aisling Hutton	SF				x	x		
Ruairi McHugh	SF		x	x	x		x	x
Brian Harte	SF				x			
Christopher Jackson	SF	x	x	x	x		x	x
Patricia Logue	SF	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		x	x
Grace Uí Niallais	SF	x		x	x	x		x
Martin Reilly	SDLP			x				x
Declan Norris	SDLP		x	x			x	x
Brian Tierney	SDLP		x	x				
Chelsea Cooke	DUP	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Darren Guy	UUP	x	x			x		
Paul Gallagher	IND	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			
Social Partners Pillar								
Gerard Deane (d. Fiona Corvan)	Holywell	x	x	x	x		x	x
Catherine Cooke (d. Bethany Moore)	FWIN	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Sharon Doherty (d. Michelle Simpson)	St.CPH		x	x	x	x		x
Noelle Donnell (d. Sinead Barr)	H'bird		x	x	x	x	x	x
Dominic Bonner (d. TBC)	YANI	x			x			
Derek Moore (d. Kyle Thompson)	NWCP	x	x	x	x	x		x
Chris McDonagh	BBi	x	x	x		x	x	x
Nikki Yau (d. Agnieszka Luczak)	FREF	x	x	x	x	x		x

Appendix B: PEACEPLUS Timetable of meetings for Board & Steering Groups

	Sept 24	Oct 24	Nov 24	Dec 24	Jan 25	Feb 25	Mar 25	Apr 25	May 25	Jun 25	Jul 25	Aug 25
PEACEPLUS Board (Wk 2 Tuesdays)		8th		10th		11th		8th		10th	-	-
CRT (Cityside Wk 2 Tuesdays.)	10th		12th		-		11th		13th		-	-
TPC (Strabane Wk 1 Wednesdays Glenelly or Function Rm, Strabane DCSDC Office)	4th		6th		-		5th		7th		-	-
CCD (Waterside Wk 2 Thursdays. Shared Future Centre)	12th		14th		-		13th		8th		-	-

** No Board or Steering Group Meetings July or August (except exceptional circumstances)

Appendix C – Membership of PEACEPLUS Steering Groups

CRT Community Regeneration & Transformation, Management and Communications.	TPC Thriving and Peaceful Communities.	BRCI Celebrating Cultural Diversity.
Venue: Cityside	Venue: Strabane	Venue: Waterside
Day/Time/Week: Tue am Week 2 of month	Day/Time/Week: Wed am Week 1 of month	Day/Time/Week: Thurs am Week 2 of month
1 Ciaran McLaughlin (DAERA)	1 Marie Gallaher (DfC)	1 Deborah Cross (EA)
2 Mary O'Neill (NIHE)	2 William Calderwood (PSNI)	2 Seamus Ward (WHSCNI)
3 Gerard Deane (Holywell)	3 Noelle Donnell (Hummingbird)	3 Catherine Cooke (FWIN)
4 Chris McDonagh (BBI)	4 Dominic Bonner (YouthAction NI)	4 Sharon Doherty (St.Columb's Pk House)
5 Derek Moore (NWCP)	5 Alison Wallace (Waterside DEA)	5 Nikki Yau (Migrant Centre NI)
6 Charles Lamberton (Moor DEA)	6 Lisa Moore-Maguire (Foyle side DEA)	6 Martin Duffy (Castlederg DEA)
7 Aodhán Harkin (Strabane DEA)	7 Gus Hastings (Faughan DEA)	7 Jacki Connolly (Ballyarnett DEA)
8 Brian Tierney (IND)	8 Claire Russell (Sperrin DEA)	8 Christopher Jackson (SF)
9 Aisling Hutton (SF)	9 Darren Guy (UUP)	9 Martin Reilly (SDLP)
10 Chelsea Cooke (DUP)	10 Ruairi McHugh (SF)	10 Paul Gallagher (IND)
11 Patricia Logue (SF)	11 Declan Norris (SDLP)	11 Grace Uí Niallais (SF)
	12 Brian Harte (SF)	

Free Choice	Statutory Partners	Social Partners (Open Call)	LCGP Partners	Elected Representatives
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Appendix D: PEACE Plus Live Standing Conflict of Interest Declarations

Community Regen & Transform. (CRT)		Thriving and Peaceful Communities Theme (TPC)		Celebrating Cultural Diversity Theme (CCD)	
Project Title	C.O.I Declaration	Project Title	C.O.I Declaration	Project Title	C.O.I Declaration
Intercultural Café	Lillian Seenoi Barr	Dare 2 Dream	Alison Wallace, Sharon Doherty, Darren Guy Chelsea Cooke	The Freedom Project	Seamus Ward, Cllr Aisling Hutton
Green Clubs	Aódhan Harkin	Inspire, Enthuse, Equip		Operation Desperation	
Unlock. Silent Herit.		Gateways to Rural Participation	Derek Moore, Kyle Thompson	HumanKind	
War and Peace	Gerard Deane	Pre-teen transition Programme		Columba Journey	
Skeoge United	Jacki Connolly	Empowered Communities Strabane	Aódhan Harkin	Culture Now Showcase	Derek Moore
A Stitch in Time	Lisa Moore-Maguire	Create: Youth Digital & Music Project.		Culmore Connections	
Urban Social Farm	Charles Lamberton,	Creating Creatives		Out and About (BAME)	Nikki Yau
Waterside Together	A.Wallace, S.Doherty, C.Cooke	Strabane Youth Programme	Dominic Bonner, Aódhan Harkin	Connect (BAME)	
Food Poverty Project	Sue Divin	Our Place, Our Planet		Let's Talk (Youth)	Dominic Bonner
Park Community Hall		Cricket Connects	Derek Moore, Kyle Thompson	Muintearas	
Our Space, Our Place	Martin Duffy	IDEA		Our Journey to Peace	Kyra Reynolds, Derek Moore Kyle Thompson
Derg Future Festivals	Martin Duffy	F.Y.I. Foyleside Youth Initiative	Lisa Moore-Maguire	Fit for Purpose	
Street Art Reimaging	Kyra Reynolds, Charles Lamberton	Be Wild		Our Present Past	Gerard Deane, Kyra Reynolds, Derek Moore, Kyle Thompson
		Farming & Environmental Champions	Noelle Donnell	Forward Thinking	Gerard Deane
		Sperrin Youth Voices		Distance Travelled	
		Rural Teens		Our Shared History	
		Ballyarnett Women's Programme		The Exodus Project	K.Reynolds, D. Guy, D. Moore
		Be Driven	Claire Russell	Cecil Frances Alexander Celeb.	Aódhan Harkin
		Arts & Collaborative Resilience		LGBTQIA+ Awareness	
		Ballyarnett Early Year's Project	Jacki Connolly	Victims/Survivors Social Prog.	Aódhan Harkin
		Ballyarnett Men's Programme		Culture Club	Martin Duffy

		Reimage-Recycle			
		Centre of Hope	Martin Duffy		
		Art: Recovery to Discovery	Alex Duffy		

Appendix – A sample of recent press coverage from various projects.

Culture Now: 19th Dec page 6 Derry News.

officer connected the accused to the charges and opposed bail.

Some hours later police noticed the car in a car park in Foyle Road and

and would not abide by conditions. Defence solicitor Paddy

McLaughlin was granted bail to appear again on January 9.

Culture Now Showcase at the New Gate Arts Centre hailed a success

The launch of the Culture Now Showcase at the New Gate Arts and Culture Centre earlier this month was met with an overwhelmingly positive reception hosted by co-ordinator Paddy Danagher.

The morning event featured vibrant performances of traditional and contemporary dance, music, showcasing the talent and creativity of participants from diverse cultural backgrounds.

A highlight of the morning was a heartfelt speech by Brian Dougherty from the North West Cultural Partnership, who spoke passionately about the dedication and hard work of the team that secured the

funding for this transformative project.

He emphasised the importance of building confidence in the arts and how the Culture Now Showcase will foster creativity and collaboration across communities.

Attendees, including distinguished guests and community leaders, Derry City & Strabane District Council and the PEACEPLUS team praised the event for its celebration of cross-community collaboration and cultural exchange.

POSITIVE IMPACT

Mayor of Derry City & Strabane District inspiring words highlighted the importance of such



Participants performing at the Culture Now Showcase in New Gate Arts and Culture Centre.

initiatives and the positive impact of celebrating diversity through music, dance and the arts.

The performances, which included a fusion of Ulster-Scots, Irish, and modern artistic styles,

received a positive reception, offering a glimpse into the exciting journey this project promises.

Creating Creatives – 25th November. Derry News.

well-known lady throughout the

"It's also a happy experience,

also call our fundraising Office on: (028) 71 359 888.

Maureen and Caoimhe Fox are aiming to raise £100,000 for Foyle Hospice in memory of their mother Ann.

Creative community development project for people in the Waterside area launched

Staff Reporter
news@derrynow.com

Events, Arts and Cultural Management company, MayWe, has recently been awarded £95,700 from the Derry City and Strabane District Council's PEACEPLUS 'Creating Creatives', supported by PEACEPLUS - a programme managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB). This funding will facilitate creative cross border workshops with organisations, charities and youth groups across the Derry City and Strabane District Council (DCSDC) area and Donegal.

MayWe will deliver a series of cross border and

cross community workshops, targeting a total of 136 participants.

The project will feature four key elements; Creative Community Development for young adults resulting in an accredited qualification, Creative Writing and Visual Arts with cross community participation, Cross border Arts and Health programme working with individuals who have survived stroke or a traumatic brain injury, and the formation of an intergenerational Cross Community Rock Choir based in the Waterside area.

The project will conclude with a final showcase performance from the Rock Choir, allowing participants to express themselves through music and



Mayor of Derry and Strabane District Council, Cllr Lillian Seenoil-Barr pictured at the launch of the project.

collaboration.

This project was officially launched this week in St

Columb's Park House, Derry.

The launch featured a welcome from the MayWe

team, performances from the newly established Derry Rock Choir and a taster creative activity by Fuse Arts.

Commenting on the project, Lois Kennedy, Joint Managing Director of MayWe said: "We are thrilled to deliver this creative project in the DCSDC area and Donegal, which will enable us to collaborate with diverse groups and organisations throughout the region.

"We are proud to contribute to the outstanding array of PEACEPLUS initiatives that have enriched lives across Northern Ireland. Our goal for this project is to use the Arts as a medium for exploration, enabling participants to gain new skills, establish potential career paths and encourage

them to celebrate their shared histories and find common ground for meaningful engagement."

Sue Divin, Programmes Manager (PEACE) added: "Initiatives such as this are crucial in our efforts to address historical divisions and create an inclusive environment where everyone feels valued. By providing funding and resources to innovative projects like this one, PEACEPLUS is making a tangible difference in the lives of participants and the wider community.

"We are excited to see the outcomes of this collaboration and how it will enrich the cultural fabric of our society, fostering both personal growth and community cohesion.

NEWS

CITY EDITION

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United to deliver peace building programme

Staff Reporter
@deryjournal

A new cross-community and cross-border project has been launched by the Greater Shantallow Area Partnership (GSAP) to deliver a range of peace building and reconciliation programmes across the Skeoge area.

The 'Skeoge United', a PeacePlus-funded project, aims to build community cohesion locally but also connect with other communities across the city and on a cross-border basis.

Charlie McDaid, GSAP Chairperson, said: "Skeoge is a new, fast developing neighbourhood in the north of the city with a very youthful demographic and we are delighted that Council, through the PeacePlus Partnership, are investing resources in peace-building programmes that will involve all age groups, but will focus mainly on young people, the travelling community and ethnic minority families within Skeoge and the Waterside.

The programmes will also have a cross border dimension, recognising the potential of the project to impact across wider catchment areas, aided by the project's geographical proximity to the border, which is ideally placed to promote cooperation and share learning from both sides of the border."

Skeoge United will be delivered over two years and will incorporate a range of cultural awareness programmes (dance, music, languages), creative mindfulness programmes, good relations programmes, health and wellbeing programmes and family support initiatives.

I will also include the employment of a full-time programming officer as well as capital investment to enable the purchase of a new 17-seater minibus and pop-up marquees.

Match-funding has been provided by the Executive Office in Northern Ireland and the Department of Housing, Planning, Community & Local Government in Ireland.

GSAP will work closely with Waterside Neighbourhood Partnership and Irish Street Community Association to promote the planned



The launch of the Greater Shantallow Area Partnership's PeacePlus funded project, at Skeoge Community Hub



Some of the staff at the Hub take time out for a coffee on Monday morning.

programmes. GSAP will also work closely with the Merville & District Family Resource Centre.

Nicola Mullan, GSAP's Co-

ordinator at the Skeoge Hub added: "The key challenge for us is in delivering activities that will help participants, particularly our young

people, to make new friends from other community backgrounds, connect to different places, increase understanding of other traditions and to develop positive thinking about other cultures."

It's anticipated that the majority of the programme delivery will take place in venues within the Skeoge area – notably Skeoge Community Hub, Studio 2 Arts Centre, Lenamore Youth Club and within marquee structures purchased to host events and programmes.

Programme delivery will also take place within the Wa-

terside area and Merville.

GSAP Manager, Rory McParland, said: "The programme activities will focus on peacebuilding and community wellbeing and provide the opportunity to build genuine cross-community relationships whilst encouraging attitudinal and behavioural change among participants."

"Using topical themes Skeoge United will build on the city's role in peace-building, and its long tradition in arts and culture, health and wellbeing and in making real and tangible differences to people's lives."

NEWS

NWRC launches Inspire, Enthuse and Equip

Erin Hutcheon
editorial@derryjournal.com
@derryjournal

North West Regional College has officially launched a brand new project which will provide a new set of courses in community development and youth work.

'Inspire, Enthuse, Equip' will be delivered by NWRC over the next two years following a successful tender bid of £196K to Derry and Strabane District Council (DCSDC).

Mayor Lilian Seenoi Barr officially launched the project on International Volunteers Day at the Cathedral Youth Club. The event was attended by representatives of the community, voluntary and youth sectors.

NWRC Project Manager of Inspire, Enthuse, Equip, Francine Moran said: "The Inspire, Enthuse, Equip project represents a significant step forward in empowering our communities and fostering a new generation of volunteers and community and youth workers.

"By providing practical skills, cross-community experiences, and opportunities for growth, we aim to future-



Sue Divin, Lilian Seenoi Barr, Francine Moran and Edelle Irwin. Photo: Martin McKeown.

proof the community and voluntary sector, ensuring it remains vibrant and resilient. This initiative is not just about education—it's about building connections, breaking down barriers, and inspiring individuals to make a lasting impact."

Mayor Barr said: "Con-

gratulations to everyone involved with this innovative new project. I am delighted to be here for the launch on International Volunteers Day which gives us the opportunity to shine the spotlight on the valuable contributions that volunteers make to our local communities. This project

will have lasting benefits for the sector as well as promoting the valuable work that is being done in the local community."

The project is supported by PEACEPLUS, a programme managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB). Sue Divin, DCSD Coun-

cil Programme Manager for PEACE said: "From across a wide range of sectors and the geography of our council area, a huge area of common concern coming forward from the community and voluntary sector is the lack of opportunity for potential new community workers to access

free training to future proof the existence of the sector. Our local community groups deliver excellent work, but they can only keep doing that if they have appropriate funding and staffing. We'd encourage any individuals interested in working in the sector in the future to take up the offer of free, local training."

The Inspire, Enthuse, Equip Project offers courses relating to community development and youth work from Level 1 to Level 3, as well as the provision of cross-community site visits and community awareness sessions. They include: Community Development, Volunteering Skills, Youth Work, Diversity, Good Relations, Equality, Community Health Facilitation and others relevant to the sector. Every individual participant on the programme, regardless of their course, will have the opportunity to experience at least one community site visit beyond the classroom and learn from other communities.

The aim of the project is to expand the current volunteer base and community capacity to future proof and sustain the community and voluntary sector within the council area.

following the loss of my niece, Rosie.

child to heart disease.

"The STARS programme operates across www.nfmutual.co.uk/strabane.

YouthAction NI launch new youth PEACEPLUS programme

YOUTHAction NI in partnership with REACH across will be launching their PEACEPLUS Let's Talk project on Thursday, November 21.

This project is supported by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB) and Derry City Strabane District Council (DCSDC).

Let's Talk will recruit 165 young people from across the council areas as well as cross border.

To date, the project has recruited and currently delivering programmes to 94 young people from REACH ACROSS cross community youth project at Melmount Community Forum in Strabane, Raphoe Family Centre in Donegal and young people from the North West Islamic Centre.

Young people have taken part in group sessions, looking at different cultures, respect, mental health, leadership training, OCN training in youth work and attended the John and Pat Hume Foundation Peace Festival in Dungannon.

This project has enabled local projects to bring a wide range of young people, providing them with a voice on issues affecting them and looking at positive solutions in breaking down barriers.

The project will also provide longer term projects, by building stronger links and partnerships in both the council area and cross-border.

The project coordinator from YouthAction and

project manager from REACH ACROSS welcomed this vital boost to the council area and thanked SEUPB and Derry City Strabane District Council for their continuing support to peace building.

As the project continues young people will also have the opportunities to have meaningful discussions around human rights, citizenship, good relations, anti-sectarian work, personal development, progression, leadership, volunteering and the environment. Programmes will be designed around the needs of the young people and will be delivered through workshops, cultural trips and residential.

Rose McCrossan from Raphoe Family Centre

added: "We are delighted to be working with YouthAction and REACH ACROSS and both projects are supporting us to set up a much needed youth project in the area and to build on our cross border connections."

The Let's Talk programme started in August 2024 and will be delivered over two years to support young people and youth projects in breaking down barriers and providing meaningful relationships.

"This project will help us to talk openly about our needs and culture and hopefully break down any fears. Like any young person, we just want a peaceful and respectful future, which we all deserve," said a young Islamic participant.

Farming Champions - Ulster Herald – 26th September 24 Rural Pre-Teens. Strabane Weekly. Nov.

Launch of new farming project

A NEW farming and community-based environment project focusing on the rural environment will launch at Silverbrook Mill, outside Donemana, on Saturday, September 28 at 11am.

The 'Farming and Environmental Champions' project will be delivered by Hummingbird (NI) CIC in conjunction with Frog CIC, two local organisations with extensive experience in environmental awareness.

The event will give an opportunity for people to learn more about the project and the activities they can try out.

SUPPORT

This project is supported by PEACEPLUS, a programme managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB) and funded through Derry City and Strabane District Council's PEACEPLUS Local Co-Designed Action Plan under the 'Thriving and Peaceful Communities' Theme.

It aims to give local farming families and the wider rural community an opportunity to explore environmental issues of concern to them.

Participants will explore and engage with their local environment, completing local actions designed to improve the environment, heritage biodiversity and water quality management.

Omag fundr

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THURSDAY, 7th November 2024 - STRABANE WEEKLY NEWS

200 rural children to benefit from new programme supporting transition to secondary education

RAPID has announced the launch of the 'Taking the Next Step' programme, an initiative designed to provide vital support to rural young people residing in the Derry City and Strabane District Council area as they transition from primary to secondary education.

The programme is funded through the PEACEPLUS Local Co-Designed Action Plan and falls under the 'Thriving and Peaceful Communities' theme.

The 'Taking the Next Step' programme is designed to address the unique challenges faced by rural young people during this phase of their educational journey.

By focusing on the development of essential life skills, the programme aims to ensure that students are well-prepared for the transition to secondary education.

It will cover a broad spectrum of topics crucial for personal growth and adaptation, including risk-taking behaviours, emotional intelligence, resilience, effective communication, self-regulation, health management, identity formation and principles of peace and reconciliation.

In collaboration with partners such as Children in Crossfire and the Verbal Arts Centre, the programme is structured to offer support over a two-year period.

This initiative is designed to reach more than 200 rural students who are in their final year of primary school, providing them with the tools and knowledge necessary to navigate their transition successfully.

A spokesperson said: "RAPID is enthusiastic about the opportunity to extend this valuable programme to all 28 rural primary schools within the Derry City and Strabane District Council area."

"By doing so, the programme will support the students and their school communities, enhancing the student's emotional health and contributing to their overall well-being."

The 'Taking the Next Step' programme is a project supported by PEACEPLUS, a programme managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB).

The Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB) is a North South Body with the statutory remit for managing EU funding programmes within



Pictured at the launch of RAPID's new 'Taking the Next Step' programme in Aughacross Community Hall are, Maise, a pupil of Donemana Primary School, Derry, a pupil of St Michael's Primary School, Donemana, Sue Dittie and MaryClare Kerlin, Derry City and Strabane District Council's PEACEPLUS team, councillor Alex Duffy, chair of council's Business & Culture Committee, Philip O'Kane, RAPID committee member, programme coordinator, RAPID, Mary Hunter, Hugh Hastings, councillor Fergal Leonard and councillor Declan Norris, RAPID committee members, programme partners, Tracy Gray, Verbal Arts, Seamus O'Gorman and Lynda Toye, Children in Crossfire. SU4512CN24

Northern Ireland and the border counties of Ireland. PEACEPLUS is a cross-border funding Programme designed to support peace and prosperity across Northern Ireland and the border counties of Ireland.

The total value of PEACEPLUS is €1.14 billion. PEACEPLUS is co-funded by the European Union, the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Government of Ireland, and the Northern Ireland Executive.

For more detailed information about the 'Taking the Next Step' programme, contact Mary McGill at mary@rapidni.com.

"We look forward to contributing positively to the educational journey of rural youth in the Derry City and Strabane District Council area," the spokesperson for RAPID added.

Local Sinn Féin councillor, Fergal Leonard, who is a member of the RAPID committee, hailed the announcement of the €142,000 funding for the programme.

"This initiative developed by the Rural Area Partnership will assist pupils from rural schools in the district transitioning to secondary education," he said.

"It is estimated that in excess of 200 children in their final year of primary school will benefit from the programme over the next two years."

"I'll continue working with council and the other parties to support local communities and to ensure young people have the best chance to succeed in life."



Primary Seven pupils from Donemana Primary School and St Michael's Primary School, Donemana, pictured at the launch of the new 'Taking the Next Step' programme. (Photos: Martin McGovern). SU4512CN24