

Title of Report:	PEACE PROGRAMME – PEACE IV – PEACE PLUS
Committee Report Submitted To:	The Leisure and Development Committee
Date of Meeting:	20 th April 2021
For Decision or For Information	For Information

Linkage to Council Strategy (2019-23)	
Strategic Theme	Resilient, Healthy & Engaged Communities
Outcome	Council will work to develop and promote stable and cohesive communities across the Borough
Lead Officer	Head of Community & Culture Peace IV Coordinator

Budgetary Considerations	
Cost of Proposal	N/A
Included in Current Year Estimates	YES/NO
Capital/Revenue	
Code	
Staffing Costs	

Screening Requirements	Required for new or revised Policies, Plans, Strategies or Service Delivery Proposals.		
Section 75 Screening	Screening Completed:	Yes	Date: JUNE 2017
	EQIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date: JUNE 2017
Rural Needs Assessment (RNA)	Screening Completed	Yes/No	Date: September 2019
	RNA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date: September 2019
Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)	Screening Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
	DPIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:

1.0 Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to reflect on the success of the delivery of the Peace IV Programme;

To build on the successes of the Peace IV Programme going forward into Peace Plus;

To examine the opportunities that the Peace Plus Programme offers.

2.0 Background

The Local Action Plan for Peace IV was approved by Council in 2016, this led to the delivery and implementation of the Peace IV Programme under three Thematic Areas; Children and Young People; Shared Spaces & Services and Building Positive Relations.

To date £3.3million has been spent.

A total of 5,160 participants were involved in the Programme Delivery, over 125 grassroots Community Organisations and associations participated or were involved in the Programme, Community Participation 40:45 CNR: PUL and 5% Other; 42% Female: 58% Male; 11% reported as having additional or support needs. £125,000 “resource allocations” invested directly back into the communities across the 7 DEAs in addition to Programme Delivery, Study trips, Capital Works upgrades and village/town centre installations or community garden-based projects.

A large Programme of activity aimed at Children & Young People has enabled 1,647 Children and Young People within the Borough to engage in a wide range of activities including outdoor activities, the arts, Leadership opportunities and exposure to expression through digital media. Covid-19 did cut short some of the final presentations in which the Children and Young People had hoped to share, but the momentum and learning will be harnessed and put to good use in their respective communities, not to mention the additional opportunities that Peace Plus will offer them.

3.0 Peace Plus – What are the aims and objectives?

Just as the previous Peace Programmes, Peace Plus will continue to build Peace and Prosperity. The Programme’s strategy is to continue to take the opportunities and address the needs arising from the peace process in order to boost economic growth and stimulate social and economic regeneration and secondly, to promote social inclusion, particularly for those of the margins of economic and social life;

The Programme has been developed within the wider political, economic, social and environmental context (set against the backdrop of a Covid/Post-Covid Society).

What it means for Council?

The Local Action Plan will fall under Theme 1

“Building Peaceful and Thriving Communities” - €210 million

The Local Action Plan (Co-Designed) - €90m

Local Community PEACE PLUS Partnerships will be established for designated cluster areas, it will be designed around the aspect of Community Planning Partnerships;

The plans will be centred around 3 core themes:

- Local community regeneration and transformation:
- Thriving and peaceful communities:
- Building respect for all cultural identities.

Each Local Community PEACE PLUS ***will be resourced to develop a Priority Action Plan for their individual area***, which combined will form an overall PEACE PLUS Action Plan for each of the 17 local authorities. Work is underway currently to procure this support and it is expected that initial plans could be drafted by November 2021 as per the details in the Tender Specification authored by the SEUPB.

Each thematic area of the Programme includes a strong community led focus, leading to a more prosperous and “healthy” society.

The SEUPB have developed the Programme on the basis of actions and initiatives which will support, develop, engage and enable communities through the Programme area, which will complement the Council’s Strategic Plan in similar thematic categories.

4.0 What learning have we derived from the current Peace IV Programme

Some of the important learning taken from the current Programme is that potential Capital Works Projects for Peace Plus should take account of Council’s Capital Programme priorities and that any support which may be required from Council service areas are adequately resourced from the Programme.

The Peace IV Programme on the whole produced positive engagement and participation by individuals and groups throughout the entire Borough along political, religious, gender, ability, age-groups etc, in each DEA, but low levels of engagement still remain throughout some communities. We are cognisant that there is always room for improvement and the opportunity to engage some of those who have never participated in Peace before. Some thought needs to be given to some of those groups who still lack confidence to engage and in some instances the need for intensive single-identity engagement as a form of capacity building may be required. An example of which could be further “buy-in” from all the Institutions in the Key Institutions Programme, including the Orange Order, and wider representation from the GAA.

In other areas, consideration should be given to additional participation from all section 75 groups. A specific programme could be developed to address any potential section 75 gaps, particularly (as an example) in relation to gender and disability as these two Section 75 groups were comparatively under represented compared to the local demographic in the current programme.

In relation to rurality, some DEAs are more rural and less populated than others, but the Programme has advantages and opportunities for all citizens in the Borough and participation levels were equitably distributed on the whole from across rural communities. The Peace programme actively encourage all “rural” champions to support and encourage wider participation in general.

Continued Community Development and support is required around supporting some groups and organisations whose capacity prevents them from taking full advantage of the Programme, and in some instances for example experienced delays in payments such was the administrative burden on their resources around the verification of expenditure.

Considering the Covid-Context in which we live, how will a new Programme innovate in the current climate in terms of ensuring the cross-community contact can be achieved should interruptions or continued restrictions become a feature, how will we rise to the challenge?

The need to ensure from the outset that a comprehensive, cross-cutting, Cross Border Programme. It is worth considering Cross-Border initiatives whether that is through tourism, economic development or sport for example should be considered for a mutually beneficial venture.

5.0 Legacy

The success of the Programme has been evident in some of the legacy projects that have followed, including the Community & Cultural Institutions. This Programme has a natural continuum in the future e.g. The Culture & Languages Programme and Key Institutions Programme. To date some additional Programming has been further developed with additional engagement through council programmes.

These projects have afforded a safe space for dialogue, an opportunity for conversations to take place and most importantly for people to be heard.

In addition to the natural continuation of Programmes, much of the legacy comprises the resources council have created or imparted, such as the Publications through “Understanding Our Area” (Causeway Museums Services), Research (Scoping Study on Community Integration, Shared Space etc.) Training tools and toolkits delivered through Programmes (Youth Leadership etc.) delivery of OCNs in Good Relations, First Aid, Tour Guiding, resources in terms of equipment, the tangible outputs of the re-imaging projects and community gardens in 8 town/villages locations.

6.0 Next Steps

A full Peace Plus Consultation was carried out last year January/February 2020, in which the Partnership. Key stakeholders, including council, the Peace IV Partnership and wider community participated in over a series of events including an SEUPB event at The Lodge Hotel in Coleraine.

The proposed details of the new action plan are based on the results of last year’s consultation and a final consultation of views and opinions of the current plans and associated budgets are currently out for consultation until 12th May.

Full details of the proposed Peace Plus Programme and Consultation can be found <https://www.seupb.eu/PEACEPLUS> and further information is provided within the presentation for committee.



Peace IV – Peace Plus –

Building on our success



PEACE IV - HEADLINES

- All targets and outputs achieved as per the Letter of Offer under 3 Thematic Areas:
- £3.3 m expended
- Add total individual participants 5160
- Total number of organisations engaged – 124 Community Organisations
- S75 Data - 40:45 (CNR:PUL) 5% Other
- 42:58 (Female: Male);
- 11% reported as having or requiring additional needs or support;
- 0.5% total participants from an ethnic minority background

Positives of Peace IV

Successfully delivered with targets and outputs met;

£125,000 of resource allocations invested directly back into grassroots community organisations;

Added programming 'value' augmenting existing council provision;

A wide range of attractive Programmes, "something for everyone";

Positive engagement across the DEAs Borough-Wide.

What we have learnt?

- Ensuring that any new “Capital Works” under Peace Plus are identified on the Capital Works Projects List;
- It was noted that “capacity” for some groups is still an issue, which proves challenging when administering some areas of the Programme which resulted in delays in payments, some of our project partners may have required additional ‘support’, the administrative burden was felt both externally and at Secretariat Level etc;
- Despite overall positive cross-community engagement, there were challenges around engaging some groups/organisations. It may be worth giving consideration to the need to continue to build on capacity in which confidence is still low in some quarters and the provision for initial single-identity work to continue in order to prepare for more meaningful engagement in PeacePlus;
- We managed to recruit a full complement for Programmes, whilst it could be argued that additional cross-community hours could have been factored in beyond the 26 hours per person, it’s fair to remark that COVID would have wreaked havoc;
- The need to have an SLA with the Capital Projects Team ahead of a new Programme;
- Ensuring that from the outset that a well-thought through and cross-cutting Cross-Border Programme is properly considered and devised in order for it to be mutually beneficial for both Partners.

LEGACY

- The success of the Programme has been evident in some of the legacy projects that have followed, in particular from the Community & Cultural Institutions, this Programme has a natural continuum in the future – “let’s build on solid foundations.”

We Invite you to join us for the finale event of Peace IV;

Community Integration & Key Institutions Programmes

Saturday 26th October 2019
at Lissanoure Castle, 12:45pm – 5:30pm

- ❖ Launch of Journey of Change Film and Book
- ❖ Panel discussions & presentations from participants
- ❖ Sample International Cuisine
- ❖ Music, Stories and performance

This event has been supported by the Causeway Coast & Glens Council's PEACE IV Building Positive Relations Programme



Logos at the bottom include: Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council, Peace, Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council, BCRG, crun, EIC, corrymeela, and Peace Northern Ireland - Ireland.



LEGACY

- Resources that have been delivered as a result;
- Publications – Understanding Our Area -Heritage;
- Scoping Studies Mapping Study, Community Integration Study, Shared Space Research;
- OCNs and Training Toolkits– Good Relations, Community Development, Tour Guiding
- Community Space & Equipment;
- Learning, leadership, experiences, the opportunity to be heard;
- Re-imagining projects including sculptures and Community Gardens;

Context of the PEACE PLUS Programme Strategy

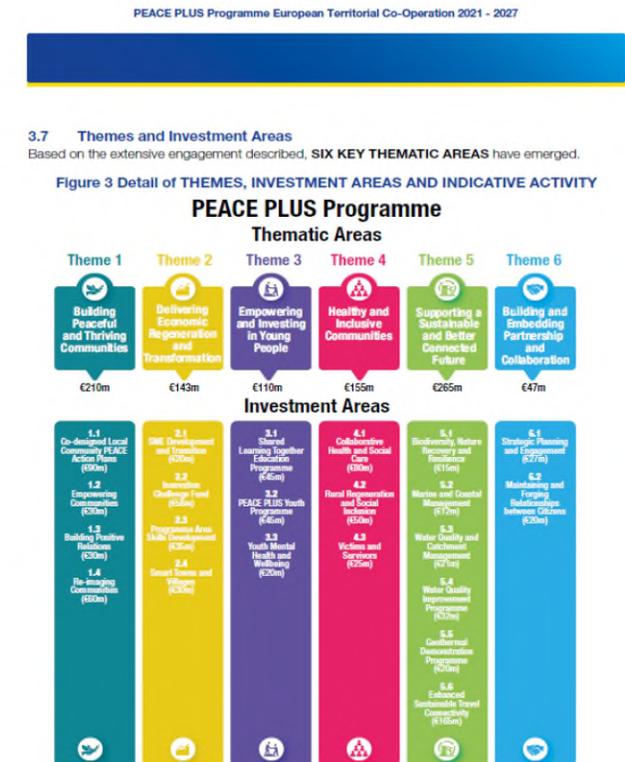
- The overall objective will be to build Peace & Prosperity;
- **The Programme's strategy is to *continue to take the opportunities and address the needs arising from the peace process in order to boost economic growth and stimulate social and economic regeneration and secondly, to promote social inclusion, particularly for those of the margins of economic and social life;***
- The Programme has been developed within the wider political, economic, social and environmental context (set against the backdrop of a Covid/Post-Covid Society).



PEACE PLUS PROGRAMME :Where does the Local Action Plan fit into the Overall Programme?

- The Local Action Plan will fall under Theme 1 “**Building Peaceful and Thriving Communities**” - €210 million

- **1.1 The Local Action Plan (Co-Designed) - €90m**
- *Local Community PEACE PLUS Partnerships will be established for designated cluster areas, it will be designed around the aspect of Community Planning Partnerships;*
- The plans will be centred around 3 core themes:
- 1.Local community regeneration and transformation:
- 2.Thriving and peaceful communities:
- 3.Building respect for all cultural identities;
- Each Local Community PEACE PLUS ***will be resourced to develop a Priority Action Plan for their individual area***, which combined will form an overall PEACE PLUS Action Plan for each of the 17 local authorities.



There are a range of Investment Areas / Specific Objectives associated with each of these Thematic Areas. An indicative budget allocation has been assigned to each Investment Area of the Programme, and each Theme is described over the following pages.

Community Focus in the PEACE PLUS Programme

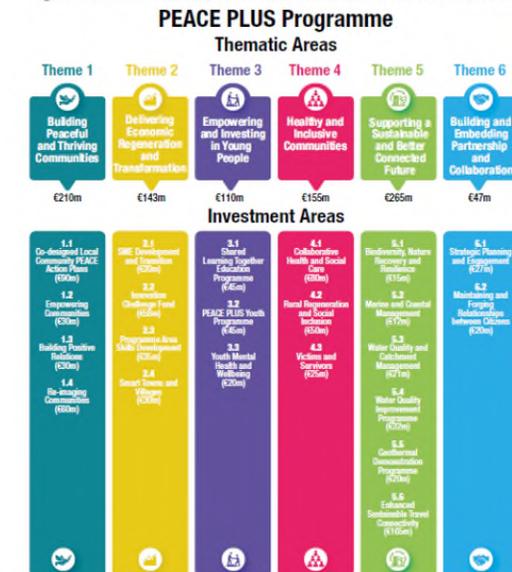
- Each thematic area of the Programme includes a strong community led focus, leading to a more prosperous and “healthy” society.
- The SEUPB have developed the Programme on the basis of actions and initiatives which will support, develop, engage and enable communities through the Programme area.

PEACE PLUS Programme European Territorial Co-Operation 2021 - 2027

3.7 Themes and Investment Areas

Based on the extensive engagement described, **SIX KEY THEMATIC AREAS** have emerged.

Figure 3 Detail of THEMES, INVESTMENT AREAS AND INDICATIVE ACTIVITY



There are a range of Investment Areas / Specific Objectives associated with each of these Thematic Areas. An indicative budget allocation has been assigned to each Investment Area of the Programme, and each Theme is described over the following pages.

What does
this mean?

Opportunities to build on the successes to date from Peace IV e.g., build upon and develop Youth Leadership Opportunities & development of Programming for Community Integration Programme.

Additional opportunities to ensure that we develop an even more inclusive approach to ensure full participation and benefits derived for everyone.

KEY ASPECTS TO PEACE PLUS

- The Consultation Period Closes on May 12th 2021; - this links back into the Consultation that we already helped shape content through stakeholder consultation events and responses in Jan/Feb 2020;
- Preparation Costs for Peace Plus can be claimed from 01-01-2021 (max €100,000);
- Peace Plus Preparation and Peace IV Closure can run concurrently.
- For more information on Peace Plus, please check out
- <https://www.seupb.eu/PEACEPLUS>

