



Title of Report:	PEACEPLUS Local Action Plan Update
Committee Report Submitted To:	Leisure & Development Committee
Date of Meeting:	20 September 2022
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 Community Development Manager

Budgetary Considerations	
Cost of Proposal	
Included in Current Year Estimates	Yes
Capital/Revenue	
Code	
Staffing Costs	N/A

Screening Requirements	Required for new or revised Policies, Plans, Strategies or Service Delivery Proposals.		
Section 75 Screening	Screening Completed:	No	Date: to be completed on an ongoing basis – 1 st iteration on agreement of engagement plan
	EQIA Required and Completed:	No	Date:
Rural Needs Assessment (RNA)	Screening Completed	No	Date: as above
	RNA Required and Completed:	No	Date:
Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)	Screening Completed:	No	Date:
	DPIA Required and Completed:	No	Date:

1.0 Purpose of Report

To provide the Leisure & Development Committee with an update regards progress of the Partnership, the indicative budget allocation in relation to the Local Co-Design Action Plan for CCGBC and Procurement for pre-Programme Consultancy Support.

2.0 Background

On Monday 11th July 2022, the EU Commission formally adopted the PEACEPLUS Programme. This now enables the Special European Programmes Body to move forward to open the Programme for calls during the Autumn months.

The EU regulations pertinent to this programme have been published in draft form by the European Commission. Provision has been made for an indicative budget of approximately €1bn, including proposals from the EU budget, the Government of Ireland, the Northern Ireland Executive and the UK Government.

The PEACE PLUS Programme is a €1bn investment in the social, economic and environmental development of Northern Ireland and the border counties of Ireland. It comprises six themes, which encompass 21 individual investment areas. Theme 1 is 'Building Peaceful and Thriving Communities'.

Under Theme 1.1 there are 'Co-designed Local Community PEACE Action Plans' with a figure of €110m spread across the participating local councils in Northern Ireland and the County Councils along the border counties. Whilst approved and adopted by the EU Commission on 11th July 2022, further detailed guidance will then follow to councils from the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB).

The overall objective of the PEACE PLUS Programme will be to build Peace and Prosperity and ensure that this Programme will leave a lasting and tangible legacy. In CCGBC it is our desire that PEACEPLUS will build on the positives and successes from Peace IV and will use new opportunities to innovate where possible.

Based on the extensive engagement described, SIX KEY THEMATIC AREAS have emerged. The Co-Designed Local Community Peace Action Plans) (€90million) (1.1) fall under "BUILDING PEACEFUL and THRIVING COMMUNITIES."

3.0 PEACE PLUS Partnership

In February 2022, the Council approved the nomination of 11 Elected Members to the PeacePlus Partnership under D'hondt, Nominations were submitted by the Party Leads and a PeacePlus workshop was held on Wednesday 23rd March 2022. The elected members are as follows: -

Alderman Fielding
Councillor Nicholl
Alderman Baird
Councillor Anderson
Councillor Schenning
Alderman Knight McQuillan
Councillor McKeown
Councillor Wallace
Councillor McMullan
Councillor MA McKillop
Additional Sinn Fein place to be filled

In March 2022 Council then approved to recruit 11 Social Partners for the Partnership with 2 seats to be protected for a Youth and Section 75 seat respectively this process has now completed. The Social Partners recruited are as follows:

Karen Campbell	Roe Valley Residents Association
Bonny Cooper	China Connections
Patricia Crossley	Independent
Karen Heaney	Independent
Mairead McCormack	Glenshane Development Association Naturally North Coast
Shauna McFall	
Ann McNickle	Causeway Rural Urban Network
Patricia McQuillan	Moneydig Community Association
Jordan Moffet	East End FC
Marion Walker	Cedar Foundation
Youth Seat	TBC

Three reserve candidates have also been selected.

The Statutory Partners who make representation to this Partnership include:

Deirdre Bradley	Education Authority
Louise Clarke	NIHE
Tracy Colgan	PHA
Deborah Hunter	WHSCT
Wendy Nixon	PSNI

Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council officers from relevant service areas will also provide guidance for the benefit of the partnership.

The Partnership hosted its first meeting on Tuesday 21st June, chaired by Councillor Philip Anderson and welcomed by the Mayor Councillor Ivor Wallace. From September onwards meetings will be held monthly, and governance papers will be brought to the October meeting for approval, all minutes and agenda can be found on the Council's PEACEPLUS Portal, due to be operational imminently.

4.0 PEACE PLUS Co Design Action Plan

On 26th July 2022, the Chief Executive Officer of the Special European Programmes Body wrote to the Chief Executive of Causeway Coast and Glens to advise of the financial allocation for the PEACEPLUS Co-Design Action Plan for Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council.

The figure represents the maximum amount that can be allocated to our plan. The award will be subject to the amount of money requested by the PEACEPLUS Partnership and will be subject to a full assessment process before being presented to a Steering Committee for decision.

€6,777,244.00 (£5,699,540.40) at 100% of the costs for the Local Action Plan.

The Letter of Offer Issued for PEACE IV was £3.8 million

Conscious of the Co-Design way the Programme will be developed, we are acutely aware to identify and make use of relevant baseline information, so a Socio-Economic Analysis against the background of the PEACEPLUS Strategy and other relevant strategies has been commissioned to support need and identify gaps and or interventions.

It is hoped that the Community Consultation along DEA lines will commence in late September and continue throughout the Autumn, to engage with communities around priority projects that they believe could be delivered in a Co-Design manner under PEACEPLUS.

An indicative timeline:

- a. Mid-Autumn - Publication of guidance/call for applications by the SEUPB.

- b. Agree Co-Design Processes including project selection, framework for the development of each plan (Autumn 2022) (Consultation will take place in tandem).
- c. Submission of final Plan February 2023.
- d. Letter of Offer expected Summer 2023 .

5.0 Next Steps

Officers will commence procurement for consultancy support, funded at 100% by SEUPB to assist in the research, development and submission of the Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Local Co-Designed Action Plan, thereby making the co-design process and submission of plan more efficient given the timeline for submission. Staff will continue to facilitate public/stakeholder consultation which will be ongoing.