



Derry City and Strabane District PEACEPLUS Partnership Board

Meeting Date: Tuesday 8th April 2025
Time: **10.00am – 11.30am**
Venue: Glenelly Room, DCSDC Offices, Strabane.

AGENDA ITEM

1. Meeting Opening (Chair Catherine /Co-Chair Martin)

1.1 Welcome and Apologies

Welcome online to Ciarán Hanna (SEUPB) and to Clare Wilson, our new Finance Officer (starts 1st May) and to our Stitch In Time (CRT) Project Guest Speaker – Amanda McDermott, GDI.
A quick round of introductions?

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.

2. Guest presentation followed by Q&A opportunity.

Amanda McDermott, Glen Development Initiative, CRT Theme 'A Stitch In Time' project.

3. Update from PEACE Team (Sue)

3.1 Update from SEUPB

Input from Ciarán Hanna (online), introducing his role and any current points of interest.
Opportunity for Q&A with the Board.

KPMG are top of the Auditor/Controller call off list – the process is underway to appoint them.

'Changemakers Funds' (Small Grants under measures 1.2 and 6.2) held two community information sessions in the DCSDC area in March. Funding will open around end of April. Groups can register directly with Co-operation Ireland for support and updates.

TEO have asked for a list of dates of PEACEPLUS events April – June for potential ministerial visits.

3.2 General update on PEACE Team work

HR/Recruitment: Clare Wilson has been appointed as the new Finance Officer and will begin on 1st May. Connor Crawford has been formally appointed in a temporary contract to end June as clerical/administrative support until end June 25 to cover this transition period.

PEACEPLUS Procurement: The 2 final tenders, Ballyarnett Early Years and Ballyarnett Women's Programme, are appointable and will be ratified at April Committee. Procurement are reporting some difficulties with the new UK tenders legislation since 24th February preventing/complicating links to the OJEU and the RoI E-tenders service – we have asked SEUPB to advise. DCSDC need a solution for this for the 2 SLA projects which still need to do capital procurements.

April and May: Focus is on completing sign off of any remaining pre-contract checks and contracts. Most of this, barring the final two, will be complete pre-Easter. Team are also following through on appointment of Controller Function – KPMG are in discussions with SEUPB at present. PEACE Team will have a spring focus on 'onboarding' the newest projects successfully – one more mandatory training session scheduled for Thursday 29th May (Strabane) and one bespoke IT support/Evaluation and Monitoring Focused Workshop (w/c 19th May). Many projects are not yet uploading their cross-community % splits or their reporting tab of anonymised participants – further messaging to projects is required on this to be able to monitor the programme effectively. Probably some kind of a projects networking meeting in June. We are also learning JEMS and compiling the first claim.

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

4.1 Tenders Update: Confidential (processes to be fully ratified in April 2025)

If you have any conflicts of interest, please leave the room for this update.

Theme	Tender
TPC	T25-009BUS PEACEPLUS Ballyarnett Early Years Project (Re-issue)
TPC	T25-008BUS PEACEPLUS Ballyarnett Women's Programme (Re-issue)

Recommendation: That the Board should note the outcomes of the assessment panels and the decisions sent to council for ratification.

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

5.1 Steering Group Update (Chair: Gerard Deane)

Group met Tuesday 11th March in Holywell. Steering group noted the recruitment updates. Significant conversation had around IT support/Evaluation and Monitoring – agreement that the team should organise a bespoke optional training session on this for projects which require support. Group discussed the KPMG audit/controller function extensively and noted some concerns about potential cost impact depending on what figure comes back. The steering group sought (and received) reassurances that projects already contracted will not be impacted. If the

cost provided is not within allocated budgets, then the flat rate overheads would take the first financial hit (within reason).

The potential content approach to next Magazine was discussed and agreed that distribution (hard copy) would be around community and public venues. Group also discussed pros and cons to taking Board Meetings out to different venues ie. Funded project locations, so that Board could see CRT and other projects on site. The downside will be the potential lack of connectivity for hybrid meetings, but the positives will be increased Board engagement and understanding of funded projects. It was agreed that moving board meetings overall would be positive.

Recommendation: Board Meetings (and potentially steering group meetings) should be held in a range of venues where PEACEPLUS has funded projects.

5.2 Team and Traffic Lights Update (Mary Claire/Fiona)

- See Appendix E Feb/March25 press coverage + 43 tracked items of press coverage from projects launches and events to date.
- Verbal briefing on a minor change request from Newtownstewart 'Our Space, Our Place' project.
- Presentation of the draft Mid-Way Progress report (template for use with projects).
- CRT projects update. See traffic lights. Mary Claire / Fiona will talk the board through specific project updates.

6. TPC (Thriving Peaceful Communities Theme) Update

6.1 Steering Group Update (Chair: Alison Wallace)

Group met Wednesday 5th March in the Shared Future Centre. It was noted by members that there was limited attendance at this steering group. The Steering group looked in depth at the monitoring and evaluation systems which projects have to complete so as to gain a fuller understanding of the systems and potential training/support needs.

They also discussed the layout of the traffic lights to gain full understanding of what the information contained in them is showing. They took in an overview of the TPC theme projects – discussing how each individual project is progressing and were content with the progress to date on all projects. They encouraged the PEACE Team to try to raise awareness amongst some projects of the usefulness of linking with Local Growth Partnerships as some projects are more aware of those structures than others. They were supportive of Board and potentially steering group meetings rotating around a range of venues.

Recommendation: To encourage attendance at future steering group meetings.

6.2 Traffic Lights Update (Mary Claire / Fiona)

See traffic lights. Mary Claire / Fiona will talk the board through specific project updates.

7. CCD (Celebrating Cultural Diversity Theme)

7.1 CCD Workplan Update (Chair: Sharon Doherty)

Group met in the Shared Future Centre on Thursday 13th March. As with other steering groups, there was discussion to understand the auditing/control function process just being begun and the evaluation and monitoring systems in place. Group were keen to understand what happens if the auditing/control cost comes in over budget. They also noted the positive media coverage from projects attached to the steering group papers. Now that we've moved from the procurement to delivery phase, the steering group noted the level of detail and additional information that is now available in the traffic lights. The steering group also discussed a helpful meeting that had been held the night previously on the WNP BAME 'Out and About' project – with collaboration between WNP, Fuse Arts and the PEACE Team to assist with connections to the BAME voluntary sector and project delivery.

7.2 Traffic Lights Update (Mary Claire / Fiona)

See traffic lights. Mary Claire / Fiona will talk board through specific project updates.

8. Meeting Closing

8.1 AOB

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

The next Board Meeting is Tuesday 10th June. Venue TBC – taking Board meeting 'on the road'. This may mean that Hybrid Meeting / online attendance cannot be guaranteed to function.

Steering Groups: CRT 13th May 10am TRIAX Offices, Creggan.
TPC 7th May 10am Strabane, Glenelly Room (TBC)
CCD 8th May 10am Shared Future Centre

Derry City and Strabane District PEACEPLUS Partnership Board

Minutes of Meeting

Meeting Date: Tuesday 11th February 2025
 Time: 10.30am-11.30am
 Venue: Glenelly Room, DCSDC Offices, Strabane

Sue Divin	DCSDC	Claire Russell	Sperrin
Mary Claire Kerlin	DCSDC	Brian Harte	SF
Connor Crawford	DCSDC	Sharon Doherty	St. Columb's Pk Recon Trust
Declan Gallagher	EA	Noelle Donnell	Hummingbird (NI) CIC
Marie Gallagher	Dept of Communities	Dominic Bonner	YouthActionNI
Mary O'Neill	NI Housing Executive	Nikki Yau	FREF
Jacki Connolly	Ballyarnett	Declan Norris	SDLP
Aodhán Harkin	Strabane	Christopher Jackson*	SF
Gus Hastings	Faughan	Gerard Deane*	Holywell Trust
Martin Duffy	Derg	Ruairi McHugh*	SF
Patricia Logue*	SF	Catherine Cooke	
Martin Reilly*	SDLP		

*Members who attended online

1 Meeting Opening

1.1 Welcome and Apologies

Apologies received from Aisling Hutton, Fiona Lafferty, Ciarán Hanna

Ciarán Hanna (SEUPB) was scheduled to attend but sends his apologies due to the half-term break. He will be present at the 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.

None were declared.

1.3 Minutes of Previous meeting/Matters arising - Board meeting of December 2024 were held to be an accurate record.

1.4 Chair / Co-Chair Positions

The positions of chair and co-chair were discussed. Routinely these posts are for 1 year but both Catherine and Martin have been in post since September 2023. After discussion the Board unanimously agreed to keep them in the roles until the first board meeting in Autumn 2025..

Proposed: Gus Hastings

Seconded: Claire Russell

2. Guest Presentation

Francine Moran – NWRC ‘Inspire, Enthuse, Equip’ project (TPC theme) and ‘Green Clubs’ project (CRT theme). The presentation focused more on Inspire, Enthuse, Equip as Green Clubs is just starting. Francine delivered a powerpoint presentation detailing where both projects are currently at. She noted that there are significant opportunities for the local community and voluntary sector to receive free, accredited training in community development (and related areas like facilitation, volunteering etc). Board members may wish to pass information on to their constituencies. She explained that the ‘Green Clubs’ concept has its origins in the GAA Green Clubs initiative and has a framework a bit like mentoring to help sports clubs bring sustainability into the mainstream of their operations. The PEACEPLUS project is open to 10 sports clubs of any sports.

- Aidan asked if there were plans to deliver courses in Strabane, Francine made it clear they were hoping to do so. Sue suggested that Strabane area groups could collaborate and seek a course which, provided there was also cross-community engagement, would most meet the needs of a range of groups in that area.
- Dominic asked about the possibility of having Level 3 youth work included. He noted the big gap between level 2 and 3 in this and how vital upskilling participants to Level 3 was. Francine stated that level 2 was what was realistic within their budgets. Sue made a point that the NWRC tender actually went above and beyond, with most content aiming for OCN Level 2s instead of Level 1s, which would have been the cheaper and easier option.
- Claire asked about the geographical spread of delivery – did it include rural areas? Francine confirmed it was a council wide initiative. Sue reiterated that Board members could be active in their constituencies/areas encouraging groups to collaborate, especially cross-community collaboration, to request particular training opportunities for their area. Local Growth partnership representatives on the board could be crucial in this.
- Sue mentioned the importance for other projects to promote Inspire Enthuse Equip due to the struggling employment rates of the youth in this sector; the more participants, the more youth would be working in the sector.

- Declan questioned the criteria and age needed to attend the course, Francine stated there was no prior experience of working within these OCN fields needed.
- Gus clarified if the awarding body is OCN. Yes.
- Sharon asked when the community development course starts – March/April. The level 3 longer course will be September. (The Board noted SCRA are doing a Community development course at the minute).

The Board seemed eager for the project to have some great impacts and highly praised Francine's presentation and efforts to date on delivery. Francine left the meeting afterwards.

3. Update from PEACE Team (Sue)

3.1 Update on SEUPB

Our Case Officer, Ciarán Hanna will join us online at our next meeting as he was unable to attend. He sent a written update on Auditing/First Control (no formal update from SEUPB as yet), JEMS claims (financial claims can be submitted but cannot be paid until auditing is in place. Guidance will be available soon), and CPD progress with two CRT SLA projects. 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. There was discussion about SEUPB attendance at future meetings.

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. Members agreed to invite Ciarán Hanna to alternate Board meetings.

Action: Team to invite SEUPB Case Officer to alternative Board Meetings.

3.2 General update on PEACE Team work

Sue provided the following update from the team

HR/Recruitment: Since the end of January, Gemma Scarlett has transitioned to a new role with the NHS in Birmingham. Her departure represents a significant loss to the team, particularly in terms of financial operations and the coordination of evaluation and monitoring activities. The position was initially advertised internally, but no candidate was selected. It is now being opened up externally, with the application deadline set for Monday, February 24th at 4 p.m. Additionally, recruitment for temporary clerical and administrative support, lasting until June 2025, is currently underway.

PEACEPLUS Procurement: Two outstanding tenders, issued for the third time, remain in progress. These are for the Ballyarnett Early Years and Ballyarnett Women's Programme projects, both due to close on March 7th. If suitable candidates are found, the decisions will be confirmed at the April Committee. However, if the tenders are not appointable, they may be affected by new UK legislation, with the full implications and timelines yet to be clarified. PEACE Managers Meeting: On January 28th, the PEACE team hosted an informal session for the NI & RoI Council's PEACE Managers Forum. This meeting also coincided with other managers observing our project training, providing an excellent opportunity for networking.

Gus questioned if the team are able to help out the projects with the tender process. Sue confirmed that the team is not allowed legally as it would be a conflict of interest.

Members discussed how strict the tender marking process is. If a project fails on one stage they fail the tender.

Dominic Bonner gave apologies and left the meeting for another engagement.

February and March: The primary focus has been on finalizing pre-contract checks and completing the remaining e-tender processes, with the aim of ensuring the programme is nearly fully contracted by the end of the financial year, before Easter. Pending SEUPB approval, the goal is to start reporting and submitting claims on JEMS and to appoint a Controller. Efforts are also underway to promote the Changemakers small grants initiative.

4. Confidential update on Tender Assessments.

Sue gave the Board updates on the Tender Assessments

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

Sue noted that the team, so far, have run 82 tender exercises to get 58 projects over the line. That's an average of 1.42 tender ads/processes per contract awarded. The Board noted the high volume of work involved in this and expressed appreciation for the team.

Sue provided an overview on the following Key information.

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)

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

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.

Sue then informed members of the following tenders:

Members were told that if they cannot appoint, they will be affected by the new UK legislation. If they can appoint, the decision is ratified at the April committee, and pre-contract checks are done 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

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

5.2 CRT workplan update (PEACE Team)

Management Workplan: The HR/Recruitment update has been provided. The Board will observe that the traffic light system has been revamped as we transition into the delivery phase. Regarding evaluation and monitoring, all active projects now have access to their SharePoint folders and Excel tracking sheets. While most of the process has been progressing smoothly, some teams and projects are still addressing certain issues. By now, all contracted projects were expected to have submitted bi-monthly reports to familiarize themselves with the system. The next round of bi-monthly reports is set for submission at the end of February, with groups required to include the reporting tab of the Excel monitoring sheet for the first time. The PEACE Team is currently familiarizing themselves with the back-end systems to gather data for the Board and programme management.

Communications Workplan: The mandatory training for groups took place on Tuesday, 28th January. A follow-up session is scheduled for 25th February. SEUPB has updated their logo, which will impact us as the lead partner and affect our projects moving forward. Additional e-zines were released in December and January. We will hold off on the next magazine release until all projects have been contracted. We are also in the process of ordering more branded merchandise—likely pens, seed sticks, and mints. Please refer to the press coverage in the Appendix for more details.

CRT Workplan: Members were made aware to refer to the traffic lights for the latest updates on CRT Workplan implementation. Mary Claire has already provided the Board with details on the specific projects and the new traffic light layout. The Board was given the opportunity to ask questions. A reminder of the Policy on Support to Groups is included for reference.

No Questions were asked by the board.

6. TPC (Thriving Peaceful Communities Theme) Update

6.1 TPC Workplan Update (PEACE Team / MaryClaire)

Board referred to the traffic lights for updates on the TPC Workplan implementation. Mary Claire walked the Board through the specific projects and the new traffic light layout. The Board was

encouraged to ask any questions. A reminder of the Policy on Support to Groups has been included.

No Questions were asked by the board.

7. CCD (Celebrating Cultural Diversity Theme)

7.1 CCD Workplan Update (PEACE Team / MaryClaire)

Board referred to the traffic lights for updates on the CCD Workplan implementation. MaryClaire talked the Board through the specific projects and the new traffic light layout. The Board was encouraged to ask any questions. A reminder of the Policy on Support to Groups has been included.

No Questions were asked by the board.

8. Meeting Closing

8.1 AOB

A reminder was given to Board Members whose travel expenses have not been claimable elsewhere, can claim expenses for attending meetings. Any claims for 24-25 have been due before the Financial Year end.

Aodhán raised a point of AOB around concerns on the Strabane Youth Project. He noted that the group appointed to the tender, to the best of his knowledge have not yet engaged with the Strabane Local Partnership. There was discussion around this.

ACTION: It was agreed that the PEACE team would work to get Kinship Care to present information to the Strabane Local Growth Partnership / relevant groups in the Strabane area.

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

Appendix A: Board Member's Attendance 2024/25

Statutory Pillar		1/24	3/24	6/24	10/24	12/24	2/25
William Calderwood (d. Shannagh Farren)	PSNI				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	
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
Martin Duffy (d. Andy McKane)	Derg	x	x	x	x	x	x
Aodhán Harkin (d.Ursula Doherty)	Strabane	x		x	x		x
Gus Hastings (d.Martin McCartney)	Faughan	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
Alison Wallace (d.Geraldine Doherty)	Waterside	x		x	x	x	
Lisa Moore-Maguire (d. Jim McColgan)	Foyleside	x	x	x	x		
Elected Representatives Pillar							
Aisling Hutton	SF		x	x			
Ruairi McHugh	SF	x	x		x	x	x
Brian Harte	SF		x				x
Christopher Jackson	SF	x	x		x	x	x
Patricia Logue	SF	N/A	N/A		x	x	x
Grace Uí Niallais	SF	x	x	x		x	
Martin Reilly	SDLP	x				x	x
Declan Norris	SDLP	x			x	x	x
Brian Tierney	IND	x					
Chelsea Cooke	DUP	x	x	x	x	x	
Darren Guy	UUP			x			
Paul Gallagher	IND	N/A	N/A				
Social Partners Pillar							
Gerard Deane (d. Fiona Corvan)	Holywell	x	x		x	x	x
Catherine Cooke (d. Bethany Moore)	FWIN	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	
Chris McDonagh	BBi	x		x	x	x	
Nikki Yau (d. Agnieszka Luczak)	FREF	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
-------------	--------------------	-----------------------------	---------------	-------------------------

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	A.Wallace, S.Doherty, D. 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	D.Moore, K.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	D.Moore, K.Thompson	Muintearas	
Our Space, Our Place	Martin Duffy	IDEA		Our Journey to Peace	Derek Moore, Kyle Thompson
Derg Future Festivals	Martin Duffy	F.Y.I. Foyleside Youth Initiative	Lisa Moore-Maguire	Fit for Purpose	
Street Art Reimaging	Charles Lamberton	Be Wild		Our Present Past	G. Deane, D.Moore, K.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	CF. Alexander Celeb.	Aódhan Harkin
		Arts & Collaborative Resilience		LGBTQIA+ Awareness	
		Ballyarnett Early Year's Project	Jacki Connolly	Victims/Survivors 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 E – A sample of recent February/March 2025 press coverage from various projects. IDEA Project (TPC) 24th March, Derry News.

NEWS

WWW.DERRYNOW.COM FOR DERRY NEWS AS IT HAPPENS

Groundbreaking new community arts initiative launched in Derry

A groundbreaking new community arts initiative, Dialogue Engaging Arts (IDEA), has been launched, bringing people together through the universal language of music and dance.

Led by ArtsEkta, Northern Ireland's leading arts organisation and delivered through Derry City and Strabane District Council's PEACEPLUS Local Co-Designed Action Plan under the Thriving and Peaceful Communities Theme, this transformative project will unite communities across Derry, Strabane, and Donegal, fostering connection, cultural exchange, and creative expression.

Supported by PEACEPLUS, a programme managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB), IDEA is designed to break down barriers, promote diversity, and inspire a new generation of peace-builders through the arts.

The initiative will engage schools, youth groups, and care settings, empowering participants of all backgrounds to explore and celebrate cultural heritage through collaborative performances and artistic workshops.

The project kicked off with a colourful launch event at The Playhouse Theatre on March 19, featuring vibrant performances from professional musicians and dancers, including Martin Coyle, Aileen McGinn and the South Asian Dance Academy.

Throughout the project, participants will embark on a 4- to 15-week immersive arts experience, culminating in live showcases and celebration events.

These performances will not only highlight the artistic talent of our communities but also serve as a testament to the power of cultural collaboration in fostering lasting relationships.

With a strong commitment to inclusivity, IDEA is open to people of all ages and backgrounds. Whether you are a student, a young performer, an elder in a care setting, or simply someone who believes in the power of the arts to heal and unite, this project is for you.

TRANSCEND DIFFERENCES
Dr. Nisha Tandon OBE, CEO of ArtsEkta, said: "Music and dance have the power to transcend differences, bringing people together in ways that words often cannot.

"With the IDEA programme, we are creating a space where communities can connect, learn, and celebrate diversity. This project is about more than performance—it's about building lasting relationships, fostering understanding, and inspiring a shared vision for the future."

ArtsEkta are now recruiting schools, youth organisations, community groups, and individuals who want to take part in this exciting project. This is your chance to step into the rhythm of unity, express yourself through music and dance, and build friendships that transcend borders.



Cllr Caitlyn Deenoy is pictured at the launch of the PEACEPLUS IDEA arts project, led by ArtsEkta and supported by Derry City and Strabane District Council, alongside ArtsEkta CEO Nisha Tandon, Project Officer Fiona Lafferty, musicians Martin Coyle and Aileen McGinn, and Sanjana Sujay and Tulika Nahar from the South Asian Dance Academy.

Farming and Environmental Champions (TPC) 5th March Strabane Weekly

Family Farm Health event taking place in Ballymagorry

A FAMILY Farm Health event will be held in Floyd's of Ballymagorry this Monday night, March 10, at 7.30pm.

A spokesperson said: "This event will be an opportunity for farm families to try out some treatments and therapies as well as accessing information on health and wellbeing.

"A number of local organisations will have information about help and support on various issues."

The event is part of the Farming and Environmental Champions project delivered by Hummingbird (NI) CIC in conjunction with Frog CIC, two local organisations with extensive experience in farming and the environment.

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

(DCSDC) PEACEPLUS Local Co-Designed Action Plan under the Thriving and Peaceful Communities Theme.

The Farming and Environmental project is engaging with the network of community-based and farmer groups across the DCSDC district and on a cross-border basis in East Donegal to deliver a series of best practices visits, identifying gaps, challenges and opportunities.

The spokesperson added: "Derry and Strabane District Council's Local Growth Plan highlights the importance and uniqueness of district environmental heritage and impact of climate change, especially in the Sperrins.

"In 2019, there were 17,71 farms in DCSDC area, but this is the first time the farming community have had a tailored project included in the Derry City and Strabane District Council's local PEACE action plan."

Out and About (BAME) Project Launch – Derry News, 27th February 2025.



Reimage-Recycle Project Launch – 20th February, Derry News.



£127,000 peace project to support local cross-community initiatives

LOCAL communities in the Strabane area are celebrating the launch of a £127,000 PEACEPLUS project, aimed at empowering residents to design and carry out their own cross-community projects.

The initiative, which forms part of the Derry City and Strabane District Council's Local Co-Designed PEACEPLUS Action Plan, is being delivered by Strabane and District Caring Services (SDCS).

PEACEPLUS, a cross-border funding program, is supported by the European Union, the UK government, the Irish government, and the Northern Ireland administration. The program is designed to promote peace and prosperity across the North and the border counties of Ireland.

Speaking about the project, Jacqui Timoney, Company Manager at Strabane and District Caring Services, expressed excitement following

a successful launch event. "We're thrilled to bring the Empowered Communities project to Strabane and the surrounding areas," she said.

"This initiative will encourage collaboration and positive change by bringing different communities and cultures together."

"It's all about giving local people a voice and helping them turn their ideas into action."

The project, which focuses on the themes of wellbeing, connectedness, and empowerment, aims to create lasting relationships between diverse communities.

Sue Divin, the council's PEACE Programme Manager, emphasized the importance of the project's objectives. She said, "It's about building and sustaining connections between different people and communities, and giving them the opportunity to work together on projects that will make a tangible difference."



Pictured at the launch of the £127,000 PEACEPLUS project are Chris McDaid, Strabane District Caring Services community development officer, Fiona Lafferty, Derry City and Strabane District Council, Jackie Timoney, Strabane District Caring Services company manager and Paul Maxwell, PEACEPLUS.

DR23

Available

Everyone welcome to come join us group meet at the Family Resource Raphoe Men's Shed - The Men's to someone else in their household. The purpose of the scheme is to

Stitch In Time (CRT Project) – 13th Feb 25, Derry News.

EST. 2001

DerryNews

@DerryNow

www.derrynews.com

£1.80

Thursday, February 13, 2025

Consultation launched on future of Rosemount Factory

'Groundbreaking': Community consultation could lead to transformation of the area - Glen Development Initiative

Brendan McGilligan
brendan.mcgilligan@iconicnews.ie

A community consultation regarding the future of the old Rosemount Factory has been launched, which could lead to a 'groundbreaking' transformation of the area.

Glen Development Initiative (GDI) will lead the consultation on behalf of the other community groups, The Village Hub and Ballymagroarty Hazelbank Community Partnership, in which they will look to determine the needs within the area and to assess the viability of purchasing the Rosemount Factory.

Dermot O'Hara from Glen

Development Initiative said: "We have had meetings with the owners of the factory, and they are saying to us in principle that it is a new concept for them and they would be happy enough to look at us taking over the factory, taking ownership of it, or working in partnership with them, so part of this consultation will explore those options as well, but we are asking people to feel free and welcome them to be part of this process."

"We want to hear people's opinions, what the needs of the community are, and we want people to be involved in it."

SEE PAGE THREE FOR FULL STORY

POPULAR DERRY FILMMAKER VINNY CUNNINGHAM LAID TO REST



Derry City Brandywell Pride Supporters' Club members carrying the coffin of filmmaker Vinny Cunningham as it makes its way to St. Mary Church, for Requiem Mass. PHOTO: Tom Heaney, mwpresspics.

Waterside Neighbourhood Partnership to launch Waterside Together festival

The Waterside Neighbourhood Partnership has announced the official launch of Waterside Together, a shared space festival and events project, which aims to transform spaces that are perceived as belonging to the 'other community' into shared spaces that are open, welcoming, and safe for all members of the Waterside community.

Programmes will be delivered in parks, greenways and community spaces targeting a range of participants including families, children and young people, older people, and members of the BAME community.

Part of the programme will be a shared space festival that promotes the communal usage of the green infrastructure in the Waterside and which encourages the movement of people to areas that they would not usually use for recreational purposes.

The launch event will take place from 12-3pm on Saturday, February 22, at the Irish Street Community Centre on Bann Drive, BT47 2HJ,

with a range of events to suit everyone.

In Your Space Circus will be performing their Circus Skills Workshop for children of all ages. In Your Space Circus is a circus school and street theatre company, which works with artists (local, national and international) with a wide range of skills. This is a drop-in event, no booking necessary, and it is completely free.

There will be arts and crafts station where artist facilitator Sinéad Crumlish will work with participants to weave a nature loom using natural materials such as reeds and branches and children of all ages are invited to come along and make styrofoam prints using natural materials.

Adults are invited to avail of a hot drink and snack provided by The Coffee Cart, grab a warm blanket provided, and take a seat with forager and folklorist Aoife de Bháil of Fálróid, who will be doing a talk and walk titled Wild food, folk customs and wonderful weeds, where participants are invited to



Aoife de bháil Fálróid.

take part in a discussion on the traditions of harvesting wild food. Participants will learn about some of the common species which can be used for food or medicine and the folklore they have inspired over generations. You will never look at 'weeds' the same again!

Aoife de Bháil is a Gaeilgeoir, forager and folklorist from Béal Feirste. Aoife runs Fálróid, which

means 'to ramble' in Irish. Fálróid aims to connect people with the natural world and each other, through wild food, stories and the Irish language.

As part of the programme's theme of shared green spaces, we will also welcome Kidz Farm, who will bring an interactive farm experience to the Waterside. Bring the kids along to meet a selection of animals: rabbits, guinea pigs, ducks, chickens, a snake, bearded dragon, hedgehog, rats, tortoise, lamb and goat!

A spokesperson said: "We'll have some straw bales set up for parents to sit and keep an eye on the children as they get to know their new furry friends. We will also have a soft play area for your little tots so there will be something for everyone."

"In case of rain, we will have a marquee set up, as well as use of the Irish Street Community Centre, so we'll be there to welcome you, rain or shine!"

Project Officer for Derry City and Strabane District Council, Mary Claire Kerlin said: "We're delighted

to see communities within the Waterside area continue to work together so strategically to make a difference for everyone who lives there. The Waterside Together programme is one of our larger projects. It aims to regenerate and animate local spaces and places, reaching around 300 people with a series of festivals and events programming. The positivity and energy which can be generated when people from diverse identities work together is powerful. Derry City and Strabane District Council is delighted to fund this project through our Local PEACEPLUS Action Plan."

Strategic Manager for Waterside Neighbourhood Partnership, Alison Wallace, said: "We are so pleased to be delivering such an important PEACEPLUS project within the heart of the Waterside area and bringing together members of the Protestant, Catholic and BAME communities, and encouraging people of all ages to come together and enjoy the breadth of green spaces that are available."

Tracked 43 items of Press Coverage to date.

18/05/2022	Strabane Weekly News	P19 – Communities encouraged to engage now in local PEACEPLUS co-design process
19/05/2022	Londonderry Sentinel	P17 – PeacePlus Partnership board established by DCSDC to oversee funding programme
14/07/2022	Londonderry Sentinel	P9 – Communities are invited to submit ideas for Peaceplus
14/09/2023	Derry News	P19 – Communities thanked for role in Co-Design of PEACEPLUS funding bid
18/10/2023	Strabane Weekly News	p.35 Communities thanked for role in Co design of Peace plus funding bid with image of M
25/03/2024	Derry News	P.8 - £8m PEACEPLUS funding secured for Derry and Strabane Council
26/03/2024	Derry Journal	P.19 - £8m secured for Derry and Council (PeacePlus Funding announcement)
28/03/2024	Londonderry Sentinel	P.5 - £8m secured for Derry and Strabane Council – first Council to be awarded PeacePlus f
27/03/2024	Strabane Weekly News	P17- £8m PEACE funding secured for DCSDC area
10/06/2024	Derry Journal	Page 5 – Council and communities celebrate launch of £8million PeacePlus programme
07/06/2024	Highland Radio	Local Peace Launch a hugely important milestone
12/06/2024	Strabane Weekly News	P27- Council and communities celebrate launch of £8m PEACEPLUS programme
09/07/2024	Derry Journal	P6- 'A Stitch in Time' project launch
24/07/2024	Strabane Weekly News	Page 12 – Owenkillew Development Company to deliver 'Our Space, Our Place' project for I
29/07/2024	Derry News	Pages 12&13 – NW Migrants Forum Family Fun Day – Mayor in attendance
30/07/2024	Derry Journal	Page 4 – Migrants Forum to Open an 'Intercultural Café'
08/08/2024	Derry News	Page 9 – Migrants Forum to open 'Intercultural Café' following PeacePlus announcement
12/08/2024	Derry News	Page 9 – Currynierin and Tullyally communities to have greater say in neighbourhood deve
13/08/2024	Derry Journal	Page 17 – Currynierin and Tullyally urged 'Dare to Dream' (PeacePlus funding)
15/08/2024	Londonderry Sentinel	Page 9 - Currynierin and Tullyally urged 'Dare to Dream' (PeacePlus funding)
24/09/2024	Derry Journal	Page 2 – In Your Space outdoor project launched
25/09/2024	Strabane Weekly News	Page 29 – New PeacePlus Farming and Environmental Champions Project to launch
26/09/2024	Derry News	Page 1&3 – New addiction service for Derry (Freedom Project – Journey of Hope)
02/10/2024	Strabane Weekly News	Page 8 – Green light for NWRCD's new sports club initiative – PeacePlus funding
26/09/2024	Ulster Herald	Page 28 – Launch of new 'Farming and Environmental Champions' Project in Donemana– P
23/10/2024	Strabane Weekly News	Page 14 – Launch of new PeacePlus Derg Future Festivals project
07/11/2024	Strabane Weekly News	Page 8 – 200 rural children to benefit from new programme supporting transition to secon
13/11/2024	Strabane Weekly News	Page 13 – YouthAction NI launch new youth PeacePlus programme
14/11/2024	Derry News	Page 9 – YouthActionNI launch new PeacePlus Programme
25/11/2024	Derry News	Page 4 – Creative community development project launched in Waterside area – PeacePlus
27/11/2024	Strabane Weekly News	Page 47 – PeacePlus funds new intergenerational programme
17/12/2024	Derry Journal	Page 11 - NWRCD launches Inspire Enthuse and Equip – Mayor pictured at the launch
17/12/2024	Derry Journal	Page 11 - United to delivery peace building programme (Skeoge united)
19/12/2024	Derry News	Page 6 – Culture Now Showcase at New Gate Arts Centre hailed a success (Mayor in attendance)
13/02/2025	Derry News	Pages 1&3 – Consultation launched on future of Rosemount Factory
13/02/2025	Derry News	Page 9 – Glen Development Initiative to launch new 'Recycle Reuse Initiative'
13/02/2025	Derry News	Page 9 – Waterside Neighbourhood Partnership to launch new Waterside Together festival
13/02/2025	Strabane Chronicle	Page 15 - £127,000 peace project to support local cross-community initiatives (PeacePlus project
20/02/2025	Derry News	Page 1 – Pic of Deputy Mayor at Glen Development Initiative 'Recycle Reimage' launch
27/02/2025	Derry News	P14-15- Waterside Neighbourhood Partnership launch 'Out and About' project
05/03/2025	Strabane Chronicle	Page 4 – Family Farm Health event in Ballymagorry (PeacePlus support)
06/03/2025	CRC Newsletter	Dare 2 Dream Project with St Columb's Park Reconciliation Trust Community Relations Council
24/03/2025	Derry News	Page 9 – Groundbreaking new community arts initiative launched in Derry (PeacePlus funding)