

**GOOD RELATIONS PARTNERSHIP
MONDAY, 8th April, 2013
MEETING OF THE GOOD RELATIONS PARTNERSHIP**

Members present: Councillor Hendron (Chairman); and
Councillors Attwood, Kyle, McVeigh and Reynolds.

External Members: Mrs. M. Marken, Catholic Church;
Mr. S. Brennan, Voluntary/Community Sector;
Mr. P. Mackel, Belfast and District Trades Council;
Mr. B. McGivern, Belfast City Centre Management;
Ms. M. De Silva, Voluntary and Community Sector;
Mrs. J. Hawthorne, Northern Ireland Housing Executive; and
Mr. P. Scott, Catholic Church.

Also attended: Ms. D. O'Loan, Community Relations Council/Pobal.

In attendance: Mrs. H. Francey, Good Relations Manager;
Mr. I. May, PEACE III Manager;
Mr. D. Robinson, Senior Good Relations Officer; and
Mr. B. Flynn, Democratic Services Officer.

Apologies

Apologies were reported on behalf of Ms. Bannon, Ms. Chada, Mr. Galway and Archdeacon Dodds.

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 11th March were taken as read and signed as correct.

Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were reported.

Fellowship of Messines Association

The Partnership welcomed Mr. H. Donaghy, representing the Fellowship of Messines Association, and he explained that it had been formed in May 2002 by the first graduates of The International School for Peace Studies in the village of Messines, Belgium. He stated that the Association consisted of a diverse range of individuals representing Loyalist, Republican and trade union backgrounds who worked to consolidate peace and reconciliation by examining the shared history of the people of the island of Ireland.

Mr. Donaghy outlined the various projects and initiatives which had been overseen by the Association, together with the range of training programmes which had been established under the themes of history, identity and politics. He explained that the Association aimed to contribute to the building of transformed, integrated and sustainable communities which would, in turn, strengthen social and economic

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regeneration. In addition, the Fellowship Programme promoted inter-community activity which had the additional benefit of providing theoretical and practical support for those groups involved in building peace, reconciliation and inter-community harmony.

Mr. Donaghy thanked the Partnership Members for their support for the Fellowship under the Belfast Peace III Plan.

After discussion, the Partnership noted the information which had been provided.

Community Relations Council / POBAL

The Chairman invited Ms. D. O'Loan to make a presentation and she proceeded to provide an overview of the work of the Consortium of the Northern Ireland Community Relations Council and POBAL in the delivery of the Peace III Programme. She outlined the Core Work Plan which the Consortium would undertake during 2013, which included a survey to develop support plans for each Partnership. In addition, the Work Plan would seek to build capacity and knowledge within each Partnership to enable its aims and objectives to be met in respect of peace-building and in the delivery of its associated activities.

After discussion, the Partnership noted the information which had been provided.

Peace III Implementation Update

The Peace III Manager provided an update in respect of the implementation of the current phase of the Belfast Peace III Plan. He drew the Partnership's attention to the following:

Progress on Phase II Projects

Total expenditure at 28th February, 2013 was £1,126,961 or approximately 22% of the overall budget. 94% of this expenditure has been claimed back from SEUPB and the received payments to date of £654k related to claims submitted prior to December 2012. Following receipt of March 2013 information an update will be brought to the next meeting of the Partnership along with progress on the projects funded through the Strategic Grants Programme (returns due for Quarter 1 on 15th April). Also included in this month's report is a summary of progress against the output targets set for the PEACE III Plan by NISRA and SEUPB and newspaper coverage of the Community Cohesion project (034228) led by NI Housing Executive.

Consortium Event

The Community Relations Council and POBAL is holding a meeting for Chairpersons and PEACE III Managers on 12th April 2013 at Crumlin Road Gaol. The meeting will also be open for Partnership

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Members to attend. The meeting will commence at 10.00am and conclude with lunch at 1.00pm. There will also be a tour of the venue following the meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to update Partnerships on Peace IV; to identify the issues presented by any gap between Peace III and Peace IV and to provide SEUPB and Partnerships with an opportunity to discuss options.

After discussion, the Partnership noted the information which had been provided.

Summer Intervention Fund

The Partnership was reminded that the Council's Good Relations Unit had, for the past three years, managed and administered, on behalf of the Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister, its Summer Intervention Fund, which had been established to support diversionary activities for young people during times of heightened tension within communities.

The Good Relations Manager reported that the Unit would manage and administer the Fund again in 2013 and that information on the Fund and the associated application process had been publicised widely on the Council's website and within Departments and through organisations such as the Belfast Education and Library Board and the Community Relations Council. The application process had opened on 4th February and sixty-seven applications had been received requesting £260,169. Those had been assessed in accordance with the pre-agreed scoring matrix and, as a result, fifty-five applications had been recommended for funding, with amounts varying according to the quality of submissions.

After discussion, the Partnership agreed unanimously that funding, totalling £115,500, be awarded under the delegated authority of the Chief Executive to the following organisations:

REF No.	Group Name	Amount awarded (£)
354/3068	Concerned Residents of Upper Ardoyne	1,300
503/3086	174 Trust	2,500
806/3061	The HUBB	1,700
373/3055	Ballymac Friendship Trust	2,500
1060/3056	Dean Clarke Foundation	1,700
932/3062	St. James' Community Forum	1,000
1220/3051	Greater New Lodge Youth Forum	1,000
525/3095	Cavehill Antrim Road Regeneration Group	1,300
658/3050	Empire Residents Association	1,700
430/3073	Markets Development Association	2,700
1307/3069	Clonard Neighbourhood Development Partnership	2,200
475/3078	North Belfast Play Forum	1,700
1304/3053	Laganvillage Youth and Community Group	3,700
1048/3039	Crosscollyer Street Church Sunday School	1,000

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REF No.	Group Name	Amount awarded (£)
1042/3034	Norman Whiteside Sports Facility	1,300
239/3063	Forthspring Intercommunity Group	2,500
379/3048	Southcity Resource and Development Centre	3,000
412/3082	Skegoniel Community Group	2,500
930/3093	Cliftonville Community Regeneration Forum	2,500
685/3072	Ligoniel Improvement Association	1,300
1305/3054	Skainos Project	3,500
399/3059	Bloomfield Community Association	3,000
919/3035	Wishing Well	1,300
951/3094	Seaview Enterprises	4,000
975/3045	The Rivers Project	1,700
725/3088	Upper Springfield Resource Centre	2,500
749/3070	Gleann ABC	2,300
1131/3089	Blackie River Community Group	4,000
322/3058	Lower Shankill Community Association	4,000
922/3036	Tigers Bay Concerned Residents Association	2,200
1037/3092	St. John Bosco Boxing Club	1,000
1217/3030	Short Strand Community Forum	2,700
723/3044	Solway Stars	2,200
1035/3085	Love Music Hate Racism NI	2,200
1287/3071	Marrowbone Residents Association	2,600
680/3067	Falls Youth Providers	3,700
891/3081	North Belfast Interface Network	1,600
1310/3090	Short Strand Drugs Awareness Group	900
319/3031	Short Strand Community Forum	1,000
222/3042	Fairhill Community Association	1,000
1309/3083	Whiterock/Westrock Residents Association	1,700
397/3079	Inner East Youth Project	2,000
788/3064	Crusaders Youth Football Club	1,700
711/3068	New Lodge Arts	2,500
1046/3057	STAR ABC	1,000
320/3032	Roden Street Community Development Association	3,500
323/3052	GVRT	1,500
607/3047	North Belfast Women's Initiative Support Project	1,000
865/3043	Carrick Hill Residents Association	3,800
622/3087	KABOSH Theatre Co.	1,500
720/3060	Tigers Bay Historical Society	3,000
1225/3077	Shamrock FC	1,500
243/3037	BACS	3,000
1056/3065	Ardoyne Kickhams	1,500
1312/3097	O' Donovan Rossa Gaelic Athletic Club	2,000

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TOTAL		£ 115,500
<u>United Nations - International Day of Peace</u>		

The Partnership was reminded that an International Day of Peace had been established by the United Nations in 1982. The Good Relations Manager explained that the aim of the Day of Peace was to provide an opportunity for individuals, communities and organisations to highlight efforts to end conflict and promote practical acts of peace. In addition, events would be organised ranging in scale from private gatherings to public concerts and forums. In Belfast, the Day of Peace was led each year by Springboard, of which Ms. Angila Chada, a Member of the Good Relations Partnership, acted as Director. That organisation was encouraging Belfast citizens, organisations and governmental bodies to mark the day either privately or publicly and to re-dedicate their ongoing commitment to non-violence, reconciliation and peace-building.

She reported that the Council had, since 2009, supported the Belfast Peace Day event and that, since 2010, the Good Relations Partnership had hosted an event in the City Hall. Accordingly, she recommended that the Partnership agree to host an event on 20th September to mark International Day of Peace. She pointed out that the Partnership's recognition of the day would send out a message that it condemned the use of violence and supported peace-building. She added that information on the International Day of Peace would be included on both the Council's website and its events calendar and that it would be circulated to all Council employees through the internal Intercom magazine.

The Partnership granted authority for the hosting of an appropriate event on 20th September to mark International Day of Peace 2013. It was noted that appropriate hospitality, provision for which had been made within the Good Relations Unit's budget, would be provided.

Community Relations Week

The Partnership was advised that the Community Relations Council co-ordinated annually the holding of Community Relations Week in Northern Ireland. The Good Relations Manager pointed out that its aim was to raise awareness of community relations work and to encourage others to become involved in similar initiatives. She reported that Community Relations Week in 2013 would take place from 20th till 26th May under the theme "Expressing Identity/Addressing Division" and that the Council would be organising an event, which would be themed as a 'Living Library' on Friday 24th May from 11:00 a.m. till 2:00 p.m.

The Good Relations Manager explained that the Living Library, where a person, rather than a book, would be on 'temporary loan', was an innovative method designed to promote dialogue, reduce prejudices and encourage understanding between communities and individuals. It enabled groups to break stereotypes by challenging the most common prejudices in a positive and humorous manner. Visitors to the mobile library would be afforded an opportunity to speak informally with participants who varied in age, sex and community and cultural backgrounds.

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The Good Relations Manager invited all members of the Partnership to become involved and suggested that the Elected Members might wish to nominate a Council party colleague as their representative, since the event would be on the same date as the scheduled meeting of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee.

The Partnership granted the approval sought.

Northern Ireland Peace Monitoring Report

The Good Relations Manager reported that Dr. P. Nolan had completed his second annual report on the above-mentioned topic and that his report, funded by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, would be launched later that week. She stated that it might be beneficial for the Partnership to receive a presentation thereon and it was agreed that the Good Relations Unit would organise a lunchtime seminar session, which would open to all the Members and staff of the Council and the representatives of the Partnership, on a date to be determined in early May.

Chairman