

Special European Union Programmes Body (SEUPB)

PEACE IV Impact Evaluation of Children and Young People aged 0-24, Shared Spaces and Services, Building Positive Relations

Year 1 Case Studies – Final Report (v2)

December 2019

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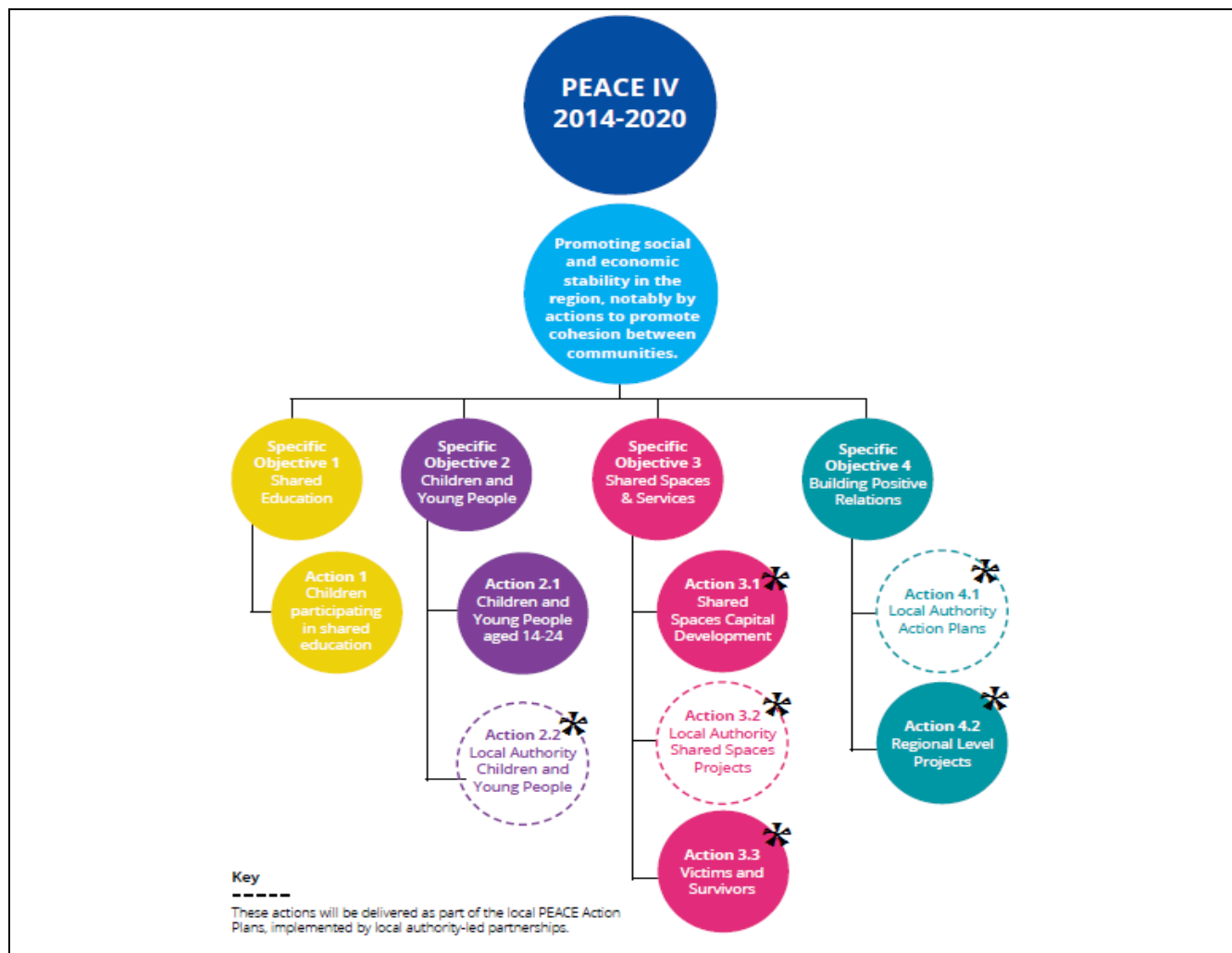
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1. REPORT CONTEXT AND SCOPE

RSM UK Consulting LLP (RSM) was commissioned by the Special European Union Programmes Body (SEUPB) to carry out an evaluation of the impact of activities associated with Specific Objectives (SO's)¹ 2, 3 and 4 of the PEACE IV 2014 – 2020 programme. Figure 1.1. illustrates the programme SO's and Actions (see asterisks) that fall within the scope of this evaluation.

Figure 1.1: Strategic Objectives and Actions included in the Scope of the Impact Evaluation



Source: PEACE IV Programme 2014-2020.

The focus of the impact evaluation is to:

- comment on each objective and on whether and to what extent funded actions have contributed to the achievement of the objectives;
- assess the impact of the programme as a catalyst for lasting change in promoting peace and reconciliation;
- identify key lessons that can be learnt to inform future investments; and
- consider the contribution of the Programme to EU 2020 objectives and the horizontal principles of equality and sustainable development.

¹ The Peace IV Programme has four Specific Objectives, these are in key priority areas where it wants to make significant and lasting changes: Shared Education; Children and Young People; Shared Spaces and Services; and Building Positive Relations

The impact evaluation is longitudinal, reporting programme impacts in 2019, 2020 and 2022. This document represents the first of three reports.

Each impact report will contain six case studies, four of which will be longitudinal (i.e. initially developed in 2019 and then updated in 2020 and 2022) and two will represent a 'snapshot' of project progress and impact at a given point in time.

Case studies have been selected in consultation with SEUPB to reflect a mix of urban and rural examples, geographic spread (north, east, south, south west and the border region), project themes (culture, heritage, education, sport, legacy, reimagining and regeneration), and targeted participant groups (children and young people, women, victims and survivors and special interest groups).

It should be noted that due to the timescales involved with the implementation of large capital projects, Action 3.1 (Shared Spaces Capital Development) is not included in the selection of case studies and, due to the high level of expenditure associated with Action 3.3 (Victims and Survivors), this has Action has been included as a longitudinal case study.

Table 1.1 below summarises the six case studies profiled within this report.

Longitudinal Case Studies	'Snapshot' Case Studies
Belfast City Council: Connecting Open Spaces	Irish Football Association: Sport Uniting Communities
Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council: Building Positive Relations	Sligo County Council: Children and Young People
Newry, Mourne and Down District Council: Beyond Tolerance	
Victims and Survivors Service: Provision of Services	

The main body of this report summarises key findings highlighted by the case studies. The longitudinal case studies are presented at Appendix 1 and the snapshot case studies are presented at Appendix 2.

2. CASE STUDY FINDINGS

2.1 Introduction

This section summarises the key findings from each case study, based on information provided by the projects from January - April 2019. It should be noted that in this, the first reporting year (2019), the projects are at an early stage of implementation and delivery and much of their anticipated impact will not be evident until later in the overall evaluation programme.

2.2 Longitudinal Case Studies

2.2.1 Belfast City Council: Connecting Open Spaces

Belfast City Council (BCC) aims to transform areas in North and West Belfast that exist in a 'physically fragmented environment' through the creation of a network of connected open spaces. The project involves the development of high-quality path-works and directional signage and a new shared space network of approximately 13 km of pathways; engagement programmes on civic education involving children and young people; inter-generational engagement programmes; the recruitment and training of volunteers from adjacent neighbourhoods; the design and installation of public art pieces; and the publication of a shared space management guide.

The project is led by BCC and there are no project partners.

The following information summarises the project budget allocations and expenditure to date, activities carried out to date, and the key impact evaluation findings.

- Expected Expenditure: £5.2 million (€6.1 million);
- Expenditure to date (July 2018): £149,762 (€176,719) representing approximately 2.9% of total funding allocation.

Project activities completed to date (April 2019) include:

- a feasibility study was completed in September 2018;
- sites for development have been proposed, and sites and the main route have been refined due to technical feasibility / land ownership issues;
- design teams have been appointed for the Springfield Dam and Park components and route / network elements of the project; and
- community consultation has been conducted in relation to the Springfield Dam and Park components and the development of the primary route.

The works associated with the Springfield Dam and Park component of the project is due to commence in Summer 2019 and is expected to be completed by January / February 2020. Programming activity is due to commence before the capital build starts to inform and complement the capital works. Other capital works are due to commence in 2020.

Emerging Impact and Lessons Learned

Due to the significant amount of planning activity required and given the project's current stage of development, it has not yet reached a stage where outcomes are being generated at any significant level. Ongoing monitoring activity will aim to capture the future outcomes and impacts of the project.

2.2.2 Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council: Building Positive Relations

Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council (CCGBC) aims to develop a peace-building legacy product comprising collaboration between local history and heritage groups to celebrate shared culture, heritage and history of the Council area through a series of capacity building and leadership and community cohesion programmes, the creation of cultural and community institutions and a programme of cross-border study visits.

The project is led by CCGBC and project partners include CCGBC Museum Service, the Building Communities Resource Centre, Causeway Rural Urban Network and Limavady Community Development Initiative.

The following information summarises the project budget allocations and expenditure to date, activities carried out to date, and the key impact evaluation findings.

- Expected Expenditure: £1.6 million (€1.9 million);
- Expenditure to date (April 2019): £423,016.94 (€499,159.99) representing approximately 26.3% of total funding allocation.

Project activities completed at April 2019 included:

- the development of local history exploration projects across twenty local groups;
- the completion of training needs analyses and the delivery of training and development activities;
- the completion of an 'Understanding Our Area' programme; and
- the completion of a Cultural and Community Institutions programme.

Emerging Impact and Lessons Learned

The majority of project components are progressing as planned and are expected to be completed on time, however, at the time of writing, the cross-border activities had not progressed significantly.

The 'Understanding Our Area' programme had exceeded its March 2020 participation target of 750 participants by 1,250 participants by November 2018, and a short film has been produced in conjunction with the Northern Regional College and an illustrated book has been published.

The 'Leadership and Capacity' programme had exceeded its December 2018 participation target of 70 participants by 155 participants by November 2018.

Two Cultural and Community Institutions programmes have met or exceeded their participation targets e.g. the Black and Minority Ethnicity (BME) Integration programme had achieved 376 participants by November 2018, 176 participants greater than its March 2020 target; and the Cultural Language programme had achieved 225 participants by November 2018, 125 participants greater than its March 2020 target.

The project has also delivered increased awareness of other cultures, heritage and shared history to 2,000 persons through schools, universities and other events.

It should be noted that delays to the commencement of the Building Positive Relations programme has resulted in increased demands on the project and has reduced the timeframe for groups to complete programmes.

Due to the early stage of the project, it is premature to garner any lessons learned and the Council has not yet produced any impact data. It anticipates that impact information will be captured via post-completion surveys.

2.2.3 Newry, Mourne and Down District Council: Beyond Tolerance

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council (NMDDC) aims to deliver twelve programmes across seven District Electoral Areas through a range of activities including capacity building initiatives, education and awareness programmes and physical development and regeneration and reimagining projects including a new community centre in Saintfield, a new community garden in Warrenpoint and a BMX track.

The project is led by NMDDC and project partners include the Policing and Community Safety Partnership.

The following information summarises the project budget allocations and expenditure to date, activities carried out to date, and the key impact evaluation findings.

- Expected Expenditure: £1.7 million (€2.0 million);
- Expenditure to date (January 2019): £48,919 (€57,724) representing approximately 2.9% of total funding allocation.

Project activities completed to date (April 2019) include:

- Shared Spaces Engagement: the completion of an audit and mapping of current services provision;
- Flags, Emblems and Bonfires Protocols (FEBP) programme: the completion of initial consultation and delivery of education and awareness sessions, and the development of a draft report on key issues identified;
- Ex-Military Sites: the recreation of facilities as shared spaces and the development of visitor animation amenities;
- Reimagining and Regeneration: the establishment of ten local steering groups leading to the development of ten local action plans;
- Warrenpoint Community Garden: a design team has been appointed;
- BMX Track: designs have been finalised; and
- Saintfield Community Centre: the redevelopment of the centre and sports pitches has been completed.

Emerging Impact and Lessons Learned

Generally, at the time of writing (May 2019), progress had been limited and there is a need for increased activity across the majority of the programmes. However, considerable preparatory work had been undertaken including the appointment of design teams, mapping studies and general programme development.

It was reported that the FEBP programme had engaged well with hard-to-reach communities who had previously been unwilling to engage in PEACE programmes or community work. It is anticipated that the FEBP programme has the potential to make a positive contribution to peace and reconciliation in the Council area.

It should be noted that the overall project is still in its early stages of implementation and delivery and it is therefore difficult to identify outcomes and impacts. The case study highlights that there is a need to ensure that entrance and exit surveys are completed and that data is collated, analysed and presented in a timely manner to inform project stakeholders of emerging impacts.

2.2.4 Victims and Survivors Service: Provision of Services

The Victims and Survivors Service (VSS) aims to establish cross-border health and well-being services to build capacity in the community and voluntary sector to deliver treatment and support as part of a Regional Trauma Network and to increase the capacity and quality of care for victims, survivors and their families.

The project is led by VSS and project partners include the Commission for Victims and Survivors and WAVE Trauma. The Executive Office, the Department of Health, the Department for Foreign Affairs and Trade (Ireland) and Cooperation and Working Together act as advisory partners.

The following information summarises the project budget allocations and expenditure to date, activities carried out to date, and the key impact evaluation findings.

- Expected Expenditure: £13.4 million (€15.8 million);
- Expenditure to date (January 2019): £3,354,613 million (€3,958,443.34 million) representing approximately 25% of total funding allocation.

Project activities completed to date (April 2019) include:

- the appointment of a health and well-being case worker network;
- the provision of advocacy support and the development of a support network;
- the delivery of trauma-focused physical activity programmes and the development of a social isolation framework;
- the establishment of access to education courses (numeracy and literacy), volunteering and resilience;
- the integration of victims and survivors with shared spaces and services; and
- the appointment of lead- and post-doctoral researchers for mental health trauma research and transgenerational research.

Emerging Impact and Lessons Learned

The majority of the programme is progressing well. VSS reports that it is on target to deliver its outputs including the provision of advocacy support services, the appointment of a health and well-being case worker network, the delivery of a trauma-focused physical activity programme, the establishment of education courses, volunteering and resilience, the integration of victims and survivors with shared spaces and services, and the appointment of lead- and post-doctoral researchers for mental health trauma research and transgenerational research. However, it should be noted that a lack of political progress in relation to legacy institutions has contributed to lower than anticipated levels of activity on advocacy support. VSS also reports that there have been constraints in working with 'hard-to-reach' individuals. These issues may impact on the delivery of associated outputs.

The Regional Trauma Network (pilot) programme was due to commence in June 2019 and in April 2019 the VSS reported that the appointment of a cross-border case worker was imminent.

Our case study highlights that:

- the monitoring framework developed by VSS has a strong qualitative and quantitative focus on clinical outcomes, which is to be supplemented by qualitative and quantitative research to highlight outcomes achieved by the social isolation, volunteering (resilience) and advocacy support interventions. This research should also provide an opportunity to assess how the VSS PEACE IV funding has contributed to the overarching specific objective of creating a 'more cohesive society through the increased provision of shared services'; and
- given that much of the VSS project is delivered in partnership with statutory and community-based providers in Northern Ireland and the border region, it is important that future impact evaluation activity provides a clear focus on impacts that can be attributed specifically to the PEACE IV funding and on the additionality associated with the PEACE IV funding.

2.3 Snapshot Case Studies

2.3.1 Irish Football Association: Sport Uniting Communities

The Sport Uniting Communities (SUC) programme is a collaboration between the Irish Football Association (IFA), Ulster Gaelic Athletic Association (Ulster GAA) and Ulster Rugby. The three bodies aim to change perceptions of the sporting disciplines and build sustained relationships through the promotion of meaningful, purposeful and sustained engagement in sport.

The following information summarises the project budget allocations and expenditure to date, activities carried out to date, and the key impact evaluation findings.

- Expected Expenditure: £1.7 million (€2.0 million);
- Expenditure to date (December 2018): £322,000 (€380,000) representing approximately 18.9% of total funding allocation.

Project activities completed to date (April 2019) include:

- volunteer recruitment and development programmes have been completed;
- youth leadership programmes have been completed;
- ten club development 'peace days' have been held;
- 'have-a-go' days and a 'game of three halves' (GO3H) events have been held; and
- 'getting to know' days have been held involving the IFA and Ulster GAA.

Emerging Impact and Lessons Learned

Generally, there was a slow start to implementation and delivery in Year 1, but good progress is being made towards Year 2 targets. The programme reports that it has encountered some difficulties in attracting participants due to competition with Councils who are targeting similar participant groups for their sports development initiatives. The Council had been able to offer greater financial and other incentives to generate participation. However, following consultation with SEUPB and discussions with the Councils, the Councils were advised to work with the relevant governing bodies before engaging with local clubs and were also advised to switch to other sports disciplines. The programme reports that there is a need for structured programmes to incentivise clubs, schools and youth groups.

Examples of emerging attitudinal/ impact data identified within the case study include:

- **Club-themed workshops:** there were 101 participants from 53 clubs across the three sporting disciplines. 91% of participants reported that they would be more willing to participate in future activities and 100% of participants reported that they felt that such events could lead to a more peaceful society in Northern Ireland;
- **Club educational visits:** 82% of participants report that they were more accepting of other cultures and traditions after visits (an increase from 71%); 100% of participants felt that there was not enough interaction between communities (an increase from 83%); and 100% of participants would be more willing to participate in cross-border / cross-community activities (an increase from 71%); and
- **GO3H events:** 85% of participants reported that they would be more willing to participate in activities with persons from other community background; 72% of participants felt that the activities could help build a peaceful society in Northern Ireland (28% reported that they were unsure); and 96% reported that they enjoyed the participation.

2.3.2 Sligo County Council: Children and Young People

Sligo County Council (SCC) aims to implement a range of youth citizenship and leadership programmes and capacity building and inclusion initiatives through sport, music, heritage and the arts, shared spaces development and the administration of a small grants scheme.

The project is led by SCC and project partners include the Mayo, Sligo and Leitrim Education Training Board.

The following information summarises the project budget allocations and expenditure to date, activities carried out to date, and the key impact evaluation findings.

- Expected Expenditure: £152,997 (€180,537);
- Expenditure to date (March 2019): £28,131 (€33,195) representing approximately 18.4% of total funding allocation.

Project activities completed to date (March 2019) include:

- Stage 1 of the 'Youth Citizenship and Leadership' programme has been completed and Stages 2 and 3 are ongoing;
- a preliminary session and Session 1 of the 'Conflict to Community Activism' programme has been delivered and study trips are planned;
- the 'Capacity and Inclusion through Sport' programme has been completed;
- the 'Capacity and Inclusion through Music' programme has delivered Stages 1 and 2 involving 103 participants, Stages 3 and 4 are ongoing; and,
- the 'Inclusion and Diversity for Young Children' programme has delivered Stage 1 and ten childcare workers have been trained. Stage 2 is underway.

Emerging Impact and Lessons Learned

Generally, the programme is progressing well, but at the time of writing (April 2019) only 1 of the 5 programmes had been completed and therefore, it is too early to determine impact.

In relation to the 'Capacity and Inclusion through Sport' programme, the Council reports that it has resulted in:

- the development of greater knowledge, understanding and realism on the part of young people who may have had little exposure to, or knowledge of community relations issues prior to participating;
- an increase in the number of participants who expect their community relations to be 'better' or 'about the same', and a decline in those expecting 'worse' or 'don't know'; and
- the use of non-traditional activities has worked very well, appealing in particular to those who would not normally engage.

The Council reports that it has experienced some difficulties in progressing the programme due to the availability of facilitators, the withdrawal of delivery partners and staffing capacity constraints.

The case study also highlights that there is a need to ensure the completion of entrance and exit surveys and that the resulting data should be collated, analysed and presented in a timely manner to inform project stakeholders of emerging impacts.

3. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Conclusions

The six case studies presented within this report highlight that, in general, programmes are underway and progressing well against implementation and delivery timelines and projects are on-track to meet or exceed targets.

However, there have been lags in progress on some projects (e.g. due to the overall delay in the commencement of the Building Positive Relations (BPR) programme) and, for some projects, there is a need to improve communication and promotion to encourage uptake, particularly among young people and hard-to-reach individuals and groups.

In addition, there is a particular need to consider the sustainability and continuity of projects and programmes beyond the PEACE IV funding period.

The analysis has found that, in general, across the six case studies, it is currently too early in programme implementation and delivery for outcomes and impact to have been generated at any significantly level. This is particularly the case for a capital investment-oriented project such as Belfast City Council's Connecting Open Spaces project and Newry, Mourne and Down District Council's Beyond Tolerance project where significant planning and preparatory work has been necessary at its initial stages.

It should be noted that, at the time of writing, Sligo County Council's Children and Young People project had only completed only one of five programmes and that the Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council had not produced any impact data.

It was also found that measuring attribution to PEACE IV-funded activities and programmes is a challenge across the six case studies.

Recommendations

The following recommendations are drawn from the analysis:

1. **Communication and Promotion:** where applicable, it is recommended that project promoters should aim to improve their communication and promotion activities to better encourage uptake by beneficiaries/users, particularly by young people and hard-to-reach groups.
2. **Data Requirements:** it is recommended that, where applicable:
 - i. project promoters should ensure that their approach to the collection and collation of monitoring data ensures the provision of robust and timely information that informs impact and outcome measurement;
 - ii. projects should also ensure that they comply with good practice in relation to General Data Protection Regulations;
 - iii. project promoters should reflect the need for parental permissions in gathering data from children and young people, as well as develop suitably tailored tools and techniques to gather robust attitudinal data from these target users. For example, consultation with project promoters highlighted the potential use of digital 'apps' that might encourage children and young people to interact and provide feedback on their participation;
 - iv. project promoters should ensure the completion of entrance and exit surveys to monitor and measure attitudinal change/ impact. The surveys should be conducted on a regular and consistent basis throughout project implementation and delivery. The surveys should capture gender and community background information for programme participants/users; and
 - v. projects should ensure that provision is made to measure outcomes and impacts beyond the PEACE IV funding period.

APPENDIX 1: LONGITUDINAL CASE STUDIES

BELFAST CITY COUNCIL: CONNECTING OPEN SPACES

Project Overview

In February 2019, Belfast City Council (BCC) received a grant of up to a maximum of £5,172,449.12 (ERDF + government match funding) to deliver a shared spaces project under Specific Objective 3.2. The Letter of Offer for the project was issued on the 25th February 2019 and the grant is to be expended and claimed by 30th June 2022.

The project aims to transform areas in North and West Belfast that exist in a 'physically fragmented environment', through the creation of a network of connected open spaces. This development takes place in the context of just 34% of young people answering 'yes definitely' in response to whether they believe parks are 'shared and open' to both Protestants and Catholics, this is almost half of the overall Northern Ireland percentage².

The project's objectives include:

- Connect through high-quality path-works and directional signage, a new shared space network of approximately 13 km pathways in North and West Belfast;
- Engage through programmes on civic education in shared open spaces 600 children and young people by April 2021 (200 per annum);
- Engage through inter-generational programmes on heritage and identity, 300 younger and older people by April 2021 (100 per annum);
- Recruit and train 60 shared space volunteers from neighbourhoods adjacent to the necklace by April 2020 (at least 3 per smaller site and 10 for larger sites), with 50% achieving accredited certification in mediation;
- Design and install 3 pieces of public art, and publish a shared space management guide by April 2021;
- Attract over 600 participants to at least 3 public spectacle events by April 2021, two of which will be held in the new signature civic space at Springfield Dam;
- Enable a 10% increase in journeys taken by foot or cycle into city centre, undoing mental maps of so-called no-go areas;
- Decrease by 10% hate-related anti-social behaviour reports in open spaces in North and West Belfast by April 2020 (including illegal flag flying);
- Engage with 60 unique participants to deliver community led shared space activities; To provide a Resource Allocation (RA) of up to £6,000 per shared space site to enable community led events and activities to connect communities along the network of 12 shared space locations;
- Build relationships with communities across 12 shared space sites (RA);
- Deliver 36 community led shared space activities (RA); and
- Engage 1,080 people in attending community led activities (30 people per site per activity x 3 x 12 sites) over a 6 – 12-month period post construction stage (RA).

² "Young Life and Times Survey" 2016, quoted in PEACE IV Technical Feasibility Study: Creating and Reconnecting Shared Spaces – A Network of Connected and Welcoming Open Spaces In North and West Belfast (2018).

The project's main development sites/locations are detailed in Table 1 and the project incorporates the following four sections:

- Section 1 – Clarendon Park / Glencairn Park and Forthriver Linear Park;
- Section 2 – Ballygomartin Road, Springfield Road and Springfield Dam;
- Section 3 – Springfield Road to Falls Road; and
- Section 4 – Bog Meadows to the Transport Hub.

A schematic of the route of the current proposed shared space network is presented in Figure 1 overleaf.

Table 1: The initial proposed main sites / locations of activity were:

1. Glencairn Park
2. Forthriver Linear Park / Clarendon Playing Fields
3. Woodvale Park / Paisley Park
4. Springfield Dam and Park
5. Springhill Millennium Park
6. Highfield / Springmartin
7. Innovation Factory / Invest NI site
8. Blackmountain (Ballygomartin South)
9. Whiterock/Falls Park/City Cemetery
10. Milltown Cemetery / Bog Meadows
11. Blythefield Park
12. Transport Hub

Table 2: The current proposed main sites / locations of the proposed route:

1. Clarendon Playing Fields
2. Forthriver Linear Park
3. Glencairn Park
4. Woodvale Park
5. Paisley Park / Braidwater
6. Springfield Dam and Park
7. Innovation Factory / Invest NI site
8. Springfield Road
9. City Cemetery
10. Falls Park
11. Bog Meadows
12. Belfast Transport Hub beside Great Victoria Street train station & Europa Bus Centre

As shown in Table 2, changes were made to the main sites / locations of the originally proposed route (as shown in Table 1). The Project Manager noted that the initial sites were subject to technical feasibility, affordability, time constraints, an ecological survey and public consultation / community buy in, and consequently, these activities have resulted in a more refined route. For example, the technical feasibility study ruled out the route passing through Springhill Millennium Park, as the necessary work required the removal of fences and there were also issues regarding land ownership, which project representatives deemed not to be practical. The Council reported that no impacts on the potential achievement of the project are anticipated as a result of the changes to the main sites/locations of the project components, rather that the changes have been designed to ensure that change and impact are maximised via subsequent project implementation and delivery.

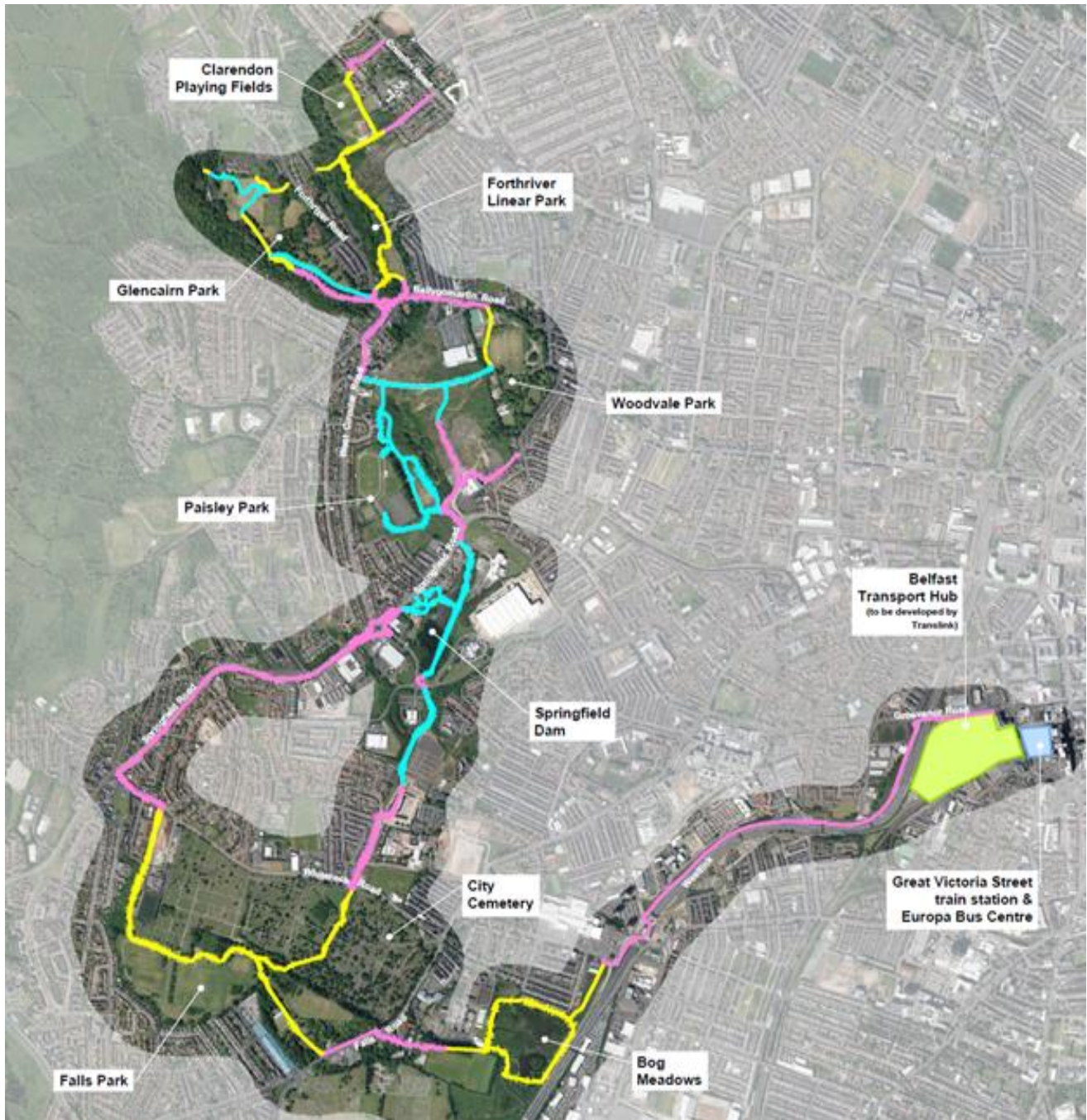
The potential options for the Shared Space location will be refined following further community engagement and consultation at a local level.

A key element of the project is the Springfield Dam and Park Masterplan, which aims to create 'a new civic space with improved access, recreational facilities and environmental enhancements'. A map highlighting various features of the masterplan is provided as Figure 2 and further details are provided below:

- Improved access to and around the site - the masterplan will provide new entrance points around the park, the locations of which are identified by green dots in Figure 2. This will include a 'signature pedestrian access point' located at the point marked '1' in Figure 2. A pedestrian bridge will be built across the dam, this will facilitate access to activities on either side of the dam (3). A visualisation of the bridge is shown in Figure 3;
- Recreational facilities - As shown by points marked '4' in Figure 2, the east bank of the dam will include fishing stands. A 'modular classroom' will be built to provide a meeting place for schools and community groups (number 6 in Figure 2), next to this classroom there will be an outdoor event space that will accommodate fairs and community events;
- Environmental Enhancements - the masterplan includes the provision of additional habitats for birds and wildlife through the inclusion of floating islands (number 8 in Figure 2) and wildflower planting (number 9); and
- Overall Site Enhancements - the masterplan includes a 'viewing area' where walkers/locals can 'take in the vista', this area will also include information panels that tell the story of the dam's history.

Figure 1: Proposed Network Route

Nb. Not all of the network shown below can be provided within the budget, the map below shows the options that will be subject to consultation to determine final network



Source: Peace IV 2018 – 2021 – Connecting Open Spaces – Emerging Proposals – Overview – Design Team led by McAdam Design Ltd

Key




-  - Widen, Enhance & Improve existing path network in open space / parkland
-  - Proposed new path network in open space / parkland
-  - Link between park / open space along existing road

Figure 2: Springfield Dam Park Masterplan



Source: PEACE IV 2018 – 2021 Springfield Dam Park Masterplan – Creating welcoming, safe and accessible shared spaces

Figure 3: Springfield Dam - Visualisation



Source: PEACE IV Technical Feasibility Study – Creating and Reconnecting Shared Spaces

Progress to date

Table 3 provides an overview the project elements, associated budget allocations, timescales, activities carried out to date and activities yet to be carried out. Table 3 highlights that Belfast City Council have completed a significant amount of the planning activity required to achieve the project's capital and programming outputs. For example:

- a feasibility study was completed by design consultants AECOM in September 2018;
- sites for development were proposed and refined;
- design teams had been appointed for both the Springfield Dam and Park and the route/network elements of the project; and
- community consultation has been carried out in relation to the Springfield Dam and Park and development of the primary route.

The Springfield Dam works was expected to begin by late summer 2019 and completion expected by January/February 2020. The programming element of the project was set to commence in Springfield Dam / Park areas before the capital build stage commences to complement the capital aspect. Works on other open spaces are expected to take place in 2020, using a phased approach that will be informed by engagement and formal consultation. Given the project's current stage of development, it has not yet reached a stage whereby it has achieved any of its project objectives.



Table 3 – Project elements and progress to date

Programme output indicator	Project/output description	Budget ³	Duration	Activities carried out to date	Activities to be carried out
<p>3.2: Local initiatives that facilitate the sustained usage on a shared basis of public areas / buildings</p>	<p>Springfield Road Interface Dam/Park and Developing Connections between key locations at Springfield Dam, paisley Park and INI site:</p> <p>The primary rationale for the project has been noted as expanding the networks and a number of the city's shared spaces and reconnecting the city's neighbourhoods. There are 3 distinct elements to the project – Physical Regeneration of shared space, Connections between shared spaces and Managing as shared spaces.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An Events Space which would link Springfield Park and the Dam • The project seeks to become a 'necklace of shared spaces' (large triangular network of walking and cycle paths) which will be a catalyst for social media, economic and neighbourhood regeneration, reconciliation and interaction of divided communities. • Continuous branding to provide a seamless physical presence along the corridor through lighting, public art, use of colour / common materials in paving and consistent orientation and interpretation signage. • The project focus will be on those sites most directly affected by segregation, in close proximity to a number of interface barriers, and there remains live disputes over open spaces and right of way. The main locations 	<p>£1,800,000</p>	<p>January 2018 (Springfield Dam set to be on site late summer 2019) – June 2022</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A feasibility study was completed by design consultants (AECOM, September 2018). This involves: route options; cost estimations; technical feasibility; and examination of affordability. • Preferred site selection, based on: is it an area affected by disadvantage and the legacy of the conflict; does the site have potential to be welcoming, safe, good quality, connected/accessible; potential to deliver a programme of activity on the site that will promote peace and reconciliation outcomes, consider sensitive issues and support cross community contact; affordability; technical feasibility; community consultation; and time constraints. • 01.02.18-30.04.18 - BCC submitted a bid for £81,000 of unallocated funding for the SSS theme, with £6,000 per site to be spent on community led activities. • AECOM were appointed by Belfast City Council as the design team, exclusively for Springfield Dam and Park. McAdam Design Ltd have been appointed as the integrated design team for all other aspects of the project. • Stakeholder engagement through community consultation was carried out in relation to the Springfield Dam and Park between June and September 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capital build elements within the Springfield Dam • Connections developed through path works and signage, a new shared space network; • Engagement through programmes on civic education in shared open spaces involving children and young people; • Engagement through inter-generational programmes on heritage and identity; • Recruit and train shared space volunteers, with half achieving accredited certification in mediation; • Design and install pieces of public art, and publish a shared space management guide; • Attract participants to attend public spectacle events; • Engage with participants to deliver community led shared space activities; • Deliver community led shared space sites and activities; • Continuous branding of the route

³ Please note that the costs in this column do not sum to the total in Table 4 as it does not include Management and Communication costs.

Table 3 – Project elements and progress to date

Programme output indicator	Project/output description	Budget ³	Duration	Activities carried out to date	Activities to be carried out
	<p>of the activity are anticipated to be those mentioned in table 2 above.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connect through high-quality path works and directional signage, a new shared space network of approximately 13 km pathways in North and West Belfast; • Engage children and young people through programmes on civic education in shared spaces; • Engage through inter-generational programmes on heritage and identity; • Recruit and train shared space volunteers, with 50% achieving accredited certification in mediation; • Design and install pieces of public art, and publish a shared space management guide; • Attract participants to attend public spectacle events; • Engage participants to deliver community led shared space activities; • Deliver community led shared space activities; 			<p>2018, the consultees included residents and community groups.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Community workshop was completed in January 2019. It aimed to: identify the level of support for the proposed route; inform the development of the primary route; and highlight the issues and ideas that can be taken forward within PEACE IV scope. The Springfield Dam is expected on site by mid-2019. Works on other open spaces are estimated for 2020, through a phased approach that will be informed by engagement and formal consultation. 	
	<p>Network/Route Development:</p> <p>The projects for support are not yet determined. The selection of the 11 small scale sites will be delegated through the Shared City Partnership to the Area Working groups with agreed selection criteria. The selection process will be subject to examination by SEUPB and consider the approval of the sites / small projects selected prior to commencement.</p>	<p>£115,181.82 (x 11)</p>	<p>January 2018 (works to begin in 2020 / open spaces) - June 2022</p>	<p>As above (apart from those that specifically focus on Springfield Dam).</p>	<p>As above (apart from those that specifically focus on Springfield Dam).</p>



Table 3 – Project elements and progress to date

Programme output indicator	Project/output description	Budget ³	Duration	Activities carried out to date	Activities to be carried out
	<p>Shared Space Resource Allocation: Up to £6,000 per shared space site (for three projects on each site) will be allocated to enable community led events and activities along the necklace of Shared Space. The focus of the activities will be to build positive relations with and between the two main community backgrounds in the area.</p>	<p>£72,000</p>	<p>November 2018 – June 2022</p>	<p>No activity carried out to date</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 shared spaces supported under a resource allocation model • Provision of community led activity up to £6,000 per shared space site x 12 sites (£72,000 total) • Engage 60 participants (5 community volunteers per site) engaged in sustained and meaningful contact for a period of 30 hours in developing, designing and delivering community led initiatives • Deliver 3 community led events and activities per site over a 6-12-month period, resulting in the delivery of 36 community led activities • Connect at least 2 SSS sites through community led events and activities • 1,080 people attending community led events (30 people per site per activity x 3 x 12 sites) over the next 3 years.

Table 5 below identifies that out of a total funding allocation of **£5,172,449.12** (outlined in table 4), £149,761.74 has been spent to date.

Table 4: Project Summary Budget

Summary Budget	Total Project Costs (£)
Staff costs	£792,781.84
Office and administration	£118,917.28
Travel and Accommodation	£0.00
External expertise and services	£1,190,000.00
Equipment	£3,750
Infrastructure and works	£3,067,000
Net Revenue	£0.00
Total	£5,172,449.12

Table 5: Expenditure at July 2018

Expenditure Area	Periods 1-15 (01.11.14 – 30.04.18)	Period 16	Total Expenditure Period 1-16
Management – Staff Costs			
Secretariat	£71,104.77	£10,146.01	£81,250.78
Thematic Manager	£4,117.44	£12,029.22	£16,146.66
Office and Admin – Overheads			
Secretariat	£10,665.73	£1,521.90	£12,187.63
Thematic Manager	£617.62	£1,804.38	£2,422.00
External Expertise and Services			
External Expertise and Services	£1,516.64		£1,516.64
Infrastructure and Works			
T1 Springfield Road Interface	£36,238.03		£36,238.03
Total:	£124,260.23	£25,501.51	£149,761.74

Proposed Monitoring and Evaluation

As the capital and programming elements of the project have not yet started, Belfast City Council have not collected any monitoring and evaluation information, however, the Council has developed a monitoring and evaluation framework which has been approved by SEUPB. BCC has indicated that it will use activities such as focus groups, interviews, case studies, videos, social media, sticker / emoji charts and events photos, to monitor and evaluate progress against all relevant thematic results indicators and project specific outcomes with particular focus on outcomes not covered by the attitudinal surveys. They expect that the monitoring and evaluation information that they collect will supplement the baseline and distance travelled information gathered by the programme entrance surveys. BCC anticipates that it will collect monitoring and evaluation information in relation to the following:

The four primary outcomes of this programme will be to create a series of connected spaces which are:

- Welcoming – where people feel secure to take part in unfamiliar interactions, and increase an overall sense of shared experience and community;
- Safe – for all persons and groups, trusted by both locals and visitors;
- Good quality (physical design and management) – attractive, high quality unique services and well-designed buildings and spaces; and
- Connected – well-connected in terms of transport and pedestrian links within a network of similar spaces across the city and managed to promote maximum participation by all communities.

The programme also aims to:

- Increase collaboration between people and places thereby creating greater social cohesion;
- Support community led initiatives to maximise sustained levels of shared usage with and between communities;
- Further build the capacity of communities enabling them to take a leading role in the delivery of activities that build lasting positive relations and reduce social division;
- Develop better connection between different communities along the 13km corridor of shared space; and
- Encourage and improve movement to other locations.

As such, BCC anticipates that the monitoring and evaluation information that they collect will be related to the above aims and outcomes. They also anticipate that they will monitor and evaluate the following activities in North and West Belfast:


- sectarian / racist incidents;
- manifestations of sectarianism and racism;
- perceptions of safety;
- mobility across neighbourhoods in Belfast;
- engagement in cross community networks, including with Connswater Community Greenway and Skainos;
- territorial Flag Flying; and
- anti-social behaviour incidents.

The project representatives have also indicated that they will monitor and evaluate the amount of open space created or redeveloped in urban areas (m²).

Conclusion

The Belfast City Council Shared Spaces and Services Programme was selected by the Programme evaluators as a longitudinal case study and consequently, the evaluators will report on project progress and impact at three reporting intervals, namely in 2019, 2020 and 2022.

This initial (2019) case study highlights that Belfast City Council has undertaken a range of pre-development planning activities that are necessary to realise future project targets. Consultation with the Programme Manager has confirmed that the project is currently on schedule, however, it has also been noted that a technical feasibility study and an ecological study have resulted in changes to the initial route and that the



project is subject to planning approval. Subsequent versions of this case study will assess the impact of these (and other) risks on project performance.

We note that Belfast City Council was developing a monitoring and evaluation plan to capture the specific outputs and impacts attributable to the project. We recommend that Belfast City Council ensures that this framework is developed well in advance of the initiation of programming and capital build activities, that it should represent best practice in assessing peace and reconciliation impacts and that the monitoring and evaluation plan should be shared with SEUPB for comment/ input.

CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS BOROUGH COUNCIL : BUILDING POSITIVE RELATIONS

Project Overview

In June 2017, Causeway, Coast and Glens Borough Council (CCGBC) received a grant of up to a maximum of £1,630,086.94 (ERDF + Government Match Funding) to be expended and claimed by 31st March 2020 from the PEACE IV Programme, for a project entitled “Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council PIV Action Plan – BPR”.

This project was selected as a longitudinal case study as part of a wider impact evaluation of the PEACE IV Programme. This is the first of three case studies of the project that will be carried out during the evaluation. It will be updated and further developed in 2020 and 2022.

This project involves implementation of a range of activities such as: developing a peace building legacy product; collaboration between history and heritage groups across the council area to prepare an interpretive resource / visual artwork on the cultural diversity of areas; OCN level 1+2 accredited courses; international and cross border study visits; culture-based activities e.g. languages and dance; leadership training; and community cohesion training. These initiatives will be delivered through a combination of Council-led and partner delivery along with delivery agents which will be procured through open tender. The delivery agents are: The Museum Service (CCGBC); Building Communities Resource Centre (BCRC); Causeway Rural Urban Network (CRUN); and Limavady Community Development Initiative (LCDI).

The overarching objective of the Building Positive Relations Programme is to promote positive relations characterised by respect, where cultural diversity is celebrated and people can live, learn and socialise together, free from prejudice, hate and intolerance.

The project is scheduled to deliver four programmes, covering the following themes:

- area-based heritage, history and built environment;
- capacity building and leadership;
- cultural and community institutions (N.B. this programme comprises three sub-programmes); and
- cross-border.

Summary details of the project are provided in Table 1 below and further detail of each of its four programmes are provided in Table 2 overleaf.

Table 1: Project overview

Applicant:	Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council
Project	CCGBC PIV Action Plan - BPR
Delivery Partners:	The Museum Service (CCGBC); Building Communities Resource Centre (BCRC); Causeway Rural Urban Network (CRUN); and Limavady Community Development Initiative (LCDI)
Relevant Specific Objective	SO4.1: The promotion of positive relations characterized by respect, and where cultural diversity is celebrated and people can live, learn and socialize together, free from prejudice, hate and intolerance.
Amount awarded by PIV	£1,630,086.94 / €1,923,502.59
Duration	June 2016 – March 2020

Table 2: Summary of project elements

Programme	Programme Delivery Partner	Goals / Aims	Workpackage Start Date	Actual Start Date	Target End Date
Programme 1: Understanding Our Area – Building Positive Relations	CCGBC Museum Services	Engage with 30 community groups / historical societies with 750 participants across the CCGBC area in an area-based heritage, history and built environment exploration project. Min 40% Protestant Unionist Loyalist (PUL) / Min 40% Catholic Nationalist Republican (CNR)	April 2017	September 2017	March 2020
Programme 2: Developing Communities – Leadership and Capacity - BPR	Causeway Rural Urban Network (CRUN)	Deliver a one to one Capacity Building and Dialogue programme to from 14 areas / communities. Delivery of a Facilitative Leadership Programme to 63 emerging leader participants. Min 40% PUL / Min 40% CNR	April 2017	November 2017	March 2020
Programme 3.1: Cultural and Community Institutions Programme – Key Institutions Programme	Building Communities Resource Centre (BCRC)	Deliver a key institutions programme including representatives from Orange Order, GAA and Bands – 300 participants	April 2017	November 2017	March 2020
Programme 3.2: Cultural and Community Institutions Programme – BME Integration Programme	Building Communities Resource Centre	Deliver a BME Integration Programme with 200 participants across 10 areas	April 2017	November 2017	March 2020
Programme 3.3: Cultural and Community Institutions Programme – cultural / language institutions programme	Limavady Community Development Initiative (LCDI)	Deliver a Cultural / Language Institutions Programme with 100 participants	April 2017	November 2017	March 2020

Programme	Programme Delivery Partner	Goals / Aims	Workpackage Start Date	Actual Start Date	Target End Date
Programme 4: Cross-Border Programme	Causeway Rural Urban Network (CRUN)	<p>To deliver a cross border engagement and partnership project to 200 participants within the Causeway Coast and Glens Area. These participants are to be split up into 10 differing interest groups which will increase the cross border impact of the overall Action Plan. The project will be cross community in its delivery with a minimum of 40% of participants from both communities. The membership of each of the 10 thematic groups should also be a minimum of 40% from each community. All participants are to avail of at least 26 hours of cross community activity.</p> <p>Causeway Coast and Glens Council has an agreement in place with Border Councils such as Monaghan and Donegal County Councils to host, reciprocate, exchange visits, signpost and share cross border activity. Having established these relationships Causeway Coast and Glens PEACE IV Partnership is keen to expand on this and formalise agreement in a structured project. The Peace IV Partnership through this project will aim to improve and encourage partnerships and relationships based on common interests and experiences such as Coastal Issues, Rural Issues, Minority Communities, Tourism, Racism, Business Development, Environmental Protection, Expressions of Language and Culture, Festivals and Traditional Events etc.</p>	April 2018	January 2019	October 2019

Performance to Date

Tables 3 - 5 provide data relating to the performance of the project to date. Table 3 identifies key activities that have been undertaken to date and those that are to be carried out in the future. It highlights that:

- with the exception being the Cross-Border Programme, which only began in January 2019, a significant amount of project activity has occurred in each programme to date; and
- the majority of programmes are progressing as planned and are expected to complete by their target end date.

However, it also highlights that:

- Programme 3.3: Cultural and Community Institutions Programme – Cultural / language Institutions Programme ceased in February 2019, ahead of its original target end date (March 2020); and
- CCGBC are currently in the process of requesting an extension to June 2020 for Programme 4: Cross Border Programme, to ensure a quality delivery of this programme.

Further detail on the reasons for these variances are provided in Section 1.6.

Table 4 provides an overview of the financial information associated with each individual programme. The budgets for the four overarching programmes ranged from £141,000 (Cross-Border Programme) to £580,000 (Cultural and Community Institutions Programme), however, it should be noted that the £580,000 is split across three 'sub-programmes'.

Table 4 shows that overall, there has been quite a low spend that has been claimed by CCGBC and verified by SEUPB up to period 8 (May 2018). N.B. at the time of writing, data relating to period 8 is the most up to date data available as the upload and confirmation of period 9 expenditure was delayed due to an eMS modification.

By the end of period 8, the Understanding Our Area Programme had the largest amount of expenditure that had been claimed and verified (£110,724.75), whereas, the Cultural and Community Institutions Programme had the lowest amount of expenditure that had been claimed and verified (£27,559.20)⁴. To date, the Cultural and Community Institutions Programme has had the largest total spend to date (£215,327.95), followed by the Understanding Our Area Programme (£145,252.03). The Cross-Border Programme had the lowest total spend to date (April 2019) at £3,300.

Table 5 highlights that:

- the Understanding Our Area Programme had exceeded its March 2020 target of 750 participants in November 2018 by 1,250;
- the Capacity Building and Dialogue programme delivered participation by groups from 14 local areas / communities;
- the Facilitative Leadership Programme was delivered to 63 emerging leader participants;
- two of the three sub programmes within the Cultural and Community Institutions Programme have met and exceeded their participant target i.e. the BME Integration Programme achieved 376 participants by November 2018, 176 greater than its March 2020 target and the Cultural/ Language Institutions Programme achieved 225 participants by November 2018, 125 greater than its March 2020 target; and
- two programmes have not yet reached their target number of participants i.e. the Cultural and Community - Key Institutions Programme and the Cross-Border Programme.

⁴ The Cross-Border Programme has not been included here as it had not started in period 8 (May 2018). It did not start until January 2019.

Table 3: Summary of project activity to date (as at March 2019)

Programme	Goals / Aims	Actual Start Date	Target End Date	Key Activities to Date	Remaining Activities Scheduled
Programme 1: Understanding Our Area – Building Positive Relations	Engage with 30 community groups / historical societies with 750 participants across the CCGBC area in an area-based heritage, history and built environment exploration project. Min 40% PUL / Min 40% CNR	September 2017	March 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The development of individual practical local history exploration projects across 20 groups. Collaboration between groups at cross border and cross community events Launch night for each individual group's project Training and Courses such as: Oral History Recording; Online Mapping; Archiving and Cataloguing; Handling and Conservation; OCN Level 2 Tour Guiding; and DNA Testing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of a peace building legacy product for local people and tourists showcasing the range of successful interpretative projects that have developed as a result of the programme. Regional programme – 10 groups Showcase events for each individual group's project
Programme 2: Developing Communities – Leadership and Capacity - BPR	Deliver a one to one Capacity Building and Dialogue programme to 70 participants from 14 areas. Delivery of a Facilitative Leadership Programme to 63 emerging leader participants. Min 40% PUL / Min 40% CNR	November 2017	March 2020	<p>Capacity Building and Dialogue Programme: Training needs analysis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training pack produced bespoke to the needs of the programme and learners. Training of facilitators. 3 Accredited Capacity Building Programmes Provision of mentor support and dialogue sessions x 14 (1 dialogue programme per area-based group) <p>Facilitative Leadership Programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training needs analysis Training pack produced and training of facilitators Mentor support and dialogue sessions 3 accredited capacity building programmes 	<p>Capacity Building and Dialogue Programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Celebration event 1-day cross border site visit <p>Facilitative Leadership Programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Celebration event 1-day cross border site visit

Programme	Goals / Aims	Actual Start Date	Target End Date	Key Activities to Date	Remaining Activities Scheduled
Programme 3.1: Cultural and Community Institutions Programme – Key Institutions Programme	Deliver a key institutions programme including representatives from Orange Order, GAA and Bands – 300 participants	November 2017	March 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communications and PR training e.g. using social media platforms, radio and TV interviews • Study visits e.g. to Ballymoney and Moyle Cluster to explore culture and traditions of local institutions • Participant completion of OCN accredited courses e.g. level 1 and 2 Public Event Management • Leadership training by IISC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparation for and delivery of Key Institutions Cultural Exhibition • Cross border study visit • OCN Level 2 Fundraising and the Voluntary Sector Course
Programme 3.2: Cultural and Community Institutions Programme – BME Integration Programme	Deliver a BME Integration Programme with 200 participants across 10 areas	November 2017	March 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruitment of steering group members • 4 workshops on cultural awareness, identity and migration • Seminars at Nomadic and Titanic Visitors Centre • Accredited Community Cohesion Training • “Meet the Neighbours” sessions focusing on a different faith / language or nationality group – bringing together members of BME community and host community • Preparatory workshop for international study visit • International Study Visit to Croatia and Bosnia 	Accredited community cohesion course for young leaders Closing event with drama performance
Programme 3.3: Cultural and Community Institutions Programme – Cultural / Language	Deliver a Cultural / Language Institutions Programme with 100 participants	November 2017	March 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participant Completion of OCN Level 1 and Level 2 Youth Leadership Courses • 6 groups (40 participants total across the groups) deliver good relations projects in 6 cohort areas 	None – programme ceased activities February 2019

Programme	Goals / Aims	Actual Start Date	Target End Date	Key Activities to Date	Remaining Activities Scheduled
institutions programme				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3-day cross border visit to Dublin • Workshops involving: Ulster Scots / Highland dancing; Irish Ceili dancing; Ulster Scots tin whistle; Irish Bodhran; Irish Language taster sessions; Ulster Scots Language taster sessions • Hosting of schools events such as bringing primary schools together on a cross community basis to explore Ulster Scots; Poetry; History; Music; and Baking • Attending Fleadh in Limavady Arts Centre • Showcase finale event in January 2019 which let groups showcase what the project had taught them and what it enabled them to do 	
Programme 4: Cross-Border Programme	To deliver a cross border engagement and partnership project to 200 participants within the Causeway Coast and Glens Area. These participants are to be split up into 10 differing interest groups which will increase the cross border impact of the overall Action Plan. The project will be cross community in its delivery with a minimum of 40% of participants from both communities. The membership of each of the 10 thematic groups should also be a minimum of 40% from each community. All participants are to avail of at least 26 hours of cross community activity. Causeway Coast and Glens Council has an agreement	January 2019	October 2019 (NB feedback from project representatives have highlighted potential issues relating to this target end date, they are currently in talks to get it extended until June 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery of a recruitment strategy – recruitment to the programme across 10 thematic areas • Design of a baseline questionnaire to identify the needs of the project. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate 5 x Best Practice and Goal Setting Sessions for each of the 10 groups involved over the lifetime of the Programme • A resource allocation of £5,000 per group to develop a website / app / set of videos • Delivery of one final lasting legacy resource developed from all group work – liaising with digital content producers.

Programme	Goals / Aims	Actual Start Date	Target End Date	Key Activities to Date	Remaining Activities Scheduled
	<p>in place with Border Councils such as Monaghan and Donegal County Councils to host, reciprocate, exchange visits, signpost and share cross border activity. Having established these relationships Causeway Coast and Glens PEACE IV Partnership is keen to expand on this and formalise agreement in a structured project. The Peace IV Partnership through this project will aim to improve and encourage partnerships and relationships based on common interests and experiences such as Coastal Issues, Rural Issues, Minority Communities, Tourism, Racism, Business Development, Environmental Protection, Expressions of Language and Culture, Festivals and Traditional Events etc.</p>				

Table 4: Programme expenditure

Programme	Budget	Contract Award	Spend to date (April 2019)	Claimed and Verified up until and including Period 8 (May, 2018)
Programme 1: Understanding Our Area	€472,708 / £400,600	£400,600	£145,252.03	£110,724.75
Programme 2: Developing Communities – Leadership and Capacity	€382,815.60 / £324,420.00	£306,830	£59,136.96	£33,353.55
Programme 3: Cultural and Community Institutions Programme	€684,400 / £580,000	£440,809 Key Institutions Programme: £169,716 BME Integration Programme: £127,693 Cultural / Languages Institutions Programme: £143,400	Key Institutions Programme: £25,905 BME Integration Programme: £90,055.13 Cultural / Languages Institutions Programme £99,367.82	Key Institutions Programme: £0 BME Integration Programme: £17,280 Cultural / Language Institutions Programme: £10,279.20
Programme 4: Cross-Border Programme	€166,380 / £141,000	£141,000	£3,300	£0
Total	€1,539,215.60 / £1,304,420.00	£1,288,639.00	£423,016.94	£171,637.50

Table 5: Actuals (as at November 2018) v's Programme Targets

	Programme	Target	Current Figures Period 10 (September – November 2018)
1.	Understanding Our Area	30 Groups: 750 participants	2,000 participants 16 groups engaged in local level projects that have a resource allocation, 2 groups avail of training opportunities but do not have a resource allocation, 11 groups are involved in regional projects (specified in Appendix 1)
2.	Developing Communities: Leadership and Capacity:	Recruitment of participants from 14 target areas for Capacity Building Programme and 63 individuals for Facilitative Leadership Programme	155 participants in total. Facilitative Leadership Programme: 84 participants Capacity Building Programme: 71 participants
3.1	Cultural and Community Institutions Programme - Key Institutions Programme	300 participants	112 participants
3.2	Cultural and Community Institutions Programme - BME Integration Programme	200 participants	376 participants
3.3	Cultural and Community Institutions Programme - Cultural / Language Institutions Programme	100 participants	225 participants
4.	Cross-Border Programme	200	105 participants (February 2019)

Project monitoring and evaluation

CCGBC representatives have stated that monitoring information is being collected at an overall Programme level, namely:

- entrance questionnaires, which record details such as participants' opinions on the current and future state of the relationship between the PUL and CNR community in their local area, are being issued to participants at the beginning of engagement with the programme;
- Section 75 forms, which record details such as age, gender and religion have been distributed to participants; and
- exit questionnaires, which measure attitudinal change are also to be completed by participants at the end of each programme.

Pre and post programme evaluation forms specific to each programme are also to be completed at the beginning and end of each individual programme. Moreover, the individual Programme Delivery Agents complete a 'Progress Report Tool' on a quarterly basis which includes a summary of activities completed to date, spend to date and progress against targets.

N.B. at the time of writing, the Programme's PEACE IV Coordinator did not currently hold any of this data as, however, the Understanding Our Area delivery agent had collected Section 75, PEACE IV entrance and programme specific entrance data.

131 PEACE IV entrance questionnaires and 20 programme specific baseline surveys have been completed and returned to the Understanding Our Area delivery agent to date. Appendix 2 provides an analysis of this initial cohort of programme specific baseline questionnaires. The responses suggest that:

- most respondents have a low to medium level of awareness of their own heritage and culture;
- most respondents have a low to medium level of awareness of the heritage and culture of other groups within the CCGBC area; and
- most respondents have a low to medium level of awareness of the context of the heritage of their project outside of their immediate geographic or local event.

Programme Impacts to Date

To date, no impact data has been produced by the CCGBC for the programmes delivered as part of its Building Positive Relations Programme. As highlighted above, it is anticipated that impact information will be captured via post completion surveys.

In the absence of project derived impact data, RSM has consulted with a selection of beneficiaries of the 'Understanding Our Area Programme' to obtain their views in the type of impacts that might be obtained by this programme. The 'Understanding Our Area Programme' was selected as it is well-progressed and it has exceeded its target number of participants.

Our consultation with beneficiaries involved:

- a workshop with eight members of the Mountsandel Discovery and Heritage Group - the Mountsandel Discovery and Heritage Group joined the Understanding Our Area Programme in February 2018 and will hold a project showcase event in June 2019. This group aims to raise awareness and understanding of the significance of the Mesolithic settlement site at Mountsandel in Coleraine, the oldest known site of human settlement in Ireland. They are developing an illustrated story book that depicts what life may have been like for the people living at Mountsandel 10,000 years ago. The final part of their project is the development of a short promotional film in partnership with a small group of media students from Northern Regional College;
- a short survey (distributed via the PEACE IV Understanding Our Area Programme Officer) of the students from the Northern Regional College who had engaged in the documentary / website development component of the Mountsandel History and Heritage Project - 4 responses were received; and,

- a telephone consultation with the leader of the Glenshane Care Association group and a follow-up survey (designed by RSM) was completed by this consultee, it was distributed by the Peace IV Understanding Our Area Project Officer. Glenshane Care Association joined the Understanding Our Area programme in early February 2018 and are set to hold a project showcase event in June 2019. They are a cross community group of adults with physical and/or learning disabilities. Their Accessible Heritage project is designed to enable them to learn about local heritage and history while gathering information relating to the accessibility of sites visited such as Banagher Old Church (as shown in Figure 1), Kilrea Tour (as shown in Figure 2), the Giant's Causeway and Titanic, Belfast. The Glenshane Care Association Group are developing an Accessible Heritage Guide in conjunction with a visually impaired group from the Royal National Institute of Blind People who have also undertaken a series of visits to local heritage sites, it will be published at the end of their projects. This guide will give information in relation to the accessibility of each site, allowing people with additional needs to make informed decisions about the suitability of each site to their individual needs. The group hope that they can continue the theme of history / heritage in future activities that they carry out.

Figure 1: Group Visit to Banagher Old Church



Figure 2: Kilrea Town Tour



Table 6 below identifies the key areas of discussion with members of the Mountsandel Discovery and Heritage Group along with a summary of responses.

Table 6: Mountsandel Discovery and Heritage Group workshop findings (8 participants)

Discussion Topic	Summary of responses
What has the Understanding Our Area Programme enabled you / your group to do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a launch event that was attended by over 200 people including local residents, councillors, the Mayor of CCGBC and MLAs (figure 3) • creation of a booklet to celebrate the Mountsandel Site and raise awareness about its existence • development of a 10-minute documentary about the site which includes footage and interviews from academics and historians / archaeologists / specialists in carbon dating / doctors from QUB / Ulster Museum. • a presentation by the group to the Council on the significance of their project and the Mountsandel site itself. • engagement in other activities involved in the project such as a DNA workshop, which involved DNA sampling to analyse ancestral/historical past. • engagement and collaboration in forums with other groups e.g. at Cavan County Museum meeting with 15 other groups.
How has the programme impacted on your awareness of your own heritage and cultural identity?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some members of the Mountsandel group have also joined other history / heritage groups in the CCGBC area after discovering their existence through events such as the community forum. • Participants noted that the programme has enabled them to increase publicity of the Mountsandel site e.g. articles in newspaper
How has the programme enabled you or your group to dispel myths, break down barriers and address pre-conceptions that people have / may have about an area's history?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased awareness of the Mountsandel site and its shared history significance.
How has the programme encouraged joint working between groups and communities across the area?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The programme funded joint working between the Mountsandel History and Heritage Group and a cross community group of media students from the Northern Regional College • A launch event which was attended by Councillors, MLAs, Local Residents and the Mayor. • The programme encouraged joint working between history and heritage groups in the CCGBC area, including cross community interaction. • The group hope that their Community Engagement Event scheduled for May / June 2019 will create further opportunities to collaborate with different groups and communities across the CCGBC area.
How has the programme contributed to attitudinal change in the area?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The group highlighted that the project refers to a shared history that pre-dates PUL and CNR divisions. They estimate that they have presented to and told the story of the Mountsandel site to over 2,000 people through events at schools, universities and public events.

Figure 3: Mountsandel Discovery Project Launch



Table 7 identifies the key areas of discussion with students of Northern Regional College along with a summary of responses.

Table 7: Northern Regional College student survey findings

Discussion Topic	Summary of responses
To what extent has your involvement in the 'Understanding Our Area' Programme increased your awareness, knowledge and understanding of your own heritage and cultural identity?	All four respondents noted that their involvement in the programme has increased their awareness, knowledge and understanding of their own heritage and cultural identity (2 moderate increase; 1 slight increase and 1 high increase).
To what extent do you agree that the Understanding Our Area Programme has encouraged and enabled joint working between groups and communities across the Council area?	Two respondents agreed and two neither agreed nor disagreed that the Understanding Our Area Programme has encouraged and enabled joint working between groups and communities across the Council area.
To what extent do you agree that the Understanding Our Area Programme has enabled you to engage with a wide range of groups such as: historical groups; cultural groups; schools; faith organisations; and youth groups?	Two respondents agreed, one respondent neither agreed nor disagreed and one disagreed that the Understanding Our Area Programme has enabled them to engage with a wide range of groups such as: historical groups; cultural groups; schools; faith organisations; and youth groups.
To what extent do you agree that the Understanding Our Area Programme has enabled local communities to engage and interact with local history, heritage and culture?	Three respondents agreed and one respondent neither agreed nor disagreed that the Understanding Our Area Programme has enabled local communities to engage and interact with local history, heritage and culture.
What specifically do you think that this programme has done well so far?	<p>Respondents believed that the programme was increasing awareness of the history of the Mountsandel Mesolithic Site.</p> <p>Respondents stated that before their inclusion in the programme, they did not know very much about such an historically significant site in their local council area. Furthermore, they asserted that the programme has enabled them to collaborate with the Mountsandel group and work together to learn something new.</p> <p>Respondents stated that they would not have had this opportunity to learn about the history of Ireland without being involved in this programme.</p>
If applicable, how do you think that this programme could be improved?	One respondent stated that it is difficult to bring in a large variety of people to watch the documentary that the students have developed about the

Mountsandel site, as “too many younger people and people not in the local area regard Mountsandel as just a regular boring old site”.

Table 8 identifies the key areas of discussion with the group leader of the Glenshane Care Association along with a summary of her responses.

Table 8: Glenshane Care Association consultation findings

Discussion Topic	Summary of responses
Has the Understanding Our Area Programme encouraged joint working between your group and other groups/communities across the CCGBC area?	The programme has enabled the members of Glenshane Care Association to collaborate with members of the Royal National Institute of Blind People in Coleraine e.g. they visited the Green Lane Museum together and also the Roe Valley Arts and Culture Centre. These events have resulted in collaboration that has contributed towards the accessible heritage project. Furthermore, other groups have visited Glenshane Care Association’s Day Centre to explain their heritage / cultural project before Glenshane Care Association members attend a site visit.
Specifically, what impacts has the project had on your group?	The programme has enabled the group to contribute towards the way in which museums / history groups interact with people with physical and/or learning difficulties. For example, they have communicated the need for more than just wheelchair ramps / disabled toilets at history / heritage sites. They have cited the importance of changing facilities, they have raised the issue of gravel being used at sites (e.g. this creates difficulty for wheelchair users). Furthermore, they have noted the importance of sensory aspects e.g. colours, images, font size / type and Makaton.
How has the project contributed towards accessibility for those with physical needs in finding out about heritage / cultural identity?	They will have a report at the end of their project that will give feedback on access for those with physical and learning difficulties. They have visited and had tours of sites such as Giant’s Causeway, Bushmills Distillery, Dunluce Castle and the Ulster Folk and Transport Museum.
How will your group contribute to the programme objective of developing a peace building “legacy product”	The group are currently writing a report which will focus on developing ideas for well-established groups to improve, as well as suggesting food for thought to new community groups. Furthermore, they are going to make a guide for the sites that they have attended that focuses on accessibility which will be crucial for other groups with physical / learning difficulties.
What has the programme done well and what could be improved?	The group representative highly commended the efforts of the CCGBC Museum Service staff, who “ <i>have been very good and tweaked things to better suit the needs of the group</i> ”. The respondent stated that the programme could not be improved. Her group have been recognised and valued which is the most important thing to her.

Table 9 identifies the key topics addressed in the follow up surveys with the group leaders of Mountsandel Discovery and Heritage group and Glenshane Care Association.

Table 9: Follow Up Surveys with Group Leaders from Mountsandel and Glenshane Care Association

Discussion Topic	Summary of responses
<p>To what extent has your involvement in the 'Understanding Our Area' Programme increased your awareness, knowledge and understanding of your own heritage and cultural identity?</p>	<p>Both respondents stated that their involvement in the Understanding Our Area Programme led to a high increase (one indicated 'very high' and the other indicated 'high') in awareness, knowledge and understanding of the group's own heritage and cultural identity.</p>
<p>To what extent do you agree that the Understanding Our Area Programme has encouraged and enabled joint working between groups and communities across the Council area?</p>	<p>Both respondents strongly agreed that the Understanding Our Area Programme has encouraged and enabled joint working on a cross community basis across the Council area.</p>
<p>To what extent do you agree that the Understanding Our Area Programme has facilitated the dispelling of myths, break down of barriers, and address pre-conceptions that you have about your area's history?</p>	<p>Both respondents strongly agreed that the Understanding Our Area Programme has facilitated the dispelling of myths, break down of barriers and also addressed pre-conceptions that they had about their area's history.</p>
<p>To what extent do you agree that the Understanding Our Area Programme has enabled you to engage with a wide range of groups such as: historical groups; cultural groups; schools; faith organisations; and youth groups?</p>	<p>Both respondents strongly agreed that the Understanding Our Area Programme has enabled them to engage with a wide range of groups such as: historical groups; cultural groups; schools; faith organisations and youth groups.</p>
<p>To what extent do you agree that the Understanding Our Area Programme has enabled local communities to engage and interact on a cross community basis with local history, heritage and culture?</p>	<p>Both respondents strongly agreed that the Understanding Our Area Programme has enabled local communities to engage and interact on a cross community basis with local history, heritage and culture.</p>
<p>What specifically do you think that this programme has done well so far?</p>	<p>One respondent stated that specifically, the programme has facilitated and encouraged links with and between various groups in the community and furthered the exchange of ideas and friendships between groups and increased respect for the work many other people are doing in the community. Furthermore, it has enabled them to engage with young people.</p> <p>The other respondent stated that the programme has provided a wide variety of events and opportunities for participants to engage with local heritage projects and with the representatives from these projects. This respondent noted that the individuals they work with would generally not have the opportunity to engage with the variety of heritage projects that are included in the programme. Furthermore, this respondent noted that the programme has enabled the group to establish new links and friendships with other groups that they hope to retain and develop after project completion. Furthermore, this respondent contends that through participation in this programme and the completion of their project, a legacy outcome with regards to ongoing support for their group and the individuals that they work with through the continued production of accessible information will be achieved.</p>
<p>If applicable, how do you think that this programme could be improved</p>	<p>One respondent did not believe that the programme could be improved and commended the delivery agent on rolling the programme out at a local level and the encouragement of knowledge exchange between groups. They stated that this knowledge gained will be used again where possible.</p> <p>The other respondent also did not believe that this programme could be improved. They highlighted that this programme has been a valuable learning experience for their organisation. Furthermore, they noted that the programme has been well organised, especially the networking events, training and site visits.</p>

Summary

Whilst the findings of our consultations are based on a small and therefore unrepresentative sample of project beneficiaries and programme staff, the feedback obtained to date suggests that the Understanding Our Area Programme is having a positive impact on Peace and Reconciliation in the CCGBC area.

Feedback highlighted that the Programme has enabled and encouraged participants to collaborate and contribute to a 'Peace Building Legacy Product' on a cross community basis and that it has enabled local communities to engage and interact on a cross community basis with local history, heritage and culture.

A more robust assessment of programme impact should become available over time, when data emanating from entrance and exit questionnaires (at both an overall CCGBC Building Positive Relations Programme level and at a specific programme level) becomes available.

Issues encountered and lessons learned to date

Consultation with Programme's PEACE IV coordinator highlights a number of issues relevant to this case study:

- the overarching PEACE IV Building Positive Relations Programme experienced a delay in its start date - the Programme did not commence until July 2017. Although the co-ordinator considers that the majority of lost time has been made-up and programmes are progressing well, she feels the delivery has been slightly rushed and that momentum has only just started to build with (in most cases) only 6 months of the programmes left;
- the delayed start to the programme has meant that there was a reduced timeframe for groups to complete their projects, which has caused some difficulties, particularly with the lower capacity groups. This has resulted in increased demands being placed on Peace IV and Museum Services staff;
- the Culture and Languages programme was a "victim of its own success" and it "ran out of money" whilst achieving all of its key performance indicators. It was suggested by the coordinator that monies should have been moved from the budget of the Key Institutions Programme to the Culture and Languages Programme to help meet cater for the unexpectedly high level of demand;
- the Key Institutions Programme suffered "walk-outs" by certain institutions and was also impacted by staffing changes from within the delivery organisation. However, the Peace IV Coordinator noted that despite these issues, the programme is now at a point at which it can be considered a success; and;
- delivery of the Cross-Border Programme will be too rushed if it is to be completed by its target end date of October 2019 months. The Coordinator is currently negotiating an extension until June 2020 to ensure that the quality of delivery can be maintained.

Initial observation and recommendations

This case study highlights that despite a six-month delay in the start off the overall programme, the majority of programme activity is progressing well and is currently on schedule to meet its completion date. In fact, one programme has finished ahead of its target end date due to a high level of demand and associated budgetary constraints and only two of the programmes/ sub programmes have not yet reached their target level of participants.

In order to inform the project going forward, we highlight the following:

- Monitoring and Evaluation – for this initial case study, RSM were provided with the results of just 20 baseline surveys for the Understanding Our Area Programme i.e. 20 out of 2,000 participants (1%). We recommend that CCGBC focus on ensuring that the completion of entrance and exit questionnaires (at an overall and individual programme level) is completed as comprehensively and robustly as possible and that data is collated, analysed and presented in a timely manner to inform project stakeholders of the impacts emerging from the programme;
- as the Understanding Our Area Programme approaches the end of its delivery period, efforts should be made to ensure that the Community Forum remains after the programme, so that groups can continue to network and share learning; and

CCGBC should focus on ensuring that the Key Institutions Programme and Cross Border Programme achieve their participant targets within agreed (or if applicable, revised) timescales.

NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL : BEYOND TOLERANCE

Project Overview

In July 2017, Newry, Mourne and Down District Council (NM&D DC) received a grant of up to a maximum of £1,688,257.31 / €1,992,143.63 (ERDF + Government Match Funding), to be expended and claimed by 31st December 2020) from the PEACE IV Programme to undertake its Beyond Tolerance – Shared Spaces and Services (SSS) project.

The project is scheduled to deliver twelve programmes across the 7 District Electoral Areas (DEAs)⁵ within the NM&D DC area, which cover the following themes:

- re-imaging and regeneration;
- flags, emblems and bonfires;
- ex-military sites legacy (x3 projects);
- shared spaces engagement;
- capacity building;
- disengaged communities and local leaders;
- Tom Dunn Project education;
- Warrenpoint community garden project;
- 3G synthetic pitch development; and
- construction of a BMX track.

This project has been selected as a longitudinal case study as part of a wider impact evaluation of the PEACE IV Programme. This is the first of three case studies of the project that will be carried out during the evaluation. It will be updated and further developed in 2020 and 2022.

Summary details of the overall project are provided in Table 1 below and further details of each of the twelve programmes are provided in Table 2.

⁵ DEAs form the basis for the electoral representation on councils, there are 80 DEAs in Northern Ireland within 11 Local Government Districts.

Table 1: Project overview

Applicant:	NM&D DC
Project	NM&D DC – Beyond Tolerance – Shared Spaces and Services
Partners:	NM&D DC and Policing and Community Safety Partnership (PCSP)
Relevant Specific Objective	SO3.2: The creation of a more cohesive society through an increased provision of shared spaces and services
Amount awarded by PIV	£1,688,257.31 / €1,992,143.63
Duration	1 st June 2016 to 31 st December 2020

Table 2: Summary of project elements

Output indicator	Output description	Partner(s) involved	Budget
3.2: Local initiatives that facilitate the sustained usage on a shared basis of public areas / buildings	To deliver a Re-imaging & Regeneration Programme with the objective of completing fieldwork for initial engagement and creation of safe spaces for dialogue. Aimed at ensuring activities which will produce local physical changes are agreed by all residents therefore ensuring their long-term sustainability. 10 sites / projects to be targeted.	PCSP	€263,140
	To deliver a Flags, Emblems & Bonfires Protocol Programme with the objective of building upon previously established protocols and creating new sustainable protocols across districts.	PCSP	€77,172
	To deliver an Ex-military Sites Legacy Programme (Ballykinlar) with the objective of engagement at local and district level, opening up spaces for learning where they have a historical back drop in the 'Troubles'. A hut from the former Ballykinlar site will be recreated to reflect its shared history.	NM&D DC	€177,000
	To deliver a Shared Spaces Engagement Programme with the objective of establishing links across sectors to create and develop sustainable service provision in a shared space. Aimed at increasing shared space in areas where it is contested, through the sharing of mutual services. Focused on the community and voluntary sector. There will be 7 DEA (District Electoral Area) based engagement programmes.	NM&D DC	€201,544
	To deliver a Capacity Building Programme for Developing Shared Space with the objective of engaging to mainstream and sustain peace and good relations through all service delivery in the District. Project aimed at ensuring systematic change in how services are delivered, and spaces developed, to design out sectarianism and racism.	NM&D DC	€159,300
	To deliver a Preparatory Programme for Disengaged Communities and Local Leaders with the objective of engaging individuals and communities not normally engaged in the peace process or good relations programmes, on issues of contested space through 7 DEA based programmes	PCSP	€99,946

	To deliver an Ex-Military Sites Legacy Programme (Forkhill) with the objective of engagement at local and district level opening up spaces for learning where they have a historical back drop in the 'Troubles'. Forkhill is part of a wider redevelopment scheme of the site. This project will address the social aspects of the site to open up a formally contested space.	NM&D DC	€60,129
	To deliver an Ex-military Sites Legacy Programme (Bessbrook, Ballyhornan and Ballynahinch) – SSS with the Objective of engagement at local and district level opening up spaces for learning where they have a historical back drop in the 'Troubles'.	NM&D DC	€238,258
	The 'Tom Dunn Project' will develop an Educational Shared Space, a Shared Walkway (which will include a shared history walking tour), an Educational toolkit and a Hedge Summer School (which will promote integrated education), focusing on the community relations work of Tom Dunn, how this can be learned from and how this can move NM&D DC towards a more integrated, cohesive and shared society.	NM&D DC	€56,640
	The 'Warrenpoint Community Garden Project' aims to engage participants to develop an active community garden in an unused neutral space in partnership with Warrenpoint Town Football Club, Cabbage Patchers and Men's Shed. The project will clear the site and develop provisions to allow work with those people affiliated with Youth Justice Agency, Health Trust, Schools, PCSP and Community Sector Organisations. Projects will use gardening as a tool to promote the shared space and deliver intercultural, intergenerational projects across the community.	NM&D DC	€49,560
	Saintfield Community Centre – The proposed project involves the development of an indoor pitch and associated shock pad, rebound wall, fencing and protective netting for the Saintfield Community Centre.	NM&D DC	€86,140*
	The project aims to construct a BMX track that will provide access to BMX biking for all young people and their parents / carers. It encompasses a straight forward build of moulded jumps, obstacles and banked corners. The project will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a coordinated approach of support to the local community through the provision of activities which promote health improvement, good relations and community cohesion; • Create opportunities for volunteering and development of new skills; and • Create intercommunity / cross border and cross community events and programmes and challenge barriers that divide communities. 	NM&D DC	€137,828.72
		Total	€ 1,468,829⁶

⁶ Total excludes funding allocated for management and communication activities. Budget figures have been sourced from eMS. The * indicates that this figure does not include the extra £27,000 / €31,860 contributed by PEACE funding towards this capital development, eMS has not yet been updated to reflect this additional funding.

Progress to date

The following sections provide details on progress achieved by each of the of the 12 projects/programmes included within the NM&D DC Shared Spaces and Service Project.

Re-imaging and Regeneration Programme:

The first stage of the Reimaging and Regeneration programme is currently in progress. The value of this initial stage is £61,950.00 (€73,101.00), 28 per cent of the overall £223,000 (€263,140.00) budget. Approximately £6,195.00 has been claimed to date.

This stage of the programme is being delivered by County Down Rural Community Network (CDRCN) and involves fieldwork for initial engagement and creation of safe spaces for dialogue between community groups, key influencers and gate keepers in each of the participating areas. This stage of the programme will involve discussions around the aspects of the areas involved that currently exclude, intimidate and make some members of the community feel unwelcome (e.g. flags, emblems, graffiti, monuments and murals). This dialogue will also focus on ways in which the community could potentially open their area and improve existing civic space.

The output of this stage will be the identification of 10 areas for re-imaging / regeneration and the development of a Local Action Plan for each area.

CDRCN presented on their current progress on the 28th February 2019 and the 10 local steering groups were identified as: Newtownhamilton; Crossmaglen; Carnagat; North Street; Warrenpoint; Kilkeel; Annalong; Ballykinler; Mount Crescent; and Killyleagh. The 10 final action plans will be presented in May 2019.

Flags, Emblems and Bonfires Protocol Programme

The aim of the Flags, Emblems and Bonfires Protocol Programme is to build upon previously established protocols and create new sustainable protocols across the district. Copius Consulting have undertaken stakeholder consultation to determine the key issues, priorities, key influencers, gatekeepers and statutory agencies associated with Flags, Emblems and Bonfires in the NM&D DC area. The first three stages of the Flags, Emblems and Bonfires protocol programme have been completed (March 2019), namely:

- Initial consultation with community stakeholders;
- Compilation of a draft report on community-based key issues concerning bonfires, flags and emblems; and
- 1 initial recruitment and information session for the Education and Awareness sessions.

The fourth stage of the programme is currently underway. This stage involves the delivery of four education and awareness sessions, three of which have been completed (March 2019) (Figure 2). 54 groups out of a target of 30 have been engaged in the programme. These group include: Political; Community; Sport; Business; Statutory; Cultural and Heritage; and Religious groups.

The following stages of the Flags, Emblems and Bonfires Protocol Programme are yet to be completed:

- 1 site visit; and
- 3-4 group workshops to discuss issues and create local agreements.

Figure 2: Participants engaging in an Education and Awareness Activity



£24,662 of this programme's expenditure has been claimed to date.

Shared Spaces Engagement Programme

The Shared Spaces Engagement Programme has the objective of establishing links across the area to create and develop sustainable service provision in a shared space. It is aimed at increasing shared space in areas where space is contested, by encouraging the sharing of mutual services. This programme has an overall budget of £170,800 (€201,544), however, this first stage of the project has a tender value of just £24,475.00 (14.3% of the total budget), with £17,135.00 claimed to date.

The purpose of this first stage is to undertake an audit/mapping of current service provision and a dialogue programme with the service providers. Furthermore, this project aims to facilitate service providers to jointly develop a work plan to address the local issues and needs in terms of peace and reconciliation (an overarching work plan is set to be implemented along with 7 focused work plans directly linked to each DEA).

As of March 2019, County Down Rural Community Network (CDRCN) has met with all service providers, a selection of community groups and all other relevant stakeholders and completed questionnaires to gather information on the perceived level of service provision, gaps and barriers. CDRCN are meeting with PEACE IV officers to discuss the layout of work plans, the final work plan for each DEA will be available over the coming months.

Ex – Military Sites

Ballykinlar

The Ballykinlar History Hut Programme was launched on 29th September 2018 at Down County Museum. This project has a budget of £150,000 (€177,000). Planning permission has been granted to recreate a 1900 era timber hut in the Museum courtyard to mark the Decade of Centenaries, using as much original material as possible salvaged from Ballykinlar Camp, representing a shared space to interpret its use during the period 1900 – present, including for military training during the First World War, internment during the Irish War of Independence, and use during the Second World War for Maltese refugees and US GIs.

The project launch event included: Guest Speakers; Dress up photo opportunities; a 'Museum handling box' which included objects and artefacts related to the Ballykinlar History Hut; and craft activities. A design team has been appointed. A Ballykinlar public engagement project will be funded under PEACE IV 'Building Positive Relations' Programme (£40,000). The Council has also allocated an additional £65,000 in the year 2018 – 2019 for development of exhibition designs and interpretation / fit-out for the hut in order to make it an authentic experience.

Forkhill

Consultation with the local community is currently ongoing in relation to the selection of the site.

Bessbrook, Ballyhornan and Ballynahinch

Ballyhornan ex- military site is currently at planning permission stage. Development of ex – military sites at Bessbrook and Ballynahinch is yet to commence.

Capacity Building Programme for Developing Shared Spaces

This tender has been drafted and is currently awaiting the outcome of the mapping study that was due to be completed at the end of February 2019. The expected start date is May / June 2019, with an end date of August 2020. The objective of this is to mainstream and sustain Peace and Good Relations through all service delivery in the District. This Programme is aimed at ensuring a systematic change in how services are delivered and spaces developed to design out sectarianism and racism.

Preparatory programme for Disengaged Communities

This programme is expected to commence in May/June 2019 with an anticipated end date of late August 2020. The objective of this programme is to engage individuals and communities not normally engaged with the Peace process or good relations programmes, in discussions of issues of contested space. The anticipated output is 7 DEA based programmes. The programme is being delivered by the PCSP.

Tom Dunn Programme

This programme has been given permission to appoint a design team, it has an anticipated end date of September 2020. The objective of this programme is the development of an Educational Shared Space, a Shared Walkway, an Educational toolkit and a Hedge Summer School.

Tom Dunn was a local Hedge School Master in Rostrevor, through his work with the Protestant and Catholic communities he was known locally as the 'Peasant Patriot'. This project will develop an Educational Shared Space, a Shared Walkway, an Educational toolkit and a Hedge Summer school, focusing on the good community relations work of Tom Dunn, how learnings from this can help to move towards a more integrated, cohesive and shared society. The shared space will involve the creation of a monument of Tom Dunn that will have seating and stories that link to the history and story of Tom Dunn which will be used by the local schools and Churches for shared learning projects.

Warrenpoint Community Garden

This programme has been given permission to appoint a design team, it has an anticipated end date of September 2020. The objective of this programme is to develop a community garden in an unused neutral space and use gardening as a tool to promote the Shared Space and deliver intercultural and intergenerational projects across the community.

Saintfield Community Centre

This programme has been completed. It involved the construction of: an indoor 3G synthetic pitch carpet and shock pad; a rebound wall to surround the 3G pitch; rebound fencing to surround the 3G pitch; and an overhead protective netting to the 3G pitch. This is part of the wider development of the Saintfield Community Centre which also involves the development of a centre with a 25m x 10m main hall, studio, meeting room, kitchen, toilets, reception area, and a break out / coffee area.

BMX Track

The designs of the track have been finalised in preparation for construction. The project is due to be completed by Autumn 2019. The objective of the programme is the construction of a BMX track that encompasses a straight forward build of moulded jumps, obstacles and banked corners that is accessible to members from all communities.

Summary of Progress to Date

Table 3 provides a summary of outputs and expenditure claimed to date by the programme. The Council reports that there is a lag in the processing of claims that reflects a significant difference in progress of actual work on the ground and fully processed claims. The summary highlights that:

- only one of NM&D DC's programmes is completed or near completion – i.e. Saintfield Community Centre;
- whilst all projects/programmes are expected to be completed by September 2020, at the latest, a number of have not yet been initiated or progressed substantially. This includes a number of small capital projects where design teams have not yet been appointed;
- as a result of limited progress to date, progress against target outputs is limited; and
- expenditure confirmed by NM&D DC as being claimed to date equates to approximately £49,000, which is only 3.6% of the budget allocated to the wider NM&D DC Shared Spaces and Services Project.

Table 3: Financial and output performance to date

Project name	Partner or Contractor	Commenced	Due to end	Main output (target)	Outputs achieved to date (March 2019)	Contract value (£)	Claimed to date (January 2019)
Re-imaging and Regeneration Programme	County Down Rural Community Network / PCSP	September 2018	Current contract: May 2019 Overall Programme: June 2020	10 Programmes – ensuring activities which will produce local physical changes agreed by all residents therefore ensuring long term sustainability	0	Fieldwork for initial engagement and creation of safe spaces for dialogue - £61,950 The total budget of this programme is €263,140.00 / £223,000. As such, there is still approximately £161,050 to be spent on this programme after this contract is completed.	£6,195.00
Flags, Emblems and Bonfires Protocol Programme	Copius Consulting / PCSP	March 2018	September 2020	30 groups engaged in facilitated group work sessions that result in the development of a Flags, Emblems and Bonfires Protocol – 70% PUL, 30% CNR	Number of groups engaged: 54 groups (62 participants)	£61,655. The budget for this programme is €77,172.00 / £65,400	£24,662.00
Shared Spaces Engagement Programme	County Down RCN / NM&D DC	March 2018	Current Contract: February 2019 Overall Programme: September 2020	7 DEA based engagement programmes x 50 participants per programme	0	£24,475 The budget for this programme is €201,544 / £170,800	£17,135.00
Ex-military sites (Ballykinlar)	Down County Museum / NM&D DC	29 th September 2018	30 th November 2019	1 Project – a hut from the former Ballykinlar site will be restored to reflect shared history	0	Unconfirmed but the budget for this Programme is €177,000 / £150,000	£927.26
Ex-military sites (Forkhill)	NM&D DC	Ongoing consultation with community re site	September 2020	1 Project – Open up a formally contested space through redevelopment	0	Unconfirmed. However, the budget is €60,129.26 / £50,957	£0.00
Ex-military sites (Bessbrook, Ballyhoran and Ballynahinch)	NM&D DC	Planning permission stage	September 2020	3 small capital Projects	0	Unconfirmed. However, the budget is €238,258.52 / £201,914.00	£0.00

Capacity Building Programme for Developing Shared Spaces	This tender has been drafted and is just awaiting the outcome of the mapping study.	Expected to start May / June 2019	August 2020	6 Programmes x 10 participants – Project aimed at ensuring systematic change in how services are delivered and spaces developed to design out sectarianism.	0	Unconfirmed. However, The budget is €159,300/ £135,000.	£0.00
Preparatory programme for disengaged communities	PCSP	Expected to start May / June 2019	August 2020	7 DEA-based programmes x 12 participants designed to engage individuals and communities not normally engaged in the peace process.	0	Unconfirmed. The budget for this programme is €99,946 / £84,700	£0.00
Tom Dunn Programme	NM&D DC	Permission to appoint design team has been granted	September 2020	The development of an Educational Shared Space, a Shared Walkway, an Educational toolkit and a Hedge Summer School.	0	Unconfirmed. The budget for this programme is €43,660 / £37,000	£0.00
Warrenpoint Community Garden	NM&D DC	Permission to appoint design team has been granted	September 2020	The development of a community garden in an unused neutral space.	0	Unconfirmed. The budget for this programme is €47,200 / £40,000	£0.00
Saintfield Community Centre	NM&D DC		April 2019	The development of an indoor 3G synthetic pitch, rebound wall to surround the 3G pitch, rebound fencing to surround the 3G pitch and overhead protective netting to the 3G pitch.	0	Unconfirmed. The budget for this programme is €86,140 / £73,000	TBC
BMX track	NM&D DC	Designs finalised in preparation for construction.	Autumn 2019	Construction of a BMX track that encompasses a straight forward build of moulded jumps, obstacles and banked corners that is accessible to member from all communities.	0	Unconfirmed. The budget for this programme is €137,828.72 / £116,804	£0
						Total:	£48,919

Project Monitoring and Evaluation Information

In order to monitor and evaluate the impacts of the Shared Spaces and Services Programme of activity, NM&D DC are undertaking the following:

- baseline surveys: a survey of attitudes and background information completed by participants upon entering each programme; and
- post-participation surveys: a survey of attitudes and information completed by participants after completing each programme.

As no project/programme (that involves participants) has been completed, post participation surveys have not yet been completed. As at March 2019, baseline surveys have been completed by circa 50% (37) of the 62 participants involved in the Flags, Emblems and Bonfires Protocol Programme - the only programme to have been progressed substantially to date.

The results of these completed surveys are shown in Appendix 1 and are summarised as follows:

- The majority of respondents were male (70.3%);
- The majority of respondents did not consider themselves to be a member of the minority ethnic community (73%);
- The majority of respondents came from a PUL background (59.50%);
- 81.10% of respondents defined the neighbourhood where they lived as neutral always or most of the time;
- 70.30% of respondents stated that they would prefer to live in a mixed religion neighbourhood;
- 43.20% of respondents stated that relations between Catholics and Protestants are about the same as they were five years ago;
- 40.50% of respondents thought that relations between Protestants and Catholics will be about the same as they are now in five years' time; and
- 73% of respondents stated that they knew a little about the culture of minority ethnic communities.

Project impacts to date

As no project/programme impact data has been generated by NM&D DC to date, RSM distributed a survey to participants on the Flags, Emblems and Bonfires Programme. 16 responses to the survey were received. The survey results are summarised below, with a more detailed analysis provided in Appendix 2.

- All participants who completed the survey were aged 35+. 31.3% of respondents were aged 35-44, 37.5% were aged 45-54 and 31.3% were aged 55-64.
- 87.5% of respondents were male and 12.5% were female.
- The majority of respondents came from a PUL community background (68.8%) and 31.3% of respondents came from a CNR background.
- The majority of respondents had a main role in the project as a Community / Volunteering group representative (68.8%). 12.5% of respondents were elected members, and 12.5% of respondents had the main role of a local resident.
- All respondents indicated that the education and awareness sessions provided by the Flags, Emblems and Bonfires Protocol Programme increased their knowledge of other cultures and traditions. 81.3% of respondents stated that the education and awareness sessions provided by the Flags, Emblems and Bonfires Protocol Programme led to a 'very high' or 'high' increase in their knowledge and understanding of other cultures and traditions.

- 87.5% of respondents either 'agreed' or 'strongly agreed' that the Flags, Emblems and Bonfires Protocol Programme has influenced the reduction of social division and tension in their local area (e.g. graffiti, display of flags and territorial markings), on the other hand, 0% of respondents 'disagreed' or 'strongly disagreed' with this statement.
- 68.8% of respondents either 'strongly agreed' or 'agreed' that the Flags, Emblems and Bonfires Protocol Programme will influence the reduction of social division and tension in their local area (e.g. graffiti; display of flags and territorial markings), whereas, 0% of respondents 'strongly disagreed' or 'disagreed' with this statement.
- 87.5% of respondents either agreed or strongly agreed that the activities completed to date as part of this programme will contribute to the creation and establishment of a Flags, Emblems and Bonfires Protocol for the area, 0% of respondents 'strongly disagreed' or 'disagreed' with this statement.
- Respondent answers to 'what specifically do you feel that the programme has done well so far?' include:
 - *"It has given groups and participants an opportunity to network and learn from other groups who are engaged in the programme".*
 - *"It has made me think of alternatives to flags and emblems and take in to account other people's beliefs or feelings".*
 - *"Brought together all the relevant people to have very important conversations in relation to addressing bonfires and emblems issues. Getting all these people into the same room and getting them involved in conversations is fantastic".*
 - *"It was nice to learn about what other people see as cultural issues and address and discuss these issues at length. I also feel the programme will help empower local people to deal with local issues on their own through building capacity and community relations".*
 - *"The programme has helped to increase understanding and knowledge of the themes of Flags, Emblems and Bonfires, it also creates opportunities for dialogue and enhance education on the subject of flags, emblems and bonfires".*
 - *"The workshops have given me a real insight into the feelings of the community on the "other side". Getting a better understanding of how our community can be perceived has been a real eye opener".*
- Respondent answers to 'if applicable, how do you feel that this programme could be improved?' included:
 - *"More time for discussion amongst and between the various groups that attend the workshops and more regular contact between the groups".*
 - *"Maybe a visit to an area which has moved forward on these issues to learn or get a knowledge of how they achieved a positive outcome".*

Consultation with the programme delivery agent highlighted that to date, the programme has focused on building localized relationships and improving relations amongst the main local stakeholders concerning the main issues associated with Flags, Emblems and Bonfires. Furthermore, he noted that there are a number of local agreements which already exist amongst local communities in relation to designated flying of flags and agreed bonfire sites, which already illustrates a degree of collaboration. He contends that the programme has sought to use these displays of best practice to challenge the more difficult issues in some local areas across the council district. These relationships have not been put to the test as of yet, however, it is important to note that early dialogue has begun in relation to many of the issues with the view to exploring alternatives at the next stage of this PEACE IV programme.

Furthermore, the programme delivery agent noted that the programme has covered the following three themes:

- Awareness: the main purpose of the lessons has been to highlight several issues which participants may not have been aware of within their local communities and importantly may not have been aware that their actions may have been causing any difficulties, problems or issues to other communities.

- Understanding: the programme has given participants the opportunity to understand other points of view and to challenge their own deeply held views on particular issues. It has helped participants to challenge myths and learn good practice from each other.
- Education: the programme has also provided the opportunity for shared learning and to discover new ideas of learning whilst helping people to understand why others have particular held views. The Programme has also been educating participants about likely solutions and alternatives to how they challenge their localised problems, with local agreements and action plans.

Whilst the findings of our consultation and surveys are based on a small and therefore unrepresentative sample of project beneficiaries and programme staff, the feedback obtained to date suggests that the Flags, Emblems and Bonfires Programme has the potential to make a positive impact on Peace and Reconciliation in the NM&D DC area.

Feedback highlights that the programme has enabled and encouraged participants to collaborate on a cross community basis to understand the importance of Flags, Emblems and Bonfires to both PUL and CNR communities. Our findings also identify that the majority of respondents anticipate that the Programme will contribute to a Flags, Emblems and Bonfires Protocol and also reduce social division and tension in the local area.

A more robust assessment of programme impact should become available over time, when data emanating from entrance and exit questionnaires becomes available.

Issues encountered, and lessons learned to date

Consultation with the Flags, Emblems and Bonfires Programme Delivery Agent identified that:

- attendance at the education and awareness sessions has been an issue as various groups involved in the programme have other responsibilities on certain dates that the programme is held; and
- the time of year will impact attendance at the future Education and Awareness sessions, i.e. upcoming elections will make it difficult for local councillors to attend regular sessions as they will have other responsibilities.

Consultation with the NM&D DC Shared Spaces and Services Programme Coordinator identified that:

- The programme delivery agent for the Flags, Emblems and Bonfire Programme had engaged well with hard to reach communities who were previously not willing to engage in PEACE programmes or community work. In particular, it was highlighted that ex-paramilitary engagement in the process had been encouraging; and
- The Programme Coordinator stated that it was 'too early in the programme' to identify lessons learned.

Initial observation and recommendations

This case study indicates that the programmes within the NM&D DC Shared Spaces and Services Programme are still in early stages of delivery and, as such, it is currently difficult to identify their impacts. However, the results of a small and unrepresentative sample of participants of the Flags, Emblems and Bonfires Programme has indicated that this programme has the potential to contribute positively to social cohesion in the NM&D DC area.

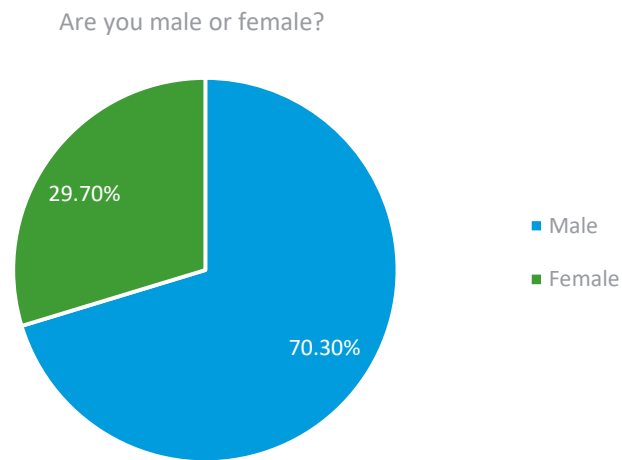
Going forward, we recommend that:

- NM&D DC focus on ensuring that entrance and exit questionnaires are completed as comprehensively and robustly as possible and that data is collated, analysed and presented in a timely manner to inform project stakeholders of the impacts emerging from the programme; and
- given that many of the projects/programmes have yet to be substantially progressed, SEUPB satisfies itself that the programme is on track to deliver against target timescales. In order to inform this assessment, SEUPB could ask NM&D DC to supply a forward plan for each project/programme, with an accompanying risk register/ risk mitigation plan.

Flags, Emblems and Bonfires Programme Baseline Survey Results

The results of these completed surveys are shown below. The base for each figure is 37.

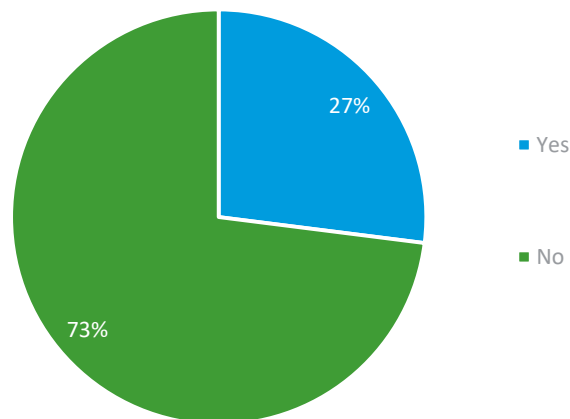
Figure 1:



As shown in Figure 1 above, the majority of the participants in the Flags and Emblems Programme were male (70.3%), just 29.7% of respondents were female.

Figure 2:

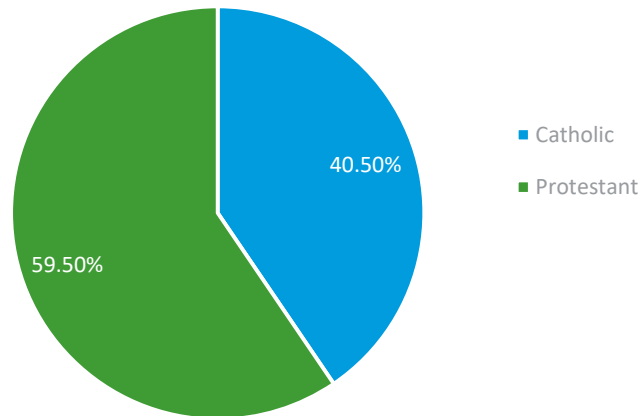
Do you consider yourself to be a member of the minority ethnic community?



As shown in Figure 2 above, just 27% of respondents considered themselves to be a member of the minority ethnic community, 73% did not consider themselves to be a member of the minority ethnic community.

Figure 3:

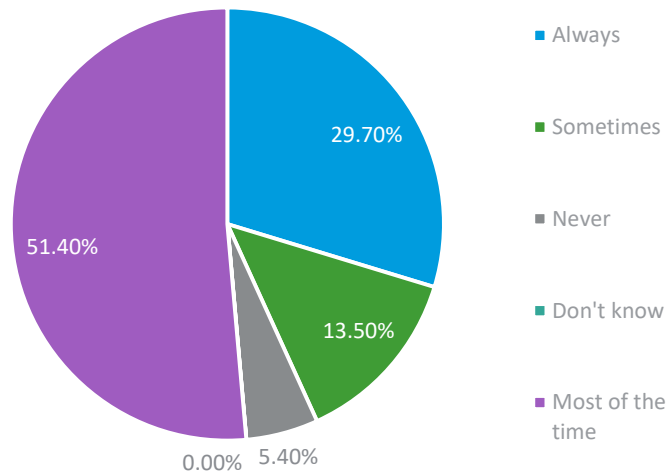
What is your community background?



As shown in Figure 3 above, the majority of respondents came from a PUL background (59.50%), whereas just 40.50% came from a CNR background.

Figure 4:

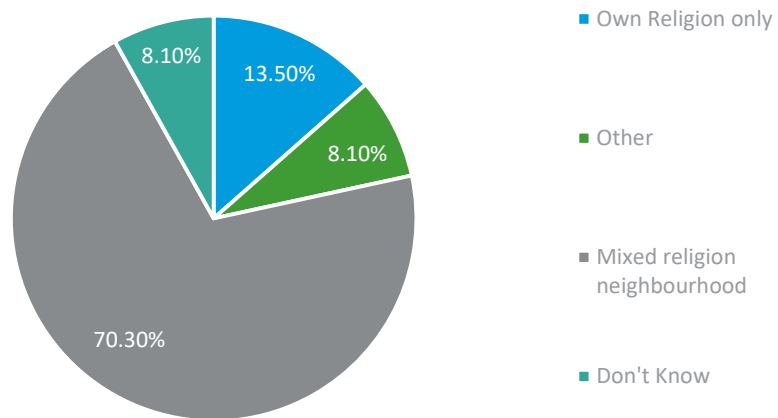
Would you define the neighbourhood where you live as neutral?



As shown in Figure 4 above, 81.10% of respondents defined the neighbourhood where they lived as neutral always or most of the time, 18.90% of respondents defined the neighbourhood where they lived as neutral sometimes or never.

Figure 5:

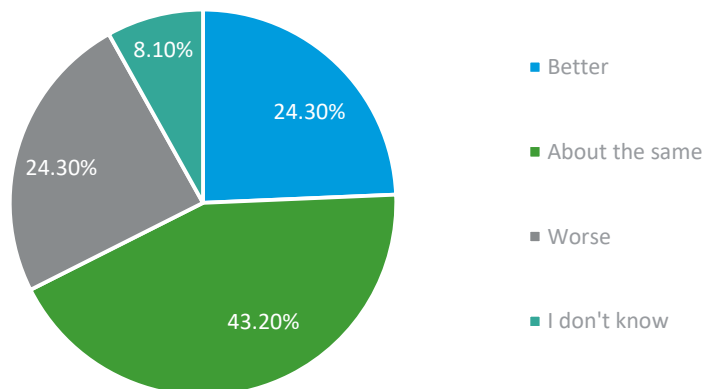
Would you prefer to live in a neighbourhood with people of only your own religion or in a mixed religion neighbourhood?



As shown in Figure 5 above, 70.30% of respondents stated that they would prefer to live in a mixed religion neighbourhood, whereas 13.50% of respondents indicated that they would prefer to live in a neighbourhood with people of their own religion only.

Figure 6:

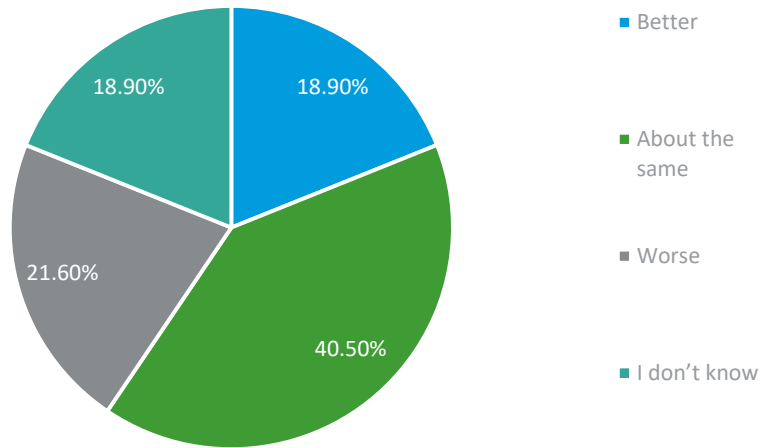
Are relations between catholics and protestants better than they were 5 years ago?



As shown in Figure 6 above, 43.20% of respondents stated that relations between Catholics and Protestants are about the same as they were 5 years ago. 24.30% of respondents stated that relations between Catholics and Protestants were better now than they were five years ago, however, 24.30% of respondents also stated that relations between Catholics and Protestants were worse now than they were five years ago.

Figure 7:

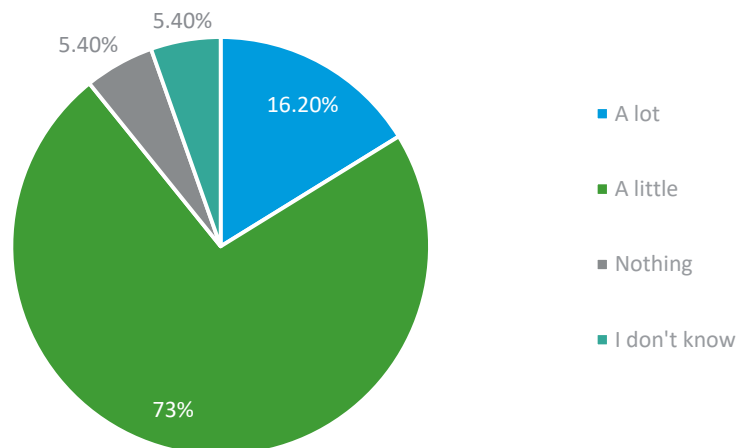
In 5 years' time do you think relations between Protestants and Catholics will be better than now, worse than now or the same as now?



As shown in Figure 7 above, 40.5% of respondents thought that relations between Protestants and Catholics will be about the same as they are now in five years' time. 21.60% of respondents stated that they believed that relations between Catholics and Protestants will be worse than now in five years' time. 18.90% of respondents indicated that relations between Protestants and Catholics will be better in five years' time, 18.90% didn't know if they thought that relations between Protestants and Catholics will be better than now or worse than now in five years' time.

Figure 8:

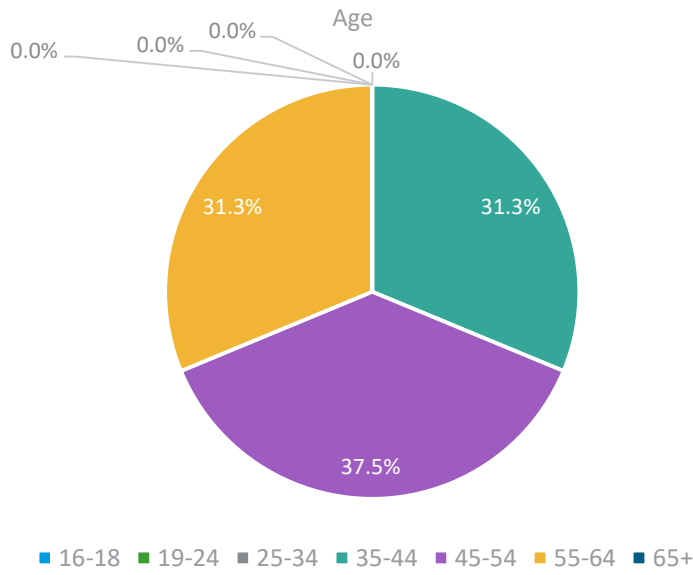
How much do you know about the culture of minority ethnic communities?



As shown in Figure 8 above, the majority (73%) of respondents stated that they knew a little about the culture of minority ethnic communities. 16.20% stated that they knew a lot about minority ethnic communities. 10.8% of respondents either didn't know or knew nothing about minority ethnic communities.

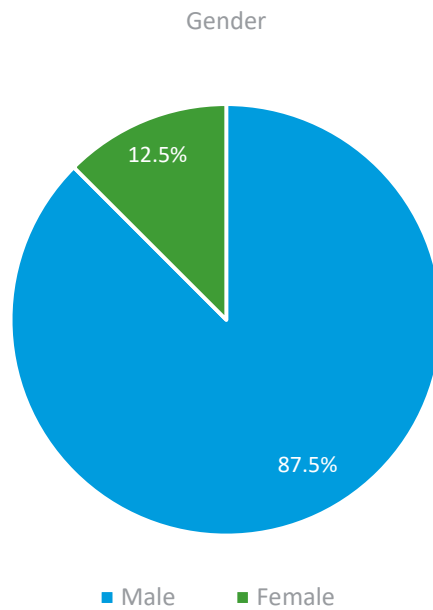
The base for each figure is 16.

Figure 9:



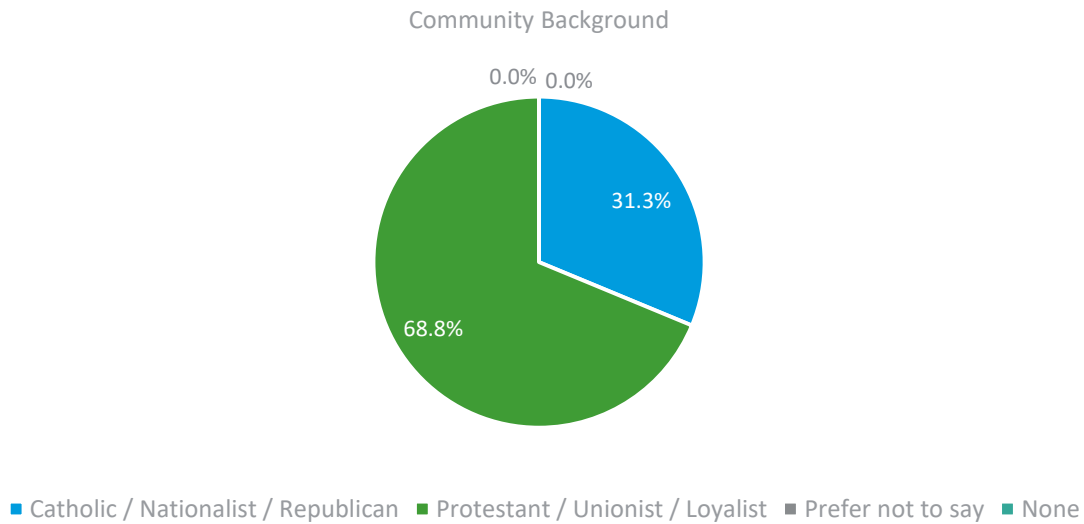
As shown in Figure 9 above, all participants who completed the survey were aged 35+. 31.3% of respondents were aged 35-44, 37.5% were aged 45-54 and 31.3% were aged 55-64. No participants were aged were aged 65+.

Figure 10:



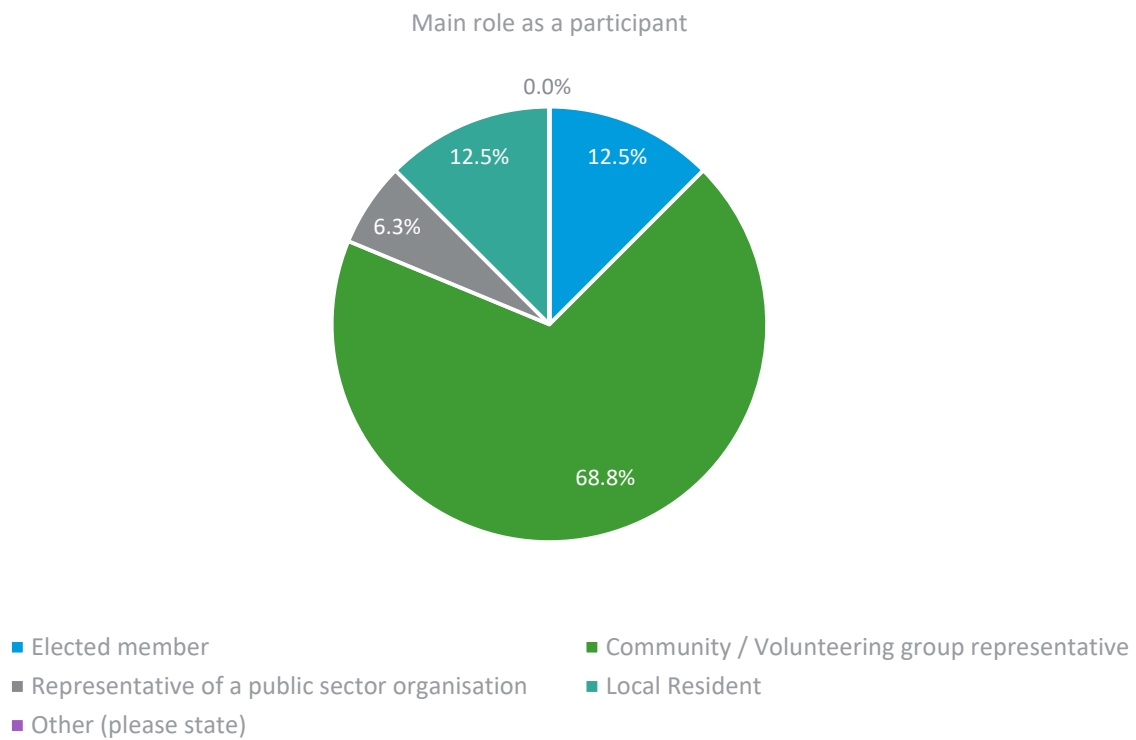
As shown in Figure 10 above, the vast majority of respondents were male (87.5%), just 12.5% of respondents were female.

Figure 11:



As shown in Figure 11 above, the majority of respondents came from a PUL community background (68.8%). 31.3% of respondents came from a CNR background.

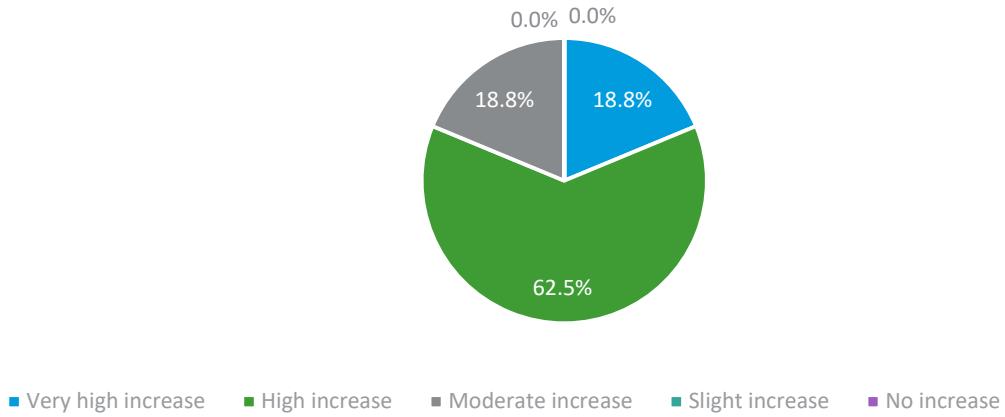
Figure 12:



As shown in Figure 12 above, the majority of respondents had a main role in the project as a Community / Volunteering group representative (68.8%). 12.5% of respondent were elected members, 12.5% of member also had the main role of a local resident.

Figure 13:

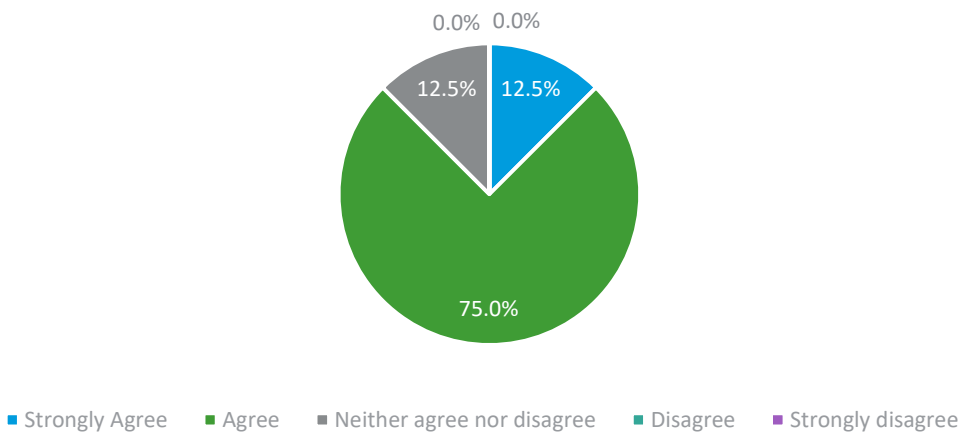
To what extent has the education and awareness sessions provided by the Flags, Emblems and Bonfires Protocol Programme increased your knowledge and understanding of other cultures and traditions



As shown in Figure 13 above, all respondents indicated that the education and awareness sessions provided by the Flags, Emblems and Bonfires Protocol Programme increased their knowledge of other cultures and traditions. 81.3% of respondents stated that the education and awareness sessions provided by the Flags, Emblems and Bonfires Protocol Programme led to a 'very high' or 'high' increase in their knowledge and understanding of other cultures and traditions.

Figure 14:

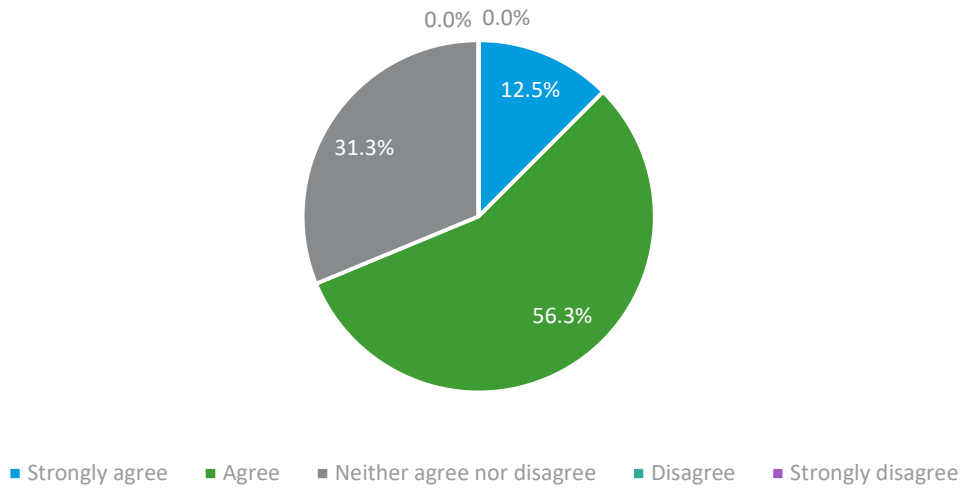
To what extent do you agree that the Flags, Emblems and Bonfires Protocol Programme has influenced the reduction of social division and tension in your local area (e.g. graffiti, display of flags and territorial markings)?



As shown in Figure 14 above, 0% of respondents 'disagreed' or 'strongly disagreed' that the Flags, Emblems and Bonfires Protocol Programme has influenced the reduction of social division and tension in their local area (e.g. graffiti, display of flags and territorial markings). 87.5% of respondents either 'agreed' or 'strongly agreed' that the Flags, Emblems and Bonfires Protocol Programme has influenced the reduction of social division and tension in their local area (e.g. graffiti, display of flags and territorial markings).

Figure 15:

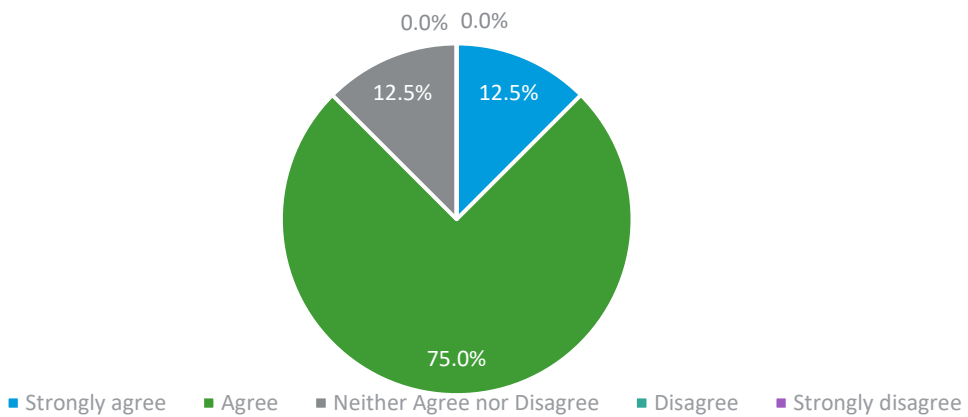
To what extent do you agree that the Flags, Emblems and Bonfires Protocol Programme will influence the reduction of social division and tension in your local area (e.g. graffiti; display of flags and territorial markings)?



As shown in Figure 15 above, 0% of respondents ‘strongly disagreed’ or ‘disagreed’ that the Flags, Emblems and Bonfires Protocol Programme will influence the reduction of social division and tension in their local area (e.g. graffiti; display of flags and territorial markings). Furthermore, 68.8% of respondents either ‘strongly agreed’ or ‘agreed’ that the Flags, Emblems and Bonfires Protocol Programme will influence the reduction of social division and tension in their local area (e.g. graffiti; display of flags and territorial markings).

Figure 16:

To what extent do you agree that the activities completed to date as part of this programme will contribute to the creation and establishment of a Flags, Emblems and Bonfires Protocol for the area?



As shown in Figure 16 above, 0% of respondents ‘strongly disagreed’ or ‘disagreed’ that the activities completed to date as part of this programme will contribute to the creation and establishment of a Flags, Emblems and Bonfires Protocol for the area. 87.5% of respondents either agreed or strongly agreed that the activities completed to date as part of this programme will contribute to the creation and establishment of a Flags, Emblems and Bonfires Protocol for the area.

VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS SERVICE: PROVISION OF SERVICES FOR VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS

Project Overview

The Belfast/Good Friday Agreement indicated the need to acknowledge the suffering of victims and survivors and to provide services that are supportive and sensitive with a role for statutory and community-based organisations. The Stormont House Agreement also provided further context in terms of the legacy provisions needed, alongside meeting health and well-being needs.

The PEACE IV Programme aims to add value to provision by investing in cross-border health and well-being services that develop proven expertise within the region and increase the capacity and the quality of care in the sector for victims and survivors and their families. This will complement other work being taken forward by others to deliver on the commitments for victims and survivors.

In December 2019, the Victims and Survivors Service (VSS) received £13,372,518 from the Peace IV Programme for a project entitled “Provision of Services for Victims and Survivors”. The project has the following key objectives:

- build capacity within the Community and Voluntary sector to deliver treatment and support as part of the Regional Trauma Network;
- ensure Victims and Survivors are receiving safe, quality care by appropriately qualified practitioners;
- highlight gaps in service provision to assist with future planning and commissioning of services;
- integration of Victims and Survivors with shared spaces and services;
- individuals receiving support will experience:
 - Improved mental health, social networks and health behaviours;
 - Renewed relationships and trust built following a reconciliation process;
 - Increased confidence and reduced isolation due to being acknowledged and supported;
 - Empowerment to contribute to a safer and more cohesive society; and
 - Further opportunities for meaningful and productive activity.

This project has been selected as a longitudinal case study as part of a wider impact evaluation of the PEACE IV Programme. This is the first of three case studies of the project that will be carried out during the evaluation. It will be updated and further developed in 2020 and 2022.

Summary details of the project are provided in Table 1 overleaf and details of the programmes are given in Table 2.

It should be noted that, at the time of writing, VSS were awaiting a decision on a bid for a €1.9 million extension to the project. This bid involved new elements around gender, peace-building and oral history and, if successful, it would extend the project duration through to 2022.

Table 1: Project overview (excluding any extension)

Project	Provision of Services for Victims and Survivors
Partners	Victims and Survivors Service (VSS); Commission for Victims and Survivors; The Executive Office; Community and Voluntary Sector; Department of Health; Cooperation and Working Together; Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade; WAVE Trauma Centre
Relevant Specific Objective	SO 3.3 – Victims and Survivors – The Creation of a more cohesive society through an increased provision of shared spaces and services.
Amount awarded by PIV	£13,372,518.73 / €15,779,572.10
Duration	June 2017 to 31 st July 2021 (expenditure to be claimed by 31 July 2021)
Approved outputs (as per SEUPB letter of offer)	
Individuals in receipt of advocacy support	6,300
Individuals in receipt of assessment/ casework support/ resilience support	11,350
Project priorities	Targets
Advocacy support to include practical support for victims and survivors engaging with institutions, historical process and enquiries	27.5 workers, 6,300 beneficiaries
Development of qualified assessors, health and well-being case workers to identify and address the needs of victims and survivors	31 workers, 11,350 beneficiaries
A resilience programme to address the individual needs of victims and survivors, including level one and level two mental health interventions	1,000 interventions
Development of the capacity of the sector through training and development (to meet national and regional standards), research and improved regulation	3 major research projects

Table 2: Work package description and expenditure to date

Work Package Number and Title	Overview of activities	Expenditure to date ⁷
1. Management	Engagement with Health and Wellbeing (HWB) Network/ network meetings. Delivery of support to individuals under Additional needs-based Support Frameworks. Monitoring delivery of the 3 research projects. Commence monitoring and evaluation process.	£947,925
2. Advocacy support programme	Development of an advocacy support network comprising 6 Advocacy Support Managers and 21.5. Advocacy Support Workers to ensure that victims and survivors have access to high quality practical support when engaging with on-going legacy inquests, enquiries, and any other historical institutions.	£1,253,624
3. Health and well-being casework network	Development of a network of Health and Wellbeing (HWB) caseworkers (26 HWB Caseworkers and 5 Case managers) to identify and address needs of victims and survivors.	£895,560
4. Resilience Programme	Establishment of a referral and assessment process to access resilience interventions. Elements developed to date include: Volunteering; Trauma focussed Physical Activity; Literacy and Numeracy; Social Isolation. Target of delivery of 1,000 resilience interventions.	£50,596
5. Workforce training	Development of workforce development training plan. Dissemination of training needs analysis questionnaire. Delivery of training to Advocacy and HWB caseworkers and the Advocacy Support Worker Network.	£206,908
6. Research and improved regulation	CVS standards and National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) guidelines embedded in all service delivery. Establishment of three research groups/projects, namely: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Mental Health Trauma – researching the clinical impact of psychological therapy and other supportive trauma-related services in the treatment of conflict-related mental health conditions in Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland. ii. Trans-generational Legacy and Young People – investigating the continuing inter-generational impact of the Troubles/Conflict on the lives of children and young people aged 14-24 and their parents throughout Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland iii. Impact of Advocacy – exploring the psychosocial impact of the Conflict's legacy on victims and survivors in the wider context of the implementation of the Stormont House Agreement. 	n/a ⁸
7. Communication	Delivery of communication plan.	n/a

⁷ Source: Partner Progress Report, Period 9 (1/11/18 – 31/1/19)

⁸ Figure not available within Partner Progress Report, Period 9 (1/11/18 – 31/1/19)

Performance to Date

The following provides a high-level summary of the progress of each project/programme to date. The majority of this content has been obtained from the VSS “Quarterly Outcomes Monitoring and Evaluation Report – January to March 2019”. Key findings area as follows:

Health and Well-Being Caseworker Network: as at March 2019, 24 HWB Northern Ireland based case workers are in post, leaving one vacancy. VSS has also approval for a 26th caseworker, who is to be employed in the border region of Ireland. To date, the recruitment of this post has not been taken forward. As at January 2019, 3,194 individuals against a target of 11,350 (28%) were in receipt of assessment/support via the HWB caseworker network.

Advocacy Support: as at March 2019, the programme has delivered the development of an advocacy support network comprising five advocacy managers and 19.5 advocacy workers. A range of events has been held, including public events, large and small closed events, and one-to-one sessions, with over 4,000 people engaged in some capacity. Advocacy support has been provided to at least 1,797 individuals⁹ against a target of 6,300 (28.5%). In October 2018, a response was submitted to the NIO Legacy Consultation.

Health and well-being: Trauma-focused physical activity: as at March 2019, the programme has engaged with 139 individuals and made 146 awards. The framework is being promoted through the caseworker network meetings to maintain interest in the programme.

Literacy and Numeracy (Resilience): as at March 2019, 21 individuals received numeracy and literacy tuition and 22 awards had been made.

Social Isolation Framework: this element aims to support 100 individuals in 2018/2019 who have been affected by the conflict. The first phase of this framework was launched in 2018, with individuals accessing part-time courses. As at March 2019, 42 individuals had been engaged and 65 awards had been made. Phase two, which will be launched in Q1 19/20, consists of a call to all funded organisations to develop a social isolation programme.

Volunteering (Resilience): as at March 2019, 10 individuals had engaged with support for volunteering and 12 awards had been made. An options paper and action plan for the delivery of this programme has been prepared for consideration.

The three research programmes have also been progressed as follows.

The **Mental Health Trauma Research** project has appointed a lead researcher and post-doctoral researcher, conducted a literature review, and is now engaging in data analysis and stakeholder coordination. A focus group for HWB case managers was also held in December 2018. An interim report was due at the end March 2019.

The **Transgenerational Research** project has appointed a lead researcher and post-doctoral researcher, conducted a literature review, and is now setting up a youth forum to advise on methodological tools. An interim report was due at the end March 2019.

The **Advocacy Research** project has experienced some delays in project initiation, following difficulty in location a suitably qualified research team. A potential contractor has now been identified, and a request submitted to CPD.

Finally, the **Regional Trauma Network** programme is due to launch on schedule in June 2019. Initially, the programme will be in pilot form (Phase 1) with VSS referrals only, for up to 250 clients. Following learnings from this phase, the RTN network will roll out in full.

Discussions with VSS representatives highlights the following in relation to progress:

- the majority of programme elements are progressing well and are on track to deliver against agreed outputs and timescales;

⁹ Source: VSS Partner Progress Report, Period 9 (1/11/18 – 31/1/19).

- whilst the number of individuals accessing advocacy support is only currently at 28.5% of target, it is recognised that this is a more difficult area of work and the lack of political progress in establishing legacy institutions has contributed to a lower level of throughout;
- achieving outputs on the Resilience Programme has been slow as this has involved engaging with individuals that are typically 'hard to reach' and delivering longer-term support interventions; and,
- whilst the number of individuals receiving caseworker/assessment support is currently only at 28% of target, VSS representatives expect a spike in assessment numbers as a backlog of assessments have yet to be inputted onto the programme monitoring system. VSS representatives also state that they intend to take steps to increase the 'run rate' of assessments, to ensure the programme delivers against agreed targets and timescales. VSS representatives also highlight that their management of PEACE IV funding is subject to robust internal risk management and is currently being reviewed by their internal auditors.

It was also noted that if VSS is successful in its application for an extension to the project, its duration would extend to 2022. This additional time allocation would help support the achievement of target outputs.

Project monitoring and evaluation

VSS utilises a number of monitoring and evaluation methods to measure the clinical progress of participants across a range of its PEACE IV and non-PEACE IV funded interventions, these include:

- **Work and Social Adjustment Scale (WSAS) Score:** a client-centred self-report scale of functional impairment attributable to an identified problem;
- **UCLA Social Isolation and Loneliness Framework** model and audit tool;
- **CORENet:** for Talking Therapies, collecting client-reported outcome measures, and using the data to manage therapeutic outcomes;
- **Take 5:** a monitoring framework being developed by Victims Practitioners Working Group and Belfast Strategic Partnership; and,
- **MYMOP:** for Complementary Therapies. Client-centred and individualised outcome questionnaire focusing on specific problems and general well-being.

Due to the distinct nature of the VSS programmes, personal data is not reported for aspects such as gender breakdown, community background, or before/after views of participants on questions of community relations. However, anonymised qualitative case studies and one-to-one interviews are also used in relation to some aspects of the advocacy support programme.

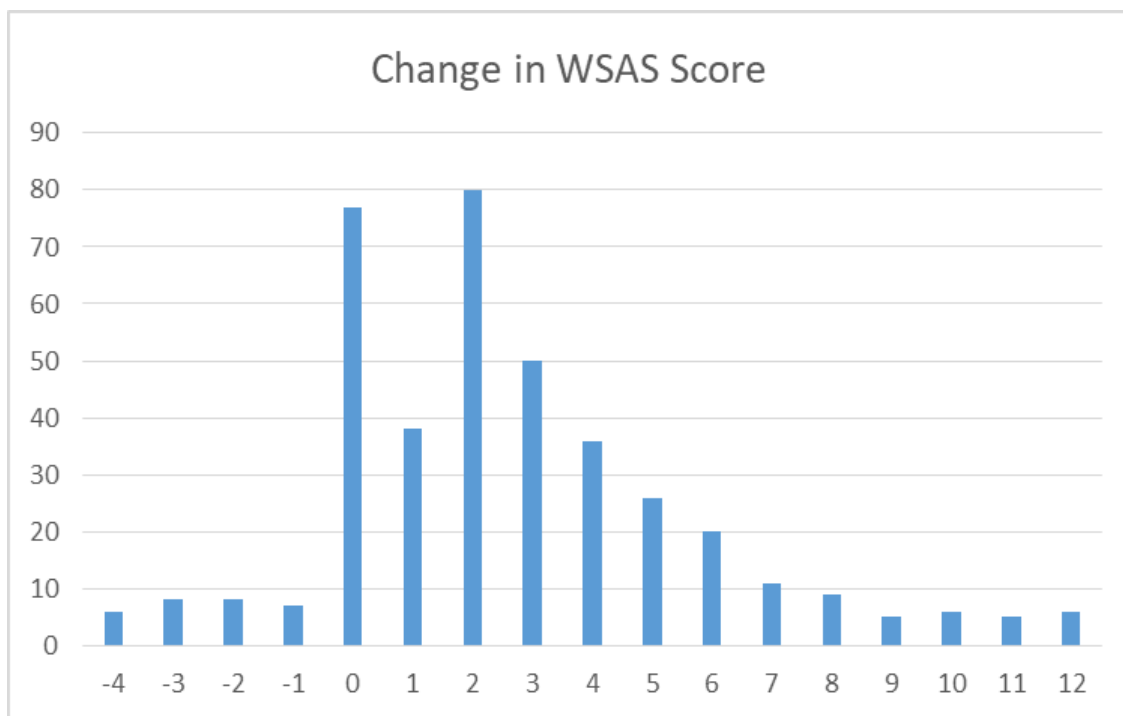
The following identifies monitoring activity and emerging impact data associated with each PEACE IV funded project/programme.

- **Health and Wellbeing Caseworker Programme** - many participants in the HWB Caseworker programme are assessed using a WSAS score. WSAS is completed at the baseline/start of the intervention (Time 1), and again at completion of the intervention (Time 2), to measure the impact of the intervention. VSS reports that the WSAS is mandatory in cases where an individual is seeking support under additional needs-based (INC) frameworks and is completed at the discretion of the case-worker.

Lower WSAS scores are better, and the maximum score is 40. A score of 20 or above suggests moderately severe or worse psychopathology in terms of functioning, while scores between 10 and 20 are associated with significant functional impairment. Scores below 10 suggest subclinical populations.

As at March 2019, VSS had received Time 1 and Time 2 data for 398 individuals. The differences in Time 1 and Time 2 scores for these individuals are presented in Figure 1. 73% of the individuals saw an improvement in their score, 22% remained the same and 7% experienced a deterioration.

Figure 1 Client WSAS Scores



Source: VSS Quarterly Outcomes Monitoring and Evaluation Report – January to March 2019

Further Time 1 and Time 2 data will be collected, analysed and reported over the remainder of the programme period.

- **Trauma focussed physical activity** - improved wellbeing, function and independence is to be measured and reported using WSAS, in qualitative case studies and when relevant linked with CORENet. Data relating to this activity will be collected, analysed and reported over the remainder of the programme period.
- **Literacy and numeracy** - outcomes will be assessed through analysis of improved educational attainment and demonstration of improved numeracy and literacy skills. Data relating to this activity will be collected, analysed and reported over the remainder of the programme period.
- **Social Isolation** - improved psychological, physical and social functioning and subjective wellbeing for 80% of individuals to be measured and reported using WSAS, UCLA Loneliness Scale and qualitative case studies that incorporate 'Take 5' concepts.
- **Volunteering (Resilience)** - improved wellbeing, function and independence to be measured and reported using WSAS score, qualitative case studies and through the Take 5 Framework.
- **Advocacy support** - a variety of outcome measures will be utilised including qualitative case studies and focus groups. There may also be links with the Caseworker Network, Case Managers and other organisations who are providing psychological support.

Key constraints/ challenges

Discussions with VSS representatives have highlighted the following issues that, if not adequately addressed, may constrain the impact of the programme or the measurement of programme impact:

- **Challenges in implementing WSAS measurement** – VSS representative noted that difficulties had been experienced in obtaining timely and accurate exit scores (Time 2) from caseworkers. VSS management have raised this with caseworkers and anticipate that these issues will be rectified;
- **Constraints impacting on advocacy support** - the lack of political progress on the establishment of legacy institutions has undoubtedly constrained the impact of advocacy support to date. In addition,

issues relating to the monitoring of activity/outputs may also mean that the full reach of advocacy support may not be measured (i.e. engagement with members of an extended family is being recorded as one intervention, rather than an intervention provided to a number of individuals). This issue is currently being addressed by VSS management; and

- **Absence of a cross-border caseworker-** VSS has approval for a 26th caseworker who is to be employed in the border region of Ireland. To date VSS have not carried out a recruitment exercise for this post, citing that the need for this worker has not been proven i.e. individuals from the border region are able to access services based in Northern Ireland. Whilst this may be the case, the absence of this post may limit the cross-border dimension of the VSS programme, which might impact negatively on its contribution to the development of cross border relationships and social cohesion on a cross border basis. VSS representative have stated that they are currently considering this issue and that they may recruit a casework based in the border region in the near future.

Initial observations and recommendation

Notwithstanding the constraints/ challenges highlighted above, our review of project monitoring data and discussions with VSS representatives indicate that the majority of the PEACE IV funded activities are progressing well. In addition, the VSS has developed a monitoring framework that offers the potential to capture comprehensive data on outputs and outcomes generated by activities supported by PEACE IV.

In order to inform the project going forward, we suggest the following:

- in order to maximise capacity development in the border region and in order to support effective partnership working and collaboration on a cross border basis, we suggest that the recruitment of a border region-based caseworker should take place as soon as possible. SEUPB should liaise with VSS on this issue to determine if/when this recruitment is to take place;
- the monitoring framework developed by VSS has a strong quantitative focus on clinical outcomes, which is to be supplemented by qualitative research to highlight outcomes achieved by the social isolation, volunteering (resilience) and advocacy support interventions. This qualitative research should also provide an opportunity to assess how the VSS PEACE IV funding has contributed to the overarching specific objective of creating a 'more cohesive society through the increased provision of shared services'; and
- given that much of the VSS project is delivered in partnership with statutory health providers in Northern Ireland and the border region, as well as other service providers, it is important that future impact evaluation activity provides a clear focus on impacts that can be attributed specifically to the PEACE IV funding and on the additionality associated with the PEACE IV funding.

APPENDIX 2: SNAPSHOT CASE STUDIES

IRISH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION: SPORT UNITING COMMUNITIES

Project Overview

In October 2017, the Irish Football Association (Irish FA) received €1,746,704.56 from the Peace IV Programme for a project entitled “Sport Uniting Communities” (SUC).

The project is a collaboration between the Irish FA, Ulster GAA, and Ulster Rugby, to promote meaningful, purposeful and sustained contact between individuals from different backgrounds, particularly across the religious divide, resulting in a change in perception and relationships. The project aims to improve attitudes, respect, inclusion and tolerance over prolonged periods, by 16,996 individual participants from different communities engaging in meaningful, purposeful and sustained contact with a minimum of 180 different sports clubs involved for the duration (70 IFA, 70 GAA, and 40 Ulster Rugby) in a Multi-Sport Partnership (MSP).

The project is scheduled to deliver programmes covering the following themes:

- Volunteer recruitment programme
- Volunteer induction programme
- Volunteer development programme
- ‘Goldmark event’ for volunteers
- Good relations conference
- BME engagement and participation programme
- youth leadership programme
- 18 x ‘Game of Three halves’ initiatives
- Club development sport for peace days
- Club educational visits
- Inclusive club themed workshops
- ‘Have a go’ days
- Ulster Rugby Schools Twinning programme
- Ulster Rugby Club Together programme
- Cuchulainn Cup Programme
- Ulster GAA "Getting to know the GAA" Programme
- Ulster GAA Club Maith accreditation
- IFA "Getting to know the IFA" Schools Programme
- IFA Club Mark scheme
- IFA Inclusive Club Programme

This case study represents a ‘one-off’ point in time assessment of the project.

Summary details of the overall project are provided in Table 1 below. Details of the project output indicators are detailed in Table 2.

Table 1: Project details

Project	Sport Uniting Communities
Application Reference No.	4118
Partners	Irish FA, Ulster Rugby, Ulster GAA
Relevant Specific Objective	SO4.2 (Action 4.2 Regional Level Projects): The promotion of positive relations characterized by respect, and where cultural diversity is celebrated, and people can live, learn and socialise together, free from prejudice, hate and intolerance.
Amount awarded by PIV	€1,746,704.56
Planned Duration	January 2018 to December 2021

The LoO date is 1 Sept 2017 to 31 Aug 2021

Table 2 Project output details

Programme output indicators	Quantified output (over 4 years)	Quantified output (annualised)
Participants engaging in cross-community, cross-border and cross-cultural volunteer focused activity	3,092	773
Participants engaging in cross-community, cross-border and cross-cultural sports activity focused on marginalised groups (BME groups, young people, females and those from deprived communities)	14,668	3,667
Participants engaging in cross-community, cross-border and cross-cultural Club focused activity	3,104	776
Total	20,846	5,216

Performance to Date

Project staff were appointed in November/December 2017 and Year 1 of project delivery ran from January to December 2018. Table 3 provides an overview of financial performance of the project after Year 1 of operation. Overall, 18% of the project budget had been spent at the end of December 2018.

Table 3 Project expenditure at end of Year 1 (December 2018)

Budget line	Project Total Budget (€)	Total Expenditure Reported (€)	% of Total Budget Line	Remaining Budget (€)
Staff costs	1,259,362.08	226,889.29	18%	1,032,472.79
Office and administration	188,903.96	34,033.37	18%	154,870.59
Travel and Accommodation	97,987.20	11,143.18	11%	86,844.02
External expertise and services	223,323.26	40,730.57	18%	182,592.69
Equipment	32,819.34	9,017.52	27%	23,801.82
Total	1,802,395.84	321,813.93	18%	1,480,581.91

As of March 2019, **20 programmes have been fully or partially delivered.**

One-time programmes

Two one-time programmes were fully delivered by December 2018, namely:

- Volunteer recruitment programme; and
- Volunteer induction programme.

Ongoing Programmes

A further eighteen programmes are ongoing and are being repeated on an annual basis across the four years of delivery. These programmes have all been fully delivered for Year 1 (calendar year 2018) and are now in Year 2 of operation.

Table 4 summarises the following information for all 20 programmes:

- key activities that have been undertaken to date,
- remaining activities that are scheduled to be carried out in the current operational year (where applicable), and
- planned monitoring and evaluation activities.

Table 4 Project Activities to Date including Monitoring & Evaluation

	Programme	Goals	Dates	Activities to Date (March 2019)	Remaining Activities Scheduled this operational year	Planned Monitoring & Evaluation activities
1	Volunteer recruitment programme	Sport Uniting Communities: Development of a 'how to' resource guide on volunteer recruitment events.	Sep 2017 to Dec 2018	Development of a code of practice for clubs seeking to attract new volunteers such as parents, minority ethnic communities and those from different religious backgrounds etc. This will be made available to Clubs from each code to enhance the recruitment and retention of volunteers, particularly females, young people, those from BME groups and those from different religious backgrounds.	Activity completed in year 1	None.
2	Volunteer induction programme	Volunteer Induction Programme - Development of a 'how to' resource guide on volunteer induction for Clubs, focussing on inducting those from marginalised groups and different religious backgrounds	Sep 2017 to Dec 2018	The how to resource guide was also used to aid the delivery of our Volunteer Programme (Deliverable 3) and allowed 45 clubs to take away 2/3 physical copies back to their club as a resource for others and to help with implementing topics discussed i.e., Volunteer Recruitment, Inducting and retention. All clubs taking part in the Sport Uniting Communities have received the booklet.	Activity completed in year 1	None.
3	Volunteer development programme	The objective of the Volunteer Development Programme was to build capacity within our clubs to help recruit, develop and retain volunteers across the three sports	Runs on calendar year basis	Sport Uniting Communities delivered a Volunteer Development Programme to 91 volunteers representing 45 clubs from the Irish FA, Ulster GAA and Ulster Rugby. In Year 1, the Sport Uniting Communities team delivered training days in Belfast, Banbridge,	5 workshops completed within 4 training days in 4 areas. 1 more training days to be completed	Anonymous surveys completed with an online form captured monitoring data and pre-programme evaluations.

	Programme	Goals	Dates	Activities to Date (March 2019)	Remaining Activities Scheduled this operational year	Planned Monitoring & Evaluation activities
				Cookstown, Derry/Londonderry and Enniskillen Recruitment of clubs for 2019 has started with training sessions due to start in February.	before March 10th	Post Evaluation online surveys completed in Nov/Dec to capture attitudinal changes.
4	'Goldmark event' for volunteers	<p>Delivery of 1 Flagship Goldmark event per annum to 100 young people celebrating their achievements as volunteers.</p> <p>This will recognise the contribution of volunteers, focussing on those that have been active in working with marginalised groups and engaging those people from across the religious divide</p>	Runs on calendar year basis	The Goldmark event for young volunteers took place on November 28 th at the Titanic Belfast. 23 Clubs were represented with over 100 young people receiving recognition awards.	This year's event is planned for Nov 2019	Participants will have completed monitoring forms/evaluations while completing other activities within the programme.
5	Good relations conference	Delivery of an annual Good Relations conference involving volunteers from all 3 partner organisations, other stakeholders and partners. The event will be based on an identified themed topic (i.e. 'Together through sport', mental health etc)	Runs on calendar year basis	Sport Uniting Communities hosted our first good relations Conference on Wednesday 21st March at Queens Sport where we officially launched the project. Dignitaries from across all 3 sports, sport uniting communities, and media were invited to attend. Each governing body spoke positively about how the programme will have on their sport. Representatives from IFA, GAA and UR took part in question and answer sessions and then had an opportunity to try out the other sports alongside	Conference to take place in June 2019	Online survey will be emailed to participants after the event.

	Programme	Goals	Dates	Activities to Date (March 2019)	Remaining Activities Scheduled this operational year	Planned Monitoring & Evaluation activities
				pupils from Integrated College Dungannon. They had over 100 attendees.		
6	BME engagement and participation programme	A key aim of this programme is to incorporate local football, GAA and Rugby clubs that support BME groups in the quest to integrate the participants into society using sport as the hook.	Runs on calendar year basis	<p>The BME programme was delivered at the LORAG facility in South Belfast. The Irish FA have completed the first three sessions that empowered leaders at Extern with coaching sessions aimed at providing a tool kit of coaching sessions that will sustain participation with the Syrian Refugee Community.</p> <p>The BME programme involved 32 participants from the Syrian Refugee Community</p>	Programme planned for 10 week delivery throughout 11th April – 13th June in Dungannon.	<p>Anonymous surveys completed with an online form captured monitoring data and pre-programme evaluations.</p> <p>Post Evaluation online surveys completed at the end of the programme to capture attitudinal changes.</p>
7	Youth leadership programme	The Youth Leadership Programme is targeted at young people aged 14-24. The programmes' aims are to develop youth forums where the young people will engage in training in volunteer/personal development while progressing through a Level 1 sports leadership qualification	Runs on calendar year basis	A series of youth forums were formed throughout Ulster, all 45 participants completed their level 1 award in sports leadership.	Recruitment for year 2 is ongoing planned activity is scheduled for September 2019	<p>Anonymous surveys completed with an online form captured monitoring data and pre-programme evaluations.</p> <p>Post Evaluation online surveys completed at the end of the programme to</p>

	Programme	Goals	Dates	Activities to Date (March 2019)	Remaining Activities Scheduled this operational year	Planned Monitoring & Evaluation activities
						capture attitudinal changes.
8	18 x 'Game of Three halves' initiatives	Delivery of 18 x game of 3 halves initiatives across the region per annum, mainly for existing members of one of the 3 sports but not excluding non-playing members.	Runs on calendar year basis	<p>A Game of 3 Halves is a jointly run participation event between Ulster GAA, Ulster Rugby and the IFA. The events are mainly attended by 8-24 year olds who come from a variety of social, religious and ethnic backgrounds. The GO3H has been successfully delivered to more than 800 participants at 18 events across Ulster, including Monaghan, Donegal, Ederney, Newry, Belfast, Strabane and Derry-Londonderry.</p> <p>3 Game of three halves events delivered so far in Year 2, with further events in planning stage.</p>	Activity has been planned throughout 2019, with clubs involved in the Volunteer Development Programme	Pre and post group evaluations conducted though a walking debate to capture attitudinal change.
9	Club development sport for peace days	Initiatives from club/community partnerships (cross community, cross-border, cross cultural) that will deliver a peace and reconciliation focused event in their area on a specific day, designed to meet one or a number of the project results.	Runs on calendar year basis	10 Club Development Sport for Peace Days were held right across the province, with 2 events in each strategic area. The days consisted of fun, safe and inclusive coaching sessions, games and inflatables with clubs, community groups and schools from different backgrounds participating in the events. 816 people and 15 clubs participated in the 10 events in 2018.	Activity has been planned throughout 2019, with clubs involved in the Volunteer Development Programme	<p>Sign in sheets to capture participants.</p> <p>Online survey will be emailed to participants after the event.</p>
10	Club educational visits	The Club Educational Visits have been organised to allow volunteers from clubs in each of the three sports to visit a provincial GAA ground,	Runs on calendar year basis	9 tours have been delivered to date, involving a total of 58 volunteers representing 23 clubs. Feedback for the tours has been extremely positive as 100% of those surveyed said the programme had improved	Activity has been planned throughout 2019, with clubs involved in the	Anonymous surveys completed with an online form captured monitoring data and

	Programme	Goals	Dates	Activities to Date (March 2019)	Remaining Activities Scheduled this operational year	Planned Monitoring & Evaluation activities
		Kingspan Stadium and the National Football Stadium at Windsor Park.		their attitudes towards people from different backgrounds.	Volunteer Development Programme	pre-programme evaluations. Post Evaluation online surveys completed at the end of the programme to capture attitudinal changes.
11	Inclusive club themed workshops	<p>Inclusive clubs themed workshops were to be held in each of 5 designated areas throughout Year 1 focusing on the topic – “Creating a welcoming club”. Our objectives through the presentation of these workshops were to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give people a better understanding of diversity and inclusion • To offer ideas on how to become a more welcoming club • Create links between local clubs from different sports for future endeavours 	Runs on calendar year basis	The target was for 18 people to attend each workshop – 90 attendees in total. We reached a total of 101 participants from 53 different clubs across the 3 sports.	Activity has been planned throughout 2019, opened to all clubs throughout Ulster	<p>Sign in sheets to capture participants.</p> <p>Online survey will be emailed to participants after the event.</p>

	Programme	Goals	Dates	Activities to Date (March 2019)	Remaining Activities Scheduled this operational year	Planned Monitoring & Evaluation activities
12	'Have a go' days	Have a Go Days are delivered working with local community organisations to deliver an opportunity for people to experience and participate in the 3 sports, in areas where there is no opportunity to take part in these sports activities and where people across the religious divide do not have the opportunity to come together	Runs on calendar year basis	We reached a total of 312 young people.	Activity has been planned throughout 2019, 4 events	Sign in sheets to capture participants. Public events very difficult to capture evaluations due to event format.
13	Ulster Rugby Schools Twinning programme	The Ulster Rugby Schools Twinning Programme is a deliverable planned at bringing 2 schools from different sides of the community together for a day at the Home of Ulster Rugby, the Kingspan Stadium. Whilst on the tour the pupils will mix together and take part in an interactive, educational workshop at the Nevin Spence Centre as well as a tour of the Stadium.	Runs on calendar year basis	The completed 20 schools twinning tours in Year 1, engaging with over 1200 young people. In year 2 to date there have been 2 twinning with 4 schools.	Activity has been planned throughout 2019, 40 schools to complete the twinning programme	Pre and post group evaluations conducted though a walking debate to capture attitudinal change.
14	Ulster Rugby Club Together programme	Ulster Rugby's 2018 club together programme provided informal networking opportunities that aimed to engage	Runs on calendar year basis	Ulster Rugby's community sports development officers attended 10 networking opportunities in various settings, that best supported club volunteer development.	Activity has been planned throughout 2019, 10 events to be	Sign in sheets to capture participants. Online survey will be emailed to

	Programme	Goals	Dates	Activities to Date (March 2019)	Remaining Activities Scheduled this operational year	Planned Monitoring & Evaluation activities
		new/current volunteers within their local clubs.		We engaged with 181 participants from across the province in raising the profile of clubs. While focusing on clubs becoming more open, inclusive and welcoming to people from different community and ethnic backgrounds.	completed in year 2	participants after the event.
15	Cuchulainn Cup Programme	The Cúchulainn Cup is Ulster GAA's flagship cross-community project which runs each year. The aim of the project is to promote Gaelic games to those who may be unfamiliar with them, while also encouraging schools to come together to learn, play and compete. This is achieved by inviting schools from a town (maintained, controlled and integrated) to come together to form a cross-community representative Under-16 Cúchulainn team.	Runs on calendar year basis	16 schools took part engaging with 270 young people. http://ulster.gaa.ie/2018/03/cuchulainn-cup-success-ballymoney-belfast-cuchulainns/	This year's tournament is due to take place on April 10th - TBC	Pre and post group evaluations conducted though a walking debate to capture attitudinal change.
16	Ulster GAA "Getting to know the GAA" Programme	Getting to know the GAA talks allowed CSDOs to work with people with little or no knowledge of GAA or with people who have their own perceptions of what the GAA is all about. The intentions behind such talks were to allow	Runs on calendar year basis	We delivered 15 sessions and reached 360 participants.	Activity has been planned throughout 2019, 10 events to be completed in year 2	Sign in sheets to capture participants. Online survey will be emailed to participants after the event.

	Programme	Goals	Dates	Activities to Date (March 2019)	Remaining Activities Scheduled this operational year	Planned Monitoring & Evaluation activities
		participants to gain an understanding of the work the GAA do in the local community for people of all backgrounds and not just their own members and that GAA is more than just a field sport. Participants got to learn about the GAA's focus on volunteers, outreach work, the GAA abroad as well as the running of a local club and facility. The focus of the talks was to show that the GAA is an open and inclusive organisation that provides sport and opportunities for all no matter what religion, gender, sexuality, ethnic origin etc				
17	Ulster GAA Club Maith accreditation	The Club Maith accreditation scheme allows Clubs to benchmark themselves against best practice. In doing so it encourages them to aim for excellence in the core are of GAA club activity, namely: Governance; Duty of Care; Community Enhancement; Culture & Heritage; and Coaching & Games	Runs on calendar year basis	We worked with 7 clubs with 5 club volunteers from each club being mentored through the accreditation process. Website appears online http://ulster.gaa.ie/club-maith/	Clubs soon to be assigned for year 2	Sign in sheets to capture participants. Online survey will be emailed to participants after the event.

	Programme	Goals	Dates	Activities to Date (March 2019)	Remaining Activities Scheduled this operational year	Planned Monitoring & Evaluation activities
		Development. Clubs are then given a level of accreditation which acts as a quality standard mark for them.				
18	IFA "Getting to know the IFA" Schools Programme	The purpose of the 'Getting to Know the IFA' Visits are to build knowledge of the sport, the cultures and traditions of both the local and national game within Northern Ireland and the history and heritage of the Irish Football Association. To break down barriers and dispel preconceptions around the religious inclusivity of the Irish Football Association.	Runs on calendar year basis	In 2018 we engaged 40 schools reaching 1200 young people. In year 2 to date, 6 schools have completed the programme.	Clubs soon to be assigned for year 2	Pre and post group evaluations conducted though a walking debate to capture attitudinal change.
19	IFA Club Mark scheme		Runs on calendar year basis	In Year 1 we have engaged with 5 clubs – Kilmore Rec, Banbridge Juniors FC, Tullycarnet FC, Kickstart Coaching FC, and Mountjoy Utd FC. 5 club members from each club were mentored through the club mark process to create inclusive clubs.		Sign in sheets to capture participants. Online survey will be emailed to participants after the event.
20	IFA Inclusive Club Programme	The purpose of the Irish FA Inclusive Clubs Programme is to provide a networking opportunity for club volunteers which	Runs on calendar	Events were varied and consisted of 'Inclusive Clubs' workshops, fun days for volunteers and club members, information sessions on the 'Sport Uniting	Activity has been planned throughout 2019, 10 events to be	Sign in sheets to capture participants.

	Programme	Goals	Dates	Activities to Date (March 2019)	Remaining Activities Scheduled this operational year	Planned Monitoring & Evaluation activities
		promotes clubs to become more inclusive. Through the programme we want to develop inclusive and welcoming clubs through shared learning, training and capacity building, resulting in clubs becoming more open, inclusive and welcoming to people from different community and ethnic backgrounds.	year basis	Communities' project and volunteer recruitment days. In 2018, There were 10 Irish FA Inclusive Club events held during 2018. 212 people from 89 clubs attended our networking events.	completed in year 2	Online survey will be emailed to participants after the event.

Project monitoring and evaluation

In order to monitor and evaluate the impacts of the project and its constituent programmes, the Irish FA and project partners are undertaking activities including:

- Walking debates: before starting events, participants take part in 'walking debates', standing in specified areas to indicate their views in response to specific questions. Numbers are recorded. The exercise is repeated after the event, to gauge changes in attitudes;
- Guesstimates: the nature of the events delivered by SUC means that quite a high number of children and young people may participate only for a single event. Since it is difficult to accurately capture data on these participants, including community background data, the project organisers (following consultation with SEUPB) decided to use guesstimates to inform monitoring and evaluation activities; and
- Baseline and post-participation surveys: survey of attitudes and background information completed by participants upon entering each programme and after finishing each programme. Surveys can be filled in online by participants, or on paper and subsequently inputted online by programme coordinators.

Participant Targeting

One factor that informs targeting of participants is the age and availability of young people with respect to school commitments. For example, in the Game of Three Halves programme, most participants are in the age range 8-11 and 14-16, as children in these brackets tend to have few exam-related commitments.

A second factor relates to a club's growth requirements and aspirations, and on an age- and gender-specific basis. For example, for an event to be held at a club wishing to grow its U16 girls' team participation, young people in this demographic would be invited to participate, to give both the young people and the clubs the opportunity to benefit from a longer-term engagement.

Target numbers range from a minimum of 30 up to as many as 200 participants. Targeting is comprehensive across all areas. The programme targets were initially considered to be high but on commencement of programme delivery it was considered that the targets are/were realistic and achievable.

Participant Breakdown

The total reported number of participants in the Sport Uniting Communities programme in Year 1 was 5,150 (representing a 99% achieved of the annualised output target of 5216 calculated in Table 2).

Based mainly on informed estimates by programme staff of participant numbers and background, the Irish FA reported the following figures for breakdown in terms of gender, community background, and ethnic background.

- In terms of **gender**, 47% were male, and 53% female;
- In terms of **community background**, 47.9% were CNR, 48.6% were PUL, and 3.4% were 'Other'; and
- In terms of **ethnic background**, 94.3% were White, 2.5% were Black/African/Caribbean/ Black British, 1.3% were Mixed/Multiple Ethnic Groups, 0.1% were Asian, and 1.8% were Other Ethnic Groups (no participants were identified from an Irish Traveller background).

Project feedback on issues associated with monitoring and evaluation

Through discussions with project and programme representatives¹⁰, we identified the following issues that have arisen in relation to monitoring and evaluation activities for the SUC programmes.

- **Walking debates:** Programme coordinators report that these tend to work very well with children and young people. In some cases, participants will follow their friends or go with the majority, but generally they are open to indicating their own views. In particular, a programme coordinator mentioned that it was effective to break event participants down into small, mixed groups for the walking debates, which offered the participants more neutral environments for expressing their views without peer pressure. The programme coordinator also noted that comments made subsequently by participants during sessions would underline answers given during the walking debates (such as, “this is the first time I have participated in an event with people from a different community background”).
- **Guesstimates:** Given the large numbers of participants involved in some events, and the fact that many of the participants are coming from clubs or communities strongly associated with a certain community, this works reasonably well.
- **Baseline and post-participation surveys:** This method allows for more detailed data gathering, but it is primarily suited to those programmes that feature extended participation over time, rather than the many ‘one-off’ events conducted as part of Game of Three Halves and other programmes. These surveys have been used for three programmes in particular: Volunteer Development, Youth Leadership, and BME Engagement/Participation.

Project impacts to date and associated observations

The following provides analysis of attitudinal survey results data for the three programmes for which it was provided: Game of Three Halves, Club Educational Visits, and Inclusive Clubs Themed Workshops.

Game of Three Halves

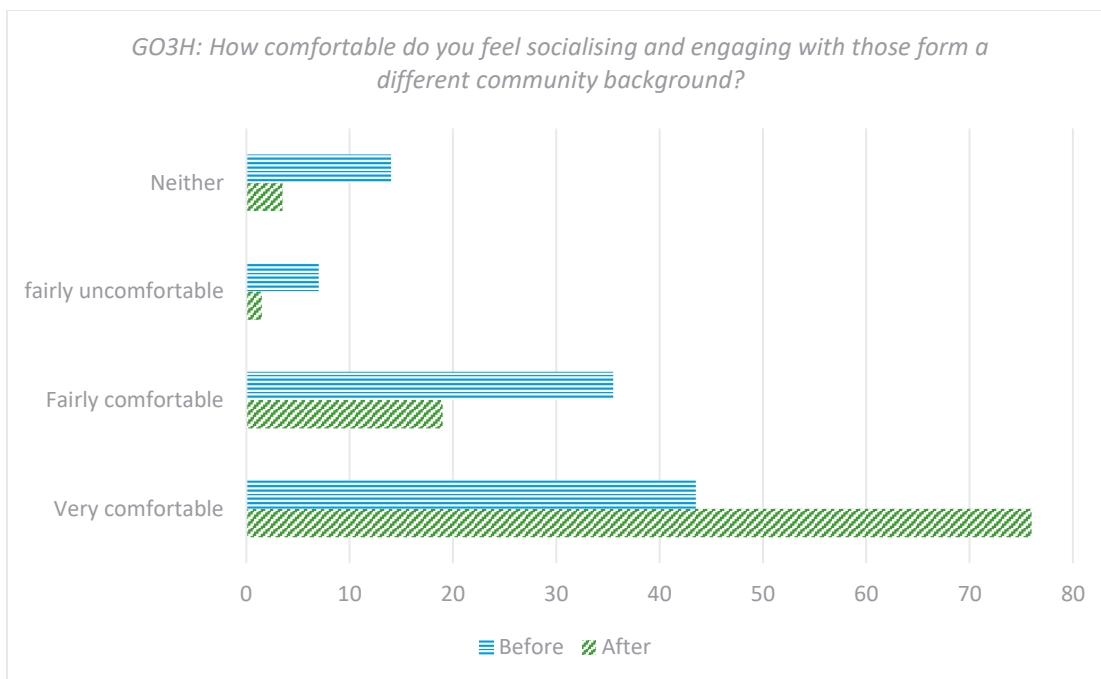
The Game of Three Halves (GO3H) programme involves young people aged between 8 and 24 participating in a one-time event lasting approximately 4 hours. Young people are engaged through their sports clubs, schools or youth clubs, with groups from different community or ethnic backgrounds brought together. Participants have one 30-minute training sessions in each of the three sports, followed by a one-hour lunch-break, and then three 30-minute competitive matches, one in each code¹¹.

Participants in the GO3H programme reported a significant improvement in positive attitudes towards other communities after participating in the programme, as shown in Figure 1. The share of participants who reported that they would feel ‘very comfortable’ socialising and engaging with those from different community backgrounds rose from 43% before the programme to 76% after participating, an increase of 32 percentage points. The shares reporting that they would be ‘fairly uncomfortable’, ‘neither’ or only ‘fairly comfortable’ all fell, underscoring the positive impact of this programme on attitudes.

¹⁰ RSM conducted consultation interviews with a focus group attended by all Community Sport Development Officers (CSDOs) who act as programme coordinators. Separately, individual consultations were conducted with the overall project coordinator and one CSDO (programme coordinator) who had lead delivery responsibility for two programmes (Game of 3 Halves, and Club Educational Visits).

¹¹ ¹¹ Codes: the term ‘code’ refers to the specific sporting discipline i.e. GAA, Soccer, Rugby; and the term ‘home code’ refers to the discipline from which the participant originates.

Figure 1 Attitudinal survey for GO3H



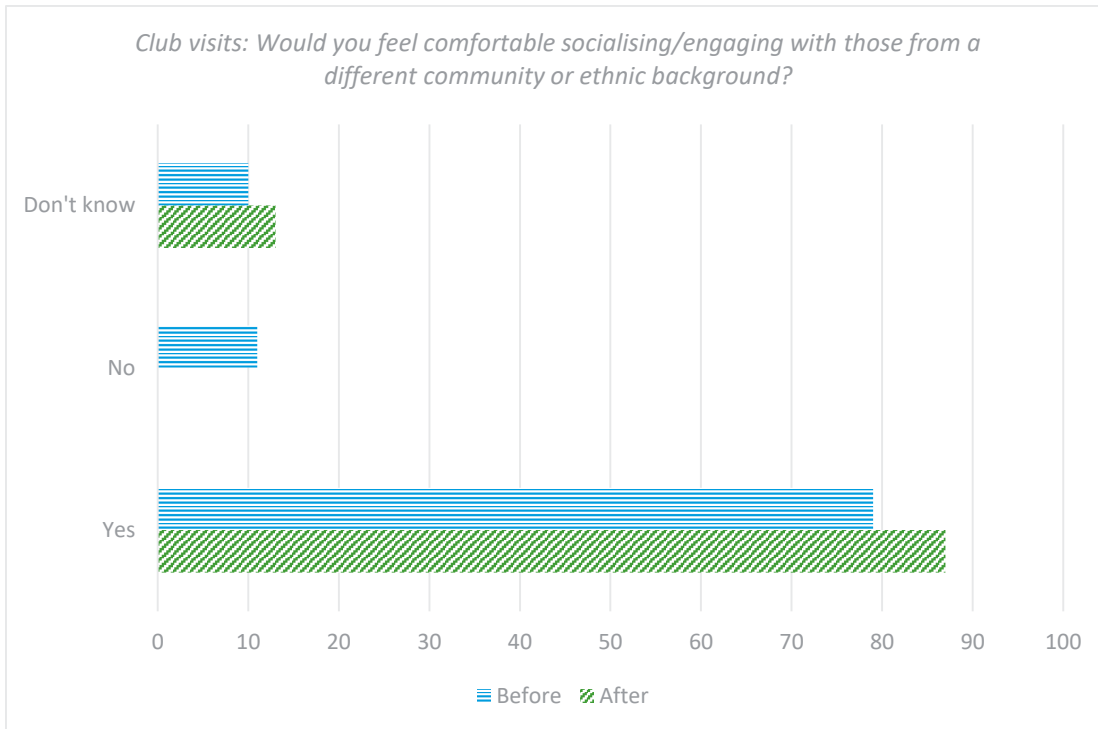
Other findings of the Monitoring and Evaluation of the GO3H programme included:

- 86% reported that after participating in the programme they would be “more willing” in future to participate in activities with people from ‘other’ religious or ethnic backgrounds;
- 72% felt that such events as were held in the programme could help build a peaceful society in Northern Ireland (28% were ‘unsure’); and
- 96% reported that they had had fun participating in the programme sessions.

Club Educational Visits

Club Educational Visits (CEVs) are organised to facilitate representatives from clubs from different codes and individuals from different backgrounds to tour football, rugby and GAA stadia together, to learn about the history and traditions of each sport and experience current facilities. Three separate strands were held in Year 1, in each of Area 1 (Belfast area), Areas 2 and 3 (Mid Ulster), and Areas 4 and 5 (West Ulster). Each event was planned for 18 participants, two representatives from three clubs in each of the three codes for each area (2x3x3=18).

Figure 2 Attitudinal survey for CEV



Among the total of 58 volunteers from 23 clubs participated in CEVs in Year 1, the impact on cross-cultural understanding and willingness to engage was particularly positive. As seen in Figure 2, the number of respondents would feel comfortable socialising/engaging with those from a different community or ethnic background rose from 79% to 87%, with the shares for 'no' and 'don't know' both decreasing.

Other findings of the Monitoring and Evaluation of the CEV programme included:

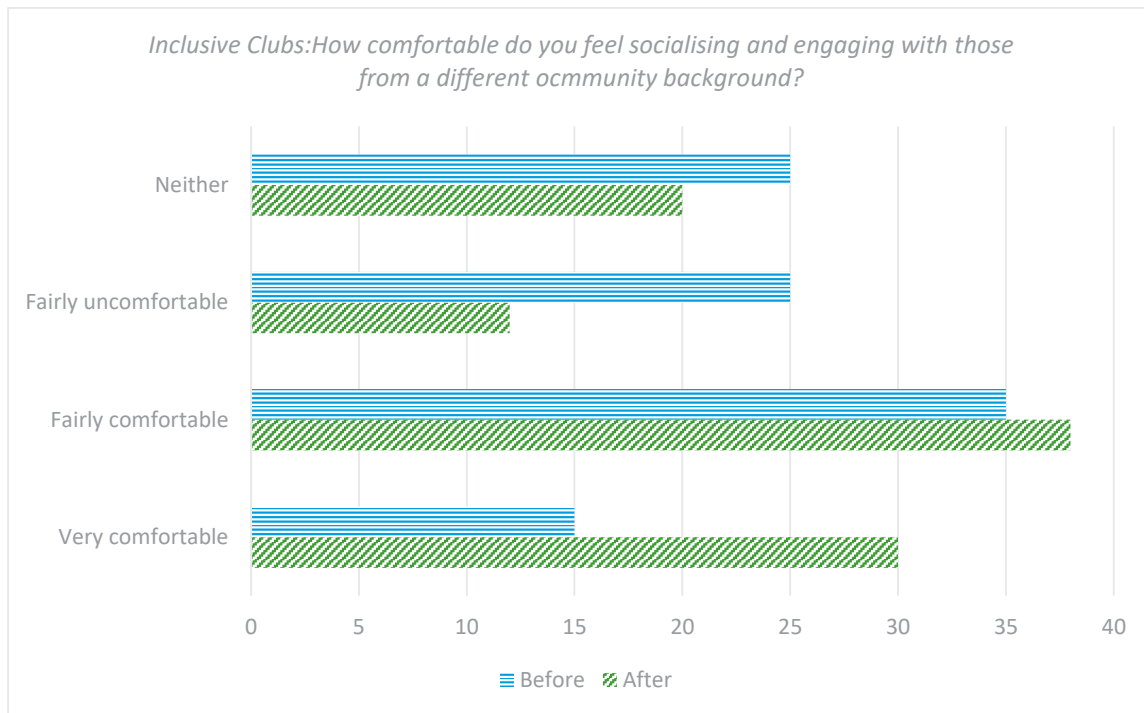
- a 12 percentage point increase in those who would be accepting of other cultures and traditions, rising from 71% before to 82% after the visits;
- a 13 percentage point increase in those who thought there was not enough interaction between communities, rising from 87% before to 100% after; and
- a 21 percentage point increase in those who would be willing to participate in cross-border/cross-community activities, rising from 79% said before that they would be willing to 100%.

Inclusive Club Themed Workshops

The Inclusive Club Themed Workshops programme held workshops in each of the 5 designated areas, on the theme of "Creating a Welcoming Club". The events were planned with a target of 18 participants per workshop, for a total of 90 participants. The programme ultimately exceeded this target, achieving a total of 101 participants from 53 clubs across the three codes.

In terms of attitudinal feedback, Figure 3 shows that the share of respondents who would feel 'very comfortable' socialising/engaging with those from a different community/ethnic background doubled from 15 percentage points before the events to 30 percentage points after. The number responding 'fairly comfortable' also rose, while shares for 'fairly uncomfortable' and 'neither' both declined.

Figure 3 Attitudinal survey for Inclusive Club Themed Workshops



Other findings of the Monitoring and Evaluation of the Intensive Club Themed Workshops programme included:

- 91% of respondents said that they would be more willing to participate in future activities with those from other religious backgrounds, after participating in the workshop; and,
- 100% of respondents felt that such events could lead to a more peaceful society in Northern Ireland

Other programmes

At a general level, the programme coordinators stated that cooperation between local clubs from different codes had helped changed attitudes. They highlighted that some clubs had previously viewed other local clubs from different codes as competing for the same player pool. However, engagement through SUC has contributed to a growing view that the codes can be complementary. In some cases, clubs have begun openly promoting training, matches and events at clubs from other codes in their locality and the number of players choosing to participate in more than one code has increased. Lurgan, Ballynahinch and Fermanagh were cited as examples in this regard.

Programme coordinators were also able to give anecdotal examples of children/young people whose attitudes had changed significantly through participation in Sport Uniting Communities. Two examples cited were:

- the recruitment of four new members from the PUL community by a Fermanagh club that is perceived as being CNR – this took place after attending an SUC event; and
- a young person in Belfast from the PUL community who had joined a local GAA club after participating in SUC.

For the ‘Getting to Know the IFA’ tours, programme coordinators noted that uptake for the Windsor Park tours had been from schools in the maintained (CNR) sector. In addition to the impact on participating school students, the experience also was useful for the teachers, several of whom had not visited the stadium for years or even decades and were positively surprised at the transformation of the recently-refurbished ground.



Constraints and Lessons learned

Kick-off period

The first months of Year 1 were intensive in terms of office-based activities to finalise planning and set up the programmes. As all the project staff had been recruited in the 1-2-month period prior to Year 1, this was also the induction period in which staff familiarised themselves with the project, the targets, and the operation of the programmes.

During this period, it was not possible to begin delivery of programme activities and progress towards output targets. In turn, this meant that in the latter half of the year, there was more pressure to deliver programme activities and meet targets.

The project coordinator commented that the CSDOs were able to get up to speed quickly, which helped minimise delays, and that all the Year 1 targets were ultimately delivered. However, Year 1 delivery may have gone more smoothly if it had been preceded by a planning period of 6-8 weeks.

Recruiting clubs in Year 1

Related to the kick-off period issue outlined above, since in the initial stages of launching the programme were spent setting up the programmes, this left less time to recruit clubs and schools to participate in programmes, making the achievement of Year 1 targets more difficult. In some cases, it was not possible to recruit clubs until summer/autumn and weather conditions later in the year added to the difficulties of holding all the intended outdoor events.

Given the nature of implementing new programmes, the early months will inevitably require set-up time. However, the project and programme coordinators have found that with the groundwork from Year 1 now in place, recruitment of clubs and schools has happened earlier within Year 2, with many events being held in the early months of the calendar year.



Competition with local councils for participants

When the programme began, the Irish FA, Ulster GAA and Ulster Rugby reached out to clubs in various areas in early 2018 to secure their participation in the Sport Uniting Communities programmes. Clubs agreed, but later in the year, the same clubs were approached by local councils to participate in other PEACE IV-funded sports-focused programmes. Fermanagh & Omagh and Derry City & Strabane council areas were mentioned in this respect.

According to the project co-ordinator, the councils were able to offer greater financial and other incentives, such that clubs opted to participate in those programmes instead. However, clubs then turned to their respective governing bodies for assistance in matters relating to the council-run programmes. The governing bodies were therefore left in the difficult position of wanting clubs to benefit from these other funded activities, but also facing the prospect of not being able to meet their own targets for the Sport Uniting Communities programme due to this competition.

The project partners consulted with SEUPB, and a solution was found, by advising councils to work with the relevant government bodies before engaging with local clubs in a particular sport. Some councils subsequently switched the focus of their Peace IV sports programmes to sports other than football, Gaelic games and rugby. In the case of Belfast City Council, for example, the council contacted the Irish FA prior to implementing their own sports-related PEACE IV programme and held discussions to minimise overlap.

This episode underlined the importance of good communication and cooperation between project partners leading different PEACE IV projects focusing on similar themes in similar areas.

Incentivising programme completion

For reasons including the competition dimension with local council programmes (which have/had similar target numbers), some participant groups subsequently dropped out after initially agreeing to participate. In the 'Game of Three Halves' programme, 'equipment packs' were being given to participating clubs with equipment that would allow them to continue facilitating all three sports at their clubs. To incentivise clubs to complete the programme, the project partners decided that equipment packs would only be given at the end of the programme, after all activities had been completed. This resulted in improved retention of participating clubs and schools.

The lesson from this was to structure programmes to incentivise clubs, schools and youth groups to complete programmes until to the end. It was found that incentives are fundamentally important to encourage and retain participation.

Maximising participation, minimising volunteer burden for CEV

The format of the CEV programme in Year 1 involved giving stadium tours to clubs/schools for each of the three sports — the National Football Stadium at Windsor Park, the Kingspan Stadium, and a provincial GAA stadium or Croke Park in Dublin (as Casement Park has not yet been redeveloped). These tours were initially held on separate days. However, it was found that attendance was not consistent across all three tours, with a degree of drop-out. Holding three events was also time-consuming for the volunteers (coaches, teachers etc) who were helping deliver the visits.

Also, while visiting county GAA stadia such as Celtic Park in Derry/Londonderry and the Armagh Athletic Grounds was convenient for groups in those regions, it was found that visiting the GAA headquarters at Croke Park, an 82,000 all-seater stadium, was more impactful for programme participants who were less familiar with GAA. Therefore, from Year 2, the GAA leg of the club educational visits will all be to Croke Park.

To maximise participation and minimise the impact on volunteers in Year 2, it was decided to condense the two Belfast-based tours to one day, so that groups would be able to visit both the National Football Stadium at Windsor Park and the Kingspan rugby stadium during one event. Due to the travel time required to Dublin, the Croke Park visit will continue to be held on a separate date.

This arrangement has been successful, and the programme co-ordinators will continue with it. The lesson here was to maximise participation opportunities while reducing time investment costs, particularly for volunteers.

Role of CSDOs

Nine CSDOs were recruited as project staff at the end of 2017 and commenced work on the project in January 2018. There are three operational geographies (Area 1 Belfast, Areas 2 and 3 Mid Ulster, and Areas 4 and 5 West Ulster), and one CSDO per code in each geography. Originally, it had been planned to recruit additional coaching staff on a part-time basis to assist with event delivery, but due to the qualifications and experience of the CSDOs who were recruited, this has proved unnecessary, and events can be largely delivered in-house.

Since most of the CSDOs themselves are prominent figures in their respective sports in their regions, they bring their own personnel networks, and young people participating in programme events will often have familiarity with at least one CSDO, helping them feel at ease in a new environment. Some CSDOs are also affiliated across more than one code, such as one in the Area 1 who is prominent in both the football and GAA communities. This, and the fact that young people see CSDOs from different backgrounds engaging enthusiastically in events and working well with each other, leads to a demonstration effect, whereby CSDOs in the way in which they deliver the programme are in effect modelling the successful outcomes of the SUC project as a whole.

Working relations between project partners

SUC is not the first time that the Irish FA, Ulster GAA and Ulster Rugby have cooperated to deliver joint programmes. However, whereas previous cooperation was organised, staffed and financed separately across the three, SUC represents the first time that the organisations have worked this closely together, including in relation to staffing and finances. The Irish FA leads on these matters and works closely with the other two bodies.

During consultations, project staff spoke very highly about the degree to which the organisations were cooperating and the ways in which staff were integrating. It was remarked on several occasions that CSDOs work much more closely with the CSDOs from other codes in their designated areas that they do with other CSDOs from their home code, who are based in other geographies. The project coordinator comments that

the success of SUC has underlined to staff across the three codes the value and potential of cooperation going forward.

Introduction of General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)¹²

The introduction of the GDPR in 2018 had some impact on the programme. Forms for participants and parents had to be revised in line with new regulations. However, the project organisers commented that there were no longer any issues in this area.

Brexit

Some concerns about the possible impact of Brexit on the SUC programme were raised by project and programme coordinators. Given that this is a regional project conducting activities on both sides of the border, a hard border could potentially impact on programme delivery. Some project staff commute across the border for work, raising personal concerns.

On the other hand, since the funding award was made in Euro and the pound has weakened against the Euro in recent times, this has led to currency gains in terms of project funding.

Initial conclusion and emerging recommendations

Through RSM's review of the progress and performance to date of the Sport Uniting Communities project and its constituent programmes, we find the following points of note:

- Overall, the evidence we have reviewed suggests that the Sport Uniting Communities project is being organised and delivered on schedule, on budget, and without any major issues.
- In terms of outputs, the project achieved its Year 1 goals despite a slightly slow start and appears to be making good progress towards achieving output targets for Year 2.
- In terms of outcomes, survey results suggest that there has been positive attitudinal change for participants through participating in sporting activities with individuals from different community or ethnic backgrounds. Anecdotal evidence also provides examples of positive transformation, such as the case of a young man from a PUL background joining a local GAA club after participating in SUC, or local clubs from different codes starting to promote each other's activities and training sessions after having worked together through SUC.
- Game of Three Halves has been perhaps the most significant programme to date, in terms of scale of participants and impacts. The Year 1 target of 270 participants was exceeded, with over 800 young people taking part. This was a format that had been successfully developed and implemented prior to PEACE IV, and only had to be modified in terms of aspects relating to risk assessment, health and safety etc.
- The 'How-to' guides should be made available on the SUC and project partners' websites to support accessibility and sharing and circulation.
- It appears that the project would have benefitted from the inclusion of a pre-delivery planning phase of 1-2 months, to allow for staff induction and final programme planning. However, it appears that the delays experienced in the early stages of Year 1 did not materially impact on outputs or outcomes.

Looking ahead to the delivery of the remaining elements of the Sport Uniting Communities project, we consider the following points to be worthy of further attention:

- Given the regional nature of this project, as well as the four-year time-frame the potential impact of Brexit going forward should be monitored closely. In particular, a hard border could significantly impact the delivery of programmes and events, as well as the work of the project staff.
- The good working relationships that have developed between the three project partners in general and the project staff in particular are noteworthy. Presuming this continues, the case of SUC may be worthy of further study as a model of successful cooperation among partners on a regional project

¹² GDPR is a legal framework that sets guidelines for the collection and processing of personal information from individuals who live in the European Union.

- The issue of SUC partners competing with local councils for clubs to participate in their respective sports-focused programmes seems to have been resolved, with input from SEUPB and cooperation from councils. Going forward, the issue may be one to consider in relation to future programmes. For example, it could be stipulated in Letters of Offer that project leads consult with other SEUPB-funded project leads who may be delivering projects with a related theme to reduce the potential for duplication and/or displacement.

SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL: CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Project Overview

In August 2017, Sligo County Council received €180,537 from the Peace IV Programme for a project entitled “Sligo County Council – CYP”, focusing on Children and Young People.

The project involves implementation of a range of activities such as youth citizenship and leadership, conflict to community activism, capacity and inclusion through sport, music, heritage and the arts, inclusion and diversity, shared space development, and small grants delivery. These initiatives will be delivered through a combination of Council-led and partner delivery along with delivery agents which will be procured through open tender.

The Overarching Peace IV Children and Young People Programme targets a range of young people aged from 0 months to 24 years. The overarching objective of this programme is to offer opportunities to engage new participants who have not benefitted from previous programmes due to their age, but who are living with the legacy of conflict while not having been alive when it was ongoing. The Sligo Children and Young People Programme includes participants aged 5 years to 24 years old and is scheduled to deliver the following five work packages:

- Youth Citizenship & Leadership Programmes;
- Conflict to Community Activism Programme;
- Capacity and Inclusion through Sport Programme;
- Capacity and Inclusion through Music Programme, and
- Inclusion & Diversity.

Summary details of the project are provided in Table 1 below and details of the five programmes are given in Table 2. This case study represents a ‘one-off’ point in time assessment of the project.

Table 1: Project details

Project	Sligo County Council Children and Young People (CYP) project
Partners	Sligo County Council; Mayo, Sligo and Leitrim Education Training Board
Relevant Specific Objective	SO2.2 (Action 2.2 Local Authority Children and Young People) Enhancing the capacity of children and young people to form positive and effective relationships with others of a different background and make a positive contribution to building a cohesive society
Amount awarded by PIV	€180,537
Duration	August 2017 to March 2020 (Start date on eMS and LoO is 1 st January 2017 and LoO is dated 1 st August 2017).

Table 2: Programme details

Programme output indicators	Sum of quantified outputs	Quantified output (target)	Project main output number	Description	Budget	Output duration
2.1: Phase 1. The number of participants aged 0-24 completing approved programmes that develop their soft skills and a respect for diversity	223.00	40.00	T1.1.1	To deliver youth citizenship and leadership programmes to 40 young people aged 12 to 18 years. Each programme will be delivered by a delivery agent to be procured by the lead partner and will include: Citizenship Programme; Leadership Programme	€35,000	April 2018 to June 2019
		20.00	T2.1.1	To deliver a conflict to community activism programme to 20 young people aged 16 to 24 years	€15,103	July 2018 to September 2019
		60.00	T3.1.1	To deliver a capacity and inclusion through sport programme that provides sustained and, purposeful and meaningful contact between 60 young people aged 12-16 of different backgrounds. Two intensive 1-week long residential programmes (2 groups of 30 each week for 2 weeks). The residential activity Summer camps will include workshops covering team building exercises, outdoor activities and challenges plus a joint recognition event.	€22,222	July 2018 to June 2019
		40.00	T4.1.1	To deliver a capacity and inclusion through music programme to 40 young people aged 12 to 18 years from post primary schools and youth clubs	€45,590	January 2018 to December 2019
		83.00	T5.1.1	To deliver an inclusion and diversity initiative to 83 young children aged 5 to 12.	€23,650	January 2018 to June 2019

Performance to Date

Table 3 provides an overview of financial and output performance for the five programmes and Table 4 identifies key activities that have been undertaken to date and those that are to be carried out in the future.

The **Youth Citizenship & Leadership** programme has delivered the first stage of Citizenship activity. Stage 2 is ongoing and stage 3 is planned for April 2019. This programme has claimed about 20% of its budget to date and has yet to report on participation figures. The Leadership element will be delivered in due course.

The **Conflict to Community Activism** programme has delivered a preliminary session and Session 1. During March-April, Sessions 2-6s and a field trip to Derry are planned for delivery. This programme has yet to report on participation figures and yet to claim any budget.

To date, the most progressed programme is the **Capacity and Inclusion through Sport** programme, which has fully delivered all planned activities. It has claimed 100% of its budget allocation and achieved 100% of participants target.

The **Capacity and Inclusion through Music** programme has delivered stages 1 and 2 of planned activities, with stage 3 ongoing and stage 4 planned for April 2019. It has engaged 103 participants and is in the process of submitting a first budget claim.

The **Inclusion and Diversity for Young Children** programme has delivered the first stage, the training of 10 childcare facility workers in inclusion and diversity. The second stage is ongoing, with trained workers acting as peer educators at their workplaces, leading to the delivery of the output of 83 interventions from March 2019 onwards. This programme is yet to report on participation data or claim any budget.

In summary, as of March 2019, the Sport programme has been fully delivered, delivery of the Music programme is ongoing and relatively advanced and the other three programmes are also operational and in the process of being delivered.

“Our goal was to bring children together and challenge perceptions in a neutral environment”

- Programme Co-ordinator

Table 3: Project performance to date

	Programme	Partner or Contractor	Dates	Participant target	Participants to date	Contract value (€)	Spend to date
1	Youth Citizenship & Leadership	Belfast Unemployed Resource Centre (BURC)	10/18 to 05/19	40	30	€29,967.03 (ex VAT) - original budget €35,000.	€5,993.41 (incurred in Q1 2019 to be claimed).
2	Conflict to Community activism	Sligo County Council	01/19 to 05/19	20	23	€12,900 (excl VAT)	None claimed to date
3	Capacity & Inclusion through Sport	Northwest Adventure Tours	06/18 to 09/18	60	60	€22,222	€22,137.51
4	Capacity & Inclusion through Music	Mayo Sligo Leitrim Education & Training Board (MSLETB)	10/18 to 09/19	40	103	€45,590 (incl VAT).	First claim currently in preparation
5	Inclusion & Diversity Programme	County Sligo Childcare Committee	09/18 to 05/19	83	Interventions starting March 2019	€23,200 (no VAT) – original budget €23,650	None claimed to date

Project monitoring and evaluation

In order to monitor and evaluate the impacts of the project, Sligo County Council and programme co-ordinators are undertaking the following for each of the five programmes:

- Baseline surveys: survey of attitudes and background information completed by participants upon entering each programme; and
- Post-participation surveys: a survey of attitudes and information completed by participants after finishing each programme.

As of March 2019, baseline surveys had been distributed to participants in all five programmes and were in the process of being returned for the four ongoing programmes.

Post-participation surveys have also been completed and returned by the 60 participants in the Sport programme, the only programme to have been completed to date.

For baseline surveys in the Music programme, around 20 of 40 surveys have been returned, with 10% of respondents to date indicating that they are from a PUL background, in line with targets.

Participant Breakdown

The lead partner provided RSM with data on the breakdown of participants for three of the five programmes: Youth Citizenship & Leadership (YC&L), Conflict to Community Activism (CCA), and Capacity & Inclusion through Music. The sample sizes for the three surveys reflect all participants in the three programmes- 30, 23, and 103 respectively. The higher number for the Music programme reflects the fact that stages 1 and 2 included a wider range of participants, with the latter two stages focusing on 40 core participants.

In terms of gender:

- YC&L respondents were 60% male 40% female;
- CCA respondents were 35% male 65% female; and
- the Music programme respondents were 47% male 53% female.

In terms of the community background, the target for the project was that 10% of participants should be from the PUL communities:

- 83% of YC&L respondents were CNR, 13% PUL and 3% other;
- 74% of CCA respondents were CNR, 9% PUL and 17% other; and
- 52% of the Music programmes respondents indicated 'Catholic', 3% 'Protestant'. and 45% chose 'Unknown/Other'.

In terms of ethnic background, YC&L respondents were 100% White; CCA respondents were 96% White, 4% Other; and the Music programme respondents were 77% White, 3% Irish Traveller, 1% Asian, and 19% Unknown. None of the programmes had participants from a Black or Mixed ethnic background.

Project feedback on issues associated with monitoring and evaluation

Through discussions with project representatives, the following issues were reported in relation to monitoring and evaluation activities for the Sligo CYP programmes:

- Participants are asked and encouraged to complete response forms, but are not obliged to do so, thereby potentially impacting response rates;
- General reluctance or tardiness of some participating young people to fill in surveys, due to lack of interest etc;
- Inconsistent responses from some young people that may distort data;

“Exposure to the programme and learning about Northern Ireland meant that [participants] have had time to think about the bigger picture.”

- Project Co-ordinator

- GDPR concerns relating to gaining parental permissions for minors to complete surveys, have photographs taken etc; and
- Practical issues relating to fulfilling GDPR obligations after initial surveys had been distributed, such as contacting parents who failed to respond to calls.

Project impacts to date and associated observations

Since only one of the five programmes has been completed to date, it remains too early to provide a detailed assessment of the overall impacts of the Sligo County Council CYP project. This section summarises initial impacts and associated observations of the five programmes.¹³

Sports Programme

For post-participation surveys for the “Capacity and Inclusion through Sport” programme, results from the attitudinal surveys from the 60 programme participants are presented in the Figure 2 below.

On the surface, the results for attitudes after participation in the Sport programme would appear to indicate a decline in good relations, given the decrease in reported frequency in socialising/playing sport with those from a different community background, as well as a decline in optimism about the current and future state of community relations.

However, following discussions with key project stakeholders, it appears instead that these results indicates greater knowledge, understanding, and realism on the part of the young people, who may have had little exposure to or knowledge of community relations issues prior to participating in the programme, and thus an overly optimistic view prior to participation on the programme.

Responses to the question comparing community relations five years ago and today suggest a similar pattern, with a shift from ‘better’ to ‘about the same’, and a decline in ‘don’t know’. Again, this suggests an ‘informed realism’.

Finally, responses to the question about community relations five years from now offers grounds for optimism, with an increase in the number of participants who expect their community relations to be better or about the same, and a decline in those selecting ‘worse’ or ‘don’t know’.

The Sport programme co-ordinator reported that the utilisation of non-traditional activities appears to have worked very well, as they appealed even to individuals who would not normally engage in field-based team sports. Moreover, the activities themselves were identity-neutral, compared to certain field-based sports that may have an identification with one community or other.

¹³ To ascertain impacts, RSM conducted stakeholder interviews with the relevant programme co-ordinators and the overall project coordinator.

Figure 2 Before and After Attitudinal surveys of Sligo CYP Sports programme participants

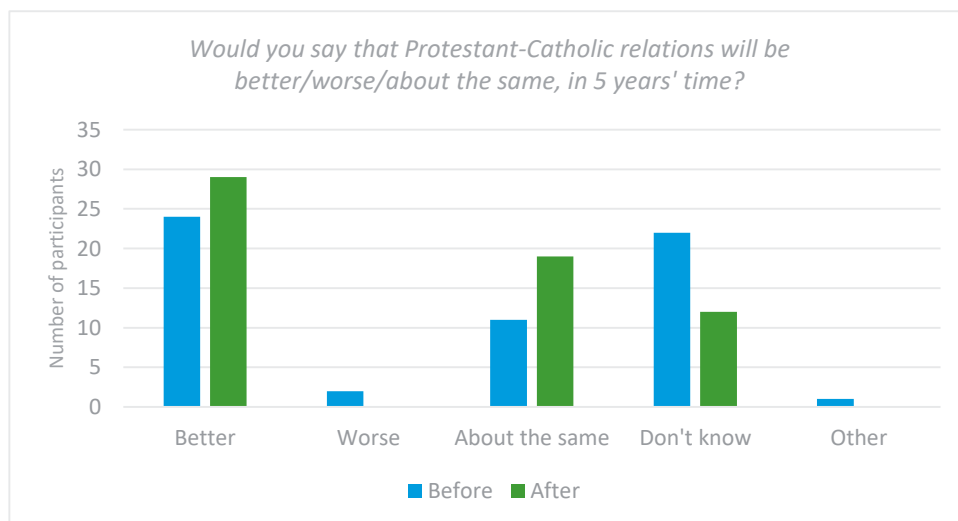
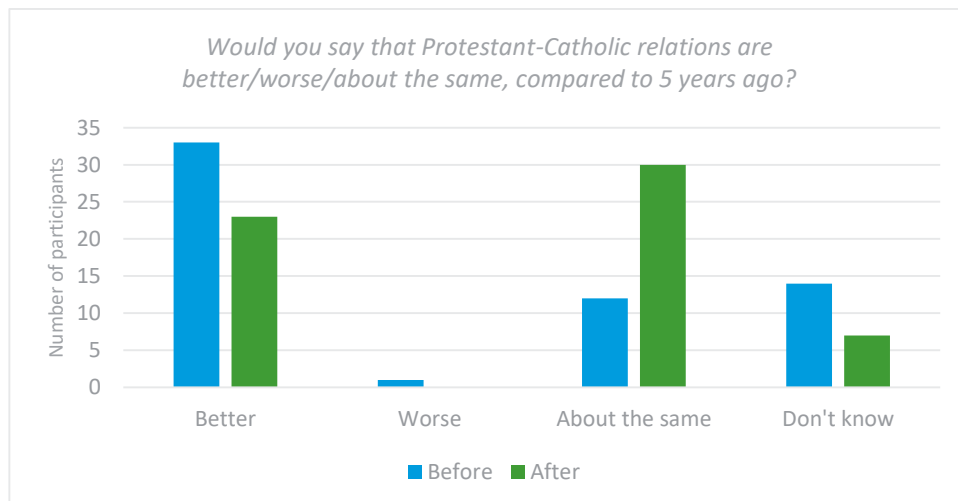
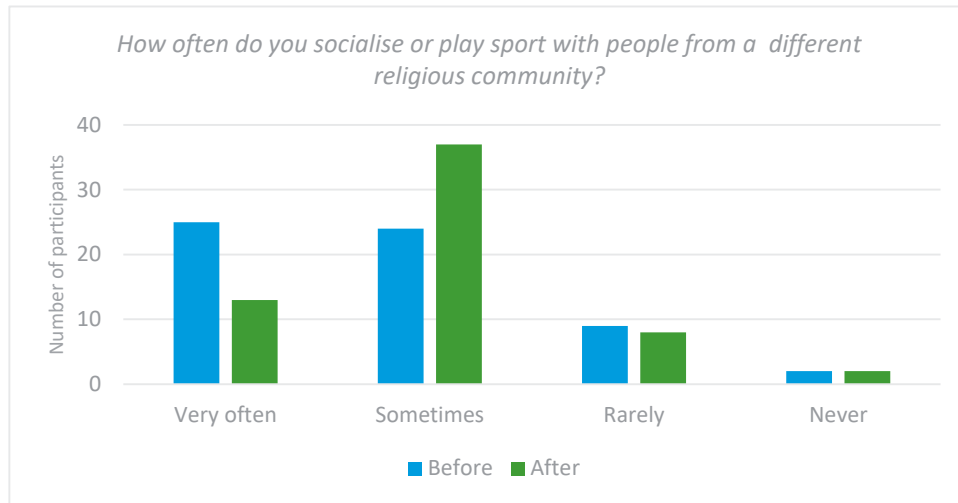
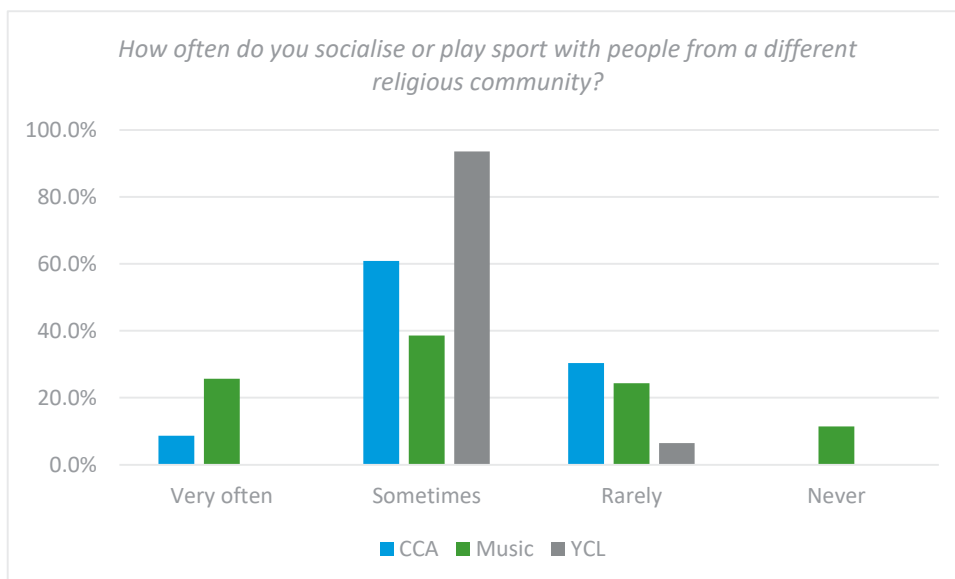
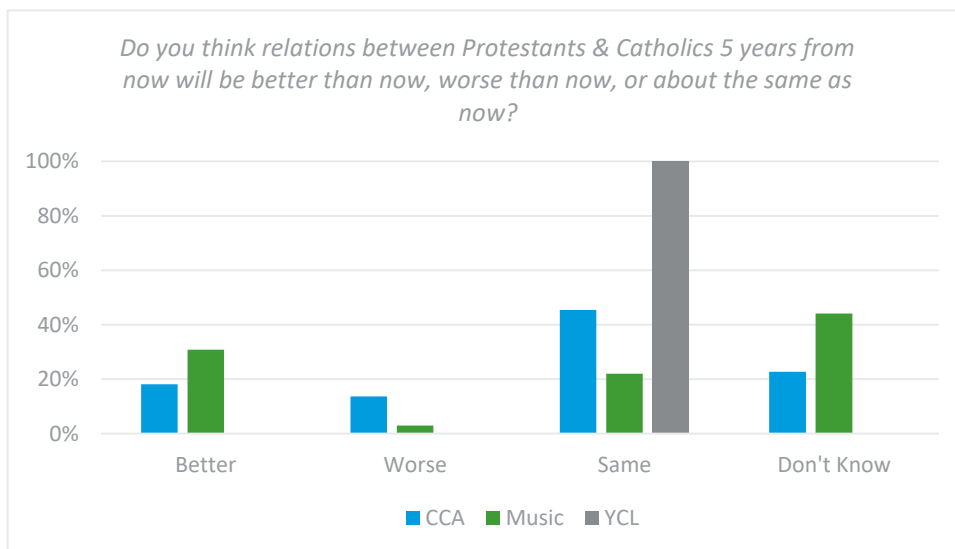
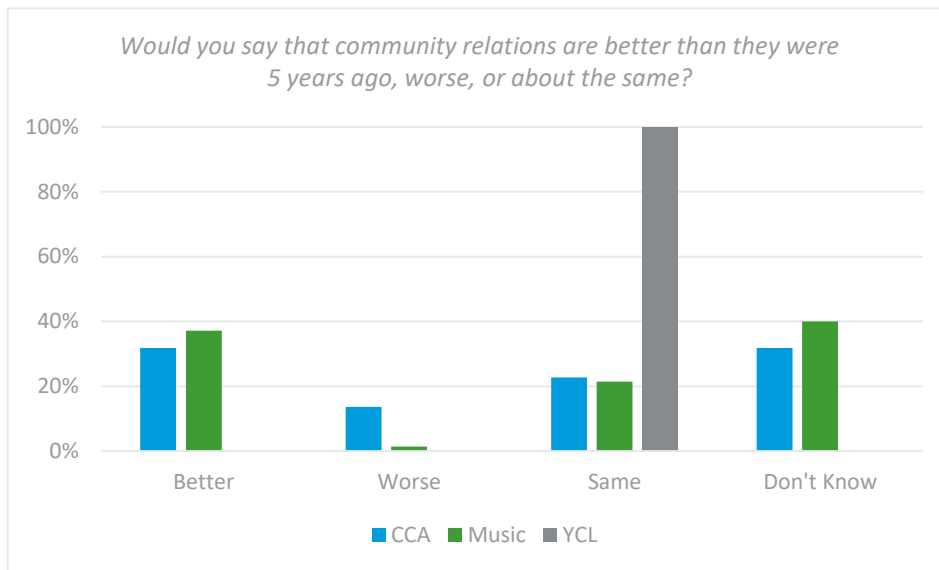


Figure 3 Baseline Attitudinal Surveys for Sligo CYP programmes: CCA, Music and YCL



In practical terms, the way in which participants on the Sport programme were integrated into small groups for each activity also worked well for improving cooperation, communication and understanding with people from a different religious community. This was potentially better than might have been the case than for a field-based team sport between two large groups from different community backgrounds competing against each other.

Music Programme

The “Capacity and Inclusion through Music” programme has the operational title of *Tales and Harmony*. As noted in Table 4 above, the Music programme has delivered the first two stages to date, with the third ongoing and the final rehearsals and performances due in April.

As seen in Figure 3, baseline figures for the Music programme indicate that 37% believe that community relations are better now than five years ago, 1% think ‘worse’, 21% think about the same, and 32% ‘don’t know’. In terms of community relations five years from now, 31% believe they will be better, 4% worse, 22% the same, and 44% don’t know.

In terms of impacts to date, the programme coordinator reported that the programme had been particularly successful in terms of **personal development**, i.e. giving young people the opportunity to do something new and express themselves through music and performance. Through music, and the songs and lyrics the young people had written, they were able to share and explore issues that were important to them, including lyrics about issues of a personal nature or identity issues.

“To see the groups coming together for joint rehearsals has been fantastic.”

- Programme Co-ordinator

The process of young people from different backgrounds practicing and rehearsing music together was also a valuable experience. In this way, participants developed skills of teamwork and cooperation, and worked hard to improve and learn with fellow participants.

Taking a long-term view, the programme coordinator reported that the young people who have participated have had the chance to grow in confidence and develop personal skills, as well as learning about young people from other backgrounds, and that this will have a positive long-term effect on **building positive and effective relationships** between the communities in Sligo and Enniskillen.

Other Programmes

In the YL&C programme, the 30 core participants are planning to organise a charity fun run. This plan has proved popular in the local communities, with 100 members of the wider community due to come together to participate.

In terms of baseline attitudes, as shown in Figure 3, 100% of participants thought that community relations were better now than five years ago, and 100% thought that they would be the same five years from now. In terms of socialising or playing sport with people from a different religious or ethnic community, 94% did so sometimes, while 6 percent did so rarely.

The CCA has progressed well, and has proven particularly timely in relation to major recent news stories such as Brexit, Bloody Sunday etc. According to the project co-ordinator, “Brexit has definitely brought the border back into focus”, particularly for the post-ceasefires, post-1998 agreement generation who are participating in this programme.

In terms of baseline attitudes, as shown in Figure 3, 32% of respondents thought that community relations were now better than they were five years ago, 14% thought worse, 23% thought the same, and 32% didn’t know. Thinking five years from now, 18% thought that community relations would be better, 14% thought worse, 46% thought the same, and 23% didn’t know. Just 8.7% of respondents socialised or played sport with people from a different religious community, 30.4% of respondents answered “rarely” and the majority of respondents sometimes socialised or played sport with people from a different religious community.

The Inclusion and Diversity programme has also progressed successfully, with 11 local childcare groups now involved, more than double the original target of five. Given the recent growth of immigrant communities in Sligo

as in the rest of Ireland, including refugees from Syria, the programme has also been well-timed. Baseline data was not received by RSM for this programme.

Constraints and Lessons learned

Consultation with project representatives has identified a number of constraints which have impacted on project delivery and performance.

Delivery partners

Feedback from project co-ordinators highlights that during the tendering process for delivery partners, the numbers of viable tender responses for several projects were limited, according to the overall project coordinator. This would seem to have some connection to the location of Sligo, a county town with few major settlements or business hubs nearby. However, the project coordinator also noted that facilitators who had worked on previous PEACE programmes had moved on to engage in other projects, due to the time gap between PEACE III and PEACE IV, and were hence not available to tender for PEACE IV-funded programmes. The project coordinator reported that the timing and continuity of the PEACE programme may have impacted to some extent on the delivery of the Sligo CYP project.

Delays

Overall, some of the programmes took longer than planned to get started. The YC&L tender was awarded to a bidding organisation from Northern Ireland, and it took 2-4 weeks' time to clarify budget issues with SEUPB in respect of the VAT requirements faced by Sligo County Council for Out of State payments.

For the inclusion and diversity programme, delays were faced in October 2018 when it transpired that local childcare facilities were facing a shortage of qualified staff, and hence could not spare staff to go on the planned training programme. The programme was then delayed until January, after the newest cohort of student staff had qualified and come on-stream.

The Conflict and Community Activism programme was delayed when it transpired that the intended delivery partner, Tus Nua, no longer had the staffing capacity to deliver the programme, due to the loss of a community resource worker during the two-year period between the planning and implementation of the programme. In this case, Sligo County Council secured permission from SEUPB to become the delivery partner, tendered for a programme facilitator, and the programme became operational in February 2019, a few months later than originally scheduled.

In each of these instances, external circumstances impacted upon the planned delivery of the programmes. However, the delays occurred early in the academic year, meaning that there was time to find solutions, adjust the programmes accordingly, and condense delivery into a shorter timeframe than originally planned, without impacting upon participating students or their schools.

Monitoring and evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation activities proved difficult in certain respects. Stakeholders noted that teenagers and young people may not always be highly motivated in relation to tasks like filling in surveys. Also, in some cases, parents were slow to respond in relation to GDPR-related requests.

Finding a means to monitor and evaluate that fits well with young people may be an issue for future consideration. Technology could offer a solution, such as a standardised smartphone app for M&E feedback from young people.

Changes in staff and participants

In relation to the Music programme, the coordinator reported an issue in relation to the posts of Composer and Director for the programme. Following the initial tender, two individuals were appointed by tender, one as Composer and one as Director. However, both individuals subsequently had to withdraw, after being offered other work opportunities of international significance. It was decided to appoint one individual to deliver both roles. However, the coordinator is of the view that the original plan, of having two separate roles, would have delivered a better outcome.

Also, one of the original schools participating in the music programme had to drop out due to lack of resources. Replacing this school proved a difficult task, with many schools and other groups expressing interest but being unable to commit to the specific schedule. Ultimately, it was decided that a youth group from Enniskillen would participate. Whilst this has been largely successful in practice, it has proven difficult at times to schedule joint sessions given that schools attend during daytime hours and the youth group meets in the evening hours.

Given the time-frames over which projects and programmes are delivered, changes to staff and participating groups or individuals between planning and delivery stages are sometimes unavoidable. The project risk register accounted for the possibility of staffing issues, rating it as potentially having 'medium' impact and 'low' probability, meaning that no risk mitigation strategy was required. The risk register rated participant recruitment issues as 'high' impact and 'high' probability, and outlined a mitigation strategy of working closely with potential stakeholders and implementing the communications plan to raise awareness of and interest in the programmes.

Therefore, while there appears to have been no issue in how the lead partner prepared for these risk possibilities, our consultations indicate that further contingency planning for such outcomes could be considered at the project planning stage, given the human geography of Sligo.

Resource intensity

In relation to the Sport programme, it appears that while the project was successful, the residential nature of the programme was also very intensive in terms of organisational and delivery resources. If the programme was to be expanded to reach larger numbers of young people, it may be more effective to do so in a non-residential format that was less resource-intensive.

Project sustainability

In relation to both the Sport and Music programmes, the issue of post-project sustainability of activity was raised by the programme coordinators. Namely, for the young people who had become involved in new activities with a cross-community dimension, it was not clear if and how they could continue developing these interests and build lasting community links. Programme co-ordinators gave information and signposting to interested participants as best they could.

The project's Exit Strategy focused on building individual capacity to access other services:

"All [programmes] with a capacity building element aim to develop the capacity and abilities of the target cohorts to a level whereby they are more capable and confident to represent themselves, access other support and services and engage in mainstream society in a fuller way".¹⁴

However, our consultations indicate that there may be a need for a more regular funding structure for continuity of participation, which could sustain and potential enhance benefits of the PEACE funded activity.

Initial conclusions and emerging recommendations

Our initial review of the progress and performance of the Sligo County Council CYP project to date highlights that:

- Overall, the project and constituent programmes are progressing well in terms of implementation, and achieving their participation targets
- Given the small share of the PUL community within County Sligo, programmes seem to have performed well in relation to the 10% targets for PUL participation. Even so, the absolute numbers of PUL participants remains small. To maximise the beneficial impacts on community relations in future, programmes in Sligo may benefit from including a cross-border dimension as standard, as the Music programme currently does.

¹⁴ The Exit Strategy is contained in Section 11 of the application materials for the Sligo BPR project (PIV 4052), which was submitted in parallel to the CYP application (PIV 4050).

- Outdoor activities involving small, mixed groups seem to provide a neutral environment for interactions and relations-building, and the natural geography of Sligo offers many opportunities for such activities. Such factors are worthy of consideration when planning future projects
- Since the pool of potential programme providers/facilitators is comparatively limited in a more rural region such as Sligo, the issues of timing and continuity of PEACE funding and the impact on availability of experienced facilitators and service providers could be considered further.
- Given that changes to staff and participants are possible between the planning and delivery stages of programmes, further risk/contingency planning at the planning stage could help mitigate potential impacts and delays, particularly in a less populous region like Sligo where replacements may be harder to source.
- There may be a need for better tailoring of Monitoring and Evaluation methods to young people, incorporating good practice for GDPR. Youth-friendly technology could offer a solution, for example by developing a standardised smartphone app for M&E feedback from young people.

Looking ahead to the delivery of the remaining elements of the Sligo CYP project, we consider the following points to be worthy of attention:

- Ensuring responses to monitoring and evaluation surveys are maximised, given the constraints that can arise from working with young people and parents; and
- Continuing to reach the 10% target for PUL community participation, given the lower PUL share of the community in County Sligo as a whole.

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