



SPECIAL EU PROGRAMMES BODY

Project Case Study: Ards & North Down Borough Council Local Authority Action Plan

THEME:

Building Positive Relations
Local Authority Plans

FUNDING (ERDF + Match):

£3,339,755.70

MATCH FUNDERS:

The Executive Office NI and Department for Rural & Community Development Ireland

LEAD PARTNER:

Ards & North Down Borough Council

PROJECT CONTACT:

peaceiv@ardsandnorthdown.gov.uk

Start Date: 03/12/2015

End Date: 31/12/2020



www.ardsandnorthdown.gov.uk/resident/community/peace-iv-partnership

Ards and North Down Borough Council's Action Plan will support a number of locally-based projects and initiatives that will promote positive relations between people from different communities and backgrounds.

The Action Plan will focus on three key areas: Children & Young People; Shared Spaces & Services; and Building Positive Relations.

On Sunday 10 February 2019, Ards and North Down Borough Council's PEACE IV Partnership celebrated the election of an Ards and North Down Youth Council as part of the PEACE IV Capacity Building and Youth Leadership Programme. Speaking at the event, Ian Donald, Project Co-ordinator reflected:

"The PEACE IV Partnership is delighted to witness the formation of the Ards and North Down Youth Council. I would like to commend the Young People involved for their dedication and commitment throughout the lifetime of the project. Understanding the concerns of our future generations is of paramount importance and I welcome the opportunity to work with the Youth Council in the future."



Young People from the CYP1 Capacity Building & Youth Leadership development programme at Ganaway Activity Centre to elect participants to the Ards and North Down Youth Council.



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CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE (£700,598.11):

This part of the Action Plan will include the implementation of five projects including: a Capacity Building and Youth Leadership project, which will work with young people aged 12-24 years to enable them to contribute to a more shared society through participation in local youth forums, workshops and a cross-border residential; and a Cross-Community Sports and Good Relations project, which will develop young people's skills through sport, including non-traditional sports.

Key Output: Number of participants aged 0-24 completing approved programmes that develop their soft skills and a respect for diversity: 1336

BUILDING POSITIVE RELATIONS (£1,449,474.58):

This part of the Action Plan will include the implementation of 10 projects including: a Genealogy and Storytelling project called 'LIFE', which will offer participants the opportunity to research their family history and provide them with a sense of identity and belonging; and the 'GIFTED' Capacity Building and Development project which will provide a menu of accredited, community based training programmes designed to support personal development, soft pathways to employment and further education (primarily in areas of educational disadvantage).

Key Output: Local Action Plans that result in meaningful, purposeful and sustained contact between persons from different communities: 1

SHARED SPACES AND SERVICES (£1,189,683.01):

This part of the Action Plan will focus on four towns and villages in the Borough: Comber, Holywood, Portaferry and Portavogie. Projects will include the installation of an official walking trail gravel path in Portaferry, which will include new seating, sculptures and entrance signage.

Key Output: Local initiatives that facilitate the sustained usage on a shared basis of public areas/buildings: 1

"The Programme is designed to support peace and reconciliation and will bring a real, tangible benefit to our community. Each development will focus on creating a more cohesive society through an increased provision of shared spaces and services across the Borough ensuring that each area will provide recreational facilities for all members of the community to use."

The Mayor of Ards and North Down, Alderman Bill Keery



Works commenced in January 2020 on the construction of the PEACE IV Shared Spaces Scheme at Comber's Muckers Field. Mayor of Ards and North Down Borough Council, Bill Keery, cuts the sod on the Comber scheme.