

T:buc

Changing for the better, together



Together: Building a United Community Strategy

Annual Update

2018/19



Northern Ireland
Executive

Foreword



I am delighted to be able to provide this report reflecting the very positive progress being made in the implementation of the Together: Building a United Community (T:BUC) Strategy. The report provides an update on the successful delivery of the headline actions as well as a range of other good relations programmes being supported across our society.

At its core, the success of the strategy is dependent on the working relationships between Government departments, statutory bodies, voluntary and community groups and the community in which the projects and programmes are being delivered.

Government departments and their statutory partners provided considerable funding and support to aid delivery during 2018/19. In addition, the contribution, commitment and participation of the voluntary and community groups, and the local community, has been critical to the successful delivery of the strategy. I have seen first-hand how their efforts and commitment have made real and positive change happen. This report attempts to reflect this and how their work has helped to bring about the positive change in community relations articulated through the T:BUC Strategy at both a local and societal level.

This report cannot capture all of the activities that have been delivered, given the scale of delivery. However, we are keen to see your videos and positive stories from your projects and programmes and we will continue to share these to reflect the positive change that is taking place.

I want to thank everyone who has participated in all of the T:BUC projects and programmes and who have supported the delivery of the strategy- this success could not have been achieved without you. This report marks year five of the T:BUC strategy's implementation and while there has been significant progress, there is much more to be done. To that end it is incumbent on all of us to continue to work constructively together to help build the united, shared and reconciled community that we want to live in.

Dr Mark Browne

Strategic Policy, Equality & Good Relations
Directorate

The Executive Office

Together: Building a United Community Strategy: Overview

The vision

The T:BUC Strategy provides a vision based on equality of opportunity, the desirability of good relations and reconciliation. It also provides the framework for government action in tackling sectarianism, racism and other forms of intolerance while seeking to address division, hate and separation.

Key priorities

The T:BUC Strategy outlines how we in Government, in the community, and as individuals, work together to build a united community and facilitate change in the key priorities of:

- Our children and young people;
- Our shared community;
- Our safe community; and
- Our cultural expression.



Further information on the T:BUC Strategy can be found at: <https://www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk/topics/good-relations-and-social-change/together-building-united-community-tbuc>

Headline actions

The T:BUC Strategy sets out seven strategic headline actions and a range of other actions and commitments that provide innovative approaches to bringing about the conditions that will contribute to a united, shared and reconciled community. The seven headline actions are:

Pilot **100** Shared Summer Schools By 2015.

Develop **4** Urban Villages.

Establish **10** Shared Education Campuses.

Get **10,000** Young People, Not In Education, Employment Or Training, A Place On The New United Youth Volunteering Programme.

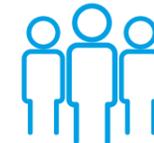
Establish **10** New Shared Housing Schemes.

Develop A Significant Programme Of Cross Community Sporting Events.

Remove Interface Barriers By 2023.

T:BUC Strategy: Key Facts

The T:BUC Strategy and its range of actions and commitments comprehensively demonstrate the Northern Ireland Executive's commitment to realising change across the key priorities. Much has been achieved since the strategy launched. Key deliverables have included:

 **442** T:BUC Camps delivered with approximately 16,000 young people taking part.

 **9/10** Shared Neighbourhoods have been completed, providing 428 new homes.

 A total of **35** capital projects have been delivered across the five Urban Village areas.

 The Uniting Communities through Sport and Creativity Programme has engaged approximately **2,200** young people in good relations through sports, physical and creative activity, with a strong youth leadership aspect.

 Development of **5** Shared Education Campuses continues. The Department of Education is currently considering options on how to progress the schemes identified from the third call.

 Over recent years the number of Department of Justice owned interface barriers has reduced by **13**

 At the end of March 2019, over **2,700** young people had participated on the Peace4Youth programme.

 Shared Future funding, secured as part of the 2015 Fresh Start agreement, is used to help deliver the actions arising from the Strategy. These funds help to supplement monies already earmarked for good relations programmes and projects from within departmental budgets. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/a-fresh-start-for-northern-ireland>

T:BUC Camps Programme

Programme summary

The T:BUC Camps Programme provides opportunities for young people aged 11 to 19 across Northern Ireland to come together to build positive relationships across divided parts of our community. The camps challenge historic positions, encourage debate and discussion and provide a way for young people to get to know each other, try new experiences, have fun and help to build longer term relationships. Camps are delivered on a cross- community basis.



Camps in the Community

As well as the Camps themselves we have progressed the Camps in the Community element and brought social action to the fore, improving the visibility of the young people in local communities, giving back to those communities through social action projects.

In 2018/19 two Camps in the Community events were successfully delivered in Lisnaskea and Newcastle. Their purpose was to bring young people from different projects together to participate further in good relations work, look at issues affecting young people and design social action projects to be delivered in their own local communities.



2018/19 delivery

2018/19 was the fourth year of the programme and saw 123 camps successfully delivered across Northern Ireland to 4,175 young people aged 11-19 years old. Since the commencement of the Camps Programme, 442 camps have been delivered involving over 16,000 young people.

The Education Authority (EA) act as Programme Administrator for the T:BUC Camps Programme on behalf of TEO, and more background on the Programme can be found at the following website:
<https://www.eani.org.uk/tbuc>



Videos of these events can be found at:
<https://www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk/articles/tbuc-camps-programme>



And on our social media feeds:
<https://www.facebook.com/tbuccamps/>
<https://twitter.com/TBUCcamps>



Twelve social action projects were completed in areas such as Belfast, Newcastle and Newtownhamilton. These included projects such as a beach clean-up, a fund raising event for a local cause and a Christmas event at an elderly care home. Check out the video at:
<https://vimeo.com/bni/review/326576469/c643878b8a>

Contact:

Support and advice on making an application to deliver a T:BUC Camp is available from EA's Youth Service. They can be contacted by email:
tbuc@eani.org.uk

If you have any questions for the TEO Camps team please contact:
tbuccamps@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk

T:BUC Camps Programme: Key Facts



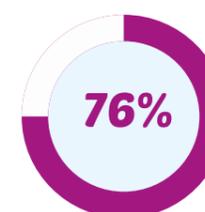
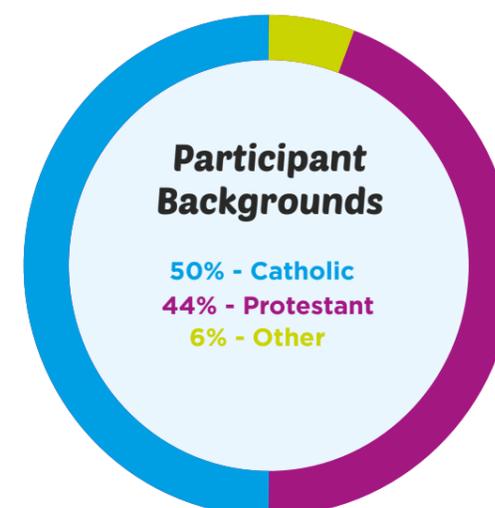
123

T:BUC Camps fully delivered.



4,175

young people completed the programme.



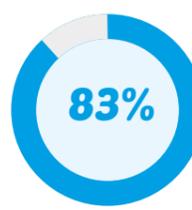
of participants had a positive attitudinal change towards people from a different religious/community background.



of participants stated they have a better understanding of other cultural traditions & backgrounds.



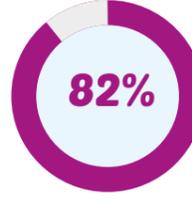
of participants stated they feel more able to talk openly with others about their sense of identity, culture & aspirations.



of participants have an increased willingness to be more involved in peace building activities with young people from other backgrounds.



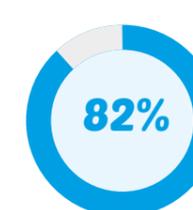
of participants feel a personal benefit from the camp experience, for example confidence/skills/ participation.



of young people plan to stay in contact with friends they made at camp after the project ends.



of participants enjoyed the programme.



of participants have made new friends with young people from a different religious background at camp.

Urban Villages Initiative

Programme summary

The Urban Villages Initiative is designed to support communities and to work collaboratively across government departments, councils, and other interested parties to achieve positive outcomes for each Urban Village area through a series of capital investment and community-led projects.

The 3 inter-connected aims for each Urban Village area are:

- Foster positive community identities
- Build community capacity
- Improve the physical environment

During 2018/19 the Urban Villages Initiative has funded and supported community organisations, delivery partners and other stakeholders as they have developed community led projects, cross cutting programmes, and identified potential capital projects across the five Urban Village areas.

There has been investment of more than £15m to date in projects across all five Urban Village areas

Capital projects

35 capital projects have been completed to date.

An important milestone was achieved with the completion of the Colin Connect Transport Hub and Colin Town Square.

This transformational project has positively impacted the community through the quality of the new infrastructure.

Contact:

If you have any questions please contact:
info@urbanvillagesni.org



Thriving Places

Community-led projects

These included projects such as:

- Communities Together For Change
- After Schools Support Project
- Walkway Young Mums
- Colin Safer Streets Initiative
- Streets Alive - Events programme

Cross-Cutting projects

Projects connect and span across the 5 Urban Village areas, and involve partnerships between public sector and other stakeholders. These include school based approaches, employability programmes, capacity building, and tourism and heritage initiatives.

Schools of sanctuary

By the end of 2018/19, 14 schools had achieved Schools of Sanctuary accreditation and a further 15 will be accredited in 2019/20.



Schools of Sanctuary Profiles:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YdAtRumPFCg>



A short film of the Colin Connect Project Timeline can be viewed below:
youtu.be/UJLYFhLcuWo



If you want to know more about these projects, check out the website:
<https://www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk/articles/urban-villages-initiative>

Urban Villages Initiative: Key Facts



£15m

investment in projects to date.

21

Capital projects were progressed in 2018/19 with a spend of

£4.2m

14

School of Sanctuary Awards achieved through a partnership with the Education Authority (EA) and the City of Sanctuary Group by the end of 2018/19.

11

Post-primary schools delivered creative projects enhancing pupils' learning and self-esteem through partnership with the Arts Council and EA.

In 2018/19, **1,000** people in total have been supported through training, mentoring and work-based qualifications.



The total allocation for community-led projects is

£1.34m

during 2018/19.



48

community-led revenue projects were supported in 2018/19.



Shared Education Campuses Programme

The Shared Education Campuses (SEC) Programme provides capital assistance to applicant schools to facilitate shared education.

There have been three calls to the SEC Programme, with five projects having been approved to proceed to planning. The projects include a mixture of designs, but all include shared education facilities as the core element of delivery.

Post primary projects



Limavady SEC (St Mary's, Limavady and Limavady High School) - anticipated construction start date of early 2020.



Ballycastle SEC (Ballycastle High School and Cross & Passion College) Ballycastle, is currently at design stage.

Primary projects



Moy SEC (Moy Regional Primary School and St John's Primary School) received business case approval in March 2019.



Duneane and Moneynick SEC (Duneane Primary School, Toomebridge and Moneynick Primary School, Randalstown) feasibility study is currently under review.



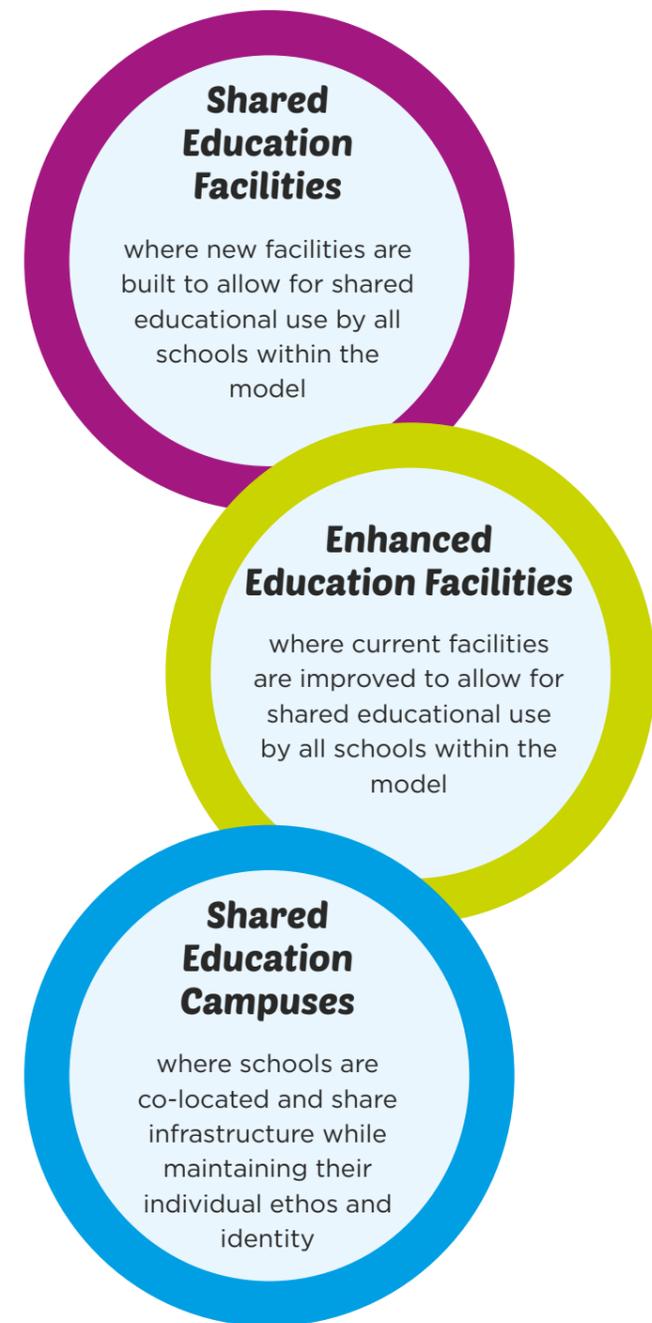
Brookeborough SEC (St Mary's Primary School and Brookeborough Primary School) feasibility study is currently under review.

Shared Education Campuses: Key Facts

 **3** calls for applications to the programme have been made to date.

 **5** Campuses have been selected to proceed.

 The programme is aimed at providing capital assistance to schools to facilitate sharing of facilities and infrastructure.



 If you would like further information on any of these projects, check out the website: <https://www.education-ni.gov.uk/articles/shared-education-campuses-programme>

Contact:
If you have any questions please contact: DE.DEWebMail@education-ni.gov.uk

Peace4Youth Programme

Programme summary

Peace4Youth is aligned with the vision and objectives of United Youth as set out in the T:BUC Strategy. The programme focuses on supporting participants to develop capabilities in the areas of personal development, good relations and citizenship, ultimately enhancing their employability and improving their life chances.

The programme targets young people aged between 14-24 years old, who are disadvantaged, excluded or marginalized, have deep social and emotional needs, and are at risk of becoming involved in anti-social behavior, violence or paramilitary activity. Many of these young people will not be in education, training or employment. At the end of April 2019, over 2,700 young people had participated on the programme.



Evaluation

Queen's University was appointed as impact evaluator for the programme, and their first report (on Phase 1 of the programme) was received in October 2018.

The report was highly positive with the majority of indicators under the main outcome areas (good relations, personal development and citizenship) showing clear progression for young people. Almost 80% of the young people surveyed indicated they were going to progress to education, training, employment or voluntary/community engagement, and almost 90% had gained a qualification in at least one area.

A further two reports are due in 2020 and 2022.

Peace4Youth

Peace4Youth is built on 12 essential design features and the programme has a strong focus on engaging, non-formal learning approaches delivered via a professionally-founded youth work approach.



"I am much more confident with myself I am sad for it to end these past few months have been the best of my life!"

"I feel empowered to create change in my community that i never thought I would have the confidence to do."

Contact:

If you have any questions please contact:
info@seupb.eu

Peace4Youth Programme: Key Facts



90%

of participants surveyed had achieved a qualification in areas such as personal development, citizenship, good relations and essential skills.



2,700

participants.



Aimed at young people aged

14 - 24

years old.



€40m

Programme Budget.



4 year

programme completing 2021/22.



Peace 
EUROPEAN UNION

Northern Ireland - Ireland

European Regional Development Fund

Shared Housing Programme

Programme summary

The aim of the Shared Housing Programme is to create communities of 'good neighbours' and ensure that there is greater choice open to those who wish to live in a mixed area.

Each Scheme is supported by an Advisory Group made up of local Community and Voluntary Groups, local political reps and Good Relations Officers from the Housing Executive and local Councils. The Groups also include representatives from Policing and Community Safety Partnerships and other relevant statutory bodies.

The Advisory Groups are key to informing the development of the shared schemes' five year Good Relations Plans which include 'bonding' programmes to support the new incoming residents, and 'bridging' programmes to promote mixing between the new residents and residents from surrounding communities, many of which are single identity communities.

Social Change Programme

The Social Change Programme is a collaboration between the Radius and Apex Housing Associations and their tenants from the Global Crescent and Ballynafoy Close shared neighbourhoods.

The eight-week programme (facilitated by Amplify NI) commenced in January 2019, and it provided tenants with the opportunity to identify key issues that matter to them. The tenants will now be supported to turn their ideas into actions through facilitated workshops and good practice visits. The programme included community mapping, a 'co-creation' workshop and the development of an impact plan.

The programme outcomes will support tenants in taking ownership of their neighbourhood and developing their confidence.

Contact:

If you have any questions please contact:
<https://www.communities-ni.gov.uk/forms/feedback>



St Patrick's Barracks, Ballymena

The Department for Communities continues to lead on the work to advance the St Patrick's Barracks site in Ballymena as a mixed tenure, shared housing scheme.

- Radius Housing Association has been appointed as the housing provider.
- The Department for Infrastructure has agreed to take forward the design, procurement and delivery of the site infrastructure.



Further information: if you want to know more about these projects, or the Shared Housing Programme, check out the following websites:
<https://www.communities-ni.gov.uk/articles/shared-housing-programme>

<https://www.communities-ni.gov.uk/articles/shared-housing-programme>

Shared Housing Programme: Key Facts

 **9/10**

schemes have completed, providing 428 new homes in total.

The final scheme is in Embankment, Belfast. Once complete, it will provide a further **55** new homes.

 **£33.5m**

has been invested in this headline action.



67
homes

Ballynafoy Close,
Belfast

86
homes

Ravenhill Avenue,
Belfast

58
homes

Burn Road,
Cookstown

36
homes

Market Road,
Ballymena

32
homes

Dromore Street,
Banbridge

12
homes

Crossgar Road,
Saintfield

97
homes

Felden,
Newtownabbey

24
homes

Antrim Road,
Ballynahinch

16
homes

Main Street,
Dundrum



Uniting Communities Programme

Programme summary

The Uniting Communities Programme uses sport, physical, and creative activity to break down divisions in society and deliver and embed key good relations messages with an emphasis on tackling sectarianism, racism and promoting equality of opportunity.



In 2018/19 this good relations programme has engaged 535 young people through the medium of sports, physical & creative activity with a strong youth leadership aspect.

The programme had 54 young leaders in training during the course of 2018/19 in Erne East, Colin & Eastside, and Ardoyne & Ballysillan areas.

Networking events

Delivery partners working across the Programme gathered together to share information and identify areas for collaboration to further support our young people.

A successful event at Jungle NI, Magherafelt, was delivered on 16 February 2019 providing young leaders with an opportunity to network with young leaders from other areas, to develop their relationships, and share learning. Activities were focused on problem solving and working together to achieve success. The event was co-designed with the young leaders.

Stakeholder engagement

Completed in two new rural locations – Ballymoney and Derg District Electoral Areas – including recruitment workshops in local schools.

Uniting Communities through sport & creativity

Young Leaders and Ambassadors Training Programmes

The Programme launched in September 2018 to deliver skills training to all young leaders. Inspirational ambassadors have also been recruited from a range of sporting, physical and creative backgrounds. Young Ambassadors have been training the young leaders in the new areas and are role models for the programme.

“The Programme has brought communities together in ways I never thought it would”
Young Leader



Contact:

If you have any questions please contact:
tbuc@communities-ni.gov.uk



Further information: if you want to know more about the Uniting Communities Programme, check out the website:
<https://www.communities-ni.gov.uk/articles/uniting-communities-tbuc>

Uniting Communities Programme: Key Facts



20

events and residential: including colour runs, launch events, celebration events and community events. All involved young leaders in their design and delivery.



6

Uniting Opportunities Projects: providing opportunities for participation and development for marginalised young people.



If you would like to see some examples of programme delivery, check out the videos below:

Colin and Eastside: Uniting Colin and East:
<https://vimeo.com/326821695/c3d05a49e8>

Ardoyne and Ballysillan: Uniting Ardoyne and Ballysillan:
<https://vimeo.com/326821148/4f1320d4a1>

Erne East: Uniting Erne East:
<https://vimeo.com/331006177/e5387d30f7>

Good Relations Video 1: Fight Song:
<https://vimeo.com/327053240/657cb0bf54>

Good Relations Video 2: The Real Trouble:
<https://vimeo.com/327050351/30c5e62cb7>



Good Relations

How favourable do you feel about people from...

minority ethnic communities



other religious backgrounds



The statistics above are based on limited participant data available in April 2019 for the year 2018/19.



Interface Programme

Programme summary

The Department of Justice, Northern Ireland Housing Executive and other statutory partners continue to engage with communities at interfaces to explore opportunities for physical change.



Engagement activity

Engagement activity includes leafleting, door-to-door surveying, drop-in workshops and community engagement events to meet local people living in interface areas in order to discuss potential adjustments to interface structures, where an appetite exists locally to do so.



Further information: if you want to know more about the Interface Programme, check out the website:



<https://www.justice-ni.gov.uk/articles/department-justice-interface-programme>



Stakeholder engagement includes meetings with:

- Community groups
- Inter-agency fora
- Residents' associations
- International Fund for Ireland-funded Peace Walls Programme groups.



Interface Programme: Key Facts

Successes in 2018/19

The Programme has enjoyed a number of successes during 2018/19 including:



Redevelopment work of a play park is underway on the Serpentine Road in North Belfast. This project involves the removal of a significant interface security fence.



Completion of reimaging scheme at Carrick Hill, Belfast.



Work to complete the Woodvale environmental improvement scheme in North Belfast recommenced, and will complete in summer 2019.



Community engagement on replacement security gates at Townsend Street, Belfast.



Community consent secured for the replacement of the interface security fence at Hillman Court / Duncairn Gardens, Belfast with a brick boundary wall and separate temporary fencing.



Progression of a scheme to remove a security fence at North Queen Street, Belfast in consultation with nearby residents.



Over recent years the number of DoJ owned Interface Barriers has been reduced by

13



Development of options to replace the interface structure on Bishop Street, Derry/Londonderry to retain security features whilst providing for the free movement of pedestrians.



Agreement to commence a feasibility study for the Gaol Tower and security fence along the front of the Fountain Estate in Derry/Londonderry.

What is it?

The 'Together: Building a United Community' (T:BUC) Strategy, reflects the Executive's commitment to improving community relations and continuing the journey towards a more united and shared society.



What is the vision?

The T:BUC Strategy outlines a vision of a united community, based on equality of opportunity, the desirability of good relations and reconciliation - one which is strengthened by its diversity, where cultural expression is celebrated and embraced.



How do we achieve it?

At the heart of the T:BUC Strategy is a commitment to genuine and productive collaborative working between the Executive Office and other NICS Departments, central and local government, and between the public sector and the community and voluntary sector.



How do we measure success?

Success is measured against the relevant Programme for Government outcome indicators and the four key aims of the strategy itself. All of our funded programmes have a strong focus on outcomes - we want to clearly articulate what difference is being made and to see how relations have been improved. We want to identify what works and to recognise and share best practice.



Changing for the better, together

Race Equality & Good Relations

Programme summary

The Racial Equality Strategy, launched in December 2015, established a framework for action by all Government departments:

- To tackle racial inequalities;
- To eradicate racism and hate crime;
- Along with the T:BUC Strategy to promote good race relations and social cohesion.

The Strategy, which has been welcomed by the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, sets out key actions and establishes a mechanism – through the Racial Equality Sub-group – to make the strategy a reality.

In a joint project with Urban Villages, the organisations represented on the Racial Equality Sub-group have been working with Cinemagic to produce a suite of films to highlight the work they do with minority ethnic communities.

Racial Equality Champions

As part of the strategy each department has an appointed Racial Equality Champion. Each Champion has the responsibility to ensure that staff have an awareness and understanding of racial equality and issues within their department's policy and operational areas.

They also communicate the ethos of the strategy to non-departmental public bodies and other service providers and encourage and/or work with them to ensure its effective implementation.



If you want to know more about Race Equality & Good Relations, check out The Executive Office website at: <https://www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk/articles/racial-equality>

Racial Equality Legislation Team

The most significant piece of legislation specific to race in Northern Ireland is the Race Relations (Northern Ireland) Order 1997 (The Order). The Racial Equality Strategy 2015-2025 has committed the Department to a review of the Order.

To fulfil this commitment the Racial Equality Legislation Team is reviewing the Order, identifying policy options to strengthen the legislative protections in NI.

Vulnerable Persons Relocation Scheme

The Executive has demonstrated its commitment to assisting with humanitarian issues through our participation in the Vulnerable Persons Relocation scheme.

The scheme seeks to identify those left most vulnerable by the Syrian conflict and resettle them where they can get the quality of support they need. So far 1,332 refugees have been resettled through the scheme.

Minority Ethnic Development Fund (MEDF)

The aim of the MEDF is to assist minority ethnic and local community organisations to promote good relations between people of different ethnic backgrounds. It provides support for voluntary and community organisations working with minority ethnic people and groups.



Race Equality & Good Relations: Key Facts



£1.2m

funding for the Minority Ethnic Development Fund.



36

projects supported through the Fund.



More than

25,000

people visit the Belfast Mela each August.



Since December 2015

1,332

refugees have been resettled here under the vulnerable persons relocation scheme.

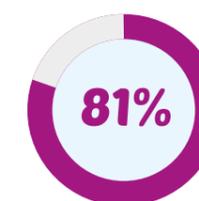


£100k

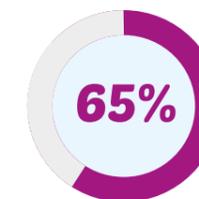
Crisis Fund to support vulnerable minority ethnic groups.



Northern Ireland Life and Times survey 2018 results



of people agreed or strongly agreed that migrant workers make Northern Ireland open to new ideas and cultures.



of people agreed or strongly agreed that the culture and traditions of minority ethnic groups added to the richness and diversity of Northern Ireland society.

ESOL NI website development in partnership with the Belfast Met ICT Development Team

The ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) NI resource offers an online portal where learners and support organisations can access information on ESOL provision anywhere in Northern Ireland.

The ESOL NI online portal is linked to an automatic translation mechanism making the full website information available in many different languages: <https://esolwebapp.azurewebsites.net/Default>

Community Relations Council

The Community Relations Council (CRC) was established in 1990 to lead and support change towards reconciliation, tolerance and mutual trust. CRC is an Arms' Length Body of TEO and a catalyst for good inter-community and inter-cultural community relations work in the region.

CRC is funded by TEO and the organisation is a key partner in the delivery of the Executives Good Relations Strategy – Together: Building a United Community.

The organisation works to identify and develop effective approaches to peace-building and reconciliation in partnership with local people, organisations, and central and local government.



North Belfast Strategic Good Relations Programme (NBSGRP)

The NBSGRP is a key good relations funding scheme delivered as part of the Executive's wider T:BUC Strategy. The NBSGRP is delivered in partnership with CRC. TEO is responsible for the strategic direction of the Programme, with CRC managing the administration and co-ordinating the evaluation of project outcomes over the course of the funding cycle.

The Programme is delivered by 11 contract holders and their partner organisations, with the key aim of improving relations between and within communities in North Belfast.

Community Relations/Cultural Diversity Small Grants

CRC, with the support of Government, has established a fund of approximately £400,000 to spend each year on community relations projects. This funding is intended to help community/voluntary groups throughout Northern Ireland develop their capacity to engage in community relations work and to enhance the community relations potential of projects they undertake.



Core funding scheme

The Core Scheme provides support for organisations which are considered of strategic importance in promoting community relations work across Northern Ireland. The scheme contributes towards salary and organisational running costs.

Contact:

If you have any questions please contact:
<https://www.community-relations.org.uk/contact-us>

District Council Good Relations Programme

Programme summary

The key aims of the District Council Good Relations Programme (DCGRP) are to improve relations between and within Council areas and to support local solutions to local good relations issues.



The DCGRP is match funded – Councils provide 25% of the overall funding for the Programme. Good Relations audits are conducted periodically in all Council areas, highlighting on-going and emerging good relations issues. These issues are then addressed through the creation of outcome focused good relations Action Plans. These plans are formulated by Council Good Relations Officers (GROs) and agreed with officials from TEO.

The expertise and local knowledge provided by the GROs ensures projects are fit for purpose and lead to positive good relations outcomes for participants and the wider community as a whole.

Over the last four years, the Programme has delivered more than 500 good relations projects, impacting on over 400,000 people across all 11 District Councils.

Projects funded through the Programme focus on a wide range of good relations issues. They involve participants of all ages, and from all ethnic and social backgrounds. The common thread running through each project is a good relations outcome linked to one or more of the four key aims of the T:BUC Strategy.

From 2019/20 onwards, Councils can apply for funding over a 3 year period, subject to positive annual evaluations and availability of budget. This change provides GROs with the flexibility to design longer term interventions with more substantial good relations outcomes.



Contact:

If you have any questions please contact:
District.CouncilGR@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk



If you want to know more about the DCGRP, including videos and reports showcasing the activity and outcomes from the Programme, check out the website:



<https://www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk/articles/district-councils-good-relations-programme>

District Council Good Relations Programme: Key Facts

Over £3m

of funding from The Executive Office.

Over £1m

of match funding from District Councils.

Over 100,000

people impacted by the delivery of the Programme.

11
Councils.

141
Projects.

Project breakdown by T:BUC Key aim



District Council Good Relations Programme: Case Study

Sperrin Summer Scheme

Project Summary

The Sperrin Summer Scheme was rolled out by the Good Relations Team from Derry City and Strabane District Council. Under the 'Our Children and Young People' theme their aim was to deliver a week long, shared community summer scheme to intermingle young children from the rural and isolated areas of the Sperrin District Electoral Area in a fun and informative way to improve attitudes between young people of different religious and ethnic backgrounds. The event was advertised on the council's Facebook page and website and also distributed via the Good Relations E-bulletin. All the children participating received the same t-shirt promoting inclusivity among the group.

Cost

£5,000
Total cost

How much did we do?

50
children attended.

From both main communities here.

10
Multi-cultural workshops.

10
Sporting Activities.

How well did we do it?



of participants said they would like to attend a similar event in the future.



What difference did we make?



of the young people agreed that they felt very favourable towards people from a different religious background.



agreed that they felt very favourable towards people from a different ethnic background.



agreed that they would participate again in activities with young people from a different religious and ethnic background.

What did we learn?

The summer scheme was an excellent way to integrate children and young people from different religious and ethnic backgrounds.

District Council Good Relations Programme: Case Study

International Children's Day 2018

Programme summary

Since 1925, June 1 has been known as International Children's Day. It is usually marked with speeches on children's rights and wellbeing, and other events involving or dedicated to children.

Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council (LCCC) Good Relations team used this event to promote social inclusion and improve community relations via the medium of a fun, youth based festival activity in a centralised, shared and open space in Lisburn City centre.

Cost

£7,000

How much did we do?

The project was delivered by the LCCC Good Relations team, in partnership with The Welcome Project Lisburn, who support minority ethnic rights in the LCCC area. The festival involved a diverse range of community groups from within the LCCC area, who were closely involved in the design and delivery of the event.

Voluntary and community organisations, public agencies and local businesses were also closely involved in the festival, and many hosted stalls at the event. These activities helped reduce potential friction and dispel myths that various communities may have of each other. The festival enriched the lives of those who participated by supporting integration through fun based activities.

Events at the festival included:

 **Arts + Crafts**

 **Music**

 **Sporting activities**

 **Cultural learning**



How well did we do it?

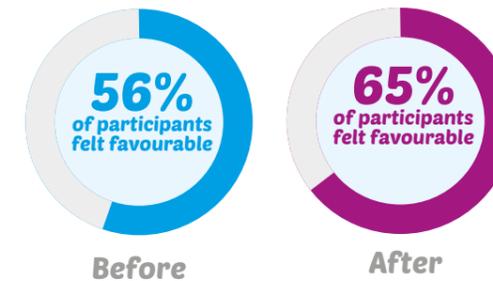
The exposure to different cultures enabled individuals to develop good relations and build trust and respect within our communities. The event also helped LCCC to challenge stereotyping of other communities and cultures. GRO's linked in with organisations supporting Syrian Refugees to encourage their participation in the festival.



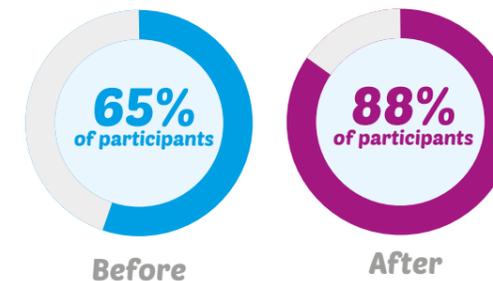
The festival received fantastic feedback from the community, Elected Members and community groups.

What difference did we make?

How favourable towards people from an ethnic background would you consider yourself?



Would you be open to experience a new cultural tradition separate from your own?



What did we learn?

There is huge potential to grow the event in the future - 3 year indicative funding from The Executive Office will allow the Council to approach the organisation and delivery of the festival in a more strategic manner.



Central Good Relations Fund

Programme summary

The Central Good Relations Fund (CGRF) supports constituted voluntary and community sector groups to deliver good relations projects where there is evidence of good relations need.

Since 2016, £12million has been awarded to support over 370 projects across Northern Ireland. In the last two years alone over 70,000 direct participants have been positively impacted by programmes using activities like sport, music and crafts to engage local communities.

There are two streams of funding available; project funding and small grants. For both streams, projects can claim salaries and programme costs, but these costs must be proportional to the good relations project being delivered.



Project funding opens once a year for applications around November. Small Grants are open for applications of up to £1,000 throughout the funding year.

Contact:
If you have any questions please contact:
GoodRelationsFund@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk



Successful projects must deliver within the funding year and contribute towards the delivery of one of the T:BUC Strategy key priorities.



If you want to know more about the CGRF check out The Executive Office website at:
www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk/CGRF

Central Good Relations Fund: Key Facts

Over £3.2m
of funding from The Executive Office.

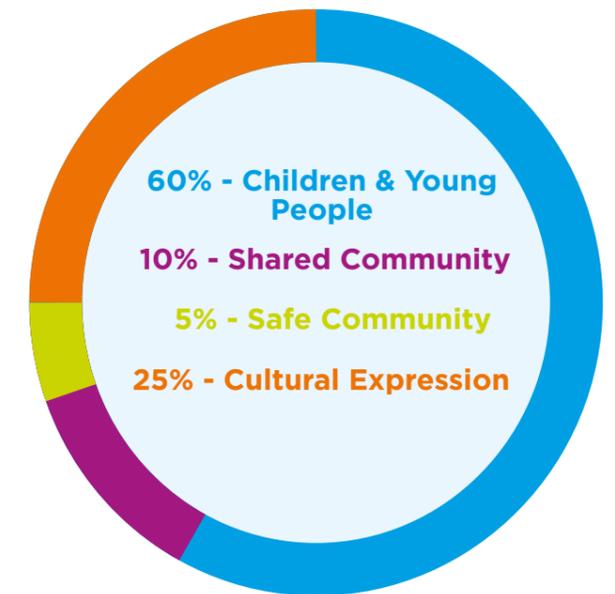
92
Projects including;

Sport

Music

Craft

Project breakdown by T:BUC key aim:



Central Good Relations Fund: Case Study

Promoting Positive Change

Project summary

Delivered by Twaddell, Ardoyne & Shankill Communities In Transition (TASCIT), The Promoting Positive Change programme sought to increase the levels of confidence of residents within and between interface communities within North Belfast. This was done by providing opportunities for residents to engage with each other, in the first instance through one off cross community events such as fun days, workshops or conferences. In the second instance we provided opportunities for residents to engage with each other in a more sustained way through the Challenging Conversations / Exploring Cultural Identities and Allegiances course.

Cost

 **£60,000**
Total cost

How much did we do?

9 month project.

3 Challenging Conversations Courses.

20 participants per Course.

20 hours of dialogue skills training.

20 hours of anti-sectarianism training.

How well did we do it?



average attendance over the duration of the course.



of the participants felt the programme had benefited them.



of the participants felt they were well treated during the programme.



What difference did we make?

Feedback from participants indicates that as the course progressed participants felt more confident in dealing with controversial issues and in articulating their position in a more effective and considered way. People made new contacts and friends with people they would not normally have spoken to or socialised with.

"It was my first time attending this sort of programme. I found it very positive. I have been to places I would have thought I would be scared to go to before. The group were all very respectful of people's views. I thoroughly enjoyed the whole experience".

"Great experience - first time on a cross-community course. Learned a lot".

"The programme was great - I learnt so much about myself and my opinions of others - very glad I did the course was great for myself".

"I feel we held back on some topics for fear of offending others - perhaps we need more courage".

"Taking part in this course was worthwhile and will benefit everyone with their outlook towards a better future.

"I really enjoyed learning and listening to people on the course whom I normally may not have associated with. I felt it was very beneficial to me".

"I got to meet with and have discussions with people, and visit areas, I wouldn't traditionally have encountered. It has both challenged and informed me".



of participants felt they now have a better understanding of different cultural traditions and backgrounds here.

What did we learn?

We felt that by improving people's skills to engage others effectively and by considering the nature of sectarianism as it impacts on us that the participants were much more considerate of how they challenged each other. Even the most robust conversations took place in a considered way.



Planned Interventions Programme

Programme summary

On an annual basis TEO provides funding for community activity to divert young people from anti-social and potentially criminal behaviour associated with contentious parades and public assemblies, and to deal with heightened tensions around interfaces during the summer period.

The programme seeks to develop the capacity of individuals and groups of children and young people to meaningfully take part in structured cross community engagement and relationship building programmes, such as T:BUC Camps.

The main outcomes of the Programme are to improve attitudes between young people from different community backgrounds and to reduce the incidences of crime and anti-social behaviour by young people in areas where the participants come from.

The Programme is managed by Belfast City Council and the Education Authority.



Key Facts

Planned Interventions align to the Children and Young People key aim of the T:BUC Strategy

 **7,310**
participants have taken part in the programmes to date.

 **£541k**
of funding from the Executive Office.

 **94**
projects were allocated planned interventions funding.

Planned Interventions Programme: Case Study

Tackling Awareness of Mental Health Issues

Project summary

TAMHI (Tackling Awareness of Mental Health Issues) carried out a planned intervention in summer 2018 to divert young people from anti-social and potentially criminal behaviour around contentious parades and public assemblies. The programme was delivered by 18 TAMHI young leaders which celebrated Girdwood Community Hub as a safe and shared space and included activities such as a successful cross community football programme.

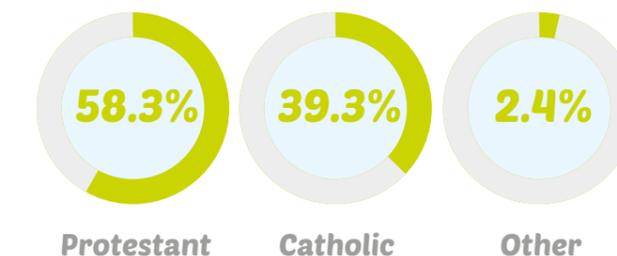
How much did we do?

TAMHI's coaches delivered sessions in Good Relations, football and mental health to raise awareness of discrimination, diversity, culture, sectarianism, bullying and wellbeing.

How well did we do it?

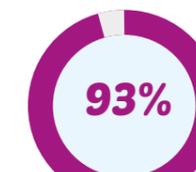
 **168**
young people engaged with the programme.

The community split of the 168 participants was



How well did we do it?

 **91%**
of respondents felt good about participating in the programme.

 **93%**
of respondents felt more favourable towards people from a different religious background.

 **75%**
of respondents felt more favourable towards people from a different ethnic background.

 **100%**
of respondents felt the programme helped them.

 **100%**
of respondents felt they were treated well during the programme.

What did we learn?

A coach reported, "the three weeks have been amazing, our kids have made new friends, found a new level of respect for other kids and learnt a lot; the fact they couldn't wait until the week after says it all".

PEACE IV Programme

Programme summary

The PEACE IV Programme is a unique cross-border initiative, financed through the European Union and managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB). It has been designed to support peace and reconciliation in Northern Ireland and the border region of Ireland.

Budget

The overall budget for the Good Relations element of PEACE IV is €110m. TEO provides approximately €13m in match funding.

Objectives

The PEACE IV objectives are: shared education, children and young people, shared spaces and services and building positive relations. The good relations element of the Programme delivers on three key thematic objectives:



Children and Young People.



Building Positive Relations.



Shared Spaces and Services.

Complementarity

The PEACE IV Programme complements the Executive's T:BUC Strategy with the three good relations thematic objectives being closely aligned with the four key aims of T:BUC.



17 Local Authority Plans and 19 Regional Projects have been approved and are currently being delivered by community groups and Councils. Two further regional projects, 'Building Emotional Resilience' and 'Community Cohesion and Capacity Building', have been developed and applications are currently under consideration.




If you want to know more about PEACE IV, including videos and reports showcasing the activity and outcomes from the Programme, check out the website using the link below:
<https://www.seupb.eu/piv-overview>



PEACE IV Programme: Case Study

Lifestart Foundation

Project name

Lifestart Foundation: Shaping Ourselves & Our Children (SOOC): Building the foundations of good community relations in family life.

Project summary

This €1.3 million project is supported by the European Union's PEACE IV Programme, managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB). Match-funding has been provided by the Executive Office in Northern Ireland and the Department of Rural and Community Development in Ireland.



Project delivery

This project is being delivered by Lifestart Services Limited in partnership with Sligo Family Support Ltd, Dunluce Family Centre, The Junction and Barnardos. The programme aims to support parents of young children in Northern Ireland and the border region of the Republic of Ireland to create a home conducive to good child social and emotional development, inclusiveness and a respect for social and cultural diversity.

What will we do?

Between March 2018 and March 2021, the project will deliver an interactive programme over multiple sessions, to groups of 12 parents across the community.

What difference will we make?

SOOC aims to contribute to the PEACE IV building positive relations objective to promote positive cultural relations characterised by respect, where cultural diversity is celebrated and people can live, learn and socialise together, free from prejudice, hate and intolerance. It aims to result in:

- An increase in the percentage of people who think relations between Protestants and Catholics are better than they were 5 years ago;
- An increase in the percentage of people who think relations between Protestants and Catholics will be better in 5 years time;
- An increase in the percentage of people who have an increased understanding of the culture of some minority ethnic communities.




More information about the programme can be found on their website:
<https://www.lifestartfoundation.org>

Looking ahead

I hope you have found this report to be an informative and useful read. The report clearly shows the outcomes achieved, and positive impact had, through the implementation of the T:BUC Strategy.

This could not have been achieved without the hard work of those across Government, our partners, participants in the various programmes and those who have helped shape good relations work. These are the people who are taking steps to make this a better place for all. I want to take the opportunity to thank you all for giving your time and energy to improve good relations.

We have not yet achieved all our aims, and the work continues apace. We are always looking at how we can work better and develop more meaningful and impactful relationships with partners, and if you have suggestions, want to get involved, or want to learn more about what we are doing, please get in touch through the relevant contact noted in this report.

Everyone has a role to play in improving good relations in Northern Ireland and we welcome all contributions, whether that is running a project, participating in a project or being a role model of good relations in your everyday life.

My ask is that we all contribute to the overall aims of the T:BUC Strategy, that we, as one, work together to build the shared, equal and prosperous community we are aiming for.

Andy Cole

Director
Good Relations & TBUC Division
The Executive Office

Quick links:

The Executive Office:

<https://www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk/>

Programme for Government framework:

<https://www.northernireland.gov.uk/sites/default/files/consultations/newnigov/draft-pfg-framework-2016-21.pdf>

Together Building a United Community Strategy:

<https://www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk/articles/about-together-building-united-community-tbuc>

Special EU Programmes Body:

<https://www.seupb.eu/>

T:BUC Funding Forums:

<https://www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk/articles/about-together-building-united-community-tbuc>

T:BUC Funding Forums, hosted by the Good Relations & T:BUC Division, give attendees the opportunity to find out about the Executive Office funding available for good relations programmes at events in local council areas. Details of future T:BUC Funding Forums will be released ahead of the opening of the 2020/21 competitions for T:BUC Camps and Central Good Relations funding programmes.

T:BUC Engagement Forum:

<https://www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk/articles/tbuc-engagement-forum>

Delivered in partnership with the Community Relations Council (CRC), The Forum allows The Executive Office and associated stakeholders to update the voluntary & community sector on progress with regard to the implementation of T:BUC; and enables the voluntary & community sector to address T:BUC implementation issues, identify good practice and make practical and innovative recommendations for improved delivery.

T:BUC Engagement Forum - newsletters:

The T:BUC Engagement Forum newsletter provides an update on T:BUC to members of the Engagement Forum and relevant stakeholders in the community and voluntary sector. Copies of past newsletters can be viewed and downloaded using the web address below:

<https://www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk/publications/tbuc-engagement-forum-newsletters>

Community Relations Council (CRC):

<https://www.community-relations.org.uk/>

T:buc

Changing for the better, together



Northern Ireland
Executive