

# SPECIAL EUROPEAN UNION PROGRAMMES BODY

Impact Evaluation of the PEACE IV (2014-2020) Programme - Specific Objectives 2, 3 and 4 – Final Report

June 2024 (based on October 2022 data)

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**Note: the data presented in this report was collected in October 2022.**

## Important Note:

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# LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

Acronym	Definition
BCC	Belfast City Council
BCRC	Building Communities Resource Centre
BME	Black and Minority Ethnic
BPR	Building Positive Relations
BST	Bloody Sunday Trust
CCGBC	Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council
CNR	Catholic / Nationalist / Republican
CRUN	Causeway Rural Urban Network
CVS	Commission for Victims and Survivors
CYP	Children and Young People
DEA	District Electoral Area
EMS	Electronic Monitoring System
ERDF	European Regional Development Fund
GAA	Gaelic Athletic Association
HWB	Health and Wellbeing
IFA	Irish Football Association
LCDI	Limavady Community Development Initiative
MCC	Monaghan County Council
NI	Northern Ireland
NILT	Northern Ireland Life and Times Survey
NMDDC	Newry, Mourne and Down District Council
PIV	PEACE IV
PUL	Protestant / Unionist / Loyalist
RAG	Red-Amber-Green rating system
RSM	RSM UK Consulting LLP
SEUPB	Special European Union Programmes Body
SHA	Stormont House Agreement
SO	Specific Objective
SSS	Shared Spaces and Services
VSS	Victims and Survivors Service

Acronym	Definition
WAVE	WAVE Trauma Centre
WSAS	Work and Social Adjustment Scale
YLT	Young Life and Times Survey

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## Introduction

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 (SOs) 2, 3 and 4 of the PEACE IV 2014 – 2020 programme.

The PEACE IV Programme is a €270 million, EU-funded programme, which has been designed to support peace and reconciliation in Northern Ireland (NI) and the border counties of Ireland (Cavan, Donegal, Leitrim, Louth, Monaghan and Sligo). It is the fourth successive PEACE programme facilitated by SEUPB.

The PEACE IV Programme began in 2014 and ran until 2020, with an end date for spend of 2023. The programme is financed through the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) of the European Union, with contributions from the NI and Irish governments.

## Programme Performance

At a programme level, the following was reported as of October 2022<sup>1</sup>:

- a total of 56 of the 81 Peace IV projects falling under the scope of this evaluation have completed their activity. This includes:
  - 13 Children and Young People Action 2.2 projects.
  - 10 Shared Spaces and Services Action 3.2 projects.
  - 14 Building Positive Relations Action 4.1 projects.
  - 19 Building Positive Relations Action 4.2 projects.
- SEUPB considers the programme to be on target to meet European Commission performance framework thresholds by the end of the programme; and,
- there remains a risk that delivery of some Shared Spaces projects (Action 3.1) will not complete before the programme end date (December 2023).

## Evaluation Approach

The evaluation has reported on programme impacts in 2019, 2021 and 2022 - a period of recent history that has endured significant levels of economic and social disruption and uncertainty, not least as a result of Brexit, the Covid-19 pandemic and the Russian invasion of Ukraine. This document represents the final of the three impact evaluation reports.

The evaluation process has centred around the development of project case studies, which have been used to support an assessment of outcomes and impact. Whilst this approach allows for an assessment of impact at a project and beneficiary level, the relatively small sample of projects profiled (i.e., 10 in total) means that the identified outcomes and impacts are not necessarily

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<sup>1</sup> Source: SEUPB Tripartite Implementation Report, October 2022

representative of those generated by the relevant SOs or the PEACE IV Programme as a whole, and therefore, they should be considered as being **illustrative only**.

Each of the three impact reports contain six case studies, four of which are longitudinal (i.e., initially developed in 2019 and then updated in 2021 and 2022) and two are 'snapshots' of progress and impact of selected projects at a given point in time. This report contains the following case studies:

### **Longitudinal case studies**

- Belfast City Council (BCC): Connecting Open Spaces (Action 3.2).
- Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council (CCGBC): Building Positive Relations (Action 4.1).
- Newry, Mourne and Down District Council (NMDDC): Beyond Tolerance (Action 3.2).
- Victims and Survivors Service (VSS): Provision of Services (Action 3.3).

### **Snapshot case studies**

- Bloody Sunday Trust (BST): The Conflict Transformation and Peacebuilding Project (Action 4.2).
- Monaghan County Council (MCC): Peace Centre (Action 3.1).

A full list of case studies reviewed through the 2019 and 2021 reports is provided in Table 2.1.

## **Key Conclusions**

Whilst programme level monitoring data (as captured by the NI Life and Times and Young Life and Times surveys) suggests that progress against a number of the PEACE IV result indicators has proved to be challenging (refer to Section 3.5), the case studies profiled within this and the previous case study reports highlight that at a project level, positive impacts have been achieved.

### **Building Positive Relations**

Within this report and the previous impact reports, four Building Positive Relations projects have been reviewed, namely: the CCGBC project; BST's Derry Model; Irish Football Association's (IFA) Sport Uniting Communities project; and the Housing Association's Integration Project. All four projects highlight the formation of interpersonal relationships between participants from different communities and political identities i.e. relationships that might not have developed without the existence of the PEACE IV funded activity, indicating that there may be a strong positive legacy / sustainability of the projects.

The projects also suggest the emergence of positive attitudinal change between protestant, unionist and loyalist (PUL) and catholic, nationalist and republican (CNR) participants, increased understanding of differences and improved community cohesion. In particular, the results of baseline and post-participation survey data from the CCGBC project suggests positive change across a number of the projects workstreams.

Additionally, the CCGBC project has had an impact on bringing about an increased understanding and tolerance towards BME community member and the BST project enhanced cross-border cooperation and aided in understanding the legacy of the past through their workshops with non-local British veterans. The IFA Sport Uniting Communities project identified positive impacts resulting from their Game of Three Halves programme whereby the young people participating reported a significant improvement in positive attitudes towards other communities.

Whilst most workstream activities performed well in relation to their output targets (or were progressing well towards them at the time of review), a noticeable exception was the CCGBC Key Institutions workstream. The reason given for this underperformance in output was the deeply rooted negative attitudes towards the Council and/or Government organisations in general. This indicates that there are still significant challenges relating to attitudes towards government/ public sector institutions within some communities.

#### **Contribution to the Achievement of the Objective**

Where attitudinal and behavioural change data is available, there is evidence of a positive direction of travel. For example, the CCGBC programme saw a 4-5 percentage point increase in the proportion of participants who felt relations between Protestants and Catholics had improved (in last five years) and would continue to improve (in five years' time). Similar positive trends are shown in the Housing Association Integration project and Sport Uniting Communities.

#### **Impact of the Programme as a Catalyst for Lasting Change in Promoting Peace and Reconciliation**

Programme leads highlight the significance of informal relationships and friendships developed between participants from different community backgrounds. Across the four programmes reviewed, there was a focus on the commonality between participants, be that in a shared history and heritage, shared housing and community, or shared interests.

#### **The contribution of the programme to EU 2020 objectives and the horizontal principles of equality and sustainable development**

There are examples from all projects of participants engaging in activities that would, at times in the past, not seemed possible. A specific target of this SO was to build relations between people from the PUL and CNR communities and also with BME communities, which aligns with the equality objectives of the horizontal principles.

### **Shared Spaces and Services**

Through this report and the previous impact reports, three Shared Spaces and Services projects have been reviewed, namely: the BCC project; the NMDDC Beyond Tolerance project; and MCC's Peace Campus.

The delivery of capital development projects has been challenging in the context of wider external factors such as the Covid-19 pandemic and, for some, Brexit. Global supply chain shortages and material price increases have added cost and delays to projects i.e. at the time of writing, only certain elements of the NMDDC Beyond Tolerance project and the BCC Forth Meadow Greenway were complete and the Monaghan Peace Campus was not completed or operational.



Although, programme based activity has been delayed in some cases as a result of delays in capital development, beneficiary surveys suggest that the programmed activity in the NMDDC Beyond Tolerance project has contributed to changing attitudes. Anecdotal evidence from case studies also highlight that shared outdoor space is enabling individuals to cross traditional divides:

- the Forth Meadow Greenway (BCC's Connecting Open Spaces project) is bringing individuals to parts of Belfast that they had never visited before, despite it being on their doorstep, by creating a shared space that all communities can access and use; and
- the Ballykinlar History Hut Capital project (NMDDC Beyond Tolerance project) is enabling young people to engage in local history unencumbered by political narrative, by providing stories of commonality at the site as part of an educational offering.

#### **Contribution to the Achievement of the Objective**

There is strong evidence that the projects have, through direct engagement with communities, directly addressed a lack of cross-community engagement and that they have facilitated attitudinal change, or in the case of MCC, are showing progress towards attitudinal change. The projects have offered an opportunity to make those first steps, for people to set foot in places they previously would not have ventured and for beginning the process of breaking down pre-conceptions of space as belonging to one community or another.

#### **Impact of the Programme as a Catalyst for Lasting Change in Promoting Peace and Reconciliation**

The NMDDC Beyond Tolerance project has been able to achieve a considerable positive impact in promoting shared spaces and being a catalyst for engagement and interactions cross-community. The quantitative impacts associated with the BCC Connecting Open Spaces project is less encouraging, however, qualitative evidence provided by stakeholders identifies that positive local impacts have been produced.

#### **The contribution of the programme to EU 2020 objectives and the horizontal principles of equality and sustainable development**

The activity delivered has been inclusive to all backgrounds and has sought to facilitate direct engagement between communities. Capital developments have been designed with sustainable principles in mind (e.g., the greenway providing an alternative transport option).

### **Children and Young People**

Within this report and the previous impact reports, two Children and Young People projects have been reviewed, namely: the Sligo County Council Children and Young People project and the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council Children and Young People project. The resulting case studies were snapshots, undertaken at a point in time as both projects were progressing.

At the time of evaluation (2019), the Sligo County Council project was progressing well, with one of the five programmes completed and the other four underway. In 2020, when the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council project was reviewed, the project had enabled children and young people to interact, socialise and play sport on a cross-community basis. However, as no baseline data was available, it was not possible to assess the achievement of level of improvement.

### **Contribution to the Achievement of the Objective**

The projects reviewed for the Children and Young People SO produced significant numbers of participants, with close to 1,000 young people engaging in Fermanagh and Omagh, and, just a year into the project, 216 participants engaging with the Sligo County Council project (i.e. 97% of the target number of participants). This shows a significant interest from participants in engaging with those from other backgrounds and suggests a positive, sustainable output from the projects.

### **Impact of the Programme as a Catalyst for Lasting Change in Promoting Peace and Reconciliation**

Surveys by the Fermanagh and Omagh project identified that close to 60% of young people participating in a project survey reported that they felt relationships had improved between Protestants and Catholics, and that they would continue to improve. However, it should be noted that a baseline comparator was not available.

### **The contribution of the programme to EU 2020 objectives and the horizontal principles of equality and sustainable development**

Stakeholder feedback identifies that the funded projects and activities have all encouraged young people to take part in activities on a cross-community basis, develop soft skills and build respect for diversity.

## **Victims and Survivors**

Work delivered by the 'Provision of Services for Victims and Survivors' project, led by VSS and supported by WAVE and the Commission for Victims and Survivors (CVS), focuses on providing health and wellbeing, research, training and advocacy support services for the victims and survivors of the troubles. While the project has not fully delivered its target output, it has been able to achieve a considerable positive impact in legacy and cross border care for victims and survivors. The following outcomes have been achieved:

- firstly, through the project's direct engagement with victims and survivors, it addresses the legacy of the troubles by providing paths towards healing.
- secondly, it reinforces this work by engaging in intergenerational work ensuring that the legacy of the Troubles is addressed from a holistic, multi-generational perspective.
- thirdly, while it is not directly engaging in cross-border work, by commissioning a needs analysis for the border region it recognises and highlights the fact that the provision of services for victims and survivors is an issue that stretches beyond Northern Ireland.

Despite the project having faced significant challenges (e.g. the recruitment of advocacy staff and the delay in creating the Stormont House Agreement (SHA) institutions), it has delivered meaningful work in relation to legacy and, to a lesser extent, cross-border cooperation. The programme team expect to achieve their targeted outputs by programme completion in the Health and Wellbeing Casework Network and Workforce Training work packages.

### **Contribution to the Achievement of the Objective**

This longitudinal assessment of the VSS project has identified strong evidence that the activity delivered by VSS has contributed significantly to the achievement of Specific Objective 3. This is reinforced by the positive impacts recorded through the Work and Social Adjustment Scale

(WSAS) scoring which identified that the majority of the beneficiaries (i.e. ranging from 62% - 80%) reported that they had experienced an improvement in relation to social isolation, physical activity, literacy and numeracy and volunteering.

### **Impact of the Programme as a Catalyst for Lasting Change in Promoting Peace and Reconciliation**

The activity undertaken to address the legacy of the past, including through the inter-generational research, will contribute directly to promoting peace and reconciliation.

### **The contribution of the programme to EU 2020 objectives and the horizontal principles of equality and sustainable development**

The activity delivered has been inclusive to all backgrounds, including targeting cross-border needs through three research projects.

## **Overarching Monitoring Issues Identified**

The following issues have been identified across the evaluation period:

- **lack of clarity or absence of project targets:** in some instances, the value or units of measurement for output indicator targets were not clear. In addition, some of the case studies did not have identified targets for their result indicators, limiting the ability to assess impact.
- **baseline data** was often not available for result indicators. This was due to baseline surveys not being conducted at the outset of some activities. This resulted in challenges with attributing impact and measuring change in impact.
- it was reported that project partners focused largely on reporting **output indicators** rather than result indicators. This was due to the European Commission requiring regular output indicator updates, but there being no requirement for regular result indicator updates.

Under the framework for monitoring and evaluation set out by the Commission for the 2014-2022 programming period, which applied to PEACE IV Programme, output indicators were monitored at the project level whereas the result indicators at the programme level only. As a result, there was a gap in measuring the individual impact of projects. Some projects tried to fill this gap by collecting result data on an ad hoc basis, however, this has led to challenges in measuring the impact of individual projects.

## **Recommendations**

The following recommendations have been developed and refined through the various evaluation reports:

- **data collection:** it is recommended that in order to ease the collection and reporting of impact data:
  - future projects should consider the use of **digital survey methods** (i.e., for pre- and post-participation surveys) to assess changes in attitude and perception. This is likely to improve response rate and reduce risk of non-completion due to external factors (e.g., Covid-19, non-attendance at penultimate session).

- project data collection / monitoring and evaluation plans should be **practical and deliverable**. In some cases, data collection plans have been over-ambitious and not adhered to.
- projects should plan to collect **baseline data** prior to commencing delivery.
- it is recommended that in relation to **programme indicators**:
  - consideration should be given to asking projects to provide regular updates on **result indicator** progress. There has been a focus by projects on reporting against output indicators, and impact, as assessed by result indicators, has not been consistently recorded as the Commission did not require this data to be collected at a project level.
  - consideration should be given to the refinement of **output indicators** as the metrics applied are sometimes not easily understood by the projects.
- with regard **local authority Shared Spaces projects**:
  - **capital projects** are beginning to deliver impact as the projects conclude, however, the projects are reporting difficulties in measuring impact. Consideration should be given to how capital related impacts are captured in future programmes. For example, it is recommended that, based on project feedback, that the result indicator pertaining to **neighbourhood neutrality** is rethought, as this may be a sensitive term for beneficiaries.
- in relation to projects that have a **large quantity of stakeholders**:
  - having many stakeholders often leads to delays and overspending, which in turn delays the delivery of the project and its intended impacts, as was the case with the Connecting Open Spaces project. The complexities associated with managing large numbers of stakeholders should be adequately reflected in project scheduling and budgeting and an adjustment for optimism bias should be applied. This will help manage expectations among stakeholders and may lead to better project outcomes.
- the impact of the **Covid-19 pandemic**:
  - the Covid 19 pandemic was an issue for a number of projects, however, it impacted capital development projects acutely, as it created supply side issues and labour shortages. It also led to some issues of delivering in-person services due to social distancing and lockdown restrictions. Whilst the Covid-19 pandemic could not have been foreseen or accounted for, it highlights the need for effective risk management and agile project management to ensure that projects can quickly adjust.

# 1. BACKGROUND AND INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 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 (SOs) 2 (Children and Young People), 3 (Shared Spaces and Services) and 4 (Building Positive Relations) of the PEACE IV (2014 – 2020) programme. Figure 1.1 illustrates the programme SOs 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 aims of the SOs evaluated in this report are summarised below:

- **SO2 (Children and Young People)** – this objective will enhance 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;
- **SO3 (Shared Spaces and Services)** – this objective will create a more cohesive society through an increased provision of shared spaces and services; and
- **SO4 (Building Positive Relations)** – this objective will 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 impact evaluation has reported programme impacts in 2019, 2021 and 2022. This document represents the final of three impact evaluation reports. Each report contains six case studies, four of which are longitudinal (i.e., initially developed in 2019 and then updated in 2021 and 2022) and two represent ‘snapshots’ of progress and impact of selected projects at a given point in time.

## 1.2 Overview of PEACE IV

The PEACE IV Programme is a €270 million, EU-funded programme, which has been designed to support peace and reconciliation in Northern Ireland (NI) and the border counties of Ireland (Cavan, Donegal, Leitrim, Louth, Monaghan and Sligo). It is the fourth successive PEACE programme facilitated by SEUPB, with a cumulative total value of over €2.3 billion / £1.5 billion (based on average exchange rates, as calculated by SEUPB).

The PEACE IV Programme began in 2014 and ran until 2020, with an end date for spend of 2023. The programme is financed through the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) of the European Union, with contributions from the Northern Ireland and Ireland governments. According to the SEUPB, the aim of the programme is:

*“To support peace and reconciliation in Northern Ireland and the Border region of Ireland. In addition to supporting peace and reconciliation the ERDF also contributes to the promotion of social and economic stability, in particular through actions to promote cohesion between communities.”*

It should be noted that the delivery of the PEACE IV Programme has taken place in a period of significant economic and social upheaval, not least because of Brexit, the Covid-19 pandemic and the Russian invasion of Ukraine. These events have had a significant impact at a local, national and international level.

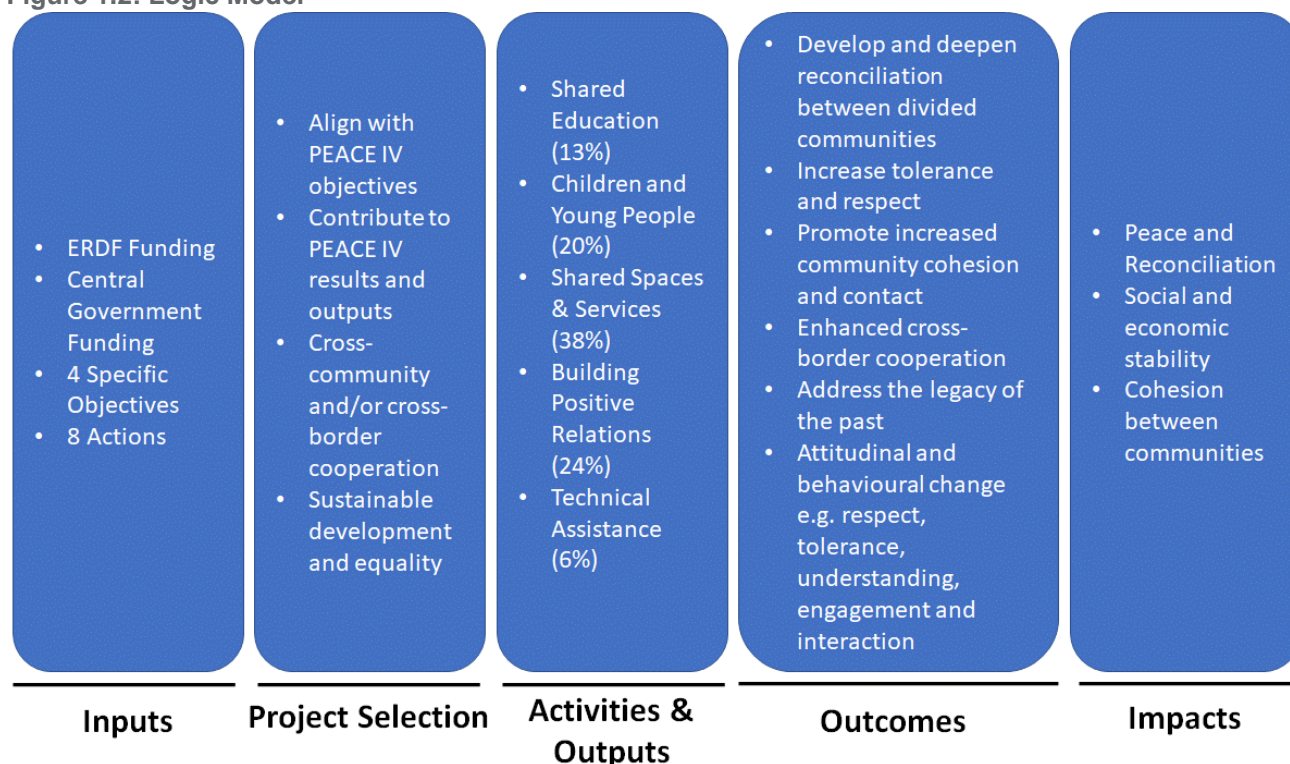
### 1.2.1 Programme Logic Model

As highlighted in the programme’s high-level logic model (Figure 1.2), it is anticipated that investment across the four objective areas of the PEACE IV Programme will contribute to: developing and deepening reconciliation; increasing tolerance and respect; promoting community cohesion and contact; enhancing cross-border cooperation; addressing the legacy of the past; and contributing to attitudinal change.

These outcome areas are expected to contribute to peace and reconciliation, social and economic stability and community cohesion.



Figure 1.2: Logic Model



Source: [SEUPB Peace Platform](#)

### 1.3 Structure of this Report

The structure of the report is detailed in Table 1.1.

Table 1.1: Report Structure

Section	Content
Section 2	<b>Evaluation Approach</b> – this section provides an overview of the methodological approach to the impact evaluation.
Section 3	<b>Review of Programme Performance</b> – this section provides an overview of PEACE IV’s programme monitoring framework and a brief summary of the programme’s performance in relation to programme expenditure, output indicators and result indicators.
Section 4	<b>Case Studies</b> – this section details key findings from each case study highlighting project objectives, activities, outputs, impacts and lessons learned as well as, where applicable, detailing specific beneficiary journeys.

Section	Content
Section 5	<b>Conclusions and Recommendations</b> – this section provides an overview of the outputs and impacts of the various projects. This is followed by lessons learned and concludes with the recommendations.
Appendices	Appendix 1: List of all PEACE IV-Funded Projects Appendix 2: Longitudinal Case Studies – Further Detail Appendix 3: Snapshot Case Studies – Further Detail



## 2. EVALUATION APPROACH

### 2.1 Introduction

The evaluation process has centred around the development of project case studies, which have been used to support an assessment of outcomes and impact. Whilst this approach allows for an assessment of impact at a project and beneficiary level, the relatively small sample of projects profiled (i.e. 10 in total) means that the identified outcomes and impacts are not necessarily representative of those generated by the relevant SOs or the PEACE IV Programme as a whole, and therefore, they should be considered as being illustrative only.

#### 2.1.1 Overview of Case Studies

Throughout the evaluation, case studies have been selected in consultation with SEUPB to reflect a mix of:

- urban and rural based projects;
- locations (North, East, South, South-West and the Border region);
- project themes (culture, heritage, education, sport, legacy, reimagining and regeneration etc.);
- project expenditure levels;
- actions/ activities; and
- target participant groups (children and young people, women, victims and survivors and special interest groups).

Table 2.1 details the longitudinal case studies that are profiled in this report, in addition to the four snapshot case studies from previous evaluation reports.

It should be noted that due to the timescales involved with the implementation of large capital projects, Action 3.1 (Shared Spaces Capital Development) was not included in previous impact evaluation reports, and, although these projects have not yet reached a point in which they can demonstrate impact, one case study has been included in this evaluation report to identify any lessons to be learned. Furthermore, due to the high level of expenditure associated with Action 3.3 (Victims and Survivors), this Action has been included as a longitudinal case study.

**Table 2.1: Evaluation Case Studies**

Case Study	Case Study Type	Action	Evaluation report		
			2019	2021	2022
Belfast City Council: Connecting Open Spaces	Longitudinal	3.2	✓	✓	✓
Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council: Building Positive Relations	Longitudinal	4.1	✓	✓	✓

Case Study	Case Study Type	Action	Evaluation report		
			2019	2021	2022
Newry, Mourne and Down District Council: Beyond Tolerance	Longitudinal	3.2	✓	✓	✓
Victims and Survivors Service: Provision of Services	Longitudinal	3.3	✓	✓	✓
Sligo County Council: Children and Young People	Snapshot	2.2	✓	x	x
Irish Football Association: Sport Uniting Communities	Snapshot	4.2	✓	x	x
Housing Association Integration Project	Snapshot	4.2	x	✓	x
Fermanagh and Omagh District Council: Children and Young people	Snapshot	2.2	x	✓	x
Bloody Sunday Trust: The Conflict Transformation and Peacebuilding Project	Snapshot	4.2	x	x	✓
Monaghan County Council: Monaghan Peace Centre	Snapshot	3.1	x	x	✓

## 2.2 Data Sources

The data sources used to inform this evaluation are detailed in Table 2.2.

**Table 2.2: Data Sources**

Type	Data Source
Primary Research	Interviews with Programme Beneficiaries (x12)
	Interviews with Programme Delivery Leads (x6)
Programme Output Monitoring	Project Data Request
	SEUPB's Electronic Monitoring System (EMS)
Secondary Sources	Programme Documentation
	Policy / Context Documentation
	Online materials providing background for case studies

## 3. REVIEW OF PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE

This section provides an overview of the PEACE IV programme's monitoring framework (i.e., Output / Result Indicators) and a brief summary of the programme's performance in relation to programme expenditure, output indicators and result indicators. N.B. as per the scope of the evaluation, the output and result indicators included within this section relate to SO 2.2, 3 and 4 of the PEACE IV programme.

### 3.1 Output and Result Indicators

At a programme level, a framework of outcome and result indicators was developed in order to capture progress and assess impact. Output indicators link to activities of operation and are measured in physical / monetary units, and they contribute to the result indicators.<sup>2</sup> Result indicators relate to SOs and capture the expected change.<sup>3</sup> The change sought by the SO should be expressed by one or as few as possible result indicators.<sup>4</sup> Result indicators should be:

- responsive to policy: closely linked to the policy interventions supported. They should capture the essence of a result according to a reasonable argument about which features they can and cannot represent;
- normative: having a clear and accepted normative interpretation (i.e., there must be agreement that a movement in a particular direction is a favourable or an unfavourable result);
- robust: reliable, statistically validated; and
- timely: available when needed, with room built in for debate and for revision when needed and justified.

Result and output indicators vary based on the SO and action. Figure 3.1 summarises the actions and output, result and common indicators under review in this evaluation.

### 3.2 Programme Expenditure

In total, 81 projects have been funded through SO 2.2, 3 and 4 of the PEACE IV programme, involving 212 project partners, with a total budget allocation of €180.5 million.

As of October 2022, claims of €114.8 million had been submitted (64% of funding allocated), with €85.5 million paid to projects (47% of funding allocated). The breakdown of projects for SO 2.2, 3 and 4 is summarised in Table 3.1. A breakdown of the specific projects and funding allocations can be found in **Appendix 1**.

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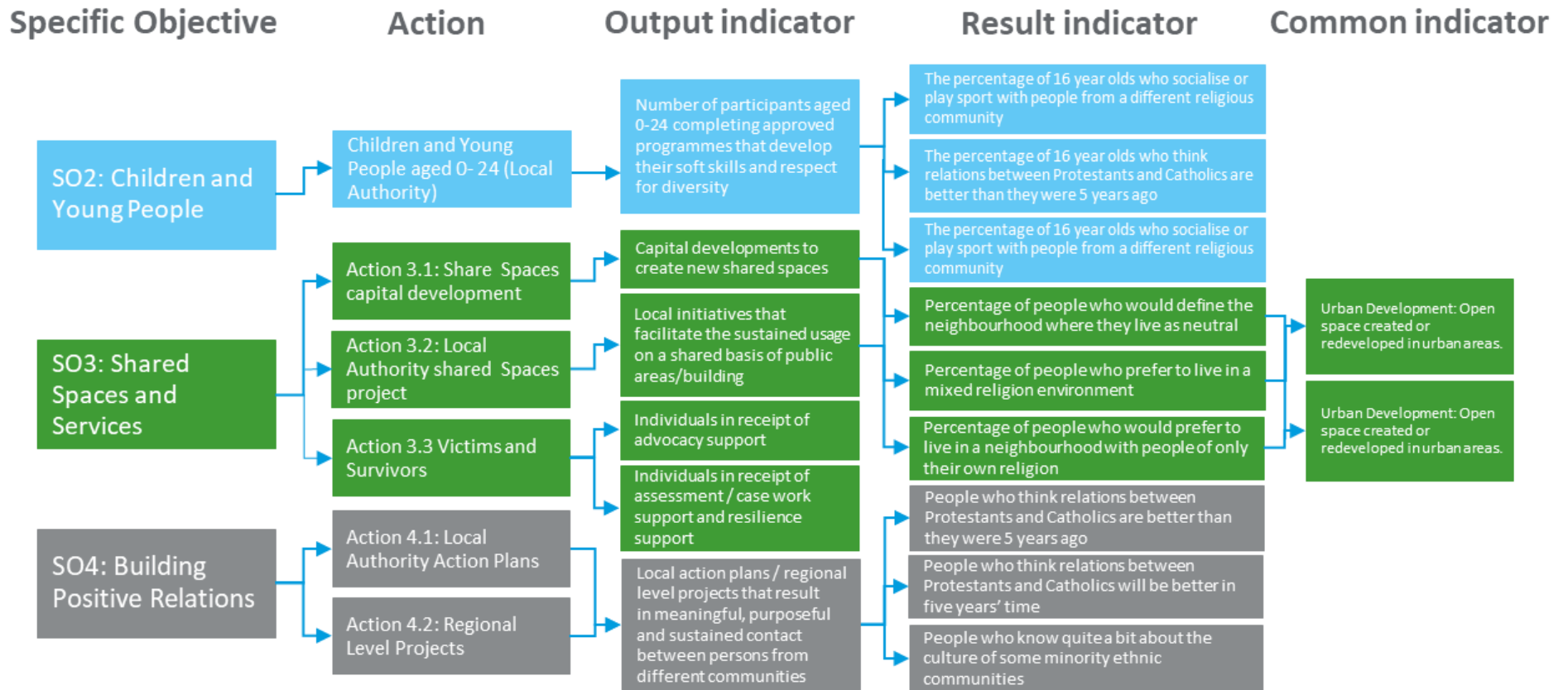
<sup>2</sup> PEACE IV Revised Output Indicator Guidance (2018), available online at [https://www.seupb.eu/sites/default/files/styles/PEACEIV/Revised%20PEACE%20IV%20OIG%20\(May%202018\).pdf](https://www.seupb.eu/sites/default/files/styles/PEACEIV/Revised%20PEACE%20IV%20OIG%20(May%202018).pdf)

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> ECF and ERDF (2014), 'Guidance Document on monitoring and evaluation', available at [https://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/sources/docoffic/2014/working/wd\\_2014\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/sources/docoffic/2014/working/wd_2014_en.pdf)



Figure 3.1: Output and Result Indicators



Source: [PEACE IV Evaluation Plan](#)

Table 3.1: PEACE IV Projects (SO 2.2, 3 and 4) – Budget and Expenditure (October 2022)<sup>5</sup>

SO / Actions	No. of Projects	Total funding (€)	% of total Budget	Expenditure Claimed (€)	% of Funding	Claims Paid (€)	% of Funding
<b>SO2.2: Local Authority Children and Young People</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>17.1 million</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>14.2 million</b>	<b>83%</b>	<b>11.7 million</b>	<b>68%</b>
<b>SO3: Shared Spaces and Services</b>							
3.1 Shared Spaces Capital Development	9	52.9 million	27%	11.6 million	22%	6.4 million	12%
3.2 Local Authority Shared Spaces Projects	17	28.8 million	15%	21.1 million	74%	15.4 million	53%
3.3 Victims and Survivors	1	17.6 million	9%	14.6 million	83%	9.8 million	56%
<b>Total</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>99.4 million</b>	<b>51%</b>	<b>47.2 million</b>	<b>48%</b>	<b>31.7 million</b>	<b>32%</b>
<b>SO4: Building Positive Relations</b>							
4.1 Local Authority Action Plans	17	35.3 million	18%	27.7 million	78%	21.4 million	61%
4.2 Regional Level Projects	20	28.7 million	15%	25.7 million	90%	20.7 million	72%
<b>Total</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>64.0 million</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>53.4 million</b>	<b>83%</b>	<b>42.1 million</b>	<b>66%</b>
<b>SO2.2, 3 and 4 Total</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>180.4 million</b>	<b>92%</b>	<b>115.0 million</b>	<b>64%</b>	<b>85.4 million</b>	<b>47%</b>
5.1 Technical Assistance	1	16.2 million	8%	14.0 million	86%	10.7 million	66%
<b>Overall Total</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>196.6 million</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>129.0 million</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>96.1 million</b>	<b>49%</b>

Source: [SEUPB Peace Platform](#); SEUPB Tripartite Paper (October 2022)

<sup>5</sup> The figures in Table 3.1 and those in Appendix 1 (Table A1:1) differ. This is because Table 3.1 relates to proposed financial allocations across Specific Objectives before project level decisions were made. Table A1:1 shows specific project allocations after Steering Committee decision. These differences occur most notably within Shared Space Capital Development (€52.9m in Table 3.1 v €80.8m in Table A1:1).

### 3.3 Project Delivery Progress

As of October 2022, the following progress has been reported<sup>6</sup>:

- Out of the 81 Peace IV projects falling under the scope of this evaluation, a total of 56 Peace IV projects have now completed activity. This includes:
  - 13 Children and Young People Action 2.2 projects;
  - 10 Shared Spaces and Services Action 3.2 projects;
  - 14 Building Positive Relations Action 4.1 projects; and
  - 19 Building Positive Relations Action 4.2 projects.
- SEUPB anticipate that the programme is on target to meet European Commission performance framework thresholds by the end of the programme; and
- there remains risk that delivery of some Shared Spaces projects (Action 3.1) will not complete before the programme end date (December 2023).

### 3.4 Output Indicator Progress

Table 3.2 provides a summary of the progress towards achieving the targets for outputs indicators at a programme level (as of August 2022). The progress of each action is summarised using the Red-Amber-Green (RAG) rating system detailed below:

- Green – an indicator is exceeding its target;
- Amber – an indicator has achieved a minimum of 80% of its target; and
- Red – an indicator that has achieved less than 80% of its target.

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<sup>6</sup> Source: SEUPB Tripartite Implementation Report, October 2022

Table 3.2: Output Indicator Progress

ID	Indicator or key implementation step	Measurement unit, where appropriate	Final target (2023)	Outputs achieved – self reported (August 2022)
<b>SO 2</b>				
2.1a	The number of participants aged 0-24 completing approved programmes that develop their soft skills and a respect for diversity	Persons	21,000	22,763
<b>SO 3</b>				
3.1	Capital developments to create new shared spaces.	Number	8	9 funded <sup>7</sup>
3.2	Local initiatives that facilitate the sustained usage on a shared basis of public areas/buildings.	Number	17	10 completed, 7 in progress
3.3	Individuals in receipt of advocacy support	Number of persons	6,300	4,063
3.4	Individuals in receipt of assessment/case work support / resilience support	Number of persons	11,350	11,032
<b>SO 4</b>				
4.1	Local action plans that result in meaningful, purposeful and sustained contact between persons from different communities.	Number	17	14 completed, 3 in progress
4.2	Regional Level Projects that result in meaningful, purposeful and sustained contact between persons from different communities	Number	21	19 completed, 2 in progress

<sup>7</sup> Note: 9 Shared Spaces projects were approved by the Steering Committee in December 2018, however, Ballycastle Shared Spaces and Services project subsequently withdrew in January 2022.



### 3.5 Result Indicator Progress

Table 3.3 provides a summary of the progress towards achieving the targets for result indicators at a programme level (SO2, SO3 and SO4). The progress of each action is summarised using the Red-Amber-Green (RAG) rating system detailed below:

- Green – an indicator is exceeding its target;
- Amber – an indicator that shows improvement compared to the baseline figure, but not yet achieved the target; and
- Red – an indicator that has not improved upon the baseline figure.

As highlighted in Table 3.3, two of the nine result indicators (22%) have achieved the 2023 targets, one indicator has improved from baseline, but does not meet the 2023 target and six of the nine result indicators across these areas have decreased from the 2013 baseline and do not meet the 2023 target.

It should be noted that the identified Result Indicators are used to measure impact at a regional level, with the data being generated from NI-wide surveys. These surveys are likely to have identified attitudinal trends that have been influenced by wider external factors, including the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic, during which engagement between communities was more limited, and the UK's exit from the EU and the subsequent tensions arising due to the NI Protocol. These negative regional wide trends are likely to mask positive impacts being generated at a project and local level. The case study approach undertaken by this evaluation explores local impacts being delivered by individual projects.

**Section 5** of this report presents recommendations in relation to monitoring and evaluation (i.e., output and result indicators) which may mitigate the issues identified above in future iterations of the PEACE programme.

Table 3.3: Result Indicator Progress

SO	Result Indicator	Target value (2023)	Baseline (2013)	Progress	Year Data Relates to
Children and Young People	An increase in the percentage of 16-year-olds who socialise or play sport with people from a different religious community	Very Often 50%; Sometimes 28%	Very Often 43%; Sometimes 24%	30%: Very often 28%: Sometimes <sup>8</sup>	2022
	An increase in the percentage of 16-year-olds who think relations between Protestants and Catholics are better than they were 5 years ago	Better 50%	Better 45%	37%: better <sup>9</sup>	2022
	An increase in the percentage of 16-year-olds who think relations between Protestants and Catholics will be better in 5 years' time	Better 45%	Better 38%	37%: better <sup>10</sup>	2022
Shared Spaces and Services	An increase in the percentage of people who would define the neighbourhood where they live as neutral	68%: always or most of the time 26%: sometimes	64%: always or most of the time 22%: sometimes	58%: always or most of the time 26%: sometimes <sup>11</sup>	2021
	A decrease in the percentage of people who would prefer to live in a neighbourhood with people of only their own religion	16%: own religion only	20%: own religion only	12%: own religion only <sup>12</sup>	2021
	An increase in the percentage of people who prefer to live in a mixed-religion neighbourhood	75%: mixed religion neighbourhood	71%: mixed religion neighbourhood	77%: mixed religion neighbourhood <sup>13</sup>	2021
Building Positive Relations	An increase in the percentage of people who think relations between Protestants and Catholics are better than they were 5 years ago	52%: better	45%: better	36%: better <sup>14</sup>	2021

<sup>8</sup> [https://www.ark.ac.uk/yft/2022/Cross\\_Community\\_Contact/SOCDIFF.html](https://www.ark.ac.uk/yft/2022/Cross_Community_Contact/SOCDIFF.html)

<sup>9</sup> [https://www.ark.ac.uk/yft/2022/Community\\_Relations/RLRELAGO.html](https://www.ark.ac.uk/yft/2022/Community_Relations/RLRELAGO.html)

<sup>10</sup> [https://www.ark.ac.uk/yft/2022/Community\\_Relations/RLRELFUT.html](https://www.ark.ac.uk/yft/2022/Community_Relations/RLRELFUT.html)

<sup>11</sup> [https://www.ark.ac.uk/nilt/2021/Community\\_Relations/ISNGNEUT.html](https://www.ark.ac.uk/nilt/2021/Community_Relations/ISNGNEUT.html)

<sup>12</sup> [https://www.ark.ac.uk/nilt/2021/Community\\_Relations/MXRLGNGH.html](https://www.ark.ac.uk/nilt/2021/Community_Relations/MXRLGNGH.html)

<sup>13</sup> [https://www.ark.ac.uk/nilt/2021/Community\\_Relations/MXRLGNGH.html](https://www.ark.ac.uk/nilt/2021/Community_Relations/MXRLGNGH.html)

<sup>14</sup> [https://www.ark.ac.uk/nilt/2021/Community\\_Relations/RLRELAGO.html](https://www.ark.ac.uk/nilt/2021/Community_Relations/RLRELAGO.html)

SO	Result Indicator	Target value (2023)	Baseline (2013)	Progress	Year Data Relates to
	An increase in the percentage of people who think relations between Protestants and Catholics will be better in 5 years' time	48%: better	40%: better	32%: better <sup>15</sup>	2021
	An increase in the percentage of people who know quite a bit about the culture of some minority ethnic communities	38% agree or strongly agree	30% agree or strongly agree	31% agree or strongly agree <sup>16</sup>	2021

<sup>15</sup> [https://www.ark.ac.uk/nilt/2021/Community\\_Relations/RLRELFUT.html](https://www.ark.ac.uk/nilt/2021/Community_Relations/RLRELFUT.html)

<sup>16</sup> [https://www.ark.ac.uk/nilt/2021/Minority\\_Ethnic\\_People/NIMEC2.html](https://www.ark.ac.uk/nilt/2021/Minority_Ethnic_People/NIMEC2.html)

## 4. CASE STUDIES

### 4.1 Introduction

This section details the key findings from each case study, based on information provided by the projects for the period up to and inclusive of March 2022. For each case study, we provide an overview of project objectives, activities, outputs, impacts and lessons learned. To provide insight into beneficiary journeys, brief impact stories have also been included. Further detail relating to each case study can be found in the appendices.

#### 4.1.1 Impact of External Factors / Events

As detailed in the 2021 evaluation report, the Covid-19 pandemic and the associated lockdown measures impacted on the projects to varying extents. The impact of the pandemic on each case study is summarised below, with further information reflected throughout this chapter and the supporting appendices:

- BCC Shared Spaces and Services:
  - capital works at Springfield Dam were delayed between March and May 2020; and
  - programme activities were not delivered as planned, with two pilot projects being cut short. This resulted in post-participation survey information not being completed for one of the activities.
- CCGBC Building Positive Relations:
  - CCGBC completed the majority of their programme elements and achieved their deliverables prior to the pandemic, as per their agreed schedule;
  - one programme was impacted (*Understanding our Area* programme), as it was not able to complete its Exhibition on Decade of Centenaries; and
  - the pandemic had a significant impact on the availability of monitoring and evaluation data. Baseline and post-participation surveys completed by programme participants were completed as hard copies and stored in delivery partner<sup>17</sup> offices. Access to this data was not possible following the imposition of lockdowns and, therefore, it was not incorporated within the 2021 report. However, this data is now reflected within this report.
- NMDDC Shared Spaces and Services:
  - minor delays were experienced in the delivery of the capital aspects of the project, with slight delays to the completion of the Ballykinlar ex-military site; and
  - the Flags, Emblems and Bonfires protocol programme was concluded and not impacted by Covid-19 directly, however, access to monitoring data was delayed due to hard copy surveys being stored in offices that were inaccessible to the programme lead. This data was not incorporated within the 2021 report, however, it is now reflected within this report.

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<sup>17</sup> Delivery partner, here and throughout, refers to the organisations contracted by the project partner to deliver specific elements of the overall project, i.e., one work package, or a particular programme within a work package.

- Victims and Survivors Service (VSS) Shared Spaces and Services:
  - elements of the Resilience programmes and workforce training were delivered online instead of being in person, however, this did not affect results / programme impacts; and
  - increased service delivery / programme activity was required by beneficiaries from the Health and Wellbeing caseworker network which was not captured by monitoring.
- Bloody Sunday Trust (BST) Building Positive Relations:
  - the delivery of workshops was conducted online instead of in person;
  - increased administration was required in relation to Covid-19 risk assessments for project tasks; and
  - the collection of impact data was more challenging as processes were originally designed for hard-copy data collection.
- Monaghan County Council (MCC) Shared Spaces and Services:
  - the construction of the project was delayed due to lockdown restrictions, with the construction site being closed for four months in 2021; and,
  - supply chain disruption and increased costs contributed to project expenditure increasing from €14.3 million to €19.3 million.

In addition to Covid-19, other external factors have impacted upon a number of the case studies, namely:

- Brexit, and subsequent developments such as the NI Protocol and the ongoing absence of a functioning Executive at Stormont, have contributed to heightened tensions within society; and
- the Russian invasion of Ukraine has caused disruption of world-wide supply chains and contributed towards inflation. This has particularly effected capital development projects within the Shared Spaces and Services SO.

#### 4.1.2 Other Limitations and Constraints

Other factors that have constrained the impact evaluation process include:

- **lack of clarity or absence of project targets:** in some instances, the value or units of measurement for output indicator targets were not clear (e.g., CCGBC's target output figure as per the EMS was 201, reflecting a target of 200 participants on the cross-border programme, and targets of 0.33, 0.33 and 0.34 for three other work packages - it is not clear what the numerical basis was for these targets). In addition, some of the case studies did not have identified targets for their result indicators, limiting the ability to assess impact;

- **baseline data** was often not available for result indicators. This was due to baseline surveys not being conducted at the outset of some activities. This resulted in challenges with attributing impact and measuring change in impacts; and
- it was reported that project partners focused largely on reporting **output indicators** rather than result indicators. This was due to the European Commission requiring regular output indicator updates, but there being no requirement for regular result indicator updates.

Under the framework for monitoring and evaluation set out by the Commission for the 2014-2022 programming period, which applied to PEACE IV Programme, output indicators were monitored at the project level whereas the result indicators were assessed at the programme level only. As a result, there was a gap in measuring the impact of individual projects. Some projects tried to fill this gap by collecting result data on an ad hoc basis, this has led to challenges in measuring the impact of individual projects.

## 4.2 Belfast City Council: Connecting Open Spaces, Shared Spaces and Services (Longitudinal)

### 4.2.1 Project Overview

In February 2019, Belfast City Council received a grant of up to a maximum of **€6.10 million (£5.17 million)** to deliver a shared spaces project under Specific Objective 3.2. The Letter of Offer for the project was issued on the 25th of February 2019 and the grant was to be expended and claimed by 30th June 2022 (this was subsequently extended to December 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**. The rationale for this development to take place is the disconnection of protestant and catholic communities evident in North and West Belfast, as 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 percentage<sup>18</sup>. The Connecting Open Spaces, Shared Spaces and Services aims to create a safe and shared environment for all communities to lead to more interaction and in the long term contribute to reconciliation in the area.

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<sup>19</sup>.

<sup>18</sup> "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).

<sup>19</sup> Project partner, here and throughout, refers to the partners responsible to SEUPB for overall programme delivery and monitoring. In some cases, these partners will also delivery projects, or may sub-contract delivery to delivery partners.

Consultation for this case study included the programme lead and two project beneficiaries, undertaken in August 2022.

**Note:** two project impact case studies have been provided at the end of this chapter.

## 4.2.2 Project Delivery

The following information summarises the project budget allocations, expenditure and activities. Budget and expenditure performance is shown in Table 4.1.

**Table 4.1: Project Expenditure (October 2022)**

Expected Expenditure	Actual Expenditure	Actual as % of Expected
€6.1 million	€3.2 million	52%

Table 4.1 shows that as of October 2022, the project has spent c. 52% of its expected budget. This position reflects delays in the delivery of capital works. Programme based activity / resource allocation was also delayed due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Activities undertaken by the project include:

- the **Springfield Dam** redevelopment work has concluded, and the site was handed over to the Council in December 2020;
- construction of the **route network** commenced in June 2021:
  - Section 1 (Clarendon, Glencairn and Forth River) has been **completed** and has been handed over the Council;
  - Section 2 (Springfield Lands and Innovation Factory) was delayed by an objection and a judicial review and in August 2022 was at the stage of **commencing construction**;
  - Section 3 (Falls Park) was due to complete in July 2022, but materials issues has caused **minor delays**;
  - Section 4 (Bog Meadows) **commenced in February 2022** and work is being split over three phases to minimise disruption; and
  - Section 5 (Broadway to the Transport Hub) has now had **planning applications submitted**.
- activities and events delivered as part of the **programming** element of the project have included:
  - engaging over 300 individuals in the Narratives for Interpretive Panels programme (refer to impact case study 2 at the end of section 4.2);
  - appointing a contractor to coordinate a programme of 20 public activities and events (4 large, 6 medium and 10 small) that will bring people together on a cross-community basis, positively promoting the Forth Meadow Community Greenway to all the

communities along its network of footpaths, cycle paths, parks and shared open spaces. For example, the Luminare event in March attracted over 1,534 people;

- recruiting volunteers for the walking leads, cycle leads, volunteer ambassador programmes and nature guides (refer to impact case study 1 at the end of section 4.2); and
  - engaging sections of the community through fitness programmes, youth programmes and intergenerational programmes.
- the community resource allocation aspect of the project has not progressed, given the need for sections of the Greenway to be completed before this can occur.

A more detailed breakdown of project activity can be found in **Appendix 2**.

### 4.2.3 Project Outputs

The output indicator for this project was: **local initiatives that facilitate sustained usage on a shared basis of public spaces**. The baseline figure for this was 0 and the target was ‘1.00’, reflecting that the whole capital project and associated programming elements all contribute to the desired wider outcomes. A breakdown of progress against these outputs is shown in Table 4.2.

**Table 4.2: Progress against target outputs (end of March 2022)**

Work Package	Target Output	Current Position	Expected Final Outputs
Springfield Dam	Capital Redevelopment	Complete	Complete
Route Network Development	Capital Redevelopment	Some sections complete, others in progress.	All work packages complete and hand-over to BCC.
Resource allocation	To engage with 60 unique participants (5 per site x 12) to plan, deliver and evaluate community led shared space activities.	Not started – awaiting network completion. It is expected that at the end of the programme, these outputs will be completed as per the target output	All targets will be met – 60 participants to deliver community led shared space activities across 12 sites. Delivery of 36 shared spaces activities Hosting of 1,080 people attending
	Build relationships with communities across 12 shared space sites		
	Deliver 36 community led shared space activities (3 per site x 12).		



Work Package	Target Output	Current Position	Expected Final Outputs
	1,080 people attending community led activities (30 people per site per activity x 3 x 12 sites) post construction		community led activities

As identified in Table 4.2, the project still has much of its targeted outputs to deliver. That said, section 1 of the route is complete and sections 3 and 4 are set for completion soon. Sections 2 and 5 are reporting promising progress - the legal challenges regarding section 2 have now having been resolved and construction can go ahead as planned and, the planning applications for section 5 have been submitted.

#### 4.2.4 Project Impact

This section assesses the impacts achieved by the project, using project monitoring data, as well as incorporating qualitative findings from stakeholder consultation.

##### Result Indicators

Belfast City Council have captured data relating to behavioural / attitudinal change (as of March 2022). The data relates to the programming elements of the project, with participants surveyed prior to and following engagement in a programme. The three result indicators for this programme are:

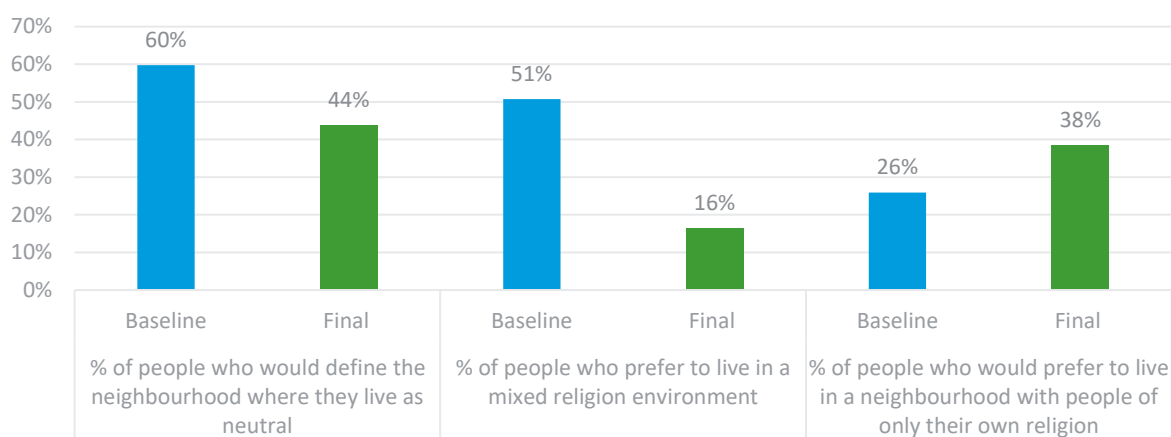
- **Indicator 1** - percentage of people who would define the neighbourhood where they live as neutral;
- **Indicator 2** - percentage of people who prefer to live in a mixed religion environment; and
- **Indicator 3** - percentage of people who would prefer to live in a neighbourhood with people of only their own religion.

It should be noted that as the nature of these result indicators relate to individual perceptions of neighbourhood neutrality, they cannot be detached from the wider context and external factors that will shape these perceptions. It also should be noted that due to capital development delays, much of the programme activity has not yet finished, and as a result, it is not expected that the project targets would be achieved at this stage. Therefore, final impact data has not been provided at this stage.

As a target, the programme sought to achieve a positive change amongst 80% of participants for indicators 1 and 2 (defining their neighbourhood as neutral and preferring to live in a mixed religion environment) and a decrease for indicator 3 (prefer to live in a neighbourhood with people of only their own religion).

As highlighted in Figure 4.1, the desired positive direction of travel has not been achieved at this point in time, with all indicators displaying a negative result relative to baseline (captured via a survey of beneficiaries undertaken prior to engagement with the programme). However, community tensions are heightened as a result of political instability and debate surrounded the Northern Ireland Protocol, which may explain these findings. Consultation with the programme lead highlighted that “all too often you see what happens at Stormont reflected on the ground”.

**Figure 4.1: Baseline and Result Indicator Data**



*N= 257 across 8 workstreams, with data collected as individual programme elements were completed. The survey of participants reflects a pre- and post-intervention measurement with a sample of participants across all work packages. Note: further detail relating to population and sample sizes is not readily available and it is not clear whether the 257 respondents relate to baseline, final impact or combined responses.*

### Qualitative Findings

Consultations with beneficiaries and the programme lead, undertaken in August 2022, have provided additional detail on outcomes not captured via project monitoring and reporting. The salient findings are noted below:

- the project reflects investment in a high-quality scheme within **a historically under-invested part of the city**. This has helped demonstrate to the community that investment in an area significantly impacted by conflict can deliver positive impacts for all members of the community and improved attitudes in relation to community development;
- the programme has enabled different communities to **use space that they previously would not have used** because of community tensions and territorialism. Walking tours have brought individuals to new places, events have been delivered on a cross-community basis and the completed Springfield Dam is used by both sides of the community. Although result indicators have not yet shown the change desired by the project, consultees stated that the impact of the project on individuals' behaviours with regard to where they spend their time and **who they engage with**, is significant;

- the programme lead highlighted the **value placed on the Greenway by the community**, reflected in the community's **appreciation** and "**pride**" that this part of the city now has;
- the Greenway benefits from **local ownership**, reflecting in its governance and management model, which looks to ensure community engagement and ownership, as well as local volunteer input; and
- the programme lead stated that, given the entrenched associations with space and political background, the project could not (on its own) result in local people viewing the neighbourhood as being neutral. However, they highlighted that the project offers an opportunity for people to make those **first steps** (i.e. to set foot in places that they previously would not have ventured) and to **begin the process of breaking down pre-conceptions of space as belonging to one community or another**.

#### Summary

The quantitative evidence of impacts identifies that the three indicators displayed a negative result at this point in time, relative to the baseline. It was noted that the measurement of impacts coincided with a period of heightened community tensions as a result of political instability and external factors, as such, this may not fully represent the impact of the project. Qualitative evidence gathered through stakeholder consultation identifies examples of emerging outcomes (e.g. communities being able to use space they previously would not have, the sense of pride in the area and in relation to increased cross-community engagement).

However, delays and the long-term nature of capital development means that the full impacts of the project have not yet been observed. As explained by one consultee, it is only when the network is complete and people can use it, that they will fully 'buy in' and recognise its significance.

#### 4.2.5 Challenges and Key Learnings

Issues encountered, as identified by the programme delivery lead, included:

- **Covid-19 pandemic** - which delayed aspects of construction, contributing to price increases and supply chain challenges, having a knock-on impact on engagement and the ability of the project team to begin programming activities;
- **stakeholder engagement** - the project catchment area encompasses a wide range of localities and a vast number of individuals and groups. The number and range of stakeholders made effective engagement challenging. It was also the case that many stakeholders did not engage nor understand the purpose of the project, prior to construction concluding;
- **onerous criteria to allow access for funding** – in order to access a maximum of £6,000 funding via the Resource Allocation element of the programme, communities had a large number of criteria to meet. This was cited as being a key factor in no responses being received to the recent call for projects; and

- **political and community tensions** – political instability and debate relating to the Northern Ireland Protocol has increased tensions within local communities. This has had an impact on people’s attitudes and behaviours relating to shared space, peace and reconciliation.

Key lessons learned included:

- although the Covid-19 pandemic was not something that could have been anticipated and prepared for, consultation highlighted that complex projects with a significant number of stakeholders, often take longer and cost more than expected and that this complexity needs to adequately factored into project planning;
- it was felt that early engagement with the local community is critical. Although the project did attempt to engage as early as possible, ensuring local buy-in at an early stage is vital to derive the most impact;
- there is a need to sequence construction prior to programme activities occurring, although this was identified as a challenge in the context of construction delays; and
- the administrative burden of applying for funding should be proportional to the level of funding. Furthermore, the requirement of 50/50 participation from individuals from a Protestant / Unionist / Loyalist background (PUL) and individuals from a Catholic / Nationalist / Republican (CNR) background is not always possible given the single identify nature of some areas. Although the criteria should include a cross-community requirement, they should also provide some flexibility to reflect the demographic make-up of the different localities.

#### 4.2.6 Next Steps

Completed sections of the network now only require the addition of signage and narrative panels, as well as the art elements of the project. Other sections are still under / beginning construction. Programming will end at the conclusion of the capital development phase, although amongst some beneficiaries, conversations are being had about the potential legacy of the project (i.e., the next steps in relation to subsequent projects and programming).



Belfast City Council Website

*Impact Case Study 1: Belfast City Council*

## Volunteer Cycle Leads

As part of the Forth Meadow Greenway programme of activities, the Sustrans organisation alongside Intercomm was appointed to recruit and train a team of volunteers in a range of walking and cycling activities, alongside mediation skills training. The project involved a summer of events, walks and rides along the Greenway, engaging the local community.

*This case study draws from one volunteer's experience of the project.*

***“I met with Sustrans at the CS Lewis Square, the Comber Greenway and the Connswater Greenway, and I was excited by the idea that West Belfast could have (a Greenway) as North and West Belfast are badly served with green spaces”.***

The participant, reflecting on the project, felt that North and West Belfast until now, has lacked adequate green spaces and usable cycle routes. The participant explained that, as the Greenway touches on “lots of different communities, across Peace walls” it provides residents with potential to engage with those from across the divide (e.g., via walking and cycling groups), and, also to enter space that they previously would

have felt less comfortable in. The project also had the benefit of connecting people with the natural environment around them. Through events and activities organised by the project, participants would introduce themselves and talk on a one-to-one basis.

***“The project gives people a bigger focus outside of their own communities and more engagement with communities they wouldn't normally interact with”.***

Although the individual did note challenges, including limited availability of bicycles amongst the community, as well as local tensions impacting relationships, they found the project was one which had “great potential” in bringing together individuals.





Belfast City Council Website

*Impact Case Study 2: Belfast City Council*

## Interpretive Panels Project

As part of the community activities linked to the Forth Meadow Greenway, residents were invited to share stories, heritage, and history about the local area along the route. These stories are being compiled and used to develop narrative panels along the greenway, to showcase the many stories of the area from a range of local perspectives.

This case study draws on the perspective of one individual involved in the Interpretive panels project.

***“The aim of the panels is to capture the interest of people when they are on the walkway and then motivate them to continue and cross interfaces and enter other communities and learn about other cultures and history”.***

The participant emphasised that the role of the panels was to create a talking point and a platform for education, which would support increased understanding and engagement in the longer term.

***“Areas with panels which show the commonality between two communities is more likely to elicit change in perceptions and engender interaction”.***

Another key aim of the Greenway is to move people from one area to another and, through this project, communities are simultaneously reading the panels and learning about their own and other community’s history and culture.

The panels can connect local communities to their ancient past. The participant reflected that the history of one park originates from a 1,000-year-old ring fort – a shared history not widely known in the wider community.

The purpose of the programme is to share and engage local communities in shared memories and narratives of the Greenway, and it has engaged with now more than 300 individuals, providing stories to share along the route.

## 4.3 Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council: Building Positive Relations, Local Action Plan (Longitudinal)

### 4.3.1 Project Overview

In June 2017, CCGBC received PEACE IV funding of up to a maximum of **€1.92 million (£1.63 million)** (ERDF and Government Match Funding) for a project entitled 'Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council PIV Action Plan – BPR'. The project involved:

- 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 were delivered through a combination of Council-led and partner led delivery, with delivery agents procured through open tender. The delivery agents are: the CCGBC Museum Service; Building Communities Resource Centre (BCRC); Causeway Rural Urban Network (CRUN); and Limavady Community Development Initiative (LCDI).

Consultation for this case study included the programme lead and three project beneficiaries, undertaken in August 2022.

**Note:** three project impact case studies have been provided at the end of this chapter.

### 4.3.2 Project Delivery

The projects budget and expenditure performance is identified in Table 4.3, which highlights that, although the project has concluded its delivery, there has been an element of underspend.

The programme lead highlighted that the procurement process was a key factor in the programme underspend, as the successful bids quoted costs that were below the programme budget. The cross-border programme was also delivered within a shorter timeframe than expected, which further contributed to cost savings.

**Table 4.3: Programme Expenditure (October 2022)**

Expected Expenditure	Actual Expenditure <sup>20</sup>	%
€1.9 million	€1.7 million	90% (note: expenditure figures are rounded)

CCGBC has now concluded delivery of this project. Activities completed during the project included:

- 30 groups representing 750 individuals took part in an area-based historical project i.e. 'Understanding our Area' (refer to impact case study 3 for further detail). Participants were also offered the opportunity to train in oral history;
- a facilitated leadership programme (refer to impact case study 5 for further detail) was delivered to 63 emerging community leaders;
- 70 participants took part in one-to-one capacity building and dialogue programmes;
- 225 participants engaged in the Key Institutions Programme, with 111 participants achieving over 26 hours engagement;
- 188 participants took part in a Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) integration programme;
- 205 individuals participated in a cultural / language institutions programme (refer impact case study 4); and
- a cross-border programme with Monaghan and Donegal County Councils was delivered to 212 beneficiaries which aimed 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.

A more detailed breakdown of project activity can be found in **Appendix 2**.

### 4.3.3 Project Outputs

As highlighted in Table 4.4, the project has exceeded its target output of 1,683 participants engaging in meaningful, purposeful and sustained contact on a cross-community basis. It has achieved 102% of its target output.

**Table 4.4: Performance against output indicator (March 2022)**

Target	Actual	%
1,683 participants	1,713 participants	102%

This target output figure is based on the participation number targets provided by the programme lead. The target output figure as per the EMS was 201, reflecting a target of 200 participants on

<sup>20</sup> Includes management and communication costs



the cross-border programme, and targets of 0.33, 0.33 and 0.34 for the three other work packages. It is not clear what the numerical basis was for these targets. The target of 1,683 was therefore, identified and used by the evaluators as the target value to assess impact against. At an individual work package level, performance against target is shown in Table 4.5.

As Table 4.5 (overleaf) illustrates, the project has enjoyed a high level of success with Work Packages 1 and 2, delivering 100% of their targets, and Work Packages 3.3 and 4 delivering above target. Work packages 3.1 and 3.2 slightly underperformed by achieving 75% and 94% of their respective targets.

Stakeholders highlight that underperformance in output delivery within the Key Institutions programme was due to one of the key organisations withdrawing from the programme. Despite this, the programme leads were able to maintain the majority of participants and achieved 75% of the target.

Table 4.5: Programme performance against targets by work package

Work Package	Description	Participation Targets	Actual	%
1. Understanding Our Area	Engage community groups / historical societies across the CCGBC area in an area-based heritage, history and built environment exploration project.	30 Groups: 750 participants	30 groups: 750 participants	100%
2. Developing Communities: Leadership and Capacity:	A one-to-one Capacity Building and Dialogue programme to beneficiaries from 14 areas / communities.	14 target areas for Capacity Building Programme delivered to 70 individuals and 63 individuals for Facilitative Leadership Programme	14 target areas for Capacity Building Programme delivered to 70 individuals and 63 individuals for Facilitative Leadership Programme	100%
3.1 Cultural and Community Institutions Programme - Key Institutions Programme	A key institutions programme including representatives from Orange Order, GAA and Bands.	300 participants	225 participants	75%
3.2 Cultural and Community Institutions Programme - BME Integration Programme	A BME Integration Programme participants across 10 areas.	200 participants	188 participants	94%
3.3 Cultural and Community Institutions Programme - Cultural / Language Institutions Programme	A Cultural / Language Institutions Programme.	100 participants	205 participants	205%
4. Cross-Border Programme	A cross-border engagement and partnership project to participants within the Causeway Coast and Glens Area. The project aims 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.	200 participants	212 participants	106%

### 4.3.4 Project Impact

This section assesses project impact, utilising data from project monitoring, supplemented with qualitative findings from consultations with the programme lead and beneficiaries.

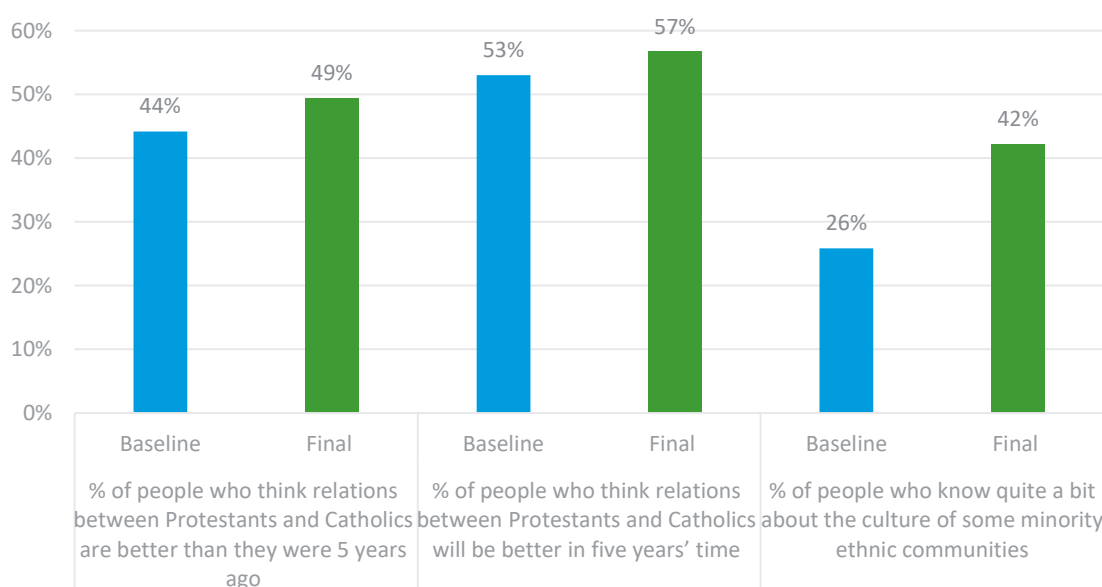
#### Result Indicators

Three result indicators are used to capture changes from BPR projects. These are:

- percentage of people who think relations between Protestants and Catholics are better than they were five years ago;
- percentage of people who think relations between Protestants and Catholics will be better in five years' time; and
- percentage of people who know quite a bit about the culture of some minority ethnic communities.

Data was collected through pre- and post-participation surveys, completed for each workstream. Aggregated findings (relating to all work streams) are presented in Figure 4.2, which highlights that a positive change has been identified for each result indicator. A detailed breakdown of result indicators is presented in **Appendix 2**.

**Figure 4.2: Baseline and Final Result Indicator Data**



*N= 1,041; March 2022. The survey of participants reflects a pre- and post-intervention measurement with a strong sample of participants across all work packages. Note: further detail relating to population and sample sizes is not readily available and it is not clear whether the 1,041 respondents relate to baseline, final impact or combined responses.*

## Qualitative Findings

Consultation with the programme lead and beneficiaries have provided additional detail on impacts not captured through monitoring and reporting. The salient findings are noted below:

- the project facilitated the **transition of ‘place’ as being a divider of communities, to something that was “uniting across the traditional divide”**. Through conversations and events focussing on place names and histories, and participants identifying one another (Understanding Our Area project), participants and wider beneficiaries were able to gain a shared understanding of place;
- a key outcome of many of the projects was the **relationships built between project participants, often across traditional community divides**. The programme lead commented that the project activities enabled people to learn something about one another and to recognise the commonality that they shared with individuals from different community backgrounds. Examples were given of members of institutions on opposite sides of traditional boundaries sitting together and catching up, having spent a significant amount of time together in one of the projects. It was felt that the programme had contributed to people being happier to mix with one another. It was also highlighted that in some cases, the mixing of people from institutions from across the traditional divide took place despite the risk of being ostracised by their peers; and
- when asked to describe the legacy and potential long-term impacts of the programme, the programme lead and beneficiaries highlighted the following: increased community organisation membership levels; enhanced organisational capacity to run projects and activities; and improved co-ordination/ joined up working between community groups - community fora have been established as a result of the project, which will endure beyond the lifespan of the project, providing continued space for dialogue and engagement on a cross-community basis.

## Summary

The pre and post participation survey data and the qualitative feedback detailed above suggests that this project has contributed towards positive changes in attitudes towards those from different community and minority ethnic backgrounds. This has been achieved, in the main, through sustained person to person contact, as the programme offered opportunities for relationship building and engagement. The project provided participants with the landscape and tools to see and experience the commonality of individuals beyond the traditional dividing lines and therefore the project has attributed to the overall objective of building positive relations.

### 4.3.5 Challenges and Key Learnings

Issues encountered, as identified by consultees, included:

- difficulty in engaging some stakeholders in the key institutions programme, due to their past experience and perceptions of the council. According to a consultee, the Key Institutions Programme should be organised and delivered in a different way, as “(it) was looking at institutions that don’t interact”.

- the wider political context (as per section 4.1.1) created tensions outside of the control of delivery partners, which impacted on certain institutions involvement. This occurred in the Community Integration Programme where an issue developed between project partners and, after Council led mediation, it was decided that the smaller partner organisations walk away from the project; and.
- negative pushback from minority elements of the community for peace / cross-community-focused activities. This is evidenced through by the BME Integration Programme not fully achieving its participation target (94%).

Potential lessons include:

- a consultee commented that the “*the programme is criticised because we aren’t tackling harder problems in society*”. To address this, it was suggested that future programmes appoint a number of community leaders with strong influence to design and lead the programme, to engender change from the ground up and ensure that programmes are tackling key issues;
- there is the need for continued and increased engagement in rural areas. A project partner highlighted that rural communities often miss out on programmes of this nature as they tend to focus on urban areas and that community separation and ‘cultural animosity’ can be more pronounced in rural areas where day-to-day interactions are limited; and
- there is a need for continued investment in developing leadership at a community level and in key institutions to further promote cooperation and collaboration. Recognising the significant influence organisations such as the Orange Order and Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA) as large volunteer organisations, the project partner sees this sort of programme is vital for transformation going forward.





*Impact Case Study 3: Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council*

## Understanding Our Area

The 'Understanding Our Area' project was a key element of the Council's Building Positive Relations activities, delivered by the CCGBC Museum Services. It engaged with 750 participants across the borough in area-based heritage and built environment projects.

This case study reflects the experiences of one of the project beneficiaries.

The individual explained that they saw the purpose of the project as highlighting peoples shared history and culture and using these shared experiences as a catalyst for conversation, moving from contentious and divided narratives into a more amicable shared history.

***"This is a shared history going back thousands of years, so it transcends any political boundaries we have".***

The individual was part of one of the groups, focusing on a specific area of the borough, and the histories and narratives associated with it. The individual explained that the group had engaged with the local heritage

themselves, that they had produced material in the form of booklets, and that they had engaged with wider community groups and schools, outlining the shared narratives of the place.

The impact of the programme, in its formal sense was the promotion of a sense of shared history and identity, but more than this, the individual felt that informally, the project had allowed them to network and engage with other groups and offered opportunities for interaction across community divides. The individual commented that they met with others and learned about the heritage that was important to them. The individual explained that it was through this activity that their own perceptions began to change.

***"The attendees listening to different perspectives has added value as you bring people together, without a focus on contentious political issues".***

The programme has contributed to a shared understanding of place and identity, as well as providing contact points for relationship building.





CCGBC Website

*Impact Case Study 4: Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council*

## Languages & Culture programme

The programme was a cross-community programme focusing on the Irish language and the Ulster Scots language. Its aim was to bring opposing or different communities together to learn and improve their understanding of the shared and different culture, heritage and history that exists within their communities.

This case study reflects the experiences of the project manager.

In summary, the project manager felt the project was very successful. At first, they noted that recruiting people to engage with the programme was challenging, but after a few weeks of word-of-mouth, engagement picked up significantly.

***“At the start everyone was in their own groups, but as time went on everyone was mixing, leaving their own groups and interacting with everyone”.***

The project manager noted that attendees enjoyed the programme and had a strong desire to maintain

engagement. They also noted that they continue to regularly speak with other attendees from differing backgrounds, both on the phone and in person.

***“The programme has taken away the perceptions both sides had of each other. There are a lot of common aspects both cultures have, in their language and music, that people did not see before, but now do”.***

The project manager noted that the programme had succeeded in not only initiating cross-community engagement and providing education in the differing cultures, but that it had also fostered long-term sustainable connections which are helping to remove societal barriers.

Since project completion, a new group focused on Women’s Legacy has been formed (not PEACE funded). The project manager highlighted that:

***“This group meets every week, and we have new members joining every session”.***

*Impact Case Study 5: Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council*

## Developing Community, Leadership & Capacity

The project aimed to encourage and elicit cross-community work by hosting a local art project that people could visit and learn about the area. It also displayed the art in a community hub to showcase the local village. The project aimed to encourage communities to come visit an area that they wouldn't have visited before due to pre-conceived perceptions.

*This case study draws from one beneficiary's experience.*

***“For all people involved in this project, it had been positive, for their mental and health wellbeing, and reducing social isolation that has been as a result of the pandemic”.***

The consultee felt the project encouraged a sense of place. This was primarily achieved through connecting one community to another and using the public spaces and the local environment to promote opportunities to link with other groups. The consultee

also highlighted that the project helped to generate a greater sense of pride to be from Northern Ireland.

They also noted that there were some attendees who hadn't meaningfully engaged with someone of a different religious background before. They stated that the openness and transparency of the project was a positive and that all ages and all sides of the communities were invited to take part.

***“The project was successful in bringing together people who, without this programme, would continue to have little-to-no interaction with people from different religious backgrounds”.***

Through different communities taking part in role playing activities to highlight their town, it allowed attendees to indirectly learn about other communities, their culture and their heritage.



## 4.4 Newry, Mourne and Down District Council: Beyond Tolerance, Shared Spaces and Services (Longitudinal)

### 4.4.1 Project Overview

In July 2017 **Newry, Mourne and Down District Council (NMDDC)** received €1.99 million (£1.69 million) (ERDF and Government match funding) from the PEACE IV programme to undertake its 'Beyond Tolerance – Shared Spaces and Services' project.

This project encompassed twelve work packages across seven District Electoral Areas (DEAs) through a range of activities including:

- capacity building initiatives;
- education and awareness programmes and physical development; and
- a Re-imaging and Regeneration Programme involving a range of capital projects, including:
  - a new community centre in Saintfield;
  - a new community garden in Warrenpoint; and
  - a BMX track.

The project was led by NMDDC and project partners included the Policing and Community Safety Partnership.

At the time of the previous evaluation report (published in June 2021), four work packages had been fully delivered (Flags, Emblems and Bonfires Protocol programme, Ex-Military Sites – Ballykinlar, Capacity Building Programme for Developing Shared Spaces and Saintfield Community Centre), one work package had been withdrawn (Warrenpoint Community Garden) and all other work packages (seven in total) were progressing.

Consultation for this case study included the programme lead and one project beneficiary, undertaken in August 2022.

**Note:** a project impact case study has been provided at the end of this chapter.

### 4.4.2 Project Delivery

As highlighted in Table 4.6, as of October 2022, NMDDC had spent 65% of their total budget.

**Table 4.6: Project Expenditure (October 2022)**

Expected Expenditure <sup>21</sup>	Actual Expenditure <sup>22</sup>	%
€1.99 million	€1.3 million	65%

<sup>21</sup> Figures may vary slightly as a result of exchange rates

<sup>22</sup> Includes management and communication costs

The Council's expenditure on capital redevelopment projects was delayed as a result of:

- delays caused by the Covid-19 pandemic;
- lengthy procurement periods; and
- project-specific issues arising (e.g., inaccurate initial costings developed for the BMX track).

The budget was reallocated to different work packages, with the following changes:

- £31,025 reallocated from the Shared Spaces Engagement programme to the BMX track;
- £39,706 reallocated from the Capacity Building Programme for developing shared space;
- £67,000 reallocated from the Ex-military Sites Legacy Programme (Bessbrook, Ballyhoran and Ballynahinch) to the BMX track; and
- £41,850 reallocated from the Warrenpoint Community Garden (project withdrawn) and transferred to the Tom Dunn project.

A more detailed breakdown of expenditure and activity by work package can be found in **Appendix 2**.

As of March 2022, half of the projects (6/12) had concluded and had spent over 85% of their funding allocation (see further details in Table 4.7) and one project (Warrenpoint Community Garden) was not proceeding. As of March 2022, the status of the project's capital redevelopment and programming activities were as follows:

- capital redevelopment work had concluded on:
  - the Saintfield Community Centre;
  - Ballykinlar Ex-Military site; and
  - the design of the BMX track.
- capital redevelopment work to be undertaken included:
  - the ex-military sites at Forkhill and Bessbrook; and
  - the Tom Dunn project (an Educational Shared Space, a Shared Walkway, an Educational toolkit and a Hedge Summer school).
- activities and events delivered as part of the delivery of the project included:
  - ten action plans have been developed for the **Re-imaging and Regeneration** programme. Tender documents have now been agreed by SEUPB for seven of the areas;
  - 30 groups recruited to support the development of a Flags, Emblems and Bonfires Protocol; and

- 30 beneficiaries participated in the **Capacity Building Programme for Developing Shared Space**. A further 30 beneficiaries will participate in the Diversity and Good Relations training.

### 4.4.3 Project Outputs

A breakdown of progress against the project's output targets is shown in Table 4.7. A detailed summary of activity undertaken within each work package can be found in **Appendix 2**.

Table 4.7: Progress against target outputs

Work Package	Description	Target outputs	Actual outputs	%
1. Re-imaging & Regeneration Programme	A programme with the objective of completing fieldwork for initial engagement and creation of safe spaces for dialogue. It is aimed at ensuring that activities that will produce local physical changes are agreed by all residents, therefore ensuring their long-term sustainability.	10 local projects	All projects underway and nearing completion <sup>23</sup> stage	-
2. Flags, Emblems & Bonfires	A programme with the objective of building upon previously established protocols and creating new sustainable protocols across districts.	Engage with 30 groups	37 groups engaged through working groups	123%
3. Ex-military Sites Legacy Programme (Ballykinlar)	A project aiming to open up spaces for learning where they have a historical backdrop in the 'Troubles'. A hut from the former Ballykinlar site will be recreated to reflect its shared history.	Capital redevelopment	Capital redevelopment successfully delivered	100%
4. Shared Spaces Engagement	Delivery of an engagement programme with the objective of establishing links across sectors to create and develop sustainable service provision in a shared space. It is aimed at increasing shared space in areas where it is contested, through the sharing of mutual services.	Workplans 500 participants (in 7 drive in cinemas)	545 participants involved	109%
5. Capacity Building Programme for Developing Shared Space	Delivery of a capacity building programme with the objective of mainstreaming and sustaining peace and good relations through all service delivery in the District. The project is aimed at ensuring systematic change in how services are delivered, and spaces developed, to 'design out' sectarianism and racism.	6 programmes 60 participants	6 programmes delivered 58 participants engaged	97% (project to be completed by Sept 2022)
6. Preparatory Programme for Disengaged Communities and Local Leaders	Delivery of a preparatory programme for disengaged communities with the objective of engaging individuals and communities not normally engaged in the peace process or good relations programmes, on issues of contested space.	7 programmes X12 participants	7 programmes currently being delivered	100%

<sup>23</sup> Completion in this instance refers to the successful delivery of all project activities, (e.g., in the stance of capital developments, this would represent the conclusion of construction / capital works as per the project design / objectives).

Work Package	Description	Target outputs	Actual outputs	%
7. Ex-Military Sites Legacy Programme (Forkhill)	A project with the objective of engagement at local and district level to open up spaces for learning where sites have a historical backdrop 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.	Capital redevelopment	Expected to be complete in Sept. 22	-
8. Ex-military Sites Legacy Programme (Bessbrook, Ballyhornan and Ballynahinch)	As above (Forkhill), this project will address the social aspects of the sites to open up formally contested spaces for learning where sites have a historical backdrop in the 'Troubles'.	Capital redevelopment	Expected to be complete in Sept. 22	-
9. Tom Dunn Project	Provision of 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.	Capital redevelopment	Expected to be complete in Sept. 22	-
10. Saintfield Community Centre	Development of an indoor pitch and associated shock pad, rebound wall, fencing and protective netting for the Saintfield Community Centre.	Capital redevelopment	Capital redevelopment successfully delivered	100%
11. BMX track	Construction of a BMX track that encompasses a straightforward build of moulded jumps, obstacles and banked corners that is accessible to members from all communities.	Capital redevelopment	Expected to be complete in Sept. 22	-

Table 4.7 highlights that the Ex-military Sites Legacy programme (Ballykinlar) and the Saintfield Community Centre have both completed their capital works. The Flags, Emblems and Bonfires work package had a target to engage with 30 groups and, as of March 2022, they achieved this target; and the Shared Spaces Engagement work package exceeded their target of engaging with 500 participants (545 participants).

It is important to note that for the remaining work packages, all are expected to achieve their targets by September 2022, while the Capacity Building Programme for Developing Shared Spaces has currently achieved 97% of their project and envisage reaching 100% in September 2022.

#### 4.4.4 Project Impact

This section assesses project impacts, using data collected through project monitoring and supplemented with qualitative findings from stakeholder consultation.

##### Result Indicators

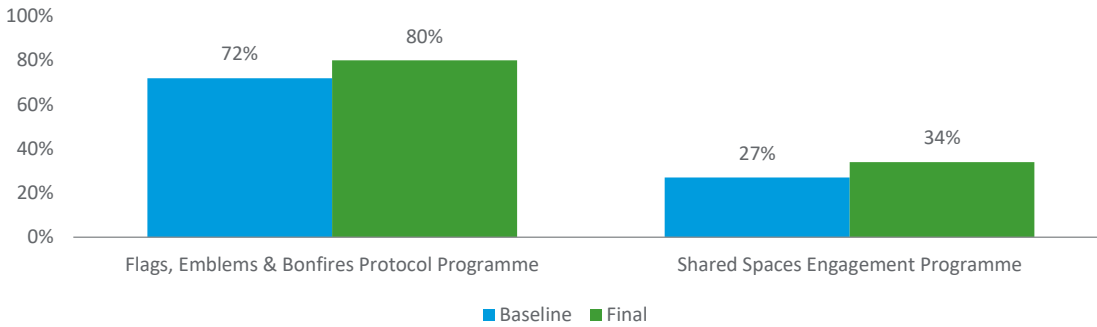
NMDDC have captured result indicator data relating to behavioural / attitudinal change for two of the work packages delivered (i.e. the Flags, Emblems & Bonfires Protocol programme and the Shared Spaces Engagement programme). This data was obtained via participant surveys undertaken prior to and following participant engagement with the programme.

The three result indicators for this programme are:

- percentage of people who would prefer to live in a mixed religion neighbourhood;
- percentage of people who think relations between Protestants and Catholics are better than they were 5 years ago; and
- percentage of people who think relations between Protestants and Catholics will be better in five years' time.

Figures 4.3 – 4.5 present the impacts achieved through the Flags, Emblems & Bonfires Protocol programme and the Shared Spaces Engagement programme. As shown, for each result indicator there is a positive change recorded. The surveys of participants reflect a pre- and post-intervention measurement with a strong sample of participants across the two work packages.

**Figure 4.3: Percentage of people who would prefer to live in a mixed religion neighbourhood**



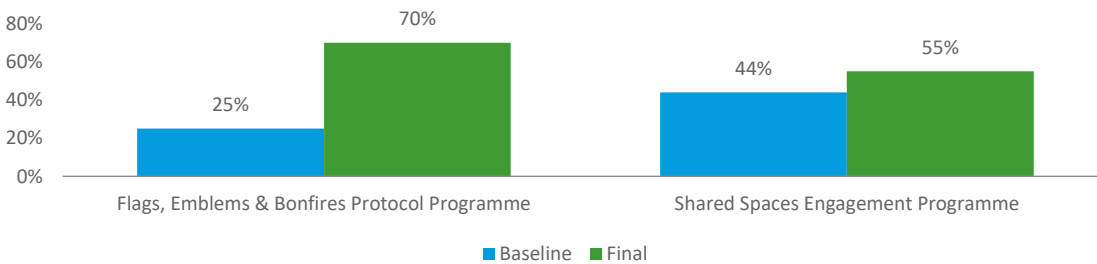
*Note: Survey dated March 2022. (Baseline N=536, Final N=545, Information request forms).*

*Note: further detail relating to population and sample sizes is not available and it is not clear what proportion of respondents (either for each programme or both programmes) completed both baseline and final questionnaires.*

As highlighted in Figure 4.3, when post-completion data is compared to baseline data, the proportion of participants in the Flags, Emblems & Bonfires Protocol Programme who stated that they would prefer to live in a mixed religion neighbourhood increased by 8 percentage points. Similarly, there was a 7-percentage point increase in those stating that they would prefer to live in a mixed religion neighbourhood among those participating in the Shared Spaces Engagement Programme.

Also, as identified in Figure 4.4, the data identifies an increase of 45 percentage points (post completion compared to baseline) in the proportion of participants on the Flags, Emblems & Bonfires Protocol programme who stated that they thought relations between Protestants and Catholics are better than they were 5 years ago. An increase of 11 percentage points was observed among the Shared Spaces Engagement programme participants.

**Figure 4.4: Percentage of people who think relations between Protestants and Catholics are better than they were 5 years ago**

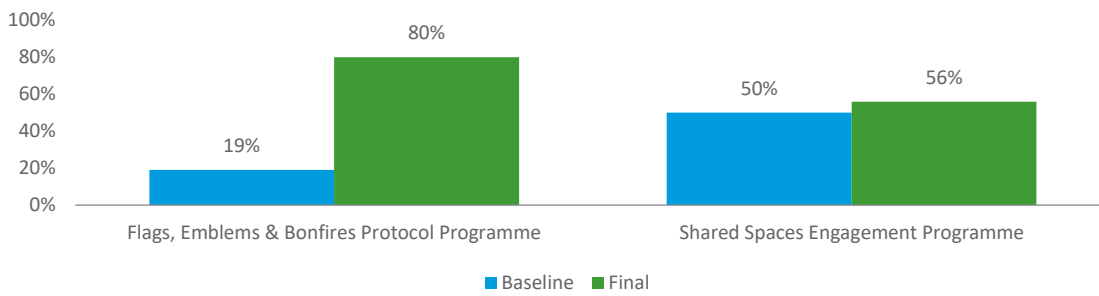


*Note: Survey dated March 2022. (Baseline N=536, Final N=545, Information request forms).*

Note: further detail relating to population and sample sizes is not available and it is not clear what proportion of respondents (either for each programme or both programmes) completed both baseline and final questionnaires.

The largest increase in result data from baseline was recorded by Flags, Emblems & Bonfires Protocol programme in relation to the “percentage of people who think relations between Protestants and Catholics will be better in five years’ time” – an increase of 61 percentage points from baseline was recorded. The Shared Spaces Engagement programme experienced a relatively small increase from the baseline in relation to this indicator, i.e. an increase of 6 percentage points.

**Figure 4.5: Percentage of people who think relations between Protestants and Catholics will be better in five years’ time**



Note: Survey dated March 2022. (Baseline N=536, Final N=545, Information request forms).

Note: further detail relating to population and sample sizes is not available and it is not clear what proportion of respondents (either for each programme or both programmes) completed both baseline and final questionnaires.

### Qualitative Findings

Consultations with a programme lead (NMDDC) and a project beneficiary (ex-military sites programme) undertaken in August 2022 have provided additional insights on project delivery and impacts. The salient findings are noted below:

- as noted by the project beneficiary, the programme supported the **regeneration of vacant / derelict sites for the social benefit of local communities** (e.g. “the site at Deramore hadn’t been used for years from either side of the community”) and the creation of shared space provides the opportunity and location for engagement and capacity building to take place;
- the Flags and Emblems project was a difficult project to deliver, given the political tension and historical animosity between communities in the Newry, Mourne and Down area. However, the stakeholder identified that “the **relationships** developed through the project are continuing to this day”. This project was focused on long-term relationships, i.e., beyond the ‘26 hours’ of contracted engagement, and it targeted specific groups who had ‘hard-line’ attitudes. Therefore, the observed level of positive attitudinal change reflects a significant level of progress and success by the programme; and



- a beneficiary commented that the Ballykinlar ex-military site programme had supported attitudinal change by **challenging misinformed or misguided views** held by some participants, which allowed for a deeper understanding of the commonality of the communities and that it paved the way for more improved levels of tolerance.

### Summary

Given that five of the work-packages have not yet been completed, the full impacts of the programme have not yet been observed. At present, the capital redevelopment for Forkhill, Bessbrook, Ballyhornan and Ballynahinch Ex-military Sites Legacy Programme are not complete, as well as the capital redevelopment for Tom Dunn work package and the BMX track. However, participant survey data and the feedback outlined above suggests that programme has delivered positive outcomes and impacts to date.

### 4.4.5 Challenges and Key Learnings

Issues encountered, as identified by the programme delivery lead, included:

- a key challenge relates to measuring impact/ success in a context where success often relates to the prevention of negative outcomes / activities. Qualitative evaluation methodologies are best placed to tackle this issue through, for example, exploring case studies of individuals participating in the programme to assess the change that they have experienced in their life as a result of the intervention; and
- as some capital projects can span 5-10 years, priorities within the community can change. This can lead to changes in what is precisely needed / desired by the Council and / or community. This can be mitigated to some extent (although not fully) through an effective programme of consultation during both project design and implementation phases.

### 4.4.6 Next Steps

The project is now delivering on all remaining capital redevelopment for the remaining programmes.



NMDDC Website

*Impact Case Study 6: Newry, Mourne and Down District Council*

## Ballykinlar History Hut

As part of the ex-military sites legacy programme, the regeneration of the Ballykinlar site was delivered to highlight the history and the legacy of the site, as it had links back to WW1 and the Boer War in 1902.

This case study draws on the perspective of an individual involved in the delivery and oversight of the regeneration project.

***“The aim of the project was to invite members of both sides of the community to understand the commonalities they shared in the history of the site. From the internment camp used in the troubles, to the legacy involved with the 36<sup>th</sup> Ulster Division as they trained here before they went to fight in the Battle of the Somme”.***

The individual emphasised the aim of neutrality (i.e., through presenting an objective, non-biased view of the history of the site) for all communities to feel welcome and to feel the project was aimed at their learning.

The legacy of Ballykinlar had negative experiences among both sides of the community but the interviewee

reiterated the importance of displaying this so that an accurate depiction of the site’s legacy could be taught.

The respondent highlighted that this project has delivered impacts among both the younger and the older generation.

***“It gives the younger generation an idea of what really went on and not the agenda that might be being peddled from one side of the community. For the older generation it was to show them not everyone was bad from either side, to challenge their perceptions of the past”.***

The history exhibited by the project aimed to provide an accurate and unprejudiced viewpoint of the legacy and history of the region they share.

This project invited the Irish Historical Society to visit the site and showcased both the internment and military aspects of the site, hoping to engender a more educated and understanding society.

## 4.5 Victims and Survivors Service: Provision of Services for Victims and Survivors (Longitudinal)

### 4.5.1 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.

The project was allocated **€17.63 million (£14.94 million)** and is led by the Victims and Survivors Service (VSS), and project partners include the Commission for Victims and Survivors (CVS) and WAVE Trauma (WAVE). The Executive Office (NI), the Department of Health (NI), the Department for Foreign Affairs and Trade (Ireland) and Cooperation and Working Together act as advisory partners.

The outputs at the time of the previous evaluation report (June 2021), were:

- 23 Health and Wellbeing (HWB) caseworkers were in post, and 7,334 individuals were in receipt of assessment / casework support and resilience support;
- five Advocacy Support Managers and 19.5 workers were recruited. In total, 3,177 individuals were in receipt of advocacy support;
- 1,091 Resilience interventions had been delivered; and
- 601 participants involved in Workforce training across 138 training events/courses.

Consultation for this case study included the programme lead and one project beneficiary, undertaken in August 2022.

**Note:** a project impact case study has been provided at the end of this chapter.

### 4.5.2 Project Delivery

The following information summarises the project budget allocations / expenditure up to October 2022 and activities carried out as of March 2022. Budget and expenditure performance is shown in Table 4.8.

**Table 4.8: Project Expenditure (October 2022)**

Expected Expenditure	Actual Expenditure	Actual as % of Expected
€17.6 million	€14.1 million	80%

The project has progressed in the following activities:

- the development of **Advocacy Support Network** to support individuals through Truth, Justice and Acknowledgement processes;
- the recruitment of **Regional Health & Wellbeing Case Managers** and Health and Well-being Caseworkers;
- within the **Resilience Programme** there have been four frameworks used for referral and accessible for those wishing for support, namely:
  - trauma focused physical activity;
  - adult literacy and numeracy;
  - volunteering including carers respite; and
  - social isolation.
- professional **Workforce Training and Development** has been offered including, the review of existing Oral History and Storytelling Networks and Best Practice Guide. Both VSS and WAVE have met the targets as outlined within the Letter of Offer in terms of the number of individuals trained over the lifetime of the project; and
- Planned **Research and Improved Regulation** projects have been launched, namely:
  - Trans-generational Legacy and Young People Research Project;
  - Effective Advocacy Services Research Project; and
  - Needs Analysis of the Border Region and Update of CVS Comprehensive Needs Assessment.

A more detailed breakdown of project activity can be found in **Appendix 2**.

### 4.5.3 Project Outputs

The output indicators for this project were: **Individuals in receipt of assessment / case work support and resilience support** and **Individuals in receipt of advocacy support**. A breakdown of progress (as at March 2022) against these outputs is shown in Table 4.9.

**Table 4.9: Progress against target outputs (March 2022 and projected final outturn)**

Work Package	Target Output	Current Position (March 2022)	Expected final outputs (November 2022)
Advocacy Support Programme	27.5 workers 6,300 beneficiaries	20 workers (note this is workers in post as of March 22 – numbers have been higher in earlier stages of the project)	20 workers 5,000 beneficiaries

Work Package	Target Output	Current Position (March 2022)	Expected final outputs (November 2022)
		4,041 beneficiaries	
Health and Wellbeing (HWB) Casework Network	31 workers / managers 11,350 beneficiaries	25 case workers and 3 managers (as above, staff in place as of March 2022) 10,534 beneficiaries	25 case workers and 3 managers 11,750 beneficiaries
Resilience Programme	3,000 interventions	4,000 interventions, consisting of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1,621 across PEACE IV Frameworks</li> <li>2,379 across groups funded to deliver services by VSS</li> </ul>	4,240 interventions, consisting of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1,811 across PEACE IV Frameworks</li> <li>2,429 across groups funded to deliver services by VSS</li> </ul>
Workforce Training	690 individuals	1,072 individuals, consisting of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>VSS Training – 666</li> <li>WAVE Training<sup>24</sup> - 406</li> </ul>	1,122 Individuals (through VSS and WAVE)
Research and Improved Regulation	3 research projects and a needs-based review	Two Research Projects completed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trans-generational Legacy and Young People Research Project</li> <li>Effective Advocacy Services Research Project</li> </ul> Needs-based review completed.	Completion of Trauma Services Research Project also completed

Table 4.9 highlights the output levels that the programme team anticipate achieving by project completion (November 2022), specifically:

- in relation to the **Advocacy Support Programme**, the team envisage engaging a further 959 beneficiaries, however, this will fall short of the target level, resulting in 79% of the target output being achieved. A consultee commented that a possible reason for underperformance in the Advocacy outputs could be that the project was dependent on the recruitment of a

<sup>24</sup> As identified in Section 4.5.1, WAVE is a project delivery partner, working with VSS to provide workforce training.

large number of advocacy staff which “took about a year and a half for people to come on board and be embedded”;

- for the **Health and Wellbeing Casework Network**, the programme team anticipate meeting their target of 11,350 beneficiaries and, as of March 2022, they have achieved 93% of this target;
- the **Resilience Programme** had a target of providing 3,000 interventions and, as of March 2022, 4,000 interventions had been provided (133% of the target). The programme team predict they will further increase this number of interventions to 4,240 (141% of original target) by project end;
- the **Workforce Training** project team foresee the total number of individuals receiving VSS support training to be 1,122 by project completion, exceeding their target of 690, and as of March 2022 they have provided training to 1,072 individuals; and
- In relation to the **Research and Improved Regulation** work package, two research projects and a needs-based review have been completed and the project team envisages that they will complete the third research project by the project completion date.

#### 4.5.4 Project Impact

This section assesses the current level of impact of the project, using data from project monitoring as well as incorporating qualitative findings from two consultations conducted in August 2022 (project delivery staff).

##### Quantitative assessment

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.

The first longitudinal impact report (2019) provided impact data in the form of WSAS scores for the HWB caseworker programme. However, for the subsequent 2020 report, it was decided that, due to the nature of the HWB caseworker programme acting as a signpost for clients to other VSS services, rather than a service that delivers activities to provide impact, that WSAS scores would not be reported for this programme. This was to reduce the potential of double-counting



impact and ensure appropriate attribution of impact to programmes. WSAS scores were instead reported for the four resilience programmes, and the same approach has been adopted for this report, as detailed in Table 4.10.

Table 4.10 highlights that across each of the four resilience programmes, the majority of the beneficiaries (i.e. ranging from 62% - 80%) reported that they had experienced an improvement in in relation to social isolation, trauma-focused physical activity, literacy and numeracy and volunteering.

**Table 4.10: Resilience programme impacts (based on WSAS score data)<sup>25</sup>**

Resilience Programme	Percentage of Beneficiaries reporting:		
	Improvement	No change	Dis-improvement
Social Isolation	80%	-	20%
Trauma Focused Physical Activity	62%	13%	25%
1-1 Literacy and Numeracy	75%	-	25%
Volunteering	73%	-	27%
<b>Overall</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>25%</b>

Source: VSS, March 2022

### Qualitative Findings

Consultations with project delivery staff (x1) and a beneficiary undertaken in August 2022 have provided additional insights on project delivery and impacts. The salient findings are noted below:

- a health and wellbeing worker commented “the *Health and Wellbeing Network has been valuable as the one-to-one needs-based support has meant we can support individuals on their journey and can signpost them to other support and activities*”;
- in reference to the Covid-19 pandemic, project delivery staff reported that “*the resilience programme has been very useful with additional money to fund interventions around social isolation. They provided a lot of funding out of lockdown to do outdoor activities*”. Adaptation of the programme to respond to the changing circumstances of the Covid-19 pandemic supported those most severely impacted by the lockdowns of 2020 and 2021; and
- a project beneficiary highlighted that the impact of this service was extensive and had made a positive change to their life, “*the team were absolutely fantastic...if it wasn't for this programme I might not be here today*”. This beneficiary stated that the support they had received through the programme was two-fold – firstly, through support in dealing with the past trauma; and secondly, by their counsellor being able to provide physical support such as obtaining mobility scooters and a new bed to alleviate pain.

<sup>25</sup> Note: benchmarking of the impacts has not been carried out.

## Summary

The WSAS scores suggest a strong, positive impact for the majority of beneficiaries across the four aspects of the Resilience programme, with the strongest impacts being reported in relation to social isolation (80% of beneficiaries reporting improvement). A programme beneficiary noted that the personal impact of the Resilience programme was significant and made a positive change to their life through support in relation to mental health and wellbeing and through physical supports.

### 4.5.5 Challenges and Key Learnings

Key issues encountered, as identified by the programme delivery lead, included:

- the **breadth and complexity of programme management**. The programme delivery lead stated that “*the breadth of the programme, managing 18 organisations and their staff, including relationship building. Making sure everyone was consistent*” was a challenge. There was also extensive training involved. In hindsight, the provision of more managerial and support staff for VSS, to ensure support was consistent across all work packages, would have been beneficial;
- **additional budget** to (1) target more participants in response to the Covid-19 pandemic (2) further support volunteering aspects of the programme, would have been beneficial;
- the target of 6,300 individuals engaged through the Advocacy Support programme is unlikely to be fully achieved by the end of the funding period. The main challenge has been the fact that the **Stormont House Agreement (SHA) institutions** have not been created and hence are not yet operational. The targets identified for the Advocacy Support programme were based upon the presumption that the institutions would be operational and that this programme would support individuals that are engaging with the Historical Investigations Unit and / or the Independent Commission on Information Retrieval. Organisations funded by VSS have continued to provide support to victims and survivors in the absence of this strategic framework through the Advocacy Support programme, however, it is recognised that the ability to engage with new individuals remains challenging (i.e., without the SHA institutions to encourage individuals to come forward that are not currently receiving support); and
- **Covid-19** restrictions also affected the ability of the organisations to be proactive, to promote their services through events and to build relationships on a face-to-face basis, which are crucial for the delivery of an advocacy service. Staff have been focused on reviewing the needs of existing clients and providing ongoing support in the format that was most appropriate throughout the lockdowns.

Lessons learned for future programme design include:

- a consultee highlighted that the achievement of the targets thus far doesn't reflect the amount of work in achieving these. To combat this, the consultee suggested that future funding should focus on empowering community organisations so that they can make decisions and hold budgets to allocate work to where they see fit;



- a consultee commented that an improvement in future iterations of the programme could be to give caseworkers more autonomy to deliver the specific needs-based support; and
- significant activity by advocacy workers to support applications to the Troubles Permanent Disablement Payment Scheme is ongoing, through assisting applicants to access information about the incident which impacted them and assisting them with recording the narrative that is required to support their applications to the scheme. This is valuable and important work, however, in many cases where the applicant has already availed of advocacy support, they cannot be counted again against this target (despite the activity being entirely different and funded by PEACE IV). It was suggested that programme monitoring and reporting systems should be amended so that multiple areas of advocacy support, and the nature of the support provided, can be recorded and reported.

#### **4.5.6 Next Steps**

The Advocacy Support Network and the recruitment of both Health and Well-being Case Managers and Health and Well-being Case Workers are well progressed, but as yet, has not been completed (due to be completed by November 2022). The remaining Research and Improved Regulation project has yet to be launched, timing of launch has not been confirmed (two are complete and one is in progress). The Resilience programme is continuing to offer four frameworks to those seeking support through the remainder of the programme period; Trauma focused physical activity, adult literacy and numeracy, volunteering including carers respite and social isolation.



*Impact Case Study 7: Victims and Survivors Services*

## Resilience Programme

The resilience programme was developed to address the individual needs of victims and survivors, including level one and level two mental health interventions. The project organised events where recipients of the support could speak about their past issues to help participants understand the experiences of other communities. The project also provided physical and mental support to those in need, such as running outdoor activities that focussed on social isolation during Covid-19 lockdowns.

This case study draws from one beneficiary's experience of the resilience programme.

***“The team were absolutely fantastic through the rounds of counselling and organising events for us. The counsellor I was with has been amazing, they helped me with my therapy after my operation when I could not walk for 3 months, so it has helped me a lot”.***

The consultee felt the project delivery team were able to provide the support that the beneficiary asked for and required and, which led to an *“unequivocal positive impact”*.

In terms of impacts, the consultee reported that the project had changed their perceptions of different neighbourhoods within their local area through the events organised to bring communities together to discuss their experiences. Therefore, for this beneficiary, the project has made tangible differences to preconceptions and has engendered positive long-term change such as a reduction in fear:

***“Before the programme, I would not have travelled to Newry or to the South, but now I’m not as scared”.***

The project delivered educational events in Scotland and England as well as in Ireland through Decorum NI (a welfare and support organisation funded by VSS/Peace IV). From the beneficiary's perspective, these events allowed attendees to learn about similar stories / shared experiences and highlighted that there were other people experiencing the same issues. It also identified a possible informal network where participants could share their stories and experiences.

## 4.6 Bloody Sunday Trust: The Conflict Transformation and Peacebuilding Project

### 4.6.1 Project Overview

The **Bloody Sunday Trust (BST)**, along with project partner, The Pat Finucane Centre, has developed the Conflict Transformation and Peace-building Project. The project aims to provide support, resources and opportunities to those who feel that the 'Derry Experience' could be used as a tool in making progress within their own set of circumstances. Beneficiaries of the project include communities from both religious categories in NI, as well as non-local British veterans of the Troubles.

The project incorporates a number of integrated peacebuilding, education and social justice projects that have acted as a catalyst for conflict transformation primarily within NI, but also within Ireland, Britain and internationally. These projects focus on parading, legacy and justice, heritage and education, and dialogue.

The project was awarded an investment of **€0.54 million (£0.45 million)** from SEUPB and, following the recruitment of two key staff members, went live in January 2018. The first six months of 2018 were taken up with the establishment of the Project Advisory Group, the official launch and undertaking the necessary promotion and engagement leading to the initial programme activity scheduled for June 2018.

Consultation for this case study included the programme lead and two project beneficiaries, undertaken in August 2022.

**Note:** two project impact case studies have been provided at the end of this chapter.

### 4.6.2 Project Delivery

The following information summarises the project budget allocations / expenditure (as of October 2022) and activities carried out between January 2018 and March 2022. Actual expenditure as of October 2022 was 86% of the programme budget, as shown in Table 4.11.

**Table 4.11: Project Expenditure (October 2022)**

Expected Expenditure	Actual Expenditure	Actual as % of Expected
€537k	€462k	86%

BST has now concluded delivery of this project. Activities completed during the project included:

- 18 workshops delivered for the **Parading** work package. This work package sought to educate and invite discussion between participants in relation to how the Conflict Transformation and Peacebuilding Project was constructed, what benefits it provides for the city in terms of the reduction of tension, and how aspects of the model can be used to transform contentious parades elsewhere, thereby contributing to sustainable peace and reconciliation;

- 11 workshops delivered for the **Legacy and Justice** work package. This work package aimed to highlight to participants that justice is the cornerstone of any new society emerging from prolonged conflict, that ordinary people working together can make a huge difference to society, that human rights benefit all, that delayed injustice is the antithesis of political progress, that campaigning for justice is an honourable activity, and that resolving historical injustices has a wider impact on society and community in terms of well-being;
- 16 workshops delivered for the **Heritage & Education** work package. This work package sought to facilitate a constructive challenge to, and greater acknowledgement of, the diverse perceptions of the city's history, where participants learned that history need not be divisive in itself, that there are a range of ways to tell their story and the ways by which they can generate their own heritage project; and
- 12 workshops delivered for the **Dialogue** work package. Through this work package, participants explored the platforms created in Derry~Londonderry at key times in the past which allowed for essential public dialogue to take place, giving ordinary people from all persuasions the opportunity to have their say. The project sought to demonstrate that pushing the boundaries is more rewarding than staying within traditional confines and that the role of Non-Governmental Organisations is often crucial at times of high tension or political stagnation.

A more detailed breakdown of project activity can be found in **Appendix 3**.

### 4.6.3 Project Outputs

As highlighted in Table 4.12, the project has significantly exceeded its target for participation.

**Table 4.12: Performance against output indicator**

Target	Actual	%
600 participants	734 participants	122%

The project had a target to engage with 240 individuals from a PUL background (40%) and 360 individuals from a CNR background (60%). As of project completion, 231 individuals from a PUL background (31%) and 346 individuals from a CNR background (47%) had been engaged, as well as 157 participants (22%) who didn't identify as being from either background. At an individual work package level, performance against target is shown in Table 4.13.

**Table 4.13: Programme performance against targets by work package**

Work Package	Target	Actual	%
Parading	150 Workshop Participants	155 Participants	103%
Legacy & Justice	150 Workshop Participants	199 Participants	133%

Work Package	Target	Actual	%
Heritage & Education	150 Workshop Participants	170 participants	113%
Dialogue	150 Workshop Participants	210 participants	140%

Table 4.13 illustrates the success of the programme with all work packages exceeding their targeted number of participants.

#### 4.6.4 Project Impact

This section assesses impacts resulting from the project, utilising data collected through project monitoring and supplemented by qualitative findings from stakeholder consultation.

##### Result Indicators

Two result indicators are used to capture changes from the BST project. These are:

- percentage of people who think relations between Protestants and Catholics are better than they were 5 years ago; and
- percentage of people who think relations between Protestants and Catholics will be better in five years' time.

Table 4.14 presents a summary of programme participants' views on the two result indicators, however, it should be noted that this represents a point in time after the delivery of programme activity and no baseline is available for comparison. Therefore, as an assessment of the change in attitudes, the evidence is limited.

**Table 4.14: Result Indicators**

Result Indicator	Yes	No	No Response
Do you consider relations between Protestants and Catholics are better now than they were five years ago?	92% (n=133)	8% (N=11)	1% (n=1)
Do you consider that relations between Protestants and Catholics will be better in five years' time?	92% (n=133)	8% (N=11)	1% (n=1)

Source: BST Final Evaluation Report of the Conflict Transformation & Peace-building Project (March 2022) (**note:** population data not available to estimate response rates)

##### Qualitative Findings

Indications of impact (albeit subjective) identified through limited stakeholder engagement are summarised below:

- a project beneficiary stated that they believed that there were some individuals who attended events that came with hard-line pre-conceived conceptions but left with a **changed attitude**;
- the involvement of veterans within the Legacy work package was seen an important element of the programme. A beneficiary commented on **attitudinal change** amongst a range of attendees resulting from the attendance of non-local British Soldiers at an event with the Apprentice Boys of Derry. Through this event, the non-local British Soldiers were able to explain the reasoning behind their role and it allowed for **better understanding** of their position during the conflict;
- the workshops were seen as being useful in provoking conversations that allowed **preconceived ideas and events in the past to be challenged** – “*it made you question your own beliefs*” (*project beneficiary*);
- beneficiaries highlighted that, following the workshops, they **empathised more** with the other attendees and that the workshops helped to **alleviate fears and nerves** that non-local service veterans had in relation to NI; and
- a project beneficiary identified that an impact of the Legacy and Justice programme was that it enabled participants to **expand their understanding of the city’s history** through the experiences of others.

Although evidence is limited and largely subjective, the project appears to have contributed to positive changes in participant attitudes about those from different backgrounds and it has helped improve awareness and tolerance of other people perspectives. This has been achieved, in the main, through sustained contact as the programme offered opportunities for relationship building and engagement through 57 workshops delivered across the four work packages.

#### 4.6.5 Key Learnings

Lessons learned included:

- stakeholder consultation identified that SEUPB should continue to encourage applications from British non-local veterans to engage in future projects;
- an attendee of the Conflict Transformation and Peacebuilding Project workshops recommended having an over-arching question as a structure to the workshops could allow for more continuous conversations to occur; and
- the Programme Lead for the Legacy and Justice project commented that they were oversubscribed. They reported that this was because of a lack of an organisation in Derry~Londonderry addressing reconciliation for all parties impacted by the Troubles.

*Impact Case Study 8: Bloody Sunday Trust*

## **The Conflict Transformation and Peacebuilding Project: Dialogue**

The Dialogue work package was a key piece of work which enabled participants to engage in essential dialogue with both sides of the community. It engaged with 210 participants, bringing community groups from across NI to the Free Derry Museum and allowed for the expression of their perceptions and views of the historical conflict. This case study has been developed from the experiences of one of the project beneficiaries of this work package.

The individual was responsible for organising an event that enabled a group of people from their local area to travel to the Free Derry Museum. The beneficiary commented that *“for some people this was the first meaningful interaction they had had from someone of another religious faction”*.

The beneficiary highlighted that creating a safe space to engage in conversations was regarded as being a vital role in reconciliation and peace building.

The beneficiary commented on her change of perspective of other communities after attending the session.

***“Sitting and listening to their personal stories has made me understand that the people caught up in the Bloody Sunday were fathers or mothers and they left behind their families”.***

***“I haven’t thought of these people having anything to do with me, but I realised they are, because they are humans who have also lost a lot in the same conflict I have lost”.***



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*Impact Case Study 9: Bloody Sunday Trust*

## **The Conflict Transformation and Peacebuilding Project: Legacy & Justice**

The ‘Legacy & Justice’ work package focussed on resolving historical prejudices. This case study has been developed from the experiences of one of the project beneficiaries.

The individual explained that they saw the purpose of the project was to increase the understanding beyond the subjective narrative of what it was like for a non-local British Soldier in NI, and then also to breakdown stereotypes that are solely based on the conflict.

***“I only ever saw a uniform and now I see a person”.***

The beneficiary highlighted that the impact of the project in changing attitudes could not be overstated, as interaction between people who lost loved ones in the conflict and British soldiers, who were perceived as the “enemy”

The individual had explained that non-local British Veterans were able to engage with community

representatives that they had once been told to enforce, and that the conversations enabled each side to illustrate their narrative of the conflict, thereby offering the chance for others to understand their point of view.

The beneficiary emphasised that the workshops helped to combat subjective views held by both parties and that this was integral to removing rhetoric and supporting the development of a more educated and understanding society.

***“When the veterans were able to explain the culture and training of the army, it allowed the communities to empathise more with the soldiers and see them more as humans.”***

## 4.7 Monaghan County Council: The Peace Campus

### 4.7.1 Project Overview

The Peace Campus, delivered by **Monaghan County Council (MCC)**, aims to create a new shared community space, comprising a four-storey community building in the centre of Monaghan town. The building will include: a Cultural Heritage Centre, Library, Youth Facility, Shared Community Multi-Functional Space, External Community Space and Underground Parking. The total PEACE IV budget for the project was **€19.98 million** (£16.93 million) and expenditure as of October 2022 is at €3.8 million.

The project aims to create a shared space for all communities incorporating:

- a **Youth Facility**, enabling young people of all backgrounds to meet and engage on a cross-community basis;
- a **Cultural Heritage Centre** holding exhibitions and activities;
- a **Library Space** that captures the literary heritage of the area; and
- **Shared Community Multi-Functional Space** and **External Events space** offering community and voluntary groups a space to engage with each other and offer additional community supports to isolated minority communities.

Consultation for this case study included the programme lead and three project beneficiaries, undertaken in August 2022. As of August 2022, no programme activity has been carried out, it is anticipated that programme activity will commence following completion of the capital works and is not included within funding for this project.

**Note:** three project impact case studies have been provided at the end of this chapter.

### 4.7.2 Project Delivery

The construction of the Peace Campus has been significantly impacted by a range of external factors. The Covid-19 pandemic had a significant impact on the project, both financially and in relation to the physical progress of construction. The site on which the Peace Campus is being constructed was closed for four months due to Public Health Restrictions in 2021. Furthermore, Brexit, material cost increases and the Russian invasion of Ukraine have all impacted heavily on the project, resulting in an increase of c. €5 million in capital costs and creating delays in the delivery of materials.

Initially, the project was scheduled to begin construction in January 2020, however, as a result of Covid-19 and an increased level of risk, the contract couldn't be awarded until August 2020. Following which, in January 2021, another lockdown was imposed. However, as of July 2022, the following activities had been completed:

- site clearance / enabling works;
- planning permission granted;

- technical design; and
- construction commenced following successful procurement activities.

It is anticipated that construction will be completed by Q2 2023.

As of October 2022, the project had spent 19% of its intended budget, as highlighted in Table 4.15.

**Table 4.15: Project Expenditure (October 2022)**

Expected Expenditure	Actual Expenditure	Actual as % of Expected
€19.98 million	€3.8 million	19%

### 4.7.3 Project Outputs

Given the project is still in the construction phase, recorded quantifiable outputs are limited however feedback from a consultee interviewed in August 2022 reported that:

*“The site is well into construction; the reinforced structure is up, and we expect the building to be watertight in the next two months”.*

With the anticipated completion date of Q2 2023 the stakeholder stated that “*there is quite a bit of work to do with the different elements to ensure that we hit the ground running*”. Therefore, there remains uncertainty in whether the project will be completed by its amended completion date. There has been no programme-based activity undertaken (due to begin following completion of the capital build, not funded by PEACE IV).

### 4.7.4 Project Impact

The three result indicators that will be measured for this project are:

- percentage of people who would define the neighbourhood where they live as neutral;
- percentage of people who prefer to live in a mixed religion environment; and
- percentage of people who would prefer to live in a neighbourhood with people of only their own religion.

It is proposed that result indicators will be measured through pre- and post-programme surveys of participants.

Consultation with the programme lead and potential beneficiaries have provided insight on the potential impacts that may occur following completion of the capital works namely:

- the project will embody a space where communities can come together, learn about their history and feel safe while doing it. It offers the region a physical space where both communities can engage in the activities and learn not only about their history, but the

different communities' history. Therefore, the project offers an opportunity to forge a path to a more educated society and, in time, a more cohesive and reconciled society;

- it is hoped that the Library space could be viewed as a *“community service very much embedded into the community”* and that it would provide a safe democratic space for community participation, while also increasing the numbers using the library to learn and educate on their history;
- the Cultural Heritage centre will offer a core service that reflects the history, culture and heritage of the area. A Peace Campus consultee stated that *“accessibility is the key, making sure the centre is accessible to all the communities in the area, where people can come and feel safe and comfortable”*;
- the importance of the museum was highlighted as it embodies a reflection of the shared and contrasting history, culture and heritage of the area; and
- the need for peace and reconciliation is slightly different in Monaghan as there aren't peace walls, or physical reminders of the conflict, but underneath the surface there are still people who are hurt and people who hold remorse. The campus provides the opportunity to address these issues formally in a safe and accepting way.

As the construction works associated with the project are not yet complete, the impact of the project is not observable at this stage. At present, the campus offers the communities it surrounds a future shared space where individuals from all backgrounds would be welcome and could engage with the services offered.

#### 4.7.5 Challenges and Key Learnings

As noted above, key challenges encountered by the project include:

- the Covid-19 pandemic, which resulted in a four-month delay on construction and contributed to price increases and supply chain challenges; and
- other external events such as Brexit and the Russian invasion of Ukraine, which have also impacted on project costs and the delay of materials.

Lessons learned to date include:

- the project's initial economic appraisal contained additional provisioning for potential cost increases (including through the inclusion of Optimism Bias and contingencies). However, despite this, the total project cost increased by c. €5 million as a direct result of external factors impacting upon the project. The significant impacts of Covid-19 were not foreseeable at the outset of the project, however, there may be merit in reviewing how risks are assessed for future capital projects to take account of external shocks in the economy.

#### 4.7.6 Next Steps

The project has a significant amount of its budget left to spend and has managed to overcome Covid-19 induced supply and labour market issues. The capital project is on track to be finished by the Q2 2023 target.



*Impact Case Study 10: Monaghan City Council*

## Youth Facility

As part of the Peace Campus (capital works ongoing), the Youth Facility will enable young people of all backgrounds to meet and engage on a cross-community basis. It will be run in partnership with Foróige – a national youth organisation keen on providing the services directly to young people focusing on integration, cross-border and engagement peace across the community.

This case study highlights the ambitions of the project, as articulated by a Foróige representative.

The Foróige representative identified that there are plans to host social and public events aimed at understanding differing cultures and cultural perspectives, one-to-one mentoring sessions and small group work projects. There are also plans to use modern technology to help the engagement of young people, through virtual reality or robotics, to illustrate the common interests that young people have.

It is believed that the Youth Facility and the wider Campus could be a beacon of hope in terms of relationships between the two communities. It is hoped that, through the use of the facility, young people and the wider community will develop a better understanding of one another and develop friendships, and that wider social, cultural and economic benefits will be produced.

***“The outcomes I want for young people are about making friendships and having shared experiences, understanding themselves and developing conflict resolution skills, being able to engage personally and socially with people of similar ages”.***

The stakeholder emphasised the importance of the youth facility being perceived as belonging to the community. By doing so, it was felt that the facility’s cross-community engagement and impact would be maximised.

***“This is about uniting a community that has come from the troubles. The hope is that they can see that the facility is part of the community, rather than being for the community”.***





*Impact Case Study 11: Monaghan City Council*

## Library

As part of the Peace Campus (capital works ongoing), the Library space will capture the literary heritage of the area and will enable courageous conversations to unite and inspire the community to accept all forms of identity.

This case study draws from one potential beneficiary's aspirations for the project. The stakeholder views the current county library as

***“A community service very much embedded into the community and useful in providing a safe democratic space for community participation”.***

The individual envisages the new county Library, which is to be incorporated within the Peace Campus, as providing an opportunity to: deliver an even more integral safe space for the community; increase user numbers; and increase the potential for users to learn about their history, both shared and contrasting.

The concept of using the Campus as a shared space means that the attendees should feel comfortable to go from one section to another. The library is intending to partner up with the youth facility to engage with the younger community and to be used as a catalyst for cross-community engagement.

There is also a strong emphasis for adult life-learning at the library as education and knowledge are great pathways to strong cultural and cooperative engagement. Therefore, this campus has its own unique pathway for success.

***“I’m not aware of any library in Ireland that has the opportunity to provide the platform for social engagement and filter through a campus designed for peace”.***

*Impact Case Study 12: Monaghan City Council*



## Cultural Heritage Centre

As part of the Peace Campus (capital works ongoing), the Cultural Heritage Centre will hold exhibitions and activities, sharing the history of the Ulster Scots, Orange Order and stories of partition, which will raise awareness and understanding of different narratives within the community.

This case study draws from one potential beneficiary's aspirations for the project. The stakeholder reported that:

***“The Museum is a collection that reflects the history of the area, culture and heritage. We want to make it accessible for the many different communities that constitute the county, a space where they feel safe and comfortable”.***

The stakeholder is hopeful that the Heritage Centre will be transformative for the region, providing a catalyst for change. They highlighted that the museum will ensure that it is reflective of both sides of the conflict, thereby, encouraging all communities to visit. The project also has the potential to hold events where the campus can attract the public to the Museum and see collections in more informal and passive way.

The stakeholder highlighted that the Centre will also be committed to outwardly promoting the history of Monaghan and the wider region, rather than shying away from it.

***“The stories we are telling are not just of Monaghan, but also the border region which goes back thousands of years”.***

It is hoped that through learning about local history and heritage, the Centre will contribute to an increased sense of pride in the area and that, in time, the education and understanding obtained by users will contribute to a more peaceful and cohesive society.



## 5. CONCLUSIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

### 5.1 Conclusions

This section of the report identifies common learning from the case studies, through which lessons learned and recommendations are derived.

#### 5.1.1 Building Positive Relations

The reports associated with this evaluation have provided four case studies relating to Building Positive Relations projects, namely: the CCGBC project; BST's Derry Model; Irish Football Association's (IFA) Sport Uniting Communities project; and the Housing Association Integration Project.

All four projects highlight the formation of interpersonal relationships between participants from different communities and political identities i.e. relationships that might not have developed without the existence of the PEACE IV funded activity. The projects also suggest the emergence of positive attitudinal changes between PUL, CNR and BME participants, increased understanding of differences and improved community cohesion. In particular, the results of baseline and post-participation survey data from the CCGBC project suggests positive change across a number of the projects workstreams.

Additionally, the CCGBC project has had an impact on bringing about an increased understanding and tolerance towards BME community member and the BST project enhanced cross-border cooperation and aided in understanding the legacy of the past through their workshops with non-local British veterans.

Whilst most workstream activities performed well in relation to their output targets (or were progressing well towards them at the time of review), a noticeable exception was the CCGBC Key Institutions workstream. The reason given for this underperformance in output was the deeply rooted negative attitudes towards the Council and/or Government organisations in general. This indicates that there are still significant challenges relating to attitudes towards government/ public sector institutions within some communities.

#### **Contribution to the Achievement of the Objective (Building Positive Relations)**

Where attitudinal and behavioural change data is available, there is evidence of a positive direction of travel. For example, the CCGBC programme saw a 4-5 percentage point increase from baseline in the proportion of participants who felt relations between Protestants and Catholics had improved (in last five years) and would continue to improve (in five years' time). Similar positive trends are shown in the Sport Uniting Communities project.

The programme has also built the capacity of local leaders, whether that be in encouraging engagement between representatives of key local institutions, embedding good relations community champions in housing association accommodation, or providing leaders with toolkits to understand how conflict transformation and reconciliation has been achieved.

#### **Impact of the Programme as a Catalyst for Lasting Change in Promoting Peace and Reconciliation**

All of the projects either met or exceeded their overall participation targets, reflecting a willingness of local communities to engage with those from other backgrounds and in good

relations activities. Consultation with the programme lead also highlighted that the projects supported the development of strong cross community relationships.

As noted above, the projects have built the capacity of local leaders through the programme activity. This may act as a catalyst for the impacts achieved to date to be sustained and act as a catalyst for lasting change.

### **The contribution of the programme to EU 2020 objectives and the horizontal principles of equality and sustainable development**

A specific target of this SO was to build relations between people from the PUL and CNR communities and also with BME communities. Given the strong participation rates demonstrated by the projects, it is clear that there was equal opportunity for participants to access the programme.

#### **5.1.2 Shared Spaces and Services (Capital)**

Three capital based Shared Spaces and Services projects have been reviewed as part of the evaluation, namely: the BCC Connecting Open Spaces project; the NMDDC Beyond Tolerance project; and MCC's Peace Campus.

Assessment of the impact of these capital development projects has been constrained due to delays in their development and associated delays in supporting programme-based activity i.e. at the time of writing, only certain elements of the NMDDC Beyond Tolerance project and the BCC Forth Meadow Greenway were complete and the Monaghan Peace Campus was not completed or operational.

The case studies highlight that:

- in relation to the four work packages delivered by the NMDDC Beyond Tolerance project (Flags, Emblems and Bonfires Protocol programme, Ex-Military Sites – Ballykinlar, Capacity Building Programme for Developing Shared Spaces and Saintfield Community Centre), the project has supported local people to engage in local history unencumbered by political narrative, providing stories of commonality; and
- the works delivered to date by the BCC Forth Meadow Greenway (Connecting Open Spaces project) have supported engagement with local people and encouraged them to travel into areas they otherwise would not have.

#### **Contribution to the Achievement of the Objective (Shared Spaces and Services)**

There is strong evidence that the shared space projects have, through engagement and programme activity with communities, directly addressed a lack of cross-community interaction and that they have provided the potential to support attitudinal change among beneficiaries. The projects offer an opportunity for people to visit places they previously would not have ventured, and they support the beginning the process of breaking down pre-conceptions of space as belonging to one community or another.

#### **Impact of the Programme as a Catalyst for Lasting Change in Promoting Peace and Reconciliation**

Through the provision of neutral shared facilities and space, the projects offer considerable potential as being a catalyst for cross-community development. To date the NMDDC Beyond

Tolerance project has demonstrated some progress in changing attitudes and forging cross-community relationships. This has included intergenerational work, which has ensured that young people develop a deeper understanding of the commonality of the communities, which also adds further potential to support lasting change.

### **The contribution of the programme to EU 2020 objectives and the horizontal principles of equality and sustainable development**

The programme-based activity delivered has been inclusive to all backgrounds and has sought to facilitate direct engagement between communities. Capital developments have been designed to ensure equality of access and use and with sustainable principles in mind (e.g., the greenway providing an alternative transport option and the design of the MCC Peace Campus in line with appropriate sustainability considerations), which are in alignment with the sustainable growth objective of EU 2020.

### **5.1.3 Children and Young People**

Two Children and Young People projects have been reviewed by the evaluation i.e. the Sligo County Council Children and Young People project and the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council Children and Young People project. The projects were presented as snapshot case studies in the 2019 and 2020 reports, respectively.

At the time of evaluation, the Sligo County Council project was progressing well, with one of the five programmes completed and the other four underway. In relation to the 'Capacity and Inclusion through Sport' workstream, which aimed to improve relations through sports-based activity, interviews with the Council identified that the project 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 (i.e. sports) has worked very well, appealing in particular to those who would not normally engage.

In 2020, when the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council project was reviewed, the project had enabled children and young people to interact, socialise and play sport on a cross-community basis. Focus groups undertaken by the project identified the following qualitative impacts:

- the programmes were successful in building relationships and increasing social interaction amongst the young people, with young people giving qualitative evidence that they were still in regular contact with other participants; and
- when the project participants were asked to consider the impact of the programme on cross-community relations, there was significant positive feedback, highlighting that community background was not a factor in building relationships.

### **Contribution to the Achievement of the Objective (Children and Young People)**

The projects reviewed for the Children and Young People SO highlight engagement with significant numbers of young people, with close to 1,000 young people engaging in the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council project, and just a year into project, 216 young people participating in the Sligo County Council project. This shows a significant interest from participants in engaging with those from other backgrounds.

### **Impact of the Programme as a Catalyst for Lasting Change in Promoting Peace and Reconciliation**

The case studies identified qualitative evidence of positive impacts for young people, identifying that participants in the Fermanagh and Omagh project were building relationship and remained in regular contact with other participants. The sustained contact suggests that the project may produce a lasting change for those participants. The Sligo County Council project also identified qualitative evidence that participants expected community relations to be better or about the same.

### **The contribution of the programme to EU 2020 objectives and the horizontal principles of equality and sustainable development**

The funded projects and activities delivered have all encouraged young people to partake in activities on a cross-community basis, develop soft skills and build respect for diversity.

## **5.1.4 Victims and Survivors**

Work delivered by the 'Provision of Services for Victims and Survivors' project focuses on providing health and wellbeing, research, training and advocacy support services for the victims and survivors of the troubles.

As highlighted above, as of March 2022 the project had not delivered its full outputs for the Advocacy Support Programme, Health and Wellbeing Casework Network, the Research and Improved Regulation work package and the Workforce Training programme. The Covid-19 pandemic and the absence of Stormont House Agreement institutions were identified as key factors impacting on output delivery.

While the project has not yet fully delivered its target outputs, it has been able to deliver positive outcomes in legacy and cross border care for victims and survivors, namely:

- through direct engagement with victims and survivors (e.g., through support provided by the health and wellbeing caseworkers), the project addresses the legacy of the troubles by providing pathways towards healing;
- WSAS scoring identified that the majority of the beneficiaries (i.e. ranging from 62% - 80%) reported that they had experienced an improvement in in relation to social isolation, trauma-focused physical activity, literacy and numeracy and volunteering;
- the project's intergenerational work (e.g., through the research projects undertaken) has helped to address the legacy of the Troubles in a holistic and multi-generational manner; and
- whilst not directly engaging in cross-border work, by commissioning a needs analysis for the border region, the project has highlighted the fact that the provision of services for victims and survivors is an issue that stretches beyond Northern Ireland.

### **Contribution to the Achievement of the Objective (Victims and Survivors)**

This longitudinal assessment of the VSS project has developed strong evidence that the activity delivered by VSS has contributed significantly to the achievement of Specific Objective 3 through the range of programme activity and research delivered. This is reinforced by the positive impacts recorded through the WSAS scoring (as per Section 4.5).

### **Impact of the Programme as a Catalyst for Lasting Change in Promoting Peace and Reconciliation**

The activity undertaken to address the legacy of the past, including through the inter-generational research, will contribute directly to promoting peace and reconciliation. The research projects should produce an evidence base through which programmes / support can be designed to support and promote a lasting change.

### **The contribution of the programme to EU 2020 objectives and the horizontal principles of equality and sustainable development**

The activity delivered has been inclusive to all backgrounds, including targeting cross-border needs through the research assignment.

## **5.1.5 Summary of Key Findings**

Whilst programme level monitoring data (as captured by the NI Life and Times and Young Life and Times surveys) suggests that progress against a number of the PEACE IV result indicators has proved to be challenging (refer to Section 3.5), the case studies profiled within this and the previous case study reports highlight that at a project level, positive impacts have been demonstrated and that the projects are progressing positively towards achieving output and result indicators. This suggests that the intervention logic for the programme has been working as intended for these projects, with progress towards theme objectives.

## **5.2 Overarching Programme Monitoring Issues Identified**

The following issues have been identified across the evaluation period, including within previous evaluation reports, with regard to capturing programme impact:

- **lack of clarity or absence of targets:** in some instances, the value or units of measurement for output indicator targets were not clear. In addition, some of the case studies did not have identified targets for their result indicators (as the Commission did not require this data to be collected), limiting the ability to assess impact;
- as this was not required by the Commission to be collected, **baseline data** was often not available for result indicators. This was due to baseline surveys not being conducted at the outset of some activities. This has resulted in challenges with attributing impact and measuring change in impacts; and
- related to this, it was reported that project partners focused largely on reporting **output indicators** rather than result indicators (due to the Commission's monitoring requirement for regular output indicator updates, but no regular requirement for result indicators). This focus on output indicators has limited the availability of data to inform impact assessment as result indicators were not monitored as robustly (as there was no requirement to do so at a project-level), and, therefore, the potential to assess the level of change sought by the SO.

Under the framework for monitoring and evaluation set out by the Commission for the 2014-2022 programming period, and which applied to PEACE IV Programme, output indicators were monitored at the project level whereas the result indicators at the programme level only.

As a result, there was a gap in measuring the individual impact of projects as this was not a requirement of the monitoring framework.

Some projects tried to fill this gap by collecting result data on an ad hoc basis; however, this has led to challenges in measuring the impact of individual projects.

### 5.3 Lessons Learned and Recommendations

Throughout this research, there have been some key lessons learnt when it comes to the delivery of the projects. The main issues identified during this project have been: supply side issues due to the Covid-19 pandemic; challenges managing significant numbers of stakeholders; and limitations with the metrics selected to measure impact.

The following recommendations have been developed and refined through the iterations of evaluation reports:

- **data collection:** it is recommended that in order to ease the collection and reporting of impact data:
  - future programmes should consider the use of **digital survey methods** (i.e., for pre- and post-participation surveys) to assess changes in attitude and perception. This is likely to improve response rates and reduce risk of non-completion due to external factors (e.g., Covid-19, non-attendance at sessions when data collection is taking place), reduce administrative burden of processing and scanning responses, and enable ease of access for evaluators;
  - data collection / monitoring and evaluation plans should be **practical and deliverable**; and
  - projects should plan to collect **baseline data** prior to commencing any programme delivery.
- it is recommended that in relation to **programme indicators**:
  - that for future programmes, an **agreed project monitoring and evaluation plan, process and systems** are implemented from the outset;
  - consideration should be given to a requirement for projects to give regular updates on **result indicator** progress. There has been a focus by projects on reporting against output indicators and impact (as assessed by result indicators) has not always been recorded. Furthermore, project-specific impact indicators should be developed that are aligned to the programme-level Result Indicators; and
  - consideration should be given to the refinement of **output indicators** as the targets against these indicators are sometimes not easily understood by the projects or assessed, limiting how much evaluators can assess impact.

- with regard **local authority Shared Spaces projects**:
  - these projects reported the most concern relating to indicators and measuring impact. It is recommended that, based on their feedback, that the result indicator pertaining to **neighbourhood neutrality** is rethought, as this term carries too much weight to be achieved in the areas that programmes are delivered in; and
  - **capital projects** are beginning to deliver impact as the projects conclude, however, projects are reporting difficulty in measuring impacts. Consideration should be given to how this impact is captured in future programmes.
- in relation to projects that have a **large quantity of stakeholders**:
  - having many stakeholders often leads to delays and overspending, which in turn delays the delivery of the project and its intended impacts, as was the case with the Connecting Open Spaces project. The complexities associated with managing large numbers of stakeholders should be adequately reflected in project scheduling and budgeting and an adjustment for optimism bias should be applied. This will help manage expectations among stakeholders and may lead to better project outcomes.
- the impact of the **Covid-19 pandemic**:
  - the Covid 19 pandemic was an issue for a number of projects, however, it impacted capital development projects acutely, as it created supply side issues and labour shortages. It also led to some issues of delivering in-person services due to social distancing and lockdown restrictions. Whilst the Covid-19 pandemic could not have been foreseen or accounted for, it highlights the need for effective risk management and agile project management to ensure that projects can quickly adjust.





# APPENDIX 1: FUNDED PROJECTS

**Table A1.1: Funded Projects by SO<sup>26</sup>**

SO	Lead Partner	Project Name	ERDF + Match
<b>2.2 Children and Young People (0-24) – Local Authorities</b>			
2.2	Louth County Council	Louth CYP	€667,025
2.2	Derry City & Strabane District Council	Derry & Strabane CYP	€1,673,664
2.2	Ards & North Down Borough Council	Ards & North Down CYP	€750,666
2.2	Fermanagh & Omagh District Council	Fermanagh & Omagh CYP	€634,858
2.2	Mid & East Antrim Borough Council	Mid & East Antrim CYP	€776,944
2.2	Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon Borough Council	ACBCBC CYP	€1,285,318
2.2	Mid Ulster District Council	Mid Ulster CYP	€835,006
2.2	Sligo County Council	Sligo CYP	€180,537
2.2	Donegal County Council	Donegal CYP	€1,166,471
2.2	Monaghan County Council	Monaghan CYP	€638,545
2.2	Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council	Antrim & Newtownabbey CYP	€711,993
2.2	Newry, Mourne and Down District Council	Newry, Mourne & Down CYP	€1,179,060
2.2	Cavan County Council	Cavan CYP	€657,471
2.2	Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council	Causeway Coast & Glens CYP	€946,105
2.2	Leitrim County Council	Leitrim CYP	€387,158
2.2	Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council	Lisburn & Castlereagh CYP	€629,028
2.2	Belfast City Council	Belfast CYP	€3,614,896
<b>3.1 Shared Spaces – Capital Development</b>			
3.1	Monaghan County Council	Peace Campus	€19,980,856
3.1	Police Service of Northern Ireland	Newforge Community Development Trust	€8,631,535
3.1	Mid Ulster District Council	Connecting Pomeroy	€8,997,886
3.1	Derry City & Strabane District Council	Waterside Shared Village	€8,057,293
3.1	Causeway Enterprise Agency	Courthouse Shared Space Creative Hub	€7,852,762
3.1	Belfast City Council	Black Mountain Shared Spaces Project	€7,101,769
3.1	Donegal County Council	Riverine 2018	€11,773,771
3.1	Belfast City Council	Shared Women's Centre (Shankill)	€8,437,474
<b>3.2 Shared Spaces and Services – Local Authorities</b>			
3.2	Louth County Council	Louth SSS	€1,409,143

<sup>26</sup> The figures in Table 3.1 and those in Appendix 1 (Table A1:1) differ. This is because Table 3.1 relates to proposed financial allocations across Specific Objectives before project level decisions were made. Table A1:1 shows specific project allocations after Steering Committee decision. These differences occur most notably within Shared Space Capital Development (€52.9m in Table 3.1 v €80.8m in Table A1:1).

SO	Lead Partner	Project Name	ERDF + Match
3.2	Derry City & Strabane District Council	Derry & Strabane SSS	€2,827,885
3.2	Ards & North Down Borough Council	Ards & North Down SSS	€1,506,673
3.2	Fermanagh & Omagh District Council	Fermanagh & Omagh SSS	€1,506,369
3.2	Mid & East Antrim Borough Council	Mid & East Antrim SSS	€1,312,752
3.2	Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon Borough Council	ACBCBC SSS	€3,097,425
3.2	Mid Ulster District Council	Mid Ulster SSS	€1,472,266
3.2	Sligo County Council	Sligo SSS	€394,033
3.2	Donegal County Council	Donegal SSS	€2,385,130
3.2	Monaghan County Council	Monaghan SSS	€1,135,592
3.2	Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council	Antrim & Newtownabbey SSS	€3,443,729
3.2	Newry, Mourne and Down District Council	Newry, Mourne & Down SSS	€1,992,144
3.2	Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council	Causeway Coast & Glens SSS	€1,598,573
3.2	Leitrim County Council	Leitrim SSS	€843,799
3.2	Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council	Lisburn & Castlereagh SSS	€1,062,829
3.2	Cavan County Council	Cavan SSS	€1,110,941
3.2	Belfast City Council	Belfast SSS	€6,103,490
<b>3.3 Shared Spaces and Services – Victims &amp; Survivors</b>			
3.3	Victims & Survivors Service	Victims and Survivors Service	€17,634,250
<b>4.1 Building Positive Relations – Local Authorities</b>			
4.1	Louth County Council	Louth BPR	€1,430,984
4.1	Ards & North Down Borough Council	Ards & North Down BPR	€1,683,572
4.1	Derry City & Strabane District Council	Derry & Strabane BPR	€3,462,660
4.1	Fermanagh & Omagh District Council	Fermanagh & Omagh BPR	€1,226,059
4.1	Mid & East Antrim Borough Council	Mid & East Antrim BPR	€1,607,426
4.1	Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon Borough Council	ACBCBC BPR	€2,659,207
4.1	Mid Ulster District Council	Mid Ulster BPR	€1,633,077
4.1	Sligo County Council	Sligo BPR	€404,825
4.1	Donegal County Council	Donegal BPR	€1,994,606
4.1	Monaghan County Council	Monaghan BPR	€1,331,117
4.1	Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council	Antrim & Newtownabbey BPR	€1,605,263
4.1	Cavan County Council	Cavan BPR	€1,360,412
4.1	Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council	Causeway Coast & Glens BPR	€1,923,503
4.1	Newry, Mourne and Down District Council	Newry, Mourne & Down BPR	€2,437,667
4.1	Leitrim County Council	Leitrim BPR	€590,976

SO	Lead Partner	Project Name	ERDF + Match
4.1	Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council	Lisburn & Castlereagh BPR	€1,301,404
4.1	Belfast City Council	Belfast BPR	€7,479,968
<b>4.2 Building Positive Relations – Regional Projects</b>			
4.2	Bloody Sunday Trust	Conflict Transformation and Peacebuilding Project	€536,715
4.2	Co-Operation Ireland	OPEN Doors	€1,666,045
4.2	Youth Action NI	Youth Network for Peace (YNP)	€1,079,077
4.2	NI Federation of Housing Associations	Housing Association Integration Project	€1,092,576
4.2	NIACRO	Get Real	€763,280
4.2	British Red Cross	PRISM - Promoting Reconciliation & Integration through Safe Mediation	€682,249
4.2	Training for Women Network (TWN)	Peace and Conflict Transformation Project (PACT)	€999,653
4.2	NI Housing Executive	Reading Rooms "Listen, Share, Change"	€1,625,838
4.2	Glencree Centre for Peace & Reconciliation	Addressing the Legacy of Inter-Communal Violence through Facilitated Dialogue	€1,237,627
4.2	Irish Football Association	Sport Uniting Communities	€1,802,396
4.2	Bryson Group	DARE to Lead Change	€843,691
4.2	Lifestart Foundation	Shaping Ourselves and Our Children: Building the foundations of good community relations in family life (SOOC)	€1,264,810
4.2	Ashton Community Trust	Building Positive Relations	€1,198,399
4.2	Extern	Extern Positive Learning	€1,884,467
4.2	Politics Plus	The Next Chapter	€1,453,225
4.2	Nerve Centre	Making The Future	€1,829,815
4.2	Rural Development Council (RDC)	Rural Respecting Difference Programme (RRDP)	€1,444,373
4.2	Migrant Rights Centre Ireland	Crossing Borders Breaking Boundaries	€1,161,251
4.2	NW Play Resource Centre	Theatre Peace Building Academy	€884,119
4.2	Action Mental Health	Our Generation	€6,121,351
4.2	Co-operation Ireland	Future Innovators	€996,437

Source: SEUPB (October 2022)

## APPENDIX 2: LONGITUDINAL CASE STUDIES

**Project survey results presented in Appendix 2 have been provided by the projects and it has not been possible to verify the results. Data availability in relation to population, sample size and response rates (for both baseline and post-project surveys) is inconsistent and incomplete. Consequently, it has not been possible to ascertain the methodological robustness of the results. The data is included within the appendix as it represented the best information available to the authors at the time.**

### **Belfast City Council: Shared Spaces and Services (Connecting Open Spaces)**

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 percentage<sup>27</sup>.

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

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<sup>27</sup> "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).

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).

A summary of the project is presented in Table A2.1.

**Table A2.1: Project overview**

<b>Applicant:</b>	<b>Belfast City Council</b>
Project	Belfast City Council PIV Local Action Plan – SSS (Shared Spaces and Services)
Project Partners:	Belfast City Council (Peace IV Programme)
Relevant Specific Objective	Action 3.2 – The creation of a more cohesive society through an increased provision of shared spaces and services
Amount awarded by PIV	£5,172,449.12 / €6,103,489.96
Duration	November 2014 – June 2022

Table A2.2 details the budget allocated to each work package for the programme.

**Table A2.2: BCC SSS PEACE IV Budget Allocations**

<b>Work Package<sup>28</sup></b>	<b>Budget Allocation</b>
WP1: Springfield Dam	£726,419.17
WP2: Route Network Development	£3,252,207.96
WP3: SSS Resource Allocation	£72,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>£4,050,627.13</b> (figure excludes management and communication costs)

The project's main development sites / locations are detailed in Table A2.3.

<sup>28</sup> Management and Communication budget costs not included

**Table A2.3: The current main sites / locations of the route:**

Section	Current sites / locations of activity	Work Planned
Section 1: Glencairn to Ballygomartin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clarendon Playing Fields</li> </ul>	Glencairn Park will see improvements including a new entrance at Forthriver Road and a new 3m wide path linking Glencairn Park to Glencairn Road. There will be improvements to Forthriver Linear Park's existing path, replacement of fencing at Clarendon playing fields and the refurbishment of the footbridge at Forthriver Way. New paths installed in Glencairn and Forthriver Parks will include path lighting, drainage, bins and seating areas.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Forthriver Linear Park</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Glencairn Park</li> </ul>	
Section 2: Forth River / Springfield Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Woodvale Park</li> </ul>	Plans will see the creation of a new shared space including walking and cycling paths between the lower Forth River and Springfield Road. New paths will also connect the space to Paisley Park and Woodvale Park. Path lighting, rest areas, benches, bins, street furniture, and soft landscaping will revitalise the existing environment and habitat
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paisley Park / Braidwater</li> </ul>	
Section 3: Springfield Road to Falls Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Springfield Dam and Park</li> </ul>	This section includes the £1.2 million redevelopment of Springfield Dam Park, including a pedestrian bridge, entrance enhancement, pathways, viewing platforms and a new event space. Along the route, as well as pathways, wayfinding signage and street furniture, work will see enhancements to existing junctions to improve crossings for pedestrians and cyclists.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Innovation Factory / Invest NI site</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Springfield Road</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• City Cemetery</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Falls Park</li> </ul>	
Section 4: Bog Meadows	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bog Meadows</li> </ul>	Pathways within and connecting to the nature reserve will be enhanced and widened, with additional planting and lighting added. The route will connect to Broadway, where a new, welcoming entrance will be added.
Section 5: Westlink to City Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Belfast Transport Hub beside Great Victoria Street train station &amp; Europa Bus Centre</li> </ul>	This section will see light touch improvements including new wayfinding signage installed and improvements to the existing path.



Changes were made to the main sites / locations of the originally proposed route. 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 originally planned, 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 has reported that the changes to sites/locations will not impact negatively on project outcomes/ impacts, instead, the changes have been designed to ensure that impacts are maximised via subsequent project implementation and delivery.

Alongside the capital development, the project also includes a programme of community activities and events linked to key sections of the network, to bring communities together and use the new shared space. The types of programmes planned include:

- **shared history, heritage and identity sessions:** local people will come together to share little known facts and stories about their local areas. These stories will be used on interpretative panels along the greenway and compiled in a booklet;
- **youth engagement activities:** young people, from all community backgrounds, will be given the opportunity to discuss and address issues that affect them, with the aim of helping them make informed decisions about the future;
- **community led activity:** community groups involved with the development and use of the greenway will be able to apply for up to £6,000 of funding to deliver cross community activity along the greenway;
- **volunteer programme:** 60 local people will be given the opportunity to train as volunteer ambassadors, cycle or walking leads, history tour guides and nature guides; and
- **shared community events:** events such as family fun days in parks connected to the Greenway.

## Progress to date

### Brand identity

The name and brand Identity “*Forth Meadow Community Greenway*” with the strap line ‘*on common ground*’ was agreed and ratified in March 2020. This brand identity will link the network together to give a common visual element to each individual project.

### Shared Space Dialogue and Engagement

To engage the community and key community stakeholders in the project and its desired outcomes, a shared space expert was subcontracted to conduct community workshops and one-to-one meetings with key community leaders to produce a detailed report and action plan detailing effective management strategies of shared space and actions for improving cross-community relationships. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the planned programme of dialogue and engagement was interrupted, and instead there was a shift to virtual engagement, with 4 virtual

workshops scheduled in late June and early July 2020, with 14 community representatives registered. Furthermore, a series of one-to-one meetings with individual community representatives and BCC officers, took place in August / September 2020 and an online survey gathered 251 responses, 81% (204 people) identifying as local residents, which was followed up by an online webinar. At the time of writing this case study, the contractor is preparing the final report for presentation.

### Governance

Viatac Limited were contracted to deliver a Forth Meadow Community Greenway governance co-design project and submitted an interim report for activity for the period January to March 2022. During this period, they conducted online discussions with key stakeholders in January 2022, sharing the emerging ideas and possible models, getting feedback and further input, and then moving onto in-person discussions during February 2022. In February and March 2022, there were open workshops with stakeholders and project delivery partners, to explore and develop a governance model. There was also an online session with council officers, in January 2022, to discuss views on the emerging governance proposals, and to identify problem areas and potential ideas.

### Springfield Dam

The Springfield Dam works was expected to begin by late summer 2019 but commenced in February 2020. Works have progressed at the Springfield Dam site with the completion of the Dam and Park in December 2020. The Causeway and pathways within the park were completed in August 2020 and the Modular building installed in early October 2020. The site was handed over to the Council from contractors in December 2020. Though this aspect of the project is complete, due to Covid-19 restrictions, an official opening ceremony has been delayed.

### Route Network Projects

Construction of the **route network** commenced in June 2021. **Section 1** (Clarendon, Glencairn and Forth River) has been completed and has been handed over to the Council. **Section 2** (Springfield Lands and Innovation Factory) was delayed by an objection and judicial review and is now at the stage of commencing construction. This stage is a critical element to link up the Greenway sections. **Section 3** (Falls Park) was due to complete in July 2022, but materials issues has caused minor delays, but should be completed August / September 2022. **Section 4** (Bog Meadows) commenced in February 2022 and work is being split over three phases to minimise disruption, and Section 5 (Broadway to the Transport Hub) has now had planning applications submitted.

### Shared Space Programming

Although Covid-19 has caused some disruption to the programme side of this project, there has been progress in some programmes, as detailed below:

- **Narratives for Interpretative Panels:** A consortium of Mediation NI and the Osborne Partnership, are to deliver a project that will gather local stories and history, for 17 interpretative panels along the Greenway. The project will run November 2020 to December 2021. The project seeks to identify and engage a wide range of groups / people, on a cross-

community basis, from the communities around the Forth Meadow Community Greenway and develop, plan and deliver a series of facilitated sessions that look at the shared history, heritage and identity of these communities, engaging with 300 people on an intergenerational basis. It also will gather comments, stories, and aspects of shared history around the theme of “on common ground” to be developed into interpretative panels.

- **Pilot Youth Civic Education Project:** Partnering with Clonard Monastery, a pilot youth programme commenced in August 2019, engaging young people to work alongside BCC staff in the Springfield Dam Innovation Factory and Invest NI site to address antisocial behaviour. The project had a target of 30 young people participating for a minimum of 26 contact hours, involving outreach work that addressed youth issues (e.g., drug abuse, suicide, violence). 30 young people were successfully recruited to participate in cross-community group work; however, Covid-19 restrictions meant that the project finished mid-March. 26 participants achieved between 20-26 contact hours, 2 achieved 18 and 1 achieved 16. The contract value was £21,970.00; however, the final payment came to £19,746.00 as due to the Covid-19 lockdown, the project was not able to host a planned residential with the participants and so this cost was deducted. Final payment has been processed and project can now be closed. Further youth programmes were planned, but tenders to deliver this received no response.
- **Lanark Way Fitness Project:** Partnering with the Clonard Neighbourhood Development Partnership, this project commenced in November 2019 with a target of 20 weeks of cross-community fitness and good relations / shared space sessions, comprising of two sessions per week. 4 sessions focussed on good relations and group walking explored the shared spaces network in each other’s communities. 20 women met twice a week for fitness sessions until Covid-19 lockdown. Project activity finished in March 2020 with all targets met.
- **Volunteer Training:** Sustrans was subcontracted to deliver volunteer cycle leads training, aiming to train 12 local individuals to lead groups of varying ages and abilities along the greenway. This will inspire and support people to actively use the greenway and promote cross-community relationships between the volunteers. Sustrans will also train 12 walking leads aiming to set up local walking groups. Participants of both groups will have the opportunity of accredited mediation training. These training projects are now underway and are delivering walking / cycling activities. Other volunteer programmes including Local Ambassadors and Nature Guides have also commenced.
- **Animation:** Arts Ekta have been contracted to coordinate a programme of 20 public activities / events (4 large, 6 Medium and 10 small) that will bring people together on a cross community basis, positively promoting the Forth Meadow Community Greenway to all the communities along its network of footpaths, cycle paths, parks and shared open spaces, doing justice to its good relations goals and the ethos of being Welcoming, Accessible, of Good quality and Safe. The first large public event took place in Springfield Park on 5 March 2022, with approximately 1500 people attending, from communities along Forth Meadow Community Greenway and other parts of Belfast.

## Shared Space Resource Allocation

The purpose of the Shared Space resource allocation is to encourage and enable community projects to develop, encouraging community buy-in and ownership of the space. The exact nature of these projects is not outlined in the delivery plan, but are designed for community stakeholders to design, which the council will then provide the resource to deliver. The eligibility criteria for the resource allocation are that those eligible must have participated in some of the programming element of the project and deliver across two sites along the greenway. As such only one site (Springfield Dam) is finished, and due to Covid, there has been very little potential for programme activities to occur, so there are not yet eligible projects to receive this funding.

## Covid-19 Impact

Covid-19 negatively impacted both the capital development and programming aspects of the project. The onset of the pandemic and subsequent lockdown meant that site works at the Springfield Dam site were paused in March 2020, recommencing in May 2020. This led to a delay in the expected completion date of the capital project. Progress in the other capital projects and network route development was also impacted by the pandemic. Belfast City Council had to find alternative methods of liaising with design teams and contractors to limit negative impacts, including virtual meetings and extending application deadlines due to supply chain issues, business closures and reduced staffing.

The lockdown restrictions further impacted the programming elements of the project, with the dialogue and engagement consultant required to develop a revised project plan and move engagement activities to a virtual medium instead of the planned face-to-face approach. Covid-19 has also limited the potential for other programming activities including shared space events and an event marking the opening of Springfield Dam.

## Monitoring and Evaluation

The project has the following output / common indicators:

- local initiatives that facilitate sustained usage on a shared basis of public spaces; and
- open space created or rehabilitated in urban areas.

Impacts from the project are measured through the relevant result indicators:

- percentage of people who would define the neighbourhood where they live as neutral;
- percentage of people who prefer to live in a mixed religion environment; and
- percentage of people who would prefer to live in a neighbourhood with people of only their own religion.

Monitoring and evaluation activities will be undertaken to measure impact against the result indicators. As the capital projects are still ongoing and programming elements of the project still in early / pilot stages, Belfast City Council collected limited monitoring and evaluation information.

Discussions as to how best to capture the relevant data are still ongoing, however, some progress has been made with regard to monitoring and evaluation, see details below.

### **Evaluation Framework**

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 event 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 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 (m<sup>2</sup>).

#### **Result Indicators**

Belfast City Council have captured data relating to behavioural / attitudinal change. These have been captured as part of the programming elements of the project, with participants surveyed prior to and following engagement in a programme. Note: further information in relation to the methodology is limited.

The three result indicators for this programme are:

1. percentage of people who would define the neighbourhood where they live as neutral;
2. percentage of people who prefer to live in a mixed religion environment; and
3. percentage of people who would prefer to live in a neighbourhood with people of only their own religion.

As a target, the programme sought to achieve positive increase amongst 80% of participants for indicators 1 and 2 and decrease for indicator 3.

Table A2.4 presents, where available, the baseline and post-activity (final / end) results for the three result indicators for each work package. A survey of participants was undertaken through which respondents identified whether they agreed, disagreed or had no preference / neither agreed nor disagreed.

**Please note that the percentages reported in Table A2.4 may relate to different numbers of respondents across each of the questions. Specific responses to each individual question are not available.**

**Table A2.4: Result indicators by work package**

**NB: asterisks provided within columns relating to ‘Baseline position’ and/or ‘Final/end position’ align with further detail provided in the corresponding ‘Notes’ column**

<b>Result indicator(s)</b>	<b>Baseline position</b>	<b>Final / end position</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<b>SSS Community programmes (e.g., Lanark Way Fitness Project) – 20 respondents</b>			
Percentage of people who would define the neighbourhood where they live as neutral	*0% Agreed	**5% Agreed	*15% neither agreed nor disagreed ** 40% neither agreed nor disagreed
Percentage of people who prefer to live in a mixed religion environment	*20% Agreed	**0% Agreed	*30% had no preference **20% had no preference
Percentage of people who would prefer to live in a neighbourhood with people of only their own religion	*50% Agreed	**80% Agreed	* 30% had no preference **20% had no preference
<b>SSS Community programmes (Youth Civic Education Project) – 28 respondents</b>			
Percentage of people who would define the neighbourhood where they live as neutral	32% Agreed		Project finished early due to COVID
Percentage of people who prefer to live in a mixed religion environment	54% Agreed		Project finished early due to COVID
Percentage of people who would prefer to live in a neighbourhood with people of only their own religion	46% Agreed		Project finished early due to COVID
<b>SSS Community programmes (Springfield Park Men’s Shed) – 5 respondents</b>			
Percentage of people who would define the neighbourhood where they live as neutral	80% Agreed	* 60% Agreed	* 40% neither agreed nor disagreed.
Percentage of people who prefer to live in a mixed religion environment	40% Agreed	0%	
Percentage of people who would prefer to live in a neighbourhood with people of only their own religion	40% Agreed	80% Agreed	
<b>SSS Community programmes (Volunteer Walk Leads) – 7 respondents</b>			
Percentage of people who would define the neighbourhood where they live as neutral	75% Agreed	* 60% Agreed	* 40% neither agreed nor disagreed



Result indicator(s)	Baseline position	Final / end position	Notes
			<i>Only 37% of the participants have completed the project with the remaining 63% still participating.</i>
Percentage of people who prefer to live in a mixed religion environment	*50% Agreed	40% Agreed	* 60% had no preference <i>Only 37% of the participants have completed the project with the remaining 63% still participating.</i>
Percentage of people who would prefer to live in a neighbourhood with people of only their own religion	17% Agreed	*0% Agreed	* 60% had no preference <i>Only 37% of the participants have completed the project with the remaining 63% still participating.</i>

#### SSS Community programmes (Volunteer Cycle Leads) – 17 respondents

Percentage of people who would define the neighbourhood where they live as neutral	69% Agreed	50% Agreed	<i>Only 37% of the participants have completed the project with the remaining 63% still participating.</i>
Percentage of people who prefer to live in a mixed religion environment	75% Agreed	*25% Agreed	* 75% had no preference <i>Only 37% of the participants have completed the project with the remaining 63% still participating.</i>
Percentage of people who would prefer to live in a neighbourhood with people of only their own religion	*0% Agreed	0% Agreed	* Four participants had no preference <i>Only 37% of the participants have completed the project with the remaining 63% still participating.</i>

#### SSS Community programmes (Volunteer Local Ambassadors) – 12 respondents

Percentage of people who would define the neighbourhood where they live as neutral	*88% Agreed	N/A	*12% had no preference – <i>this project is still running and therefore has no completers yet and end data.</i>
Percentage of people who prefer to live in a mixed religion environment	*75% Agreed	N/A	*13% have no preference – <i>this project is still running and</i>

Result indicator(s)	Baseline position	Final / end position	Notes
			<i>therefore has no completers yet and end data.</i>
Percentage of people who would prefer to live in a neighbourhood with people of only their own religion	*13% Agreed	N/A	*13% have no preference – <i>this project is still running and therefore has no completers yet and end data.</i>

#### SSS Community programmes (Nature Guides) – 8 respondents

Percentage of people who would define the neighbourhood where they live as neutral	*75% Agreed	N/A	*13% neither agreed nor disagreed – <i>this project is still running and therefore has no completers yet and end data.</i>
Percentage of people who prefer to live in a mixed religion environment	*50% Agreed	N/A	*38% had no preference – <i>this project is still running and therefore has no completers yet and end data.</i>
Percentage of people who would prefer to live in a neighbourhood with people of only their own religion	*13% Agreed	N/A	*38% had no preference – <i>this project is still running and therefore has no completers yet and end data.</i>

#### SSS Community programmes (Inter-generational Project) – 160 respondents

Percentage of people who would define the neighbourhood where they live as neutral	*59% Agreed	**54% Agreed	*11% neither agreed nor disagreed **21% neither agreed nor disagreed <i>This project is still running and therefore still has active participants.</i>
Percentage of people who prefer to live in a mixed religion environment	*42% Agreed	**43% Agreed	*30% had no preference **25% had no preference <i>This project is still running and therefore still has active participants.</i>
Percentage of people who would prefer to live in a neighbourhood with people of only their own religion	*28% Agreed	**32% Agreed	*30% had no preference **25% had no preference <i>This project is still running and therefore still has active participants.</i>

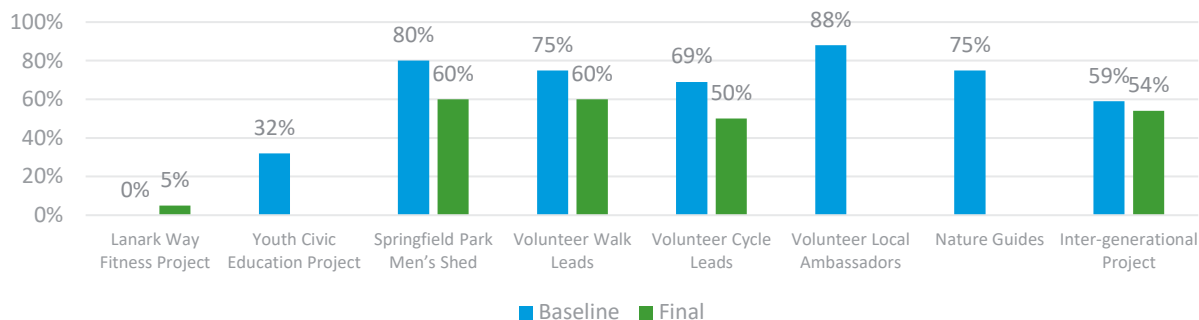
Result indicator(s)	Baseline position	Final / end position	Notes
<b>SSS Community programmes (Youth Engagement)</b>			
Percentage of people who would define the neighbourhood where they live as neutral	N/A	N/A	No participants recruited
Percentage of people who prefer to live in a mixed religion environment	N/A	N/A	No participants recruited
Percentage of people who would prefer to live in a neighbourhood with people of only their own religion	N/A	N/A	No participants recruited
<b>SSS Community programmes (Animation Co-ordinator)</b>			
Percentage of people who would define the neighbourhood where they live as neutral	N/A	N/A	1,534 people attended "Luminate" event on 5 March. 69% from community along the Greenway (55% CNR, 42% PUL and 3% as other)
Percentage of people who prefer to live in a mixed religion environment	N/A	N/A	
Percentage of people who would prefer to live in a neighbourhood with people of only their own religion	N/A	N/A	

Note: further detail relating to population and sample sizes is not available and it is not clear what proportion of respondents completed both baseline and final questionnaires. Specific dates relating to surveys were not available.

As highlighted in Table A2.4, the desired positive direction of travel has not been achieved at this point in time, with the majority of project level indicators displaying a negative result relative to baseline. However, community tensions have been heightened as a result of political instability and debate surrounded the Northern Ireland Protocol, which may explain these findings. Consultation with the programme lead highlighted that *"all too often you see what happens at Stormont reflected on the ground"*.

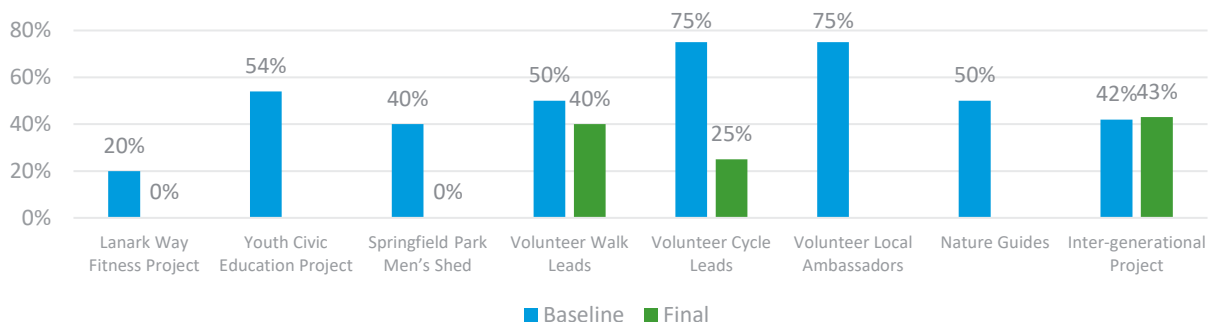
The following three graphs visually present changes between baseline and 'final' responses from the beneficiaries of specific project workstreams.

**Figure A2.1: Percentage of people who would define the neighbourhood where they live as neutral**



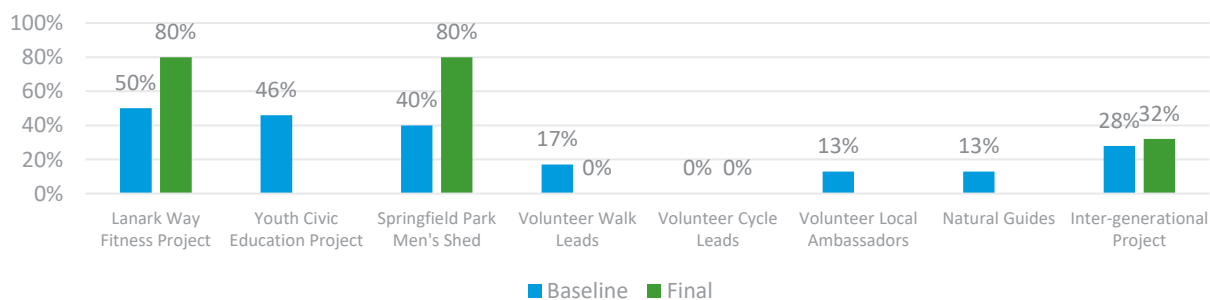
Source: BCC March 2022

**Figure A2.2: Percentage of people who prefer to live in a mixed religion environment**



Source: BCC March 2022

**Figure A2.3: Percentage of people who would prefer to live in a neighbourhood with people of only their own religion**



Source: BCC March 2022

## Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council: Building Positive Relations

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 A2.5 and further detail of each of its four programmes are provided in Table A2.6.

**Table A2.5: Project overview**

<b>Applicant:</b>	<b>Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council</b>
Project	CCGBC PIV Action Plan - BPR
Project Partners	Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council
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 characterised 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	£1,630,086.94 / €1,923,502.59
Duration	June 2016 – March 2021

**Table A2.6: Summary of project elements**

<b>Programme</b>	<b>Programme Delivery Partner</b>	<b>Goals / Aims</b>	<b>Work package Start Date</b>	<b>Actual Start Date</b>	<b>Actual End Date</b>
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% PUL / Min 40% CRN	April 2017	September 2017	September 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% CRN	April 2017	November 2017	September 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	October 2019
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	October 2019
Programme 3.3: Cultural and Community Institutions Programme – cultural / language	Limavady Community Development Initiative (LCDI)	Deliver a Cultural / Language Institutions Programme with 100 participants	April 2017	November 2017	January 2019

Programme	Programme Delivery Partner	Goals / Aims	Work package Start Date	Actual Start Date	Actual End Date
institutions programme					
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. 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	September 2020



## Project Performance

Table A2.7 identifies key activities that have been undertaken to date and those that are to be carried out in the future. It highlights that the majority of projects are complete, with almost all key activities completed despite Covid-19 disruption. It is also noted that

- Programme 3.3: Cultural and Community Institutions Programme – Cultural / language Institutions Programme ceased in January 2019, ahead of its original target end date (March 2020); and
- Programme 1: Understanding Our Area – the Exhibition on Decade of Centenaries relating to the Partition of Ireland and the founding of the Northern Ireland State, planned to conclude the programme has been delayed due to Covid-19 and is likely to be delayed beyond the lifespan of the project.

Progress and performance across individual programmes are detailed below.

### Programme 1: Understanding Our Area

This project, in addition to its core objective, sought to:

- increase awareness amongst local communities about their own heritage and cultural identity;
- dispel myths, break down barriers, and address preconceptions that people have about their area's history;
- encourage joint working between groups and communities across the area; and
- develop a peace building legacy product for local people and tourists showcasing the range of successful interpretative projects that have developed as result of peace building.

30 community groups representing 750 individuals were recruited following taster events held across the Borough. Upon a successful application to join the project, these groups were commissioned to conduct historical and area-based projects. Each project plan was signed off prior to commencement. CCGBC Museum Services facilitated the programme and supported groups to achieve their specific project goals.

As well as completing group projects, a community forum was established as a network to establish links and share best practice, ideas and knowledge. All groups were also offered training in Oral history and for some groups, tour guide and genealogy training was also part of their project plan.

The plan was for an exhibition to conclude the project on the Decade of Centenaries relating to the Partition of Ireland and the founding of the Northern Ireland State; but this has been delayed due to Covid-19 and will not happen within the lifespan of the project.

## Programme 2: Developing Communities – Leadership and Capacity

Across 14 areas: Coleraine, Limavady, Ballycastle, Ballymoney, Cushendall/Waterfoot/Glenariff, Dervock, Rasharkin, Portrush/Portstewart, Dungiven, Garvagh, Armoy, Bushmills, Greysteel and Ballykelly, participants were recruited to partake in the one-to-one Capacity Building and Dialogue programme. Additionally, 21 community areas hosted a facilitated leadership programme delivered to emerging community leaders. Groups met for study visits in August 2018, and in October 2018, two conferences were hosted for the programme. OCN accredited training courses were also developed for the programme and delivered to participants. Across these two programmes, a 14 Target Areas for Capacity Building Programme for 70 individuals and 63 individuals under the Facilitative Leadership Programme.

## Programme 3: Cultural and Community Institutions Programme

**Key Institutions Programme:** recruitment for this programme proved harder than the others in work programme 3 due to the sensitive nature of the programme and wider NI political instability. However, 225 participants with an overall community representation of 40% PUL / 58% CNR and 2% 'Other' engaged in the project. 111 participants achieved over 26 hours with many achieving between 100 to 300 hours. 27 participants who did not meet 26 hours were engaged in the programme for six months or more. Average hours for the 225 participants who engaged in the programme was 48.1 hours per person. OCN training in Public Event Management was delivered by CRUN in October to seven participants.

Institutions engaged with included the Apprentice Boys of Derry, The Orange Order, the Ancient Order of Hibernians, the GAA, Comhaltas, Royal British Legion, Masons, Republican bands and prisoner welfare groups, Ulster Covenant Historical Society and Carey Historical Society. Specific outputs include:

- 13 participants were trained in Facilitative Leadership;
- 57 participants attended Information and Cohesion events;
- 19 participants were trained in Communications and PR;
- 7 participants were trained in Public Event Management;
- 37 participants took part in an International Study Visit to Croatia and Bosnia;
- 37 participants took part in a cross-border study visit to Dublin and Cavan;
- 109 participants took part in the Getting to Know the Institutions programme;
- 62 participants took part in Culture Couples;
- 11 participants took part in an evening of cross community Storytelling;
- 8 institutions produced Educational Information to promote their organisation;
- 789 participants took part in cross community events including; community days, sports camps, cultural events and trips to places like Derry~Londonderry, Dublin, and Enniskillen through institutions led Resource Allocations;
- 9 institutions collaborated to produce legacy pieces including a film, a book of programme highlights and a photographic exhibition; and

- **158** people attended & participated in the Finale Event including exhibitions & cultural discussion, Q&A sessions and displays.

**BME Integration Programme:** project partners BCRC organized 6 focus groups for an audit and scoping study to understand the needs of those from BME communities in the CCGBC area. Community activities and workshops thus took place following this audit activity. Four intercultural forums took place throughout the life of the project. A key highlight of this programme was an international study visit, from the 9th – 16th March to Croatia and Bosnia. The project fell short of its target with 188 participants out of 200.

**Cultural / Language institutions programme:** This programme was delivered in Ballymoney and Limavady as initial registration highlighted that these areas saw the most demand for the programme. This roll out was for the adult programme components, whilst the children and events programmes took a borough-wide approach. The project was mainly delivered through workshops across 9 themes:

- Theme 1: Irish Language facilitated workshops;
- Theme 2: Ulster Scots Language facilitated workshops;
- Theme 3: Irish Language Schools programme;
- Theme 4: Ulster Scots Schools Programme;
- Theme 5; Irish Language Cultural Programme;
- Theme 6: Ulster Scots Cultural Programme;
- Theme 7: Irish Language Heritage Programme;
- Theme 8: Ulster Scots Heritage Programme; and
- Theme 9 Shared Heritage Language and Culture.

Final participant numbers were 205 participants with the project concluding in 2019.

#### **Programme 4: Cross-Border Programme**

A summary of the seven interest groupings is provided below:

- **Coastal Issues (18 individuals):** Adventure activity groups – Alive Surf School, the Traditional Yawl and Drontheim Society and the Causeway Coast Kayak Association collaborated with partner groups in Co. Donegal to meet together, share knowledge and experiences and to explore the others locality. Part of this exchange will see the Kayak groups tackle the issue of plastics and how harmful it is to our waters as well as clearing marine debris from caves in the two localities. The surfers focused on how water therapy can help young people with autism relax and enjoy the sport;

- **Economic Development:** 10 members from local businesses in Limavady town and members of the Chamber of Commerce joined together to connect with Donegal Food Tours, Letterkenny Chamber of Commerce and the Local Enterprise Office. The group were interested to learn from the Letterkenny team winners of the Bank of Ireland National Enterprise Town 2018;
- **Environmental Initiatives:** A group of 25 from the Cloughmills Community Action Team/Shed and the Ballykelly Community Shed connected with groups in Ballybofey/Stranrolar in conjunction with the Donegal Local Development Company;
- **Culture, Arts & Heritage:** 44 participants from three historical/heritage groups (History and Research Centre, Cloughmills Cultural & Historical Society and The Glens of Antrim Historical Society) connected with groups in Fahan and Letterkenny (Donegal);
- **Rural Issues:** 31 members of the Ballymoney Agricultural Show linked with Castleblayney Agricultural Show (Monaghan) to visit each other's annual shows in June and August 2019;
- **Festivals/Tourism:** 41 representatives from the Heart of the Glens Festival, Naturally North Coast & Glens Artisan Market, Salmon & Whiskey Festival, Rathlin Sound & Maritime Festival and North Coast Artists connected with the Letterkenny 'Off the Street' Food Festival, Letterkenny Chamber of Commerce and the 'Taste of Donegal' Festival in July 2019; and
- **Sports & Outdoor Pursuits:** Four 'Walking for Health' walking groups from Causeway Coast & Glens (Cushendun Walking Group, Kilrea Walkers, Ballymoney Walking for Health and Moyle Walking Group) made up the 31 walkers connecting with groups in Belturbet (Cavan) and Drumreilly (Leitrim).

Launch events for those signed up to the programme saw 184 individuals attend where they took part in group workshops covering SMART goal setting and best practice. Evaluation forms were filled out for this event with strong positive feedback including 82% of participants rating overall satisfaction a 4 or 5 (1 to 5 scale, 5 is best). Each group was given a resource allocation of up to £5,000 to develop a digital resource in relation to their interest area. The vast majority of projects opted to produce a video. At a finale event in November 2019, these digital resources were presented by a group representative along with any other cross-border activity that had taken place since the initial launch event.

**Note:** the participation numbers outlined above do not sum to 212 (as identified in section 4). Further detail in relation to the breakdown of programme participants is not available.

**Table A2.7: Summary of project activity**

Programme	Goals / Aims	Actual Start Date	Actual End Date	Key Activities
<p>Programme 1: Understanding Our Area – Building Positive Relations</p>	<p>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% CRN.</p>	<p>September 2017</p>	<p>September 2020</p>	<p>The development of individual practical local history exploration projects across 30 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. Completion of Programme will conclude with the Exhibition on Decade of Centenaries relating to the Partition of Ireland and the founding of the Northern Ireland State; this has been delayed due to Covid-19. This most likely will be exhibited beyond the lifespan of Peace IV Delivery.</p>
<p>Programme 2: Developing Communities – Leadership and Capacity - BPR</p>	<p>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% CRN</p>	<p>November 2017</p>	<p>September 2020</p>	<p>Capacity Building and Dialogue Programme: Training needs analysis 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) Celebration event 1-day cross border site visit Facilitative Leadership Programme:</p>

Programme	Goals / Aims	Actual Start Date	Actual End Date	Key Activities
				<p>Training needs analysis</p> <p>Training pack produced and training of facilitators</p> <p>Mentor support and dialogue sessions</p> <p>3 accredited capacity building programmes</p> <p>Celebration event</p> <p>1-day cross border site visit</p>
<p>Programme 3.1: Cultural and Community Institutions Programme – Key Institutions Programme</p>	<p>Deliver a key institutions programme including representatives from Orange Order, GAA and Bands – 300 participants</p>	<p>November 2017</p>	<p>October 2019</p>	<p>Communications and PR training e.g., using social media platforms, radio and TV interviews</p> <p>Study visits e.g., to Ballymoney and Moyle Cluster to explore culture and traditions of local institutions</p> <p>Participant completion of OCN accredited courses e.g., level 1 and 2 Public Event Management</p> <p>Leadership training by IISC</p> <p>Preparation for and delivery of Key Institutions Cultural Exhibition</p> <p>Cross border study visit</p> <p>OCN Level 2 Fundraising and the Voluntary Sector Course</p>
<p>Programme 3.2: Cultural and Community Institutions Programme – BME Integration Programme</p>	<p>Deliver a BME Integration Programme with 200 participants across 10 areas</p>	<p>November 2017</p>	<p>October 2019</p>	<p>Recruitment of steering group members</p> <p>4 workshops on cultural awareness, identity, and migration</p> <p>Seminars at Nomadic and Titanic Visitors Centre</p> <p>Accredited Community Cohesion Training</p> <p>“Meet the Neighbours” sessions focusing on a different faith / language or nationality group –</p>

Programme	Goals / Aims	Actual Start Date	Actual End Date	Key Activities
				<p>bringing together members of BME community and host community</p> <p>Preparatory workshop for international study visit</p> <p>International Study Visit to Croatia and Bosnia</p> <p>Accredited community cohesion course for young leaders</p> <p>Closing event with drama performance</p>
<p>Programme 3.3: Cultural and Community Institutions Programme – Cultural / Language institutions programme</p>	<p>Deliver a Cultural / Language Institutions Programme with 100 participants</p>	<p>November 2017</p>	<p>January 2019</p>	<p>Participant Completion of OCN Level 1 and Level 2 Youth Leadership Courses</p> <p>6 groups (40 participants total across the groups) deliver good relations projects in 6 cohort areas</p> <p>Day cross border visit to Dublin</p> <p>Workshops involving: Ulster Scots / Highland dancing; Irish Ceili dancing; Ulster Scots tin whistle; Irish Bodhran; Irish Language taster sessions; Ulster Scots Language taster sessions</p> <p>Hosting of school events such as bringing primary schools together on a cross community basis to explore Ulster Scots; Poetry; History; Music; and Baking</p> <p>Attending Fleadh in Limavady Arts Centre</p> <p>Showcase finale event in January 2019 which let groups showcase what the project had taught them and what it enabled them to do</p>
<p>Programme 4: Cross-Border Programme</p>	<p>To deliver a cross border engagement and partnership project to 200 participants within the Causeway Coast and Glens Area. These</p>	<p>January 2019</p>	<p>September 2020</p>	<p>Delivery of a recruitment strategy – recruitment to the programme across 7 interest groupings.</p> <p>Design of a baseline questionnaire to identify the needs of the project.</p>



Programme	Goals / Aims	Actual Start Date	Actual End Date	Key Activities
	<p>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 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>			<p>Launch events for the recruited individuals, in which a project partner facilitated best Practice and Goal Setting Sessions for each of the 7 groups involved over the lifetime of the Programme</p> <p>A resource allocation of £5,000 per group to develop a website / app / set of videos</p> <p>Delivery of a final legacy resource developed from all group work – presented at a finale event on the 21<sup>st</sup> November 2019 with 183 participants.</p>

## Project Monitoring and Evaluation

Impact is assessed against the following output and result indicators:

- local Action Plans that result in meaningful, purposeful, and sustained contact between persons from different communities (output);
- people who know quite a bit about the culture of some minority ethnic communities (result);
- people who think relations between Protestants and Catholics will be better in five years' time (result); and
- people who think relations between Protestants and Catholics are better than they were 5 years ago (result).

### Monitoring Plan

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 are being issued to participants, 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.

### Result indicators

Three result indicators are used to capture changes from BPR projects. These are:

- percentage of people who think relations between Protestants and Catholics are better than they were five years ago;
- percentage of people who think relations between Protestants and Catholics will be better in five years' time; and
- percentage of people who know quite a bit about the culture of some minority ethnic communities.

Table A2.8 presents, where available, the baseline and post-activity (final / end) results for the three result indicators for each work package. A survey of participants was undertaken through which respondents identified whether they agreed with each statement.

**Table A2.8: Programme Result Indicators**

Result indicator(s) by work package	Baseline / start position	Final / end position	Notes
<b>Work Package 1 – Understanding Our Area</b>			
People who think relations between Protestants and Catholics are better than they were 5 years ago	26%	34%	Based on an anonymous survey of 116 individuals.
People who think relations between Protestants and Catholics will be better in five years' time	41%	43%	
People who know quite a bit about the culture of some minority ethnic communities	11%	15%	
<b>Work Package 2 – Developing Communities</b>			
People who think relations between Protestants and Catholics are better than they were 5 years ago	38%	44%	Based on an anonymous survey of 247 participants across the Programme.
People who think relations between Protestants and Catholics will be better in five years' time	39%	46%	
People who know quite a bit about the culture of some minority ethnic communities	22%	27%	
<b>Work Package 3.1 – Key Institutions Programme</b>			
People who think relations between Protestants and Catholics are better than they were 5 years ago	42%	47%	Anonymous Survey based on 126 participants.
People who think relations between Protestants and Catholics will be better in five years' time	55%	58%	
People who know quite a bit about the culture of some minority ethnic communities	31%	62%	
<b>Work Package 3.2 – BME Integration Programme</b>			
People who think relations between Protestants and Catholics are better than they were 5 years ago	51%	54%	Anonymous survey based on 188 participants.
People who think relations between Protestants and Catholics will be better in five years' time	57%	57%	
People who know quite a bit about the culture of some minority ethnic communities	41%	86%	

### Work Package 3.3 – Cultural / Language institutions programme

People who think relations between Protestants and Catholics are better than they were 5 years ago	42%	51%	Anonymous survey based on 152 participants.
People who think relations between Protestants and Catholics will be better in five years' time	55%	63%	
People who know quite a bit about the culture of some minority ethnic communities	19%	21%	

### Work Package 4 – Cross-Border Programme

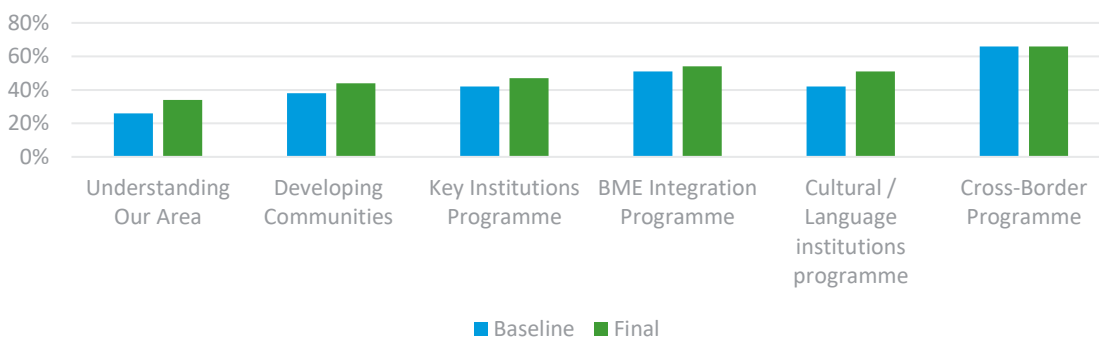
People who think relations between Protestants and Catholics are better than they were 5 years ago	66%	66%	Anonymous survey based on 212 participants.
People who think relations between Protestants and Catholics will be better in five years' time	71%	73%	
People who know quite a bit about the culture of some minority ethnic communities	31%	42%	

Source: Evaluation Data Request March 2022

Note: further detail relating to population and sample sizes is not available and it is not clear what proportion of respondents completed both baseline and final questionnaires.

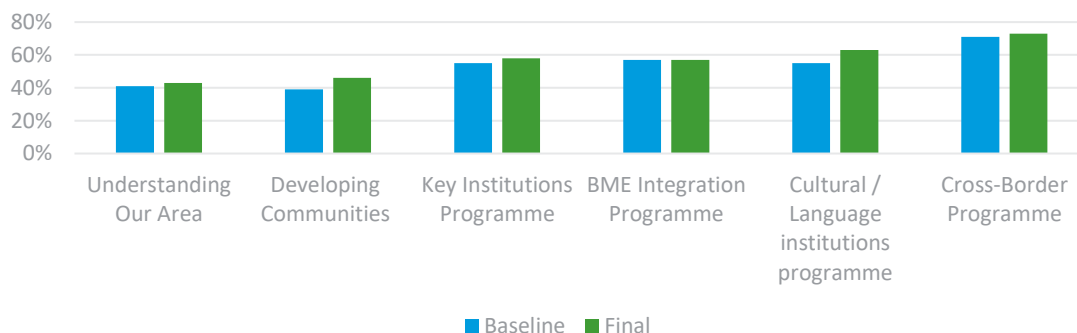
The following three graphs present the above information visually.

**Figure A2.4: Percentage of people who think relations between Protestants and Catholics are better than they were five years ago**



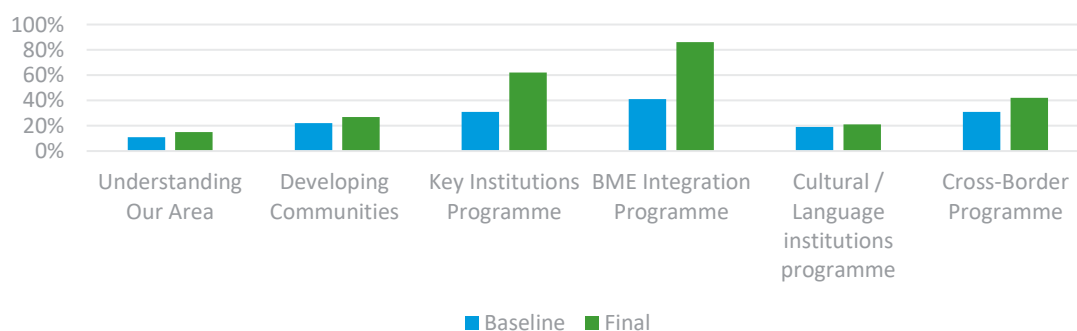
Source: Evaluation Data Request March 2022

**Figure A2.5: Percentage of people who think relations between Protestants and Catholics will be better in five years' time**



Source: Evaluation Data Request March 2022

**Figure A2.6: Percentage of people who know quite a bit about the culture of some minority ethnic communities**



Source: Evaluation Data Request March 2022

## Newry Mourne and Down District Council: Beyond Tolerance (Shared Spaces and Services)

The project is scheduled to deliver twelve programmes across the seven District Electoral Areas within the NMDDC area, which cover the following themes:

- re-imagining 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.

Summary details of the overall project are provided in Table A2.9 below and further details of each of the twelve programmes are provided in Table A2.11.

**Table A2.9: Project overview**

<b>Applicant:</b>	<b>NMDDC</b>
Project	NMDDC – Beyond Tolerance – Shared Spaces and Services
Project Partners:	NMDDC 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	June 2016 to March 2022

Table A2.10 details the budget allocated to each work package for the programme.

**Table A2.10: NMDDC SSS PEACE IV Budget Allocations**

<b>Work Package</b>	<b>Budget Allocation (£)</b>	<b>Budget Allocation (€)</b>
1. Re-imaging & Regeneration Programme	£223,000	€263,140
2. Flags, Emblems & Bonfires	£65,400	€77,172
3. Ex-military Sites Legacy Programme (Ballykinlar)	£150,000	€177,000
4. Shared Spaces Engagement	Original: £170,800 Revised: £139,775	Original: €201,544 Revised: €164,935
5. Capacity Building Programme for Developing Shared Space	Original: £135,000 Revised: £65,294	Original: €159,300 Revised: €77,047
6. Preparatory Programme for Disengaged Communities and Local Leaders	£84,700	€99,946
7. Ex-Military Sites Legacy Programme (Forkhill)	£50,957	€60,129

<b>Work Package</b>	<b>Budget Allocation (£)</b>	<b>Budget Allocation (€)</b>
Ex-military Sites Legacy Programme (Bessbrook, Ballyhornan and Ballynahinch) WPI8	Original: £201,914 Revised: £50,957	Original: €238,259 Revised: €60,129
Tom Dunn WPI9	Original: £48,000 Revised: £88,000	Original: €56,640 Revised: €103,840
Warrenpoint Community Garden WPI10	Original: £42,000 Revised: £2,000	Original: €49,560 Revised: €2,360
Saintfield Community Centre WPI11	Original: £73,000 Revised: £106,000	Original: €86,140 Revised: €125,080
BMX track WPI12	Original: £116,804 Revised: £318,465	Original: €137,829 Revised: €375,789
<b>Total (exclusive of Management and communication costs)</b>	<b>£1,344,548</b>	<b>€1,586,566</b>

**Table A2.11: Summary of project elements**

**Work package description**

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.

To deliver a Flags, Emblems & Bonfires Protocol Programme with the objective of building upon previously established protocols and creating new sustainable protocols across districts.

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.

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.

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.



## Work package description

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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

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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.

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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'.

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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 NMDDC towards a more integrated, cohesive and shared society.

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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.

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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.

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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 straightforward build of moulded jumps, obstacles and banked corners. The project will:

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.

## Progress to date

### Re-imaging & Regeneration Programme

The objective of the Re-imaging & Regeneration Programme was to deliver 10 local projects aimed at the creation of safe spaces for dialogue between community groups, key influencers and gate keepers in each of the participating areas. The initial stage of this project involved

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 focused on ways in which the community could potentially open their area and improve existing civic space.

### **Flags, Emblems and Bonfires Protocol Programme**

The aim of the Flags, Emblems and Bonfires Protocol Programme was to build upon previously established protocols and create new sustainable protocols across the district. It completed in September 2020 and involved:

- initial consultation with community stakeholders;
- compilation of a draft report on community-based key issues concerning bonfires, flags and emblems;
- one initial recruitment and information session for the Education and Awareness sessions;
- the delivery of four education and awareness sessions, 37 groups out of a target of 30 have been engaged in the programme by committing to and engaging in working groups. These group include: Political; Community; Sport; Business; Statutory; Cultural and Heritage; and Religious groups;
- one site visit; and
- group workshops to discuss issues and create local agreements. Participants engaging in an Education and Awareness Activity.

### **Ex-military Sites Legacy Programme (Ballykinlar)**

The Ballykinlar History Hut Programme was launched on 29th September 2018 at Down County Museum. Planning permission was 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 is now completed as of October 2020.

### **Shared Spaces Engagement Programme**

The Shared Spaces Engagement Programme had 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. The first stage of the project undertook an audit / mapping of current service provision and a dialogue programme with service providers. This programme has completed all activities, including 7 District Electoral Area (DEA) Drive-in Cinemas in each of the 7 DEA areas completed, reaching 545 participants.

### **Capacity Building Programme for Developing Shared Space**

The objective of this programme 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. So far 58 participants have been engaged of the targeted 60.

### **Preparatory Programme for Disengaged Communities and Local Leaders**

This programme commenced in September 2020 with an anticipated end date of March 2022. 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. This programme aims to provide seven DEA based programmes reaching a total of 144 participants, of these seven programmes none have been completed to date.

### **Ex-Military Sites Legacy Programme (Forkhill)**

This project will address the social aspects of the site to open up a formally contested space.

There has been an ongoing D1 process initiated by the Department for Communities (DFC), to dispose of the site. Council and the Housing Executive have registered an interest in the site, and this is currently holding up any future development proposals that could take place on the site.

In the interim, subject to final site sale/agreement, NMDDC have been talking to the Department for Infrastructure (DFI) about the possibility of taking down the last remaining elements of the old blast wall along School Road.

This project is expected to be completed in September 2022.

### **Ex-military Sites Legacy Programme (Bessbrook, Ballyhornan and Ballynahinch)**

This project sought to engage local communities on a dialogue programme and develop and implement a work plan to undertake small capital projects such as history walks between the two squares in Bessbrook to show their shared history.

Due to landowner issues, the previous pathways project cannot progress. A project incorporating a shared space around the theme of the Bessbrook Tramway was sent to SEUPB for consideration, but on review it was decided not to proceed with this. A further proposal, around the revival of a historic pathway at the Derrymore site<sup>29</sup>, was approved by SEUPB.

This project is expected to be completed in September 2022.

### **Tom Dunn**

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 and how learnings from this

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<sup>29</sup> Derrymore is an historic, national trust owned, thatched cottage situated outside of Newry.

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.

This project is expected to be completed in September 2022.

### **Warrenpoint Community Garden WPI10**

The objective of this programme was 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.

However, this project has been withdrawn the project due to budget and time constraints. The provisional costs were £95k, significantly above the budgeted £ 40 k for this project. In addition, two of the three partner groups withdrew from the project.

NMDDC and partnership has requested reallocation of funds to another project in the same DEA.

### **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 breakout / coffee area.

### **BMX track**

The objective of the programme is the construction of a BMX track that encompasses a straightforward build of moulded jumps, obstacles and banked corners that is accessible to members from all communities.

The original costings were based on a 2D design, which did not provide a true reflection of the site. As a result, the design of the track had to alter to accommodate the infrastructure on the site, which was not accounted in the original budget. This has resulted in a significant uplift in costs. the original budget was £165,000. This was prepared by BMX Ireland and was not inclusive of contingency, VAT or CPD Fees. The new budget is £290,000 (£318,465 as of March 2022) which is inclusive of 8% contingency (not inclusive of VAT and CPD fees).

This project is expected to be completed in September 2022.

## **Monitoring and Evaluation**

### **Monitoring plan**

To monitor and evaluate the impacts of the Shared Spaces and Services Programme of activity, NMDDC 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.

### Result Indicators

NMDDC have captured data relating to behavioural / attitudinal change. These have been captured as part of the programming elements of the project, with participants survey prior to and following engagement in a programme. The three result indicators for this programme are:

- percentage of people who would prefer to live in a mixed religion neighbourhood;
- percentage of people who think relations between Protestants and Catholics are better than they were 5 years ago; and
- percentage of people who think relations between Protestants and Catholics will be better in five years' time.

Table A2.12 presents, where available, the baseline and post-activity (final / end) results for the three result indicators for each work package. A survey of participants was undertaken through which respondents identified whether they agreed with each statement.

**Table A.12: Result Indicators by Work Package**

<b>Result indicator(s) by work package</b>	<b>Baseline / start position</b>	<b>Final / end position</b>	<b>Notes (where applicable)</b>
<b>Work Package 1 – Re-imaging &amp; Regeneration Programme</b>			
<i>N/A – Capital Project</i>			
<b>Work Package 2 – Flags, Emblems &amp; Bonfires Protocol Programme</b>			
People who think relations between Protestants and Catholics are better than they were 5 years ago	25%	70%	
People who think relations between Protestants and Catholics will be better in five years' time	19%	80%	
People who would prefer to live in a mixed-religion neighbourhood?	72%	80%	
People who felt that they benefited from the programme	-	100%	
<b>Work Package 3, 7, 8 – Ex-military sites Legacy Programme</b>			
<i>N/A – Capital Projects</i>			
<b>Work Package 4 – Shared Spaces Engagement Programme</b>			
People who would prefer to live in a mixed-religion neighbourhood	27%	33.6%	536 entrance questionnaires 545 exit questionnaires
People who think relations between Protestants and Catholics are better than they were 5 years ago	44%	55%	
People who think relations between Protestants and Catholics will be better in five years' time	50%	56%	

<b>Result indicator(s) by work package</b>	<b>Baseline / start position</b>	<b>Final / end position</b>	<b>Notes (where applicable)</b>
People who feel they know quite a bit about the culture of some minority ethnic communities living in Northern Ireland	56%	64%	
minority ethnic groups - I would willingly accept them as: ...a tourist visiting Northern Ireland	90%	92%	
minority ethnic groups - I would willingly accept them as: ... a resident of Northern Ireland living and working here	72%	76%	
minority ethnic groups - I would willingly accept them as: ... a resident in my local area	63%	68%	
minority ethnic groups - I would willingly accept them as: ... a close friend of mine	49%	60%	
minority ethnic groups - I would willingly accept them as: ... a relative by way of marriage to a close member of my family	49%	59%	
People who agreed that their experience of participating in this programme made them feel more positive towards other communities.	-	65%	
People who socialise or play sport very often with people from a different religious community	44%	48%	
People who felt that religion will always make a difference to the way people feel about each other in Northern Ireland	57%	61%	
People who felt that they benefited from the programme	-	96.9%	
<b>Work Package 5 – Capacity Building Programme for Developing Shared Space</b>			
Percentage of people who would define the neighbourhood where they live as neutral			
Percentage of people who prefer to live in a mixed religion environment			
Percentage of people who would prefer to live in a neighbourhood with people of only their own religion			
<b>Work Package 6 – Preparatory Programme for Disengaged Communities and Local Leaders</b>			
Percentage of people who would define the neighbourhood where they live as neutral			
Percentage of people who prefer to live in a mixed religion environment			
Percentage of people who would prefer to live in a neighbourhood with people of only their own religion			
<b>Work Package 9 – Tom Dunn</b>			
<i>N/A – Capital Project</i>			
<b>Work Package 11 – Saintfield Community Centre</b>			
<i>N/A – Capital Project</i>			
<b>Work Package 12 – BMX track</b>			
<i>N/A – Capital Project</i>			

## Victims and Survivors Service: 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.

Summary details of the project are provided in Table A2.13 and details of the programmes are given in Table A2.14.

**Table A2.13: Project Overview**

<b>Project</b>	<b>Provision of Services for Victims and Survivors</b>
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	£14,944,279.57 / €17,634,249.89
Duration	November 2016 –December 2022



<b>Project</b>	<b>Provision of Services for Victims and Survivors</b>
<b>Approved outputs (as per SEUPB letter of offer 27 September 2022)</b>	
Individuals in receipt of advocacy support	6,300
Individuals in receipt of assessment/ casework support/ resilience support	11,350
<b>Project priorities</b>	<b>Targets</b>
<b>Advocacy support</b> to include practical support for victims and survivors engaging with institutions, historical process and enquiries	27.5 workers, 6,300 beneficiaries
Development of <b>qualified assessors, health and well-being case workers</b> to identify and address the needs of victims and survivors	31 workers, 11,350 beneficiaries
A <b>resilience programme</b> to address the individual needs of victims and survivors, including level one and level two mental health interventions	3,000 interventions
Development of the capacity of the sector through <b>training and development</b> (to meet national and regional standards), research and improved regulation	3 major research projects

In 2020, VSS were granted a modification to their original agreed programme to include a €1.9 million extension to the project. This involved new elements around gender, peace-building and oral history, extending the project duration through to 2022.

**Table A2.14: Summary of project elements**

<b>Work Package</b>	<b>Overview of activities</b>
1. Management	<p>Engagement with Health and Wellbeing (HWB) Network/ network meetings.</p> <p>Delivery of support to individuals under Additional needs-based Support Frameworks.</p> <p>Monitoring delivery of the 3 research projects.</p> <p>Commence monitoring and evaluation process.</p> <p>By March 2022 the activities completed were Recruitment of VSS managed posts, Research and improved regulation, Monitoring of CVS delivery of 3 Research Projects, Monitoring and Evaluation, Set up of M&amp;E processes for the project and ongoing M&amp;E, Recruitment of Service Delivery Officer.</p>

Work Package	Overview of activities
	<p>Activities still being carried out included just Monitoring and Evaluation of family therapy pilot</p>
<p>2. Advocacy support programme</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>By March 2022, the activities completed were open call to community and voluntary sector for applications to recruit Advocacy Support Managers and Advocacy Support Workers and the Development of Advocacy Support Network to support 6,300 individuals through Truth, Justice and Acknowledgement processes</p> <p>Thus far 20 workers are engaged within the programme, compared to the targeted amount of 27.5.</p> <p>Of the targeted 6,300 beneficiaries to be reached by the programme at this stage, 4,041 have been reached so far.</p>
<p>3. Health and well-being casework network</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>Activities completed by March 2022 included open call to community and voluntary sector for applications to recruit Health &amp; Wellbeing Caseworkers, Recruitment of 5 Regional Health &amp; Wellbeing Case Managers, 26 Health &amp; Wellbeing Caseworkers in post and the Recruitment of Caseworker for ROI</p> <p>25 caseworkers and 3 managers are engaged in the network at this time out of the target of 31 workers and managers in total and 10,534 beneficiaries have been reached so far by the network, out of the target of 11,750.</p>
<p>4. Resilience Programme</p>	<p>Establishment of a referral and assessment process to access resilience interventions.</p> <p>Elements developed to date include: Volunteering; Trauma focussed Physical Activity; One-to-one Literacy and Numeracy; Social Isolation.</p> <p>By March 2022 completed activities included Frameworks for referral and access to Resilience Activities. (Frameworks include: Trauma Focused Physical Activity, Adult Literacy and Numeracy, Volunteering including Carer's Respite and Social Isolation) Storytelling - service provision for victims and survivors (Recording of Lives Experience Projects), Cohesion and Conversations, Community Peace Building Programmes and the Family Therapy Pilot</p> <p>Activities still to be completed by March 2022 included only PEACEBUILDING- Gender Lens</p>

Work Package	Overview of activities
	The target of 3,000 interventions by this date have been surpassed, with the amount totalling 4,000. Of this 1,621 have been across PEACE IV frameworks and 2,379 across Groups Funding.
5. Workforce training	<p>Development of workforce development training plan.</p> <p>Dissemination of training needs analysis questionnaire.</p> <p>Delivery of training to Advocacy and HWB caseworkers and the Advocacy Support Worker Network.</p> <p>In March 2022 the completed activities were Professional Training (VSS workforce training and WAVE), Review of existing Oral History and Storytelling Networks and Best Practice Guide, Best practice guide for peacebuilding projects, Transgenerational Impact and Training in family therapy and establishment of best practice.</p> <p>A review of existing gender principles has been completed; however, this has not been progressed into a best practice guide.</p>
6. Research and improved regulation	<p>CVS standards and NICE guidelines embedded in all service delivery.</p> <p>Establishment of three research groups/projects, namely:</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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</p> <p>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.</p> <p>By March 2022 completed projects included a Needs Analysis of the Border Region, Update of the CVS Comprehensive Needs Assessment (2012) and Research and improved regulation.</p> <p>Research Projects completed to date:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trauma Services Research Project</li> <li>• Trans-generational Legacy and Young People Research Project</li> <li>• Effective Advocacy Services Research Project</li> </ul>
7. Communication	Delivery of communication plan.

Table A2.15 details the budget allocated to each work package for the programme.

**Table A2.15: VSS PEACE IV Budget Allocations**

<b>Work Package</b>	<b>Budget Allocation</b>
Management	£3,290,158.57
Advocacy Support Programme	£4,500,470.00
Health and Wellbeing Caseworker Network	£3,726,127.00
Resilience Programme	£1,648,303.00
Workforce Training and Development	VSS £647,657.00 WAVE £884,851.00
Research and Improved Regulation	£ £246,713.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£14,944,279.57</b>

## Progress to Date

The following provides a high-level summary of the progress of each project/programme to date. Key findings area as follows:

### Health and Well-Being Caseworker Network:

As of March 2022, 10,534 individuals were in receipt or assessment of Health and Wellbeing casework and resilience support. During the COVID-19 pandemic, caseworkers were working remotely with remote working guidance published in April 2020. 25 HWB caseworkers and three HWB managers were in post. Progress had also been made in the recruitment of 5 Regional Health & Wellbeing Case Managers and 26 Health and Well-being Caseworkers.

### Advocacy Support Programme:

Up to the end of March 2022, VSS had supported 4,041 individuals through the Advocacy Support Programme. Organisations continued to provide support to victims and survivors in the absence of a strategic framework, using different approaches, however it was recognised that the ability to engage with new individuals proved challenging. Work continued with advocacy organisations to support and deliver for as many individual victims and survivors as possible over the remaining time within the project as well as significant work to support applications to the Troubles Permanent Disablement Payment Scheme.

### Resilience Programme

By March 2022, 4,000 Resilience interventions had been delivered against a target of 3,000. These are broken down as follows: 1,621 across PEACE IV frameworks and 2,379 across Groups Funding. Four PEACE IV frameworks have been used thus far for referral and accessible for those seeking support. They include Trauma focused physical activity, adult literacy and numeracy, volunteering including carers respite and social isolation. Another 190 interventions are expected within the PEACE IV Frameworks and 50 through the Group Funding.

In relation to Gender Lens activities, a working group was established to review the current research and literature.

### Workforce Training

This work package seeks to enhance skills and build capacity of organisations in the victims and survivors sector, to deliver high quality services to victims and survivors and their families. By March 2022 the total number of individuals participating in VSS training was 666. The total number of individuals participating in WAVE training by the same date was 406. This makes for a total of 1,072 individuals participating in training by March 2022, while the target for the same date was 690. A further 50 participants are expected. Training was completed online, which both suited participants and engaged more people.

A review of existing gender principles has been completed; however, this has not been progressed into a best practice guide.

### Research Projects

As of March 2022, 3 of 4 Research projects have been completed and launched: Trans-generational Legacy and Young People Research Project, Effective Advocacy Services Research Project and Needs Analysis of the Border Region and Update of CVS Comprehensive Needs Assessment. The Trauma Services Research Project was in the final stages and was anticipated to be completed before August 22.

## Monitoring and Evaluation

### Monitoring plan

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 caseworker.

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. 73% of the individuals saw an improvement in their score, 22% remained the same and 7% experienced a deterioration.

- **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.

## APPENDIX 3: SNAPSHOT CASE STUDIES

### Bloody Sunday Trust: The Conflict Transformation and Peacebuilding Project

The overarching objective of the project is to promote an improved understanding of the past and to create a rights-respecting inclusive society in Derry~Londonderry, Ireland, and internationally. The project aims to achieve this objective through workshops which have been strategically divided into four work packages with each one focusing on one of the four core themes, parading, legacy and justice, heritage and education, and dialogue. The workshops were designed around the Conflict Transformation and Peacebuilding Project of dialogue and reconciliation, focussing on providing an open space for discussion around the key themes for conversations to form organically. To aid in this form of open discussion, the project included the following as part of the workshops:

- a tour of the Museum of Free Derry and the Siege Museum;
- meeting key individuals involved in seminal events;
- a tour of the Bogside, City Centre, and City Walls;
- benefit from appropriate reflection and discussion time; and
- invite non-local British veterans to Derry~Londonderry (Legacy and Justice programme only).

Summary details of the project and a detailed description of the different work packages, their timeframes, targets, and objectives can be found in Table A3.1 and Table A3.2.

**Table A3.1: Project Overview “The Conflict Transformation and Peacebuilding Project”**

<b>Applicant:</b>	<b>Bloody Sunday Trust</b>
<b>Project</b>	The Conflict Transformation and Peacebuilding Project
<b>Project Partners:</b>	BST, The Pat Finucane Centre
<b>Relevant Specific Objective</b>	SO.4 Building Positive Relations
<b>Amount awarded by PIV</b>	£454,843.22 / €536,715
<b>Duration</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> September 2017 – 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2022



**Table A3.2 Summary of Project Elements, Target Output and Objectives**

Individual Work Package	Delivery partner	Start date & end date	Target Output	Objective
Parading	BST	Jan 2018 - Mar 2022	150 workshop participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learning how the Conflict Transformation and Peacebuilding Project was constructed and what benefits it provides for the city in terms of the reduction of tension.</li> <li>• How aspects of the model can be used to transform contentious parades elsewhere, thereby sustaining peace and reconciliation.</li> </ul>
Legacy and Justice	BST	Jan 2018 - Mar 2022	150 workshop participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learning that justice is the cornerstone of any society emerging from prolonged conflict.</li> <li>• That ordinary people working together can make a difference to society.</li> <li>• That human rights benefit all.</li> <li>• That delayed injustice is the antithesis of political progress.</li> <li>• That campaigning for justice is an honourable activity.</li> <li>• That resolving historical injustices has a wider impact on society and community in terms of well-being.</li> </ul>
Heritage and Education	BST	Jan 2018 - Mar 2022	150 workshop participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facilitate a constructive challenge to, and greater acknowledgement of, our diverse perceptions of history.</li> <li>• Participants will have learned that history need not be divisive in itself, and ways by which they can generate their own heritage project(s).</li> </ul>

Individual Work Package	Delivery partner	Start date & end date	Target Output	Objective
Dialogue	BST	Jan 2018 - Mar 2022	150 workshop participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learning from the exploration of the platforms created in Derry~Londonderry during key times which allowed for essential public dialogue.</li> <li>• Demonstrating that pushing the boundaries is more rewarding than staying within traditional confines.</li> <li>• Highlighting that the role of NGOs is often crucial at times of high tension or political stagnation.</li> </ul>

## Monitoring and Evaluation

### Monitoring plan

The evaluation framework for this project centres around interviews with participants before and after participation in order to capture whether the project has achieved the desired objectives. Ongoing monitoring was undertaken by the project through consultations with the programme lead and participants to ensure that any issues arising can be addressed immediately. This monitoring was supplemented by an external evaluation team, which observed a sample of workshops. The information gathered was collated into annual progress reports, issued to SEUPB, and a final evaluation report.

### Result Indicators

The programme included a single point in time assessment of participants' perceptions on three key questions regarding neighbourhood neutrality.

- participant's perceptions of the relations between catholic and protestant communities five years from now;
- participant's perceptions of the past five years relations between catholic and protestant communities; and
- participants desire to live in a mixed religion neighbourhood.

However, as noted in Section 4 of the report, a follow-up assessment was not carried out, and therefore, a quantitative analysis of change in perceptions cannot be determined. Instead, the change to these three questions have been gauged from the qualitative interview data provided (refer to Section 4).

## Monaghan County Council: Peace Campus

The Peace Campus is a capital development project in Monaghan set to fulfil a diversity of needs from the local community when it comes to peace and reconciliation work. The project is being

delivered by the MCC and is set to house a youth facility, cultural heritage centre, library space, shared community multifunctional space, and an external events space. The overarching goal of this project is to create a neutral and safe space in which the people of Monaghan can talk about shared history. This overarching goal is set to be delivered through the spaces named above catering to the following community needs:

- **the Youth Facility** is being built to capture the need for an open community space in which young individuals from all backgrounds can safely discuss and processes the legacy of the past;
- **the Cultural Heritage Centre** caters to the local community's need to be able to learn from both sides of history in a safe space;
- **the Library** space caters to the same needs as the cultural heritage centre but does so through literature instead of exhibitions;
- **the Shared Community Multifunctional Space** will cater to a need for local organisation, especially those who are not religiously tied, to have a space in which to perform their activities and space for events to be hosted more generally. Furthermore, it also caters to needs around better support for isolated minority community members; and
- **the External Events** space is set to encourage and facilitate wider interests and engagements by hosting more broad events on culture heritage and identity.

Furthermore, it is hoped that by housing all these facilities in one building, this will lead to the activities working in tandem with one another thereby creating a cumulative instead of singular positive impact.

**Table A3.3: Summary of the Peace Campus Project Elements**

<b>Project Element</b>	<b>Goals/ Aims</b>	<b>Expected Date of Completion</b>
Youth Facility	The youth facility aims to encourage youths' individuals to engage with the legacy of the past in a nuanced way and in a space in which it is safe to do so.	Q2 2023
Cultural Heritage Center	Set to tackle issues of the past by showcasing exhibitions which teach the history of the conflict from multiple perspectives such as the Orange Order or the Ulster Scots.	Q2 2023
Library	Set to provide a diverse understanding of history by displaying literary heritage from the area thereby stimulating engaging and thoughtful conversation	Q2 2023

Project Element	Goals/ Aims	Expected Date of Completion
Shared Community Multi-Functional Space	Offering community and voluntary groups space to engage with each other with a particular focus on offering support to isolated minority groups (such as AA)	Q2 2023
External Events Space	The events space is set to facilitate a broader engagement with heritage, culture, and identity by hosting a range of events	Q2 2023

## Project Performance

Unfortunately, due to the early stage of delivery, it is not possible to report on the project performance as there has been no recorded output. However, we can note that to date the project has managed to overcome challenges which were predominantly caused by Covid-19 and amplified by the large number of stakeholders, Brexit, and the current war in Ukraine.

## Monitoring and Evaluation

### Monitoring plan

The monitoring plan for this project centres around monitoring the construction of the building, ensuring that key milestones are passed in a timely manner and issues are identified and rectified early on. Additionally, once the building is standing, interviews with those using the facilities will allow for an assessment of whether the Peace Campus is likely to be able to achieve its desired objectives.

### Result Indicators

The result indicators for this project relate to perceptions of PUL / CNR relations and general knowledge on ethnic minority communities. The specific indicators are:

- percentage of people who think relations between Protestants and Catholics are better than they were five years ago;
- percentage of people who think relations between Protestants and Catholics will be better in five years' time; and
- percentage of people who know quite a bit about the culture of some minority ethnic communities.

**Note:** analysis of emerging impact cannot be assessed as the project is not operational yet.