

SPECIAL EUROPEAN UNION PROGRAMMES BODY

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

Final Report

June 2021

CONTENTS

1. REPORT CONTEXT AND SCOPE	1
2. CASE STUDY FINDINGS	5
3. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	27
APPENDIX 1: LONGITUDINAL CASE STUDIES	30
APPENDIX 2: SNAPSHOT CASE STUDIES	118

Important Notice

The matters raised in this report are only those which came to our attention during the course of our review and are not necessarily a comprehensive statement of all the weaknesses that exist or all improvements that might be made.

Recommendations for improvements should be assessed by you for their full impact before they are implemented. This report, or our work, should not be taken as a substitute for management's responsibilities for the application of sound commercial practices. We emphasise that the responsibility for a sound system of internal controls rests with management and our work should not be relied upon to identify all strengths and weaknesses that may exist. Neither should our work be relied upon to identify all circumstances of fraud and irregularity should there be any.

This report is supplied on the understanding that it is solely for the use of the persons to whom it is addressed and for the purposes set out herein. Our work has been undertaken solely to prepare this report and state those matters that we have agreed to state to them. This report should not therefore be regarded as suitable to be used or relied on by any other party wishing to acquire any rights from RSM UK Consulting LLP for any purpose or in any context. Any party other than the SEUPB which obtains access to this report or a copy and chooses to rely on this report (or any part of it) will do so at its own risk. To the fullest extent permitted by law, RSM UK Consulting LLP will accept no responsibility or liability in respect of this report to any other party and shall not be liable for any loss, damage or expense of whatsoever nature which is caused by any person's reliance on representations in this report.

This report is released to the SEUPB on the basis that it shall not be copied, referred to or disclosed, in whole or in part (save as otherwise permitted by agreed written terms), without our prior written consent.

We have no responsibility to update this report for events and circumstances occurring after the date of this report. RSM UK Consulting LLP is a limited liability partnership registered in England and Wales No. OC397475 at 6th floor, 25 Farringdon Street, London EC4A 4AB.

1. REPORT CONTEXT AND SCOPE

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

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



Source: PEACE IV Programme 2014-2020

The impact evaluation is longitudinal, reporting programme impacts in 2019, 2021 and 2022. This document represents the second of three reports.

Each impact 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.

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

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

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

Table 1.1: Case Studies

Longitudinal Case Studies	'Snapshot' Case Studies
Belfast City Council: Connecting Open Spaces	Housing Association Integration Project
Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council: Building Positive Relations	Fermanagh and Omagh District Council: Children and Young people
Newry, Mourne and Down District Council: Beyond Tolerance	
Victims and Survivors Service: Provision of Services	

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

1.1 Programme 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.¹ Result indicators relate to specific objectives and capture the expected change.² The change sought by

¹ 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)

² Ibid.

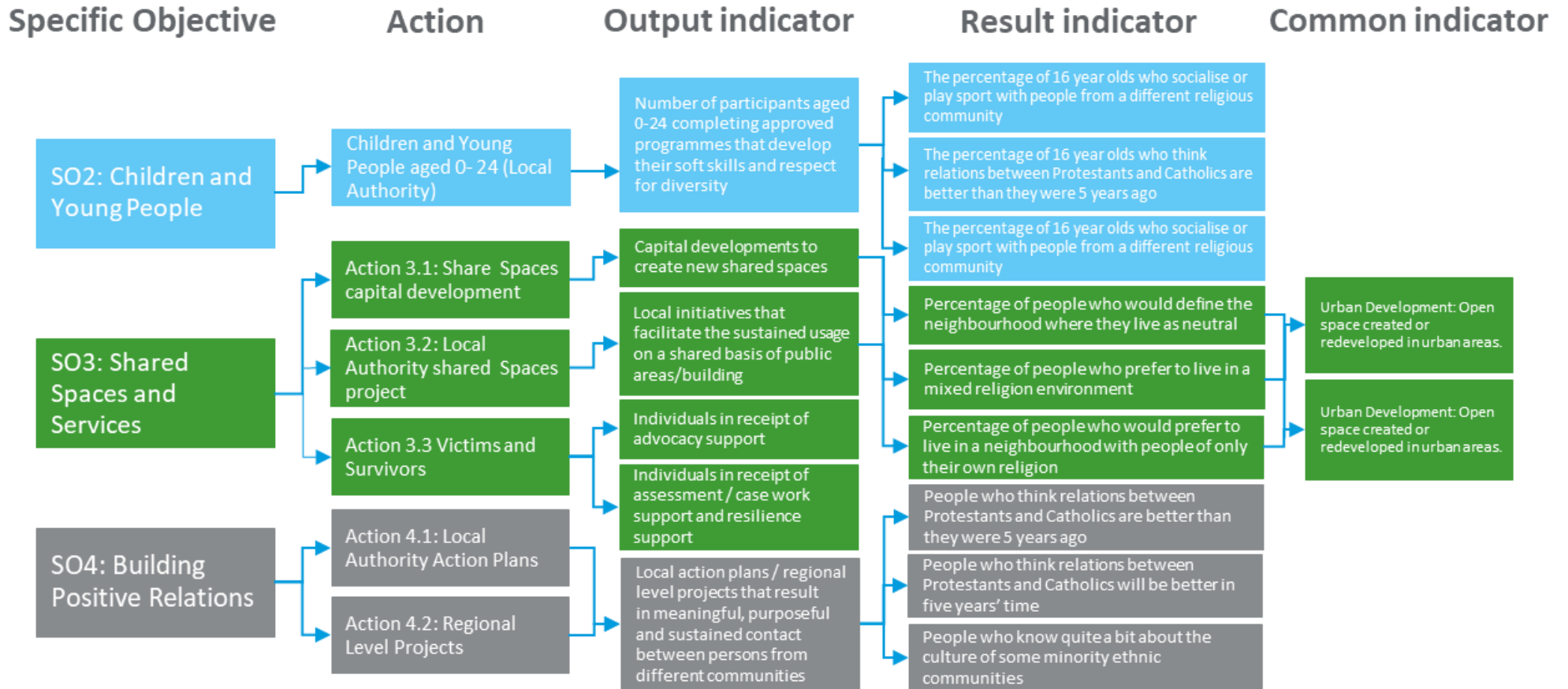
the specific objective should be expressed by one or as few as possible result indicators.³ Result indicators should be:

- 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 special objective and action. For the actions under review in this evaluation, the result and output indicators are summarised in Figure 1.2.

³ 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

Figure 1.2: Result and Output Indicators



2. CASE STUDY FINDINGS

2.1 Introduction

This section summarises the key findings from each case study, based on information provided by the projects for the period up to and inclusive of December 2020. Where possible, project impacts are profiled against output and result indicators.

2.1.1 Covid-19

Since the previous evaluation report was completed in 2019, the Covid-19 pandemic and the resultant lockdown measures have taken place. The impact of the pandemic on each case study is summarised below, with further information reflected throughout this chapter and the supporting appendices.

- Belfast City Council (BCC) Shared Spaces and Services:
 - capital works at Springfield Dam were delayed between March and May 2020; and
 - programme activities along the Greenway were not able to be delivered as planned, with two pilot projects cut short - this resulted in post-participation survey information not being completed for one of the activities.
- Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council (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
 - Covid-19 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 partner⁴ offices. Access to this information has not been possible following the imposition of lockdowns and therefore, is not reflected within this report.
- Newry, Mourne and Down District Council (NMDDC) Shared Spaces and Services:
 - limited delays were experienced in the capital aspects of project delivery, 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 by the delivery partner was delayed due to hard copy surveys being stored in offices, and therefore, were inaccessible to the project lead partner. This data is therefore not reflected within this report.

⁴ 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:
 - limited impact of Covid-19 with some of the Resilience programmes / workforce training moving to online delivery, however, this did not affect results / programme impacts; and
 - there is evidence that for the Health and Wellbeing caseworker network, the pandemic required more ongoing interaction which was not captured by monitoring.
- Fermanagh and Omagh District Council (FODC) Children and Young People:
 - programme delivery had concluded prior to the pandemic; therefore, it did not experience any detrimental impact.
- Housing Association Integration Programme (HAIP) Building Positive Relations:
 - the sharing best practice showcase events (Stage 5) were impacted by Covid-19, with some of the events moving to online delivery and others being cancelled. This had an impact on achieving target outputs, with only three out of eight events completed; and
 - the twinning programme also occurred during the pandemic. This programme was more easily adapted to align with Covid-19 restrictions and was not found to have been negatively impacted as a result.

2.1.2 Other Limitations and Constraints

In addition to Covid-19, other limitations and constraints that have impacted upon the evaluation to date, or may impact in the future, include:

- **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, limiting the ability to assess impact. Examples of this issue are highlighted in section 2.2;
- **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
- the **accessibility of impact data:** in addition to issues with accessing data (as a result of Covid-19 lockdown measures) it is clear that much of this data exists in hard copy only and requires collation and inputting to a system for it to be readily accessed and analysed.

2.2 Longitudinal Case Studies

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

Belfast City Council (BCC) aims to transform areas in North and West Belfast that exist in a 'physically fragmented environment' through the creation of a network of connected open spaces; the Forth Meadow Greenway. 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 partners⁵.

The following information summarises the project budget allocations / expenditure, activities carried out / outputs delivered and emerging results / impacts as at December 2020. Budget and expenditure performance is shown in Table 2.1.

Table 2.1: Project Expenditure (December 2020)

Expected Expenditure	Expenditure to date⁶	Actual as % of Expected
€6.1 million	€1.56 million	25.6%

Table 2.1 shows that the project has spent just c. 25% of its expected budget. This reflects the progress in relation to capital works, with significant works yet to be undertaken (only one site out of eleven along the routeway has commenced). Programme elements / resource allocations have also been delayed due to Covid-19. Significant expenditure is required in 2021 in order to achieve outputs by the agreed conclusion of the programme.

Project Activities Completed to Date (December 2020)

Project activities completed up to December 2020 included:

- the development of a brand name and visual identity, to visually link together spaces in the greenway;
- dialogue and engagement activity with community and key local stakeholders by an international shared space expert, beginning in June 2020;
- completion of the Springfield Dam site (December 2020);
- planning applications, ITTs, and pre-planning activities at the additional sites;
- two pilot programmes: one on civic education and another on fitness; and
- tender appointments and community engagement on other volunteering and art installation projects.

Outputs and Emerging Impacts

Performance indicators associated with this project are detailed in Table 2.2.

⁵ 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.

⁶ Includes management and communications costs

Table 2.2: Belfast City Council SSS indicators

Type	Indicator	Baseline / Target ⁷	Data Collection
Output Indicator	Local initiatives that facilitate sustained usage on a shared basis of public spaces	Baseline: 0.00 Target: 1.00	Focus groups, interviews, case studies, videos, social media, sticker / emoji charts and event photos
Common Indicator	Open space created or rehabilitated in urban areas	Baseline: 0.00 Target: 0.00	Collected by BCC capital works team
Result Indicators	Percentage of people who would define the neighbourhood where they live as neutral	Baseline: to be determined on commencement of programme activities Target: 80% positive increase amongst participants	Collected through survey data of programme participants (baseline and post-participation)
	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.		

Limitations are identified in the target values for output and common indicators set out in the table above, identified via the EMS. The numerical basis of the target output of 1 is not clear, and the common indicator specified target of 0 poses problems with regard to assessing impact.

As a predominantly capital project, outputs and results / impacts to date have been limited due to the large amount of preparatory work required to enable the construction phase, as well as Covid-19 impacting the programming elements. However, project data highlights:

- that 33,700 m² of open space has been rehabilitated, including new and existing paths and green space;
- evidence of emerging impacts that are consistent with sustained usage on a shared basis of public space – for example:
 - two pilot programmes commenced prior to Covid-19 interruption. Both were on a cross-community basis on parts of the Greenway that previously experienced interface unrest. Both showed evidence of incremental positive change, including the building of friendship relationships (40% were hesitant to build friendships with those from other religions at baseline, and only 5% at post-participation) and the reduction of youth antisocial behaviour in open spaces (qualitative feedback from delivery partner⁸). The success of

⁷ Source: SEUPB EMS and BCC Application Form / Business Case

⁸ The delivery partner for this pilot programme was a local community youth centre Clonard Monastery. A representative involved in the delivery of the programme was interviewed as part of this evaluation in the absence of post-participation survey data to qualitatively assess impact.

the two programmes shows the potential scalability of programming elements of the project; and

- consultation with programme leads described a change in ‘atmosphere’ following the opening of the Springfield Dam, including a change in community perception, which was initially seen as being suspicious / sceptical about the project. This intangible impact is ‘hard to qualify’ but suggests positive steps towards the overall objective. Approaches to capture the intangible impacts are being considered by BCC, and potential methods have ranged from standard methods (e.g. surveys, focus groups) to more innovative approaches (e.g. physical infrastructure to give feedback in the space).

Issues Encountered and Lessons Learned

Table 2.3 details the issues encountered and lessons learned, developed through consultation with project partners. The issues identified are additional to Covid-19, which caused an uplift in costs of £25,000 for capital projects (due to extending the duration of contracts and the need to rent specialist equipment over longer periods) and significant delays to the programming element of the project.

Table 2.3: Issues Encountered and Lessons Learned

Issue Encountered	Lesson Learned
Delays in capital projects can cause budgets to rise significantly from Local Action Plans	Local Action Plans indicate only a cost at a certain point in time. A flexible approach to budgets for capital projects is required that can reflect adjustments for cost variations
Strong single identity communities will not consider their neighbourhood neutral despite BCC interventions	The term ‘neutral’ with regard to neighbour does not fit with this project context. A more appropriate term should be considered to capture desired impact data that does not carry such weight
Some individuals felt excluded from the process of community engagement	Persistence is required to ensure engagement and hence success of the project – examples of methods of engagement used include focus groups, surveys, email relationships, building contacts with key stakeholders, social media engagement and specific events (e.g. an engagement event delivered by Mary Dellenbaugh-Losse)
Initial conversations with stakeholders saw local communities suggesting that they would rather have the money invested in other ways and not towards cross-community relations	BCC can bring vision, direction, and leadership to the area with regard to peace and reconciliation
Future ownership and management is an issue of concern for communities	Communities need to be engaged on their views for ongoing management and ownership

Anticipated Next Steps

Next steps for BCC include the appointment of contractors for the remaining sites and the commencement of works.

When Covid-19 restrictions are reduced / eased, action can be taken to roll out programme elements of the project along the greenway.

Evaluation activity undertaken to date has been limited as the main project activity has been capital works. As programmes are expected to commence, the agreed monitoring and evaluation activities will be undertaken, which are to include the establishment of attitudinal baselines and post-participation assessment.

2.2.2 Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council: Building Positive Relations

Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council (CCGBC) aims to develop a peace-building legacy product comprising collaboration between local history and heritage groups to celebrate shared culture, heritage and history of the Council area through:

- a series of capacity building and leadership, and community cohesion programmes;
- the creation of cultural and community institutions; and
- a programme of cross-border study visits.

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

The following information summarises the project budget allocation / expenditure, activities carried out / outputs delivered, and emerging results / impacts, as of December 2020. Budget and expenditure performance is highlighted in Table 2.4. The table highlights that, although the project has concluded its delivery, there has been an element of underspend.

The project partner highlighted that the procurement process was a key factor in the programme underspend. Successful bids from those delivering programmes quoted costs below the programme budget as contractors were keen to deliver value for money, leading to significant cost savings. In particular, the cross-border programme was delivered within a shorter timeframe than expected, which further contributed to cost savings.

Table 2.4: Programme Expenditure (December 2020)

Expected Expenditure	Actual Expenditure ⁹	%
€1.9 million	€1.7 million	89.5%

⁹ Includes management and communication costs

Project Activities Completed

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

- 20 groups representing 2,000 individuals took part in the Understanding our Area project, completing an area-based historical project and were offered the opportunity to train in oral history;
- a facilitated leadership programme, delivered to 63 emerging leaders;
- 70 participants took part in one-to-one capacity building and dialogue programmes;
- 220 participants engaged in the Key Institutions Programme, with 92 participants achieving over 26 hours engagement;
- 381 participants were recruited to a BME integration programme;
- 225 individuals recruited to a cultural / language institutions programme; and
- cross-border programme delivered to 212 beneficiaries.

Outputs and Emerging Impact

Performance indicators associated with this project are detailed in Table 2.5

Table 2.5: Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council BPR indicators

Type	Indicator	Baseline / Target ¹⁰	Data Collection
Output Indicator	Local Action Plans that result in meaningful, purposeful and sustained contact between persons from different communities	Baseline: 0.00 Target: 201	Reporting from delivery partners on participant numbers
Result Indicator	People who know quite a bit about the culture of some minority ethnic communities	Baseline: Baseline data was requested from project partners by RSM but has not been provided. Target: no target set	Collected by survey data of those partaking in programme activities (baseline and post-participation)
	People who think relations between Protestants and Catholics will be better in five years' time		
	People who think relations between Protestants and Catholics are better than they were five years ago		

¹⁰ Source: SEUPB EMS and CCGBC Application Form / Business Case

As highlighted in Table 2.5, the output indicator target was 201, as per the EMS. This was developed through sub-targets for individual programme elements, with a target of 200 participants on the cross-border programme and targets of 0.33, 0.33 and 0.34 for the other three work packages. It is not clear what the numerical basis was for these targets. As shown in Table 2.6, a target of 1,583 (based on target participant numbers for each work package) provided by CCGBC, suggesting that the Output Indicator target has been revised, but not updated on the EMS.

Table 2.6: Performance against Output Indicator

Target	Actual	%
1,583 participants	3,313 participants	209%

As highlighted in Table 2.6, the project has substantially exceeded its target output of participants. These participants have engaged in activities that enable meaningful, purposeful and sustained contact between persons from different communities.

Data on result indicators was requested from the project partner by RSM but was not provided for the completion of this report. Therefore, this section does not fully reflect the impact of the CCGBC BPR programme.

Issues Encountered and Lessons Learned

Issues were identified in relation to the lack of agreed targets. Following a review of EMS documents and the CCGBC Application Form / Business Case, agreed result indicator targets could not be identified.

Table 2.7 details the issues encountered and lessons learned, developed through consultation with project partners.

Table 2.7: Issues Encountered and Lessons Learned

Issue Encountered	Lesson Learned
Difficulty in engaging some stakeholders in the key institutions programme, due to their past experience and perceptions of the council	The need for continued investment in political leadership at a community level / investment in the key institutions programme.
The wider political context, with circumstance outside of the control of delivery partners impacting on certain institutions involvement	Recognising the significant influence organisations such as the Orange Order and Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA) as large volunteer organisations, the project partner sees this type of programme as vital for transformation going forward
Negative pushback from certain minority elements of the community for peace / cross-community-focused activities	Community buy-in to programmes is key to ensure that meaningful impacts are delivered in programmes that include controversial issues

Issue Encountered	Lesson Learned
The completion of hard copy monitoring forms, collected by delivery partners, meant that in the context of Covid-19 attaining this data for evaluation purposes was difficult and not always possible	An approach to monitoring and evaluation should be developed whereby survey data / other evaluation material is easily accessible to the programme delivery partner. As this issue was only encountered at the end of the programme, it has not yet been implemented.

Anticipated Next Steps

As the programme delivery aspects have now concluded, there are no next steps with regard to the project delivery. Efforts should be made to ensure that evaluation data is quickly compiled and provided to evaluation partners for future evaluations.

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

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council (NMDDC) aims to deliver twelve programmes across seven District Electoral Areas (DEAs) through a range of activities including:

- capacity building initiatives;
- education and awareness programmes and physical development; and
- regeneration and reimagining projects, including:
 - a new community centre in Saintfield;
 - a new community garden in Warrenpoint; and
 - a BMX track.

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

The following information summarises the project budget allocations / expenditure, activities carried out / outputs and emerging results / impacts as at December 2020. Budget and expenditure performance is shown in Table 2.8. The table shows that there is still a significant amount of spend required, however, this is to be expected due to the large number of capital projects and the slow process of permissions and tender for works. In addition, a significant uplift on budget costs for the BMX track has required some reallocation of resource from other programmes, delaying implementation. Covid-19 is also a factor in delaying implementation of projects and, therefore, impacting on expenditure. This is not expected to be a concern for the project, as planned works are at the procurement stage and will see increase in spend when works commence.

Table 2.8: Project Expenditure (November 2020)

Expected Expenditure	Expenditure to Date¹¹	%
€2.0 million	€0.56 million	28.2%

Project Activities Completed to Date (December 2020)

Project activities completed to date include:

- completion of the flags, emblems, and bonfires protocol programme;
- completion of 10 action plans for re-imaging and regeneration;
- completion of the capital build phase of the Ballykinlar Hut;
- workplans for the seven DEAs completed for the shared spaces engagement programme;
- 30 participants engaged in capacity building programme;
- Saintfield Community centre project completed; and
- BMX track design completed.

Outputs and Emerging Impact

Performance indicators associated with this project are detailed in Table 2.9.

Table 2.9: Newry, Mourne and Down District Council SSS indicators

Type	Indicator	Baseline¹² / Target¹³	Data Collection
Output Indicator	Local initiatives that facilitate sustained usage on a shared basis of public spaces.	Baseline: 0.0 Target: 1.0	General project monitoring
Result Indicator	Percentage of people who would define the neighbourhood where they live as neutral	Baseline: Always / Most of the time – 83%; Sometimes – 11% Target: Always / Most of the time – 4% increase; Sometimes – 4% increase	Collected by survey data of those partaking in programme activities (baseline and post-participation)
	Percentage of people who prefer to live in a mixed religion environment	Baseline: 11% Target: 4% increase	

¹¹ Includes management and communication costs

¹² Result indicator baseline based on Flags, Emblems and Bonfires protocol programme. No other baseline available

¹³ Source: EMS and NMDDC application form / business case

Type	Indicator	Baseline ¹² / Target ¹³	Data Collection
	Percentage of people who would prefer to live in a neighbourhood with people of only their own religion.	Baseline: 72% Target: 4% decrease	

The target of 1.0 for the output indicator, as per the EMS, lacks clarity in its numerical basis, and therefore, it is difficult to assess against the output indicator.

To date, only one project has produced impact data (the Flags, Emblems and Bonfires protocol programme¹⁴). This project engaged with over 60 groups, with 37 individuals completing over 30 hours engagement in the programme. Its impact data is highlighted in Table 2.10.

Table 2.10: Impact Data from the Flags, Emblems and Bonfires protocol programme

Indicator	Programme Outset	Programme Conclusion
Percentage of participants that thought that relations between Protestants and Catholics were better in the last five years	25%	70%
Percentage of participants that felt relations between the two communities would improve in five years' time	19%	80%

The following outcomes were also reported:

- 100% of respondents reported that they benefited from participating in the programme; and
- the project delivered the co-creation of a 'C-Sense' protocol¹⁵, a framework for dealing with and resolving challenging community issues. The framework considers community, communication, collaboration, common ground, consistency and capacity as its six core principles. Against each principle is a series of tasks to enable positive community relations and use of shared space.

In addition, the BPR project has also supported capital development works at Saintfield community center, funding a new 3G pitch and fencing as well as the completion of capital works at the ex-military hut at Ballykinlar.

Issues Encountered and Lessons Learned

Table 2.11 details the issues encountered and lessons learned, revealed through consultation with project partners.

¹⁴ N.B. the data produced for the FEB protocol programme by Copius Consulting does not reflect the result indicators for the project due to an error in the exit survey that delivery partners used to capture exit responses.

¹⁵ N.B. not a dedicated term at present but is captured in the Copius Consulting programme report to convey the emerging protocols from the process.

Table 2.11: Issues Encountered and Lessons Learned

Issue Encountered	Lesson Learned
Capital projects have “multiple hoops” to jump through prior to commencing, causing a lag between first costings and going out to tender	Budgets will be adjusted from the original planning stage. The impact of these delays should be addressed via sufficient application of optimism bias and contingency provision during budgeting.
Getting buy-in from new individuals was challenging, especially for 26 hours meaningful contact	New methods such as social media engagement is an alternative; however, this is hard to achieve for disengaged individuals

Anticipated Next Steps

The project has a large number of work packages and with only one completed, focus should be on progressing capital projects and recruitment / delivery of programmes. As was highlighted by the project partner, consideration should be given to measuring long-term impact, particularly as capital projects will only deliver impact towards the end of the project term. Evaluation plans should be developed to capture these impacts.

2.2.4 Victims and Survivors Service: Provision of Services (Shared Spaces and Services)

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

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

The following information summarises the project budget allocations / expenditure, activities carried out / outputs delivered and emerging results / impacts as of December 2020. Budget and expenditure performance is shown in Table 2.12. As of October 2020, the project was just over halfway through its intended delivery period and, therefore, the level of expenditure is slightly behind what might be expected (it should be noted that there was a €1.9 million project extension). Vacancies in staff positions for the Advocacy Caseworkers and Health and Wellbeing Casework network may have contributed to a lower level of expenditure. VSS is working to fill those vacancies and appoint a new Advocacy manager.

Table 2.12: Programme Expenditure (October 2020)¹⁶

Expected Expenditure	Expenditure to Date ¹⁷	%
€17.6 million	€8.6 million	49%

Performance indicators associated with this project are detailed in Table 2.13.

Table 2.13: VSS indicators

Type	Indicator	Baseline / Target ¹⁸	Data Collection
Output Indicator	Individuals in receipt of assessment / case work support and resilience support	Baseline: 0 Target: 11,350	Reporting on participant numbers
	Individuals in receipt of advocacy support.	Baseline: 0 Target: 6,300	Reporting on participant numbers

Project Activities and Outputs Completed to Date (December 2020)

Project activities to date include:

- 23 Health and Wellbeing (HWB) caseworkers now in post, and 7,334 individuals were in receipt of assessment / casework support and resilience support. There is continued engagement with 12 VSS funded organisations who make up the Health and Wellbeing Caseworker Network;
- of the targeted six Advocacy Support Managers and 22 workers allocated across six organisations, five Advocacy Support Managers and 19.5 workers have been recruited. In total, 3,177 individuals are in receipt of advocacy support;
- a total of 1,091 Resilience interventions have been delivered against a target of 2,100 interventions. This is broken down across literacy and numeracy, social isolation, trauma focused physical activity and volunteering;
- the workforce training seeks to enhance skills and build capacity of organisations in the Victims and Survivors sector, where a total of 1,724 places have been attended, equating to 601 unique participants across 138 training events / courses;
- CVS are responsible for three research projects, each of which are at the draft review stage; and
- the Needs Review Project was initiated in July 2020.

¹⁶ Latest available data

¹⁷ Includes management and communication costs

¹⁸ Source: SEUPB EMS and CCGBC Application Form / Business Case

For Action 3.3 Victims and Survivors, the relevant output indicators are:¹⁹:

- individuals in receipt of assessment / case work support and resilience support; and
- individuals in receipt of advocacy support.

As shown in Figure 1.2, there are no specific result indicators for this special objective, however, VSS do undertake their own monitoring of impact to individual clients.

Table 2.14 shows that against output indicator 'individuals in receipt of assessment / case work support and resilience support' the HWB caseworker programme is making positive progress towards its target, with 65% of the target output met. Consultation with the individual responsible for delivery reported that these numbers were therefore on track for completion in the agreed timeframe.

Table 2.14: HWB Caseworker Programme output indicator

Target	Actual	%
11,350	7,334	65%

Table 2.15 shows that against output indicator 'individuals in receipt of advocacy support', the advocacy support programme has completed half of its target output. This lags behind the HWB caseworker network in terms of target output completed, however, the project partner noted that the Advocacy Support Programme, unlike the more structured Health and Wellbeing programmes, is an evolving process and significantly impacted by external political and social factors, as it was developed in response to the Stormont House Agreement (SHA) (2014). Advocacy programmes²⁰ as envisaged by the SHA have not been implemented and, therefore, for this programme VSS has less control over outputs.

However, with the addition of new advocacy support programme staff and a manager role to provide strategic support, the partner did not raise concerns about the completion of this project to the agreed timeframe.

Table 2.15: Advocacy Support Programme output indicator

Target	Actual	%
6,300	3,177	50%

Monitoring of the **resilience programmes** demonstrates that these programmes have exceeded their original target output by 9%, and now are working towards a revised target based on an adjustment agreed with SEUPB (of which VSS are at 52% of their target output). Work and Social

¹⁹ Targets are displayed in Tables 2.14 and 2.15; baseline for both is zero.

²⁰ Independent Commission on Information Retrieval (ICIR), Historical Investigations Unit (HIU), and the Oral History Archive (OHA)

Adjustment Scale²¹ (WSAS) monitoring identifies that for all resilience programmes, a significant majority of beneficiaries report an improvement.

The workforce training programme has delivered 87% of its target output. As of November 2020, a total of 1,724 places have been attended, equating to 601 unique participants across 138 training events / courses.

Emerging Impacts

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 previous longitudinal report (2019) provided impact data in the form of WSAS scores for the HWB caseworker programme. For this 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 is to reduce the potential of double-counting impact and ensure appropriate attribution of impact to programmes. WSAS scores are instead reported for the four resilience programmes, shown in Table 2.16.

To assess the degree of impact for the Advocacy Support programme, VSS will collate case studies (either anonymised or non-anonymised depending on the wishes of the individual) to capture narrative and give a deeper understanding of impact on family, themes and patterns in wider society, gender, transgenerational impact and health and wellbeing impact. A template for how case study information will be captured in the future has been produced to support advocacy case workers in collecting this monitoring information. VSS also plan to undertake a mid-term review and post-programme evaluation of PEACE IV programmes, of which a significant element will include the advocacy support. At present neither these case studies nor reports have been collated for review.

²¹ Work and Social Adjustment Scale (WSAS) is a client-centred self-report scale of functional impairment attributable to an identified problem, measuring perceived functional impairment and ability to function day-to-day at home with their impairment

Table 2.16 summarises the impacts reported for the Resilience programme.

Table 2.16: Resilience programme impact

Resilience Programme	Improvement	No change	Dis-improvement
Social Isolation	68%	14%	18%
Trauma Focused Physical Activity	70%	13%	17%
1-1 Literacy and Numeracy	72%	8%	20%
Volunteering	88%	4%	8%

Issues Encountered and Lessons Learned

Table 2.17 details the issues encountered and lessons learned in delivering this project.

Table 2:17: Issues Encountered and Lessons Learned

Issue encountered	Lesson learned
One individual will often require multiple interventions following the needs assessment from the HWB caseworker (due to age / deterioration, recovery, initial hesitancy, and life events). These multiple engagements aren't currently captured	Future programmes should aim to develop processes and systems that capture the impact of multiple engagements with/ interventions provided to beneficiaries. Consideration should also be given to the evaluation of the holistic impact of interventions.
The method of measuring impact is individual (i.e. looking at different programmes). It is difficult to identify which programme had the most impact	
The quality of data being reported requires a lot of end-stage cleaning efforts to enable it to be usable	An online approach to monitoring and evaluation would make the data capture process easier and more effective

Anticipated Next Steps

Project activity should ensure that staff vacancies are filled quickly in both the HWB caseworker network and the advocacy support programme. Resilience programmes, workforce training and research projects are all progressing, and no issues have been highlighted in relation to their delivery.

Consideration should be given to how best to capture repeat engagement with HWB caseworker network / client journey.

2.3 Snapshot Case Studies

2.3.1 Fermanagh and Omagh District Council: Children and Young people

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council (FODC) Children and Young people project was designed to maximised cross-community contact, improve youth wellbeing, build citizenship skills, support ethnic minorities and spend time in creative and sporting settings. The project delivered six programmes for participants ranging in age from five to eighteen.

The project was led by FODC with the Education Authority Western Region a project partner. Through a tender process, Omagh Ethnic Communities Support Group was awarded the contract to deliver one of the programmes.

The following information summarises the project budget allocations / expenditure, activities carried out / outputs delivered and emerging results / impacts as at December 2020. Budget and expenditure performance is shown in Table 2.18. The table shows that the project, now concluded, was delivered in line with budget, with a minor underspend reported.

Table 2.18: Programme Expenditure (December 2020)

Expected Expenditure	Actual Expenditure²²	%
€0.63 million	€0.61 million	97%

Project Activities Completed / Outputs

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

- an interlinkage programme involving peer mentoring sessions, good relations workshops, peace camps and OCN²³ accredited training, delivered to 210 individuals;
- a series of programmes focused on improving mental health and wellbeing amongst young people, delivered to 149 participants;
- a social action programme involving weekly leadership training and peer mentoring from local schools, delivered to 88 individuals;
- a language support programme delivered to newcomer and migrant communities to learn English and establish community contacts, delivered to 25 individuals;
- a 'creative cafes' programme, which saw young people engage in peace and reconciliation themed activities through arts and cultural medium, delivered to 251 individuals; and
- a cross-community and cross-border sports programme, enabling 224 young people to engage in sport with those from a different community background.

²² Includes management and communication costs

²³ OCN (Open College Network) is a Nationally Recognised Awarding organisation which offer credit-based qualifications.

Performance indicators associated with this project are detailed in Table 2.19.

Table 2.19: Fermanagh and Omagh District Council CYP indicators

Type	Indicator	Baseline / Target ²⁴	Data Collection
Output Indicator	Number of participants aged 0-24 completing approved programmes that develop their soft skills and respect for diversity	Baseline: 0 Target: 950	Project monitoring
Result Indicator	The percentage of 16-year olds who socialise or play sport with people from a different religious community	Baseline: unavailable Target: 'very often' – 7% increase; 'sometimes' – 4% increase	Collected by survey data of those partaking in programme activities (baseline and post-participation)
	The percentage of 16-year olds who think relations between Protestants and Catholics are better than they were five years ago	Baseline: unavailable Target: 5% increase	
	The percentage of 16-year olds who think relations between Protestants and Catholics will be better in five years' time	Baseline: unavailable Target: 7% increase	

As highlighted in Table 2.20, the project was just short of meeting its target output of participants. These activities were designed to enable meaningful, purposeful, and sustained contact between young people from different communities, through sport, art, education, volunteering, camps etc.

Table 2.20: Programme target output

Target	Actual	%
950	947	99.7%

Emerging Impact

Project partners did not complete baseline surveys at the start of the project, hence the lack of baseline data.

Against the programme result indicators²⁵:

- on average, 71% of programme participants said that they socialise or play sport with someone from a different religious background and 66% said they socialise or play sport with someone from a different ethnic background;

²⁴ Source: SEUPB EMS and FODC Application Form / Business Case

²⁵ Source: PEACE IV post-participation surveys FODC, Educational Authority and Omagh Ethnic Communities Support Group

- across these programmes, 59% felt that relationships between Protestants and Catholics had improved in the last five years and 57% felt that they would improve in the next five years; and
- no participants felt that relationships were worse than five years ago, with 1% stating that they felt relationships would be worse in five years' time.

The targets outlined in the EMS and FODC application form / business case were achievable and appropriate, however, as no baseline data was available, it is not possible to assess the achievement of level of improvement. Therefore, the impact of the programme in relation to achieving the targets set could not be assessed.

Issues Encountered and Lessons Learned

Table 2.21 details the issues encountered and lessons learned from the project.

Table 2.21: Issues encountered, and lessons learned

Issue Encountered	Lesson Learned
The large number of individual programmes meant that the focus became about delivering against outcomes only, rather than focusing on building engagement	Future programmes would derive more impact through fewer programmes with more focused engagement
Delivery of the creative cafes programme to participants every Saturday morning of such a young age profile meant that achieving 26 hours engagement was difficult	The delivery model for engaging with young people should be revised for future programmes to ensure that engagement is maximised
The focus on outputs, rather than the result indicators meant that attitude baseline surveys were neglected, making measuring the impact of programmes difficult	A robust and coordinated approach to monitoring and evaluation should be agreed with SEUPB from the outset

Anticipated Next Steps

The project has now concluded and there are no more aspects of programme to deliver. The lead project partner reported not having sight of all available monitoring data, which was held by project partners. FODC should ensure that evaluation reports from each partner are completed, referencing the relevant monitoring information.

2.3.2 Housing Association Integration Project (Building Positive Relations)

The Housing Association Integration Project (HAIP) sought to promote good relations in the social housing sector of Northern Ireland and the border regions, with housing remaining a key area of continuing segregation in Northern Ireland. The project was a regional response to addressing religious, cultural and ethnic division. Forty housing schemes will take part in the project, involving thousands of tenants both directly and indirectly. The project will occur across housing schemes over five stages:

- delivering a community audit;
- community capacity building training;
- accredited and non-accredited workshops and intercultural and cross-community events;
- housing scheme twinning; and
- showcase events.

The project was led by the NI Federation of Housing Associations (NIFHA) and comprised a wide range of project partners: Apex Housing Association Limited; Choice Housing Ireland Limited; Clanmil Housing Association Limited; Radius Housing Association; and TIDES Training and Consultancy.

The following information summarises the project budget allocations / expenditure, activities carried out/ outputs delivered and emerging results / impacts as at December 2020. Budget and expenditure performance is shown in Table 2.22. The project has now concluded its delivery elements, but there is a final period of verification, therefore, the figure reported in the table is likely to change. However, it is anticipated that there will be an underspend for the project. This has not had an impact on delivery, and the project lead explained that the underspend is as a result of lower than budgeted salary costs and office and admin for the period September 2017 to December 2017. The full staff compliment was not in post during this period.

Table 2.22: Programme Expenditure (November 2020)

Expected Expenditure	Actual Expenditure ²⁶	%
€1.09 million	€0.92 million	84%

Performance indicators associated with this project are detailed in Table 2.23.

Table 2.23: HAIP indicators

Type	Indicator	Baseline / Target ²⁷	Data Collection
Output Indicator	Regional level projects that result in meaningful, purposeful and sustained contact between persons from different communities	Baseline: 0.00 Target: 1.00	n/a
Result Indicator	People who know quite a bit about the culture of some minority ethnic communities	Baseline: 30% Target: 38%	Collected by survey data of those partaking in programme activities (baseline
	People who think relations between Protestants and	Baseline: 40% Target: 48%	

²⁶ Includes management and communication costs

²⁷ Source: EMS and HAIP application form / business case

Type	Indicator	Baseline / Target ²⁷	Data Collection
	Catholics will be better in five years' time		and post-participation)
	People who think relations between Protestants and Catholics are better than they were five years ago	Baseline: 45% Target: 52%	

Project Activities Completed to Date (December 2020)

Project activities completed include:

- Stage 1: 40 housing schemes were selected to participate, and community audits were completed for each;
- Stage 2: community workshops and community events took place across communities, with 75 workshops attended by 364 tenants and 39 community building events with over 1,000 tenants;
- Stage 3: 214 participants took part in non-accredited workshops (against a target of 200) and 93 took part in OCN accredited workshops (against a target of 100). In addition to these Stage 3 activities, 24 cultural study visits occurred, meeting the target and seven cultural events were facilitated (out of a target of eight);
- Stage 4: 12 neighbourhoods took part in neighbourhood twinning, embarking on an intensive 12-week engagement with their partnering neighbourhood that was meaningful and sustained. At this stage individuals also took part in community champion training; and
- Stage 5: three showcase events (out of a target of eight) to celebrate the programme, were hosted, with 111 participants. This element of the project was disrupted due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Outputs and Emerging Impacts

The programme achieved significantly against its target output, as shown in Table 2.24, exceeding its target participant figures.

Table 2.24: Programme target output

Target	Actual	%
1,000	1,781	178%

Project survey data²⁸ captured changes in attitude as well as opportunities for purposeful / sustained contact with persons from different communities. Although the HAIP application form / business case included a baseline figure for result indicators, no baseline surveys were completed for project participants.

The Community Audit stage would have been an ideal time to compile a baseline for areas but there was not a joined-up approach between this stage and future monitoring. This, according to the project partner, was as a result of recruitment issues at the start of the project. Internal surveys²⁹ conducted through the project did ask some questions before and after activities (e.g. before and after a workshop) however these were not enough to develop a baseline for the result indicators. It is not evident how baselines provided in the HAIP application form / business case were reached, but pre-participation surveys on the three output indicators were not completed and, therefore, this programme does not have a suitable baseline.

Nonetheless, key impacts identified included:

- 92% of beneficiaries had the opportunity to build relationships and 88% of beneficiaries had the opportunity to meet with others from a different area / culture / tradition. 93% of beneficiaries felt relationships with “other” communities were more positive as a result of the programme;
- 81% of beneficiaries responded that the programme increased their knowledge of minority ethnic communities. This change was most acutely felt during (neighbourhood twinning) stage four of the programme. After participating in the programme, 53% of beneficiaries agreed with the statement that they knew quite a bit about the culture of some minority ethnic communities; and
- 83% of beneficiaries responded that the programme increased their knowledge of PUL and CNR communities³⁰. This was most pronounced change during Stage 4. After participation, 72% of beneficiaries felt that relations between Protestant and Catholic communities were better than five years ago, and 74% of beneficiaries felt they would be better in five years’ time.

In addition, other outputs and outcomes included:

- production of community audits as a baseline and framework for future engagement;
- an increase in capacity, both with participating individuals through training and the sector through demonstrating the potential success of partnership working; and
- increased longevity of good relations through twinned communities and embedded champions.

²⁸ Internally produced post-activity survey and an external PEACE IV post-participation survey conducted by all project partners (NIFHA, Apex, Choice, Clanmil, Radius and TIDES) throughout the duration of the project.

²⁹ As opposed to the PEACE IV baseline / post-participation surveys

³⁰ PUL – Protestant, Unionist and Loyalist; CNR – Catholic, Nationalist and Republican.

Issues Encountered and Lessons Learned

Table 2.25 details the issues encountered and lessons learned from the project.

Table 2.25: Issues Encountered and Lessons Learned

Issue Encountered	Lesson Learned
The geographical spread of neighbourhoods selected in the programme created a logistical problem in Stages 3 and 4 as residents and GROs ³¹ had to travel long distances to join with residents from other neighbourhoods	Neighbourhoods should be clustered by geography rather than by housing association allowing for GRO / Twinned neighbourhoods to be geographical proximate
Community audit data collection did not match monitoring and evaluation at future stages of the project, rendering it unusable as a baseline for post-participation surveys	There should be a more joined up approach to monitoring and evaluation such that community audits can act as a direct baseline for future surveys rather than questions becoming more specialised as the project progresses
When assessing the success of the programme, the lack of baseline data around the result indicators has hindered evaluation / the attribution of impacts and success to the programme	As above, a robust and joined-up evaluation framework should be agreed with SEUPB at the start of future projects
Branding of the project ' <i>Housing Association Integration Project</i> ' was more relevant to project partners than beneficiaries	To aid recruitment and get increased community buy-in, the project should be branded and messaged in a way that is attractive to residents

Anticipated Next Steps

As the programme delivery aspects have now concluded, there are no next steps with regard to the delivery of the project. Efforts should be made to ensure that evaluation data is quickly compiled and provided to evaluation partners for future evaluations.

³¹ Good Relations Officers

3. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 Conclusions

Our review of the selected case studies highlights that they have reported positive impacts or that they are progressing positively towards achieving output and result indicators.

The Shared Spaces and Service case studies (BCC; NMDDC; and VSS) are all at an earlier stage of delivery than both the Building Positive Relations case studies (CCGBC and HAIP) and the Children and Young People case study (FODC), which had concluded (prior to or during this evaluation period).

Where data was available, recorded outputs against agreed target output indicators across the projects was successful, with projects (that had recruitment targets) achieving and often exceeding recruitment objectives. VSS, which has still a significant portion of time and budget left for its project to complete, is likely to come close to or meet its output targets. Target outputs of BCC and NMDDC are more broad-based, and due to the nature of the activities undertaken by these projects (predominantly capital) these have not yet been achieved; however, progress does remain positive.

Based on the data available and the analysis provided, the following conclusions can be drawn regarding project results:

- there has been positive change with regard to both how individuals perceived relations between Protestants and Catholics, with increase in proportion of those who felt relations were better than five years ago, and relations would be better in five years' time;
- programmes that contained an element of relationship building with those of different ethnic backgrounds also produced significant positive change, with an increase in the proportion of those who had knowledge of those from different ethnic backgrounds;
- the FODC CYP programme has enabled children and young people to interact, socialise and play sport on a cross-community basis; and
- BCC SSS is still at an early stage of programming, however, there is evidence of incremental change and the building of friendship relationships on a cross-community basis due to programmes.

3.2 Issues identified

The following issues have been identified with regard 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, 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;

- related to this, it was reported that project partners focused largely on reporting **output indicators** rather than result indicators (due to EMS requirements 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, and, therefore, the potential to assess the level of change sought by the specific objective; and
- the **accessibility of impact data**: the issue of access is as a result of Covid-19 lockdown measures however it is still clear that problems exist in relation to where and in what format data is stored.

3.3 Recommendations

The following recommendations are drawn from the analysis:

- **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 rate, reduce risk of non-completion due to external factors (e.g. Covid-19, non-attendance at penultimate session), 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. In some cases, data collection plans have been over ambitious and not adhered to; and
 - projects should plan to collect **baseline data** prior to commencing any programme delivery.
- it is recommended that in relation to **programme indicators**:
 - consideration should be given 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 been recorded; and
 - consideration is given refinement of **output indicators** as the targets against these indicators are not easily understood / assessed, limiting how much evaluators can assess impact;
- with regard **local authority Shared Spaces projects**:
 - these projects reported the most concern relating to indicators / 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** will only begin to deliver impact as the project concludes. Consideration should be given to how this impact is captured.

APPENDIX 1: LONGITUDINAL CASE STUDIES

Belfast City Council: Connecting Open Spaces

Project overview

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

The project aims to transform areas in North and West Belfast that exist in a 'physically fragmented environment', through the creation of a network of connected open spaces. This development takes place in the context of just 34% of young people answering 'yes definitely' in response to whether they believe parks are 'shared and open' to both Protestants and Catholics, this is almost half of the overall Northern Ireland percentage³².

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

³² "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 1.

Table 1: Project overview

Applicant:	Belfast City Council
Project	Belfast City Council PIV Local Action Plan – SSS (Shared Spaces and Services)
Project Partners:	Belfast City Council
Relevant Special 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
Duration	November 2014 – June 2022

The project’s main development sites/locations are detailed in Table 2 and the project incorporates the following five sections, detailed in figures 1a to 1e.

- Section 1 – Glencairn to Ballygomartin;
- Section 2 – Forth River / Springfield Road;
- Section 3 – Springfield Road to Falls Park
- Section 4 – Bog Meadows; and
- Section 5 – Westlink to City Centre.

A schematic of the route of the current proposed shared space network is presented in Figure 2.

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

Section	Current sites / locations of activity	Work Planned
Section 1: Glencairn to Ballygomartin	1. Clarendon Playing Fields	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
	2. Forthriver Linear Park	

Section	Current sites / locations of activity	Work Planned
	3. Glencairn Park	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.
Section 2: Forth River / Springfield Road	4. Woodvale Park	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
	5. Paisley Park / Braidwater	
Section 3: Springfield Road to Falls Park	6. Springfield Dam and Park	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.
	7. Innovation Factory / Invest NI site	
	8. Springfield Road	
	9. City Cemetery	
	10. Falls Park	
Section 4: Bog Meadows	11. Bog Meadows	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	12. Belfast Transport Hub beside Great Victoria Street train station & Europa Bus Centre	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 (as shown in Table 1). The Project Manager noted that the initial sites were subject to technical feasibility, affordability, time constraints, an ecological survey and public consultation / community buy in, and consequently, these activities have resulted in a more refined route. For example, the technical feasibility study ruled out the route passing through Springhill Millennium Park as 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 reported that no impacts on the potential achievement of the project are anticipated as a result of the changes to the main sites/locations of the project components, rather that the changes have been designed to ensure that change and impact are maximised via subsequent project implementation and delivery.

Figure 1a: Section 1

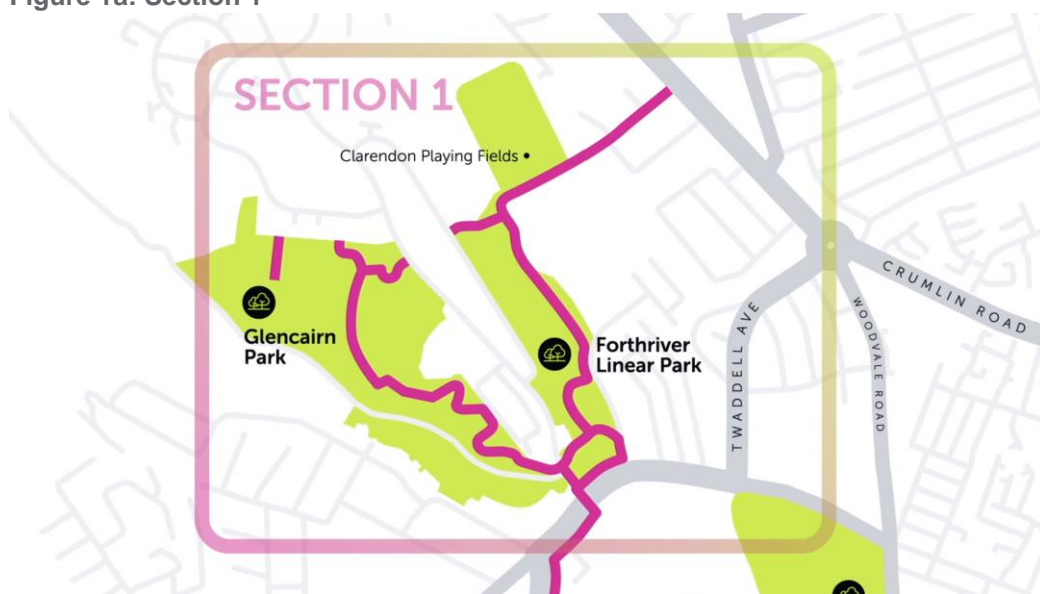


Figure 1b: Section 2



Figure 1c: Section 3



Figure 1d: Section 4



Figure 1e: Section 5

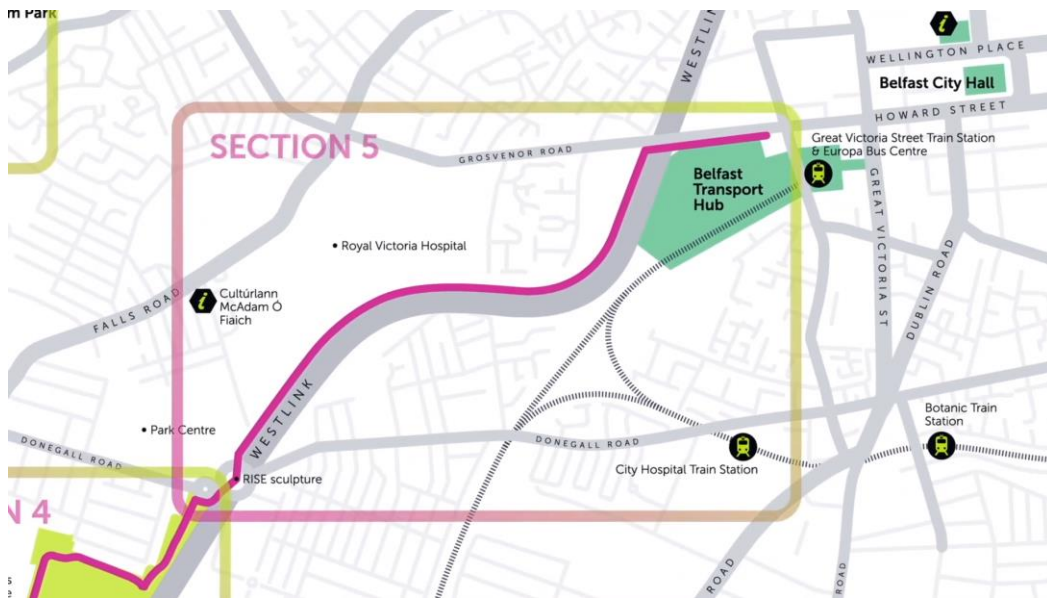


Figure 2: Network Route



A key element of the project is the Springfield Dam and Park Masterplan, which aims to create ‘a new civic space with improved access, recreational facilities and environmental enhancements’. A map highlighting various features of the masterplan is provided in figure 2. The Springfield Dam project will include:

- Improved access to and around the site - the masterplan will provide new entrance points around the park, the locations of which are identified by green dots in Figure 2. This will

include a 'signature pedestrian access point' located at the point marked '1' in Figure 2. A pedestrian bridge will be built across the dam, this will facilitate access to activities on either side of the dam (3). A visualisation of the bridge is shown in Figure 3;

- Recreational facilities - As shown by points marked '4' in Figure 2, the east bank of the dam will include fishing stands. A 'modular classroom' will be built to provide a meeting place for schools and community groups (number 6 in Figure 2), next to this classroom there will be an outdoor event space that will accommodate fairs and community events;
- Environmental Enhancements - the masterplan includes the provision of additional habitats for birds and wildlife through the inclusion of floating islands (number 8 in Figure 2) and wildflower planting (number 9); and
- Overall Site Enhancements - the masterplan includes a 'viewing area' where walkers/locals can 'take in the vista', this area will also include information panels that tell the story of the dam's history.

Figure 3: Springfield Dam Park Masterplan



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

Figure 4: Springfield Dam - Visualisation



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

Alongside the capital development elements, 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

Table 3 provides an overview the project elements, associated budget allocations, timescales, activities carried out to date and activities yet to be carried out. The project has progressed in its capital phase and simultaneously its programming elements. Details of progress follow.

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. An example of the branding which will be consistent throughout the route network, linking the signage and information panels together is detailed in figure 5.

Shared Space Dialogue and Engagement

To engage the community and key community stakeholders in the project and its desired outcomes, a shared space expert, Dr Mary Dellenbaugh-Losse 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 Covid-19, 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. Further, 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

Figure 5: Forth Meadow Brand Identity



by an online webinar. The contractor is currently at the stage of preparing the final report for presentation. The cost of this contract was £19,970.00, with £11,850.00 claimed to date.

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 on the 11th December. Though this aspect of the project is complete, due to Government Restrictions, an official opening ceremony has been delayed.

Route Network Projects

A contractor is yet to be appointed for this element of the project. McAdam Design completed the ITT documentation for the Single Party Framework Contractor and following CPD and SEUPB approval this was issued to the 4 no. contractors on 12th June 2020. Tenders were returned on the 4th September 2020. A tender Assessment has been completed and a tender report is to be submitted to CPD W/C 14th December. The necessary approvals are expected to be in place in early January 2021. Delays have been experienced due to extensive clarifications sought by the Design Team of McAdam Design and Bruce-Shaw.

The planning application for **Section 2** (Forth River / Springfield Road) major works was submitted in June 2020 and a decision expected in January 2021. Construction work to the gates at Woodvale Park / Workman Avenue entrance are now completed in conjunction with invest NI.

Developed designs for **Sections 3** (Springfield Road/Falls Park) are now complete.

The Design Team progressing detailed design for **Section 4** (Bog Meadows) with a view to submitted planning application in January 2021. A pre-application discussion has taken place and the developed design for the Bog Meadows site has been shared with Ulster Wildlife who manage Bog Meadows to gain feedback and approval for the design, prior to submission of planning.

Section 5 (Westlink to City Centre) will move to detailed planning design in the near future.

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:

- **Narratives for Interpretative Panels:** A consortium of Mediation NI and 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, the Covid-19 lockdown meant 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;
- 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 looked at 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 is 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 still in their initiation stage. No responses were received for the delivery of the Local Ambassadors, Heritage Guides and Nature Guides. Feedback from interested parties is being progressed before the specifications will be reviewed and re-advertised; and
- Springfield Dam Activities:** Taking account of Covid-19 restrictions, a programme for the opening of Springfield Dam is being developed and discussions are ongoing with Council's West Belfast area team, community organisations and external providers regarding a programme of activities that will see the site used by both the PUL and CNR communities. This project is still at its initiation stage.

Shared Space Resource Allocation

The purpose of the Shared Space resource allocation is to encourage and enable community projects to occur themselves, 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 is 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.

Table 3 – Project elements and progress to date

Programme output indicator	Project/output description	Duration	Activities carried out to date	Activities to be carried out
3.2: Local initiatives that facilitate the sustained usage on a shared basis of public areas / buildings	<p>Springfield Dam/Park</p> <p>This project element involves the regeneration of open space, namely the Springfield Dam/Park. The project will include improvements such as entrance points, parking, a pedestrian bridge crossing the dam and recreation facilities including viewing platforms, a circular pathway, a modular classroom and an outdoor events space, as well as environmental enhancements.</p>	February 2020 – December 2020	<p>A feasibility study was completed by design consultants (AECOM, September 2018). This involves route options; cost estimations; technical feasibility; and examination of affordability;</p> <p>Preferred site selection, based on: is it an area affected by disadvantage and the legacy of the conflict; does the site have potential to be welcoming, safe, good quality, connected/accessible; potential to deliver a programme of activity on the site that will promote peace and reconciliation outcomes, consider sensitive issues and support cross community contact; affordability; technical feasibility; community consultation; and time constraints;</p> <p>01.02.18-30.04.18 - BCC submitted a bid for £81,000 of unallocated funding for the SSS theme, with £6,000 per site to be spent on community led activities;</p> <p>AECOM were appointed by Belfast City Council as the design team, exclusively for Springfield Dam and Park. McAdam Design Ltd have been appointed as the integrated design team for all other aspects of the project;</p> <p>Stakeholder engagement through community consultation was carried out in relation to the Springfield Dam and Park between June and September 2018, the consultees included residents and community groups;</p> <p>Community workshop was completed in January 2019. It aimed to identify the level of support for the proposed route; inform the development of the primary route; and highlight the issues and ideas</p>	Final snagging and defects period.

Programme output indicator	Project/output description	Duration	Activities carried out to date	Activities to be carried out
			<p>that can be taken forward within PEACE IV scope. The Springfield Dam is expected on site by mid-2019. Works on other open spaces are estimated for 2020, through a phased approach that will be informed by engagement and formal consultation; Capital build elements within the Springfield Dam commenced February 2020. Interrupted due to Covid-19 but recommenced in May 2020. Completed in December 2020.</p> <p>shared space dialogue and engagement: shared spaces consultant engaged community and key stakeholders in shared space dialogue through a survey (251 completed surveys), workshops and individual interviews. Final report currently being prepared.</p>	
<p>3.2: Local initiatives that facilitate the sustained usage on a shared basis of public areas / buildings</p>	<p>Network/Route Development:</p> <p>This project element involves creating connections between shared spaces, developing a network of walking and cycle paths, between the 12 selected sites. Along the path network there will be new pathway surfaces, new street furniture, signage, wayfinding and public art. Continuous branding will provide a seamless physical presence along the corridor. The project</p>	<p>October 2018 – December 2022</p>	<p>Continuous branding of route network completed and signed off;</p> <p>ITT documentation completed. Tenders returned and tender assessment complete. It is anticipated approvals will be in place early January;</p> <p>section 2 major planning application submitted June 2020;</p> <p>section 3 designs now complete;</p> <p>section 4 PAD has already taken place and designs submitted to Ulster Wildlife; and</p> <p>construction at Woodvale Park gates completed.</p>	<p>Construction works to commence; and connections developed through path works and signage, a new shared space network.</p>

Programme output indicator	Project/output description	Duration	Activities carried out to date	Activities to be carried out
	<p>focus will be on those sites most directly affected by segregation, in close proximity to a number of interface barriers, and there remains live disputes over open spaces and right of way. The main locations of the activity are those mentioned in Table 2.</p>			
<p>CO38: Urban Development: Open space created or rehabilitated in urban areas;</p>	<p>Shared Space Resource Allocation/programme activities:</p> <p>This project element pertains to the managing of shared space and seeks to develop a programme of cross-community activities to encourage ongoing use of shared space.</p> <p>A key aspect of this is the shared space resource allocation where up to £6,000 per shared space site (for three projects on each site) will be allocated to enable community led events and activities along the necklace of Shared Space. The focus of the activities will be to build positive relations with and</p>	<p>August 2019 – March 2022</p>	<p>shared history and identity sessions: Mediation NI and Osborne Partnership appointed as delivery partners;</p> <p>youth engagement activities: pilot youth programme undertaken with most of target outputs met. Focus on anti-social behaviour. Cut short due to Covid-19. Project complete;</p> <p>community led activities: woman's fitness project. 20 woman completed 20 weeks of fitness, good relations and shared space engagement, meeting twice a week. Completed in March 2020 due to Covid-19 with all target outputs met;</p> <p>volunteer programme: Sustrans appointed as delivery partner for walking / cycling leads. No delivery partner found for Local Ambassadors, Heritage Guides and Nature Guides. To be reviewed and re-advertised;</p> <p>shared community events: no activity to date; and</p>	<p>shared history and identity sessions: identify relevant groups on a cross community basis, deliver facilitated sessions that look at the shared history, heritage and identity of communities/areas along the greenway, engaging with 300 individuals. Develop stories of shared history into 17 interpretative panels along the route path.</p> <p>youth engagement activities: roll out of additional youth programmes;</p> <p>community led activities: up to £6,000 per shared space site (for 3 projects per site) is allocated to enable community led events. groups/organisations in receipt of support need to identify and engage with 5</p>

Programme output indicator	Project/output description	Duration	Activities carried out to date	Activities to be carried out
	<p>between the two main community backgrounds in the area.</p> <p>Other key programme outputs include:</p> <p>Engaging children and young people through programmes on civic education in shared spaces;</p> <p>Engaging through inter-generational programmes on heritage and identity;</p> <p>Recruiting and training shared space volunteers, with 50% achieving accredited certification in mediation;</p> <p>Designing and installing pieces of public art, and publish a shared space management guide;</p> <p>Attracting participants to attend public spectacle events;</p> <p>Engaging participants to deliver community led shared space activities;</p> <p>Delivering community led shared space activities</p>			<p>unique community representatives per site;</p> <p>volunteer programme: recruitment of Local Ambassadors, Heritage Guides and Nature Guides. Delivery partner, recruitment of volunteers, delivery of training, delivery of mediation skills accredited training (level 1), delivery of volunteer-led programmes;</p> <p>shared community events: delivery of community events / activities designed to utilise the greenway space; and</p> <p>shared space dialogue and engagement: final report to be delivered.</p>

Table 5 identifies that out of a total funding allocation of **€6,103,489.95** (outlined in table 4), **€1,564,791.17** has been spent to date (end of reporting period 24³³: 31/10/2020).

Table 4: Project Summary Budget

Summary Budget	Total Project Costs
Staff costs	£792,781.84 / €935,482.57
Office and administration	£118,917.28 / €140,322.38
Travel and Accommodation	£0.00 / €0.00
External expertise and services	£1,190,000.00 / €1,404,200.00
Equipment	£3,750 / €4,425.00
Infrastructure and works	£3,067,000 / €3,619,060.00
Net Revenue	£0.00 / €0.00
Total	£5,172,449.12 / €6,103,489.95

Table 5: Expenditure to date

Expenditure Area	Periods 1-16 (01.11.14 – 31.10.2018) (Year 1 report)	Periods 17-24 (01.11.18 – 31.10.20)	Total Eligible Expenditure Period 1-24
Staff Costs	€110,536.12	€ 292,195.11	€ 402,731.23
Office and Administration	€16,580.40	€ 43,829.24	€ 60,409.64
Travel and Accommodation	€0.00	€ 0.00	€ 0.00
External Expertise and Services	€3,662.96	€ 43,784.02	€ 47,446.98
Equipment	€0.00	€ 0.00	€ 0.00
Infrastructure and Works	€38,752.33	€ 1,015,450.99	€ 1,054,203.32
Net Revenue	€0.00	€ 0.00	€ 0.00
Total:	€169,531.81	€ 1,395,259.36	€ 1,564,791.17

Monitoring and Evaluation

As a local authority Shared Spaces and Services project, the project has the following output / common indicators:

- Local initiatives that facilitate sustained usage on a shared basis of public spaces.

³³ Latest available up-to-date spending period

- 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, detailed 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 (m²).

Baseline data

As highlighted in consultation with a project lead, capturing data for the individual programmes is easier as it involves identifiable participants, however, establishing a baseline for the wider community in relation to their use of the Greenway is much more difficult. With regard to this, the council conducted dialogue and engagement activities, both to involve the community in the process, and to better understand the needs of the community. This dialogue and engagement drew out these key findings:

- there is a high degree of interest among all sections of the Greenway;
- active recreation, outdoor classes and education are the preferred uses of the space;
- critical success factors include feelings of safety, lighting, and accessibility of the route;
- conflicts around use of space was cited as the biggest potential barrier for success, along with the potential that the space is not share and a lack of cooperation amongst local groups; and

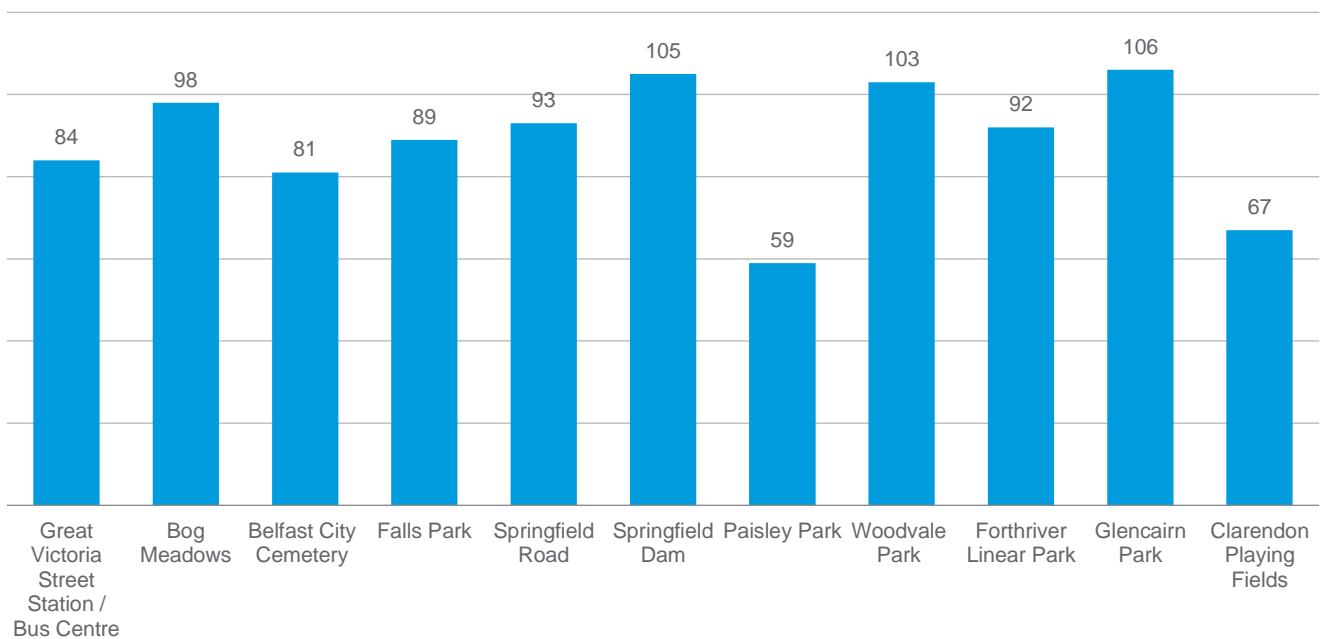
- there is broad support from a range of stakeholders who can see a potential for positive change through the programme.

The detail of the results is outlined below.

The research conducted by Mary Dellenbaugh-Losse (MDL) saw engagement from 204 individuals who identified themselves as local residents, and of that number, 159 individuals partook in the survey as local residents *only* compared to those who were also responding as a community stakeholder. 37 community leaders / leaders from local association and groups took part.

Figure 6 details the sections of the Greenway that individuals were most interested in. 59% of individuals responded they were interested in 3 or more sections of the Greenway.

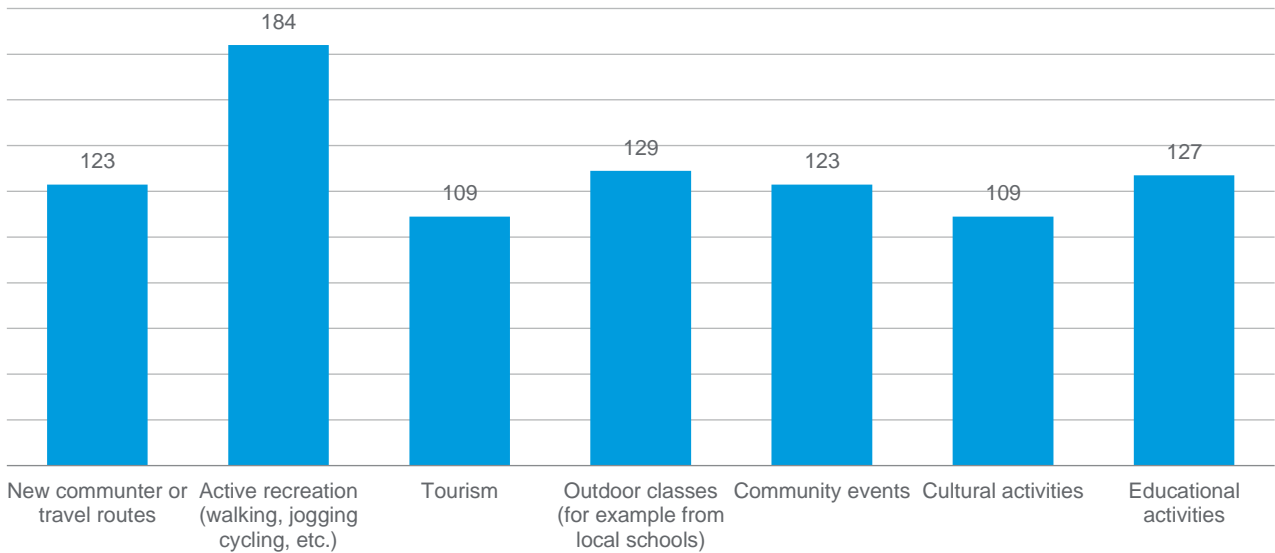
Figure 6: Sections of Greenway of most interest to Respondents



Source: *Fourth Meadow Community Greenway Dialogue and Engagement Online Survey Result Summary*

The preferred uses of the Greenway are detailed in Figure 7.

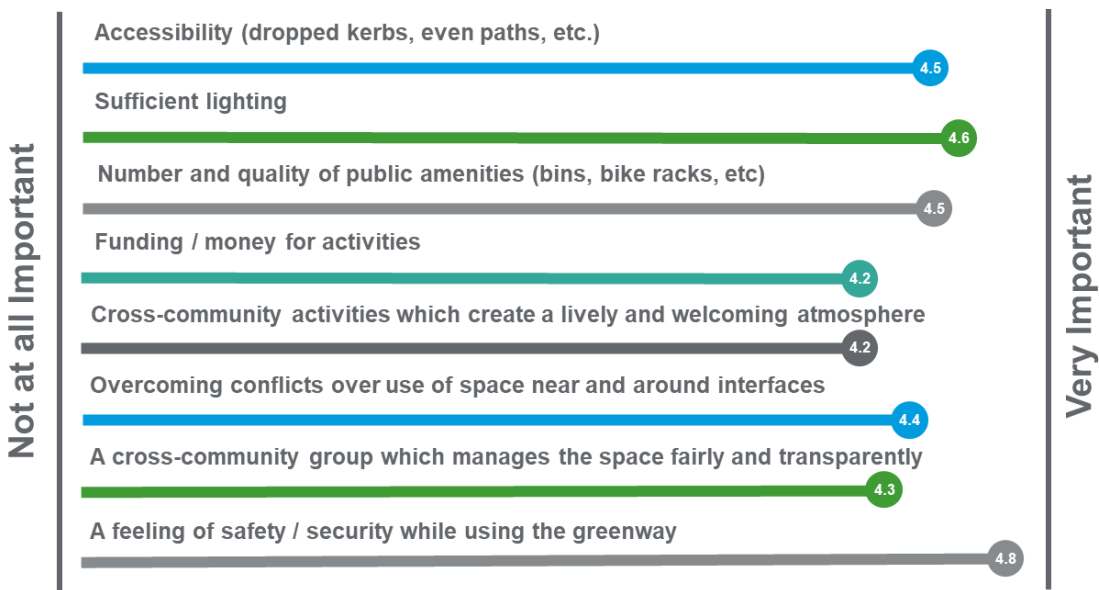
Figure 7: Preferred uses of the Greenway



Source: Fourth Meadow Community Greenway Dialogue and Engagement Online Survey Result Summary

Respondents also commented on the factors deemed critical for success. Included are feelings of safety, lighting and accessibility of the route. This is detailed in figure 8.

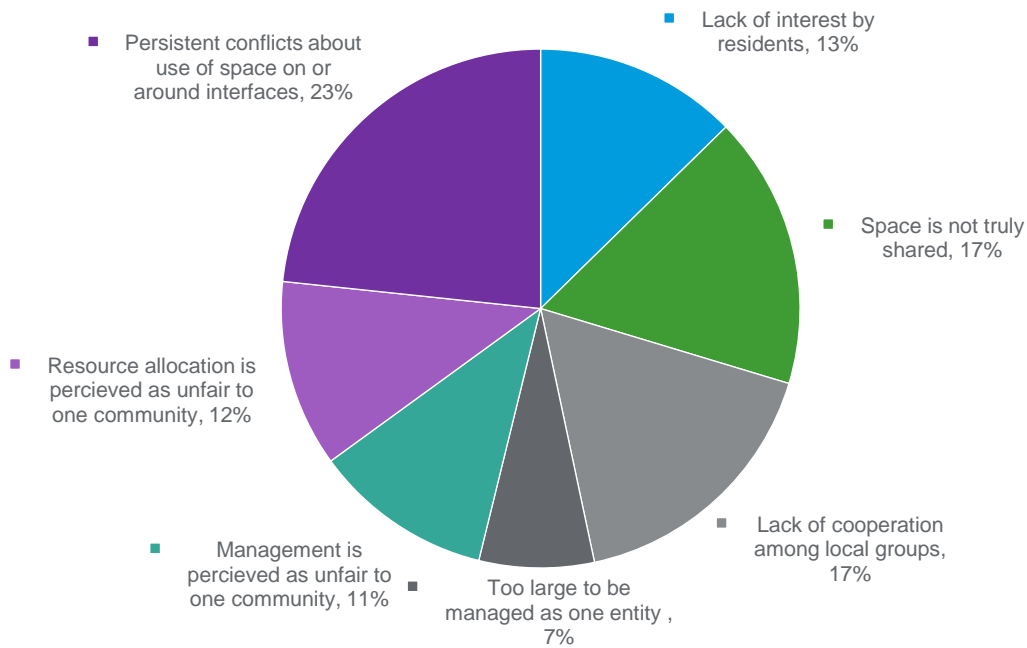
Figure 8: Critical Success Factors



Source: Fourth Meadow Community Greenway Dialogue and Engagement Online Survey Result Summary

Conflicts around use of space was cited as the biggest potential barrier for success, along with the potential that the space is not share and a lack of cooperation amongst local groups.

Figure 9: Barriers to Success



Source: Fourth Meadow Community Greenway Dialogue and Engagement Online Survey Result Summary

Key findings from this community dialogue and engagement found that there is broad support from a range of stakeholders who can see a potential for positive change through the programme:

- *“there is no end to the cultural and natural capital that can be gleaned from a project like this”* Local Association Representative
- *“Fantastic Opportunity for the west of the city”* Community Leader

Barriers to success include the issues of conflict around interfaces. To avoid and minimise conflict, designing the governance will be hard, but feedback found a desire for resident involvement in this, as well as a desire for young voices to be heard:

- *“A broad group of residents, associations, community leaders, businesses and groups should be involved”* Local Association
- *“Empower the young through inclusion and support”* Community Representative

Output Indicators

Capturing output is straightforward, with the capital projects team measuring the amount of urban space regenerated and the programme team measuring the number of local initiatives that facilitate sustained usage on a shared basis of public spaces.

- 33,700 m² of open space rehabilitated through the Springfield Dam project including new and existing paths and green space; and
- two shared spaces programmes have occurred, as detailed previously.

Result Indicators

Monitoring and evaluation that has occurred with regard to result indicators has been in relation to the two Shared Space programmes (Youth Civic Education Project and Lanark Way Fitness Programme) which have occurred. Monitoring against result indicators occurred through baseline and post-participation surveys. Key findings from these two programmes include:

- change is incremental with regard to the result indicators. Although there wasn't a dramatic change of individuals wanting to live in mixed neighbourhoods or defining their own as neutral, friendship relationships were built up through the Lanark way programme and sectarian anti-social behaviour was reduced following the civic education programme;
- both programmes show potential for scalability, meaning that impact can be increased across the result indicators;
- both programmes were significantly disrupted due to Covid, reducing potential impact.

Detailed findings are outlined below.

Youth Civic Education Project

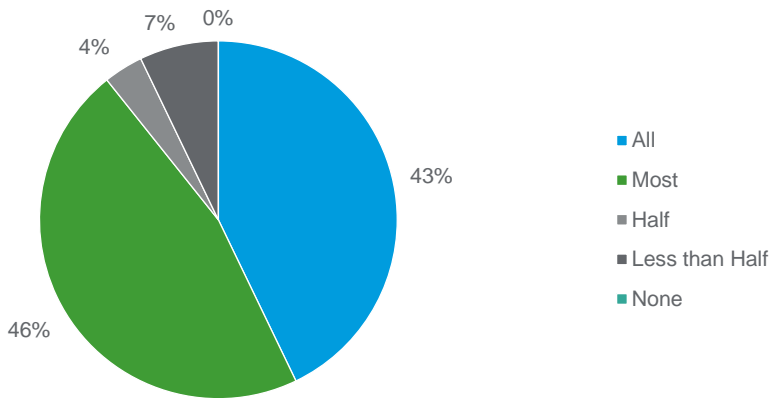
The Pilot Civic Education project saw young people who would normally socialise on either side of the interfaces in Springfield Dam, Innovation Factory and INI site, have return to youth orientated facilities, coming together for group sessions, discussing issues common to them both, e.g. suicide, drugs abuse, homelessness, etc. A positive impact will be if many of them will remain members of the youth centres and continue to be involved in cross community youth activities.

Participants were asked to complete baseline surveys, prior to beginning the programme. These surveys asked for participants views around the neutrality of the area and relations between the two communities. 28 of the 30 individuals who partook in the programme completed these surveys.

Baseline survey results revealed that prior to starting the programme, 89% of participants friends came entirely or mostly from the same religious background as themselves. This is detailed in Figure 10.

Figure 10: proportion of friends from the same religious background as participant baseline

How many of your friends are from the same religious background as you?



Initial attitudes towards becoming friends with more people from a different religious background were fairly high, with 75% (N=21) stating that this is something that they would probably like or definitely like this. No one reported that this was something that they were definitely not open to. This is detailed in Figure 11.

Figure 11: Attitudes towards becoming friends with more people from different religions baseline

Would you like to become friends with more people from different religions?

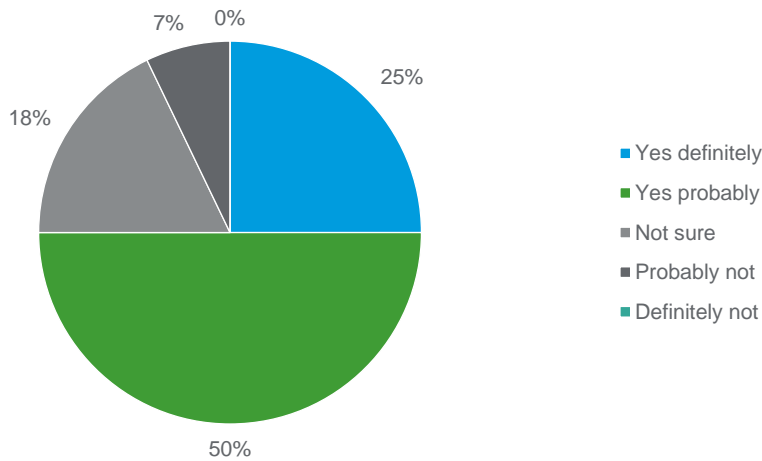
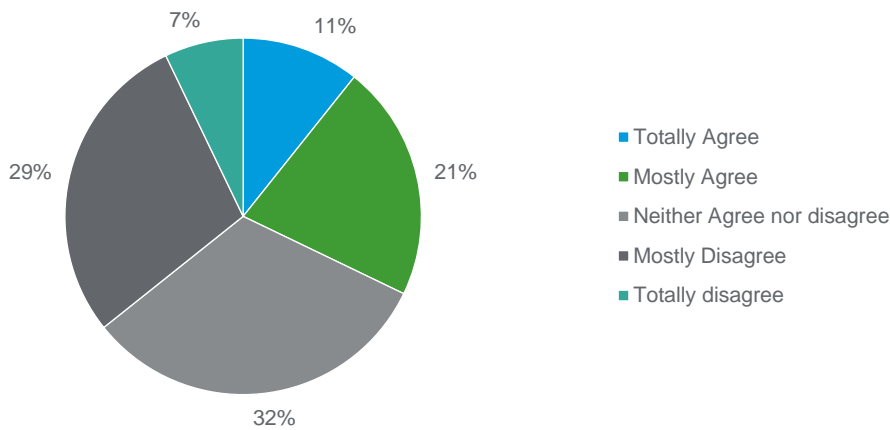


Figure 12 details the perception of the local area’s neutrality, and on this point, there is was more variation in attitude. 32% (N=9) neither agree nor disagree, however a significant proportion

(29%; N=8) mostly disagreed that the area was neutral and those of different religious, political or ethnic background get on well.

Figure 12: Perceptions of neighbourhood neutrality and relationships between those of differing religious, political and ethnic backgrounds baseline

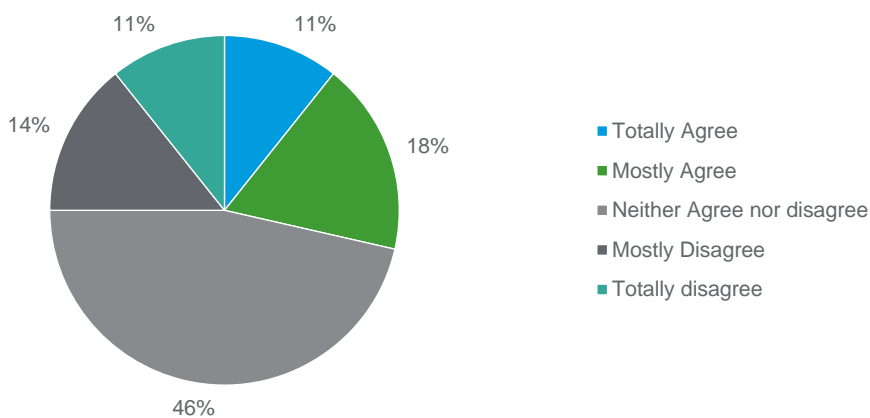
Is the neighbourhood where you live a neutral space where people from different religions and political and ethnic backgrounds get on well together?



Similarly, perceptions of open space and park safety and openness to all communities were varied, with 46% (N=13) neither agreeing nor disagreeing, but only 29% agreed that it was safe and open to all. This is detailed in Figure 13.

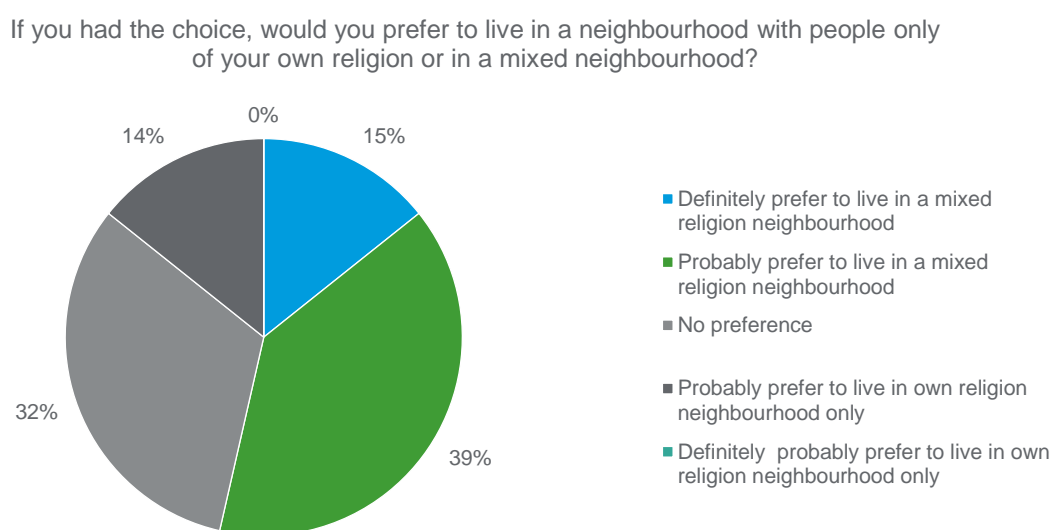
Figure 13: Perceptions of parks and open space safety and openness to all communities baseline.

Is the neighbourhood where you live a place where parks and open spaces are safe and welcoming to people from all communities?



In relation to the preferred religious background of neighbourhood of participants, a significant proportion 54% (N=15) stated that they would definitely or probably prefer to live in a mixed religion neighbourhood, compared to only 14% (N=4) who would probably prefer to live in a single religion area. This is detailed in Figure 14.

Figure 14: preferred religious make up of neighbourhood baseline.



Post-programme attitudinal were planned to assess the change in attitudes around shared space, however, due to the Covid-19 pandemic and restrictions, the project was forced to stop without completing its planned weekend away, where post-programme surveys would have been completed. In the absence of this, RSM consulted with a lead stakeholder in the project, to comment on attitudinal changes amongst the group. Consultation revealed that the project, which broadly sought to “*de-escalate sectarian tensions*” in community spaces and reduce the instances of “*organised clashes*” at the innovation factory site along the Forth Meadow route, was successful in this aim and there was initially a marked reduction in rates of clashes amongst the young people engaged with.

Consultation detailed the programme, although meeting its targets, was hindered in engendering deeper and meaningful cross-community relationship building for a variety of external factors. The short time frame, with delays due to a recruitment struggle on the PUL side initially, and the need to close the programme early due to Covid meant, to the respondent, the time frame of engagement was not enough to see meaningful relationship change. The fact that Covid meant the planned residential had to be cancelled further negatively affected potential impacts. The respondents reflection was that “*residential have a massive impact on programmes – you take people out of their area and they have no feeling of where you are, so it’s a shared group experience, bonds form and groups join together.*” The lack of this core element meant that relationship building across communities was hindered.

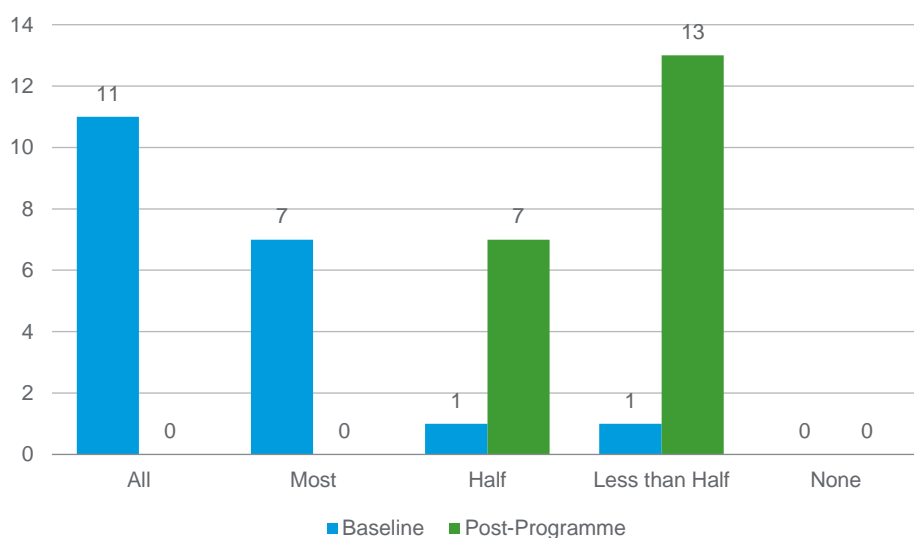
The respondent did suggest that there was a deep-seeded feeling of single community ownership of certain open spaces and parks, and to try and break that down was a hard task and felt that

the scope of this programme would not overcome such entrenched perceptions and fears. However, it was pointed out that “*it can only be a positive thing, bringing young people together on a cross-community basis; it’s always going to be beneficial*” highlighting the potential future benefit of similar programmes.

Lanark Way Fitness Project

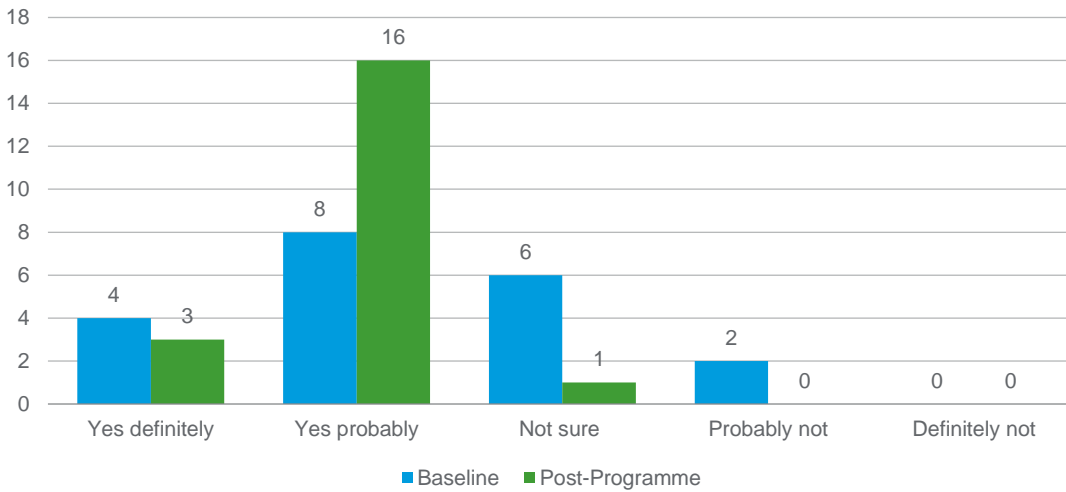
Baseline and post-programme surveys were completed for this project. Participants were asked prior to the programme and after completion, ‘how many of their friends are from the same religious background as you?’. Over 50% (N=11) in the baseline surveys reported that all their friends came from the same religious background. This is compared to the 65% of participants who reported that following completion of the programme, less than half of their friends were from the same background. This is shown in Figure 15.

Figure 15: proportion of friends from the same religious background as participant



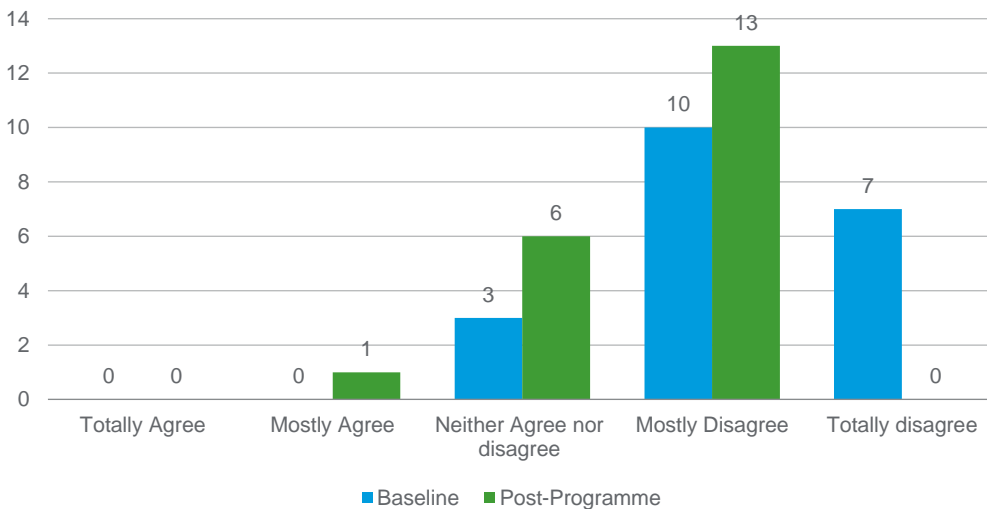
Likewise, participants were asked would they like to become friends with more people from different religions. Baseline surveys revealed that whilst there was a fairly positive attitude towards this, there was still some hesitancy with 40% (N=8) either not sure or reporting they probably wouldn’t. Following the programme, only 1 individual was hesitant to say that they would like to have friends from different religions. This is shown in Figure 16.

Figure 16: Attitudes towards becoming friends with more people from different religions



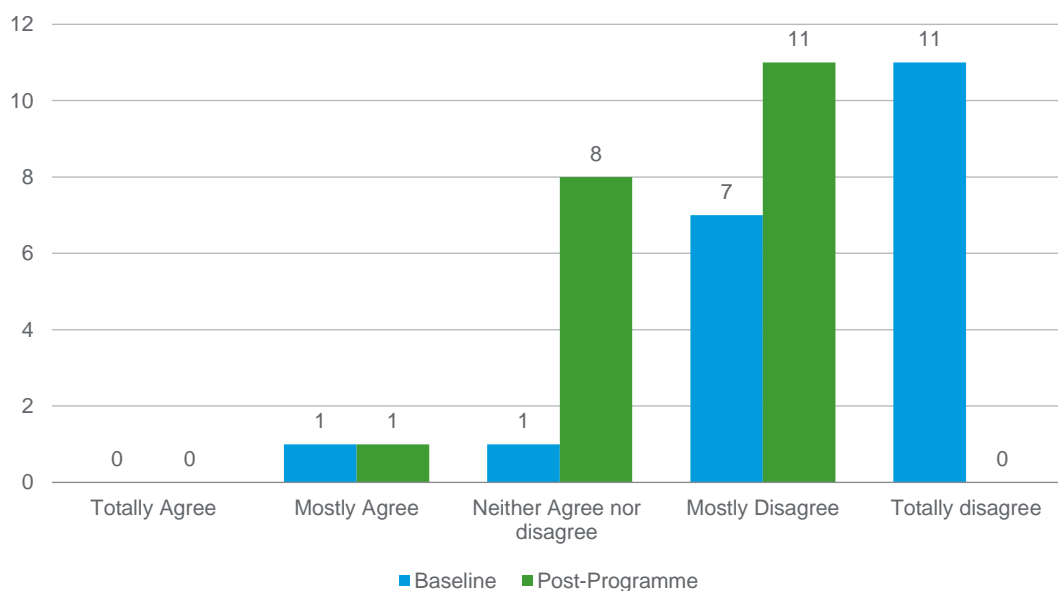
The surveys sought to assess perceptions of neutrality of the neighbourhood, asking 'Is the neighbourhood where you live a neutral space where people from different religions and political and ethnic backgrounds get on well together?'. Comparison of the baseline and post-programme results highlights that there was no significant breakthrough in terms of attitudes, but instead evidence of incremental positive change. 85% of respondents (N=17) totally disagreed or mostly disagreed with the assessment that the space was neutral and that those of different backgrounds got on together at the start of the programme activity. This is contrasted with a reduction to 65% (N=13) following the project. Pertinently, no respondents following the programme felt that their neighbourhoods definitely weren't neutral, with 35% (n=7) commenting that they neither disagreed or agreed or mostly agreed. This is shown in Figure 17.

Figure 17: Perceptions of neighbourhood neutrality and relationships between those of differing religious, political and ethnic backgrounds.



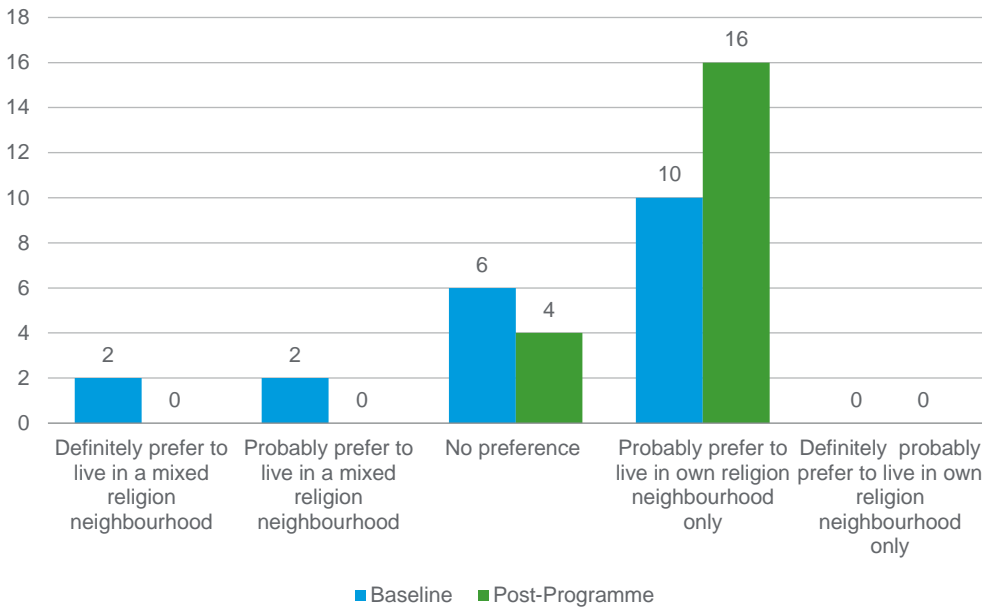
In assessing attitudes towards open space and parks, 90% (N=18) of participants prior to partaking in the programme totally disagreed or mostly disagreed that parks and open spaces in the neighbourhood were safe and welcoming to people from all communities. Following the project, no participants totally disagreed when asked 'Is the neighbourhood where you live a place where parks and open spaces are safe and welcoming to people from all communities?'. Those reporting either total disagreement or mostly disagree reduced to 55% with 45% neither agreeing nor disagreeing or mostly agreeing with the statement. This is detailed in Figure 18.

Figure 18: Perceptions of parks and open space safety and openness to all communities.



Participants finally were asked 'If you had the choice, would you prefer to live in a neighbourhood with people only of your own religion or in a mixed neighbourhood?'. A reluctance towards living in a mixed religion area increased from baseline to post-programme surveys. This is shown in Figure 19. Assessing the rationale for this change, when all other indicators saw a positive direction of travel is difficult, however it is worth noting that post-programme surveys were completed during Covid-19 lockdown, which may have impacted response.

Figure 19: preferred religious make up of neighbourhood.



These attitudinal surveys as well as detail from the project lead reveals that incremental changes in attitude have come as a result of the programme. Attitudes towards improving relations are evidenced above, and in anecdotal evidence, where it was stated that the women involved were keen to meet weekly and recruitment could have been higher. Participants built up relationships to the degree that they would tell each other of bargains in shops within their particular localities and there even was reports of members of the PUL community ask for their CNR friends to “light a candle” for family members in need, showing an openness to the religious and cultural traditions of those from a different background and a willingness to engage on a deeper level. Beyond the project there was evidence of members wanting to continue group walks and that it was only the Covid-19 lockdown and social distancing that has prevented them continuing. This highlights the long-term relationship building as a result of the programme.

Programme Impacts to date

It is hard to assess impact of the capital development aspect of this project, as the route network development is still in its planning stage and the completion of the Springfield Dam park is only recent and occurs in the midst of Covid-19 restrictions.

Impacts that have been captured against result indicators / qualitative impacts include:

- 251 people participated in an online survey, as part of the Dialogue & Engagement Project, the result of which were presented in a Webinar event and will contribute to a final report/action plan, as per the agreed project outcomes and encouraged cross community buy into the shared space;
- both the Pilot Civic Education and Lanark Way Projects ensured that all activity be on a cross community basis, promoting meaningful engagement and improving the relationships

between people from both sides of the communities in the target areas. Both projects had participation from communities along the community greenway that had experienced interface/inter-community unrest;

- the Lanark way fitness programme showed evidence of incremental positive change in attitudes of project participants; strong friendship relationships have been built on a cross-community basis and there is positive direction of travel towards a perception of neutrality. These friendship relationships have the potential over time to encourage Forth Meadow Community Greenway beneficiaries to be more open to living in mixed religious areas;
- the success of the two programmes shows the potential scalability of programming elements of the project;
- from discussion with programme leads, a key impact was the change in atmosphere, particularly since the opening of Springfield Dam, that is 'hard to qualify from the outside' but evidence of people from across Belfast coming to the greenway and people engaging on a cross-community basis in the space, shows positive steps towards the overall objectives; and
- discussion with programme leads also revealed a key qualitative impact in the change in atmosphere amongst those living around the community. Their experience of early engagement brought up a lot of complaints and negativity around the proposed plan, with concerns over the type of activity that would be "brought to the area". However, engagement now sees people very excited to use the space and pleased with its presence. People now consider the greenway "transformational" for the area.

Issues encountered and lessons learned

Key issues encountered to date were discussed with the programme lead. Consultation revealed that:

- future ownership and management of the Greenway is an issue amongst communities, yet to be fully encountered, but still underlying a lot of conversation. One programme lead reported a small minority of the community designating some parks "our parks" and others "their park". This is an issue for developing a community management and governance model to give shared ownership of the space, beyond just the council;
- reflections on the capital side of side of the project was around budget. It was highlighted that the Local Action Plans represented an assessment of cost at a certain point in time, but as time as progressed, with delays in jumping through hoops and seeking approval, the actual cost has increased significantly from the initial costings. The council has proactively sought to address this, securing buy-in from the Department for Communities (DfC) and the Department for Infrastructure (DfI);
- the Covid-19 pandemic caused significant disruption to the programming elements of the project, as well as an uplift in costs by approximately £25,000 for the capital projects. Covid interrupted programming in various ways, including: the planned dialogue and engagement activity had to be rethought and take a virtual approach; planned programme and animation activities could not go ahead; and events such as the park opening was not possible. However, Covid did help with regard to a concern that communities would expect continuous

council ran programmes, rather than animate the space themselves. The absence of programmes has seen individuals use the space in a variety of ways, increasing buy-in;

- the result indicator pertaining to neutral space was felt to be unhelpful in the project context. Concerns arose around the fact that due to the strong single identity nature of the communities in question, it was not practical to think that anybody might consider the space neutral. The programme lead suggested that the division in Northern Ireland and its consequent coding of space meant that few spaces could be considered neutral; and
- monitoring and evaluation of space and events (as opposed to programmes with defined participants) poses a challenge. Options for how to measure impact are constantly being developed as the project progresses, recognizing that a one size fits all approach will not work.

Consultation also revealed the lessons learned by those responsible for delivering the project:

- the key lesson centered around persistence with engagement. Programme leads described identifying a wide range of stakeholders, inviting them to consultation and publicized widely general information on the Greenway. However, it was revealed that despite this effort, some individuals still felt excluded from the process, and as such it was reflected that increasing engagement was to be key in the success of the project; and
- the council is able to bring vision, direction and leadership to the area. Initial conversations with stakeholders saw local communities suggesting that they would rather have the money invested in other ways and not towards cross-community relations. The feedback now is very positive, further highlighting the greenway's potential for transformation.

Conclusions and recommendations

The Forth Meadow Community Greenway is an innovative and ambitious project that is still in its early stages. This review has highlighted that some progress has been made on the capital side of the programme, with the keystone capital development, Springfield Dam has been completed, however all the other sites remain in an early stage. On the programming side, good progress had been made with two pilot projects, however Covid-19 interruptions have limited further scale up or role out. It is on the programmes that Covid-19 has had its most marked impact.

The MDL Dialogue and Engagement activities highlighted current perceptions of the greenway and concerns, prior to its development, acting as a baseline for shared space usage. Survey analysis and consultation regarding the two pilot programmes reveal positive, though small, attitudinal changes with incremental steps like building friendship relations coming before the larger result indicators of neighbourhood neutrality and mixed-identity living.

A lack of wider impact data, due to the early stage of the project and the impact of Covid-19 means that assessing the impact at present is difficult. The project is a longitudinal case study and as such it is expected on return to this in 2022, there will be more ability to demonstrate wider impact.

It is recommended that:

- the concept of 'neutral neighbourhood' as part of the result indicators be rethought within Belfast City Council's framework of: welcoming, safe, good and connected, so as to understand the nuance of attitudes towards shared space, rather than expected entrenched views on spatial configuration to be quickly reversed;
- consideration be given to how best to monitor ongoing perceptions of shared space within the greenway as it develops, so as to obtain a sense of potential change in perception over time;
- a management structure is developed by community groups;
- capital budgets be given more flexibility, to allow for time delay and increasing costs; and
- continue to push programme elements, so as to achieve incremental change.

Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council: Building Positive Relations

Project Overview

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Table 1: Project overview

Applicant:	Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council
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 Special Objective	SO4.1: The promotion of positive relations characterized by respect, and where cultural diversity is celebrated and people can live, learn and socialize together, free from prejudice, hate and intolerance.
Amount awarded by PIV	£1,630,086.94 / €1,923,502.59
Duration	June 2016 – March 2021

Table 2: Summary of project elements

Programme	Programme Delivery Partner	Goals / Aims	Work package Start Date	Actual Start Date	Actual End Date
Programme 1: Understanding Our Area – Building Positive Relations	CCGBC Museum Services	Engage with 30 community groups / historical societies with 750 participants across the CCGBC area in an area-based heritage, history and built environment exploration project. Min 40% 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 institutions programme	Limavady Community Development Initiative (LCDI)	Deliver a Cultural / Language Institutions Programme with 100 participants	April 2017	November 2017	January 2019

Programme 4: Cross-Border Programme

Causeway Rural Urban Network (CRUN)

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.

April 2018

January 2019

September 2020

Project Performance

Table 3 identifies key activities that have been undertaken to date and those that are to be carried out in the future. It highlights that:

- the projects have all now completed, with almost all key activities accomplished despite Covid-19 disruption; and
- programme 4, which had previously struggled against deliverables was able to be successfully completed, with key activities taking place.

However, 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 is 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.

20 community groups representing 2000 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 delay due to Covid-19 and will not happen with 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, 2 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 total of 375 participants were engaged with.

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 created a climate that meant some key institutions were unwilling to engage. However, 225 participants with an overall community representation of 40% PUL / 58% CNR and 2% Other engaged in the project. 111 participants achieved far over 26 hours with many achieving over 100 – 300 hours. 27 participants who did not meet 26 hours were engaged in the programme for 6 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 7 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 well exceeded its recruitment target with 381 participants.

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 225 participants with the project concluding in 2019.

Programme 4: Cross-Border Programme

200 individuals were recruited across 7 interest groupings, namely:

- **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 saw 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 individuals):** 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 (25 individuals):** 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 individuals):** 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 individuals):** 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 individuals):** 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 (31 individuals):** 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.

Table 3 summarises project progress and performance.

Table 3: Summary of project activity

Programme	Goals / Aims	Actual Start Date	Actual End Date	Key Activities
Programme 1: Understanding Our Area – Building Positive Relations	Engage with 30 community groups / historical societies with 750 participants across the CCGBC area in an area-based heritage, history and built environment exploration project. Min 40% PUL / Min 40% CRN.	September 2017	September 2020	<p>The development of individual practical local history exploration projects across 20 groups.</p> <p>Collaboration between groups at cross border and cross community events</p> <p>Launch night for each individual group's project</p> <p>Training and Courses such as: Oral History Recording; Online Mapping; Archiving and Cataloguing; Handling and Conservation; OCN Level 2 Tour Guiding; and DNA Testing</p> <p>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>
Programme 2: Developing Communities – Leadership and Capacity - BPR	Deliver a one to one Capacity Building and Dialogue programme to 70 participants from 14 areas. Delivery of a Facilitative Leadership Programme to 63 emerging leader participants. Min 40% PUL / Min 40% CRN	November 2017	September 2020	<p>Capacity Building and Dialogue Programme: Training needs analysis</p> <p>Training pack produced bespoke to the needs of the programme and learners. Training of facilitators.</p> <p>3 Accredited Capacity Building Programmes</p> <p>Provision of mentor support and dialogue sessions x 14 (1 dialogue programme per area-based group)</p> <p>Celebration event</p> <p>1-day cross border site visit</p> <p>Facilitative Leadership Programme: Training needs analysis</p>

Programme	Goals / Aims	Actual Start Date	Actual End Date	Key Activities
				<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 21st November 2019 with 183 participants.</p>

Table 4 provides an overview of the financial information associated with each individual programme. Though there is still a small degree of resource allocation still outstanding, the vast majority of this has been completed and table 4 highlights that the project has underspent compared to budget. The project partner highlighted that the procurement process was a key factor in the programme underspend. Successful bids from those delivering programmes all came in well below the set value as contractors were keen to get value for money, leading to significant cost savings. In particular, the cross-border programme was delivered more quickly than expected, inside a year which further contributed to cost savings. The resource allocations were also slightly underspent, due to groups running out of time to deliver projects.

Table 4: Programme expenditure³⁴

Programme	Budget	Contract value	Claimed and Verified
Programme 1: Understanding Our Area	€472,708 / £400,600	£400,000	€398,097.98 / £360,000
Programme 2: Developing Communities – Leadership and Capacity	€382,815.60 / £324,420.00	£306,830	€331,748.31 / £300,000
Programme 3: Cultural and Community Institutions Programme	€684,400 / £580,000	Key Institutions Programme: £169,716 BME Integration Programme: £127,693 Cultural / Languages Institutions Programme: £143,400 Total: £440,809	Key Institutions Programme €187,676.66 / £169,716 BME Integration Programme €141,206.46 / £127,693 Cultural / Languages Institutions Programme: €163,662.50 / £148,000 Total: €492,545.62 / £445,409
Programme 4: Cross-Border Programme	€166,380 / £141,000	£141,000	€ 148,180.91 / £134,000
Total	€1,539,215.60 / / £1,304,420.00	£1,288,639.00	€1,370,572.82 / £1,239,409

³⁴ Does not include management / communication costs

Project monitoring and evaluation

As a Building Positive relations Local Action Plan programme, 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.


Output indicator

Against a numerical target output of 1583 participants engaging in meaningful, purposeful and sustained contact across on a cross community basis, the project has significantly exceeded its target, achieving 209% of the target output. This is detailed in Table 5.

Table 5: Performance against output indicator

Target	Actual	%
1583 participants	3313 participants	209%

This target output figure is based on the participation number targets provided by the project partner. The 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 the three other work



packages. It is not clear what the numerical basis was for these targets. The target of 1,583 was, therefore, used as the target value to assess impact against, and the lack of clarity on targets suggests that the Output Indicator target has been revised, but not updated on the EMS.

Table 6 details this at an individual programme level, highlighting that:

- the Understanding Our Area Programme had exceeded its March 2020 target of 750 participants in November 2018 by 1,250;
- the Capacity Building and Dialogue programme delivered participation by groups from 14 local areas / communities and the Facilitative Leadership Programme was delivered to emerging leader participants. In total 375 individuals participated in the programme;
- two of the three sub programmes within the Cultural and Community Institutions Programme have met and exceeded their participant target i.e. the BME Integration Programme achieved 381 participants by November 2018, 176 greater than its March 2020 target and the Cultural/ Language Institutions Programme achieved 225 participants by November 2018, 125 greater than its March 2020 target;
- the key institutions programme achieved 120 participants against a target of 200; and
- despite a slow start in terms of recruitment, the cross-border programme achieved 212 participants against a target of 200.

Table 6: Programme performance against targets

	Programme	Target	Actual	%
1.	Understanding Our Area	30 Groups: 750 participants	20 groups: 2000 participants	267%
2.	Developing Communities: Leadership and Capacity:	14 target areas for Capacity Building Programme delivered to 70 individuals and 63 individuals for Facilitative Leadership Programme	14 target areas with 375 participants	282%
3.1	Cultural and Community Institutions Programme - Key Institutions Programme	200 participants	138 participants	69%
3.2	Cultural and Community Institutions Programme - BME Integration Programme	150 participants	381 participants	254%
3.3	Cultural and Community Institutions Programme - Cultural / Language Institutions Programme	150 participants	225 participants	150%
4.	Cross-Border Programme	200 participants	212 participants	106%

Result indicators

Data, including pre- and post-participation surveys for each programme, was requested from the project partner by RSM, however, this was not provided and, therefore, impact against result indicators is not reflected in this report.

Programme Impacts

Review of evaluation data as well as consultation with the project partner and review of delivery partner evaluation reports to assess qualitative impacts has led to this evaluation highlighting the following impacts:

- all but one programme exceeded their recruitment target, delivering a programme that enabled meaningful, purposeful, and sustained contact between persons from different communities;
- despite significant external threats, individuals within the community came together on a cross-community basis to engage in a language programme;

- individuals were given training and exposure to other cultures through the Cultural Integration Programme, leaving behind cultural ambassadors who, as a result of the programme, overwhelmingly stated they were more favorable to other cultures;
- the key institutions programme has delivered a legacy of engagement across key institutions that will go on beyond the project timeline; and
- for the cross-border programme, participants increased their knowledge of other people's areas with regard to historic interest, festivals and events or local initiatives.

The lack of information to assess impact against result indicators means that this section does not reflect the full impact of the CCGBC BPR programme on participant attitudes to other communities.

Issues encountered and lessons learned

Consultation with the programme delivery lead has highlighted the following issues encountered over the programme, and the lessons learned.

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

- difficulty in engaging some stakeholders in the key institutions programme, due to their past experience and perceptions of the council;
- the wider political context, with circumstance outside of the control of delivery partners impacting on certain institutions involvement;
- negative pushback from certain minority elements of the community for peace / cross-community-focused activities; and
- in relation to process, the completion of hard copy monitoring forms, collected by delivery partners meant in the context of Covid-19, attaining this data for evaluation purposes was difficult and not always possible.

Lessons learned included:

- the need for continued engagement in rural areas for peace / cross-community programmes. The project partner pointed out that the easy approach would be to focus activities on urban areas in the Borough, when rural communities often miss out on programmes of this nature;
- the need for continued investment in political leadership at a community level / investment in the key institutions programme. 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.

Conclusion

Having now concluded with only the Understanding Our Area programme unable to fully conclude (due to Covid-19) the Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council Building Positive Relations programme has greatly exceeded its target outputs, with high levels of recruitment

across programmes. The suite of programmes was ambitious, with programmes such as the Key Institutions Programme and the Cultural / Language Institutions Programme taking on contentious topics and challenges, to great success.

Covid-19 did not have an impact on programme delivery but has had a significant impact on the reporting of data, due to hard copy monitoring information being stored in delivery partner premises, now inaccessible due to lockdown restrictions. This factor has reduced the potential for this report to demonstrate the full impact of this case study on participant attitudes to those from different communities / ethnicities.

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council: Beyond Tolerance

Project Overview

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

The project is scheduled to deliver twelve programmes across the 7 District Electoral Areas within the NMDDC area, which cover the following themes:

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

This project has been selected as a longitudinal case study as part of a wider impact evaluation of the PEACE IV Programme. This is the second of three case studies of the project that will be carried out during the evaluation. It will be updated and further developed in 2022. Summary details of the overall project are provided in Table 1 below and further details of each of the twelve programmes are provided in Table 2.

Table 1: Project overview

Applicant:	NMDDC
Project	NMDDC – Beyond Tolerance – Shared Spaces and Services
Project Partners:	NMDDC and Policing and Community Safety Partnership (PCSP)
Relevant Special 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 2: Summary of project elements

Output indicator	Work package description	Partner(s) involved	Budget
3.2: Local initiatives that facilitate the sustained usage on a shared basis of public areas / buildings	To deliver a Re-imaging & Regeneration Programme with the objective of completing fieldwork for initial engagement and creation of safe spaces for dialogue. Aimed at ensuring activities which will produce local physical changes are agreed by all residents therefore ensuring their long-term sustainability. 10 sites / projects to be targeted.	PCSP	€263,140
	To deliver a Flags, Emblems & Bonfires Protocol Programme with the objective of building upon previously established protocols and creating new sustainable protocols across districts.	PCSP	€77,172
	To deliver an Ex-military Sites Legacy Programme (Ballykinlar) with the objective of engagement at local and district level, opening up spaces for learning where they have a historical back drop in the 'Troubles'. A hut from the former Ballykinlar site will be recreated to reflect its shared history.	NMDDC	€177,000
	To deliver a Shared Spaces Engagement Programme with the objective of establishing links across sectors to create and develop sustainable service provision in a shared space. Aimed at increasing shared space in areas where it is contested, through the sharing of mutual services. Focused on the community and voluntary sector. There will be 7 DEA (District Electoral Area) based engagement programmes.	NMDDC	€201,544
	To deliver a Capacity Building Programme for Developing Shared Space with the objective of engaging to mainstream and sustain peace and good relations through all service delivery in the District. Project aimed at ensuring systematic change in how services are delivered, and spaces developed, to design out sectarianism and racism.	NMDDC	€159,300
	To deliver a Preparatory Programme for Disengaged Communities and Local Leaders with the objective of engaging individuals and communities not normally engaged in the peace process or good relations programmes, on issues of contested space through 7 DEA based programmes	PCSP	€99,946
	To deliver an Ex-Military Sites Legacy Programme (Forkhill) with the objective of engagement at local and district level opening up spaces for learning where they have a historical back drop in the 'Troubles'. Forkhill is part of a wider redevelopment scheme of the site. This project will address the social aspects of the site to open up a formally contested space.	NMDDC	€60,129

Output indicator	Work package description	Partner(s) involved	Budget
	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’.	NMDDC	€238,258
	The ‘Tom Dunn Project’ will develop an Educational Shared Space, a Shared Walkway (which will include a shared history walking tour), an Educational toolkit and a Hedge Summer School (which will promote integrated education), focusing on the community relations work of Tom Dunn, how this can be learned from and how this can move NMDDC towards a more integrated, cohesive and shared society.	NMDDC	€56,640
	The ‘Warrenpoint Community Garden Project’ aims to engage participants to develop an active community garden in an unused neutral space in partnership with Warrenpoint Town Football Club, Cabbage Patchers and Men’s Shed. The project will clear the site and develop provisions to allow work with those people affiliated with Youth Justice Agency, Health Trust, Schools, PCSP and Community Sector Organisations. Projects will use gardening as a tool to promote the shared space and deliver intercultural, intergenerational projects across the community.	NMDDC	€49,560
	Saintfield Community Centre – The proposed project involves the development of an indoor pitch and associated shock pad, rebound wall, fencing and protective netting for the Saintfield Community Centre.	NMDDC	€86,140
	<p>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:</p> <p>Provide a coordinated approach of support to the local community through the provision of activities which promote health improvement, good relations, and community cohesion;</p> <p>Create opportunities for volunteering and development of new skills; and</p> <p>Create intercommunity / cross border and cross community events and programmes and challenge barriers that divide communities.</p>	NMDDC	€137,828.7 ³⁵

³⁵ Newly agreed budget

Progress to date

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

Re-imaging and Regeneration Programme:

The first stage of the Reimaging and Regeneration programme is currently in progress. The value of this initial stage is £61,950.00 (€73,101.00), 28 per cent of the overall £223,000 (€263,140.00) budget. Approximately €69,984.43 has been claimed to date.

County Down Rural Community Network (CDRCN) have been appointed to deliver this project.

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

The output of this stage was the identification of 10 areas for re-imaging / regeneration and the development of a Local Action Plan for each area. 10 areas have since been selected and Local Action Plans were completed in April – November 2019. The ten selected areas are: Newtownhamilton; Crossmaglen; Carnagat; North Street; Warrenpoint; Kilkeel; Annalong; Ballykinler; Mount Crescent; and Killyleagh.

The second part of this programme will involve the completion of the suggested capital works for each of the identified areas selected under the project. At present, Newry, Mourne and Down District Council are liaising with CPD regarding the procurement of this phase.

This project is due to complete in March 2022.

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. Copius Consulting have undertaken stakeholder consultation to determine the key issues, priorities, key influencers, gatekeepers and statutory agencies associated with Flags, Emblems and Bonfires in the NMDDC area. The Flags, Emblems and Bonfires protocol programme has now been completed, ending in September 2020. The programme involved six stages, namely:

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

- the delivery of four education and awareness sessions, 54 groups out of a target of 30 have been engaged in the programme. These group include: Political; Community; Sport; Business; Statutory; Cultural and Heritage; and Religious groups;
- 1 site visit; and
- group workshops to discuss issues and create local agreements. Participants engaging in an Education and Awareness Activity.

The final part of the programme brought participants and other key stakeholders together to focus on a number of key areas – this event took place on 14 November 2019 and considered the following issues:

- what worked well throughout the Summer period and what localised agreements had been agreed prior to the period;
- what did not work well this Summer - what were the issues;
- what localised solutions could be worked on and agreed ahead of next Summer; and
- what resource & support is required to support positiveness around flags, bonfires and emblems? Is there a need for the group to stay together after the Peace IV programme has finished?

On completion of the project, the expenditure was reported as €67,819.43 and €61,655.00 had been claimed against a budget of €77,172. All of the target outputs for this programme have been met.

Shared Spaces Engagement Programme

The Shared Spaces Engagement Programme has the objective of establishing links across the area to create and develop sustainable service provision in a shared space. It is aimed at increasing shared space in areas where space is contested, by encouraging the sharing of mutual services. This programme has an overall budget of £170,800 (€201,544). To date €61,949.32 has been claimed.

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

County Down Rural Community Network (CDRCN) has met with all service providers, a selection of community groups and all other relevant stakeholders and completed questionnaires to gather information on the perceived level of service provision, gaps and barriers. They have now completed an overarching Shared Services work plan for the Council area which outlines possible projects which have been identified through the shared services mapping and consultation process. Further, workplans have been completed for each DEA as well as the

overarching workplan. Council officers, in consultation with DEA Coordinators, are now developing tender documentation to develop projects.

In addition, a proposal to host drive-in cinema events in each of the DEA areas has been approved. The aim of this project will be to engage cross-community groups and agencies in each of the DEA areas through the planning and delivery of Drive-in Cinemas in each of the 7 DEA areas. The project is currently out for tender.

Ex – Military Sites

Ballykinlar

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

The project launch event included: Guest Speakers; Dress up photo opportunities; a 'Museum handling box' which included objects and artefacts related to the Ballykinlar History Hut; and craft activities.

William Rogers Construction Ltd. have been appointed to carry out construction works, and these works commenced mid-2020. The project is now completed as of October 2020. The original completion date was September 2020 however delays due to Covid-19 restrictions has necessitated a slight extension of the project deadline.

A Ballykinlar public engagement project will be funded under PEACE IV 'Building Positive Relations' Programme (£40,000). The Council has also allocated an additional £65,000 in the year 2018 – 2019 for development of exhibition designs and interpretation / fit-out for the hut in order to make it an authentic experience.

The purpose of the hut interior is to tell the stories of those who occupied the huts at Ballykinlar Camp in the first half of the 20th century, drawing on the diversity of human experience during this period. Launch planned for Spring 2021.

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.

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 site³⁶, has been reviewed and recently approved by SEUPB, and meetings are set to take place in the coming weeks with the National Trust.

£50,000 in the PEACE IV plan has been included for the development of pathways at Ballyhornan to address issues regarding disconnection at this former military site. The Council commissioned initial drawings for pathways at Ballyhornan, to link up the Family Centre at Rourke's link to the village.

Initial costs for this project include:

- detailed civil drawing design - £16,862.50; and
- indicative costs for construction - £93,829.00.

As the project is over budget, internal meetings are taking place to discuss possible options.

Capacity Building Programme for Developing Shared Spaces

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.

This programme will deliver a course in Public Administration to staff in statutory and community/voluntary sector in the district. The course, delivered by the University of Ulster, will be tailored to offer four modules to approximately 30 students from the Newry Mourne and Down Council area. Upon successful completion of the four modules, students will be awarded a Post-Graduate Certificate in Public Administration. The course has been successful in changing mindsets and increasing professionalism in service provision. The cost of the course is £2,509.80 per participant. The delivery of the Certificate in Public Administration commenced in October 2020. 30 participants engaged with a further 30 participants still to be engaged.

This programme will build skills within staff in public and community/voluntary sector roles to ensure services are provided equally to all sections of the community and existing civic spaces are managed in a manner that respects the rights, equality and diversity of all.

Preparatory programme for Disengaged Communities

³⁶ Derrymore is an historic, national trust owned, thatched cottage situated outside of Newry.

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. The anticipated output is 7 DEA based programmes.

Cooperation Ireland were appointed to deliver this programme on behalf of PCSP/Peace IV. An initial Meeting has taken place and recruitment is underway. The programme will be delivered simultaneously across the District and will follow all Covid-19 requirements.

Tom Dunn Programme

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 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.

At a meeting on 2nd September 2020, design briefs were reviewed, and it was agreed the council estates team would work with the group to prepare tender documents in the coming weeks. Following this meeting, these next steps were decided:

- the estates team to liaise with DfI regarding signage and discuss how best to move this forward;
- an update is to be sought from Equality Officer regarding Newry, Mourne and Down District Council naming policy; and
- project meetings have been arranged once every 4 weeks to review and update on progress.

By November 2020, a landscape architect has been appointed and is now working on costs and designs, to be approved. The timeline is as follows: planning approval process from January 2021, procurement from April 2021, appointment May 2021 and Delivery in August 2021.

It is anticipated this programme will conclude in July to August 2021.

Warrenpoint Community Garden

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 £95 k, 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 25 m x 10 m 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 BMX Ireland breakdown was not robust, as the costs 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, which is inclusive of 8% contingency (not inclusive of VAT and CPD fees).

The council are awaiting comments from CPD in relation to costs.

Summary of Progress to Date

Table 3 provides a summary of outputs and expenditure claimed to date by the programme.

Table 3: Financial and output performance to date

Project name	Project Partner or Delivery partner	Commenced	Due to end	Main output (target)	Outputs achieved to date (Nov 2020)	Project Budget	Claimed to date (Nov 2020)	Modification (unconfirmed) ³⁷
Re-imaging and Regeneration Programme	County Down Rural Community Network / PCSP	May 2018	March 2022	10 Programmes – ensuring activities which will produce local physical changes agreed by all residents therefore ensuring long term sustainability	10 Local Action Plans produced	Fieldwork for initial engagement and creation of safe spaces for dialogue - £61,950 The total budget of this programme is €263,140.00 / £223,000.	£61,950 / €69,984.43	
Flags, Emblems and Bonfires Protocol Programme	Copius Consulting / PCSP	December 2017	March 2020 - Project now complete	30 groups engaged in facilitated group work sessions that result in the development of a Flags, Emblems and Bonfires Protocol – 70% PUL, 30% CNR	47 participants Stages 2 & 3 54 representative groups (77 participants) stage 1.	The budget for this programme is €77,172.00 / £65,400	£61,655.00 / €67,819.43	
Shared Spaces Engagement Programme	County Down RCN & Feile an Phobail.	December 2017	CDRCN-Sept 2019	7 DEA based engagement programmes x	A workplan for each of 7 DEAs as well as an overarching workplan produced.	The budget for this programme is	£52,499.42 / €61,949.32	Request to move £31,025 / €34,308.30 to BMX

Project name	Project Partner or Delivery partner	Commenced	Due to end	Main output (target)	Outputs achieved to date (Nov 2020)	Project Budget	Claimed to date (Nov 2020)	Modification (unconfirmed) ³⁷
			Feile an Phobail-March 2022	50 participants per programme		€201,544 / £170,800		
Ex-military sites (Ballykinlar)	Down County Museum / NMDDC	August 2018	Spring 2021	1 Project – a hut from the former Ballykinlar site will be restored to reflect shared history	Capital build complete Mclean & Forte £10,625.00 (ex VAT) William Rogers Construction Ltd. £121,200.00 (ex VAT and Model Compensation Events) The main build is now complete at Down County Museum. The next stage of the project is to fit out the hut interior to tell the stories of those who occupied the huts at Ballykinlar Camp in the first half of the 20th century, drawing on the diversity of human experience during this period. Launch planned for Spring 2021.	The budget for this Programme is €177,000 / £150,000	£12,139.70 / €14,324.85	
Ex-military sites (Forkhill)	NMDDC	Ongoing consultation with community re site	March 2022	1 Project – Open up a formally contested	There has been an ongoing D1 process initiated by DFC, to dispose of the site. Council and the Housing Executive have registered	The budget is €60,129.26 / £50,957	£ 0.00 / €0.00	

Project name	Project Partner or Delivery partner	Commenced	Due to end	Main output (target)	Outputs achieved to date (Nov 2020)	Project Budget	Claimed to date (Nov 2020)	Modification (unconfirmed) ³⁷
				space through redevelopment	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, Council have been talking to DFI about the possibility of taking down the last remaining elements of the old blast wall along School Road			
Ex-military sites (Bessbrook, Ballyhoran and Ballynahinch)	NMDDC	Planning permission stage	March 2022	3 small capital Projects	Bessbrook – Previously pathways project which now cannot progress due to land ownership issues. A project incorporating a shared space around the theme of the Bessbrook Tramway was sent to SEUPB for consideration, but it was decided not to proceed with this. A further proposal, around the revival of a historic pathway at the Derrymore site, has been reviewed and recently approved by SEUPB, a meeting has taken place with the National Trust	The budget is €238,258.52 / £201,914.00	£886.57 / €1,046.15	Potential reallocation £50,957 €56,349.66 to I12 BMX £100,000 / €110,582.77 from Ballynahinch reallocated to I11 Saintfield and I12 BMX.

Project name	Project Partner or Delivery partner	Commenced	Due to end	Main output (target)	Outputs achieved to date (Nov 2020)	Project Budget	Claimed to date (Nov 2020)	Modification (unconfirmed) ³⁷
					<p>with an amended proposal to be sent to SEUPB for approval. £50,957 allocated.</p> <p>Ballyhoran – initial costs for the project: detailed civil drawing design - £16,862.50, indicative costs for construction - £93,829.00. Partnership and Council have agreed to withdraw the project if additional funding is not identified. Potential reallocation of funds to budget to I12 (BMX Track).</p> <p>Ballynahinch – Withdrawn due to funding shortages.</p>			
Capacity Building Programme for Developing Shared Spaces	This tender has been drafted and is just awaiting the outcome of the mapping study.	October 2020	March 2022	6 Programmes x 10 participants – Project aimed at ensuring systematic change in how services are delivered, and spaces developed to	30 participants engaged with a further 30 participants are to be engaged. The proposed programme: - Diversity and Good Relations Training for Service Providers across NMDDC area: Training aimed at statutory, voluntary,	The budget is €159,300 / £135,00.	£0.00 / €0.00	<p>Proposed diversity & good relations programme £15,000 / 16,587.42</p> <p>Request for underspend £39,706 / €43,908.00 to</p>

Project name	Project Partner or Delivery partner	Commenced	Due to end	Main output (target)	Outputs achieved to date (Nov 2020)	Project Budget	Claimed to date (Nov 2020)	Modification (unconfirmed) ³⁷
				design out sectarianism.	<p>business sector staff to ensure systematic change in how our services are delivered and spaces developed to design out sectarianism and racism.</p> <p>Accredited training including diversity, good relations, unconscious bias and cultural competence.</p> <p>This training programme will be delivered twice within the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council area in different locations with an even spread across the district, e.g. Newry and Downpatrick or online if Covid restrictions continue.</p> <p>Minimum of 15 participants per programme. Recruitment underway</p>			move to I12 BMX

Project name	Project Partner or Delivery partner	Commenced	Due to end	Main output (target)	Outputs achieved to date (Nov 2020)	Project Budget	Claimed to date (Nov 2020)	Modification (unconfirmed) ³⁷
Preparatory programme for disengaged communities	PCSP	September 2020	March 2022	7 DEA-based programmes x 12 participants designed to engage individuals and communities not normally engaged in the peace process.	Recruitment underway	The budget for this programme is €99,946 / £84,700	£0.00 / €0.00	
Tom Dunn Programme	NMDDC	Designs finalised and next steps to implement project are being considered	Summer 2021	The development of an Educational Shared Space, a Shared Walkway, an Educational toolkit and a Hedge Summer School.	Landscape architect – White young green appointed – working on designs and costs (Nov 2020). Tasks outstanding include: Begin Planning approval process - January 2021 Commence procurement - April 2021 Appointment - May 2021 Delivery July – Aug 2021	The budget for this programme is €56,640 / £48,000	£0.00 / €0.00	Request for underspend I10 Warrenpoint community garden to be moved here
Warrenpoint Community Garden	NMDDC	Project withdrawn	Project withdrawn	The development of a community garden in an unused neutral space.	Project withdrawn	The budget for this programme is €49,560 / £42,000	£149.77 / €176.73	Partnership and Council have agreed to withdraw the project due to budget and time constraints and request reallocation of

Project name	Project Partner or Delivery partner	Commenced	Due to end	Main output (target)	Outputs achieved to date (Nov 2020)	Project Budget	Claimed to date (Nov 2020)	Modification (unconfirmed) ³⁷
								funds to another project in the same DEA – I9 Tom Dunn Project.
Saintfield Community Centre	NMDDC	March 2018	Project now complete September 2019	The development of an indoor 3G synthetic pitch, rebound wall to surround the 3G pitch, rebound fencing to surround the 3G pitch and overhead protective netting to the 3G pitch.	SEUPB funded 3G indoor pitch and fencing. Programming element of this has now commenced.	The budget for this programme is €86,140 / £73,000	£107,000 / €118,323.57 ³⁸	
BMX track	NMDDC	September 2018.	March 2022	Construction of a BMX track that encompasses a straightforward build of moulded jumps, obstacles and banked corners that is accessible to	Design completed. Awaiting confirmation for modification request.	The budget for this programme is €137,828.72 / £116,804	£16,455.82 / €19,417.87	A significant uplift in costs - £274,978 / €304,078.29 construction plus £4,494 design costs (consultancy fees outstanding). The project

Project name	Project Partner or Delivery partner	Commenced	Due to end	Main output (target)	Outputs achieved to date (Nov 2020)	Project Budget	Claimed to date (Nov 2020)	Modification (unconfirmed) ³⁷
				member from all communities.				partners are requesting reallocation of funds from I4 (£31,025 / €34,308.30), I5 (££39,706 / €56,349.66) and I8 Ballyhornan (£50,957 / €56,349.66) & Ballynahinch (£32,469.28 / €35,950.43)
Total:							£312,736.28 / €353,042.35	

Project Monitoring and Evaluation Information

As a local authority Shared Spaces and Services project, impact is assessed against relevant output / result indicators:

- Local initiatives that facilitate sustained usage on a shared basis of public spaces (output);
- percentage of people who would define the neighbourhood where they live as neutral (result);
- percentage of people who prefer to live in a mixed religion environment (result); and
- percentage of people who would prefer to live in a neighbourhood with people of only their own religion (result).

Monitoring plan

In order 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.

Progress against output and result indicators

This project is still in relatively early stages with most programmes still in the midst of implementation. This has meant that post participation surveys are available for only one programme, Flags, Emblems and Bonfires Protocol Programme as the only programme which has concluded and produced completed monitoring data. This programme has provided baseline and exit survey monitoring. It should be noted that the project delivery partner erroneously issued the CYP 14+ exit questionnaires to project participants, meaning that questions in some cases do not match baseline questions and specific shared spaces and services result indicator questions were not captured. However, it was found that:

- 56% of respondents reported being from a Protestant community background, compared to 39% from a Catholic background. 58% considered themselves British, 33% Irish and 11% Northern Irish. 72% were male and 28% female and the age brackets of 40 – 49 and 50 – 59 represented the largest proportion of individuals, with 31% and 28% of respondents respectively;
- compared with 25% of participants at the start of the programme, who thought that relations between Protestants and Catholics were better in the last 5 years, 70% reported an improvement in the past 5 years at the project's conclusion;
- similarly, compared with 19% of participants who felt relations between the two communities would improve in 5 years' time at the programme onset, 80% had a positive outlook on relations looking to the future;

- 100% of respondents reported that they benefited from participating in the programme;
- Delivered a programme engaging with over 60 groups, with 37 individuals completing over 30 hours engagement in the programme. The outcome of the programme was the co-creation of a 'C-Sense' protocol³⁹, a framework that emerged over the programme of dealing with and resolving challenging community issues. The framework considers community, communication, collaboration, common ground, consistency and capacity as its six core principles. Against each principle is a series of tasks to enable positive community relations and use of shared space.

A detailed breakdown of some survey findings is listed below.

Figures 1 to 4 detail the core demographic data of programme participants. It is shown in figure 1 that those from a Protestant background make up the majority of participants at 56%, compared to 39% from a Catholic community background.

Figure 1: Community Background

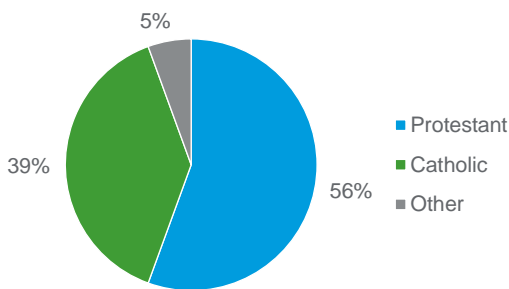
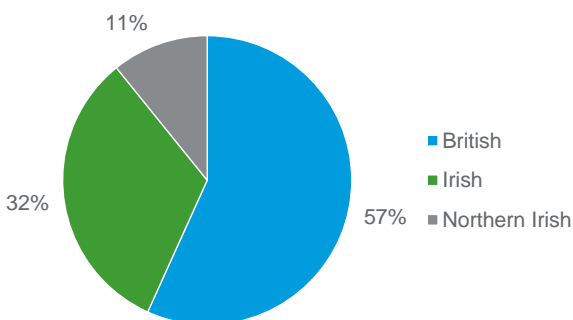


Figure 2 details the reported nationality of respondents, with 57% reporting themselves as British, 32% Irish and 11% Northern Irish, shown below.

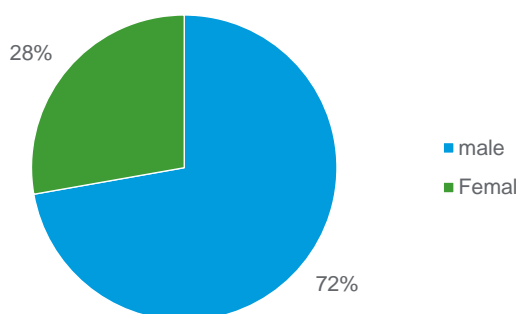
Figure 2: Nationality



³⁹ N.B. not a dedicated term at present but is captured in the Copius Consulting programme report to convey the emerging protocols from the process.

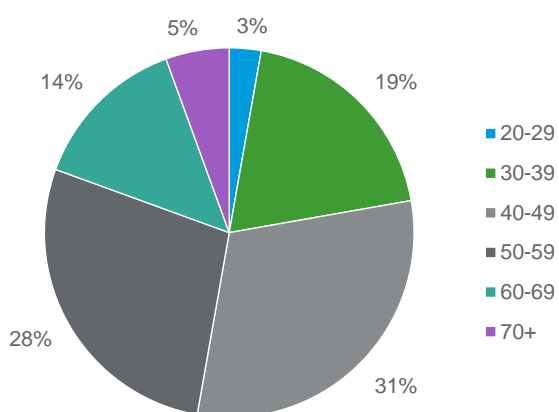
The vast majority of participants were male, with 72% of programme participants reporting as such, shown in Figure 3.

Figure 3: Gender of Participants



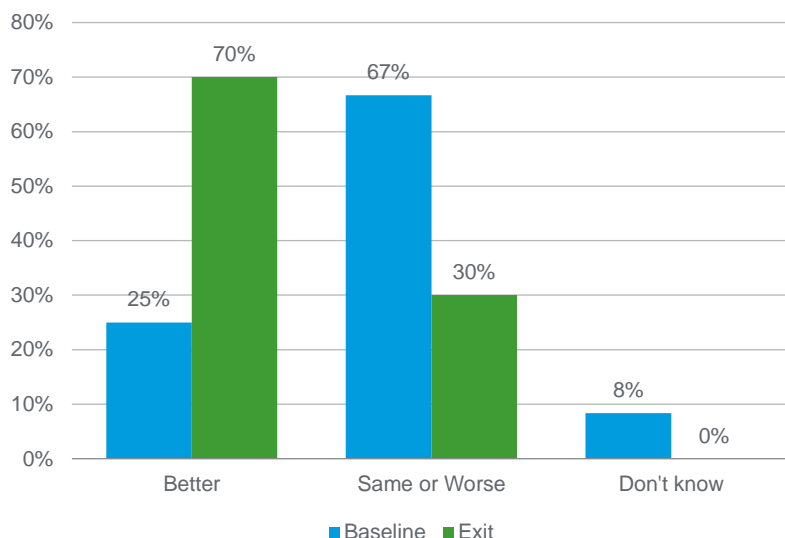
The 40 – 49 and 50 – 59 age brackets accounted for over half of all respondents, at 59% (31% and 29% respectively). Only 1 individual reported to be in their twenties. This is detailed in figure 4.

Figure 4: Age of participants



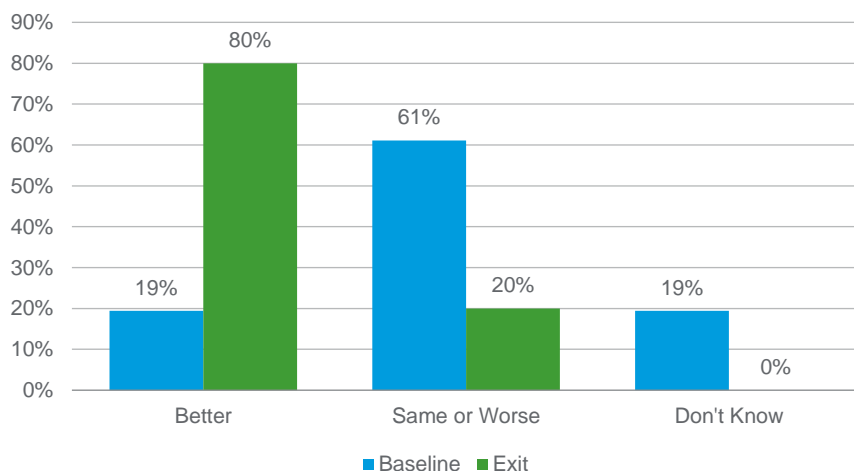
Although not a specific result indicator for the programme, the delivery partners asked participants if relations with Protestants and Catholics were better now than they were 5-years ago, at both the start and at the end of the programme. There is a significant change in responses over the course of the programme. The baseline surveys revealed that 67% of respondents felt relations were the same or worse now than they were 5-years ago, with 25% citing improvement. Exit surveys revealed a reversal in this trend with 70% saying relations were better and only 30% finding them to be either worse or the same. This is shown in Figure 5.

Figure 5: Are relations between Protestants and Catholics better than they were 5 years ago?



Similar trends were revealed when asked to consider what relations would be like in 5 years' time. Only 19% prior to the programme felt relations would be better in 5-years' time, compared with 80% following the programme. Comparably, those who felt they would get worse at the onset of the programme totalled 61%. This figure reduced to just 20% by the end. This is shown in figure 6.

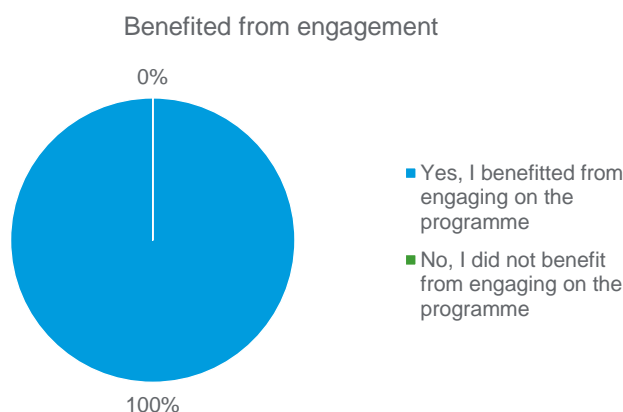
Figure 6: Will relations between Protestants and Catholics be better in 5 years' time?



With the issues considered in the programme so contentious between communities, the fact that these two metrics detail such a significant reversal show a positive direction of travel and emerging impact of the programme in mediating and resolving these issues to ensure the use of

space does not contribute to community tensions. In fact, 100% of those completing exit questionnaires felt that they benefitted from their engagement, detailed in Figure 7.

Figure 7: Benefit from the Programme



Baseline data was also collected for the result indicators *percentage of people who would define the neighbourhood where they live as neutral* and *percentage of people who prefer to live in a mixed / single religion environment* however the project delivery partner gave out CYP exit questionnaires to participants meaning that there can be no assessment of impact against these indicators. As an indicator, 33% reported in the baseline survey that they always consider their neighbourhood neutral, 50% most of the time, 11% sometimes and 6% never. Likewise, for the baseline survey, 72% felt they would prefer to live in a mixed neighbourhood, 11% in a single identity neighbourhood, and 8% in both other and didn't know respectively.

Project impacts to date

There is limited evidence of impact as the majority of projects are still underway, however impacts to date include:

- As is concluded in the Copius Consulting Project Report for the Flags, Emblems and Bonfires Protocol programme, the project has led the completion of a programme that has built and capacity and developed a framework such that space can be used for cultural celebrations for communities in a way that minimizes impact and disruption on other parties and creates the conditions for dialogue and management of issues;
- The project has also supported capital development works at Saintfield community center, funding a new 3G pitch and fencing as well as the completion of capital works at the ex-military hut at Ballykinlar.

Issues encountered, and lessons learned to date

Key issues encountered / lessons learned to date were discussed with the programme lead and delivery partners. Consultation revealed that:

- the nature of capital projects is that they take a long time due to the different hoops to jump through. The lag time from first costings and drawing up a budget is a couple of years before going out to tender and by this point invariably prices increase and thus budgets get knocked off. It was also raised the requirement for CPD to be involved in capital projects over £5k was too low and the requirement consultants be appointed limited community ownership of smaller projects;
- getting engagement and buy-in was something that was challenging, particularly with regard to new individuals, rather than engaging the same people as always engage. New methods like using social media are identified as one avenue to increase alternative engagement, however, the length of engagement (26 hours generally) is a struggle as most less engaged people will be happy to engage for a couple of hours, but not for such a significant amount of time;
- monitoring impact of capital projects is identified as a problem as they are only due to complete towards / at the end of the project lifetime, and as such, the impact on cross-community relations and neighbourhood neutrality based on this capital development can only be assessed on its conclusion, and the longevity of the impact can only be assessed in years following completion, by which point the programme will have ceased;
- the required NISRA monitoring form for programming projects was considered to add limited value to assessing impact against PEACE IV outcomes but adds a great deal of administrative burden amongst staff, and also confusion amongst some beneficiaries (who do not understand the form). Asking specific questions as part of bespoke questionnaires to obtain impact data against specific result indicators would be more worthwhile. It is also raised that there is a disconnect between building *shared spaces* and then monitoring on a binary PUL or CNR basis detracts from the purpose to join communities together in shared space; and
- often the intangible and immeasurable outcomes are those which have the most on the ground impact but gain the least focus as they count for little at a programme level. There should be a way to capture the intangibles and all meaningful outcomes.

Conclusions

As the majority of programmes have not yet produced impact data. it is too early a stage to draw project level conclusions on the impact of the programme. The data available for the Flags, Emblems and Bonfires protocol reveals a positive direction of travel in the development of a 'C' sense protocol, and a significant increase in the percentage of those who think relations between Protestants and Catholics have improved and will improve. However, the lack of data directly related to the result indicators hampers any further comment. Progress has been made on small capital projects with more due to complete. Feedback from delivery partners is pertinent here, as the assessment of impact for these capital projects is less appropriate in the short term, and rather, will need a long-term view to see how the community use them and whether they contribute to the shared use of space.

Victims and Survivors Service: Provision of Services for Victims and Survivors

Project Overview

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

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

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

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

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

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

Table 1: Project overview as initially agreed

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

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 2: Work package description and expenditure to date

Work Package Number and Title	Overview of activities
1. Management	Engagement with Health and Wellbeing (HWB) Network/ network meetings. Delivery of support to individuals under Additional needs-based Support Frameworks. Monitoring delivery of the 3 research projects. Commence monitoring and evaluation process.
2. Advocacy support programme	Development of an advocacy support network comprising 6 Advocacy Support Managers and 21.5. Advocacy Support Workers to ensure that victims and survivors have access to high quality practical support when engaging with on-going legacy inquests, enquiries, and any other historical institutions.
3. Health and well-being casework network	Development of a network of Health and Wellbeing (HWB) caseworkers (26 HWB Caseworkers and 5 Case managers) to identify and address needs of victims and survivors.
4. Resilience Programme	Establishment of a referral and assessment process to access resilience interventions. Elements developed to date include: Volunteering; Trauma focussed Physical Activity; One-to-one Literacy and Numeracy; Social Isolation. Target of delivery of 1,000 resilience interventions.
5. Workforce training	Development of workforce development training plan. Dissemination of training needs analysis questionnaire. Delivery of training to Advocacy and HWB caseworkers and the Advocacy Support Worker Network.
6. Research and improved regulation	CVS standards and NICE guidelines embedded in all service delivery. Establishment of three research groups/projects, namely: 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. 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 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.
7. Communication	Delivery of communication plan.

Performance 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:

Up until the end of October 2020⁴⁰, 7,334 individuals were in receipt or assessment of Health and Wellbeing casework and resilience support. During the Covid-19 pandemic, caseworkers have been working remotely with remote working guidance published in April 2020. 23 caseworkers are now in post and one VSS health and wellbeing manager post became vacant on the 1st May, and there are two vacancies in Omagh and Enniskillen. VSS are currently reviewing recruitment options during Covid-19 as well as the needs of victims and survivors in the impacted areas until a decision is taken. A 26th HWB caseworker post is also under review, anticipated to cover the border area of NI and the Republic of Ireland.

There is continued engagement with 12 VSS funded organisations who make up the Health and Wellbeing Caseworker Network. Health and Wellbeing Case Managers employed within VSS, continue to mentor and support Health and Wellbeing Caseworkers who are employed within VSS funded organisations.

Advocacy Support Programme:

From October 2020, of the 6 Advocacy Support Managers and 22 Workers allocated across 6 organisations, 5 Advocacy Support Managers and 19.5 Workers have been recruited, with 2 advocacy posts with WAVE still vacant at a support work and manager level. Recruitment is underway for the support worker however WAVE is considering how to recruit the manager role. This recruitment process has experienced delays due to Covid-19. There are 2 further vacant roles. VSS are in the process of reviewing how to best utilise this resource with a further one post potentially coming in-house to VSS to deliver a needed co-ordination role, pending SEUPB approval.

There is continued engagement with 6 VSS funded organisations who make up the Advocacy Support Network. As such, 3,177 individuals are in receipt of advocacy support up until the end of September 2020

Resilience Programme

By October 2020, 1,091 Resilience interventions have been delivered against a target of 2,100 interventions. This is broken down across one-to-one literacy and numeracy, social isolation, trauma focused physical activity and volunteering.

- In one-to-one literacy and numeracy, 56 interventions were made, however over lockdown, there were challenges in delivery as it requires face-to-face communication and not always possible to deliver this service online.
- 256 individuals were engaged in the social isolation framework.

⁴⁰ All data is latest data available

- The trauma focused physical activity was impacted by lockdown restrictions have impacted the whilst gyms and leisure centres were closed but to date, 693 interventions have been made.
- Volunteering has seen 54 interventions made.

Across the resilience programmes, there has been a higher uptake in awards than anticipated, due to the ability for remote delivery, despite some one-to-one delivery unable to go ahead.

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. As of November 2020, a total of 1,724 places have been attended, equating to 601 unique participants across 138 training events / courses.

Research Projects

The Commission for Victims and Survivors is responsible for three research projects. All three research programmes have been progressed and are due for completion, with final reports expected in March 2021. There were some delays in this research due to the inability to conduct face-to-face interviews following the Covid-19 pandemic. VSS meet with CVS on a quarterly basis for updates. Updates on each individual report are as follows:

- **The Mental Health Trauma Research:** CVS received an initial draft from the project lead on the 31st July 2020 and met with the project lead in September 2020 to discuss content. Comments have been provided by CVS for consideration for inclusion for the next draft, which was received on the 30th October 2020;
- **The Transgenerational Research:** the research team informed CVS that there would be a delay in the submission of the draft report at the end of August and this deadline was extended to the end of October. A draft was received mid-November and is currently being reviewed; and
- **The Advocacy Research:** CVS received an initial draft from the University of Ulster research team mid-September 2020 and in October, CVS provided comments on the draft and met with the team to discuss. A second draft has been received by CVS.

The **Needs Review Project** was also initiated in July 2020, being progressed by the appointment of a temporary research manager based within CVS. An interim report for this project has been submitted to VSS, the Executive Office and the Department of Foreign Affairs. Stakeholder engagement was conducted to inform this work with members of the Victims and Survivors Forum, the VSS, the outgoing Commissioner for Victims and Survivors, Government representatives, academics and CVS staff.

Table 3 details the project budget against each work package and shows the spend to date against each budget⁴¹.

⁴¹ This budget includes agreed extension of project to 2022 and budget increase from that initially awarded

Table 3: project budget per work package

Work Package	Budget	Spend to date
Management (Staff Costs, etc.)	€4,471,356.97	€1,990,909.99 ⁴²
Advocacy Support Programme	€5,005,446.72	€3,230,304.67 ⁴³
Health and Wellbeing Casework Network	€4,046,402.62	€2,493,824.29
Resilience Programme	€1,992,643.58	€412,893.46
Workforce Training	€1,805,400.00	€399,162.41
Research and Improved Regulation	€295,000.00	€112,312.02 ⁴⁴
Total	€17,643,249.89	€8,639,406.84

Project monitoring and evaluation

Outputs for the project are assessed against two output indicators:

- Individuals in receipt of assessment / case work support and resilience support
- Individuals in receipt of advocacy support

In relation to impacts, 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

⁴² Figure as declared in EMS VSS partner report 16 (until end of October 2020)

⁴³ Figures below provided by project partner in Sterling. Conversion rate of €1: £0.9043 as per EMS 30/11/2020.

⁴⁴ Figure as declared in EMS CVS partner report 16 (until end of October 2020)

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.

Health and Wellbeing Caseworker Programme

Against output indicator 'individuals in receipt of assessment / case work support and resilience support', the HWB caseworker programme is making positive progress towards its target, with 65% of the target output met, as shown in Table 4.

Table 4: HWB Caseworker Programme output indicator

Target	Actual	%
11,350	7,334	65%

Advocacy Support Programme

Against output indicator 'Individuals in receipt of advocacy support', the advocacy support programme has completed half of its target output, displayed in Table 5.

Table 5: Advocacy Support Programme output indicator

Target	Actual	%
6,300	3,177	50%

The Advocacy Support Programme was developed in response to the Stormont House Agreement (2014), '*Victims and Survivors will be given access to advocate-counsellor assistance if they wish*'. It must be understood that the Advocacy Support Programme, unlike more structured Health and Wellbeing programmes is an evolving process and significantly impacted by external political and social factors. All monitoring and evaluation activities beyond capturing output indicators is sensitive to this, recognising that a tick box approach, recording pre and post intervention scores is not appropriate.

To assess the degree of impact, VSS will collate case studies (either anonymised or non-anonymised depending on the wishes of the individual) to capture narrative and give a deeper understanding of impact on family, themes and patterns in wider society, gender, transgenerational impact and health and wellbeing impact. A template for how case study information will be captured in the future has been produced to support advocacy case workers in collecting this monitoring information. VSS also plan to undertake a mid-term review and post-programme evaluation of PEACE IV programmes, of which a significant element will include the advocacy support. At present neither these case studies nor reports have been collated for review.

Resilience Programme

Although not an official output indicator, this programme has a demonstrable numerical output against which impact can be demonstrated. Table 6 details that 52% of the target output has been met. It is also noted that against the original target of 1,000 resilience interventions, the target is exceeded by 9%.

Table 6: Resilience Programmes indicator

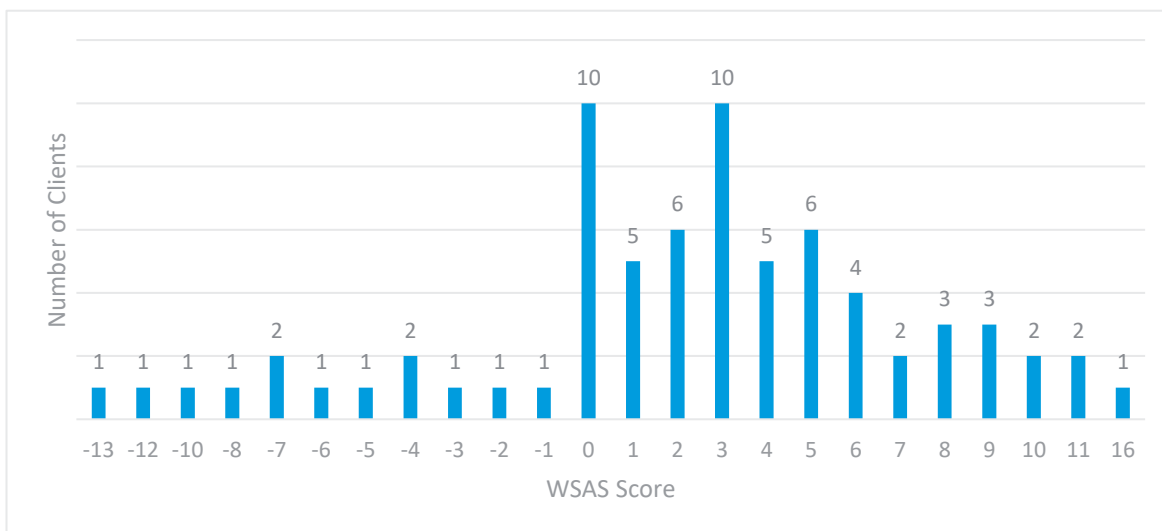
Target	Actual	%
2,100 ⁴⁵	1,091	52%

To assess the degree of impact of interventions across individual programmes, WSAS scores are utilised. Many participants in the resilience programmes 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.

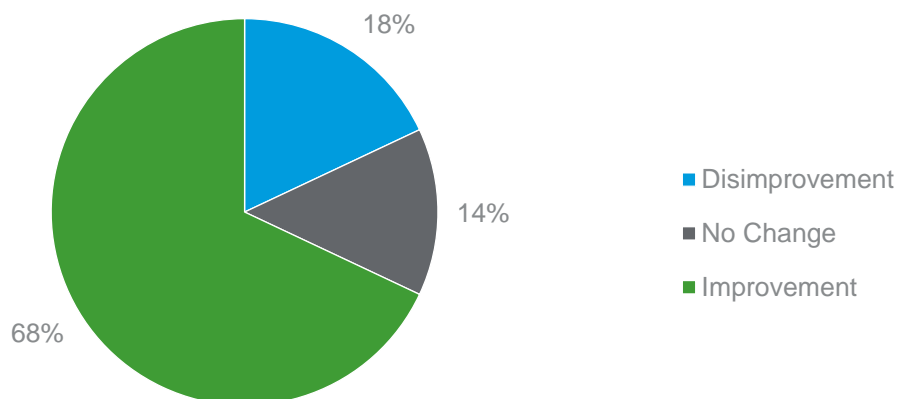
For the social isolation programme, as of March 2021, VSS had received Time 1 and Time 2 data for 72 individuals. The differences in Time 1 and Time 2 scores for these individuals are presented in Figure 1. 68% of the individuals saw an improvement in their score, 14% remained the same and 18% experienced a deterioration. This is display in Figure 2.

Figure 1: WSAS Scores for the social isolation programme



⁴⁵ 1,000 Resilience interventions in letter of offer from SEUPB

Figure 2: Social Isolation WSAS Outcomes



The trauma focused physical activity programme have produced 248 Time 1 and Time 2 scores by March 2021, the difference of which are presented in Figure 3. 70% of individuals demonstrated an improvement, 13% no change and 17% a deterioration, shown in Figure 4.

Figure 3: WSAS Scores for the trauma focused physical activity programme

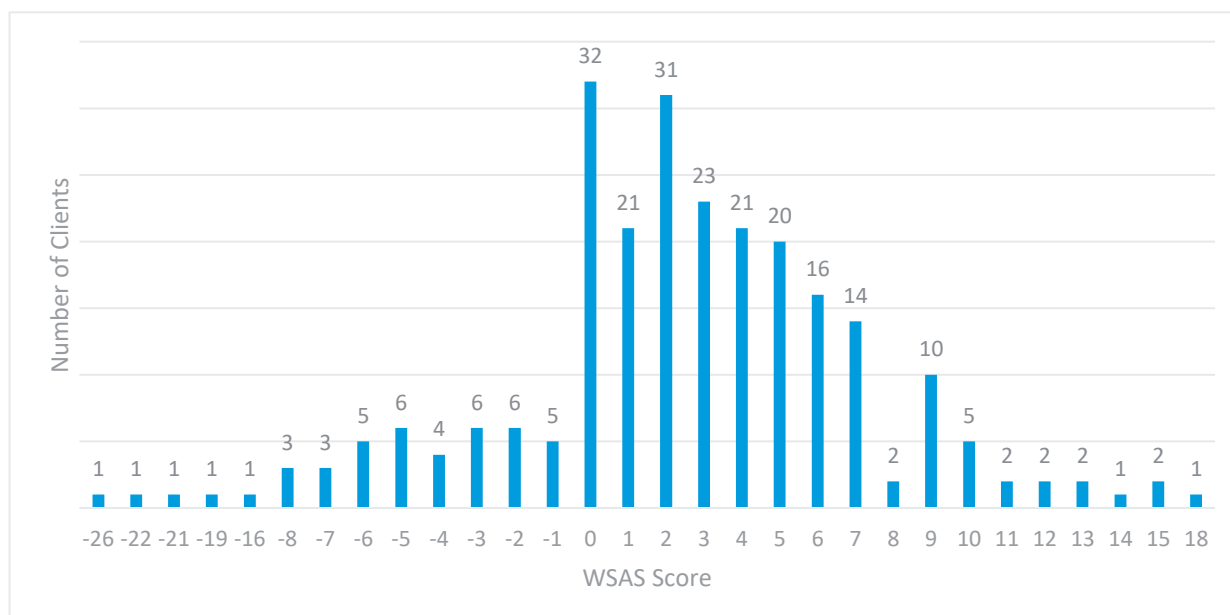
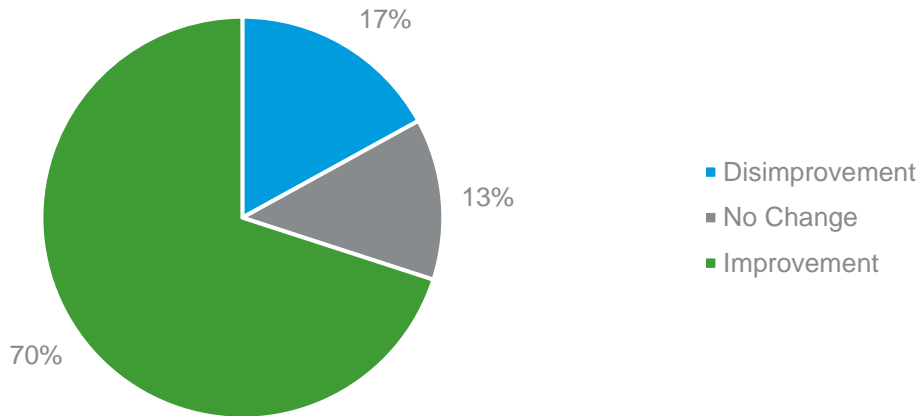


Figure 4: Trauma focused physical activity programme WSAS Outcomes



For the one-to-one literacy and numeracy programme, 25 scores were received, with 72% of respondents showing improvements, 8% no change and 20% deterioration, shown in figures 5 and 6.

Figure 5: WSAS Scores for the one-to-one literacy and numeracy programme

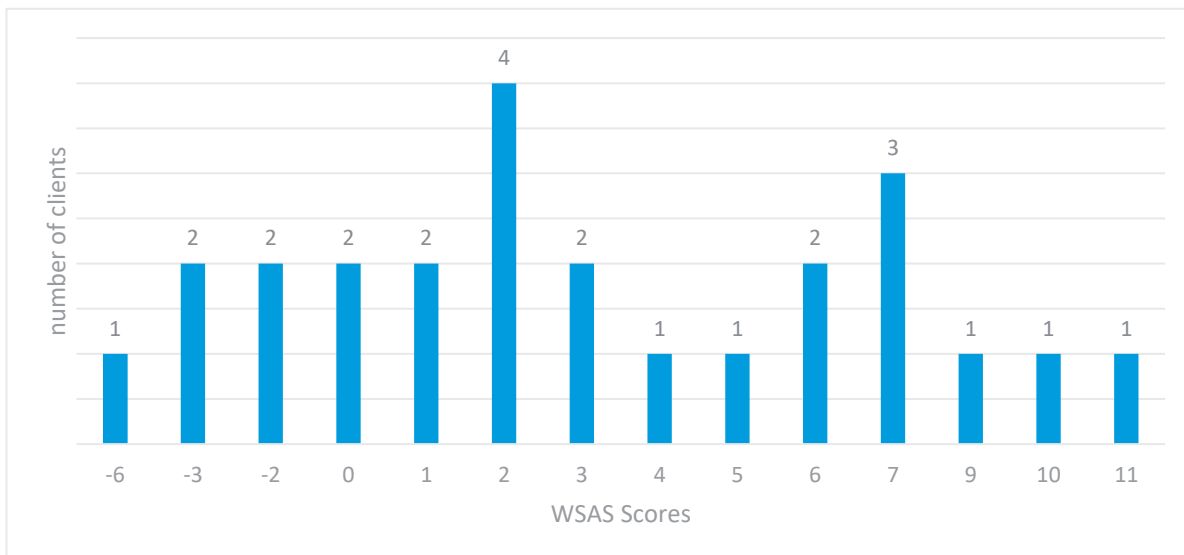
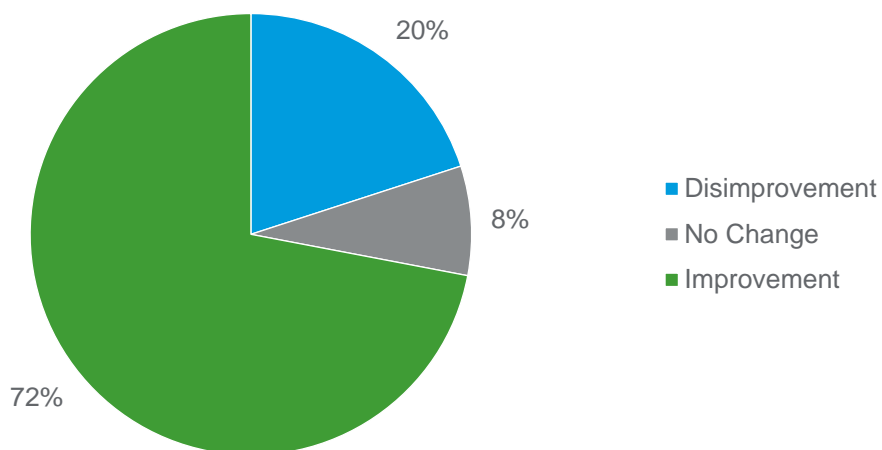


Figure 6: One-to-one literacy and numeracy programme WSAS Outcomes



For the volunteering programme, 25 WSAS scores were received by VSS, and the change from time 1 and time 2 is displayed in Figure 7. Figure 8 shows that 88% showed improved from their involvement in the programme, 4% no change and 8% a deterioration.

Figure 7: WSAS Scores for the volunteering programme

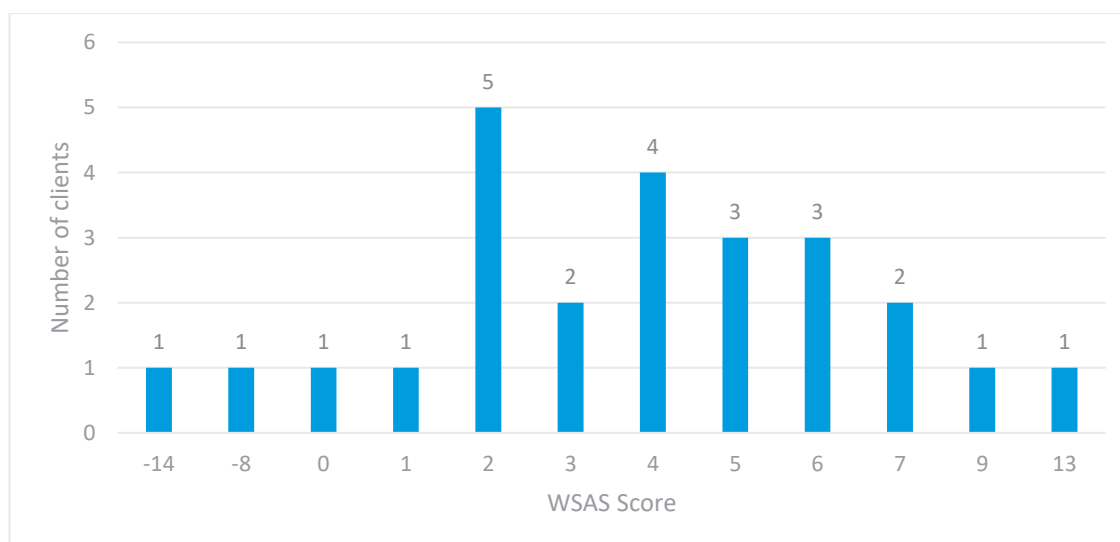
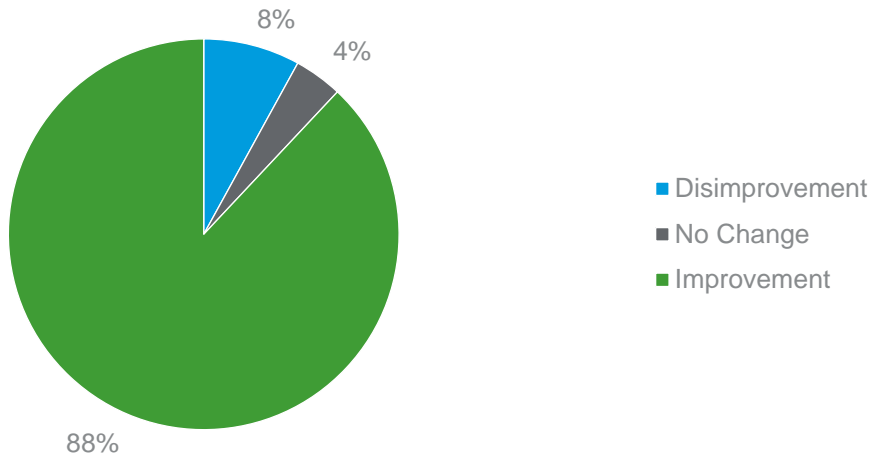


Figure 8: volunteering programme outcomes



Across all the resilience programmes, a majority of individuals showed improvement. It should be noted that where scores have increased or decreased, they cannot necessarily be attributed to a single framework as more than one award may have been given. Similarly, change in score (positive or negative) may be a consequence of other contextual factors in an individual's life. It is not appropriate therefore to consider that for those with a deterioration in WSAS score that the intervention had to some degree contributed to that deterioration.

Workforce Training

Again, not an output indicator for the project, but the workforce training programme sought to deliver training to 690 individuals. As Table 7 demonstrates, 87% of this target output has been met.

Table 7: Workforce Training indicator

Target	Actual	%
690	601	87%

Issues encountered and lessons learned

Through consultation with those responsible for programme delivery, Table 8 highlights the core issues have been identified with regard to the impact of the programme and the lessons learned.

Table 8: Issues encountered, and Lessons learned

Issue encountered	Lesson learned
<p>The central issues identified by multiple individuals responsible for delivery was the focus on outputs, with one individual reviewed by an HWB caseworker often needing multiple interventions due to a variety of factors (e.g. age / deterioration, recovery, initial hesitancy, and life events). These multiple engagements highlight how a victim / survivor is on a therapeutic journey rather than requiring a single intervention.</p>	<p>It should be ensured going forward that delivering services to new individuals does not take over all HWB caseworker priority and lead to neglect of those existing clients in need of support. Caseworkers may feel pressure to achieve the output i.e. number of new individuals engaged with, rather than delivery that which will have the most impact. A way of reporting repeat interventions should be developed.</p>
<p>The method of measuring impact is very individual – looking at different programmes. It is hard to work out which programme had the most impact.</p>	<p>There is work to be done to join up the client journey in terms of evaluation and look at how different programmes and interventions at different stages for a client deliver a wholistic impact.</p>
<p>The quality of data being reported requires a lot of end-stage cleaning efforts to enable it to be usable.</p>	<p>An online approach to monitoring and evaluation would make the data capture process easier and more effective.</p>

Conclusion

The project is now over halfway through its delivery period, finishing in December 2022. As is demonstrated above, the project is on track to deliver against its agreed output indicators; the HWB caseworker programme is already at 65% of its target output, and the Advocacy Support Programme slightly behind at 50%. The impacts to the supported individuals, as measured by WSAS scores for resilience programmes, are significant, with between 68% to 88% of individuals reporting improvement. Resilience programmes have also exceeded their originally target and are now progressing towards a revised target. The Workforce Training programme has achieved 87% of its output. The three research projects and the needs review project, for which the CVS are responsible are also progressing, with the three research projects at a draft stage. No issues were identified with regard to delivering impact, with some issues highlighted in relation to how the impact is captured.

APPENDIX 2: SNAPSHOT CASE STUDIES

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council – children and young people

Project Overview

In January 2016 Fermanagh and Omagh District Council received €634,857.86 from the Peace IV Programme for a project entitled “Fermanagh and Omagh District Council – CYP, focusing on children and young people.

The project involves implementation of a range of activities designed to maximised cross-community contact, improve youth wellbeing, build citizenship skills, support ethnic minorities and spend time in creative and sporting settings.

The Overarching Peace IV Children and Young People Programme targets a range of young people aged from 0 months to 24 years. The objective of this programme is to offer opportunities to engage new participants who have not benefitted from previous programmes due to their age, but who are living with the legacy of conflict while not having been alive when it was ongoing. The Fermanagh and Omagh District Council includes participants age 5 – 18 years old and is scheduled to deliver 6 work packages:

- Inter-linkage Programme for existing Youth Groups;
- Resilience based Programme for existing Youth groups;
- Cross community social action/volunteering programme;
- Cross community/cross border youth sports programme;
- Language support programmes for young migrants; and
- Cross community/cross border cultural activity programme.

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

Table 1: Project Overview

Applicant:	Fermanagh and Omagh District Council
Project	Fermanagh and Omagh District Council – CYP
Project Partners:	Fermanagh and Omagh District Council; Education Authority Western Region
Relevant Special Objective	SO2.2 (Action 2.2 Local Authority Children and Young People) Enhancing the capacity of children and young people to form positive and effective relationships with others of a different background and make a positive contribution to building a cohesive society
Amount awarded by PIV	€634,857.86
Duration	January 2016 to December 2020

Table 2: Summary of project elements

Output indicator	Output description	Project Name	Partner(s) involved	Budget ^{46,47}
SO2.2 (Action 2.2 Local Authority Children and Young People) Enhancing the capacity of children and young people to form positive and effective relationships with others of a different background and make a positive contribution to building a cohesive society	The output indicator target at a Programme Level is 21,000 participants aged 0-24 years completing approved programmes that develop their soft skills and a respect for diversity. The overall indicative target set for the Local Authority is 869 with an interim target of 207 (by 2018) and this work package contributes to the indicative targets stipulated for the Local Authority and at a Programme Level.	Inter-Linkage Programme for Existing Youth Groups	Educational Authority Western Region	£106,788 / €118,089.13
		Resilience-based Programme for Young People	Educational Authority Western Region	£94,388 / €104,376.87
		Cross Community Social Action/Volunteering Programme	Educational Authority Western Region	£89,873.38 / €99,384.47
		Cross Community/Cross Border Youth Sports Programme	Fermanagh and Omagh District Council	£111,550 / €123,355.08
		Language Support Programme	Omagh Ethnic Communities Support Group	£22,465 / 24,842.42
		Cross Community Cultural Activity Programme – Creative Cafes	Fermanagh and Omagh District Council	£94,895.97 / €104,938.59

⁴⁶ Figures provided by project partner in this column in sterling. Conversion rate of €1: £0.9043 applied as per EMS 30/11/2020

⁴⁷ Budget does not include management and communications budget

Project Performance

The following sections provide details on progress achieved by each of the of the 6 projects/programmes included within the FODC CYP Peace IV programme.

Inter-linkage Programme for existing Youth Groups

The inter-linkage programme had the objective of engaging 200 participants aged 11 to 18 in activities that would maximise cross community interaction and build the capacity of participants through shared activities. The project had a budget of £106,788.00 and has claimed £101,781.96. The project was delivered by Education Authority Western Region and is now complete.

Activities involved included:

- **Peer Mentoring Sessions and Good Relations Workshops** for Members of the Omagh Youth Forum and Enniskillen Youth Forum, focusing on issues of identity, community cohesion and active citizenship. This activity will see an art collage produced and exhibited in participants youth centres;
- **Three peace camps** at Gortatole Outdoor Learning Centre for young people aged 11 to 16, involving activities such as team building games, art workshops and Good Relations sessions focusing on equality, diversity and the importance of interdependence when spending time together in the Camp;
- **Post boot camp events** to celebrate the participants who took part in the peace camps; and
- The opportunity for young people to complete their **OCN accreditation in Good Relations and Peer Mentoring**.

This project has now finished having achieved all of its target outputs.

Resilience based Programme for existing Youth groups

This programme had the objective of providing 200 participants aged 11 to 24 with activities to improve mental health and wellbeing and support in dealing with common issues such as cyber bullying, suicide awareness and substance abuse on a cross community basis. The project had a budget of £94,388.00 and has claimed £94,711.51. The project was delivered by Education Authority Western Region and is now complete.

The project saw two positive wellbeing Drug & Alcohol-free music events take place in Omagh Boys and Girls Club on 26 June 2019 with 45 participants and in Lakeland Youth Centre on 27 June 2019 and an after-school coping programme delivered in Fermanagh and Omagh. Two wellbeing youth forums were convened with objectives including the design of a media campaign focusing on young people and their mental health. Posters were designed by young people and the media campaign was launched on the Fermanagh & Omagh Youth Service Facebook page. Information was distributed at youth events and the closing events in December 2019. Three mental wellbeing boot camps took place, with 80 participants in total across the three camps.

Further, a total of 18 participants completed their accredited training in OCN Level 1 'Understanding Healthy Lifestyles'.

The project was successful and is now completed, with 149 young people participating against a target of 200.

Cross community social action/volunteering programme

This programme was designed to build citizenship skills for 14 to 24-year olds, with a target output of 80 young people attaining recognition at Youth Support Worker level (YSWQ/level 2 award. The project had a budget of £89,873.38 and has claimed £85,321.00 The project was delivered by Education Authority Western Region and is now complete.

This involves:

- a weekly leadership programme; and
- peer mentoring programmes involving young people from local schools.

88 young people completed a Youth Leadership Programme. Participants completed OCN accredited Level 2 Award in Youth Leadership and developed positive engagement with others from different backgrounds, creating a greater respect for difference and improving relations

Cross community/cross border youth sports programme

This programme, delivered by the Fermanagh and Omagh district council, sought to develop new sporting leagues and support development of minority sports clubs on a cross border/cross community basis.

11 participating groups completed a programme of activities with participants having engaged in meaningful, purposeful and sustained cross community contact for a minimum of 26 hours. These groups were:

- Strule Dolphins;
- Omagh Futsal Club;
- Splitz Gymnastics Club;
- Mary Gray Youth Club;
- Carosyl Youth Club;
- Erne Boxing Club;
- St Mary High School Parent Teacher Council;
- Irvinestown Youth Club;
- Loughmacrory Youth Club;

- Rock Runners; and
- St Fanchea's College/Devenish College.

These groups completed a Level 2 Dodgeball Course which took place on 20 July 2019 in Omagh Leisure Complex.

A Cross Border/Cross Community Sports Event took place on 21 June 2019 at the Bawnacre Centre, Irvinestown. The event included dodgeball games, entertainment and Good Relations Workshops. Approximately 110 young people and youth leaders from the participating groups attended along with guests from the Forge Family Resource Centre Youth Club, Pettigo.

This project exceeded targets with 254 participants against a 140 target.

Language support programmes for young migrants

The Omagh Ethnic Community Support Group undertook this activity on behalf of the council. The programme had the objective of providing language support for newcomer and migrant communities, including intergenerational dialogue to establish community contacts. There was a target of 30 participants and with 25 participants in total, the project has concluded.

Cross community/cross border cultural activity programme

This programme has now been completed. The aim of the programme was to see children and young people engage in peace and reconciliation themed activities incorporating music, arts, multi-media, drama and history.

A core part of this programme was the Creative Cafés activity programme, involving a series of peace and reconciliation structured programmes aimed at changing negative behaviours and attitudes towards others from differing religious backgrounds and people with no religious background. The engagement of the Creative Cafes programme will encourage the formation of lasting and meaningful relationships through a wide range of Arts, Cultural and Music based activities. The Creative Cafes programme will also enrich the Cultural and Artistic lives of each participant directly, whilst having an indirect benefit to families and friends. The Cafes will be a safe, secure and neutral space where people from all backgrounds can come together and form a bond over an artistic endeavour.

Summary of progress

The FODC CYP project has completed all of its programme elements, exceeding, or coming close to programme targets, delivering a range of outcomes for young people in the area. Overall, the project has come in under budget. Table 3 gives a detailed summary of progress.

Table 3: Financial and output performance

Project name	Partner or Contractor	Commenced	Completed	Main output (target)	Outputs achieved	Contract value (£) ⁴⁸	Claimed ⁴⁹
Inter-linkage Programme for existing Youth Groups	Education Authority Western Region	January 2018	March 2020	<p>A programme designed to maximise sustained cross community membership and build the capacity of young people through shared activities.</p> <p>11-18-year olds from mixed community backgrounds.</p> <p>Target: 200 beneficiaries</p>	<p>Successful delivery of a youth initiative with 210 young people who have developed positive relationships with members of the other community.</p> <p>Establishment of 2 Youth Forums for Peace and Reconciliation.</p> <p>Participants developed positive engagement with others from different backgrounds, creating a greater respect for difference and improving relations</p> <p>At least 30 young people each completed OCN accredited Peer Mentoring and OCN Good Relations training.</p> <p>4 Peace-Camps involving 100 young people took place throughout duration of programme.</p> <p>Up to 100 young people attended training on cultural awareness, good relations, prejudice</p>	<p>£106,788 / €118,089.13</p>	<p>£101,781.96 / €112,553.31</p>

⁴⁸ Figures provided by project partner in this column in sterling. Conversion rate of €1: £0.9043 applied as per EMS 30/11/2020

⁴⁹ Figures provided by project partner in this column in sterling. Conversion rate of €1: £0.9043 applied as per EMS 30/11/2020

					reduction, anti-sectarianism, antiracism, conflict resolution and general inclusion work.		
Resilience based Programme for existing Youth groups	Education Authority Western Region	January 2018	March 2020	<p>A programme designed to maximise sustained cross community membership and build the capacity of young people through shared activities.</p> <p>11-18-year olds from mixed community backgrounds.</p> <p>Target: 200 Beneficiaries</p>	<p>Successful delivery of a youth initiative with 149 young people who have developed positive relationships with members of the other community.</p> <p>Improved Mental Health and Well-Being of all participants through dealing with issues prevalent with young people such as cyber bullying, racism, sectarianism, suicide awareness and substance abuse</p> <p>Establishment of 2 Well-being Youth Forums with 30 young people.</p> <p>30 young people completed OCNNI accredited Peer Mentoring and Healthy Living training.</p> <p>Participants developed positive engagement with others from different backgrounds, creating a greater respect for difference and improving relations</p>	£94,388 / €104,376.87	£94,711.51 / €112,553.31

					Up to 40 young people attended after school coping skills and exam stress programme Participants took part in Mental Health Boot camps and Positive Wellbeing, drug and alcohol-free music events.		
Cross community social action/volunteering programme	Education Authority Western Region	January 2018	March 2020	A programme designed to build citizenship skills. Aimed at 14-24-year olds from mixed community backgrounds. Target: 80 Beneficiaries	88 young people completed a Youth Leadership Programme Participants completed OCN accredited Level 2 Award in Youth Leadership and developed positive engagement with others from different backgrounds, creating a greater respect for difference and improving relations	£89,873.38 / €99,384.47	£85,321.00 / €94,350.33
Cross community/cross border youth sports programme	Fermanagh and Omagh District Council	August 2017	June 2019	A programme designed to encompass the creation of new sporting leagues and support development of minority sports clubs on a cross border/cross community basis. Aimed at 0-24-year olds from mixed community	Successful delivery of an inclusive youth initiative involving sports that engaged young people in sporting activities which they enjoy while forming positive relationships with people that they would not normally socialise or play sport with. 10 Youth Minority Sports Groups established in sports which are not	£111,550 / €123,355.08	£82,334.11 / €91,047.34

				<p>backgrounds including ethnic minorities.</p> <p>Target: 240 Beneficiaries</p>	<p>traditionally played in the Fermanagh and Omagh area.</p> <p>224 young people from both communities playing a new sport, away from the traditional sports played in Northern Ireland, i.e. GAA and Soccer.</p> <p>224 young people built on or formed new relationships with members from other religious backgrounds through membership of one or more sporting clubs.</p> <p>Up to 10 young people trained in youth leadership/sports coaching to maintain clubs</p>		
Language support programmes for young migrants	Omagh Ethnic Communities Support Group (OECSG)	February 2018	March 2019	<p>A programme designed for Young People from Minority Ethnic and Newcomer Communities, to include intergenerational conversation circles to establish community connections.</p> <p>The programme entailed delivery of a</p>	<p>Successful delivery of a programme to 25 participants who were unable to access the required support to successfully participate/integrate into wider society due to language barriers.</p> <p>Provided the opportunity for 25 participants from BME and Newcomer Communities to meet new friends that they would not normally socialise with.</p>	£22,465 / 24,842.42	£21,374.16 / €23,636.14

				<p>tailored Language Support Programme for 30 young people from the BME and Newcomer Communities aged between 10-24 years in order to enable them to successfully participate and integrate into the wider community.</p> <p>Target: 30 Beneficiaries</p>	<p>Learnt new skills through positive use of social media.</p> <p>Improved their language and communication skills and created a better understanding of other cultures in order to engage and form friendships</p>		
<p>Cross community/cross border cultural activity programme – Creative Cafes</p>	<p>FOCUS</p>	<p>September 2017</p>	<p>December 2019</p>	<p>A programme designed for Children and Young People to engage in a range of Peace and Reconciliation themed activities, incorporating music, multi-media, drama, history etc.</p> <p>Aimed at Children and Young People aged between 0-16 year from mixed community backgrounds to change negative behaviours and attitudes towards others from differing</p>	<p>Successful delivery of up to 50 youth focused initiatives (per age group) that focused on peace and reconciliation themes activities to include mostly arts, craft, music, drama and social media.</p> <p>Created an abundance of opportunities for participants from different traditions and cultural backgrounds to meet and develop positive relations.</p>	<p>£94,895.97 / €104,938.59</p>	<p>£86,947.13 / €96,148.55</p>

			religious backgrounds				
			Target: 200 beneficiaries				
					Total	£519,960.35 / €574,986.56	£472,469.87 / €522,470.28



Project Monitoring and Evaluation Information

Quantitative and qualitative monitoring and evaluation was undertaken throughout the programmes delivery to measure impact against programme result and output indicators. These indicators were as follows:

- number of participants aged 0-24 completing approved programmes that develop their soft skills and respect for diversity (output);
- the percentage of 16-year olds who socialise or play sport with people from a different religious community (result);
- the percentage of 16-year olds who think relations between Protestants and Catholics are better than they were 5 years ago (result); and
- the percentage of 16-year olds who socialise or play sport with people from a different religious community (result).

Monitoring was undertaken by partners responsible for the individual programmes. Against a numerical target output of 950 participants completing approved programmes, 947 participants completed 6 months / 26 hours of approved activities across the 6 programmes, representing an achievement of 99.7% of the target output. This is shown in table 4.

Table 4: Programme target output

Target	Actual	%
950	947	99.7%

Table 5 details this and in addition gives a breakdown of performance across specific programmes. Here it is detailed that although three programmes did not completely meet their target output indicators, no programme was significantly below their target output and indeed one programme (Creative Cafés) significantly exceeded (by 26%) their target output. The resilience programme was able to achieve 75% of its target; language programme, 83%; and Sports programme, 93% of its target participation levels.

In addition to participant numbers, monitoring was conducted on demographic information including gender and community / religious background. This is summarised at an individual programme level in Table 5. The FODC peace action plan (on which the CYP project was based) sought to achieve the following representation of community background, with all activity sought to be conducted on cross community basis: Catholic, Nationalist, Republican 60% and Protestant, Unionist, Loyalist 30%.

These targets are based upon the social demographic within the District and are therefore deemed appropriate and realistic.

At a programme level, the breakdown of community background shows that the CYP project has meet its targets, with 55% reported to be from a Catholic background and 30% from a Protestant background. For individual programmes, this representation does not always follow but broadly the project has succeeded in achieving its target.

Table 5: Monitoring Data

	Budget	Target no. of Participants	Female (%)	Male (%)	Transgender (%)	Other/Unknown (%)	Catholic (%)	Protestant (%)	Other (%)	Unknown (%)	No of participants which have now completed the programme and engaged 6 months / 26 hours	%
EA: Interlinkage Programme for Existing Youth Groups	£106,788	200	65%	35%	0%	0%	59%	26%	15%	0%	210	105%
EA: Resilience-based Programme for Young People	£94,388	200	65%	35%	0%	0%	66%	22%	12%	0%	149	75%
EA: Cross Community Social Action/Volunteering Programme	£89,874	80	70%	30%	0%	0%	35%	59%	6%	0%	88	110%
Youth Language Support Programme	£22,465	30	36%	64%	0%	0%	60%	0%	40%	0%	25	83%
Cross community/cross border cultural activity programme – Creative Cafes	£94,896	200	62%	38%	0%	0%	45%	42%	13%	0%	251	126%
Cross Border/Cross Community Youth Sports Programme	£111,550	240	56%	44%	0%	0%	65%	32%	3%	1%	224	93%

Monitoring of impact against result indicators varies across the six programmes, and as such, impact against result indicators will be treated at an individual project level.

Interlinkage Programme for existing Youth Groups

As well as monitoring for the demographic and participation number data previously discussed, the Education Authority required participants on interlinkage programmes to complete an individual evaluation survey on completion of their element of the programme that they were involved in. In addition, for the three EA programmes (Inter-linkage Programme, Resilience based Programme and Social action/volunteering programme) two focus groups were held with participants on completion to capture qualitative impact.

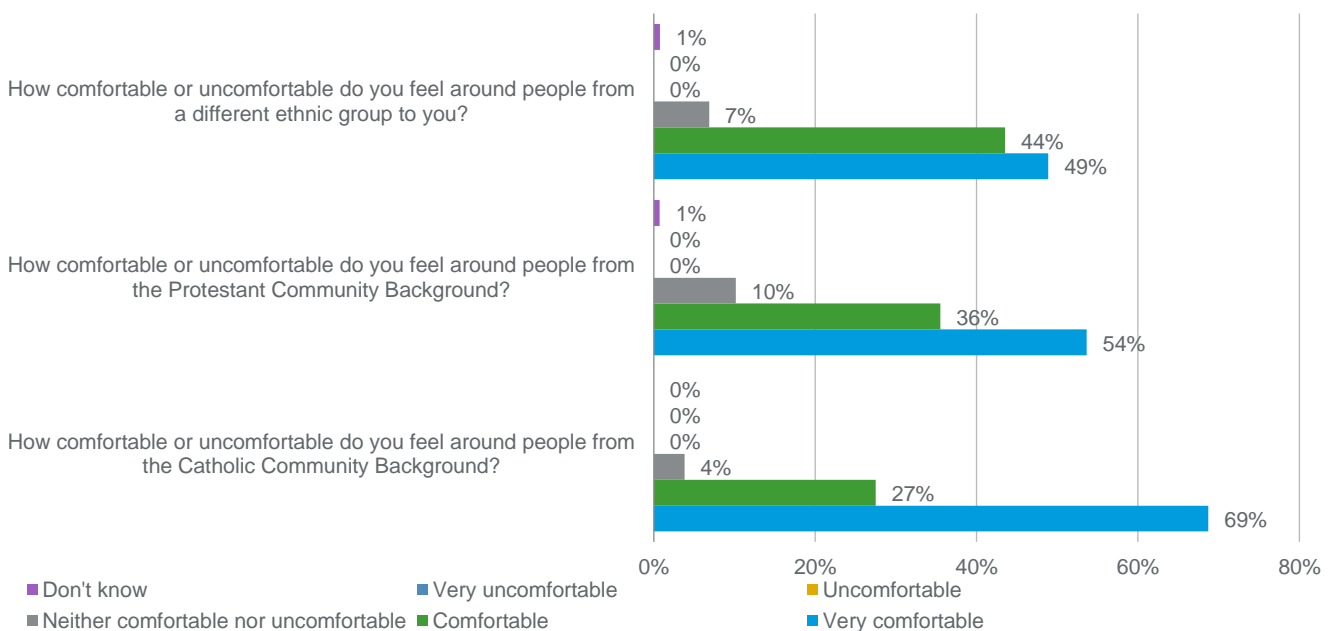
Key findings against result indicators from monitoring of the interlinkage programme included:

- 77% responded that very often or sometimes or very often socialise or play sport with people from a different religious community, and 65% responded that they very often or sometimes socialise / play sport with someone from a different ethnic background;
- 54% reported that relationships between Protestants and Catholics are better than 5 years ago and 56% think they will be better in the future. No individual responded that relationships had got worse or would get worse in the future;

A more detailed breakdown of responses is outlined below.

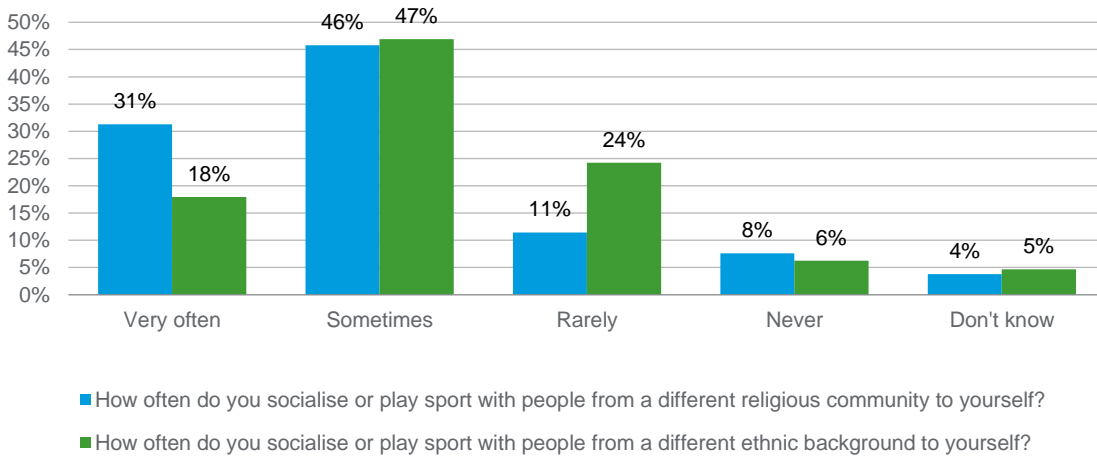
Participants were asked to describe their level of comfort with those from other communities. As is evident from Figure 1, the vast majority reported being either comfortable or very comfortable with those from other communities. Only 1% (n=1) of respondents reported any uncomfortable feelings.

Figure 1: How comfortable / uncomfortable do you feel with other communities



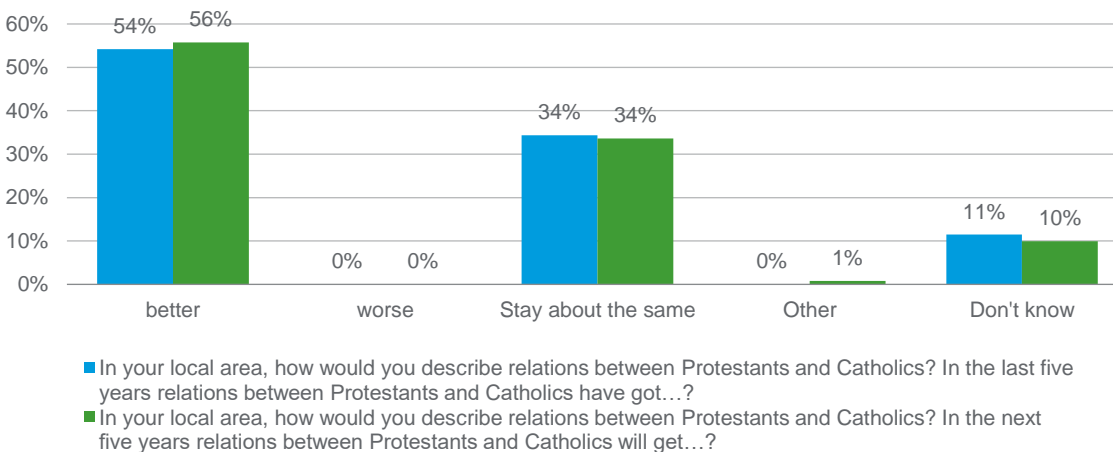
Participants were then asked to describe their level of socialising / sport playing with other communities, to address the correlating result indicator. 77% responded that very often or sometimes or very often socialise or play sport with people from a different religious community, and 65% responded that they very often or sometimes socialise / play sport with someone from a different ethnic background. Participants were more likely to respond that they rarely or never socialised / played sport with someone from a different ethnic background (30%) than a religious background (19%). This is detailed in Figure 2.

Figure 2: Socialise / play sport with different community background



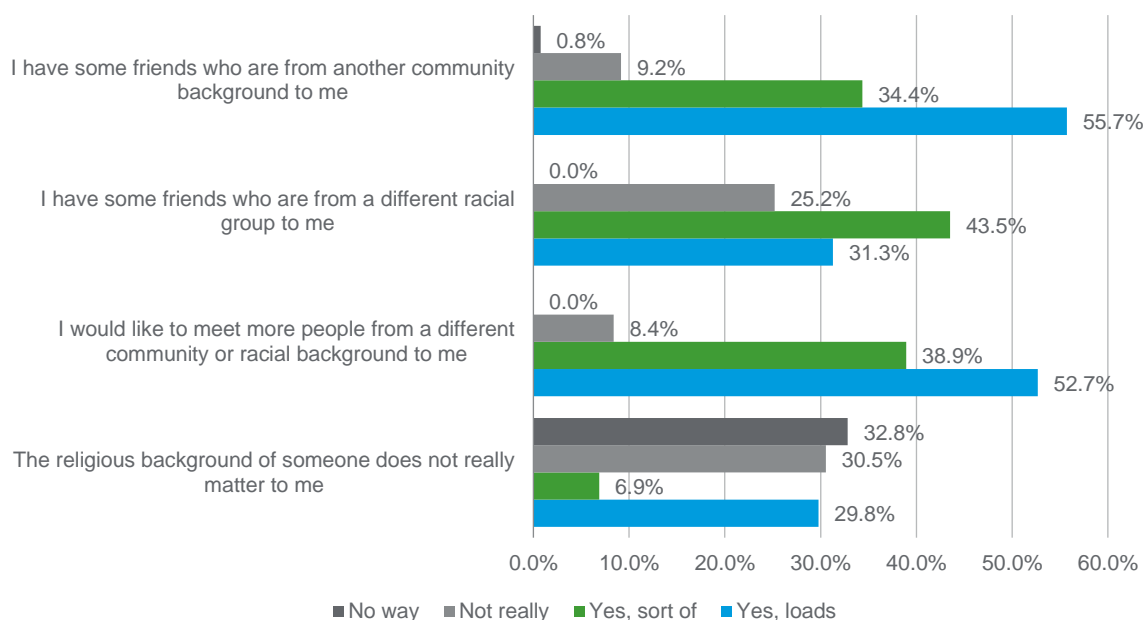
Further, participants describe how they felt relationships between Protestants and Catholics had changed in the past 5 years and how they felt these relationships would change in the following 5 years. These two questions pertain to the two result indicators for this action. 54% reported that relationships between Protestants and Catholics are better than 5 years ago and 56% think they will be better in the future. No individual responded that relationships had got worse or would get worse in the future.

Figure 3: Relationships 5 years ago / in 5 years' time



Finally, participants were asked to describe their current and desired friendship relationships across religious and ethnic communities. Figure 4 details the responses. Community background seemed to be less of a barrier both to current friendships than ethnic background, with 55.7% responding that they had loads of friends from a different community background. However, there was strong positive response across both community groupings. The question asking if religious background mattered seemed to bring out the most division, with 29.8% reporting that the religious background of someone didn't matter at all and 32.8% reporting complete disagreement with the statement.

Figure 4: Friendships across communities



Resilience based Programme for existing Youth groups

As with the interlinkage programme, similar evaluation strategies were employed including focus group discussion and post participation surveys to assess the impact of the resilience programme against result indicators.

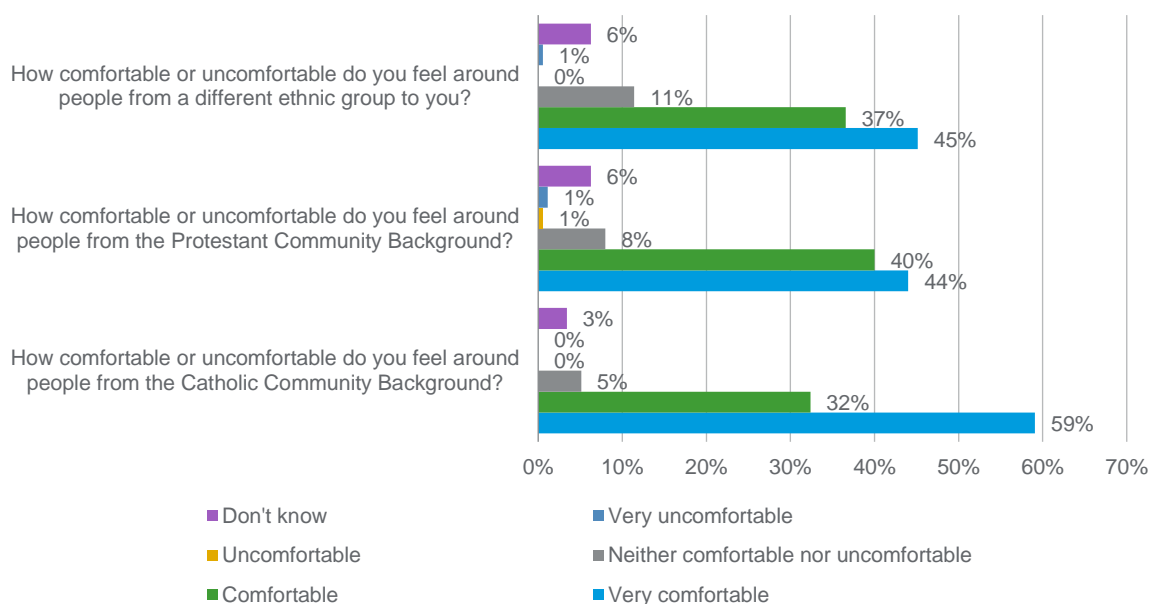
Key findings include:

- results broadly mirrored those found in the interlinkage programme, with similar reported figures for all the result indicators addressed by the survey questions. This suggests a broadly positive impact of the programme although lack of baseline inhibits attribution of impact; and
- higher numbers than the previous programme reported that they did not know either how comfortable they felt around particular communities, nor how relations had change or would change.

A detailed breakdown of survey data for this programme follows.

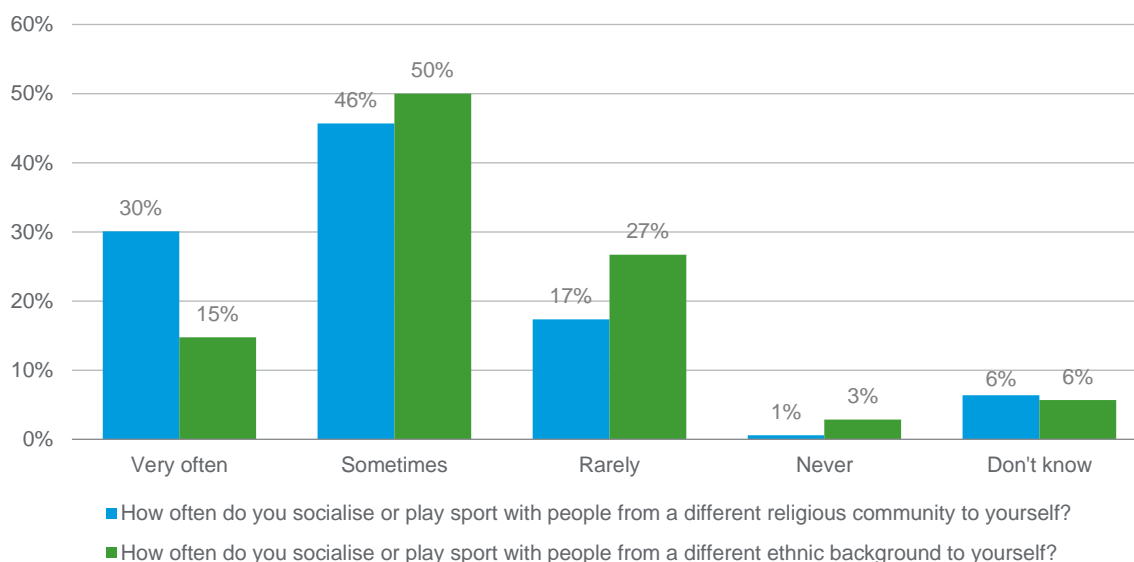
As was evidenced in Table 5 monitoring information, the resilience programme had the highest ratio of Catholics (66%) to Protestants (22%). Despite this imbalance, 84% reported they were comfortable or very comfortable around members from the Protestant community, with only 2% (n=3) citing that they were either uncomfortable or very uncomfortable. Similarly, no respondents felt uncomfortable around those from a Catholic community background. 6% (n=11) of respondents did however report that they did not know how comfortable they felt amongst ethnic minorities and those of protestant community background, highlighting potentially a lack of sustained contact amongst some individuals with these groups.

Figure 5: How comfortable / uncomfortable do you feel with other communities



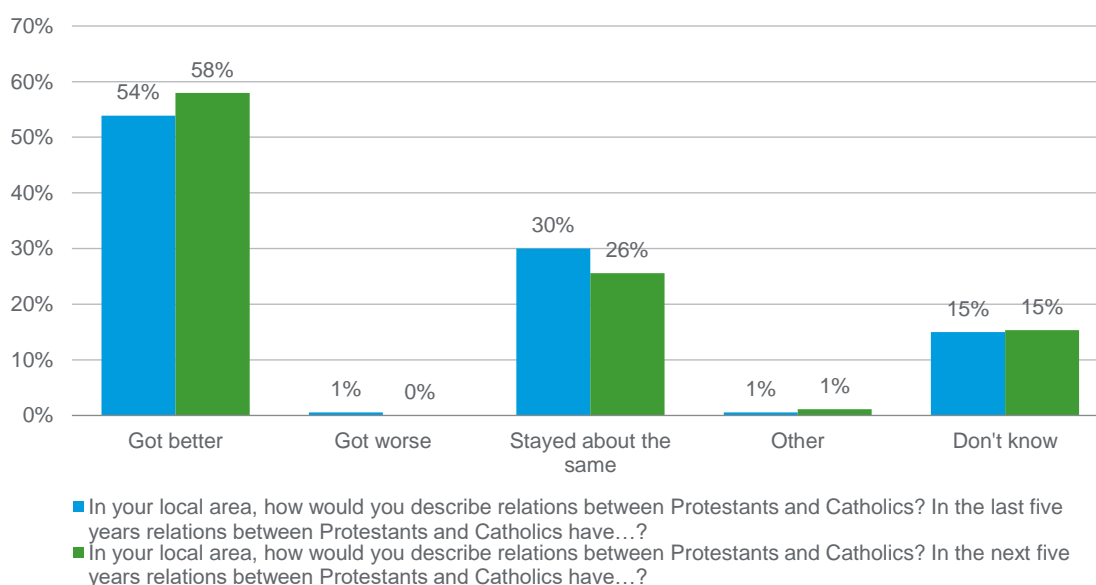
In terms of those who socialised or played sport with those of a different religious / ethnic background, results follow a nearly identical pattern to those seen in the interlinkage programme. 76% play sport / socialise across the religious divide and 65% across ethnic divides. This group did however have less individuals reporting that his was something they never did (1% and 3%). This is shown in figure 6.

Figure 6: Socialise / play sport with different community background



Again, response is similar for the other result indicators for the programme: 54% felt relations had improved and 58% think they will improve. There however is a higher level of those who are unsure about how relationships have and will change, both at 15% of respondents. Without a baseline it is hard to assess the level of change or impact attributable to the programme. Details of response are shown in Figure 7.

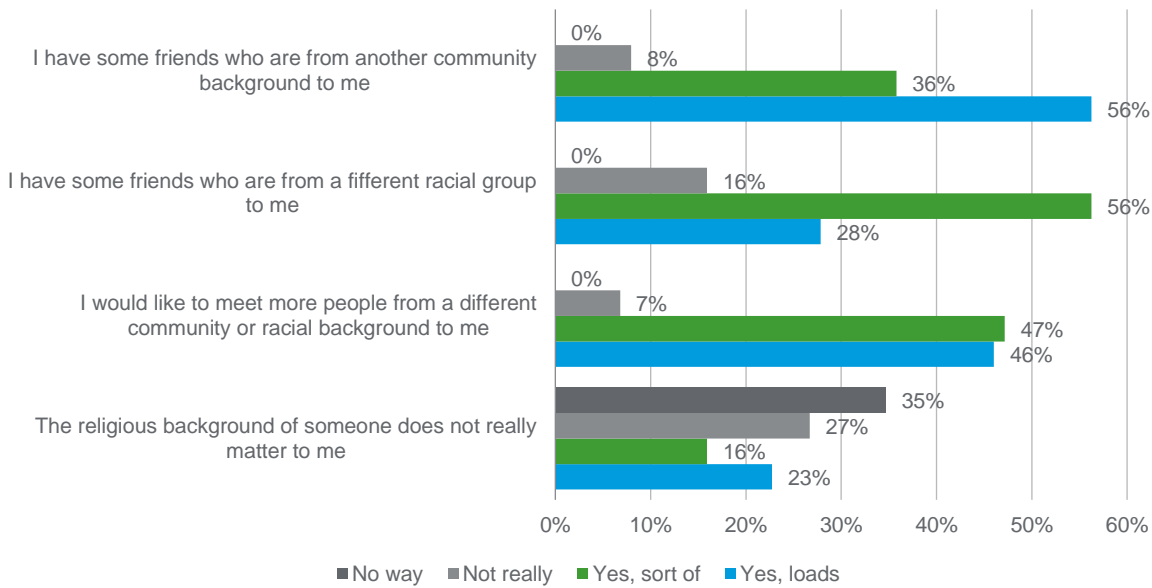
Figure 7: Relationships 5 years ago / in 5 years' time



For the question on friendship across communities, it too followed a similar pattern to the interlinkage programme with the only area that caused significant debate was the perceived

importance of a person’s religious background, with 35% strongly disagreeing, suggesting that it did matter a great deal, and 39% either agreeing or strongly agreeing that it didn’t matter. The full results are detailed in figure 8.

Figure 8: Friendships across communities



Cross community social action/volunteering programme

As the third EA delivered programme, the same evaluation strategies were employed enabling evaluation of impact against result indicators. Key findings include:

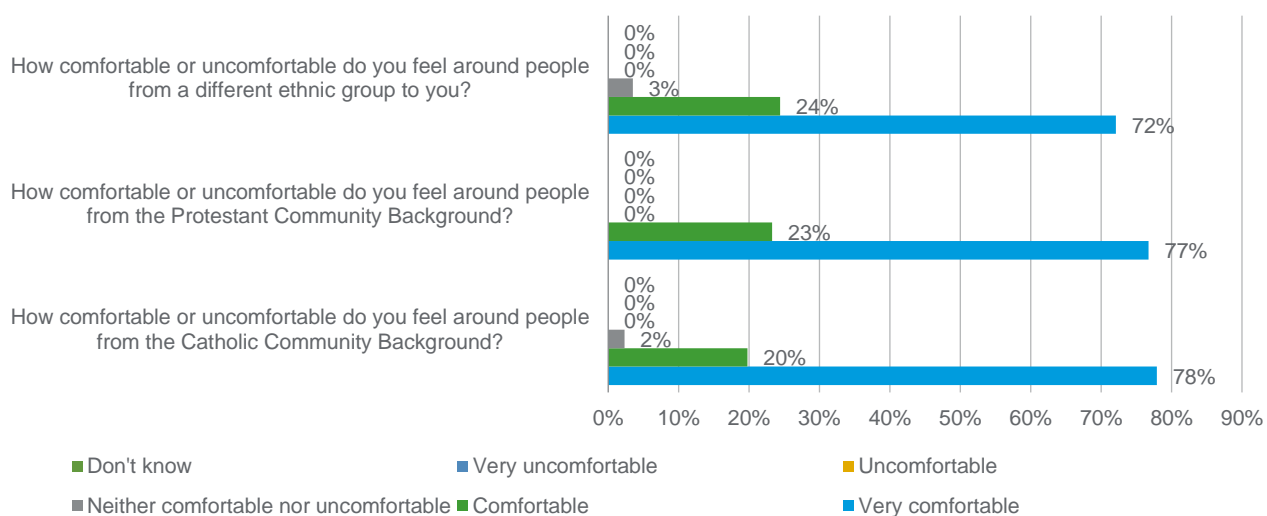
- Across the board high numbers were report for comfort with other communities;
- A significantly large portion reported they never socialised / played sport with those from different religious / ethnic backgrounds;
- this group reported most strongly that relationships between Protestants and Catholics has improved and will continue to improve;
- 56% of this group also reported that religious background was not important to them, significantly higher than other groups.

A detailed breakdown of survey data for this programme follows.

Respondents from this programme demonstrated most strongly that they were with those from different community backgrounds, with 96% comfortable or very comfortable with those from a different ethnic background, 100% with those from a Protestant background, and 98% with those from a Catholic background, as shown in Figure 9. This could be reflective of the high level of capacity building activities that were undertaken in this programme, with weekly leadership training, peer mentoring, OCN-accredited training. Compared to other programmes which

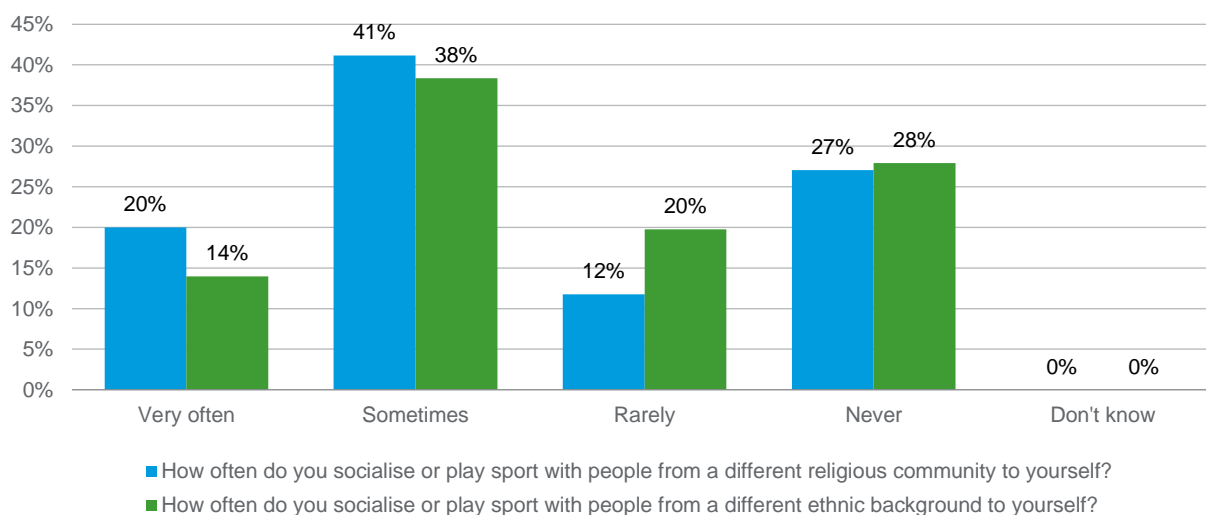
provided opportunities for contact and relationship building, this programme demonstrably ensure young people would be very comfortable with one another.

Figure 9: How comfortable / uncomfortable do you feel with other communities



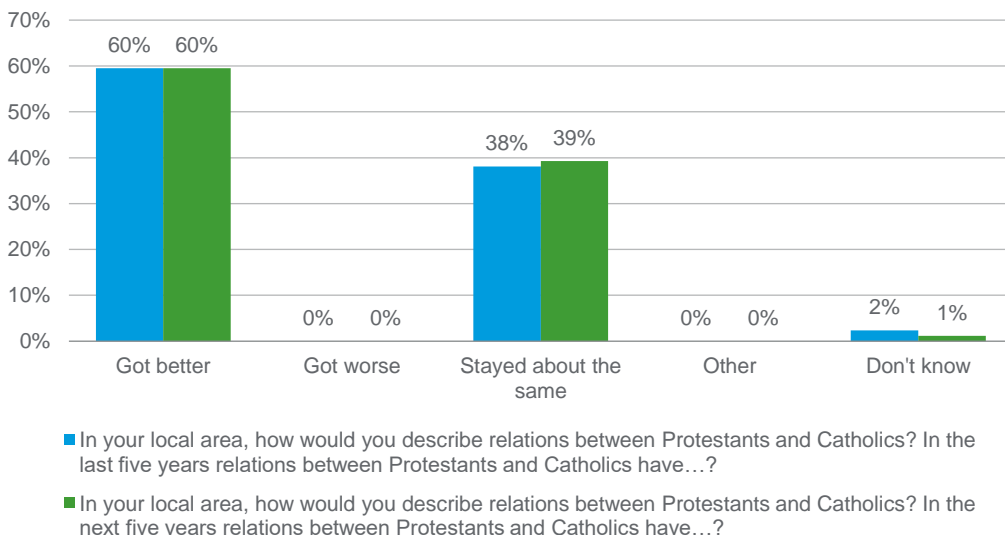
The percentage of people who socialise or play sport with someone from another community however jars with this previous finding. In Figure 10 it is demonstrated that there is a significant increase from previous programmes in those who never socialise across religious / ethnic boundaries (27% and 28% respectively). One potential explanation for this that could be inferred is the nature of activities of the programme themselves. As part of the previous two programme offering, there was an element of what might be thought of as socialising, however the focus of this programme on capacity building means that the young people are not actually facilitated to socialise through the programme.

Figure 10: Socialise / play sport with different community background



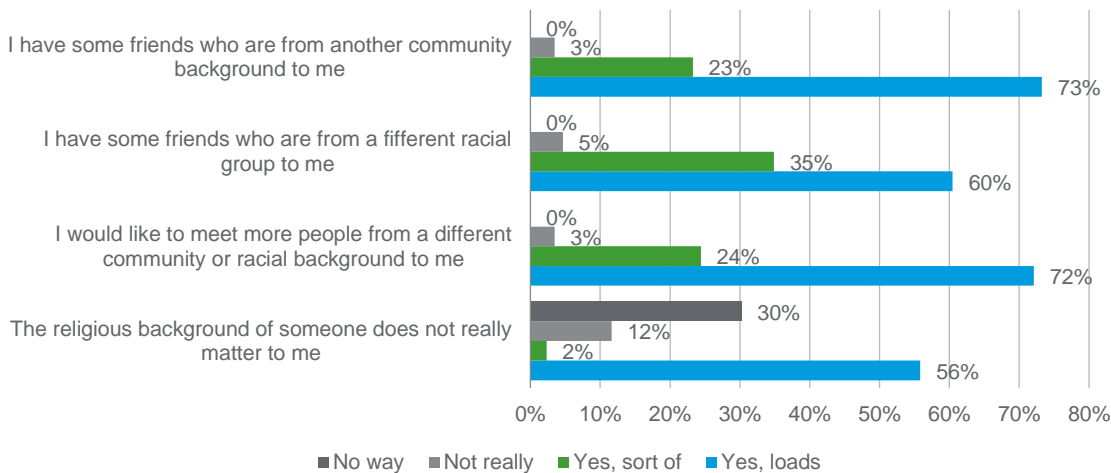
Against the result indicators pertaining to relationships in 5 years / 5 years ago, this programme saw the most respondents (60%, n=50) suggest that relationships had improved and will improve. There were no respondents that said things had got worse, whilst just under 40% felt things had and would stay the same, as shown in figure 11.

Figure 11: Relationships 5 years ago / in 5 years' time



Against the question on friendship between different religious and ethnic backgrounds, respondents across categories suggest that they have lots of and express a strong desire for friends from different groupings. Most significantly, this group were the most likely to suggest that religious background of an individual did not matter to them, again potentially an impact of civic education activities. This is demonstrated in figure 12.

Figure 12: Friendships across communities



Educational Authority Focus Groups

In addition to this survey data, the EA conducted two focus groups comprising of participants across the three programmes to provide feedback and discuss impact in relation to result indicators. Key findings from the social group cannot be attributed to a specific individual programme but are included here to qualitatively demonstrate impact. Key findings include:

- 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;
- 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;
- 100% of those participating in the focus groups felt that *relationships between Protestants and Catholics were better than they were five years ago*, although the level of improvement was dependent on the which area one was from;
- 90% of those participating said they *socialise with young people who are from a different community background on a regular basis*, from a few times a week to once a week through their local youth or sports club; and
- the project partner detailed that from the focus groups *'the young people were confident and without hesitation felt relationships would continue to improve over the next five years'*.

Language Support Programme

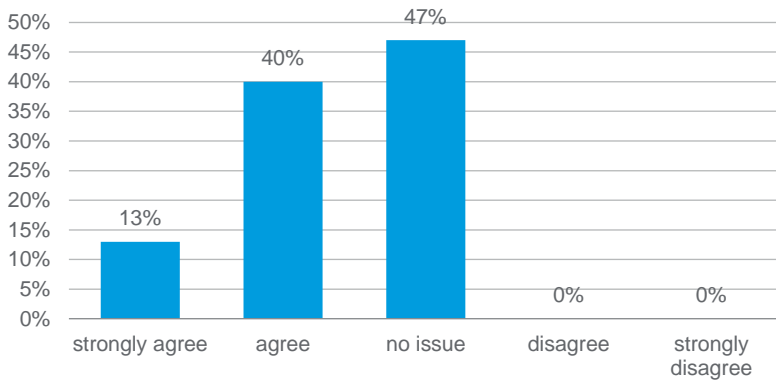
For this programme, survey monitoring was conducted against four outcomes, pertaining to increased capacity, increased confidence, socialising / playing sport with those of different religious backgrounds and improved relations between Protestants and Catholics. Key findings include:

- 73% sometimes or very often play sport / socialise with those from a different religious community to themselves;
- 60% think relations between Protestants and Catholics are better than 5 years ago;
- 53% felt that the programme helped increase their skills and knowledge.

A detailed breakdown is shown below.

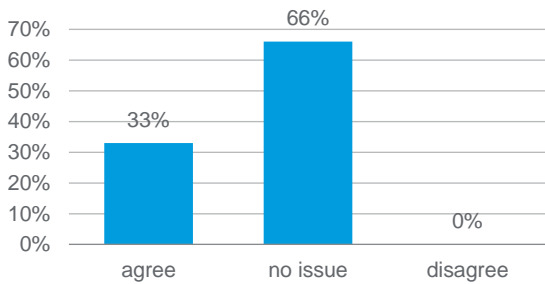
To the survey question: 'Has the language Support Programme helped you to develop new skills and knowledge which will benefit you for your future in further education or employment?' figure 13 shows that 53% agreed or strongly agreed that the programme had helped develop skills and knowledge.

Figure 13: Programme helped develop skills and knowledge



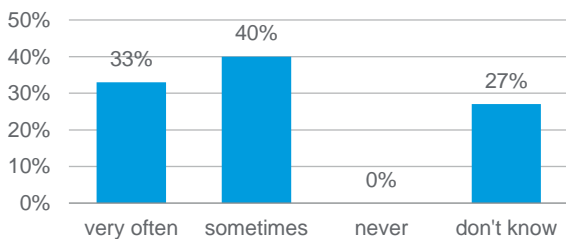
Asked if the programme had helped participants to enhance confidence to engage and form new lasting relationships with young people from other communities, 33% felt the programme had improved their confidence in relationship building, detailed in figure 14.

Figure 14: Programme helped enhance confidence



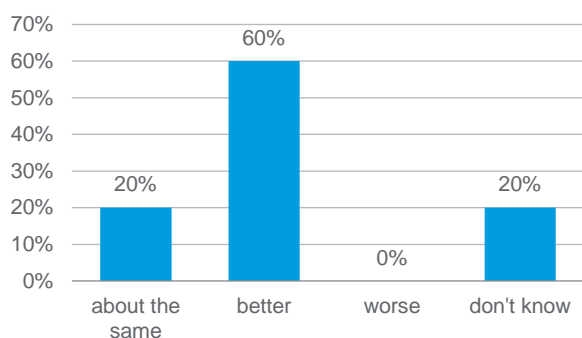
With regard to result indicator percentage of young people who play sport or socialise with someone from a different religious background, 33% responded that they very often socialised or played sport with someone from another religious background, and 40% said this was something they sometimes did. This is shown in figure 15.

Figure 15: Social / play sport with someone from another religious background



When asked if relations between Protestants and Catholics were better than they were 5 years ago, 60% responded that relations had improved, with 0% of participants responding that relations had got worse, shown in figure 16.

Figure 16: Relationship between Protestants and Catholics five years ago



Cross Community Cultural Activity Programme – Creative Cafes

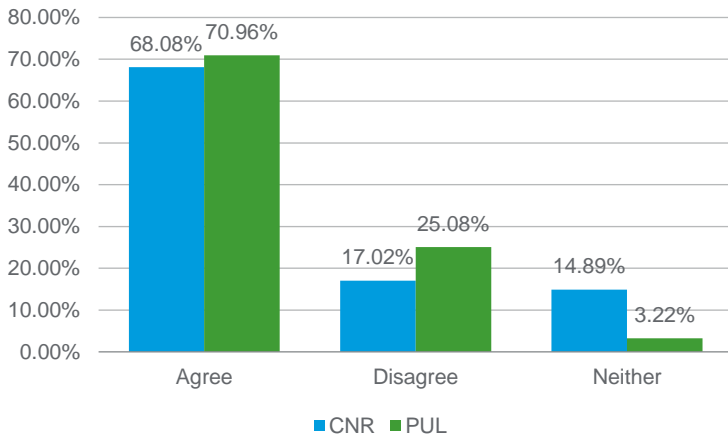
To evaluate this programme, delivery partners issued surveys to 219 participants and received completed surveys from 78. These surveys were issued on a PUL and CNR basis to enable comparison across the two community backgrounds. Key findings from the survey research showed that:

- 68% of those from a CNR background and 71% of those from a PUL background were enabled to engage in these creative activities on a cross-community basis;
- Although high proportions (61% PUL and 43% CNR) felt relations between protestants and Catholics had improved in the last 5 years, a large majority, 34% and 32% disagreed with the statement; and
- A similar pattern was found for relations in 5 years' time, 68% of the PUL community and 43% of the CNR community, a majority, agreeing that relations would improve, but 26% and 32% disagreeing with the statement.

A detailed breakdown of survey research is shown below.

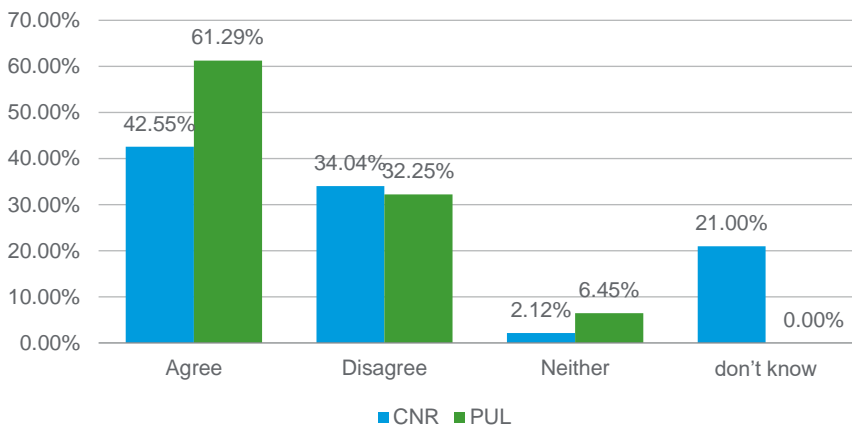
When asked had the project enabled engagement with people from a different community / ethnicity / culture, relating to result indicator *the percentage of 16-year olds who socialise or play sport with people from a different religious community*. The target age profile of this programme did not allow for direct measurement against this indicator, as participants were generally younger. As such, this measure was used to capture impact. It is shown that 68% of those from a CNR background and 71% of those from a PUL background were enabled to engage in these creative activities on a cross-community basis, as shown in figure 17.

Figure 17: Engagement with people from a different community background



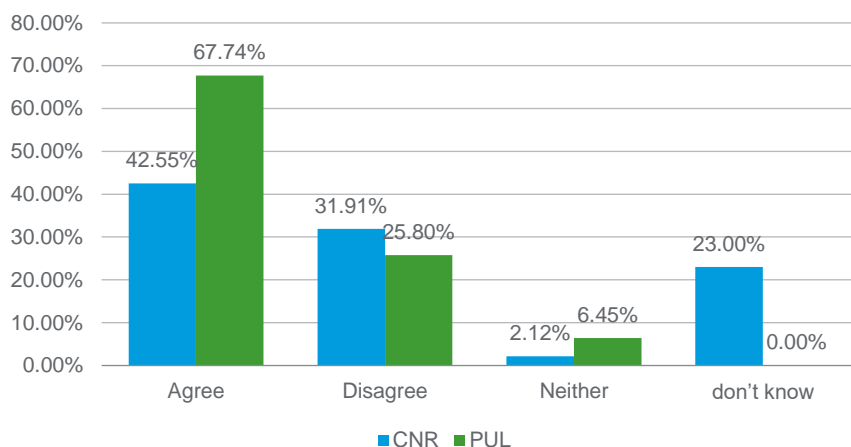
In relation to the corresponding result indicator, participants were asked if they thought relations between Protestants and Catholics were better than they were 5 years ago. Although a significant portion, particularly of the PUL community (61%) felt that relations had improved, a higher proportion than reported across other programmes disagreed with the statement from both communities. It should be noted that due to the participant age profile, parents were asked to fill the surveys in on the young person’s behalf and as such there is potential for biases to inform response. These results are detailed in figure 18.

Figure 18: Percentage who think relations between Protestants and Catholics are better than they were 5 years ago



When asked to comment on relations in 5 years’ time, results followed a similar pattern as before, with still a significant minority (32% and 26%) disagreeing that relations would be better in 5 years’ time. Again, it is noted that the questionnaire phrasing differs from other programmes, as it doesn’t ask those who think things will get worse, but rather asks for an agree / disagree that things will be better. It should not be disregarded that 68% of the PUL community and 43% of the CNR community did agree with this statement, making up the majority of programme participants. This is detailed in figure 19.

Figure 19: Percentage who think relations between Protestants and Catholics will be better in 5 years' time



Cross Community/Cross Border Youth Sports Programme

Due to the age profile of those participating in this programme, a decision was taken by the council not to undertake detailed pre- and post-participation attitudinal monitoring. As such measuring impact against the result indicators is difficult. However, the output indicator of number of children and young people participating for 26 hours in this sporting programme on a cross-community basis has clear parallels to the result indicator 'the percentage of 16-year olds who socialise or play sport with people from a different religious community'.

With 224 individuals participating in the programme, as detailed in table 5, the facilitation of the council in a cross-community / cross-border sports programme will have clear benefit against this result indicator.

Project Outputs and Impacts

The project has now concluded, and the outputs recorded and impacts emerging include:

- successfully delivery of a suite of programmes which enabled 947 young people to partake in activities on a cross-community basis, develop soft skills and build respect for diversity;
- provided activities for young people to socialise or play sport with people from a different religious community;
- provided opportunity for dialogue, training and contact between those of different backgrounds to allow relationships to be built, leading to close to 60% of young people (of the projects that measured) reporting that they felt relationships had improved between Protestants and Catholics, and that they would continue to improve;
- delivered leadership training delivered to young people, who in turn responded most positively with regard to relationships with other communities. These embedded leaders will continue to create impact;

- Delivered wider benefits including in wellbeing (resilience, language and sports programmes), culture (creative cafes), civic engagement (social action).

Issues encountered and lessons learned

Following consultation with programme lead and SEUPB caseworker, the following issues encountered, and lessons learned have been identified:

- at a programme level, the local authority coordinator felt the large number of different individual programmes meant that the focus became about delivering against outcomes only, rather than focusing on building engagement, and it was felt that future programmes would derive more impact through fewer programmes with more focused engagement;
- the nature of the sports programme, stemming from community centres and already existing sports club meant that centres / clubs already had a perceived community identity and thus seeking to achieve balance within the club was impossible. A softer approach of bringing clubs that were often single identity together with those from other communities was a way around this to meet objectives;
- delivery of the creative cafes programme to participants every Saturday morning of such a young age profile meant that achieving 26 hours engagement was difficult. This delivery model would be rethought if the programme was re-run;
- the focus on outputs, rather than result indicator meant that attitude baseline surveys were neglected, making measuring the impact of programmes difficult.

Conclusions

The project was ambitious in its scope, delivering 6 large and multifaceted programmes. Comparing against its target outputs, the programme has derived significant impact, engaging its target number of Children and Young people in activities that result in meaningful engagement with those from other religious and ethnic backgrounds. In terms of how the programme changed attitudes, the level of impact is hard to assess due to a lack of baseline survey, however, the available data would indicate that across programmes, the project was able to encourage children and young people in socialising / playing sport on a cross-community basis, and significant numbers were reporting improved relations between Protestants and Catholics and that relations would continue to improve.

Housing Association Integration Project

Project Overview

In September 2017, four of Northern Ireland's largest housing associations (Apex, Choice, Clanmil and Radius) under the umbrella of the lead partner, NI Federation of Housing Associations alongside TIDES were awarded €1,092,576.85 for a project entitled Housing association integration project.

The Overarching Peace IV special objective 4.2 Regional Level Projects is a subset of the building positive relations objective and looks at issues and target groups that can be better accommodated at a regional level through initiatives that transcend local authority boundaries. These regional initiatives will also facilitate cross-border co-operation. The Programme will pay particular attention to minority groups and groups who traditionally have been marginalised in society so that opportunities will be created that allow for a greater degree of participation in society. A key output of these regional level projects is **meaningful, purposeful and sustained contact between persons from different communities.**

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

This project is a unique initiative to promote good relations in the social housing sector in Northern Ireland and the border regions. Despite progress in many areas of peace building in Northern Ireland, housing remains one of the main areas of segregation with 90% segregated along religious grounds. This project is the first regional response to addressing religious, cultural and ethnic division in social housing in NI and the border region.

40 housing schemes will take part in the project involving thousands of tenants both directly and indirectly. Partner organisation TIDES will be contracted to deliver specialist good relations training and capacity building. The project involves the following activities over five stages:

- **stage 1 – community audit:** a 'community audit' tool to be delivered through online surveys, individual questionnaires and doorstep discussions and focus group discussions. These will be delivered through project and housing staff visiting tenant's door to door, Open Days and 'Meet your neighbour' coffee mornings. This will provide the basis for strategic interventions by the Housing Association;
- **stage 2 – community capacity building:** tenants shall be equipped to consider the findings of stage 1;
- **stage 3 – cross-community / cross border community skills workshops:** In Stage 3 participants engage in a range of Cross community/cross border community skills workshops and best practice study visits. These have included non-accredited workshops on health and wellbeing issues, committee skills, flags and emblems, arts and craft, environmental issues

- **stage 4 – bringing the learning back:** neighbourhoods take part in twinning activities with other similar housing association neighbourhoods; and
- **stage 5 - sharing best practice:** showcase events are planned to conclude and celebrate the project.

HAIP seeks to create the necessary conditions for purposeful, meaningful and prolonged cross-community, cross border and inter-community connections and engagement between individuals, groups and communities living in social housing schemes located throughout NI and the border Republic of Ireland counties, where the hallmarks of deprivation and the legacy of the Troubles.

The project aims for an increase in the percentage of people who think relations between Protestants and Catholics are better than they were five years ago from 45% to 52% and an increase in the percentage of people who think relations between Protestants and Catholics will be better in five years' time from 40% to 48%. The project will aim to ensure that any tenant groups which currently exist or any established as part of the project, will remain in existence beyond the project's lifespan. As well as this, the project seeks to see an increase in the percentage of people who know quite a bit about the culture of some minority ethnic communities from 30% to 38%.

Summary details of the project are provided in Table 1 and an overview of the project is given in table 2.

Table 1: Project details

Applicant:	
Project	Housing Association Integration Projection
Project Partners:	NI Federation of Housing Associations – NIFHA (Lead Partner), Apex Housing Association Limited, Choice Housing Ireland Limited, Clanmil Housing Association Limited, Radius Housing Association, TIDES Training & Consultancy
Relevant Special Objective	SO 4.2: Regional Level Projects
Amount awarded by PIV	€1,092,576.85 / £988,017.20 ⁵⁰
Duration	01/09/2017 – 28/02/2021

⁵⁰ Figure provided in Euro, Conversion rate of €1: £0.9043 as per EMS 30/11/2020

Table 2: Summary of project

Output indicator	Output description	Outputs Achieved	Claimed
4.2: Regional level projects that result in meaningful, purposeful and sustained contact between persons from different communities	<p>1 Regional level project that results in meaningful, purposeful, and sustained contact between persons from different communities;</p> <p>Target of an increase in the percentage of people who think relations between Protestants and Catholics are better than they were five years ago from 45% to 52% and an increase in the percentage of people who think relations between Protestants and Catholics will be better in five years' time from 40% to 48%.</p>	<p>40 social housing neighbourhoods across the region identified and participating in good relations and capacity building activities.</p> <p>All target outputs achieved and project now complete.</p>	<p>€836,142.10 / £756,123.30⁵¹</p> <p>Project has 2 remaining claims to make, periods 13 and 14.</p> <p>Project has carried a historic underspend for salary costs and office and admin for the period Sept 17 to Dec 17. The full staff compliment was not in post during this period.</p>

Project Performance

Table 3 provides an overview of progress against the project's deliverables at the 5 different stages of the HAIP project. The operational aspect of the project has now completed, and the remaining aspects of the project fall under management work packages. This section will detail the progress against the 'implementation' work package.

Stage 1 activities (community audit) were completed ahead of schedule in December 2018, having achieved all of its target objectives. Project partners produced community audits of 40 housing association neighbourhoods. A community audit tool was developed by TIDES and circulated to project partners, to be implemented in the selected neighbourhoods. Community audits compiled data on ethnic make-up of neighbourhoods, produced a socio-economic profile utilising Multiple Deprivation measures, health deprivation and disability rank, education, skills and training rank, crime and disorder rank amongst other demographic indicators to produce a detailed profile of the neighbourhood. TIDES used the profile to make recommendations on the best way to engage the neighbourhood in the programme in future stages of HAIP.

40 neighbourhoods were selected, based on selection criteria agreed between project partners and SEUPB:

"The project has been a tremendous success. We set out to engage with 1,000 social housing tenants. We greatly exceeded that figure."

- Richard Mealey HAIP Coordinator

⁵¹ Figure provided in Euro, Conversion rate of €1: £0.9043 as per EMS 30/11/2020

- geographic spread
- small developments
- newer developments (under 10 years)
- areas with weak community infrastructure (including low social capital and cultural capital)
- housing association local knowledge
- religious / national identity balance

Project partners fed into a template detailing this key information regarding potential locations. Figure 1 details the locations of the neighbourhoods selected.

Figure 1: locations of housing association neighbourhoods selected



Source: HAIP legacy video

Stage 2 activities are capacity building activities, which includes the delivery of workshops based on feedback from the findings in stage one. As well as the delivery of workshops, there is also a priority to delivery events for this stage. Workshops presented to the community the issues that their neighbourhood faced and offered space for dialogue within the community. This stage exceeded participation targets and concluded on schedule.

Stage 3 involved cross-community and cross-border activities, with activities including accredited and non-accredited training for tenants, cross-border visits and cross-community and inter-cultural events. The anticipated outcomes of this stage include individual development, intra-community bonding, and inter-community bridging. Although it was not be project partners that in some areas there was a lack of interest in such community events, a number of individuals showed a high level of willingness and interest in participating in the non-accredited opportunities, and against a target of 200, 214 completed this training. The accredited training included courses such as Good Relations and Civic Leadership' and 'Conflict Management'.

Good relations officers noted challenges including literacy levels, time commitment, work pressures and caring responsibilities, and found this appealed to only the most commitment and engaged individuals. Against a target of 100 individuals 93 completed this training, with some individuals having to move online and complete remotely using zoom due to Covid-19. This stage also delivered strongly against targets of 24 cross border / cross/inter community visits and cross / inter-cultural events.

Stage 4 involved the **twinning** of 12 neighbourhoods to engage in a shared activity, as well as developing **community champions**. The neighbourhoods selected for twinning are detailed in figure 2.

Figure 2: twinned neighbourhoods



Source: HAIP legacy video

The neighbourhood twinning phase of the Housing Associations Integration Project engaged those neighbourhoods that had travelled a significant journey through their participation in community capacity building and inter/cross community activities. Twinned neighbourhoods embarked on an intensive 12-week engagement with their partnering neighbourhood that was meaningful and sustained.

Twinned neighbourhoods were selected based on religious / cultural balance providing opportunities for tenants from different communities to engage with each other on issues and build positive relations. To be included in twinning neighbourhoods had to:

- Have a core of identifiable participants that have completed stage 2 and 3 activities;
- Be committed to cross community engagement;
- Be willing to visit and host communities from differing backgrounds;

- Undertake further accredited training (TOF); and
- Commitment to becoming “good relations “community champions in their communities.

Lockdown had an impact on the engagement between twinned neighbourhoods, but alternative options such as writing letters between tenants were encouraged to ensure meaningful engagement despite social distancing and lockdown regulations.

Seventeen tenants completed their good relations **champion** training.

Stage 5 planned for 8 showcase events to celebrate the programme and close the project. Due to lockdown, 3 events only were able to occur with 111 participants. This element of the project was most severely disrupted by the Covid-19 pandemic and social distancing restrictions.

Covid-19

The early stages of the project were mostly unaffected by the onset of the pandemic however, from the March 2020 and the onset of a national lockdown, the progress of HAIP has been significantly hindered. HAIP staff moved to working remotely which marked a significant working change. More significantly was the demographic of the project beneficiaries often in the vulnerable category, meaning they were severely impacted by the public health crisis and meant that ongoing project goals became hard to deliver. To this end, the project was extended by 3 months until November 2020 to deliver additional project targets.

Where possible, there has been adjustment in delivery, as noted above, such as the moving of accredited training online, or the moving of twinning to a pen-friend model. However, stage 5, showcase events were severely impacted. Project partner TIDES gained praise from participants in how they supported those with poor digital literacy to engage in this way, installing hardware and software where regulations allowed. This engendered wider benefit, with participants able to connect not just with the project, but friends and family as well.

However, despite the best efforts of the project to adapt its delivery, it is likely to have had an impact on the project’s aims of enabling **meaningful, purposeful and sustained contact between persons from different communities.**

Summary of progress

The programme has now completed its operational obligations, delivering significantly against its project aims, with only small levels of shortfall in a couple of areas, balanced out by many areas exceeding targets. The programme was nominated for and won the ‘More Than Bricks and Mortar’ prize at the Chartered institute of Housing awards ceremony in February 2020. Covid-19 has had some impact on the later deliverables of the project; however, the project has adapted where possible to still provide significant positive outcomes.

Table 3: Programme Information

Activity name	Commenced	Due to end	Main output (target)	Outputs achieved
Community Audit	March 2018	September 2018	Communities Identified to take part in the Community Audit and wider project, participants recruited to project through Housing Officers and Good Relations Officers working together within Schemes to engage with tenants	The project partners worked together to identify the communities available to the project from the Housing Associations tenant schemes. Completed and achieved as planned.
	March 2018	October 2018	Quarterly Report on progress of Community Audit - Identification of Communities	Completed and achieved as planned
	March 2018	November 2018	Quarterly Report on progress of Community Audit - Participation Summary	Completed and achieved as planned
	March 2018	January 2019	Quarterly Report on progress of Community Audit - Participation Summary	Completed and achieved as planned
	March 2018	January 2019	Tenant Report for 40 Communities	Community audit reports for all 40 participating communities complete by the 31st December 2018.
Community Capacity Building	June 2018	May 2019	Target of 200 tenants involved in formal/informal local community workshops	The overall total of 75 workshops delivered attended by 364 tenants. The final stage 2 community workshop had to be cancelled in Ardglass by Choice Housing as community tensions to high and advice given by PSNI. There were several attempts to hold this final workshop but all unsuccessful due to local community dynamics.
	June 2018	July 2019	Target of 1000 tenants taking part in community building activities	Completed and exceeded targets
	June 2018	August 2019	Target of 40 community building events	Completed and achieved 39 out of 40 events
	June 2018	August 2019	Target of 40 Housing Schemes recruited to the programme - this will be done collectively with the project partners drawing from their own Housing Schemes, based on the feedback and participants from the Community Audit Phase	All 40 neighbourhoods identified and recruited to the project.

Activity name	Commenced	Due to end	Main output (target)	Outputs achieved
Cross community/cross border community skills workshops	September 2018	August 2020	Target of 200 tenants taking part in non-accredited training days	Completed and achieved as planned
	September 2018	November 2020	Target of 100 tenants taking part in accredited training days	93 participants achieving OCN level 2
	September 2018	November 2020	Target of 24 cross border / cross/inter community visits	19/24 study visits delivered; now complete
	September 2018	November 2020	Target of 8 cross community/ inter-cultural events	6 cultural events facilitated
Bringing the learning back	January 2019	November 2020	Twinned Programmes: Target of 12 neighbourhoods involved in Twinned Programmes	Completed and achieved as planned
Sharing Best Practice	June 2019	November 2020	Target of 8 Showcase Events to share Best Practice	3 events delivered and 111 participants

Project Monitoring and Evaluation Information

As a Building Positive Relations: Regional Level Project, impact is assessed against the following output / relevant result indicators:

- Regional level projects 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).

Output Indicators

To assess against the target output indicator, numerical targets were set, detailed in table 4. Table 4 further details the project monitoring against the outline targets for each of the stages. Green areas highlight where target participant numbers have been achieved, and orange highlights areas where this has fallen short of the target. It is noted that the stages that targets have not been met are at the later stages and thus the impacts of the pandemic must be accounted for when assessing the programme's success against targets.

The table details that broadly against key targets, the project delivered against its aims at the majority of stages. Even those stages that were impacted by Covid-19 still managed to produce outputs towards the targets identified. Areas of shortfall were often minimal and thus have no significant impact on the success of the project.

As well as these targets met, 92% of participants rated the activity as excellent or good and 96% would recommend it to a friend⁵² highlighting an overall success.

⁵² Summative evaluation of the Housing Associations Integration Project BM Kent Associates October 2020

Table 4: Project monitoring overview

Stages	Stage 1	Stage 2		Stage 3				Stage 4	Stage 5
	Community audits	community building events	community workshops	Non accredited workshops	accredited workshops	cultural study visits	cultural events	Twinning	Showcase events
Target	40	40 events 1000 participants	200 participants	200 participants 24 non-accredited workshops	100 participants achieving OCN accreditation	24 study visits	8 cultural events	12 neighbourhoods	8 events
Status	40 Audits	39 events delivered 1718 participants	364 participants	214 participants 25 workshops delivered	93 participants achieving OCN level 2	24 study visits delivered	7 cultural events facilitated	12 neighbourhoods participating	3 events 111 participants
Target outstanding	Achieved	1 event Participant numbers achieved	Achieved	Achieved	7 participants 93%	Achieved	1 cultural event 88%	Achieved	5 events 38%

Community Audit

As part of stage one of the project, community audits were conducted across the neighbourhoods associated with the programme. The audits provide a baseline for each community to assess impact against on an individual and community level. Baseline data is collected for demographic indicators; indicators to assess current levels of engagement in community activities; opportunities for mixing with people from a different religion or nationality; perceptions of welcome and sense of community; and anti-social behaviour.

Participant Profile

Figure 3 details the community background of the 373 identifiable individuals who took meaningful and sustained part in the project, distinct from the total figure of 1,718 project participants. This reveals that the project, although recruiting a larger proportion of those from a Protestant community background to a Catholic background 49% to 35%, broadly there was good representation across both communities. In addition, the project was particularly strong in recruitment of those from a non-religious or other background, including minority religious groups such as Buddhists and Muslims.

Figure 3: Participant religious background

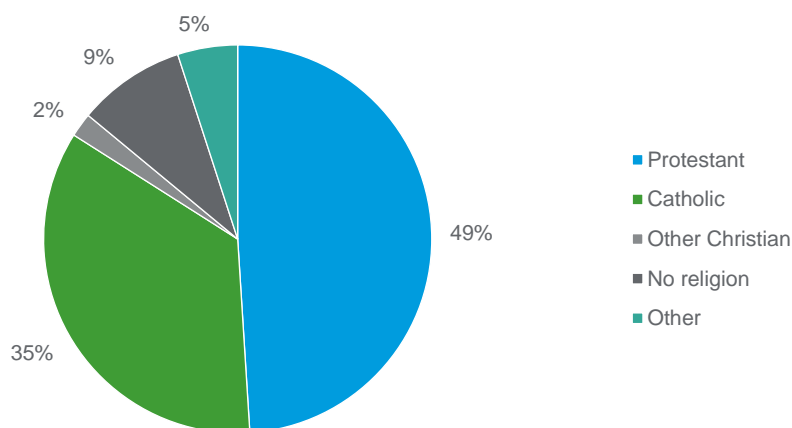
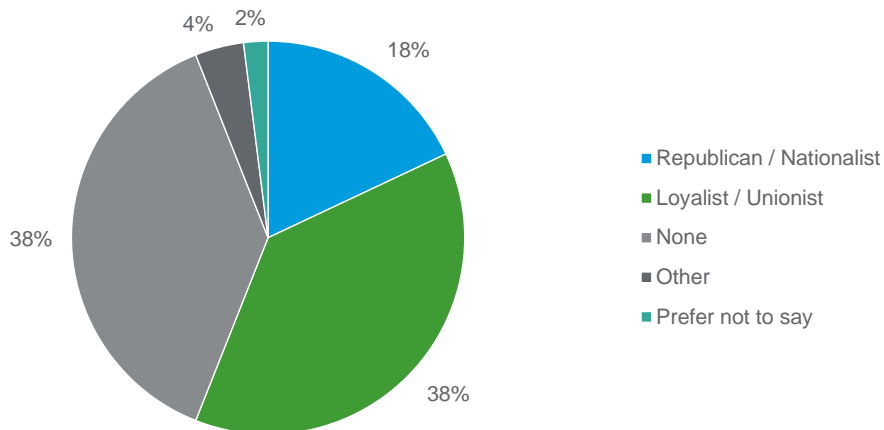


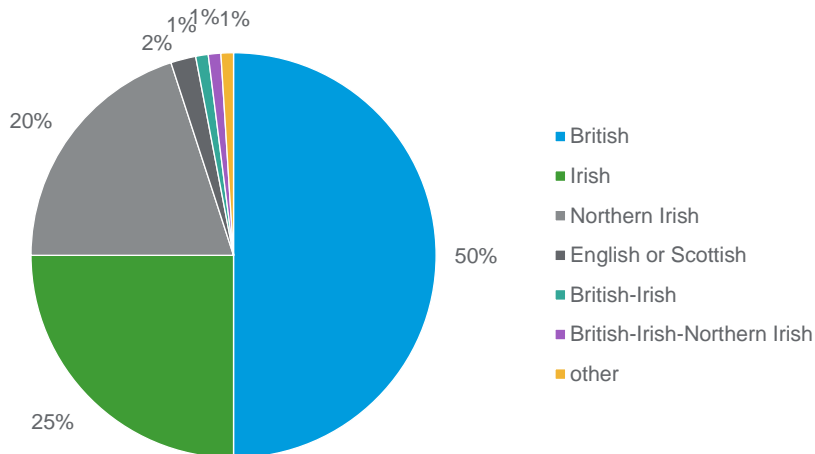
Figure 4 details participant political identity / opinion, in relation to the Northern Ireland context. Responses against the other category included “neutral”, “Alliance” and “mixed”.

Figure 4: Participant political opinion



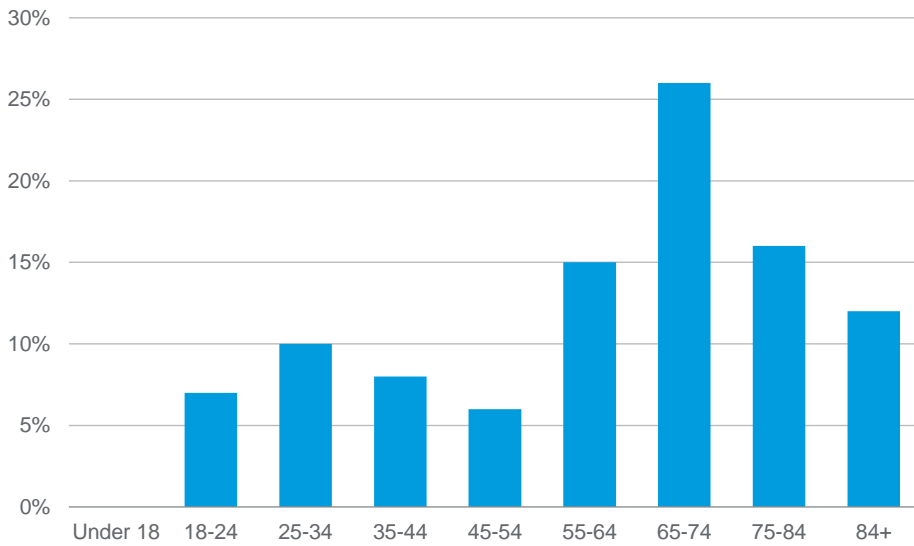
Accordingly, participants were also asked to describe what they considered their national identity to be, detailed in figure 5.

Figure 5: Participant national identity



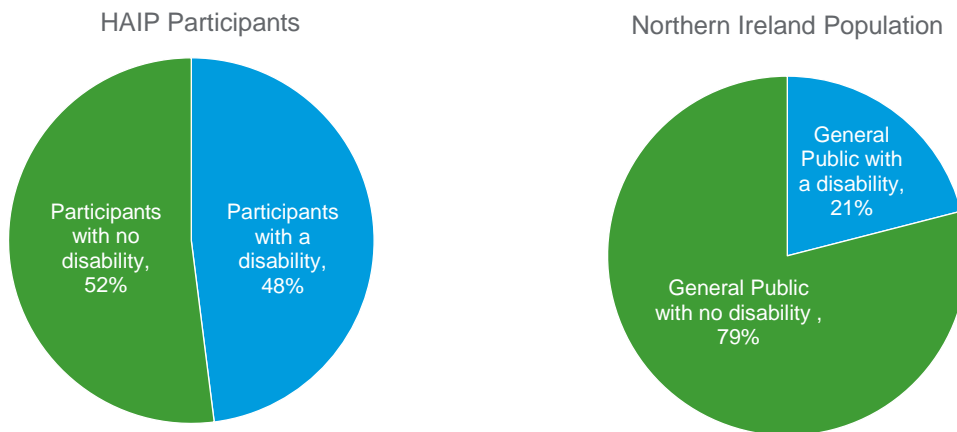
The varied age profile of beneficiaries is detailed in Figure 6, highlighting engagement occurred across the age spectrum, with the greatest levels of engagement amongst the 65 – 74s.

Figure 6: Participant age profile



The project was particularly successful in recruiting individuals with a disability, as shown in Figure 7, compared to the NI population average⁵³. This group is thought to be less likely to engage in civic life and would ordinarily miss out on opportunities to take part in community / peacebuilding⁵⁴ and thus the 48% of participants who had a disability is another significant positive impact.

Figure 7: Participants with disability



⁵³ NI Census data 2011

⁵⁴ BM Kent Associates (2020), 'Summative evaluation of the Housing Associations Integration Project'

Post-participation Surveys

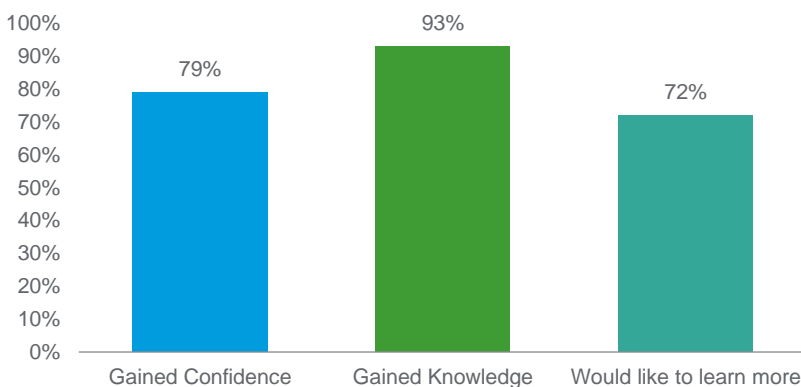
Two post-participation surveys were used to capture programme impacts and changes in attitudes towards “other” communities. These included:

- An internally produced post-activity survey; and
- An external PEACE IV post-participation survey.

With the internal surveys, from stage two onwards, participants were surveyed to see how confidence, knowledge or understanding of other communities changed. These surveys were internally produced and 193 were completed at 20 distinct workshops or events. Figure 8 and 9 reveal some of these survey results detailing impact that the project has had on people’s perceptions and outlook. Additionally, participants completing programmes were asked to complete external post-participation surveys, which gained insight into attitudinal changes against specific programme result indicators and outputs. Figures 11 - 12, and 14 – 17 considers these surveys.

Participants were asked questions around the theme of individual capacity, asking if the programme helped them gain confidence, knowledge or gave a desire to learn more (indicating self-efficacy). These are detailed in Figure 8. It is also noted that increases were more pronounced as participants took part in later stages of the project, with participants who continued to stage four more likely to highlight the positive impact of the programme across the three questions.

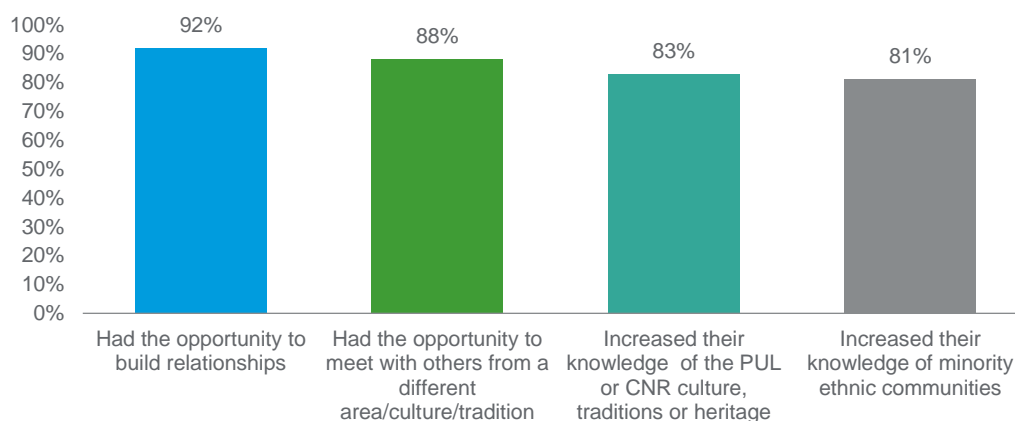
Figure 8: Programme impacts: increased capacity



Source: Internal post-activity survey

Participants were also asked to consider how the programme had enabled them to build relationships and understand “other” communities, both in relation to those from another community background, PUL or CNR, but also with ethnic minority communities. These were framed as an increase in knowledge and the opportunity to meet with those from different backgrounds, presented in Figure 9.

Figure 9: Programme impacts: relationship building



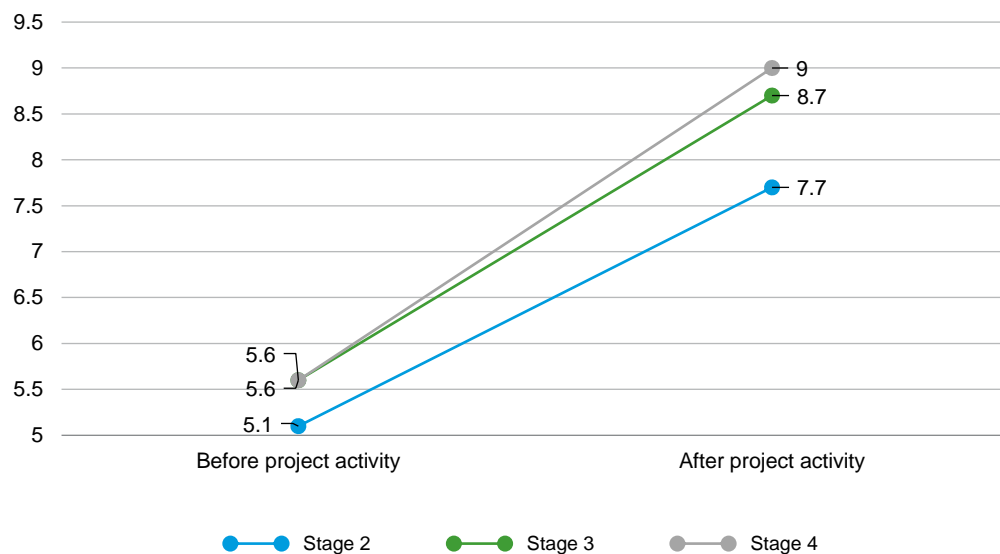
Source: Internal post-activity survey

It is shown above that a significant proportion of individuals felt the programme had enabled opportunities to build relationships (92%) and meet with those from other traditions or backgrounds (88%). This follows the HAIP model for building positive relations, outlined in their business case application that advocated for the use of “contact theory” as a means of building positive relationships. The underlying logic is for the facilitator to create a positive environment in which group members can meet and engage, which will help to reduce tension and prejudice within the groups. Thus, a key aspect of HAIP’s building positive relations focused on enabling positive and prolonged contact between groups. As evidenced in figure 9, the programme achieved highly against this aim.

Figure 9 also reveals that the project was successful in increasing knowledge of minority ethnic communities and those of different PUL or CNR community backgrounds. It is shown that again the project was successful, with 81% and 83% citing increased knowledge of ethnic minority groups and those from different community backgrounds respectively.

To further attribute impact to the programme activities, as part of the survey at stages 2, 3 and 4, participants were asked to assess their understanding of different communities before and after the workshop they partook in. This detail can track the potential benefit of the activity in relation to changing attitudes and assessing programme impacts, highlight a point in the programme and in time that impact occurred. Figure 10 details changes in knowledge of minority ethnic communities.

Figure 10: Change before and after project activity in knowledge of “some minority ethnic communities”



Source: Internal post-activity survey

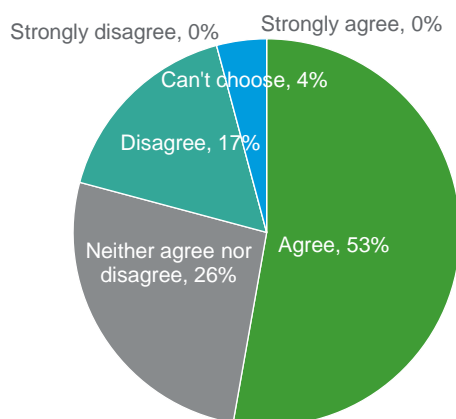
167 individuals ranked their knowledge of “some minority ethnic communities” on a scale of 1 – 10 before and after the activity, and as can be seen in Figure 5, on average across each of the stages, there was a positive change. At a programme level, the average increase was 2.9 points, from 5.4 to 8.3, showing significant positive change.

The HAIP evaluation report conducted by BM Kent Associates detailed reflections from Good Relations Officers who revealed that particularly elderly residents entered the programme with attitudes and language that was hostile and prejudice towards minority communities, but that the learning and engagement with minority communities had engendered positive impact. The report gave feedback from one respondent who stated, “*it has broken down barriers and boundaries – taken away fear of diversity – we all bring something new to the table*”.

With regard to result indicator, *an increase in the percentage of people who know quite a bit about the culture of some minority ethnic communities* it is evident that the programme has contributed significantly and positively toward this.

Indeed, when surveyed via the external surveys following programme completion, feedback detailed that 53% agreed that they knew quite a bit about minority ethnic communities (noting that the bar of ‘quite a bit’ was higher for participants, hence the drop off from those who gained knowledge). In contrast, only 17% disagreed or strongly disagreed that they knew quite a bit about minority ethnic communities. This detail is shown in figure 11. The lack of baseline available makes it hard to assess the significance of this, however this should not detract from the positive result in itself of the programme.

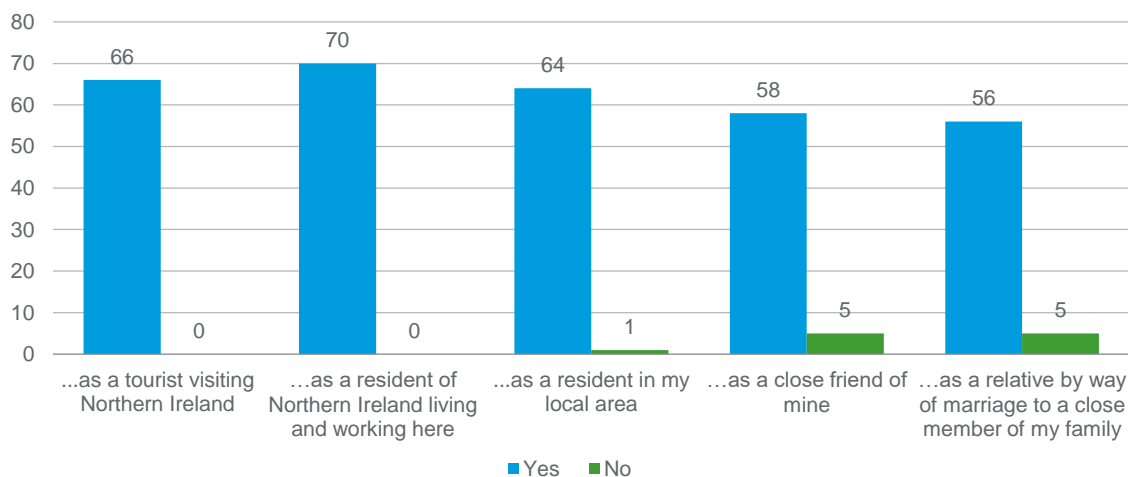
Figure 11: percentage of people who know quite a bit about the culture of some minority ethnic communities



Source: External post-participation survey

To consider the 'real' impact of this on participants, they were asked, as part of the external survey, their willingness to accept minority ethnic groups in each of the following contexts, shown in figure 12. As is demonstrated, across all contexts, the vast majority (greater than 90%) were willing to accept minorities. Determining the attributability of this to the programme is difficult, however in terms of building positive relations between different communities, the programme could have levied little more impact with regard to minority groups.

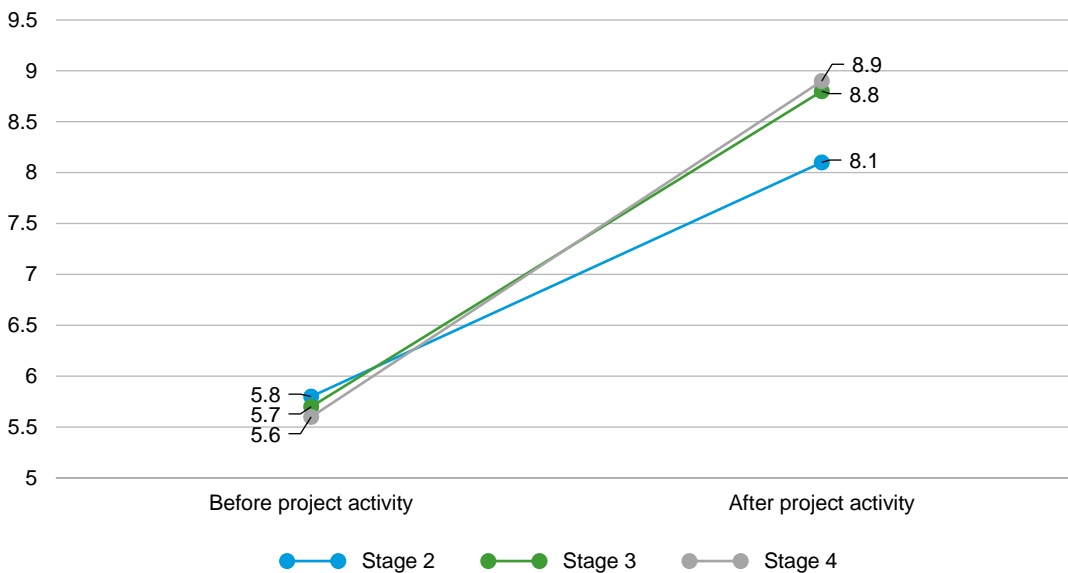
Figure 12: Willingness to accept minority ethnic groups



Source: External post-participation survey

Participants were also asked to assess their knowledge of the “other” community background, PUL or CNR. This was again ranked on a scale of 1 – 10 prior to and following programme activity at each stage. Across the three programmes, the average increase was 2.8 points from 5.7 to 8.5. This is shown in figure 13

Figure 13: Change before and after project activity in knowledge of Protestant/Unionist/Loyalist or Catholic/Republican/Nationalist culture, traditions and heritage

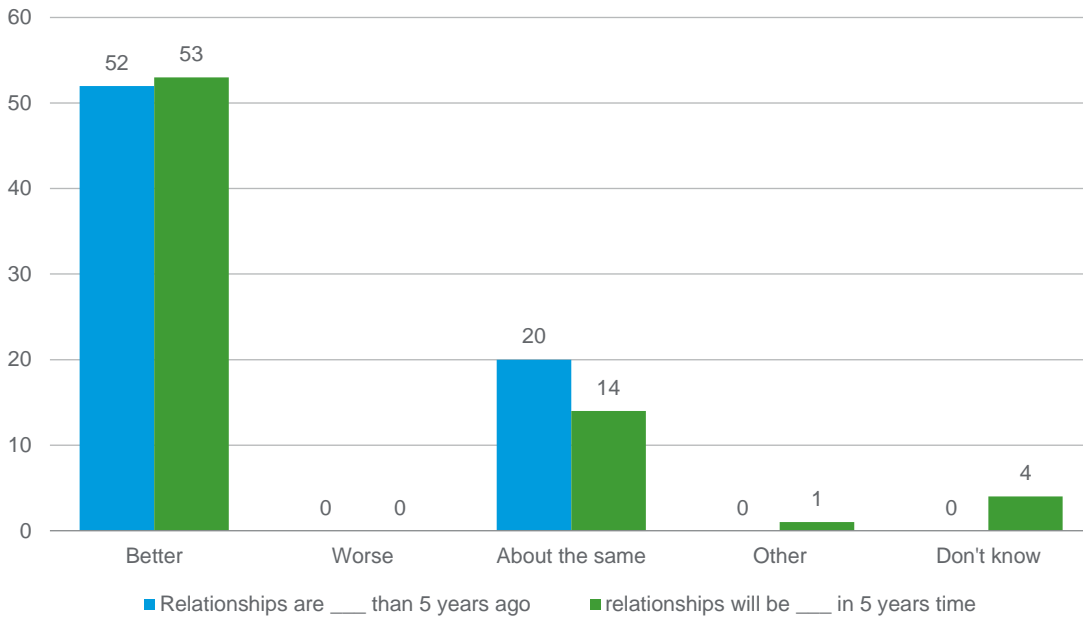


Source: Internal post-activity survey

Change appears to be most pronounced for stage 4 participants, in both knowledge of “some minority ethnic communities” and knowledge of other community background culture, tradition and heritage, showing the greatest increase in knowledge, and the highest overall knowledge. This is reflective of the more in-depth activity at this stage.

Against the other result indicators for this project, *an increase in the percentage of people who think relations between Protestants and Catholics are better than they were five years and an increase in the percentage of people who think relations between Protestants and Catholics will be better in five years’ time*, figure 14 (from the external survey) shows that the majority (72% and 74%) feel that relationships are better than they were, and will be better in 5 years, time, compared to no participants who see a deterioration in relationship or a worse future outlook.

Figure 14: Relationships 5 years ago and in 5 years' time

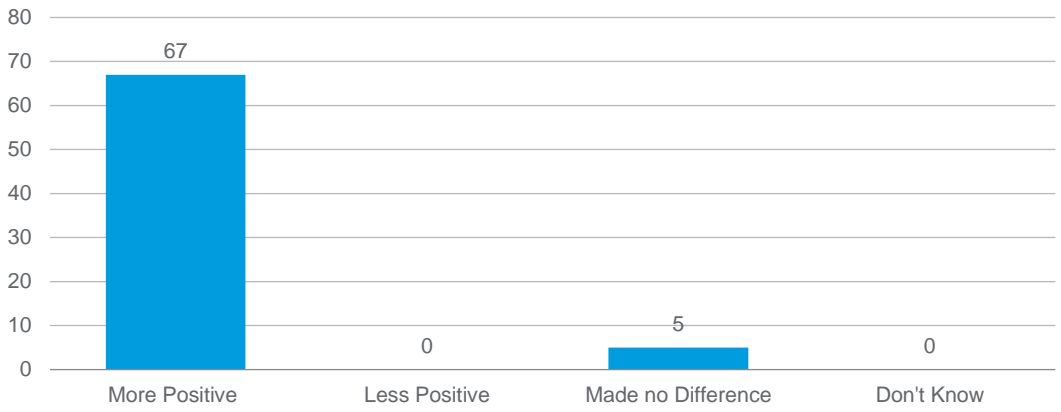


Source: External post-participation survey

By providing opportunity for dialogue and engagement, increasing knowledge of the other community and offering opportunities to build relations on a cross-community basis, it indicates that the programme will have improved current relations compared to 5 years ago and looking forward to 5 years from now, it is evident that the breaking down of barriers will have strong positive impact. More significant is the longevity of potential impact, extending beyond the lifetime of the project. The fact that the project has embedded community good relations champions in their own communities, have completed accredited training, as well as the large numbers completing training in general (as shown in Table 4) means impact is likely to be long-lasting and relations have the potential to keep improving. There is also a desire a commitment that groups started within the programme will continue in communities and hence continue to build positive relations.

Overall, with regard to building positive relations on a PUL / CNR and ethnic minority basis, programme impacts are demonstrated in figure 15. Participants were asked (external survey) 'has your experience of participating in this programme made you feel more positive towards other communities, less positive, or made no difference?' 93% responded that they felt relations were more positive, based on their participation in the programme, highlighting the programmes significance and contribution to meaningful, purposeful and sustained contact between persons from different communities at a regional and cross border level.

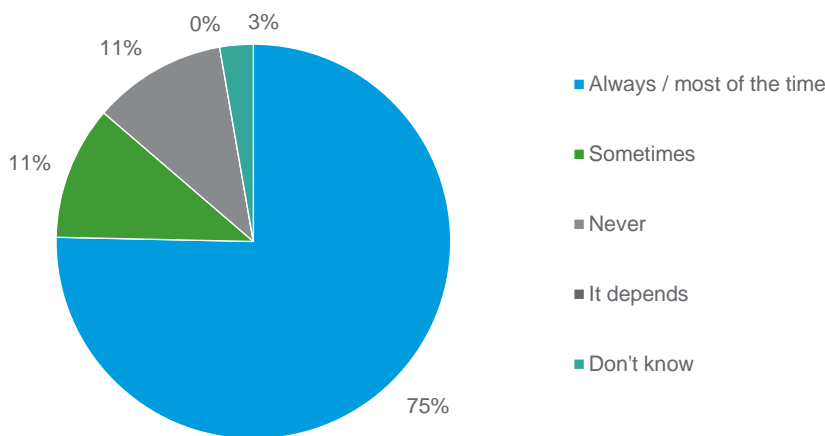
Figure 15: Overall impact on relationships with other communities



Source: External post-participation survey

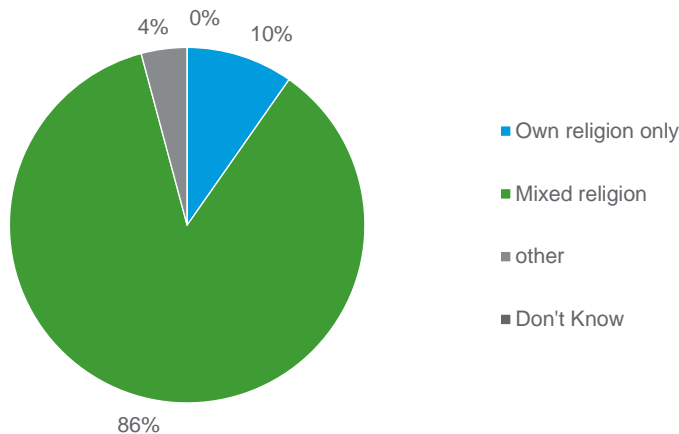
In addition to this monitoring and evaluation data collected which pertains to result indicators of the programme, evaluation data was also collected regarding neighbourhood neutrality and preferred neighbourhood religious identity. Although this was not a specific result indicator of this project, as HAIP is in the social housing context, this is pertinent for evaluation. Figure 16 details the self-reported level of neutrality of present neighbourhood and Figure 17 shows whether people would prefer to live in a mixed religious identity neighbourhood or a single religious identity neighbourhood.

Figure 16: Is your neighbourhood a neutral space?



Source: External post-participation survey

Figure 17: Preferred Neighbourhood Identity



Compared to those who already perceive their neighbourhood to be neutral always / most of the time (75%) there is an increase of people whose preference would be to live in a neighbourhood characterised by a mixed religious identity and hence neighbourhood neutrality, signifying positive future opportunities for the social housing sector and cross-community relationship building.

Project Impacts

The project sought to engender purposeful, meaningful and prolonged cross-community, cross border and inter-community connections and engagement between individuals, groups and communities living in social housing schemes located throughout NI and the border Republic of Ireland counties. With regard to building positive relations, the project had three result indicators, namely:

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

These indicators contribute to the programme's wider output indicator, *Regional level projects that result in meaningful, purposeful and sustained contact between persons from different communities* and hence it is against these indicators that impact must be assessed.

Programme impacts included:

- community audits provide a baseline and framework for future engagement, opening potential for future impact;

- the capacity of communities has been increased, particularly in relation to increasing knowledge and self-efficacy;
- participants completed OCN training, allowing for future impact through embedded individuals;
- improved knowledge amongst residents of ethnic minorities, and gave opportunities to experience ethnic minority cultures and build relationships on a multi-ethnic basis;
- improved knowledge of, and opportunities to meet, those from either a PUL or CNR background on a cross-community and cross-border basis, breaking down barriers and enabling relationship building and better relations;
- embedded neighbourhood champions to carry on the learning and change in attitude. These individuals have received training, enabling them to support their communities in building good relations;
- gave opportunity in twinned neighbourhoods for cross-community learning, collaboration, and partnership;
- built relations within social housing neighbourhoods; and
- demonstrated that social housing organisations could work together towards a common goal, despite organisational competition.

Issues encountered and lessons learned

Based on findings from the HAIP programme Evaluation⁵⁵ as well as consultation with programme lead, the following issues encountered and lessons learned have been identified, shown in Table 5.

Table 5: Issues encountered, and lessons learned

Issue Encountered	Lesson Learned
The geographical spread of neighbourhoods selected in the programme created a logistical problem in stages 3 and 4 as residents and GROs had to travel long distances to join with residents from other neighbourhoods	Neighbourhoods should be clustered by geography rather than by housing association allowing for GRO / Twinned neighbourhoods to be geographical proximate
Recruitment initially following a centralised model did not work	Moved to a model with central resources (e.g. coordinator and finance officer) but GROs recruited and line managed through housing organisations

⁵⁵ BM Kent Associates (2020), 'Summative evaluation of the Housing Associations Integration Project'

Issue Encountered	Lesson Learned
Pressure of time meant that relationship building during community audit phase was very limited and it felt like a bit of a cold call	Building relationships during community audit would have yielded better results
When assessing the success of the programme, the lack of baseline data around the result indicators hindered evaluation / the attribution of impacts and success to the programme. Community audits did not directly map onto the monitoring / evaluation	Joined up evaluation framework should be agreed at the start of future projects that a community audit can act as a baseline on which evaluation can occur
Branding of the project ' <i>Housing Association Integration Project</i> ' was more relevant to delivery partners than beneficiaries	To aid recruitment and get increased community buy-in, the project should be branded and messaged in a way that is attractive to residents
Community champions was a more sensitive issue than had been anticipated as those labelled as such would then have to take on a range of community pressures	Label and market community champions more carefully

Conclusion

HAIP was an ambitious project, bringing together a significant number of partners who don't normally work together, to a sector that is still significantly divided on religious and political grounds. As was commented on by the programme lead, HAIP achieved beyond expectation, delivering in terms of number of outputs, with a high level of participation, positive changes in attitude and building of relationships across barriers. The programme delivered a model of sustainable cross-community relationship building, embedding community capacity through training, champions and networks.

rsmuk.com

The UK group of companies and LLPs trading as RSM is a member of the RSM network. RSM is the trading name used by the members of the RSM network. Each member of the RSM network is an independent accounting and consulting firm each of which practises in its own right. The RSM network is not itself a separate legal entity of any description in any jurisdiction. The RSM network is administered by RSM International Limited, a company registered in England and Wales (company number 4040598) whose registered office is at 50 Cannon Street, London EC4N 6JJ. The brand and trademark RSM and other intellectual property rights used by members of the network are owned by RSM International Association, an association governed by article 60 et seq of the Civil Code of Switzerland whose seat is in Zug.

RSM Corporate Finance LLP, RSM Restructuring Advisory LLP, RSM Risk Assurance Services LLP, RSM Tax and Advisory Services LLP, RSM UK Audit LLP, RSM UK Consulting LLP, RSM Northern Ireland (UK) Limited and RSM UK Tax and Accounting Limited are not authorised under the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 but we are able in certain circumstances to offer a limited range of investment services because we are licensed by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales. We can provide these investment services if they are an incidental part of the professional services we have been engaged to provide. RSM Legal LLP is authorised and regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority, reference number 626317, to undertake reserved and non-reserved legal activities. It is not authorised under the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 but is able in certain circumstances to offer a limited range of investment services because it is authorised and regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority and may provide investment services if they are an incidental part of the professional services that it has been engaged to provide. RSM & Co (UK) Limited is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority to conduct a range of investment business activities. Before accepting an engagement, contact with the existing accountant will be made to request information on any matters of which, in the existing accountant's opinion, the firm needs to be aware before deciding whether to accept the engagement.