



Fermanagh & Omagh  
District Council  
Comhairle Ceantair  
Fhear Manach agus na hÓmaí



## **Fermanagh and Omagh District Council PEACE IV Local Action Plan**

# **Fermanagh and Omagh PEACE IV Small Grants Programme Guidance Notes**

**EU Programme for Peace and Reconciliation**

**2014-2020**

**Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland**

**CLOSING DATE: 12 Noon on Friday 25 May 2018**

**Please note that incomplete applications or applications received after the closing date and time will be deemed invalid and will not be considered**

*This project/initiative is supported by the EU's PEACE IV Programme, managed by the Special EU Programmes Body. For further information on the PEACE IV Programme please visit [www.seupb.eu](http://www.seupb.eu).*

## Introduction

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council invites applications from the Community and Voluntary Organisations/Groups within the district for the Fermanagh and Omagh PEACE IV Small Grants Programme. Grants ranging from £5,000 up to £25,000 are available to deliver peace-focused activities aimed at addressing barriers to peace and reconciliation between communities.

The PEACE IV Programme aims to **‘Promote social and economic stability in the region, notably by actions to promote cohesion between communities’**.

The Council understands that the PEACE IV Programme will be the final investment aimed at bringing about significant change. In achieving the overall aim of the PEACE IV Programme, it is therefore important that programme activities encompass an underlying Peace and Reconciliation theme throughout and take account of the following PEACE IV objectives:

- Reinforce progress with and between communities to create a more peaceful and stable society;
- Develop and deepen reconciliation between divided communities;
- Increase tolerance and respect and reduce the levels of sectarianism and racism;
- Promote increased community cohesion; and
- Address the legacy of the past.

## Background

The Special European Union Programmes Body (SEUPB), who is responsible for managing the PEACE IV Programme, has invited the local authorities in Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland to be involved in delivering Local Peace and Reconciliation Action Plans under the PEACE IV Programme. The European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) is contributing 85% towards the Programme with the remaining 15% being provided by the Northern Ireland Executive and the Irish Government.

The PEACE IV Programme provides an opportunity to build upon the experience of previous programmes by tackling the remaining challenges that exist in building positive relationships and developing shared spaces. The PEACE IV Programme will embed the concept of reconciliation into the objectives and desired results of the Programme.

Although four specific objectives have been identified for the Programme only three are relevant for the Local Authority Action Plans as follows:

- Children and Young People
- Shared Spaces and Services
- Building Positive Relations at a Local Level

Local Authority Action Plans were required to demonstrate tangible results and outputs in the delivery of a range of programmes/initiatives which are aligned to the overall objectives, results and outputs of the Programme.

In order to monitor the effective delivery of the Fermanagh and Omagh Local Action Plan, the Council has established a PEACE IV Partnership. The Partnership, which is representative of the community from across the District Council area, will function as a voluntary body comprising Local Authority Elected Members (x14), Statutory

Representatives (x5) and Social Partners (x7). The Council is the lead partner but has delegated responsibility for operational matters to the Partnership which will report on a regular basis to the Council's Regeneration and Community Committee.

### Fermanagh and Omagh District Profile

- Has a population of 115,799<sup>1</sup> people; 40% of which are economically inactive;
- Is NI's largest region in terms of landmass, at approximately 3,000 km<sup>2</sup> (20%);
- Has the smallest population of all NI council areas (6%); with the sparsest population density;
- Is predominately a rural District; with only 29% of its population resident in areas classified as urban;
- Has an increasing aging population;
- Has only one of the 100 most deprived wards in NI; however, 5 of the 10 most remote wards are located in the region: and
- Has a 132.1 km land border with Ireland; more than any other Council area in NI.

### Children and Young People Aged 0-24

This element will invest in children and young people so that they can reach their potential and maximise their contribution to a more cohesive society. It will bring about change in the form of clear, meaningful and sustainable 'distance travelled' for individual young people in terms of good relations, personal development and citizenship.

This intervention will **result** in an increase in the percentage of 16 year olds who socialise or play sport with people from a different religious community; who think relations between Protestants and Catholics are better than they were five years ago; and who think relations between Protestants and Catholics will be better in five years' time.

### Shared Spaces & Services Projects

This element will support a number of local initiatives with the aim of making public spaces in cities, towns and villages more inclusive; this will often involve addressing sensitive topics around parades, flags, emblems, graffiti and other issues which can serve to intimidate and make some members of society, whether based on religion, race or other factors, feel unwelcome in some areas.

It will **result** in an increase in the percentage of people who would define the neighbourhood where they live as neutral; an increase in the percentage of people who prefer to live in a mixed religion environment; and a reduction in the percentage of people who would prefer to live in a neighbourhood with people of only their religion.

### Building Positive Relations at a Local Level

This element will support actions to facilitate the full participation of women in local initiatives and also target those groups particularly impacted by the legacy of the troubles/conflict such as victims and survivors and those communities with low social capital, and those identifiable groups and networks dealing with specific legacy issues such as young and older people, women, the faith community, victims and survivors, those suffering from physical or mental disability arising from the legacy of violence, ex-prisoners, displaced persons and former members of the security forces.

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<sup>1</sup> NISRA, Mid Year Population Estimates

This intervention 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 know quite a bit about the culture of some minority ethnic communities.

## **What is the PEACE IV Small Grants Programme?**

The PEACE IV Small Grants Programme is being delivered under the Building Positive Relations Strategic Objective and organisations/groups are invited to submit project proposals in line with the aim of the Building Positive Relations Strategic Objective as follows:

**‘Promote positive relations characterised by respect and where cultural diversity is celebrated and people can live, learn and socialise together, free from prejudice, hate and intolerance’.**

Activities under the PEACE IV Programme will focus on developing strong inclusive civic leadership that promotes positive relationships, encourages dialogue and supports practical efforts to bring about change between individuals and communities.

Initiatives/projects under the Building Positive Relations Strategic Objective should evidence commitment to tackling real and complex issues, such as sectarianism and racism and should take into consideration the following indicative actions:

- Conflict resolution and mediation at a local level;
- Events linked to the decade of commemorations that explore history in a sensitive manner and build mutual understanding;
- Sports, arts, culture (including Irish and Ulster Scots language) and environment projects that promote positive relations through addressing issues of trust, prejudice and intolerance;
- Projects to facilitate personal interaction between residents and groups from divided neighbourhoods.

**Output:** Programmes that result in meaningful, purposeful and sustained contact between persons from different communities. Contact should be continued for a minimum period of 6 months or equivalent (26 hours).

**Results:** The promotion of positive relations characterised by respect, where cultural diversity is celebrated and people can live, learn and socialise together, free from prejudice, hate and intolerance that will contribute to the result indicators listed below:

- An increase in the percentage of people who think relations between Protestants and Catholics are better than they were 5 years ago.
- An increase in the percentage of people who think relations between Protestants and Catholics will be better in 5 years' time.
- An increase in the percentage of people who know quite a bit about the culture of some minority ethnic communities.

## **Fermanagh and Omagh PEACE IV Small Grants Programme Criteria**

**Criterion 1:** Projects targeting those most impacted by the Troubles to include but not limited to:

- Victims and Survivors
- Ex-Prisoners
- Serving and Ex-Security Force Personnel
- Women and Young People

**Criterion 2:** Projects focusing on single identity areas/estates being supported to:

- Promote cross-community interaction;
- Build on strengthening relationships with members from different community backgrounds;
- Enhance community cohesion and promote shared spaces;
- Address issues to combat sectarianism and racism to include hate crimes;
- Respecting cultural diversity, to include, for example the Irish and Ulster Scots Language.

**Criterion 3:** Youth Community Projects (with an inter-generational focus) to include initiatives which strive to improve relations by breaking down barriers and challenging attitudes, opinions and beliefs in order to encourage and promote cross community engagement.

**Criterion 4:** Projects linked to the legacy/history of the Border, focusing on experiences in relation to the past and present day and include dialogue to influencing and imagining the future.

**Criterion 5:** Projects linked to commemorations relevant to the district that explore history and heritage in a sensitive manner and build on mutual understanding.

### **Programme Delivery Timescales**

Projects can be a maximum of 12 months duration.

### **Definition of a Participant**

A participant is a person who:

- Is not already engaged as a participant in any other PEACE IV Programme being delivered under the Fermanagh and Omagh PEACE IV Local Action Plan;
- Completes a standard baseline questionnaire at the start of the project and a standard questionnaire at the end of the project to measure impact; and
- Is engaged in face to face sustained, purposeful and meaningful cross-community contact over a minimum of 6 months for at least 26 hours.

### **Participant's Geographical Area**

Small grants are targeted at projects which primarily (but not necessarily exclusively) benefit residents of the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council area and its immediate cross-border hinterland. Cross-border participation is encouraged but not essential. Projects must impact

on Peace and Reconciliation issues within the Council area. Applicants to the small grants programme must ensure their projects have local participation and local benefit.

### **‘Sustained’ nature of the small grants programme.**

As sustained, meaningful and purposeful cross-community contact has to be achieved; it should be clearly noted that ‘one-off’ festivals, events, activities etc. are not eligible. All projects must be of a minimum 6 months duration with a minimum 26 hours contact time built in. As indicated above this 26 hours/6 months contact must routinely be cross-community in nature with limited exceptional circumstances being allowed for. There is no issue with projects having more than 26 hours/6 months cross-community contact time – this is strongly encouraged. Equally projects may choose to build in some additional single-identity work so long as the cross-community sustained contact time is also met within their overall project.

### **Specific Project Conditions**

This is the only Small Grants Programme being delivered through the Fermanagh and Omagh PEACE IV Local Action Plan. It is for projects that promote Peace and Reconciliation which meet the programme criteria. The following conditions also apply:

- Allocation of grants will be based on the submission of an application form and assessment through a competitive process.
- Projects cannot have commenced delivery of programme of activities.
- Projects must not be party political nor be the responsibility of another statutory agency (e.g. statutory youth or education service; health service etc.)
- Only one application per criterion and per group/organisation is permitted.
- The programme is open to any organisations or groups that can contribute to the results and outputs of the PEACE IV Programme which have the capacity to implement an EU funded project.
- Successful projects must not duplicate or compete with existing projects and services locally and must be delivered within the programme timeframe.
- Limited single-identity work will be considered where a strong peace and reconciliation rationale is given and where the proposed project builds sustained cross-community work at the mid-way point of programme delivery.
- Cross Border engagement is encouraged.
- Applicants should note that schools work (i.e. work in schools) and early-years’ work is not eligible unless it is entirely extra-curricular i.e. delivered entirely outside of the normal school hours. Grant-aided projects will be community focused in nature.

## Eligible Expenditure

Applications should include a detailed breakdown of all costs involved in delivering the project. All costs must be realistic and proportionate in relation to programme activity. The budget proposed will be robustly tested as part of the assessment of your project.

Budget Heading	Sub-heading	Eligibility notes
<b>External Expertise</b>	Hospitality/ Catering	Food and non-alcoholic drinks is eligible and must be relevant to project activity and in line with EU Procurement Guidelines.
	Venue Hire	Venue Hire is eligible and must be relevant to project activity and in line with EU Procurement Guidelines.
	Facilitation / Consultancy Support / Training	External individual/organisation to deliver element/s of programme activity is eligible and must be relevant to project activity and in line with EU procurement guidelines.
	Transport	Bus hire is eligible and must be relevant to project activity and in line with EU Procurement Guidelines.
	Study Trips/ Activity Costs / Entrance Fees	Study trips, entrance fees and activities are eligible but details of which must be clearly detailed in the application form and assessment carried out accordingly.
	Accommodation and Overseas Travel	Overnight accommodation and travel is only eligible if the activity is clearly detailed in the application and assessment carried out accordingly. It is at the discretion of the Assessment Panel to cap costs in relation to overnight accommodation and travel.
	Communication /Promotional Items	Any promotional activity and items are eligible but must be relevant to project activity.
<b>Staff Costs</b>	Salaries and wages	Staff costs or apportioned staff costs for staff members working directly on the project must be realistic and will be considered in line with project activity at assessment stage. It is at the discretion of the Assessment Panel to cap staff costs in line with the project budget and activity.
<b>Office and Administration</b>	Travel and subsistence	Travel and Subsistence is eligible, the applicant however must submit its Travel and Subsistence Policy with application for consideration by the Assessment Panel.
	Apportionment of overheads	15% of Staff Costs (if applicable) will be available for overheads, i.e. heat, light, phone etc.
<b>Equipment</b>	Purchase of equipment	Small items of equipment essential for running the project are eligible and must be relevant to project activity and purchased in line with EU Procurement Guidelines.
<b>Capital Investment</b>	Other capital expenditure	Not eligible.

## Assessment Criteria

Applications must demonstrate relevance to the seven criteria, each with a weighting listed below, against which applications will be appraised and scored (0 to 5). **In order to be successful, a minimum score of 3 for each criterion is required.**

All projects which meet the required threshold will be ranked in order of score. The Fermanagh and Omagh Peace IV Partnership will make the final decision on which applications are successful and funding will be awarded on the basis of rank until the available budget has been depleted.

Unsuccessful applications will be formally rejected with clear reasons for rejection provided. Applicants rejected at this Stage will have the right to a review.

The fund is limited and even if the application meets all the conditions, funding cannot be guaranteed. A reserve list will be maintained.

<b>CRITERION</b>	<b>Weighting</b>
Contribution of the project to the defined results and outputs of the programme	20%
Quality of project design	20%
Quality of cross-community co-operation with demonstrable added value	20%
Quality of the project team and implementation arrangements	10%
Value for Money	20%
Sustainable Development	5%
Equality	5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Freedom of Information

Applicants should be aware that the information provided in this PEACE IV Small Grants application form could be disclosed in response to a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Should you consider that any of the information supplied is confidential in nature this should be highlighted and the reasons for its sensitivity specified. In such cases the relevant material will, in response to Freedom of Information requests, be examined in light of the exemptions provided for in the Freedom of Information Act.

The information on this form may be made available to other departments and/or agencies for the purposes of audit, research, meeting statutory obligations and preventing or detecting crime.

## Closing Date for Applications

Application Packs are available to download from the Council's website at [www.fermanaghomaggh.com](http://www.fermanaghomaggh.com).

Completed forms should be returned in a sealed envelope, clearly marked on the outside 'PEACE IV Small Grants Programme' to

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council  
The Townhall  
2 Townhall Street,  
Enniskillen,  
Co.Fermanagh  
BT74 7BA

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council  
16 High Street  
Omagh  
Co. Tyrone  
BT78 1BQ

Or by email to [deborah.mccartan@fermanaghomaggh.com](mailto:deborah.mccartan@fermanaghomaggh.com)

**Closing date for completed applications is no later than 12 Noon on Friday 25 May 2018. Please note that incomplete applications or applications received after the closing date and time will be deemed invalid and will not be considered.**

For further information please contact Fermanagh and Omagh District Council's PEACE IV Programme Coordinator, Deborah McCartan by telephoning 0300 303 1777 (calls charged at local rate) or email [deborah.mccartan@fermanaghomaggh.com](mailto:deborah.mccartan@fermanaghomaggh.com)

Please refer to SEUPB's website, [www.seupb.eu](http://www.seupb.eu) for further information on the PEACE IV Programme.

## Supporting Documentation Required for Eligibility Check

Documentation required	Enclosed (if applicable)
Annual Accounts certified by a qualified Accountant. ( <i>Annual Accounts should be no more than 2 years old</i> ).  <b>Or</b>  An up to date annual statement of Financial position certified by the group's current Chairperson and current Treasurer or other equivalent Committee members if the posts of Chairperson and Treasurer are not constituted within the group. ( <i>Annual Statement should be no more than 2 years old. For new groups these records must cover a period of at least 6 months</i> ).	
Recent bank statement	
Legal Status – Copy of governing document ( <i>signed constitution, or memorandum and articles of association</i> )	

Job Descriptions <i>(if seeking funding towards salary costs)</i>	
Child Protection Policy and/or Vulnerable Adults Policy <i>(if your project will be working with children/young people or vulnerable adults)</i>	