Appendix 1

Local Community Festival Grants - September 2022 (Maximum £1,200)

		Ommonications			Total	A
No	Organisation Name	Organisations Aim	Title Of Event/project	Band	Requested Amount	Amount Awarded
1.	Friends of Killymoon Castle	Community	Centenary Celebrations	5	£1,200	£720
2.	Knockmany Running Club	Community	Queen's Award for Voluntary Service Festival	3	£1,200	£960
3.	John O'Neill Trust	Community	John O'Neill Festival Weekend	3	£1,200	£960
4.	Ballinderry Parish Church Vintage Rally	Community	Ballinderry Vintage Rally	2	£1200	£1,080
5.	Clogher valley Outdoor Bowling Federation	Community	Champion of Champions Festival	6	£950	£600
6.	Benburb Priory Library & Museum	Community	Creative Commotion Family Funday	4	£1,950	£840
7.	Lough Fea Ladies Group	Community	Celebrating our Jubilee	7	£1,250	£480
8.	Crossglebe Community Association	Community	Crossglebe Family Fun Night	7	£445	£445
9.	Parkview Community Group	Community	Halloween Festival 22	6	£1,000	£600
10.	Rock Community Association	Community	Tractor Run and Barbeque	4	£1,250	£840
11.	Lissan Mothers Union	Community	Vintage Harvest Festival	6	£1,200	£600
12.	St Martins GAC Desertmartin	Sport	Community fun Day	6	£1,050	£600
13.	Bellaghy Vintage & Car Rally	Community	Vintage Rally	2	£1,050	£1,050

Total <u>£9775</u>

### Good Relations Grants - September 2022 (Maximum £1,200)

No	Organisation Name	Organisation Aim	Title Of Event/project	Band	Requested	Awarded
1	Rock & District Historical Society	Historical Group	Sharing History & Building Community	4	£1,200	£840
2	Loup Women's Group, Loup	Women's Group	Reuniting after Covid	1	£1100	£1100
3	Ballysaggart Area Residents Asc	Residents Group	Looking after Our Outside Space	1	£1175	£1175
4	Gathered Voices	Community Choir	Gathered Voices Community Choir	1	£1400	£1200
5	Ealu	Community Group	Workshop Project	1	£1800	£1200
6	Ren-Bu-Kan Judo Club	Sport	Annual Festival	1	£1050	£1050
				Total		£6565.00

Bands	Score	%
7	30-39	40%
6	40-49	50%
5	50-59	60%
4	60-69	70%
3	70-79	80%
2	80-89	90%
1	90+	100%

### Mid Ulster District Council PEACE Partnership (Advisory Working Group)

### **Partnership (Advisory Working Group):**

For the implementation of the Mid Ulster District Council PEACE Programme (Peace Plus);

Between the following:

### 1. LEAD PARTNER - Mid Ulster District Council

### 2. Partnership Representatives:

Mid Ulster District Council		
10 Members via d'hondt		
Statutory Representatives		
Policing and Community Safety Partnership (PCSP)	Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE)	
EA Youth	PSNI	
Northern Regional College NRC	PHA	
Social/ Community Representatives		
STEP BME & Urban Support Mid Ulster	Mid Ulster Youth Voice	
CWSAN Rural Support Group Mid Ulster	First Steps Women's Centre Mid Ulster	
Mid Ulster Pride	Speedwell Trust Mid Ulster	
Three Spires Scout Group Magherafelt	Mid Ulster Agewell	
Michael Davitts GAC Swatragh	Tobin Youth Group Moortown	

### 3. Introduction

The PEACE Plus Programme 2021 – 2027 is a cross-border initiative, financed through the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) of the European Union and managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB). It has been designed to support peace and reconciliation in Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland (counties Cavan, Donegal, Leitrim, Louth Monaghan and Sligo). In addition to supporting peace and reconciliation, the ERDF also contributes to the promotion of social and economic stability, in particular through actions to promote cohesion between communities.

The overall objective of the PEACE PLUS Programme will be to build peace and prosperity and ensure that this Programme will leave a lasting and tangible legacy across Northern Ireland and the border counties of Ireland. The Programme's strategy is to continue to take the opportunities and address the needs arising from the peace process in order to boost economic growth and stimulate social and economic regeneration and secondly, to promote social inclusion, particularly for those at the margins of economic and social life.

The Programme will seek to address many long-standing social and economic challenges which have, and continue to impact on communities, particularly those in rural border areas, as well as ongoing challenges that exist in urban settings

The following diagram attached in Appendix 1 outlines the six key thematic areas of the PEACE PLUS Programme with an overall budget in the region of €1.1B available. Theme 1 Building Peaceful and Thriving Communities has a total budget of €250m.

### Theme 1.1. – Local Delivery

Councils across the region have been given a remit for the co delivery with SEUPB for theme 1.1 through a PEACEPLUS Action Plan that will meet the peace building needs of the District over the programme period.

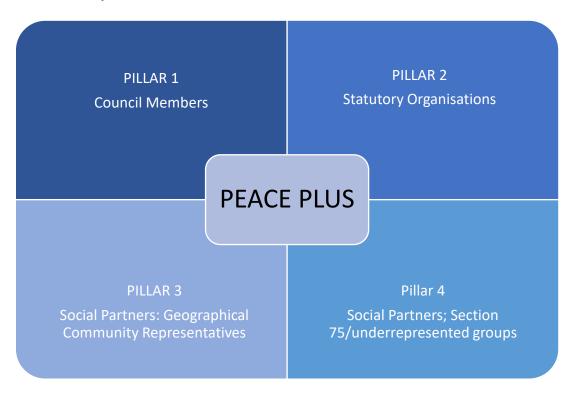
To support the delivery of the Peace Plus Action Plan a Partnership (advisory working group) is required.

Mid Ulster PEACE Partnership (Advisory Working Group) will comprise of 24 representatives, 10 of these will be elected representatives via D'hondt, 9 will be community representatives via expression of interest, and 5 will be statutory representatives as identified. Representative organisations/groups are as above.

### 4. Role of the PEACE Partnership (Advisory Working Group)

The PEACE Partnership will provide an advisory role to Mid Ulster District Council on the design and implementation of the co-designed PEACEPLUS Action Plan with SEUPB. The Partnership will provide support to Council during implementation to ensure the plan is targeted and communicated across the community of Mid Ulster.

The PEACE Partnership aligns to the SEUPB guidance, as per table below, on Peace Plus delivery.



Remit of the Peace Partnership shall include: -

- Support Council in the co-design of the Peace Plus action plan.
- Advise and support local delivery through experience and knowledge of local areas and issues.
- Support Council with communicating the plan and its delivery to the wider community.
- Support on Monitoring delivery and outputs of the PEACE PLUS Action Plan as required by SEUPB.

The Partnership is non-decision making, as lead organization for the delivery of the Peace Plus programme, all decisions will be taken by Mid Ulster District Council.

### 5. PEACE Partnership Governance

### Strategic Linkages

The Peace Partnership will link with the Mid Ulster Community Plan in relation to providing regular updates to the strategic outcome of seeking to promote and develop diversity across Mid Ulster District. Please see diagram of linkages in Appendix 2.

### Meetings

The Partnership will meet on a bi -monthly basis, or as required. Meetings will be arranged for a Wednesday in the month via a hybrid approach to accommodate all representatives.

Special meetings may be arranged at the discretion of the Council and Partnership as per need of the Programme.

Attendance at meetings, for mileage, by social and community partners will be remunerated.

### Attendance

Where possible, a quorum for meetings will be sought, with a minimum of 8 representatives (third of the representation).

### **Appointment of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson**

The Partnership will appoint a Chair and Vice Chair to support effective delivery of meeting agendas. The Partnership Chair will be a member of Council and will be facilitated through the same arrangement as Council via the d'hondt process, which will rotate annually. The role of Vice Chair will be from a social partner, who will hold the position for a 3 year period, nominated via the Partnership representatives. The positions are not official but to support effective meetings.

The role of the Chair will be to:

- 1. Facilitate the discussion at the Partnership meetings in line with the set agenda
- 2. Note apologies and attendance at the meeting
- 3. Ensure minutes of the previous meeting are agreed and actions updated
- 4. Ensure conflict of interest is noted at the start of each meeting
- 5. Ensure all representatives have an opportunity to speak on issues
- 6. Oversee that meetings are kept to a reasonable time

### **Legal Structure**

The PEACE Partnership has no legal structure and is an advisory group to Mid Ulster District Council. All decisions on Peace Plus delivery will be via the Council governance structure of Development Committee and final ratification by Council.

### **Principles of Partnership Working**

The following are a proposed set of guiding principles for the PEACE Partnership.

- Respect
- Equality
- Openness
- Leadership
- Diversity
- Customer Focused

### **Council Responsibilities**

The guidelines provided by SEUPB state that Council will be responsible for the following in accordance with Article 20 of regulation 1080/2006:

- Guaranteeing of the sound financial arrangement of the funds allocated to the operation of the programme
- Ensuring the implementation of the entire project
- Ensuring the expenditure claimed by the partners meets the objectives of the project and agreed activities

The Council is responsible for the overall coordination in the development and delivery of the PEACE PLUS Local Action Plan and is the contact point with the SEUPB/European Commission.

The Council will handle all day-to-day administrative and management functions and shall arrange and oversee all meetings with the Partnership.

Any matters requiring decisions, with regard to the above role of Council, will be referred back to individual Councils for a decision as appropriate.

### **Partnership Logistics**

The Council shall oversee all logistics relating to the Partnership and will provide all administration support.

### Register of Interest:

From time to time representatives may be offered donations/gifts for their work. Offers of cash, cheques and lottery tickets to representatives and officers should be declined.

Seasonal, promotional gifts, such as calendars, diaries or pens, which bear company names and branding of the provider and have an estimated value of less than £20 may be accepted without the need for reporting acceptance.

Acceptance or decline of a gift greater than a value of £20 must be declared within the Gifts and Hospitality Register. **Appendix 3** should be completed and submitted in all cases within 28 days of receipt of the offer. This will form part of the PEACE PLUS Gifts and Hospitality Register.

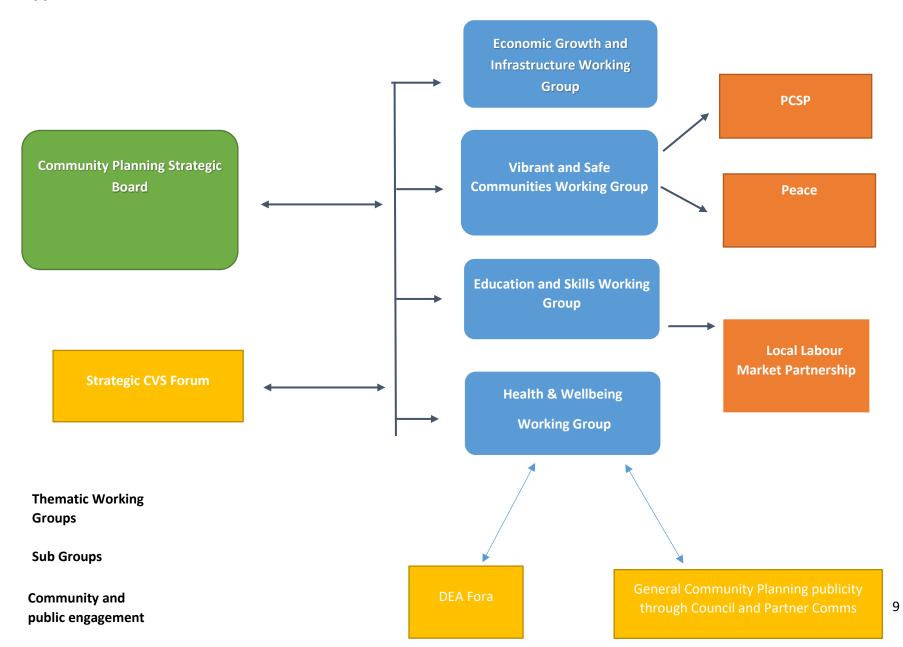
### Conflict of Interest & Declaration

Should a representative have any conflict of interest or involvement in any issue before the PEACE Partnership for consideration, then this must be declared. Once declared the member is obliged not to contribute to the discussion on the matter. If there is any proprietary interest to leave the room for the period of discussion. The Conflict of Interest is the first item on the agenda of each meeting. A conflict of interest register (**Appendix 4**) is also attached for completion by each partner member. This is good practice even in recognition that the Partnership is not decision making.



### **Community Planning Model**

### Appendix 2



### PEACE PLUS 1.1 Co-Designed Local Community PEACE Action Plans

### Update to all Councils 6<sup>th</sup> July 2022

Note the content of these slides are subject to change and are not exhaustive as the Programme document is still not approved



### Special EU Programmes Body Comhlacht na gClár Speisialta AE Special EU Skemes Boadie

This project will be funded by the European Union's PEACEPLUS Programme, managed by the Special EU Programmes Body







### Agenda

Welcome and Introductions

Update on allocations

Action Plan Development Phases

Co-Design

Update on PEACEPLUS Partnership Development from Councils

**AOB** 

Date of Next Meeting – 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2022 @ 9.30 am

### Update on Allocations

Note the content of these slides are subject to change and are not exhaustive as the Programme document is still not approved

SEUPB is endeavouring to provide the allocations by the end of the July.

It will write to all councils to inform each council of their specific allocation

### EACEPLUS Objectives

### The Overall Objective of the PEACE PLUS Programme

• to build Peace and Prosperity and ensure that the Programme will leave a lasting and tangible legacy across Northern Ireland and the border counties of Ireland.

The Specific Objective selected for the 1.1. PEACEPLUS Action Plans is Peace and Reconciliation.

• This objective will enable and empower local community partnerships to self-determine and deliver priority projects on a cross community basis. This will result in improved, shared and inclusive local services, facilities and spaces; and make a significant and lasting contribution to peace and reconciliation.

PEACEPLUS Action Plans will build upon the experience of previous programmes by tackling the remaining challenges and opportunities that exist in the following areas:

- 1. Local community regeneration and transformation;
- 2. Thriving and peaceful communities; and
- 3. Celebrating cultures and diversity

### PEACEPLUS Results

It will **result in** the development of PEACEPLUS Action Plans which benefit the Programme area as follows:

- The creation of **sustainable, inclusive and cross community partnerships**, which will make a significant contribution to community planning processes and peace building in the Programme area;
- Community ownership of the PEACEPLUS Action Plans and ongoing engagement throughout their delivery;
- The management of significant and sustained cross community collaboration at the local level to deliver established development priorities; and
- The **inclusion of all local areas** across the Programme area, including those who may **not previously have participated** within PEACE Programme activities.

Projects supported by the PEACEPLUS Action Plans should:

- result in increased levels of social inclusion and cross community integration; and
- incorporate the level of **sustained contact** between those from different community, cultural and political backgrounds, required to achieve **significant attitudinal and behavioural change**.

### **EACEPLUS Rssults**

The output and result indicators at Programme level for the PEACEPLUS Action Plans are presented below.

Each local authority in the Programme area will be apportioned a minimum target number of 'persons' to be achieved on the basis of their financial allocation. (These are still not finalised)

Output Indicators (Programme Level)						
Indicator ID	Indicator	Measurement Unit	Target Value			
NB. Each	of the 17 local authorities in the Programme area	vill be responsible for	the achievement			
of one unit	ti.e. one PEACEPLUS Action Plan.					
Result Ind	Result Indicators (Programme Level)					
Indicator ID	Indicator	Measurement Unit	Target Value			
PSR1.1	People from different communities engaged jointly in the implementation of local PEACEPLUS action plans	People	110,000 (2029)			

Note - Indicative and work in progress. The content of these slides are subject to change and are not exhaustive as the Programme Document is still not approved

PEACE PLUS will embed the concept of reconciliation into the objectives and desired results of the Programme. There will be a strong emphasis on promoting crosscommunity interaction and understanding. The suggested financial allocation across the three strands is as follows

Specific Objective	% Budget Allocation
Local community regeneration and transformation	30% - 40% maximum
Thriving and peaceful communities	30% - 40% maximum
Celebrating cultures and diversity	20% minimum

Note - Indicative and work in progress. The content of these slides are subject to change and are not exhaustive as the Programme Document is still not approved

# PEACEPLUS Action Plan Co-design Stages

Note - Indicative and work in progress. The content of these slides are subject to change and are not exhaustive as the Note - Indicative and work in progress. The Programme Document is still not approved

STAGE	ACTIVITY
1	Establish the PEACEPLUS Partnership
2	Clarify roles and provide resources and capacity building support
3	Select areas / themes to participate in the co-design process
4	Undertake area-based needs analysis
5	Identify co-design participants in each area / theme
6	Agree a co-design methodology and framework for project selection
7	Manage the area / theme co-design process
8	Prepare a long list of priority projects
9	Produce a final schedule of priority projects with the Partnership
10	Prepare the PEACEPLUS Action Plan

The proposed PEACEPLUS Action Plan model will result in the management of PEACEPLUS co-design sessions specific to agreed areas / themes.

• These sessions will facilitate local people to co-design a schedule of priority projects which will feed into one overall PEACEPLUS Action Plan, developed for each of the 17 local councils in the Programme area.

The SEUPB recognises that councils in the Programme area have differing approaches to service delivery. Some focus on individual electoral areas, whilst others focus on strategic themes spanning the entire district. Therefore, councils may wish to design their individual Action Plan based on

- (i) the needs of each Local Electoral Area (Ireland) or District Electoral Area (Northern Ireland), or
- (ii) needs identified in the local community or county development plan (themes).

It is important the Action Plan produced comprises projects which have been demonstrably selected by a co-design process involving local people.

A staged approach will be required to manage the development of the codesigned PEACEPLUS Action Plans. A critical path detailing each individual stage is presented in the following slides.

### **Stage 1- Establish the PEACEPLUS Partnership**

Each council should establish a PEACEPLUS Partnership. The role of this entity will be to oversee the development of the PEACEPLUS Action Plan for the individual district. This will include providing oversight of the following:

- (i) Selection of the areas / themes to be involved in the co-design process
- (ii) Agreement of the co-design and project selection methodology to be deployed and the mechanism to involve local people in the co-design process
- (iii) Management of the local co-design process to identify priority projects in the selected areas / themes
- (iv) Management of the co-design process to produce the final list of priority projects for inclusion in the PEACEPLUS Action Plan by the Partnership
- (v) Production of the PEACEPLUS Action Plan for submission to the SEUPB

PEACEPLUS Partnership membership will include representatives of statutory, community and voluntary organisations, as well as elected representatives. Existing structures (including the Public Participation Networks in the border counties of Ireland) may be utilised where appropriate and supplemented where there are gaps.

### Stage 2 - Clarify roles and provide resources and capacity building support

Each council should specify the roles of the members of the PEACEPLUS partnership and ensure that all members of the Partnership are clear on their role. Appropriate resources should be provided to enable them to fulfill their respective roles effectively

### Stage 3 - Select areas / themes to participate in the co-design process

A number of areas / themes should be selected to participate in the PEACEPLUS Action Plan co-design process

### Stage 4 - Undertake area-based needs analysis

Research regarding the needs and opportunities specific to each area / theme selected should be undertaken. This research should inform the subsequent co-design planning process

### Stage 5 - Identify co-design participants in each area / theme

The Partnership must take account of the need to ensure local level involvement in the co-design process and associated projects. In some cases, it may be possible to build upon existing structures / groups within target areas, including those linked to community planning, development and regeneration, as well as other locality based good relations and social inclusion initiatives.

### Stage 6 - Agree a co-design methodology and framework for project selection

The co-design methodology and project selection framework to be used in all local PEACEPLUS co-design sessions should be agreed. This should be developed to ensure the selection of projects with demonstrable cross community added value

### **Stage 7 - Manage the area / theme co-design process**

The approach to managing the co-design process will be at the discretion of each council. However, a proactive approach to promotional activities and community engagement will generate significant interest and a number of co-design sessions will be held for each area / theme. This will be designed to result in a short list of priority projects.

### Stage 8 - Prepare a long list of priority projects

Following the completion of the co-design process undertaken to ensure local engagement, a combined list of all priority projects identified for the selected areas should be prepared. This should be reviewed by the PEACEPLUS Partnership

### Stage 9 - Produce a final schedule of priority projects with the Partnership

The PEACEPLUS Partnership will select priority projects for inclusion in the PEACEPLUS Action Plan for the area.

### **Stage 10 - Prepare the PEACEPLUS Action Plan**

The council will prepare the detail of the final co-designed PEACEPLUS Action Plan for submission to the SEUPB

- Co-design goes beyond the process of local consultation, which in many cases informed the content of previous PEACE Programmes i.e., sustained engagement throughout the process.
- This practice will enable groups which represent different communities of interest from defined areas or themes, to **collaboratively design projects** tailored to meet the challenges and opportunities specific to that area.
- The co-design process itself should **enable cross community engagement** and collaboration.
- To develop their Action Plan, councils should assemble and facilitate diverse and inclusive groups to co-design priority projects, specific to their areas / themes.
- These projects should **strongly align with the peace and reconciliation objectives** of PEACEPLUS and incorporate the level of **sustained contact** between those from different religious, cultural and political backgrounds.

- PEACE PLUS Action Plans should detail how the cross-community and/or cross-border delivery will be ensured and provide indicative action within the plans including details of events and number of participants. They should also describe how the gender, religion/community background and ethnic/racial group of the participants will be captured.
- Furthermore, PEACE PLUS Action Plans to include provisions to ensure how at the time of implementation the following are met and how they will be evidenced (and evidence retained): (1) meaningful and purposeful; (2) sustained; and (3) different communities

### Meaningful, Purposeful and Sustained contact

Contact should be worthwhile and have a function, it should result in the participation of shared
activities, and be of a sufficient intensity and duration to ensure a transformative experience. The
proxy measurement is that the contact must involve a minimum of 26 hours contact over a period of up
to 6 months.

### **Different communities:**

Relates to persons of different religious belief, ethnic or racial group. Initiatives should evidence
commitment to tackling real and complex issues, such as racism and sectarianism, which prevent the
benefits of a united and shared community being realised. Initiatives should also ensure that subprojects evidence this commitment and that evidence is retained.

### **Participant**

Within the context of a PEACEPLUS Action Plan, a participant will be counted as 'a person from a
different community engaged jointly in the implementation of the Action Plan", if they complete a
minimum of 26 hours of 'purposeful, meaningful and sustained contact' with people from other cultural,
religious, and political backgrounds over a period of up to six months.

Link with Community Plans/ LECPs

It is important that each local authority clearly outlines the extent to which their PEACEPLUS Action Plan has been co-designed and demonstrates complementarity with existing community planning, county development, good relations and social inclusion approaches.

- · Local authorities should outline how the proposed co-designed process has resulted in:
  - Inclusive consultation with representative groups from all areas within the individual local authority area;
  - Strategic approaches to addressing local issues and opportunities relevant to the three thematic strands
  - Clearly developed and defined partnership approaches;
  - Complementarity with statutory provision / other plans / projects supported under the PEACEPLUS Programme, particularly those which will enhance cross-community and cross-border results and outputs; and
  - Evidence as to how the PEACEPLUS Action Plan and associated projects will complement existing work in the local areas and/or build on existing platforms/initiatives.
- Consultation <u>will not be</u> restricted to the plan development process. Each Partnership must hold at least one public meeting per annum to update all stakeholders on the progress of the implementation of the Action Plan and check on the relevance of the activities contained therein.
- Electronic and social media activity of the Partnership should be outlined in the communication plan
- It will be important to develop and manage effective (albeit informal) communication and knowledge sharing mechanisms between the PEACEPLUS Partnership and any relevant community planning / county development structures within individual local authority areas, including those already overseeing other good relations focused initiatives.

Document is still not approved

PEACEPLUS Action Plans will be assessed based on the following:

- The **extent and effectiveness** of the co-design process undertaken to develop the Action Plan;
- The extent to which the co-design process represents diversity and geographic inclusivity; and
- The quality of priority projects selected and the potential of these to achieve peace and reconciliation progress and the stated output and result indicator targets.

### Need to think

- How has your partnership ensured that the CD process represents diversity and geographic inclusivity
- What areas will your partnership focus on and why needs based; inclusive of whole area
- How diverse is your area? How have you engaged (and how will you continue to) with these different communities of interest?
- What engagement techniques will work in your area and within the timeline?

**Note:** Applicants will be required to demonstrate how supported projects have resulted in increased knowledge of and improved attitudes towards diversity generally, including people from different cultural backgrounds.

This will require applicants to manage a brief impact assessment questionnaire process with project participants (i.e., those whose involvement will contribute to the achievement of local authority specific result indicator targets

The SEUPB is reviewing how evaluation focused technologies might be deployed to minimise any associated administration

### Key components of an effective co-design process

- Intentionally involving target users in designing solutions
- Postponing design decisions until after gathering feedback
- Synthesizing feedback from target users into insights
- Developing solutions based on feedback

- Plenty of pre-engagement information in advance of codesign sessions
- Mix of engagement techniques
- Recognising that it isn't just about two communities

Programme Document is still not approved

### **Indicative Timeline (Not Confirmed)**

- Call document issued (September 2022?)
- September to November Engagement
- December 2022

   January 2023

   Action plan development
- February 2023 Submission of Action Plans

### Recognise the constraints

- Need to think about council / PEACEPLUS Partnerships approval processes
- Note Christmas and other mid term holidays

### Update on PEACEPLUS Partnership Development







Note: The Partnership must ensure effective communication regarding the establishment of the PEACEPLUS Partnership and the development and implementation of the PEACEPLUS action plan.

### **Next Stages**

Note - Indicative and work in progress. The content of these slides are subject to change and are not exhaustive as the Programme Document is still not approved

Complete PEACEPLUS
Partnership
establishment

Finalise all governance arrangements

Host first PEACEPLUS
Meeting – June-July –
Commence team building
exercise

Await allocation per council area announcement from SEUPB

Call for Applications open by SEUPB – Summer 2022 (indicatively) Agree co-design principles and methodology for the development of each Action Plan incl. project selection framework with new Partnerships (Early Summer 2022)

Collect and pull together background documentation – e.g., socio economic profiles, are profiles, GR /cp data; review participants from PEACE IV etc.- Summer 2022

Commence co-design process incl. meetings / workshops etc. from September

Long and short list of Projects Autumn/ Winter

Action Plan Late Winter/
Early Spring – Submit to
SEUPB (Dependent on
issue date of Call
Document)

First Projects – Mid to Late 2023 following assessment process by SEUPB (normally takes 5-6 months)



### Report of

### Regional and Minority Language Implementation Working Group of Mid Ulster District Council

Report of Regional and Minority Language Implementation Working Group of Mid Ulster Council held on Monday 27 June 2022 in the Council Offices, Dungannon.

Attendees Members: Cllr John McNamee (Chair), Cllr Cora Corry, Cllr Sean McGuigan

By Remote link: Cllr Ian Milne, Cllr Seán McPeake, Cllr Martin Kearney.

Officers: Tony McCance, Déaglán Ó Doibhlin

By remote link: Ryan Black

AGENDA	MATTERS AGREED	ACTIONS & RESPONSIBILITY
1.0	Apologies	
	Cllr T Wilson, Cllr W Buchanan	
2.0	Declarations of Interest	
	No declarations of interest submitted.	
3.0	Minutes of previous meeting.	
	A report of the minutes of the previous meeting was presented to the Working Group.	

4.0	4 Year Plan	
	D Ó Doibhlin informed the meeting that development work was commencing on a new 4 year plan for the Irish Language, with a draft anticipated within 3 months approximately. A draft 4 year plan will be presented to the next RML Working Group Meeting	D O Doibhlin, T McCance
5.0	Signage Programme Update	
	Road Name Signage Programme	
	T McCance reported that in the last six month period, 146 road signs had been placed on order. There had been a slight delay due to a problem with materials but full installation of approximately 100 of these was expected in the next two to three weeks, the remainder to be delivered by September with installation to follow. In the last 6 months there had been 13 cases of vandalism reported at a cost of £1380 to put right. Chair stated that statistics for criminal damage in the district had increased due to vandalism of road signs now being reported to PSNI.	
	Internal Bilingual signage Programme	
	Works as per schedule agreed has been completed with the exception of Cookstown and Dungannon offices which were awaiting for capital programmes to commence and new internal signage would coincide with capital works planned. Chair requested a firm date be provided to Working Group for delivery of the capital programme, T McCance to confirm this with Technical Services.	T McCance
6.0	Update from Irish Language Officer team	
	D Ó Doibhlin reported that 20 successful projects were to be funded through the Irish Language Activity Grants Programme, and 100 successful applicants for the Bursary Programme this year. The number of applications for bursaries were well down from pre-covid years, possibly as a result of the drop in numbers taking Irish at second level across the district. Cllr Kearney and Cllr Milne voiced their concerns at this development. Cllr McGuigan stated that from his experience as a school governor it had become exceedingly difficult to provide all the subjects previously taught due to shrinking school budgets. Cllr Corey stated she would welcome the opportunity to engage in discussions with local	D Ó Doibhlin

	schools to explore options. It was suggested that development of a qualification less onerous than a traditional "A" level might help. D Ó Doibhlin to talk to interested parties to explore options.	
7.0	A.O.B.	
	It was agreed to schedule the next meeting for September/October	
Meeting c	oncluded at 6.50pm	

**Reports of Working Groups**: Finalised Reports of Working Groups should be forwarded to Democratic Services on <a href="mailto:committees@midulstercouncil.org">committees@midulstercouncil.org</a> with a cover report to be scheduled on the agenda of the next available relevant committee meeting