

<b>Report on</b>	Community Development
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	11 <sup>th</sup> February 2021
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Claire Linney, Head of Community Development
<b>Contact Officers</b>	Philip Clarke - Community Services Manager, Oliver Morgan – Good Relations Manager, Michael McCrory - PCSP Manager, Martina Totten Community Planning Coordinator

Is this report restricted for confidential business?	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	X

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	Community Grants; to agree the rolling grants for Good Relations.
1.2	Mid Ulster Community Planning Poverty Plan – to agree the plan.
1.3	Timorese Association Inclusive Group Engagement – to note the update report.
1.4	Community Development – to note the community development update.
2.0	Background
2.1	Community Grants – the Good Relations Grant remains a rolling programme for delivery.
2.2	Mid Ulster Community Planning Poverty Plan – A draft plan was presented previously to members and an update working group held to develop a Poverty Plan for Mid Ulster. Meetings were also held with community planning stakeholders who are partners in the delivery of the Plan.
2.3	Members of The Timorese Association Inclusive Support group (TAIS) met with Councillors on a three occasions to discuss issues relating to their community. Officers have been working with the TAIS group to seek to address these issues.
2.4	Community Development includes the following areas: Community Support, Good Relations, PCSP, Connecting Pomeroy and facilitation of Community Planning.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	Community Grants – A recommendation for 4 grants are proposed for approval at a total value of £3480. <b>Please refer to Appendix 1.</b>

<p>3.2.</p> <p>3.3</p>	<p>Mid Ulster Community Planning Poverty Plan – See attached the draft plan for discussion and way forward in <b>Appendix 2</b>. Engagement on the draft poverty plan has taken place with community planning partners; however final sign off is required from all partners. Council facilitates local anti-poverty networks in the three towns; however they are local networking and include: foodbanks, advice service, community support networks, social services, and NIHE. It is proposed to establish a Mid Ulster District Poverty Network, under the Community Planning process to oversee a Mid Ulster Poverty Plan and to continue to liaise with the DFC led poverty plan for the region.</p> <p>The Timorese Association Inclusive Support group (TAIS) – the key issues identified for the group were:</p> <p>3.3.1 The potential impact of the Brexit transition on their status and residency.</p> <p>Following engagement with the Consulate General of Portugal, The Consul General and his staff are committed to continuing to develop links with Mid Ulster, and continuing to support their Portuguese community through their annual visits and via the Honorary Consulate.</p> <p>They recognize a large percentage of the Portuguese community in Northern Ireland is based in Mid Ulster and are aware of the current issues of the East Timor Leste community who are entitled to Portuguese citizenship documentation and the importance of this to their EUSS application. Whilst this documentation is dealt with from East Timor Leste, the Portuguese Consul is continuing to support as required.</p> <p>They are currently liaising with the EU delegation in London re issues such as settlement status and required documentation, and the protection of persons with expired documentation or no finalized settlement status, under the withdrawal agreement.</p> <p>They have stated that they will facilitate a session with the Council and advice sector supporting the EUSS process regarding how East Timor Leste residents who would be entitled to Portuguese citizenship documentation, but cannot currently access, to be able to progress their settlement status through a paper application that allows for presenting of further information and clarity on their circumstances re documentation.</p> <p>This session is to be planned in February which still allows time for residents to receive the support required in registration to the EUSS scheme up to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021; caveated by lawful residence in the UK has to be proven as of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020.</p> <p>GR officers are facilitating this meeting with STEP, Advice Northern Ireland, Law Centre and TAIS.</p> <p>Following engagement with the Embassy of Timor Leste, they have responded to Council that they are not mandated to issue any citizenship documents such as passports. Passports are issued directly from Timor Leste, though the embassy can facilitate applications. The embassy can also issue single temporary travel documents upon application.</p>
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In December 2019, passport applications were facilitated by the embassy during a visit to Mid Ulster. These applications were then processed in Timor Leste and passports were intended to be issued during a second visit to Mid Ulster. Unfortunately, due to the Covid 19 pandemic the second visit could not take place.

Council will also continue to liaise with the Consulate of East Timor Leste regarding the potential of a visit to Northern Ireland to seek to address the documentation issue to allow registration through the main EU settlement process prior to June 2021.

Following correspondence with the Home Office, European Migration and Citizens' Rights Unit – They have provided an update letter, see attached at Appendix 3. This is confirming the commitment of the UK Government regarding the rights of EU, EEA and Swiss citizens and their family members who have made the UK their home through the EUSS, and confirming those who are resident here by 31 December 2020 have until 30 June 2021 to apply.

Officers will also seek to get communications to local businesses to let them know that settlement status is 30<sup>th</sup> June and not 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020; as there has been feedback that there was some confusion with companies.

Current statistics provided by the STEP Stronger Together Network on EUSS -

11,620 people in total applied to the scheme from Mid-Ulster Council Area until 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020. Statistics up to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020 will be published in mid-February 2021.

Current Mid Ulster migrant community residents -  
690 Latvians /3110 Lithuanians /2210 Poles /3310 Portuguese citizens (many of them will be from East Timor, but impossible to say how many) /460 Romanians /360 Slovaks / 520 non-EU citizens (majority considered to be East Timorese citizens – seeking documentation)

3.3.2 TAIS and support for the development of their Group.

GR Officers are actively exploring options that would offer the TAIS group suitable premises in Dungannon to meet, hold their meetings and host events.

Officers also contacted local credit unions and banks regarding the issue that the group and other new groups could not get access to a community bank account. One of the banks did come back to say would take applications however there is ongoing liaison with them re new group formation and charity number requirement.

GR Officers hosted a 'virtual' East Timor Christmas music event at The Hill of The O'Neill. The event was recorded and shared online with the East Timor community in Mid Ulster and in East Timor.

#### 3.4 **Community Development Update**

Community Support

	<p>The Community Support team continues to work with groups regarding the delivery of grants to respond to their communities.</p> <p>The DEA meetings will take place as per the previous schedule. Update diary dates will be provided to members along with groups from the DEA areas who have confirmed they wish to participate in the discussions.</p> <p>Good Relations</p> <p>Good Relations is currently monitoring the delivery of the current plan and is developing the new Plan for 2021 – 2022, in line with the 3 year plan submission previously to Northern Ireland Executive Office.</p> <p>Peace IV Local Action Plan – Further information and cross community engagement was required to support the delivery of the Towns Shared Space project (awnings and equipment to support outdoor events). As part of this a proposal to run a youth programme (virtual pending social distancing) alongside the proposal for the Towns Shared Space project. To allow the project above to deliver an extension to the Peace IV programme has been requested to December 2021, all project activity to complete September 2021 with claims and monitoring in the last quarter.</p> <p>The teams are continuing to support in the development and delivery of Mid Ulster poverty plan and initiatives, in particular the emergency support funding.</p> <p>The PCSP team is currently monitoring the delivery of their plan to the PCSP partnership and have commenced development of their new plan under DOJ and NIPB.</p> <p>All of the partnership meetings are continuing via Zoom to accommodate members and external partners.</p>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<p><b><u>Financial &amp; Human Resources Implications</u></b></p> <p>Community Grants – Budget £3480</p> <p><b><u>Professional Support</u></b> None</p>
<b>4.2</b>	<p><b><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u></b> None</p>
<b>4.3</b>	<p><b><u>Risk Management Implications</u></b> None</p>
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	Grants - To agree the Good Relations Grants

5.2	Community Development – to note the update report
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
6.1	Appendix 1 Community Grants Appendix 2 Mid Ulster Poverty Plan draft Appendix 3 Home Office Letter

## Appendix 1

### Good Relations February 2021 (Maximum £1,200)

No	Organisation Name	Organisation Aim	Title Of Event/project	Band	Requested	Awarded
1	Ren Bu Kan Judo Club	Community	Online tutoring	1	£1,200.00	£960.00
2	Pomeroy Men's Shed	Community	Shared Space & Places	3	£1,200.00	£840.00
3	Stewartstown & District Village Forum	Community	Outdoor Living Project	3	£1,200.00	£840.00
4	Sporting Hearts	Community	Shared online poetry	3	£1200.00	£840.00
<b>Total</b>						<b>£3,480.00</b>

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%