



## **PRESS RELEASE**

**Date: 19th October 2017**

### **CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS PEACE IV PARTNERSHIP OFFICIALLY LAUNCHES £3.5 MILLION EU FUNDED PROGRAMME**

The Causeway Coast and Glens Peace IV Partnership has celebrated the launch of its Peace IV Programme worth £3.5 million to the local community.

Delivery of the programme will begin with Community Launch events and Halloween Taster Sessions for targeted primary and post-primary schools throughout the Council area. Under the three main themes of 'Children and Young People', 'Shared Spaces and Services' and 'Building Positive Relations', there are plenty of opportunities for people from different communities and backgrounds to participate.

Welcoming the funding, the Mayor of Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council, Councillor Joan Baird, OBE said, **“As a member of the Peace IV Partnership, I am mindful of all the work that has gone into the development of this programme. I look forward to seeing how this vital funding is used to promote an ethos of working together and I am delighted that a major strand of the project involves children and young people. They will benefit from sport and culture opportunities, and overall the initiative will enhance integration and community relations across the Borough.”**

Gina McIntyre, CEO with the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB), which manages the PEACE IV Programme, said: **“Local authorities will make an invaluable contribution to the delivery of the new PEACE IV Programme by ensuring that funding is distributed at a local level where it can make a real impact. The benefit of this programme is not just about the funding it brings to the area but about the partnerships it creates between different community and voluntary organisations.**

**“Partnerships will help build trust and relationships, resulting in meaningful contact and greater levels of peace and reconciliation. The launch is about recognising this and finding out how it will be delivered through the partnerships created by Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council.”**



Councillor James McCorkell, Chair of the Peace IV Partnership said: **“At the community launches, groups and community members can find out how they can get involved in peace building programmes over the next two years within the Causeway Coast and Glens area. Successful tender bidders will be announced over the coming weeks. There will also be other opportunities to become involved in local projects, forums and events.”**

The Community Launches will begin on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> October in Roe Valley Arts & Cultural Centre in Limavady. This will be followed by Coleraine Town Hall (28<sup>th</sup> October), Ballymoney Town Hall (4<sup>th</sup> November) and Ramoan Parish Centre, Ballycastle (4<sup>th</sup> November). All events will run from 12pm – 2.30pm. They will provide communities with a flavour of what to expect from Peace IV as well as an opportunity to register interest as an individual or on behalf of a community group.

- **ENDS**

#### **Notes to Editor:**

#### **SEUPB**

- The Special EU Programmes Body is a North/South Implementation Body sponsored by the Department of Finance in Northern Ireland and the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform in Ireland. It is responsible for managing two EU Structural Funds Programmes, PEACE IV and INTERREG VA which are designed to enhance cross-border co-operation, promote reconciliation and create a more peaceful and prosperous society.
- The Programmes operate within a clearly defined area including Northern Ireland, the Border Region of Ireland and in the case of INTERREG VA, Western Scotland.
- The PEACE IV Programme has a value of €270 million and aims to address the economic and social problems which result from the existence of borders.
- For more information on the SEUPB please visit [www.seupb.eu](http://www.seupb.eu)