



PRESS RELEASE

Date: 8 September 2017

MONAGHAN COUNTY COUNCIL WELCOME PEACE IV FUNDING

The Monaghan LCDC PEACE IV Programme, which is managed by the Special EU Programmes Body, is a unique initiative of the European Union which has been designed to support peace and reconciliation in Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland.

The PEACE IV Partnership has been working on the development of programmes since March 2016; beginning with consultation and engagement sessions, public information events, focus groups, project design and development, and finally an extensive application and assessment process with the Special EU Programmes Body.

The content of the Monaghan LCDC PEACE IV Local Action Plan has now been agreed by the Northern Ireland Executive and the Irish Government with the overarching priority of supporting peace and reconciliation within three main themes:

- Children and Young People with a budget of €638,544.89
- Shared Spaces and Services with a budget of €1,078,906.06
- Building Positive Relations with a budget of €1,321,117.01

To launch the new PEACE IV Programme, a public event was held on Thursday 7th September. Representatives of the Council including the Chief Executive Eamonn O'Sullivan, Cathaerloich Councillor Cathy Bennett, Director of Community Development Paul Clifford, members of the PEACE IV Partnership, and members of the Local Community Development Committee attended the event.

Chief Executive of Monaghan County Council, Eamonn O'Sullivan commented, **“The Monaghan Peace Plan was adopted after extensive consultation, in partnership with cross - community bodies throughout the county. I would like to thank the Peace Partnership Board, Local Community Development Committee and all who contributed to the plan.”**



Representatives from SEUPB were also in attendance and provided an overview from a funding perspective. Speaking at the event Gina McIntyre, CEO of the Special EU Programmes Body said; **“The projects that will be supported by this funding will all play their part in opening up ‘mind-borders’ as they will encourage real local cross-community and cross-border working, which is imperative in ensuring that we in this region continue to be more outward looking.”**

The launch event marked the official start of the new PEACE IV Programme, bringing together local community groups, sports clubs, church groups, youth clubs, delivery agents and activity providers, to find out how they could get involved in the Programme.

The PEACE IV Programme is an EU funded Programme designed to support peace and reconciliation in Northern Ireland and the border region. It is managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB).

Match-funding for this element of the PEACE IV Programme has been provided by the Executive Office in Northern Ireland, the Department for Rural & Community Development (Shared Spaces and Services/Building Positive Relations) and the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government in Ireland (Children and Young People).

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.



Northern Ireland - Ireland

European Regional Development Fund



Special EU Programmes Body
Foras Um Chláir Speisialta An AE
Boord O Owre Ocht UE Projecks

- 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