



EU Programme for Peace and Reconciliation in Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland 2007-2013

“PEACE III SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME”

TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. Introduction & Background

The main aims of the Peace III Programme are to reinforce progress towards a peaceful and stable society and to promote reconciliation by assisting operations and projects, which help to reconcile communities and contribute towards a shared future for everyone.

The three Councils of North Down, Ards and Down District have come together to play a more strategic role in the delivery of Peace III at a local level. The Councils, in partnership with statutory and social partners, have developed a local Peace Plan for the cluster. The Peace Plan will inform the delivery of financial support across the three Councils from Priority 1.1: *Building Positive Relations at a local Level*. This objective aims to challenge attitudes towards **sectarianism and racism** and support conflict resolution and mediation at the local community level.

The Peace III Plan for the cluster was founded on a transparent and inclusive planning process, which involved the community, key stakeholders and private, public and statutory organisations working within North Down, Ards and Down District. The nine Priority Themes within the Plan, outline the types of initiatives which will be supported in order to **tackle racism and sectarianism at a local level**.

European assistance totalling approximately £2.7 million has been secured by the cluster, and almost 40% of this award has been ring-fenced for small grants schemes under each of the nine Priorities. The maximum indicative award under the small grants scheme is £30,000. Successful projects will have to demonstrate that they can achieve the aims, objectives and outputs detailed below.

2. Theme IX: “Programmes which support mixed communities”

This section provides applicants with details of the types of projects, which may be supported.

THEME 9	Programmes which support mixed communities
NEED	As a result of the implementation of the local Action Plan the aspiration of the cluster would be to have achieved understanding, tolerance and acceptance in order for residents to live in peaceful, inclusive and shared neighbourhoods, free from sectarianism and racism
PRACTICAL ACTIONS	<p>Programmes and initiatives which may be supported under this theme are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Projects/initiatives which will support or lead to shared neighbourhoods • Foster/support and promote fully inclusive neighbourhoods • Address sectarianism and racism at a local level via fully inclusive local mechanisms/structures • Those which co-ordinate local peace building activity/mechanisms • Those which promote and enable integration / co-operation/ shared aspirations for local communities • Those which promote/develop shared learning • Those which utilise/ promote/develop shared community space
OUTCOMES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased community based activity • Greater use of neutral/shared community facilities • Increased community participation • Shared/mixed learning/education/training • Greater acceptance tolerance trust at a local level • There is a better understanding of racism and sectarianism issues • There is improved attitudes/acceptance towards racism and sectarianism issues • Training in mediation and issues addressed through mediation • Programmes which improve dialogue within and between communities • Study Visits or those which promote shared learning

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Practice Exchanges • Programmes which provide/generate the skills/tools/capacity of individuals and communities to define/tackle, issues/problems • Those which facilitate the ability of individuals and groups to work together for mutual benefit <p>Completion of a minimum of two attitudinal surveys/focus groups/on-line surveys during the life of the project (at commencement and on completion)</p>
MONEY AVAILABLE	Small Grants £120,000 (maximum indicative award £30,000)
INDICATORS	<p>Increased community activity No of participants No of training sessions No achieving qualifications where appropriate No of publications/events/ festivals/ community art works Reduced tenancy turnover Reduction in anti-social behaviour Increased tenancy waiting lists Improved local environment Usage of shared space</p>

3. Information for applicants

Applicants to Theme IX: are required to demonstrate how their proposal will support mixed communities free from sectarianism and racism.

Application forms and guidance notes can be downloaded from:

- SEUPB’s web-site, www.eugrants.org.
- North Down, Ards and Down Councils web-sites or
- Hard copies of small grants application packs are available from the Peace III Manager, North Down Borough Council.

Small Grants application packs include:

- Terms of Reference
- A Small Grants Application form and
- Guidance notes for completion

Applicants are strongly advised to relate their application to the North Down, Ards and Down Council's Peace III Plan which is available on each of the three councils' websites (detailed at the end of this document).

Further information on the above can be obtained in the Peace III Operational Programme documents. To access these documents, please go to www.eugrants.org.

4. The Application Process

Full details of the application process can be found in the North Down, Ards and Down Councils, Small Grants Guidance notes.

Please send completed applications, marked with the relevant Theme, by post to: Jan Nixey, Manager, Peace III, C/o The Signal Centre of Business Excellence 2 Innotec Drive, Balloo Road, BANGOR, BT19 7PD.

Alternatively you may email completed application forms to the Peace III Manager, jan.nixey@northdown.gov.uk However, a signed hard copy of the final application must be received by the closing date.

Applicants will be informed of the outcome of the assessment process within eight weeks of the closing date. Details of an appeals process are available on request.

5. Closing Date

The closing date for fully completed and signed applications is **4.30PM on FRIDAY 17th APRIL 2009**. Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.

6. Further Information

Should you require further information on this call or assistance in completing the application process, please do not hesitate to contact North Down Borough Council, Ards Borough Council or Down District Council;

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