

Ref: FOI / 5989

08th October 2025

Freedom of Information Act 2000 Request - No More Silos Accountability Pack on Intimidation, Safeguarding and Rights in Northern Ireland

I refer to your FOI request and respond as follows:

Social Cohesion Funding and Intimidation Responses

Q. Local Councils please provide recorded information since 1 Jan 2020:

1. Details of funding received from DfC or TEO for social cohesion, good relations, or anti-intimidation projects.

Funding Breakdown on Good Relations.

Grants Received 2020-2025.

The Executive Office (TEO) Grants for Derry City and Strabane District Council's Good relations programme. This funding also covers salaries for staff to administer the programme.

2020-2021	£429,230.53
2021-2022	£427,791.42
2022-2023	£434,841.42
2023-2024	£268,729.50
2024-2025	£278,064.28

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Other Good Relations Grants Received. 2020-2025.

Dispersal Funding (TEO)	2022-2023	£10,000
Funding to assess current needs of Refugees and Asylum Seekers in the DCSDC area		
Dispersal Funding (TEO)	2023-2024	£59,448
Tender awarded to DFPP Ltd to implement a series of initiatives for Refugees and Asylum Seekers in the DCSDC Area.		
Refugee Integration Funding (TEO)	2024-2025	£50,000
Tender awarded to DFPP Ltd to implement a series of initiatives for Refugees in the DCSDC Area.		
Full Dispersal Fund (TEO)	2024-2025	£55,583
Funding awarded to groups after an open call to implement projects for Asylum seekers in the DCSDC area		
Racial and Social Unrest Funding (TEO)	2025-2026	£47,000
Working with the Local Growth Partnerships and stakeholders from the BAME community to develop and deliver projects to address Racial and Social unrest in the DCSDC area		

2. Project outlines, delivery reports, monitoring data, and evaluations showing how this funding was used.

Project Outline: Culture Quarter. This project engaged with primary schools in the council area. It involves delivering diversity workshops exploring different themes relating to key cultural and faith-based activities associated with people from all back grounds within the school to increase understanding of different cultures and identities. This programme is offered to all schools across the council area and uptake is good in both urban and rural areas.

2020-21: 800 Pupils participated **2021-22:** 4250 pupils participated in this programme. Budget **2022-23:** 4516 participants **2023-24:** 3300 participants **2024-25:** 4850 participants

Project Outline: Engaging Youth in their Communities Programme. This programme is designed to engage youth in workshops and discussions about issues such as cultural awareness and sectarian/racial tensions. The programmes will address the different needs of young people in different communities and will use different, appropriate methods of delivery. It is designed to engage with young people outside of the school setting in youth clubs, young farmers associations, sports clubs, etc.

2020-21: 135 young people participated **2021-22:** 476 Young people participated **2022-23:** 1500 participants **2023-24:** 175 direct participants and 500 in public events. **2024-25:** 205 participants

Project Outline: Good Relations Grant Programme. A grant aid programme that allows communities to access funding for the particular needs of their area. This funding would have traditionally been allocated via an open call process. In 2024-25, a consensual grant making approach was piloted where consensual action plans are developed by the communities reflecting the issues/needs that are most important to them and funding allocated to address same.

2020-21: 40 Groups Funded **2021-22 :**54 Groups funded **2022-23 :**49 groups funded **2023-24** 19 groups funded (reduction in funding) **2024-25** 19 groups funded

Project Outline: Special DEA Good Relations Initiatives/ Networking. This is a flexible programme that can respond to ongoing or emerging tensions and incidents throughout the council area. It also encourages community organizations not engaged in Good Relations work to become involved and build the capacity of organisations to carry out Good Relations programmes.

2020-21: 100 (approx.) reach for online events **2021-22:** 54 participants **2022-23:** 114 participants **2023-24:** 209 participants **2024-25:** 115 participants

Project Outline: Prejudice Awareness and Leadership Programme. The programme is designed to help participants to develop an understanding of the issues that cause hatred and segregation and understand various responses and techniques for engaging with others and overcoming hatreds through relationship building. It analyses genocides and hear survivors' testimonies and utilize these to see how lessons learned could be implemented to address local issues.

2020-21: Didn't run because of pandemic **2021-22:** 35 participants **2022-23:** 18 participants **2024-25:** 160 participants

Project Outline: Holocaust Memorial Week. During holocaust Memorial Day week (including 27th January 2026 as holocaust Memorial Day) events were organized to commemorate the holocaust and other genocides. The events specifically seek to learn from what has happened elsewhere in the world to generate learning around anti-prejudice, harm caused by discrimination and hate speech, and responsibilities on everyone to challenge prejudice.

2022-23: 10 participants **2023-24:** 12 participants **2024-25:** 160 participants

Project Outline: Interfaces and Contested Spaces. This programme seeks to look at interfaces and contested spaces and the issues relating to them and delivers interventions in these areas to diffuse tensions. These areas are in the city and rural areas.

2020-21: 10 groups funded **2021-22:** 10 groups funded **2022-23:** 10 groups funded **2023:** 8 groups **2024-25:** 8 groups funded

Project Outline: Ubuntu/One World Festival. This is a celebration of different cultures and traditions from around the world. This festival showcases different cultures through the medium of music, song, dance, dress and traditional cuisines.

2020-21: 50 groups participated in consultation re ubuntu festival as it could not proceed due to pandemic **2021-22:** 2,000 participants **2022-23:** Event did not take place **2023-24:** 600 participants **2024-25:** 2,000 participants

Project Outline: Schools Dialogue Programme. This programme outlines and explains how civil society engages with democratic institutions. This will include the facilitation of direct interaction with elected representatives from each political party and independents. It allows direct engagement between schoolchildren and local politicians.

2022-23: 60 participants **2023-24:** 50 participants **2024-25:** 210 participants

Project Outline: Shared Voices. Irish and Ulster Scots language commonalities and meanings complemented by Irish and Ulster Scots musical traditions are explored through this programme.

2020-21: 4 online lectures completed, Ulster Scots video and resources developed
2021-22: 3 lectures delivered on Irish and Ulster Scots Culture
2022-23: Film developed on women from various backgrounds learning Irish and their story
2023-24: 3 lectures delivered on aspects of Irish and Ulster Scots Culture
2024-25: 3 lectures delivered on Irish and Ulster Scots literature.

Project Outline: Traveller Awareness. This programme supports groups working with travellers and is assisting in the establishment of a Traveller-led group. This initiative aims for positive promotion of Traveller culture and identity and challenging negative attitudes towards Travellers and Traveller culture

2020-21: Programme did not run during pandemic **2021-22:** 25 Participants
2022-23: 100 participants (approx.) visited the Traveller Exhibition in Guildhall Square
2023-24: 29 participants **2024-25:** 43 participants

Project Outline: Support for People from Minority Ethnic Backgrounds. GRO's work with people from ethnic backgrounds in promoting and celebrating their cultural diversity. DCSDC has now become a dispersal area for Asylum Seekers and Refugees and GRO's work closely and assist organisations that support new arrivals in our Council area.

2020-21: 30 participants and hate crime leaflets designed and distributed **2021-22:** 100 participants approximately **2022-23:** 47 participants **2023-24:** 100 participants **2024-25:** 500 Participants

Project Outline: Post Primary Anti-Prejudice and Training Initiative. This programme builds on previous programmes, which highlights the need for a school-based initiative that explores good relations issues in an age appropriate, interactive and innovative way for young people. The programme engages young people with good relations issues in an interactive and fun way. It uses animation and film making skills to demonstrate the learning that the young people gain through interactive workshops.

2020-21: Online programme delivered to 198 pupils **2021:** 620 pupils participated. **2022:** 424 pupils participated.

Project Outline: Good Relations Week. GRO's work with the Community Relations Council and local groups in the development and promotion of a programme of activity to showcase the ongoing work on GR throughout the DCSDC area. This is an annual event and groups in the DCSDC area embrace the opportunity to celebrate the work that is taking place in communities right across the city and district.

2020-21: 25 Groups funded to deliver programmes **2021-22:** 25 Groups funded to deliver programmes **2022-23:** 25 Groups funded to deliver programmes **2023-24:** 20 Groups funded to deliver programmes **2024-25:** 14 Groups funded to deliver programmes

Project Outline: Good Relations Staff and Elected Members Experiential Learning and Trust Building programme: The roll out a programme of development and experiential learning for staff and community-based people that engage with the staff and Elected Members. This will include facilitated site visits and experiencing at first hand issues, conversations with key players and needs/solutions.

2020-21: 8 people participated in a training session on BAME issues **2021-22:** 35 people attended 2 events on the Bosnian conflict **2022-23:** 42 participants on training programmes

Project Outline: Networking and clustering: The programme operated at local level using local community planning partnerships in each DEA. Through the partnerships identified specific good relations needs and develop a plan for addressing those needs for the year. This included rural and urban issues, interface and shared space issues, youth, trust in public agencies and others.

2020-21: approximately 2500 reached through online programmes **2021-22:** Approximately 3000 impacted by programmes

Project Outline: Legacy and Commemoration Dialogues and Acknowledgement: The GROs mapped the important 50th and 100th anniversary dates related to sectarian conflict in the past that are to impact in the difficult years for this from 2018-2022. This incorporated anniversaries such as the start of the Anglo-Irish War (War of Independence), partition, the civil rights march on 5th October 1968, Bloody Sunday and other incidents of note in the Council area 1968-1972.

GROs also explored vehicles for discussing how to approach the anniversary of these events.

2020-21: Exhibition developed on people's perceptions of and relationship to the border, 23 people took part in interviews for this. **2021-22:** Borderlands exhibition displayed and 12 people took part in a series of workshops relating to the exhibition **2022-23:** Project focused on the custom huts and former

customs staff were interviewed about their role and stories relating to the border in general

Project Outline: Bonfires and Alternatives: The programme complemented the Peace IV bonfire programme. The support focused on working on a cross-community basis with the Council-wide bonfire working group established by the Peace Programme. It also looked at examples of best practice in relation to Bonfires and Alternatives across the region.

2020-21: Initiatives implemented across the council area for Bonfires and Alternatives **2021-22:** 10 projects funded across the council area, approximately 2500 **participants** **2022-23:** EA Sparks Project provided with additional funding to have a wider impact across the city.

Project Outline: Safe Children, Safe Community: Workshops were delivered to 1,500 children and young people in years 6-7 across primary schools. It is likely that a further 2,500 parents engaged through the take home sheets and work of the children and young people

These workshops focused on issues around racism, sectarianism, bullying and creating a safe environment in schools for people from all backgrounds.

2020-21: 2,000+ children received information relating to the above issues **2021-22:** Over 2,000 children attended sessions covering pertinent topics

Project Outline: Community Cohesion Festival: GRO' worked with the local community organisations especially in an area that is considered contested space. The festival encouraged people to go somewhere they usually don't go to and interact with people that they usually wouldn't. These small steps, replicated elsewhere, will help change established patterns of behaviour and established patterns of relationship.

2020-21: Project delivered in conjunction with 7 primary schools in the Creggan area and was an art competition on community pride during the pandemic **2021-22:** Cross community project delivered in Tullyally/Currynrierin area to improve community relations

Monitoring data on GR Programmes on the impact and effectiveness of the initiative is collected by getting participants to fill in questionnaires which we upload to the statisticians in The Executive Office (TEO) who compile, analyse and hold these monitoring reports as funders of our programmes. They can be accessed by contacting the TEO.

We did not and do not, carry out any investigations or interventions concerning housing-related intimidation, harassment or anti-social behaviour. We therefore have no internal reports concerning the aforementioned subjects.

3. Any investigations, interventions, or internal reports by the Council concerning housing-related intimidation, harassment, or antisocial behaviour.

- 2020 – Zero complaints received in relation to alleged harassment as defined in Article 54 of the Rent (NI) Order 1978
- 2021 – One complaint received in relation to alleged harassment as defined in Article 54 of the Rent (NI) Order 1978
- 2022 – Three complaints received in relation to alleged harassment as defined in Article 54 of the Rent (NI) Order 1978
- 2023 – Three complaints received in relation to alleged harassment as defined in Article 54 of the Rent (NI) Order 1978
- 2024 – Zero complaints received in relation to alleged harassment as defined in Article 54 of the Rent (NI) Order 1978
- 2025 – Zero complaints received in relation to alleged harassment as defined in Article 54 of the Rent (NI) Order 1978 (to 30/09/2025)

If you are dissatisfied with our response, you have rights of review and appeal; these rights consist of two review processes.

Firstly, our internal review procedure is available by contacting:

John Kelpie
Chief Executive
Derry City and Strabane District Council

98 Strand Road
Derry BT48 7NN
Tel: 028 71253253 or email: john.kelpie@derrystrabane.com

Secondly, you can appeal directly by contacting the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioner
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
CHESHIRE SK9 5AF
Tel: 0303 123 1113 (local rate) or email: casework@ico.org.uk

I would however advise that the Information Commissioner has indicated that a review will not be undertaken unless the Council has first had an opportunity to re-consider its decision.

Yours sincerely

Barry O'Hagan
Head of Community Development & Leisure