

Arts Council of Northern Ireland

Building Peace through the Arts – Re-Imaging Communities

Programme Guidelines



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Gomhsheol, Pobal agus Rialtas Aitiúil
Environment, Community and Local Government

The Guide to ...

Building Peace through the Arts – Re – Imaging Communities

This booklet provides a comprehensive guide to the “Building Peace through the Arts - Re-Imaging Communities” programme. Please read carefully before deciding to make an application to this programme.

Introduction to Building Peace through the Arts - Re-Imaging Communities

Building Peace through the Arts – Re-Imaging Communities is a funding programme that will help all communities in both urban and rural settings and the border areas to focus on positive ways to express who they are and what culture means to them artistically and creatively. The programme encourages the creation of vibrant and attractive shared public space through the use of the creative arts in the public realm, which will celebrate life, enhance the physical and natural environment and help people feel part of the community in which they live.

Building Peace through the Arts - Re-Imaging Communities is rooted in the building of a shared future for Northern Ireland, which is peaceful, inclusive, prosperous, stable and fair, founded on partnership, equality and mutual respect as a basis of good relationships. In order to help achieve such a society, communities and agencies need to work together to tackle the physical legacy of segregation and division in towns, villages, rural communities and the border areas.

The programme tackles the different forms that segregation and division take in the wide range of different types of communities that are found across Northern Ireland and the Border Regions;

- Within the **larger urban areas**, the programme aims to free the public realm from visible displays of sectarian aggression and intimidation such as graffiti, flags and murals.
- Within the numerous **small villages and rural communities**, where displays of the visible trappings of sectarian division are limited, the programme recognises that barriers nonetheless exist and are manifest in a number of ways, including people’s ability to move freely and safely about the community.
- Within the **border areas**, the programme recognises that there are diverse pockets of minority communities that may be subjected to a dual

Building Peace through the Arts – Re – Imaging Communities Guidelines & Frequently Asked Questions

form of segregation in relation to their local neighbours and to their historic hinterland.

The programme enables communities to tackle the manifestations of sectarianism and racism whilst allowing for legitimate expression of cultural celebration.

Artworks

The artworks created through community led programmes of activity can range from 2-dimensional artworks, e.g. ceramic work, mosaic, to three-dimensional sculpture and installations. The replacement of manifestations of sectarianism and racism with mural artwork will be given a low priority for this programme.

To ensure that the artworks created through the programme are of the highest quality, the Arts Council **must** be involved in all aspects of the decision making process, from the commissioning and procurement of artists to installation of artworks. The Arts Council must approve the final artwork for all projects. For information on the procurement of artists, please refer to the Arts Council's Public Art Handbook on www.artscouncil-ni.org or contact the Council's Visual Arts Team.

Process

Building Peace through the Arts - Re-Imaging Communities is open to *all* communities which seek renewal and the reclamation of public and/or contested space as well as arterial routes and public thoroughfares which belong to the wider community as a whole. The funding will be used to encourage local communities to work creatively with artists, connecting the arts to areas not usually associated with them and allowing art to enrich communities. All projects should be locally tailored and community driven.

Any group seeking funding through the programme must demonstrate how its proposal fits within the Strategic Themes. In order to help you through this application process Community Development Officers within the Building Peace through the Arts – Re-Imaging Communities Team will be available to answer queries concerning the completion of application forms and will provide assistance in accessing funding under the programme. You must discuss your project proposal with a member of the Building Peace through the Arts – Re-Imaging Communities team. Application forms will only be issued following this consultation. They will also be available to provide advice on the appropriateness of any proposed project.

Building Peace through the Arts – Re-Imaging Communities is supported by the European Union's European Regional Development Fund through the PEACE III Programme managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB); the International Fund for Ireland; and the Arts Council of Northern Ireland.

Decisions on applications will be made by the Consortium which is made up of representatives from the Arts Council of Northern Ireland, International Fund for

Ireland, SEUPB, OFMDFM, Housing Executive, Rural Community Network, Pobal, Community relations Council and An Chomhairle Ealaíon.

Strategic Themes

The programme will support;

A. Community Cohesion

Work with communities to provide opportunities for more stable, safer neighbourhoods and develop strong, positive relations between people from different backgrounds.

B. Regeneration through the Arts

Work with communities wanting to develop more inclusive civic and cultural identities through the production of high quality artwork for the public realm.

C. Positive Relations at the Local Level

Utilise the arts and arts processes as a means with which to challenge sectarian and racist attitudes and build positive community relations at a local level.

D. Build Peace and Reconciliation

Support progress towards a peaceful, shared and stable society and promote reconciliation through community led programmes of arts activities.

E. Connecting Communities

Utilise the arts and arts processes as a means in which to connect communities throughout Northern Ireland and the Border Areas.

What we Support:

The Building Peace through the Arts - Re-imaging Communities Programme will provide support for a range of projects which meet the strategic themes of the programme. This includes:

- The commissioning of artwork and removal of symbols including aggressive sectarian and/or racist murals, emblems and graffiti;
- The commissioning of artwork and tackling of manifestations of sectarianism and racism outside of the main urban areas. The application must include supporting evidence of ways in which sectarianism and racism have affected the communities including physical manifestations including murals, territorial markings, graffiti, flags and emblems (see sources of suggested evidence which follows).
- The commissioning of artwork which supports projects on a cross-community, inter-community and cross-border level and tackles the signs of sectarianism and racism, within and between communities including social exclusion, fractured relationships and poor community

cohesion. Indicators of sectarian and racist tensions can include; contested spaces; issues with flags, bonfires and festival activities; issues surrounding changes to demographic balance; segregation in housing; attacks on halls, churches, memorials, sports clubs etc.; hate-motivated incidents, crimes and intimidation.

Evidence

Sources of evidence could include the following resources:

Beyond Belfast- Contested Spaces in Urban, Rural and Cross Border Settings

John Bell, Neil Jarman, Brian Harvey

www.community-relations.org.uk/fs/doc/master-beyond-report-web.pdf

Report commissioned by the Community Relations Council and Rural Community Network.

Public Displays of Flags and Emblems in Northern Ireland Survey 2010

Dominic Bryan, Gordon Gillespie, John Bell and Clifford Stevenson

www.ofmdfmi.gov.uk/flags_and_emblems_report_-_2010_survey.pdf

Research commissioned by OFMDFM aimed at understanding the practice of publically displaying large numbers of flags and other emblems in public spaces in Northern Ireland.

Community Relations in Northern Ireland: The Long View

Joanne Hughes, Caitlin Donnelly, Gillian Robinson and Lizanne Dodds.

www.ark.ac.uk/publications/occasional/occpaper2.pdf

Research conducted looking at key issues that impact on Community Relations

Geographical breakdowns of crime, such as by ward and parliamentary constituency, are available on the Northern Ireland Neighbourhood Information Service (NINIS) internet site;

<http://www.nisra.gov.uk/ninis>

For information on sectarian and racist incidents (including attacks on symbolic properties, contentious parades and bonfire sites) please refer to;

Police Service of Northern Ireland

Trends in Hate Motivated Incidents and Crimes Recorded by the Police in Northern Ireland 2004/05 to 2011/12 (July 2012)

www.psni.police.uk/hate_motivated_incidents_and_crimes_in_northern_ireland_2004-05_to_2011_to12.pdf

Programme Priorities:

There are a number of priority areas for the Building Peace through the Arts – Reimagining Communities Programme. These include;

- activities that are **cross-community, inter-community, cross-border or inter-cultural**.
- activities that target **young people** (Under 25).
- activities that target **ethnic minority communities** as participants.
- activities that target Council areas which have **had little participation** in the Arts Council's Re-imaging Communities Programme, i.e. Fermanagh, Omagh, Strabane, and the border regions of Louth, Monaghan, Cavan, Leitrim, Sligo and Donegal.
- activities that involve the removal of signs of sectarianism and racism along **main arterial routes**.
- **single-identity** projects will need to demonstrate **high impact** for that community (e.g. evidence of intra-community dialogue and engagement, increased community cohesion) as well as a benefit to the wider community around them.

Who can apply?

Local Authorities:

The programme is open to Local Authorities – District Councils in Northern Ireland, County Councils in the Republic of Ireland – to develop and support their Good Relations Strategies/ Peace Plans and to build on work already undertaken in local communities and which enjoy broad community support. Councils are invited to put forward applications either for individual projects or for a number of projects within their areas. In border areas applicants must demonstrate that their proposal links with local Peace Cluster Plans. In other areas you will need to demonstrate support from a public sector body.

Community and Voluntary Organisations:

The programme is open to constituted community and voluntary organisations. Applicants must demonstrate that the proposal has the support of public bodies, the local Peace Plan Cluster Groups and where appropriate, links with Peace Cluster Plans. Applications will need to be accompanied by a letter of support.

Individuals are not eligible to apply to this programme.

How much can I apply for?

Depending on the level of funding you are requesting, you will either complete a:

- Small Grants application form (for projects seeking £500 to £15,000)

Building Peace through the Arts – Re – Imaging Communities
Guidelines & Frequently Asked Questions

- Large Grants application form (projects seeking £15,001 to £50,000).

If you are seeking funding for a number of projects you should complete the Multiple Projects form.

In this case the maximum grant to each project will not exceed the individual project limits.

All projects must be discussed before any application is made with a member of the Building Peace through the Arts - Re-Imaging Communities team.

Criteria for Decision Making

We will assess your project against the following criteria:

Criterion 1: Strategic Themes of the Programme

Criterion 2: Community Support/Public Benefit

Criterion 3: Quality of arts activities planned

Criterion 4: Organisational and Project Viability

Your project must meet ALL the above criteria. It is very important that you think carefully about how your project satisfies each of these criteria and use the application form to demonstrate this to us.

Criterion 1 – Strategic Themes: You should indicate how your project addresses one or more of the strategic themes of the programme i.e. support **Regeneration through the Arts**; provide opportunities for **Community Cohesion**; utilise the arts to **Build Positive Relations at the Local Level**; support progress towards a peaceful, shared and stable society and **Build Peace and Reconciliation**; Utilise the arts and arts processes as a means in which to **Connect Communities** in the Border Areas.

Criterion 2 – Community Support: Your project should have the widest possible support of your local community and the maximum possible impact. You need to give careful consideration to the way in which your project is organised and is presented so that it provides access to people from all sections of society and builds community relations and community cohesion. You need to show that you are committed to principles of equal opportunity in all aspects of the project.

Criterion 3 - Quality of Arts Activity: You will need to demonstrate that you will undertake best practice in the procurement of artists (Stage 1) or that the artists or facilitators involved in your project have the relevant experience and ability to deliver high quality projects (Stage 2).

Criterion 4 - Organisational and Project Viability: You will need to show that you have a clear and comprehensive plan for managing your project so that it can be completed successfully within the timetable and budget you set. You will need to demonstrate that the people from your organisation who will manage this project have the skills to do so.

Application process

All projects must be discussed before any application is made with a member of the Building Peace through the Arts - Re-Imaging Communities team.

The programme will follow a two-stage application process and applications are available from the Building Peace through the Arts – Re-Imaging Communities team. The programme will be open until further notice.

Stage 1 of the process will fund: Community Consultation; Recruitment & selection of artists (the Arts Council will support you in this process); Project proposal and artwork development to the final design stage.

Stage 2 of the process will fund: the making, installation and showcasing of the artwork

The Consortium of the programme will meet regularly – usually bi-monthly – and we aim to inform you of the final decision within 1 week of the meeting.

Your project cannot start until after you have received a decision.

Once we have received your completed application we will acknowledge this in writing and you will be given a unique reference number. Your proposal will be assessed by the programme team who will then make a recommendation to the Consortium. Depending on the level of funds available, it may not be possible for the Consortium to support all applications which simply meet the relevant criteria. Under such circumstances applications, which, in the opinion of the Consortium, best meet the criteria will be successful.

If successful in receiving a small grant, applicants will normally receive grants in instalments, whilst Local authorities will be paid retrospectively.

If successful in receiving a large grant, you will receive a contract stating the conditions under which the grant has been awarded and setting out the payment process, which will normally be in instalments, with a small balance held back pending receipt of an end of project report.

If you are unsuccessful you will receive a letter clearly outlining the reasons for the Consortium's decision.

The decision of the Consortium is final.

Complaints Procedure

You can make your complaint in whatever form is most convenient to you. You can telephone and speak to the appropriate member of staff. If you do not know who you should talk to, our Receptionist will help. Alternatively you can write to, fax or email the Complaints Administrator at:

Arts Council of Northern Ireland
MacNeice House
77 Malone Road
Belfast BT9 6AQ

Tel: 028 9038 5200

Fax: 028 9066 1715

Email: complaints@artscouncil-ni.gov.uk

Further information is available at

<http://www.artscouncil-ni.org/other/complaints.htm>

What you can and cannot apply for

These are examples only

What you **can** apply for

- Technical Assistance of up to £1,000 to provide specialist knowledge in the design, implementation and maintenance of artwork.
- Venue hire for workshops
- Volunteer expenses to include 'out of pocket' expenses only
- Materials / equipment
- Artists' fees up to £35 per hour or a maximum of £150 per day
- Artists' travel expenses of 25.7p per mile
- Equipment hire
- Publicity and marketing costs
- Community Consultation costs
- Short term project co-ordination costs (where appropriate)
- Premium payment costs – any additional costs you are likely to incur through the involvement of Section 75 groups, e.g. child care facilities, interpreters

What you **cannot** apply for

- Ongoing costs, e.g. salaries
- Retrospective events
- Purchase or installation of flagpoles
- Party political or religious activities
- Travel outside Ireland
- Memorials and/ or memorial gardens
- Fencing or gates - re-imaged community spaces must be open and accessible
- Overhead Costs (exceptional circumstances may be considered)

IF IN DOUBT ASK

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Who can apply to this programme?

Local Authorities (District Councils in the North, County councils in the South): The programme is open to Councils in Northern Ireland and the border areas of the Republic of Ireland as a support to existing policies and strategies such as a Good Relations Plan. Programme funding aims to build on work already undertaken in local communities.

Community and Voluntary Organisations: The programme is open to constituted community and voluntary organisations. In border areas, applicants must demonstrate that their proposal links with local Peace Cluster Plans. In other areas you will need to demonstrate support from a public sector body.

Individuals are not eligible to apply to this programme.

All projects **must** be discussed beforehand with a member of the Building Peace through the Arts - Re-Imaging Communities team.

2. How much money is available?

There are two levels of grants. Small grants from £500 to £15,000 for community consultation, ideas generation workshops and small scale projects, and larger grants from £15,001 to £50,000 for projects such as public artworks, street furniture, etc.

3. Can I apply for more than £50,000?

A limited number of applications for more than £50,000 will be considered, however, these will have to be well thought out projects and clearly meet the aims and objectives of this programme.

4. When will I get a decision on my application?

We aim to give you a decision within 12 weeks of receiving a satisfactorily completed application. Please note that if you fail to meet our requests for further information this will delay our decision.

5. Who can help me with queries concerning completion of the application form?

Members of the Building Peace through the Arts - Re-Imaging Communities team will be available to answer queries concerning completion of the application form and guidance on contacting artists.

6. What is technical assistance?

Technical Assistance of up to £1,000 is available within the overall grant for projects to provide specialist knowledge in the design, implementation and maintenance of artwork. Please contact the Building Peace through the Arts – Re-

Imaging Communities team for further information on procurement of specialist services.

7. Do artists have to be involved in my project?

Yes. Artists must be involved in both small and large-scale projects. The Arts Council **must** be involved in the procurement of artists for your project.

8. How do I procure the supplies and services to deliver my project?

As with all funding programmes there will be a necessity to ensure transparency in all financial transactions and to this end there will be a requirement to follow standard procurement guidelines when buying in supplies or services and these are outlined below.

- For funding up to £1,500 you will need to seek a minimum of two quotations (fax or email conformation).
- For funding greater than £1,500 and less than £10,000 you will need 4 selected quotations
- You will need 5 selected quotations for funding greater than £10,000 and less than £30,000 in value.
- You will need to undertake a publicly advertised tender competition for costs greater than £30,000.

9. Do I have to evaluate my project?

Yes, all projects receiving funding under this programme will be required to complete a post-project evaluation form and to be part of an independent evaluation process. You will be informed about this and guidance will be provided as part of the contract of funding.

11. Do I have to sign up to a Good Relations statement?

Yes, this is provided in your application form.

12. What if I don't have an Equality statement / policy?

We can supply you with a sample Equal Opportunities Statement but it must be formally adopted by your organisation and you must provide us with evidence of this. All applicants **must** have an Equality Policy.

13. Do I have to sign up to a Children and Vulnerable Adults Protection Policy?

The Building Peace Through the Arts - Re-Imaging Communities team can provide guidance on the Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults; we would encourage all applicants to ensure that you have safeguards in place. An updated safeguarding checklist is included within the Application Form.

14. Can I submit my application by e-mail, on disk or by fax?

No. You can apply online via the Arts Council's website. However, you will still be required to forward an original signature page and all supporting documents in the normal way, by post or in person, within 5 working days of submitting your application. If the documents are not received within 5 days your application will not be considered.

15. Why does the Chair or a Committee member of the organisation have to sign the form?

The Chair or a Committee member has to sign the application so that we have evidence that the application has been properly approved by the management committee.

16. How should I describe my project?

On the application form you should describe your project in no less than 50 and no more than 200 words. **For applications to the large grants scheme you must attach a full description which must contain;**

- The project's location
- Who will manage it – committee members/volunteers/steering groups
- Who will lead it – artists, facilitators (if known) or how you will select these
- Who will participate in it – numbers and age ranges
- Details of any preparatory work you have already done, e.g. pilot programme
- Discussions with possible participants and level of community support
- Details of any premium payment services you intend to deliver (for section 75 groups), including a rationale for providing the service, types and costs of services and numbers of people involved
- Detailed budget including a breakdown for any single budget line over £1,000

17. What evidence do I need of public authority support?

A reference form is included within the application form. Community and voluntary groups must have this completed by a member of staff of a relevant public body as a referee and/or where relevant, by the Peace Plan Cluster Groups. This completed reference form **must be returned with your application**. It will be normal practice for the referee to be contacted by a member of the Building Peace through the Arts - Re-Imaging Communities team during assessment of your application.

18. Why do I need a reference letter for my project from a Public Body?

To ensure that your project is sustainable over the long term and is linked to complementary plans in place for your area.

19. Can I have more than one award at any one time?

No, unless you apply for a multiple grant. However, you can submit a second application to the programme whilst a first project is ongoing.

If successful, your second application will not be given permission to commence, or funds distributed, until you have fully completed the first award.

Glossary

For the purpose of the Building Peace through the Arts – Re-Imaging Communities purpose the following definitions are used:

Inter-community– exploring issues and contact across single-identity communities and on a cross community basis

Intra-community – exploring issues and contact within a single identity community.

Cross-community - bringing people together to meet with others from a different community.

Cross-border – bringing people together from Northern Ireland and the Border Counties (similar language to what was used in the funding application for Re-imaging)

Intercultural – the below section is pulled from the Intercultural Arts Strategy – we did not go with one specific definition:

Minority Ethnic

There is no legal definition of national minority (ethnic) in international law. Only in Europe is this exact definition provided by the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages and by Recommendation 1201 (1993) of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe. However, national minority can be theoretically (not legally) defined as a group of people within a given national state:

1. which is numerically smaller than the rest of population of the state or a part of the state
2. which is not in a dominant position
3. which has culture, language, religion, race etc. distinct from that of the rest of the population
4. whose members have a will to preserve their specificity
5. whose members are citizens of the state where they have the status of a minority.
6. which have a long-term presence in the territory where it has lived.

Interculturalism

Interculturalism promotes exchanges between different cultural groups within a society. By exposing people to different cultures, an understanding of the ‘other’ can be achieved. Such a philosophy helps to promote dialogue where comparisons for commonalities between one culture and another can be achieved.

Multiculturalism

Multiculturalism promotes multiple ethnic cultures specific to the demographic make-up of a specific place, this can range from a business, neighbourhood and/or city. This approach ensures that all cultures and individuals are equal and should be treated equally within society.