

PEACEPLUS PARTNERSHIP MEETING

The Dunadry Hotel, Antrim – Thursday 21st August @ 12.00pm

Table of Approvals/Recommendations

No.	Item	Summary of Key Approvals/Recommendations
1	Welcome	The Chair welcomed everyone.
2.	Apologies & Roll Call	Alderman J McAuley/Alderman M Fielding/Cllr N Archibald/K Campell/S McFall/D Bradley/P O'Brien/L Hinphey
3.	Conflict of Interest Statement	No conflicts raised.
4.	Minutes of Previous Meeting 19th June 2025	Agreed. Proposed by: Y Boyle Seconded by: P Crossley
5.	Matters arising from Minutes	No matters arising.
6.	Update on Implementation of PEACEPLUS Local Action Plan: Strand 1 – Capital Projects Update Strand 2 & 3 Update Finance Update Communications	CMcl gave an update on Capital Projects progress in L.Hinphey's absence for Strand 1 – Local Community Regeneration and Transformation theme. CMcl gave an update on Strands 2 & 3 - recent delivery of training and sharepoint document management. GT gave progress report on procurement, tenders and external controller. CMcl gave update on monthly Newsletter and website
7.	PEACEPLUS Membership	Alderman Michelle McKnight-McQuillan and Cllr Ashleen Schenning have stepped down and are replaced (respectively) by Alderman John McAuley and Cllr Margaret-Anne McKillop. Thanks to Alderman McKnight-McQuillan and Cllr Schenning for their services.

8.	AOB	Updates on progress with recruitment of PEACEPLUS Staff and a round up on Residential Meeting.
9.	Next Meeting	Thursday 16 th October – further details to be confirmed.

In the Chair:

Cllr Anderson (C)

Members:

Cllr McQuillan (C), Cllr Stirling (C), Cllr Boyle (C), Cllr Nicholl (C), Cllr Watson (C), Cllr MA McKillop (C), Cllr Wisener (C), M McCormack (C), A McNickle (C), K Heaney (C), B Cooper (C), P Crossley (C), J Hutchinson (C),

Statutory Agency:

In Attendance:

Graham Todd (PEACEPLUS Finance & Verification Officer)
Clare McIntaggart (PEACEPLUS Project Officer)
Karen Moses (PEACEPLUS Finance & Admin Officer)
Lisa Harris (imminent PEACEPLUS Coordinator)

Apologies:

Alderman McAuley / Alderman Fielding / Cllr Archibald /
K Campbell / S McFall / D Bradley

Item 1. Welcome

Cllr Anderson welcomed all members in person to the partnership meeting.

Item 2. Apologies & Roll call

As noted above.

Item 3. Conflict of Interest Statement/Respect & Dignity Statement

The Chair read out Statement, no conflicts of interest were declared.

Item 4. Draft Minutes of Previous Meeting 19th June 2025

The Chair referenced previous minutes.

- Approved as a true and accurate record.
Proposed by: Y Boyle
Seconded by: P Crossley

Item 5. Matters arising from Minutes.

The Chair asked the members for any matters arising, none were raised.

Item 6. Update on Implementation of PEACEPLUS Local Action Plan

- Strand 1 – Capital Projects update was provided by Liam Hinphey and delivered to the members by Clare McIntaggart, covering progress since last meeting in June. CMcl advised she would feed back any unanswerable questions to Liam:
 - o Altnahinch Dam Project: A series of meetings have been undertaken with NI Water regarding approvals for proposed works to proceed. There is a general agreement on key elements of project to allow it to proceed. Key outcomes are:
 - CCGBC to progress designs for submission to NI Water;
 - Funding Unit Manager authorised funding to enable procurement to further develop the project;
 - Memorandum of Understanding to be updated for approval; and
 - CCGBC Head of Tourism & Recreation to take a report on 16 September to Leisure and Development Committee.
 Procurement is currently being undertaken for the following project consultants: Quantity Surveyor; Architect; Structural Engineer. Topographical Survey completed.
 - o Girona Project: Project currently being developed as per project brief. Procurement currently being undertaken for the following project consultants: Quantity Surveyor; Architect; Structural Engineer. Topographical Survey completed and drawings issued and condition survey completed.
 - o Layd Path / Cottage Wood / Ronan's Way: Project(s) currently being developed as per project brief. Procurement currently being undertaken for the following project consultants: Quantity Surveyor; Architect; Structural Engineer. Topographical Survey completed and drawings issued for Ronan's Way, Layd Path & Cottage Wood due before end of August. Condition survey completed. MAMcK referred to the ongoing closure of Layd Path and a need for communication as to when work might be completed and useable again.
 - o Mountsandel Project: Due to the historical significance of the site, development of the project was on hold awaiting guidance from the Historic Environment Division in the Department for Communities. Guidance is detailed as:

A project supported by PEACEPLUS, a programme managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB)

- CC&G DC should engage a specialist archaeological advisor to work with the Mountsandel project design team to help steer the landscape design, interpretation proposals and to also undertake ongoing community engagement throughout the delivery of the scheme.
- HED provided a detailed specification for the outlined role along with recommendations of potential appropriately skilled individuals who would have sufficient experience to tender for the work.
- The Capital Projects Officer will begin work to develop procurement documentation for the Specialist Archaeological Advisor following leave at the end of August.

The Chair suggested this programme to tie in with the Coleraine Town Planning Fund.

- o Benbradagh Project: Letter issued to landowners in relation to the proposed projects to try to ascertain approvals. This was in addition to engagement with landowners from political representatives.
- Strands 2 & 3 Update – CMCI updated that individual Initiation meetings had been completed with each of the Delivery Agents for the contracted Programmes.
A Mandatory Training Meeting for all initiated Delivery Agents took place on 7 August. This training covered communications and publicity, document management on sharepoint, GDPR, procurement and claims, monthly and milestone reporting. Further detail was provided on how Delivery Agents would be using sharepoint to access templates and guidance and to submit their reporting documents for SEUPB.

Tenders Update – GT advised members that as to date no official confirmation has been given still from SEUPB that procurement can restart for tenders over the EU Thresholds. Conversations are ongoing with SEUPB. There are also issues with divergence with the new UK Procurement Act and EU Public Procurement Directive - if these tenders are advertised in each “jurisdiction” we would be compliant in one, but not in the other. If we continued, we would face penalties. These issues are all still currently with the relevant officials for resolution.
There are a further 3 tenders still in development.

External Controller – GT informed members that the first initial meeting with an SEUPB approved External Controller had taken place. Contractual discussions are ongoing with aim of being agreed and in place for the end of September.

- Communications Update – CMCI shared the following updates and progress report on the following:
 - o Newsletter: vol.5 August Newsletter went out on 15 August and is available on the PEACEPLUS website for download.
 - o Website is now live and happy to receive suggestions. Intention is to have a page for each PEACEPLUS Programme, linking to the Delivery Agents' programme website once available.
 - o A Calendar of Events will be collated with Delivery Agents' programme activities and shared with the members and SEUPB for information and attendance.

Item 7. PEACEPLUS Staffing and Membership

- o Lisa Harris introduced herself as the newly appointed PEACEPLUS Coordinator and is looking forward to taking up her post officially on 1st September.
- o LH informed members that Graham Todd had also successfully been appointed to the role of Finance and Verification Officer at the start of August.
- o LH also provided an update on recent changes to Elected Members within the PEACEPLUS Partnership:
 - Alderman John McAuley has replaced Alderman Michelle Knight-McQuillan and it is intended he will replace her position on the Communications Sub-Committee Group.
 - Cllr Margaret-Anne McKillop has replaced Cllr Ashleen Schenning and it is intended she will replace her position on the Monitoring Sub-Committee Group.

Item 8. Any Other Business

- **Residential Feedback:** CMCI shared a QR code for members to complete before leaving from the meeting.
- LH thanked the PEACEPLUS team for a well organised Residential Meeting and the Delivery Agents for their presentations as it was a very useful way to find out more about their individual programmes.



A project supported by PEACEPLUS, a programme managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB)

- The Chair thanked the team and encouraged members to provide their feedback for the meeting.

Item 9. Next Meeting

- Meeting will take place on 16th October 2025 as scheduled. Planning is still ongoing and will be confirmed in due course.
- Meeting closed at 12.35pm.

Confirmed