

PEACE IV Louth Programme Newsletter No 15 – May 2024

Welcome to the 15th edition of the Louth PEACE IV Newsletter.

The PEACE IV projects are supported by the European Union's PEACE IV Programme, managed by the Special European Programmes Body (SEUPB) and supported locally by Louth County Council and Louth Local Community Development Committee (LCDC).



Theme – Shared Spaces & Services

Peter's Hill, Drogheda

Construction work completed at the site in February 2023 and the artwork installation at the shared community space was concluded in March. An opening event was held in May 2023. Speakers included Chief Executive Joan Martin and Cathaoirleach Councillor Conor Keelan. The event was attended by Mayor of Drogheda, Michelle Hall, representative of SEUPB, members of the Peace IV Partnership Committee and local Protestant and Catholic clergy. Following a speech and the unveiling of the plaque there was performances from the Living Life choir and local dance troupe, Kidkast.



Opening ceremony of Peter's Hill Shared Space.



Kidkast performing at the Peter's Hill shared community space opening event.



Cathaoirleach Conor Keelan at the opening event.

The space has proven a valuable asset to the town and county and has been used as a meeting space by groups and individuals since its completion. A cross-border walking group event was organised and held in July. This walking tour was in celebration of the different communities and traditions in Drogheda coming together and was initiated at the new Peter's Plaza shared space in the town. The walk took participants through the key historical sites of the town and was attended by members of both the Church of Ireland and Presbyterian communities as well as Roman Catholic communities.



The cross-border walking group at Peter's Hill shared community space.

Muirhevnamor Community Centre Extension, Dundalk

Construction work on the Muirhevnamor Community Centre Extension was completed in June 2023 and an opening event was held later that month. The Opening event was attended by LCC Cathaoirleach Conor Keelan, Chief Executive Joan Martin and members of the PEACE IV Partnership Committee. There was a dance performance by the Top Theatre School, Dundalk. Following this, a plaque commemorating the involvement of the EU, the PEACE IV programme and Louth County Council was unveiled by Cathaoirleach Conor Keelan.



Top Theatre School performing at the Muirhevnamor Community Centre Extension, Dundalk



Opening event for the Muirhevnamor Community Centre Extension.

PEACE IV Celebration Event.

The construction work on St Peters Hill, Drogheda and at the Community centre in Muirhevnamór, Dundalk, were the final projects to be completed under PEACE IV.

As such, a celebration event for all PEACE IV projects was held on the 14th of June 2023 at the Muirhevnamor Community Centre Extension. This event was to acknowledge the work and outcomes of all 16 projects accomplished, covering the three themes of PEACE IV – Children & Young People, Building Positive Relations, and Shared Spaces. Speaking at the event was LCC Cathaoirleach Conor Keelan, Chief Executive Joan Martin, a representative from SEUBP and programme managers from some of the projects.



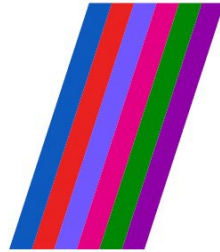
Celebration event for PEACE IV projects

There was also a video message from Minister Heather Humphreys. There was a harp performance by Music Generation Louth, and M.A.D Youth Theatre provided a performance of An Táin. A PEACE IV brochure was launched which catalogued all the projects that were part of the PEACE IV Programme. The full details of the closing event, including the video and brochure is available via the Louth County Council website.

Our most sincere thanks to everyone who participated in PEACE IV. Go raibh mile maith agaibh.



Music Generation Louth students performing at the PEACE IV Closing Event



PEACEPLUS

Northern Ireland - Ireland

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PEACEPLUS Public Consultation

The second round of public consultation for the PEACEPLUS Action Plan took place in September 2023. At this public consultation members of the public gave their feedback and contributions to the further development of PEACEPLUS concepts.

PEACEPLUS Action Plan Submission

The PEACEPLUS Action Plan was noted by a meeting of Louth County Council and submitted to SEUPB in March 2024. A public zoom meeting was held in March where a summary of the final action plan was given to attendees, which included members of the PEACEPLUS partnership committee and individuals and groups who had been involved in the public consultation stage of the Action Plans development. It is expected that a decision should be made by SEUPB by August 2024.