

Councils Cluster for Peace III and RDP

Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network is calling on rural women to become part of the new delivery mechanism for the Rural Development Programme and PEACE III funding.

Councils have formed into 7 clusters, and have nominated a lead Council within the clusters to distribute the funding. Under the Rural Development Programme a Local Action Group (LAG) will be formed within the Council clusters. The Local Action Group will be made up of Councillors and social partners (50 -50). The LAG will be responsible for considering applications for funding.

As these plans are due to be submitted to the SEUPB by the end of March 2008 it is essential therefore that any groups interested in this Priority contact their local council as a matter of urgency in order to gain further information on the development of their peace action plan.

Two pots of funding amounting to millions of pounds will be distributed throughout Northern Ireland, through the Rural Development Programme and PEACE III funding.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

The Rural Development Programme running from 2007 – 2013 will be distributing approx 500 million pounds to rural development. This will be delivered through 4 themes one of which is improving the quality of life in rural areas and diversification of the rural economy. There will be approx 80 million pounds distributed under this theme.

The council clusters for RDP are:

- Antrim, Newtownabbey, Carrickfergus
- Moyle, Ballymena, Ballymoney, Coleraine, Larne
- Derry, Strabane, Omagh, Limavady
- Fermanagh, Cookstown, Magherafelt, Dungannon
- Banbridge, Ards, Down, North Down
- Lisburn, Castlereagh, Belfast
- Craigavon, Armagh, Newry and Mourne

PEACE III

For PEACE III, again this will be running from 2007 – 2013 and funding will be distributed to work towards a peaceful and stable society and promoting

reconciliation. Over the next 7 years under the PEACE III programme, funding will be made available to community and voluntary groups. A key output under PEACE III will be sectarianism and racism.

Under Peace III Sub Regional Partnerships will be formed, made up of a mix of Councillors, Statutory and Social Partners. The Sub Regional Partnerships for the Council cluster areas will consider applications for funding.

The council clusters for PEACE III are

- Antrim, Newtownabbey, Carrickfergus
- Moyle, Ballymena, Ballymoney, Coleraine, Larne, Limavady
- Derry, Strabane, Omagh,
- Fermanagh, Cookstown, Magherafelt, Dungannon
- Banbridge, Newry & Mourne, Craigavon, Armagh
- Lisburn, Castlereagh,
- Down, Ards, North Down
- Belfast

A key function of NIRWN is to redress the gender imbalance that currently exists on committees and boards. Nora Smith Policy Officer with NIRWN commented 'We would like to ensure that there is a gender balance on LAGs and Sub Regional Partnerships. Therefore we would encourage rural women to consider sitting on the Sub Regional Partnership or LAG in their area. Women are currently underrepresented on decision making bodies, however play an important part in rural community development'.

For further information on PEACE III or RDP, please contact:

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Funding Information

Building Community Pharmacy Grants

The Community Development and Health Network is opening a new round of funding through its Building the Community-Pharmacy Partnership Programme (BCPP)

BCPP is about local communities and pharmacists working together using a community development approach to meet local health needs.

For more information contact Sharon Bleakley, CDHN on 028 3026 4606 or email: sharonbleakley@cdhn.org

The Turkington Fund

The Turkington Fund is being established in recognition and celebration of the contribution of older people to our society. It aims to offer funding for locally based community projects that are run by, and for, older people. Grants will generally range between £200 - £3000 maximum. The Fund will allocate some £60,000 each year in a range of small grants.

Priority will be given to those applications that show a clear involvement of older people in the design and delivery of a project. The project does not need to be new or particularly innovative in nature, but its programme must be realistic and clearly thought through. An emphasis will be placed on locally-based self-help groups that are working in disadvantaged areas.

For further information on the Turkington Fund please contact:

Sharon Killen

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RDC/IFI Integrating Communities Scheme

"Integrating Communities" is a programme of support managed by the Northern Ireland Rural Development Council (RDC) and funded by the International Fund for Ireland.

This programme is designed to facilitate community organisations that wish to co operate on a cross border and/or cross community basis to work on issues of common interest. As well as training, support and mentoring, funding may be available to undertake joint projects. This programme is open to urban and rural groups operating both within Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland.

Who can apply?

Priority will be given to those groups that have not previously engaged with the Fund, however previous recipients of International Fund for Ireland funding will not be excluded.

The 'Integrating Communities' programme aims to: -

- Increase the capacity and confidence of unionist and nationalist communities to work together.
- Foster and develop relationships within and between communities.
- Encourage sustainable partnership working and promote continued reconciliation and peace building activities.

Be a catalyst for groups to engage in partnerships and take decisive action toward new and innovative programmes/ projects, which will benefit their communities.

For further information, an application pack or to submit your completed forms contact:

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