

The Leadership in a Shared Society – Community Leaders Programme is an initiative of the North East PEACE Partnership (encompassing the Council areas of Coleraine, Limavady, Moyle, Ballymoney, Ballymena and Larne) and is funded under the Peace III Programme. The aim of the programme is to deliver an accredited programme of learning to existing and emerging community leaders in this area to improve their skills in building trust, tolerance and understanding of difference and to build collaborative approaches to the development and maintenance of good relations.

The consortium which won the contract to deliver the programme consists of three delivery organisations: Workers' Educational Association (WEA), Mediation Northern Ireland (MNI) and the Interaction Institute for Social Change (IISC). All organisations have long histories of delivering leadership and good relations training. In addition the Coleraine Rural and Urban Network and North Antrim Community Network will work to ensure its local focus and to assist recruitment.

There are 60 places available on the programme which will run from autumn 2009 until the end of 2010. Most of these places are for individuals from the NE, but 5 places are for participants from the Border Counties, so that cross-border learning can be incorporated.

Running parallel with this programme is similar leadership training undertaken by councillors from the six councils and delivered by the same consortium. The North East PEACE III Partnership intends for there to be a further programme that will enable the participants on the two programmes to come together for shared learning and relationship building. This unique and exciting development will be open to all those participating in this programme.

The Community Leaders Programme

Participants accepted onto the programme will be consulted as to their training needs and the consortium will use this information to shape its delivery. There will be three learning groups of 20 participants – two covering the northern councils (Limavady, Coleraine, Moyle and Ballymoney) and one the southern councils (Ballymena and Larne).

The programme will consist of the following elements:

- An opening residential where participants will get to know the others in their learning group and the trainers; agree a learning contract; share expectations, hopes and needs; and begin to unpack what is meant by a shared society and the demands this places on community leaders.
- A three-day leadership course, accredited at Level 2 with OCNNI. The Facilitative Leadership course has been delivered to many leaders in different sectors and offers tools and processes that are applicable in all organisational and community contexts.

- A three-day Peace building course, accredited at Level 2 with OCNNI, will be developed from the results of the Training Needs Analysis with participants making it a unique match to emergent needs.
- A Collaboration workshop will focus participants on designing collaborative mini-projects to be delivered within their own areas within the timescale of the programme. Plans will be submitted and budgets will be allocated to enable their enactment.
- Each participant can have up to 3 hours of coaching to help embed the learning within their work situations. It is anticipated that this will be especially useful during the design and delivery of the collaborative projects.
- There will be 3 site visits to explore examples of relevant good practice in other parts of Northern Ireland and the Border Counties.
- A closing conference will bring everyone together to celebrate achievement and to look to the future.

Participants will receive two learning manuals (one for Facilitative Leadership and the other covering all other aspects of the programme) so that they and their organisations can have a record of the learning provided to aid their future work.

Who can apply?

The programme is not just for those currently recognised as leaders in their communities, but also those who are potential leaders of the future. As a high demand is anticipated there is an application process. There will be a maximum of two places available per organisation. All applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Work in a paid or voluntary capacity in the community within one of the six council areas or the Border Counties
- Have a commitment to playing some type of leadership role within their community
- Be committed to building collaboration within and between local communities for a shared future
- Show commitment to bringing the learning back to their organisation/community
- Be committed to participating in all aspects of the programme – the structured learning, the site visits and the project work.

The closing date for applications is 12 noon on Monday 29th March. Return applications to – NE Community Leaders Programme, WEA, 3 Fitzwilliam Street, Belfast BT9 6AW or neclp@wea-ni.com

Indicative dates for the programme are detailed overleaf.

Leadership

PROGRAMME TIMETABLE

Northern Group 2	
Opening Residential	21 - 22 April 2010
Facilitative Leadership non-residential	12-14 May 2010
Peace Building Day 1	2 June 2010
Peace Building Day 2	9 June 2010
Peace Building Day 3	16 April 2010
Site Visit 1	15 June 2010
Collaboration Workshop	15 Sep 2010
Site Visit 2	8 Oct 2010
Closing Conference	26 Nov 2010

The Consortium will consult with those coming onto the programme and amendments to the proposed dates will be considered to maximise attendance and facilitate the learning.

Venues for the training are still to be arranged, but will be within the boundaries of the NE Cluster area.

A contribution can be made towards travel expenses and for participants from the Border Counties there will be a contribution towards necessary accommodation expenses.

Applications forms can be downloaded from the WEA's website – www.wea-ni.com

CRUN	7034 4934	info@crun.org
NACN	2177 2100	info@nacn.org

Further information on the PEACE III Programme is available on www.northeastpeace.com



North East
PEACE III
Partnership



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