

<b>Peace IV Partnership Governance</b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup> May 2016</b>
<b>To: The Leisure and Development Committee For Decision</b>	

<b>Linkage to Council Strategy (2015-19)</b>	
<b>Strategic Theme</b>	Resilient, Healthy & Engaged Communities.
<b>Outcome</b>	Council will work to develop and promote stable and cohesive communities across the Borough.
<b>Lead Officer</b>	Julie Welsh - Head of Community & Culture.
<b>Cost: (If applicable)</b>	N/A

**The purpose of this report is to agree Council representation on the Causeway Coast & Glens Peace IV Partnership, and from within that membership, agree an appointments panel in order to assess Social Partners applications.**

### **Background**

Council agreed the governance structure for the local Peace IV Partnership in April 2016. The new PEACE IV Partnership will be comprised of 11 elected members and 10 social partners, acting as individual representatives, alongside a range of key statutory sector bodies acting as advisors.

The Special European Programmes Body (SEUPB) have not been prescriptive in terms of partnership composition or the partnership process. However, SEUPB have provided guidance to Councils in which they reaffirm the importance of balanced representation within governance structures, ensuring that members have appropriate skills and expertise on peace building and reconciliation, and that community interests and needs are represented. The process of building the partnership must include effective communication on the development and implementation of the Peace Action Plan including transparency of decision making.

In terms of recruitment, Council have previously agreed that elected members will be nominated using the D'Hondt system and a public recruitment process for social partners will take place.

#### **a) Elected members**

Council has agreed to nominate 11 elected members using the D'Hondt system. This includes 3 DUP, 3 UUP, 2 SF, 2 SDLP and 1 TUV

#### **b) Social partners**

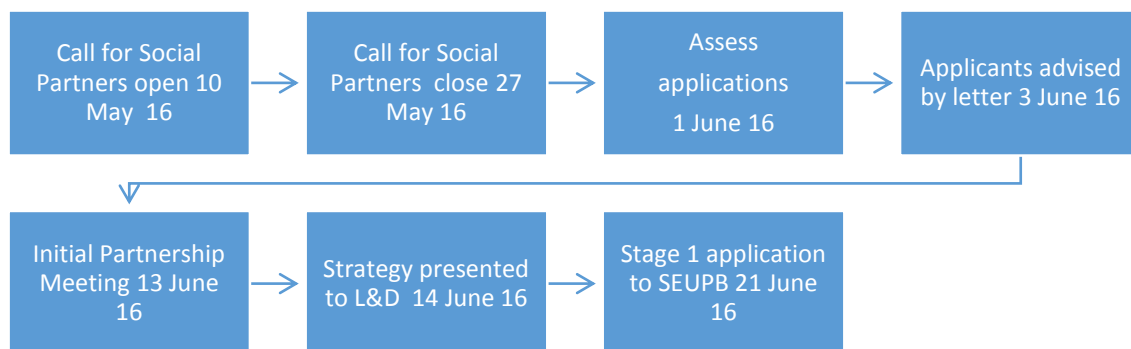
Social partner applicants will be required to demonstrate knowledge, experience and skills in at least one of the themes of the PEACE IV Action Plan, notably Children and Young People, Shared Spaces and Services and Building Positive Relations. They will also be required to demonstrate knowledge, skills and experience in peacebuilding and partnership working.

**c) Statutory bodies**

Nominees will be sought from statutory bodies representative of the themes in the PEACE IV plan and sought to act as advisors. Key statutory representatives *may* include NIHE, PSNI, Education Authority, Policing & Community Safety Partnership, Council services, for example Good Relations, with additional options such as Children and Youth People’s Strategic Partnerships.

**Process**

A call for applications for social partners will be placed in the local press and promoted through Council website and databases from 10<sup>th</sup> May 2016. An assessment panel, involving elected representatives, supported by Council staff will complete a selection process against publicised assessment criteria. In order to comply with SEUPB’s deadline for stage 1 applications, staff are currently working to the following deadlines:



**Recommendation**

- a) Following Council’s agreement in April to adopt D’Hondt, it is recommended that parties provide nominations to represent the Council on the local Peace IV Partnership, as follows: 3 DUP; 3 UUP; 2 SF; 2 SDLP; and 1TUV.
- b) To agree a panel comprising of at least two, and up to four Councillors from within the Peace IV Partnership, including a Chairperson, who will meet to complete a selection process for candidates, as per schedule provided.