

Belfast City Council: Belfast PEACE IV Plan – Public Consultation – Your Responses

Question 1	<i>Do you wish to respond anonymously?</i>
	No
Question 2	<i>Name:</i>
	Briege Arthurs
Question 3	<i>Address:</i>
	South Belfast Partnership Board, 23 University Street, Belfast, BT7 1FY
Question 4	<i>Telephone:</i>
	02890 244070
Question 5	<i>Would you be interested in receiving email updates as the...</i>
	Yes
Question 6	<i>Email:</i>
	briege.arthurs@southbelfast.org
Question 7	<i>Are you responding as an individual?</i>
	No
Question 8	<i>Name of Organisation</i>
	South Belfast Partnership Board (SBPB)
Question 9	<i>Job title or role</i>
	CEO
Question 10	<i>Description of Organisation</i>
	SBPB leads 136 community and voluntary groups in partnership with public and private bodies to socially and economically regenerate South Belfast. Its work includes 2 NR areas, the Holylands, and areas at risk. The notion of building capacity to address the inclusion and integration of our very valued multi-cultural communities came up from a series of workshops over the last year to look at a cultural plan for South Belfast. One of the recommendations was an intercultural hub in an unowned space which would embrace and deliver innovatively much needed services for newcomer families and people e.g. NICRAS, South Belfast Roundtable RRCANI, Windsor Women, Sandy Row and An Droichead to name a few. Discussions have also been held with local councillors/ working group
Question 11	<i>Do you agree with the overarching objectives of the draft Plan?</i>
	Yes
Question 12	<i>If 'No' - What should the overarching objectives be?</i>
Question 13	<i>What actions would you suggest to achieve these objectives?</i>
	Design and build an intercultural hub in concert with local grass roots organisations who can participate in the shape of the services (requires capital funding) in parallel to this I would suggest that there is a programme of building capacity put in place which would allow and develop positive relations to flourish and best use of shared spaces and services in particular it is critical that the capacity is developed for our most marginalised communities to allow meaningful engagement towards building peace and dealing with conflict for the long-term benefit of our city. Building capacity could include the use of intercultural mediators as grass roots community enablers who would deliver very practical supportive programmes which supports 2 way engagement, accessibility and the use of appropriate skills/ tools that can be transferred and used in other areas. The intercultural mediators should be from a range of cultural backgrounds with a particular focus on marginalised groups i.e. ethnic, religious, political, gender.
Question 14	<i>Please identify how you or your organisation could contribute to the achievement of the desired objectives?</i>
	SBPB as a networking, connecting organisation which represents 136

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	<p>community groups will lead the shaping, co-design, relationship building, participation and delivery of a South Belfast wide project which would target capacity building into 5 localities through their delivery partners which are Windsor Women, Inner South/ LORAG, RRCANI, Sandy Row and the Holylands through PACT. SBPB will act as a neutral facilitator with no vested cultural interests yet and in depth knowledge of local intelligence in catering for a number of cultural backgrounds. In having a neutral role they can support emerging community champions which provides a healthy alternative to traditional leaders who provide a single voice for their communities. Through this work we hope to achieve recognition that there is not just 1 BME/ Polish/ Roma communities etc and that there are varied communities within a community. SBPB wishes to create an authentic redefinition of engagement with marginalised groups ensuring they are part of the rebuilding of a peaceful and prosperous society. Please refer to YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o9DO6TdNKL0 which evidences SBPB's launch of its cultural plan and inclusion of traditionally marginalised groups leading and performing in our launch.</p>
Question 15	<i>Do you agree with the outline programme areas under the Children and Young People theme?</i>
	Yes
Question 16	<i>If 'No' - What should be included?</i>
Question 17	<i>Are there any additional actions that you would like to see under the theme of Children and Young People?</i>
Question 18	<i>Please identify how you or your organisation could contribute to the achievement of the desired results under this theme?</i>
Question 19	<i>Do you agree with the proposed programmes and projects under the Shared Spaces and Services theme?</i>
Question 20	<i>If 'No' - What should be included?</i>
Question 21	<i>Are there any additional actions that you would like to see under the theme of Shared Spaces and Services?</i>
Question 22	<i>Please identify how you or your organisation could contribute to the achievement of the desired results under this theme?</i>
	Through the capacity building of many of our diverse communities and including many of the student population and residents of the Holylands I think one of the outcomes will be learning that there are different ways of celebrating culture. If positive relationships are developed there will be a gradual respect of sharing space.
Question 23	<i>Do you agree with the proposed programmes and projects under the Building Positive Relations theme?</i>
	Yes
Question 24	<i>If 'No' - What should be included?</i>
Question 25	<i>Are there any additional actions that you would like to see under the theme of Building Positive Relations?</i>
	Within the plan the words integration and inclusion are used together and not interchangeably as most people do. Is there a specific reason for this? I would also welcome clarity around the processes for co-design and the mechanism for project delivery e.g. procurement and tendering.

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Question 26	<i>Please identify how you or your organisation could contribute to the achievement of the desired results under this theme?</i>
	<p>SBPB launched its cultural strategy and community portal on 24th March 2016. One of the main recommendations is the delivery of an intercultural hub in an unowned spaced which will provide a unique and innovative approach for many diverse communities to come together to share spaces and services. (Local Councillors aware) A further recommendation was to consider the economic potential from cultural tourism and to match national feast days into celebrated events which will allow newcomer communities to recognise their identity and share it with the people of Belfast. In partnership with key groups who have a track record in dealing with sensitive cultural issues, we will coordinate and support a programme of activities over 5 areas of South Belfast. The programmes will be aligned to the high level outcomes for the city within the Belfast Agenda and will build the capacity of our many BME communities to feel and be treated as a valued citizen and one who can fully engage in the city vision for Belfast and its outcomes for 2030.</p>