

## Community Relations Council

The Community Relations Council (CRC) was established in 1990.

CRC is an Arms' Length Body of The Executive Office, a Department of the Northern Ireland Executive and is a key delivery agent for departmental good relations policy. This includes the implementation of the aims and objectives of the Together: Building a United Community (T:BUC) strategy. In delivering the strategy CRC identifies and demonstrates effective approaches to peace-building and reconciliation in partnership with local people and organisations and with central and local government.

A range of funds provides grant assistance for good relations work. These include Core grants, Community Relations/Cultural Diversity Small Grants, Publications Grant and Media Grant. CRC also manage the North Belfast Strategic Good Relations Programme on behalf of TEO.

CRC grants provide financial support along with development and policy guidance for peace building and good relations. CRC engagement across a range of agencies and groups disseminates and shares good practice, demonstrating the benefits of good relations policies and practice at regional, local, community and institutional levels.

### **CRC Core funded Work**

The Core Grant Scheme is currently investing £1.3 million in 32 organisations which are considered to be of strategic importance in promoting community relations work across Northern Ireland. The full list is available to view by [clicking here](#).

A number of these core funded groups are currently carrying out work under the T:BUC Children & Young People priority area. The current portfolio of activity comprises good relations training for those working with young people; supporting young people to explore issues around identity and tradition; working with schools to deliver anti-prejudice and anti-discrimination programmes; using sport in schools to explore community relations; developing and disseminating new curriculum materials, facilitating teacher training and direct work with young people on the legacy of the past; and devising and delivering shared pupil and parent programmes.

If you would like to find out more about this work please contact CRC's Engagement Directorate 02890227500 or [gattwood@nicrc.org.uk](mailto:gattwood@nicrc.org.uk).

### **Decade of Centenaries**

Another area of work co-ordinated and led by CRC, in collaboration with Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) is the Decade of Centenaries. This refers to the period of the Home Rule Crisis and the Ulster Covenant Campaign in 1912 through to Partition and the establishment of two parliaments in Ireland in 1921/22.

CRC and HLF developed and promoted a widely endorsed set of principles to support this work. In addition a series of conferences and resources fairs were organised with partners. Publications and videos were developed, including Remembering the Future - 11 Session Lecture Series, a Toolkit of case studies, videos and publications on three conferences. The materials promote a balanced understanding of difficult history, using the historical facts whilst also drawing on

different narratives. The resources associated with this programme have already been of interest to Educationalists are available on [this page](#) and by clicking here [Creative Centenaries](#). The material aims to improve knowledge, skills and attitudes to the legacy of the past and would be useful for schools/teachers involved in exploring the past.

This programme of activity continues and the next conference is planned for November 2019.

Information on all of CRC's work is available on our website [www.nicrc.org.uk](http://www.nicrc.org.uk).

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