



# **Cliftonville Community Regeneration Forum**

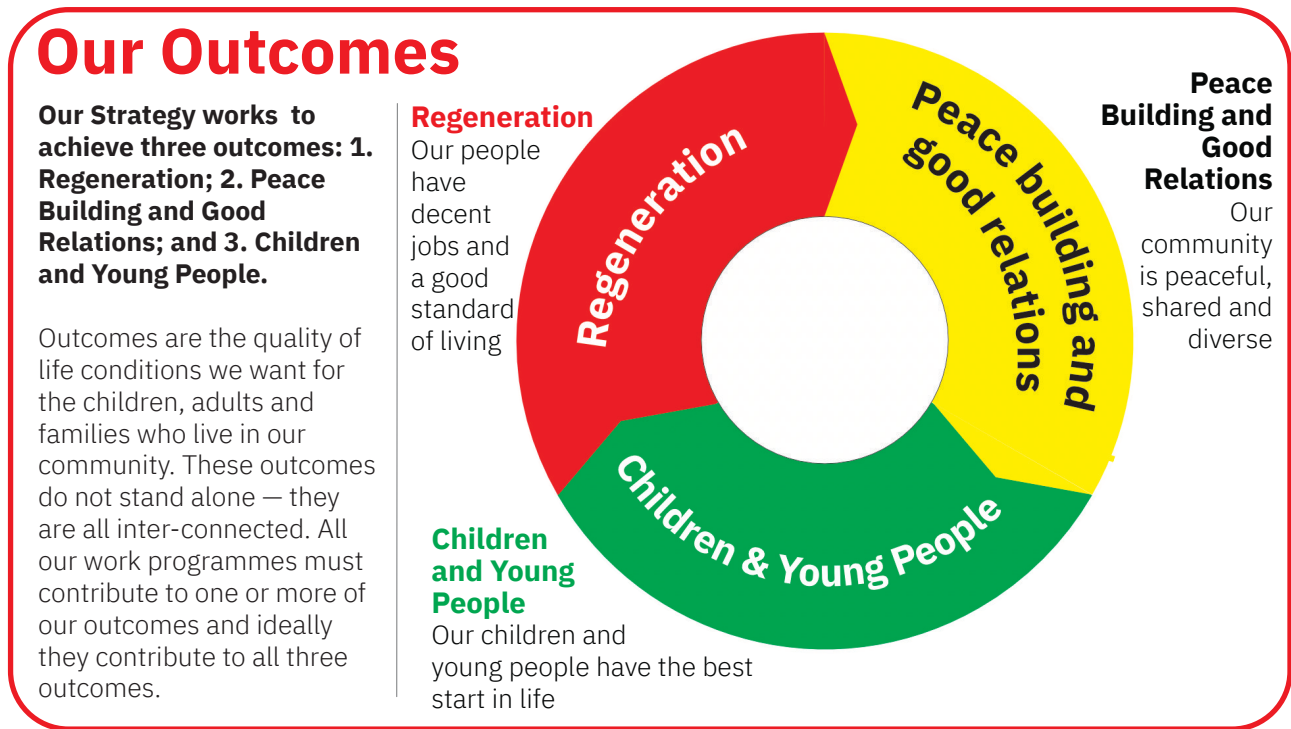
**Trustees Annual Report  
For the year ended 31 March 2025**

## 1. The Purpose of the Charity

The Purpose of Cliftonville Community Regeneration Forum is to:

“Work for the social, economic and physical regeneration of the Cliftonville community and to create the conditions for the removal of the physical and mental barriers that divide us”.

We have three key strategic outcomes which are:



Strategic Theme	Outcome
<b>Regeneration</b>	Our people have decent jobs and wages and a good standard of living
<b>Peace Building and Good Relations</b>	Our community is peaceful, shared and diverse
<b>Children and Young People</b>	Our children and young people have the best start in life

## 2. The Financial year the report relates to

This Trustees Report relates to the financial year commencing on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 and ending on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025.

## 3. Principle Address of the Charity

185 Cliftonpark Avenue, Belfast BT14 6DT

#### **4. Information on governance**

Cliftonville Community Regeneration Forum is a company limited by guarantee with a Memorandum and Articles of Association which was adopted on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2002.

#### **5. Trustee Details**

The Trustees of the Charity who have served within the period of this report are:

Mr Paul Little  
Mr Daniel Lavery  
Ms Kathleen Quinn  
Mr Neil Montgomery  
Ms Delores Quinn  
Ms Michelle Di Lucia  
Ms Kerry Haddock  
Ms Jennifer Robinson  
Nisar Hassan Rana  
Suzanne McGrath

#### **6. Trustee Appointment Information**

The following trustees were appointed during the current year:

Nisar Hassan Rana, appointed on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2025  
Suzanne McGrath, appointed on 12<sup>th</sup> August 2025

#### **7. Public Benefit Compliance**

Cliftonville Community Regeneration Forum in setting our objectives and planning our activities for the year the Trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission NI's guidance on public benefit to ensure that the activities have helped to achieve the charity's purposes and provide a benefit to the beneficiaries.

#### **8. Activities and Achievements**

##### **8.1 Context**

If your child was born in the Waterworks ward they are less likely to excel in education and gain good qualifications, less likely to get a good, well paid job and less likely to live well into their eighties.

They are more likely to begin life in a family with no or low qualifications, suffer from poor and over-crowded housing, have no job or a low paid job and have a health problem. You are also more likely to live close to an interface dividing the two main communities here.

The Waterworks ward cover the lower Cliftonville area of North Belfast. According to the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) it is the No.1 most deprived ward in the North.

Homelessness is a major problem in this area. There is also a lack of good quality, affordable housing. Homelessness affects families but also individuals and young people.

We have 3 and 4 generations of one family living in the same house. It is a world apart from the leafy semis with a large garden.

The area is also home to an increasing number of flats, apartments and low quality accommodation. The area has a high number of old 3 story properties. These are easily turned into flats and employment opportunities.

We work with young people who have Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs). According to a Queen's University report on mental health in NI (October, 2020): "There was a clear association with deprivation, with young people in the least deprived areas more likely to have experienced no ACEs compared to those in the most deprived (59.9% vs 36.0%)".

This means that children, young people and their families are living in what health professionals have referred to as "Chronically Unsafe Community Environments". These issues take place in a context where armed gangs remain active and organised crime gangs/drug gangs target and exploit disadvantaged communities. Crime and anti-social behaviour is high. Interface conflict, while not constant, is a regular event.

Now that the NI Executive has been re-established there is a need for an anti-poverty strategy that tackles the deep rooted problems that exist in the Cliftonville area. The anti-poverty strategy needs to join up to dots in terms of health, housing and economic investment needed in disadvantaged communities.

Should a child born in this area not have the same life chances as a child born in more affluent areas?

## 8.2 Regeneration Activities

### Cliftonville Enterprise Centre

Plans for a Cliftonville Community Enterprise on Cliftonpark Avenue have been given the green light.

The project has secured £1.45 million funding from Belfast City Council's Neighbourhood Regeneration Fund.

The Community Enterprise aims to support long term unemployed males, women living in poverty and young people from disadvantaged families into training and employment. The centre will also provide child care places as demand for these facilities are high in this area.

The enterprise centre will work with local people to support them to learn, make and sell. This means providing training, space and equipment to enable people to move into the labour market and increase economic activity within the local community. Critically it also means supporting them to increase their confidence and help them overcome the barriers to employment and enterprise.

Cliftonville Community Enterprise will be located in the Waterworks ward.

The Waterworks ward is the No.1 most deprived ward in the North of Ireland out of 464 wards. The area has suffered from a sharp rise in poverty in the past 10 years. To tackle

this situation economic capital investment is needed and there has been none for more than 20 years.



**Architect's  
design of the  
Cliftonville  
Community  
Enterprise**

The Cliftonville Community Enterprise is a first step in the long road to turn around the poverty and disadvantage in this area.

Cliftonville Community Forum is currently involved in training and employability projects. We have supported people from the Cliftonville and surrounding areas through training, with job applications, their interviews and seen them secure employment.

Breaking down the barriers to employment for people living in deprived neighbourhoods does not mean simply providing training. Many of our participants face major issues in terms of their own confidence and anxiety. We address issues affecting their mental health, trauma and also issues of addiction to drugs and alcohol.

The development of Cliftonville Community Enterprise will see this work move to a new level. This centre will be a very modest size. However, it should allow us to begin to turn the curve on poverty and disadvantage in this area.

### **Stand Up To Racism campaign**

Cliftonville Community Regeneration Forum organised an anti-racism campaign in the aftermath of the anti- migrant and anti-Muslim riots in Belfast in August 2024.

A public meeting was organised and it was decided to set up a Stand Up To Racism campaign. The meeting was well represented by local people and local residents from a variety of ethnic community backgrounds including the local Muslim community.

The campaign worked on a short term action plan which included a public advertising campaign. Posters have been displayed in local shops and on hardboard posters erected on lampposts on the Cliftonville, Antrim and Oldpark Roads.

The campaign is a collaboration with the local Northern Ireland Muslim Cultural Association, who support local Muslim residents in the area, Cliftonville Community Centre and ourselves. This has allowed us to support ethnic minority residents in times of need or when facing racist or hate crimes. A racist attack took place on a house in the area recently.

Since my mother started attending the regular English classes, I have realised that she has made a lot of improvements when it comes to understanding and speaking in English.

**Participant comment:** “The family friendly environment that the classes provide along with the teacher allowed my mother to have a lot of enthusiasm and the courage to learn, especially in a non-judgmental place where my mother felt confident to express herself”.

We organised English language classes for Muslim women which lasted for 10 weeks to the end of December 2024 and were attended weekly by 25 women. We are hoping that these classes can be continued into 2025.

Other activities have been planned in 2025 including a ‘Meet the Neighbour’ event, an ‘Identity through Art’ youth programme.

The Stand Up To Racism campaign meetings take place every fortnight. It will expand its work in 2025.

### Community Organising project

The Community Organising project works with residents to address the issues they identify and organise them into community groups to ensure that issues get addressed. A wide range of issues are tackled, including housing, anti-social behaviour, illegal dumping, rat infestation, landlord issues, the #BusFreeBrookvale campaign and the Save Our Post Office campaign.

The project produces and distributes a community newsletter. In the past year we have produce 4 issues and distributed 1,500 free copies of each edition to local homes.

The Community Organising project works with 4 community groups in the area:

- Waterworks Residents Association
- Manor Street Residents Action Group
- Brucevale Residents
- Cliftonpark Avenue Residents

Multi-agency work is a crucial part of the role and attending fortnightly meetings with external agencies is a great way to raise issues in the area and work collaboratively with these agencies to try and tackle the issues.

### Neighbourhood Renewal

The Cliftonville area is located in the Waterworks ward in North Belfast. This is one of the top 10% most deprived wards in the North of Ireland.

The area is part of a government programme known as People and Place — the Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy which aims to tackle poverty and deprivation within the area.

### **Crumlin Ardoyne Neighbourhood Partnership**

As part of the Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy 36 neighbourhood renewal partnerships were set up by government in the 10% most deprived communities in the North.

The Cliftonville area is part of the Crumlin Ardoyne Neighbourhood Partnership. This includes Cliftonville Community Regeneration Forum, Cliftonville Community Centre, Community Restorative Justice, North Belfast Senior Citizens Forum, Action Mental Health, The Vine Centre, Wishing Well Family Centre, Grace Women's Development Limited, Lower Oldpark Community Association, Cancer Lifeline, Ardoyne Association, Ardoyne Youth Enterprise, Marrowbone Community Association and Westland Community Group.

We work closely with these organisations to develop the Crumlin Ardoyne Neighbourhood Action Plan 2020-2030— with the aim of regenerating the area.

The outcomes of the action plan are:

Outcome 1. Residents play an active part in economic life

Outcome 2. We live longer, healthier, active lives

Outcome 3. We are a shared community that respects diversity

Outcome 4. We give our children and young people the best start in life Outcome 5. We live in a safe community

### **North Belfast Community Partnership**

Cliftonville Community Regeneration Forum also works with the neighbourhood partnerships across North Belfast and is currently working to develop the North Belfast Community Partnership. North Belfast is the only area of Belfast without an area partnership. The purpose of the new partnership is to provide a voice for North Belfast and to work with local politicians, government departments and statutory agencies to tackle poverty and regenerate North Belfast.

The North Belfast Community Partnership is developing a 5 year plan targeted at regenerating the most deprived communities in North Belfast.  
Neighbourhood Renewal Forum

We are also members of the Neighbourhood Renewal Forum made up of the 36 neighbourhood partnerships across the North.

The Neighbourhood Renewal Forum works with the Department for Communities and other government departments to review the current Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy. It is looking to develop a new Strategic Framework to tackle poverty and regenerate the top 10% most deprived communities.



### 8.3 Peace Building and Good Relations Activities

#### Girdwood Youth Space Project

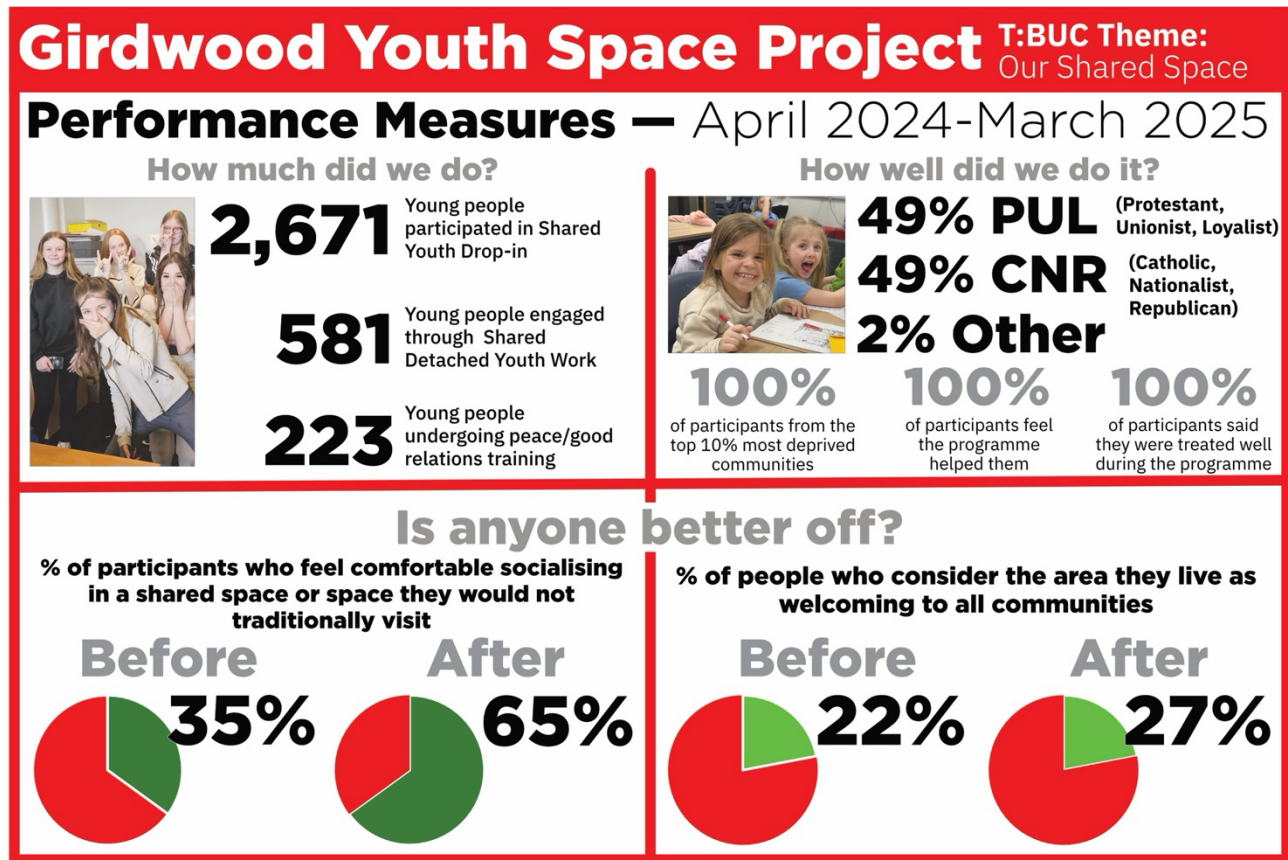


Table 1: Girdwood Youth Space Score Card 2024-25

The 2024/25 year was one of dynamic community engagement and meaningful youth work. We continued our efforts through various programmes and youth drop-ins, despite facing challenges.

Occasional instances of anti-social behaviour along the Cliftonpark Avenue Interface affected the regular attendance of some young people, particularly those coming from Lower Oldpark and Shankill areas.

The early closure of the Alloa Street entrance by Belfast City Council, aimed at dispersing crowds, left parents and young people feeling unsafe as they had to navigate through groups of young people engaged in anti-social behaviour activities to access an entrance further up Cliftonpark Avenue.

#### Feedback from the Summer Programme

**"A big thank you to all the staff. My child had a fabulous time and looking forward to September"** — Parent (Lower Oldpark)

**"Thank you all very much. My son is going to miss it"** — Parent (Shankill)

**"Thank you all so much, kids loved it all"** — Parent (Kinnauld)

**"Thank you so much. My daughter had a great summer"** — Parent (Shankill)



Despite these hurdles, 2024/25 was filled with fun and learning for many young people across the interface. We remain committed to making Girdwood Youth Space a safe and welcoming environment by offering a range of activities, projects, cross-community trips, and residencies. We also invested in our young leaders, providing various training opportunities to enhance their skills.

Our 2024 Shared Summer Programme for 7-12-year-olds ran for six weeks, featuring both on-site activities at the Girdwood Youth Space and the pitch, as well as weekly off-site trips.

We successfully recruited 46 young people from both sides of the community, focusing on Cliftonville, Lower Oldpark, and Lower Shankill. The programme received excellent feedback from young people and parents alike.

Despite the challenges at the interface, 54% of participants were new registrations. The Summer programme enabled us to maintain contact with young people during the school holidays and continue crucial cross-community work.

Given the ongoing challenges at the interface, we also implemented a senior planned intervention programme over the summer.

The planned intervention programme aimed to keep local young people away from the interface while fostering positive relationships and engaging in good relations work. We recruited 15 young people from Cliftonville, Lower Oldpark, and Lower Shankill and engaged them in a six-week programme of off-site trips.

The programme was well-received, keeping participants away from the interface on Friday evenings and leading to further development work throughout the year.

We strongly believe in investing in our young people and developing an informed and efficient staff team, ideally comprising individuals who have come up through our programmes and have first-hand experience of the area's challenges.

In 2024/25, eight participants over the age of 18 completed their OCN Level 2 in Youth Work. Half of these young people are now working as young leaders for the project, and this new qualification has significantly impacted their knowledge, confidence, and ability to engage with young people.

We tailor all our projects and activities to meet young people's needs, guiding them on an age-appropriate, individualised cross-community journey.

### **Imagine Peace Barriers Project**

The Imagine Peace Barriers Project is celebrating a decade of bridging divides and fostering positive change within our communities.

The Imagine Peace Barriers Project is a partnership between the Cliftonville Community Regeneration Forum (CCRF) and the Lower Oldpark Community Association (LOCA) and funded by the International Fund for Ireland (IFI). The project has been at the forefront of transforming the relationships between communities affected by the peace walls and physical barriers. Over the past ten years, we have focused on creating a safer, more connected future by engaging local residents and providing a platform for change.

## Our Approach

Building Relationships and Changing Attitudes. At the heart of our work are three key areas:

1. Community Consultations: We listen to residents' concerns and ideas.
2. Relationship Building: We bring people together through shared activities and conversations.
3. Creating Attitudinal Change: We focus on changing mindsets to pave the way for lasting peace.

## Imagine Peace Barriers Project

### Performance Measures — April 2024-December 2024

#### How much did we do?



**980**

People took part in Peace Barriers Programmes and activities

**348**

Hours of Programmes and activities

**193**

Residents were engaged in door-to-door work

#### How well did we do it?



**58% CNR**  
(Catholic, Nationalist, Republican)

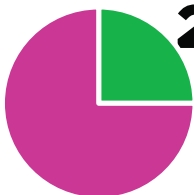
**38% PUL**  
(Protestant, Unionist, Loyalist)

**4% Other**

### Is anyone better off?

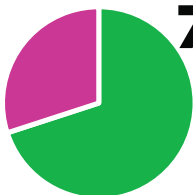
% of participants who engage often or frequently with members of the other community

**Before**



**25%**

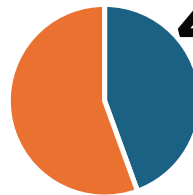
**After**



**70%**

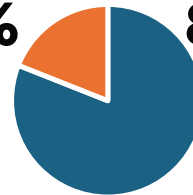
% of participants who would like to see Peace Barriers down now or in the future

**Before**



**40%**

**After**



**81%**

Table 2: Imagine Peace Barriers Project Score Card 2024

Over the years, we have launched numerous programmes and initiatives to bring our communities closer. One of our exciting projects is the Imagine Shared Space project. This ambitious plan envisions a cross-community social enterprise with a soft play area, a café, and multi-purpose rooms. We are now working on a business plan and developing concept designs, which will soon be shared with the community for feedback.

## Our Work in 2024

In 2024, we continued to strengthen our work within the community, creating opportunities for people to come together, share experiences, and work towards positive change.

### Women's and Men's Groups

Our Women's and Men's Groups meet weekly, offering a range of opportunities for members. Participants receive support, take part in personal and community development activities.

### Summer Programme

Summer can be an especially challenging time for women, particularly with added childcare commitments during the school holidays. To address these challenges, we delivered a five-week summer programme aimed at providing activities for women and their children. The programme included arts and crafts sessions, trips, and other activities designed to promote community engagement, learning, and fun for all ages.

### **Cross-Community Family Day**

In August, we hosted a Cross-Community Family Day at John Hewitt Park, with the support of LOCA and CCRF. The event was a great success, attracting families from both communities who came together to enjoy a day of activities, and fun.

### **Women Leading Together**

One of our 2024 highlights was the Women Leading Together event. We brought together women from Lower Oldpark, Lower Cliftonville, and surrounding areas to share their experiences, discuss challenges, and explore opportunities to promote peace and reconciliation. We explored key themes like identity, belonging, and living on an interface. The event proved to be a valuable platform for women to connect, learn, and work towards building stronger, more inclusive communities.

### **Our Peace, Our Future**

This programme is another example of our commitment to empowering communities. This community learning programme for adults is designed to equip participants with the skills needed to lead positive change within their communities. The programme includes workshops, facilitated discussions on identity and good relations, history talks, and residential.

### **Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour Together**

In response to ongoing concerns about anti-social behaviour (ASB) in both communities, we hosted a cross-community consultation on ASB in October.

Based on the feedback we received, we have now set up a hotline for residents to report ASB incidents. During Halloween — a time when ASB typically spikes — our Women's and Men's Groups organised a stall at the interface, offering free tea, coffee, and treats to residents and young people. This initiative increased footfall in the area and we are pleased to report that there were no ASB incidents this year.

### **Our Plans for the Future**

We are excited to keep building on the work we are already doing and look forward to increasing our activities. We're launching a Peace Barriers Residents Forum — a safe space for people to connect, learn, and tackle the challenges of living near peace barriers. We are also planning monthly 'Meet the Neighbour' events to help residents from both sides of the interface to connect. There are lots of ways to get involved. Keep an eye out for our flyers and follow us on social media for all the latest updates!

## **8.3 Children and Young People Activities**

### **Let Youth Lead project**

The Let Youth Lead (LYL) programme continues to make a transformative impact on young people and families in the Cliftonville area, fostering a safe, inclusive, and vibrant space for personal and community development.

Over the past year, the programme has achieved significant milestones, thanks to the dedication of young leaders, staff, and our newly established volunteer group of 12 local young people.

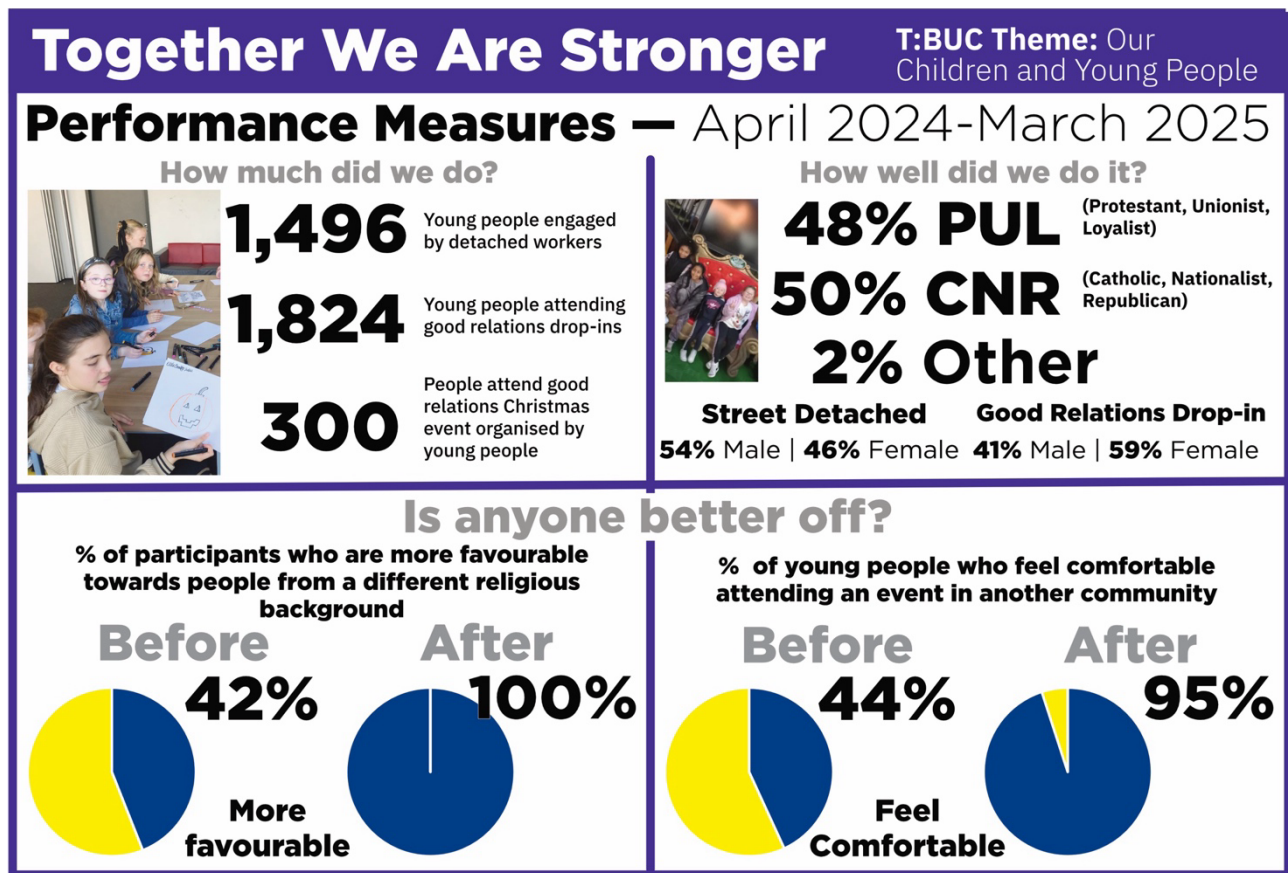


Table 3: Let Youth Lead project Score Card 2024-25

### Youth-Led Success: Christmas Community Event

In December 2024, our youth committee organised one of the largest Christmas community events to date with more than 200 attending, hosted at the Girdwood Community Hub. The event was entirely youth-led by a youth committee of 15 young people from the area around Girdwood. The event showcased the incredible leadership, creativity, and organisational skills of our young participants.

Activities included Santa's grotto, bilingual arts and crafts, storytelling, and cultural showcases, drawing families from diverse backgrounds. This event not only spread festive joy but also highlighted the potential of young people to take ownership of community initiatives. The event was free to local families and young people.

Planning for the next community event is already underway. We are excited to create an even more inclusive and engaging experience and hope to see even greater participation from the community, coming together to enjoy, support, and celebrate what we can achieve as a united and vibrant Cliftonville.

### Strengthening Communities

This year, we delivered two family day trips as part of good relations work in strengthening communities. The trips were to Jungle NI Christmas Wonderland event. The outing provided shared experiences that brought families closer together. More than 100 parents

and children attended. Feedback from attendees highlighted the value of creating moments of joy and respite during challenging times.

### **Growing Community Engagement**

The establishment of a new volunteer group has been a game-changer for Let Youth Lead. This group of 12 passionate young people, all local residents, have been instrumental in supporting programme activities, enhancing our reach, and fostering a deeper sense of community ownership. Their involvement has not only enriched the programme but has also served as a bridge to increased engagement with parents, families, and other community members.

By fostering trust and mutual respect, these young volunteers have become ambassadors for the positive change we aim to achieve.

### **A Safe and Inclusive Space**

Let Youth Lead remains a cornerstone for young people in Cliftonville, offering a safe and welcoming environment where they can express themselves, develop leadership skills, and build meaningful relationships. Through weekly drop-ins, detached youth work, and good relations sessions, we continue to inspire confidence and break down barriers between different communities.

Activities are intentionally designed to be inclusive, encouraging participation from young people of all backgrounds, cultures, and abilities, with a particular emphasis on promoting diversity and mutual understanding.

### **Looking Ahead**

As we move forward, we aim to build on the momentum of these successes by expanding our programmes, enhancing community involvement, and continuing to empower young people to take the lead in creating a brighter, shared future.

Let Youth Lead would not be possible without the support of our staff, volunteers, and the wider community. Together, we are fostering a sense of belonging, resilience, and hope for the future.

## **Personal Youth Development Programme (PYDP)**

The Personal Youth Development Programme (PYDP) is a 2-year personal development and employability programme which ran from March 2023 to December 2024. It is designed to empower young people aged 16-25 in Cliftonville and surrounding areas of North Belfast.

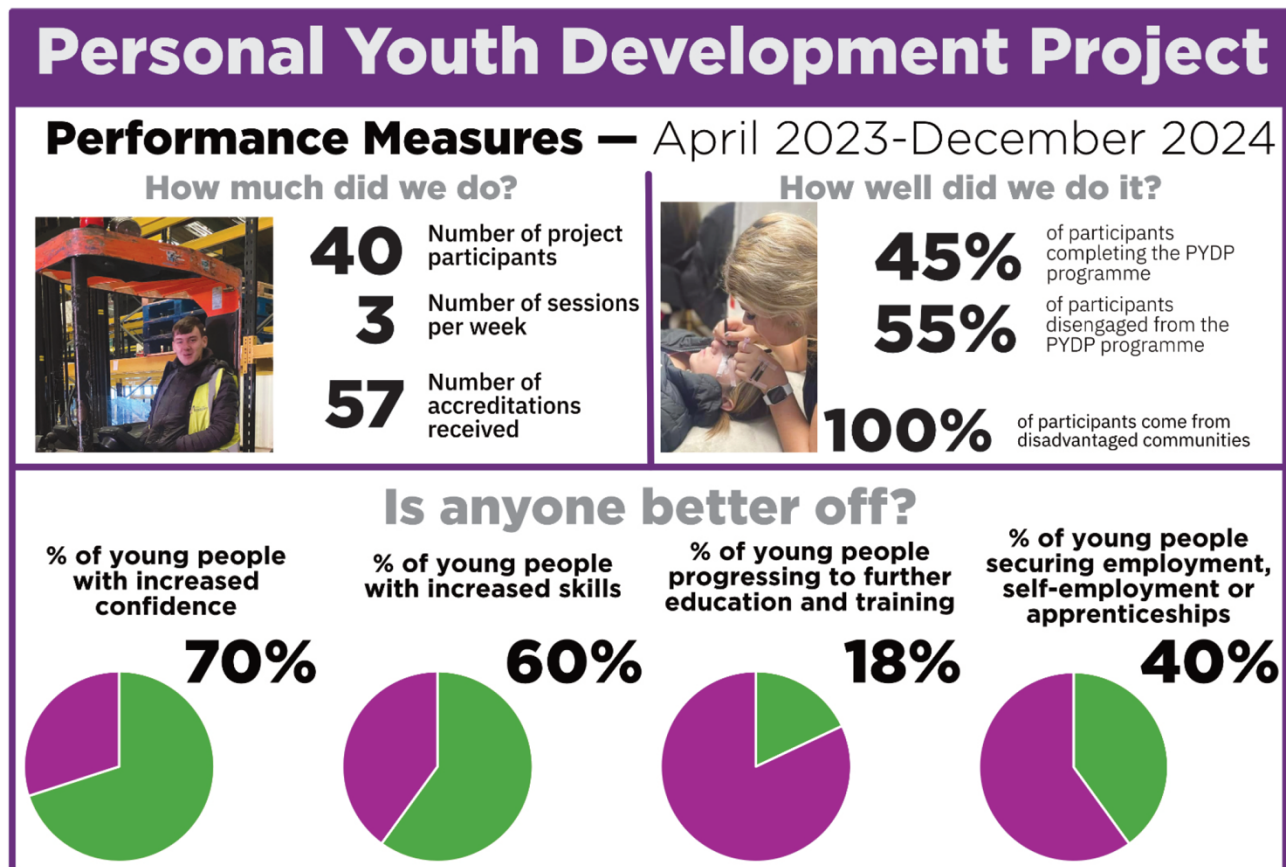
Funded by the International Fund for Ireland, the Personal Youth Development Programme (PYDP) supports individuals in overcoming multifaceted barriers to education and employment.

By adopting a holistic approach, the Personal Youth Development Programme fosters good relations, provides comprehensive career guidance, and offers opportunities for young people to raise their aspirations, unlock their potential, and achieve their goals.

The Personal Youth Development Programme's supportive environment allows the young people to explore and engage in new experiences, which encourages self-expression and teamwork. Young people learn soft skills such as communication, time management, problem-solving, collaboration and leadership through a variety of programmes. These

programmes include personal and social development, good relations, employability and enterprise training and social action projects.

Good relations initiatives foster respect and understanding, building stronger ties with people from diverse backgrounds.



**Table 4: Personal Youth Development Project Score Card 2023-24**

The young people who participated in the Personal Youth Development Programme made significant progress across several key areas, gaining valuable skills, confidence, and direction for their future.

Through the support provided 58% of enrolled participants have progressed into further training, education or employment. 88% of participants experienced growth in their self-confidence, communication, and interpersonal skills.

Through work experience, the Personal Youth Development Programme helped participants build practical skills directly applicable to future employment. For example, completing OCN Level 1 & Level 2 Youth Work allowed for theory to be put into practice in youth work setting.

This was done through work experience in youth projects as well as paid work experience in New Ground coffee which included customer service training and day-to-day operational skills, preparing them for potential careers in customer service.

Through intensive support, one participant demonstrated significant dedication by completing an OCN Level 2 in Youth Work and gaining valuable work experience.



This person developed hands-on experience across three distinct youth projects, fostering professional development, workplace adaptability, and a deeper understanding of youth work.

The programme's impact was evident, with 60% of participants making significant progress. It also provided vital support to 33% of participants facing significant mental health challenges, domestic abuse, and sexual abuse.

This work is intense and labour intensive. The complex needs which arise from children and young people being raised in poverty requires this type of intervention on a wider scale to provide the support to overcome multifaceted barriers to education and employment.

**Pumpkin Patch:** The young people designed and developed a Cross Community Pumpkin Patch in October 2024. This allowed them to develop and foster many skills including event planning, project management, communication, problem solving, creativity and much more. This event was attended by 200 people from both communities in Lower Oldpark and lower Cliftonville coming together to create memories.

### **New Ground pop-up coffee shop**

New Ground coffee was established in December 2023 with the support of NI Water and worked throughout the year providing a pop-up café in Girdwood and providing training and paid work for young people from the local community.

The initiative aimed to provide opportunities for local young people to develop skills, gain qualifications, and access employment in a supportive environment.

More than 30 young people undertook barista training and other industry-related training in order to gain employment. Young people also trained in business planning and marketing and decided to set up New Ground coffee as a pop-up cafe in Girdwood.

20 young people secured employment in cafes and shops. Some lacked direct work experience and the confidence to go straight into employment. This led to the idea of setting up a pop-up cafe in Girdwood.

The name New Ground came from the idea that the Girdwood site was new ground for young people in both communities and it reflected the peace and reconciliation ethos and work of local community groups.

The young people's key achievements were:

- Barista training and certification at introduction and intermediate levels
- Food hygiene certificate
- Health and safety certificate
- Manual handling
- First aid

### **Employment Opportunities**

Three young people secured their first paid trainee/employment roles as part of the pop-up cafe. Although they were trained baristas, they had no previous experience of working in a



cafe environment.

They had no experience of attending to customer's needs, working the till and the other work of a busy cafe. While at first it was a little daunting, the new staff very quickly learned what needed to be done, and how to attend to the needs of customers. With the experience of work their confidence soared.

The success of New Ground coffee highlights the value of targeted initiatives in empowering young people with essential skills and opening pathways to sustainable employment. Continued support for similar projects will further enhance community development and individual growth.

## 9. Acknowledgements

Cliftonville Community Regeneration Forum would like to acknowledge the support of our funders and thank them.

- The International Fund for Ireland
- The Executive Office
- Community Relations Council
- Department for Communities
- Belfast City Council
- Co-operation Ireland
- National Lottery Awards for All
- BBC Children in Need
- Department for Foreign Affairs and Trade – Reconciliation Fund
- Housing Executive
- NI Education Authority
- Community Foundation Ireland
- Neighbourly
- Northern Ireland Water
- Cash for Kids

## 11. Plans for the future

Cliftonville Community Regeneration Forum will be focused on the following key priorities in the year ahead:

**Cliftonville Enterprise Centre:** The development of the enterprise centre at Cliftonpark Avenue is crucial as a first step to moving the lower Cliftonville area out of poverty. The project has now secured funding so we are hoping that work can begin in the next year.

**Imagine Peace Barrier Project:** The concept of developing a sensory space and soft play social enterprise between lower Cliftonville and Lower Oldpark now looks a real possibility. In the year ahead a business plan and architectural designs will be prepared for local community consultation.

**Girdwood Youth Space Management proposal:** Cliftonville Community Regeneration Forum is working with community groups around the Girdwood site to manage the Girdwood Youth Space. An outline proposal has been submitted to Belfast City Council and a legal entity, Girdwood Community Trust has been established.

## 12. Financial Review

**1<sup>st</sup> April 2024-31<sup>st</sup> March 2025**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
Income	£675,662	£586,713
Expenditure	618,250	£590,344
Surplus/Deficit	£57,412	-(£3,631)
Debts	£0.00	£0.00
Unrestricted Reserves	£233,513	£194,916
Restricted Reserves	£103,669	£84,854
Reserves (Restricted & Unrestricted)	£337,182	£279,770

Cliftonville Community Regeneration Forum does have a Reserves Policy which outlines the need for financial reserves to allow the charity to make investments or deal with legal liabilities. One such liability is redundancy payments

The Directors have agreed a policy that requires financial reserves be maintained at a level to sustain 6 months' core activity during a period of unforeseen difficulty.

## 13. Deficit Funds

The Charity has no deficit at the end of this financial year.

## 14. Sign off

This Trustees Report was approved by the Board of Cliftonville Community Regeneration Forum on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2025 and is signed by:



Paul Little, Chairperson, Board of Trustees