



“BUILDING NEW FUTURES”

MODERNISING YOUTH
PROVISION IN THE THIRD
SECTOR



Department for
**Social
Development**

www.dsdni.gov.uk

Agenda

09.45 - 10.00	Arrival
10.00 - 10.15	DSD speaker
10.15 - 10.30	Presentation by funded Groups (Ann Marie McClure - Opportunity Youth. Paul Smyth - Public Achievement)
10.30 - 11.00	Minister
11.00 - 11.30	Break, photos with Minister, networking amongst groups
11.30 - 12.30	Audrey Murray - Social Economy Network/Social Entrepreneurship programme (challenge of change/ becoming enterprising)
12.30 - 12.45	UCIT - Financing change
12.45 - 13.00	Closing words from DSD
13.00 - Close	Lunch

Alex Attwood

Minister for Department for Social Development

Alex Attwood MLA took up his post as Minister for Social Development in May 2010. An MLA for West Belfast, Alex Attwood is acutely aware of housing need in Northern Ireland. As such, Minister Attwood has identified the provision of high-quality, sustainable housing as his number one priority.

Also in his remit as Social Development Minister, Alex is responsible for tackling disadvantage, building communities and encouraging social responsibility. He will be putting a Shared Future at the heart of his new portfolio.

A native of Belfast, Alex attended St Malachy's College and Queen's University and Belfast Institute of Professional Legal Studies, graduating with an LLB. Alex qualified and worked as a solicitor in the city before devoting himself to full-time politics.

Alex first got involved in student politics at university, serving as Student President of the Students' Union 1982-83 overseeing a time of change and investment at the university.

Alex represented West Belfast on the Upper Falls council since 1985 and became leader of the SDLP Belfast City Council Group. In 1997 he was instrumental in negotiations that gave Belfast its first nationalist mayor.

Appointed in 1997 by John Hume to the Dublin Forum for Peace and Reconciliation, Alex's commitment to an all-Ireland agenda is close to his heart. As a member of the SDLP Talks Team, he played a key negotiating role on policing, human rights and justice issues.

Elected to the Northern Ireland Assembly in June 1998, Alex was the SDLP spokesperson on policing and was appointed to the Northern Ireland Policing Board in September 2001 on which he served until 2007. During this time he was influential in the implementation of many of the recommendations of the Patten report.

Anne-Marie McClure MBE

Chief Executive, Opportunity Youth

Anne-Marie leads and manages Opportunity Youth, a multi award winning regional voluntary sector youth organisation. She is a Health Visitor by profession and was the recipient of the Northern Ireland Adult Nurse of the Year Award in 2000.

Opportunity Youth offers a myriad of services to young people, vulnerable adults and their families throughout Northern Ireland based on the ethos and methodology of youth and community work. These services provide a holistic perspective to the diverse and often complex needs of this grouping and recognise that potential is limitless in each and everyone of us.

Anne-Marie actively represents the Voluntary and Community Sector on various forums. She currently has a public appointment as member of the Youth Council for Northern Ireland (YCNI), is a founding member of the North/South Education and Training Standards Committee (NSETS), Vice Chair of YCNI's Training Board, Director of Northern Ireland's Open College Network (NIOCN), the Ardoyne/Shankill Health Partnership and the Link Centre, Newtownards. She is also a founding member and Trustee of GRIT. Anne-Marie has represented the voluntary sector on several working groups and sub groups as part of the Northern Ireland Drug and Alcohol Strategy, the Children and Young People's Strategy, the Mental Health Review and NICCY. Until recently she was a Director of Belfast Healthy Cities and Vice-Chair of the Executive Committee of the Northern Ireland Council for Voluntary Action (NICVA). She is also a graduate of the Common Purpose Leadership Programme and is currently undertaking a Doctorate in Education (EdD).

Anne-Marie is particularly interested in young people's barriers to reaching their fullest potential, participation, advocacy and restorative justice practice – all of which require professionals to relinquish a little of their power and hand it over willingly to young people and vulnerable adults. Anne-Marie is passionate about and committed to improving the outcomes for the client group her organisation serves in Northern Ireland. She has recently received a MBE for her services to the young people of Northern Ireland.

Paul Smyth

Director, Public Achievement

Public Achievement is Northern Ireland's leading youth focused civic education organisation. Paul has been the Director since 2003, and worked previously for the Youth Council for Northern Ireland, the University of Ulster and the Peace People.

Public Achievement's mission is "Building Democratic Communities Together". Their work is primarily focused on young people (teenagers) living in tough social realities, and with adults who want to work with young people in their communities. Projects include "Away from Violence" – which supports young people living in interface communities to develop alternatives to violence and avoidance as responses to conflict; "Driving Change" – a new project in collaboration with the Fire and Rescue Services in Northern Ireland and the border counties of the Irish Republic; and the WIMPS (Where Is My Public Servant?) project – a youth run advocacy project that supports young people to address issues within their communities and to engage with their elected representatives and other public officials.

Public Achievement has also established a trading arm – "Achieve Enterprises" – a social economy business which works to develop innovative approaches to community issues. For example it has recently published a report and film on young people and policing – "Beyond the Margins – Building Trust in Policing with Young People" in association with the Institute for Conflict Research.

Public Achievement recently received funding from the Atlantic Philanthropies for the WIMPS project, which was in part due to the increase in output of high- quality media products thanks to the WIMPSmobile project.

Audrey Murray

Chairperson, Social Economy Network

Audrey is the current Chair of the Social Economy Network Northern Ireland, and is the Business Development Manager for LEDCOM. Within her role in LEDCOM she has actively helped start up and develop over 100 community businesses/ social enterprise as an advisor/mentor. From 2006 she has been the Northern Ireland Manager of the Invest NI Social Entrepreneurship Programme for Northern Ireland.

Audrey has 20 years expertise and experience working in social enterprise development; this has included mentoring on CBSUP programme, UCIT Networks programme, Social Economy Belfast Programme and a Mentoring for the School of Social Entrepreneurs of Ireland.

She has years of experience serving as a voluntary director of different social enterprises currently she is a board member of UCIT, Blythwood Care Ireland and NICVA.

Jonathan McAlpin

Director of Operations, Ulster Community Investment Trust

Jonathan has worked in the Social Economy Sector for the past 15 years. During this time he worked with Work Belfast Development Trust, where he managed and delivered the Community Business Start-up Programme, Northern Ireland's main initiative to assist business start-up and growth of social enterprises.

He subsequently joined Venture International, a private consultancy firm, where he provided consultancy support to social enterprises and private companies in both jurisdictions on the island of Ireland.

Currently Jonathan is the Director of Operations with the Ulster Community Investment Trust in Belfast, Northern Ireland. When he joined the company in January 2001, the Trust had no capital, no clients and three staff. From this start, Jonathan has managed the operational development of the company to one which now has capital of circa £17

million and a current client base of approximately 90 clients. Since he joined the company, UCIT has invested circa £23m and assisted in excess of 170 social enterprises in Northern Ireland. The annual level of investment in clients has increased from less than £1m in 2001, 2002 and 2003 to over £4.5m in 2008.

UCIT is now recognised as one of the largest CDFIs (Community Finance Development Initiative) in the UK and Jonathan recently spearheaded the expansion of the operation into the Republic of Ireland in 2007.

As a social economy organisation, UCIT works very closely with Government to strive to achieve its mission “To develop and provide competitive, flexible and tailored lending, investment and business support to the Third sector throughout Ireland”. In securing capital and delivering services to the most marginalised sections of society in both Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland, Jonathan has had to understand the policy arena within the Governments of the two jurisdictions. This has required a clear working knowledge of the mechanisms of Government and the development of relationships with both senior civil servants and local politicians – particularly local Government Ministers and MLAs (Members of Local Assembly) in Northern Ireland.

In 2009, Jonathan joined a group of leaders on a US State funded visit to USA to study private philanthropy. Since his return, Jonathan has continued to work within this group of third sector leaders to advance Philanthropy and further promote engagement between the private and third sectors in Ireland.

Maeve Walls

Director of the Voluntary and Community Unit (DSD)

Maeve Walls was appointed Director of the Voluntary and Community Unit in the Department for Social Development in March 2008 following a two year period in the US initially as NICS Fulbright Fellow in the Fels Institute of Government and the University of Pennsylvania and most recently as Deputy Director/First Secretary in the Northern Ireland Bureau in Washington DC when she was seconded to the Office of the First and Deputy First Minister.

She joined the Northern Ireland Civil Service in 1995 on secondment from the Northern Ireland Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux where was Deputy Chief Executive. During her time in the NICS she has held a number of posts including those of Head of Neighbourhood Renewal in DSD, project manager for the Victoria Square Development and Head of Community Infrastructure in the Voluntary and Community Unit.

THE MODERNISATION FUND (Capital Programme)

Background

The Task Force on Resourcing the Voluntary and Community Sector, in its Report 'Investing Together', identified the need for resources to help promote modernisation and change within the voluntary and community sector and to enhance the capacity of the sector to deliver services.

In its response to the Taskforce report 'Positive Steps', the Government acknowledged the significant role of the voluntary and community sector in delivering services and in developing stronger and more cohesive communities. It also recognised that action was needed to improve the competitiveness of the sector through increased efficiencies by, for example, addressing duplication and overlap so that more resources could be directed to delivering services.

"Positive Steps" also foresaw considerable change in the environment in which the sector operated, with a reduction in overall funding changes in the structure of local and central government are changing.

In order to encourage and facilitate the predicted change, Ministers' approved the establishment of an £18 million Modernisation Fund, with £15 million approved to support capital projects. The intention of this capital programme was to encourage collaboration and resource sharing among voluntary and community organisations, with a particular priority on services and facilities for disadvantaged children and young people.

Programme Implementation

The programme opened to applications in July 2007, established in 2007 with funding available under three different schemes.

- An Infrastructure Pilot Scheme – budget £9m, providing £300k - £1.5m capital grants. This Scheme is intended to allow the development of a small number of relatively major infrastructure projects, each of which will be a model for the development and modernisation of the Sector.

- Community Facilities Improvement Scheme – budget £3m, providing £100k – £300k capital grants. This Scheme is intended to allow charitable bodies, voluntary or community organisations and social economy enterprises to modernise and improve community facilities to allow better service delivery including better access to services.
- A Small Capital Grants Scheme – budget £3m, providing £20k - £100k capital grants. This scheme is intended to allow charitable bodies, voluntary or community organisations and social economy enterprises to undertake minor works or purchase assets that will improve their ability to deliver a service to the community.

The goals established for the Modernisation fund were to:

- Achieve an increase in the level and degree of partnership and collaboration within the voluntary and community sector;
- Assist groups achieve either increased income generation and/or cost reduction;
- Improve access to services especially for disadvantaged groups;
- Enhance the capacity of groups within the sector to deliver both existing and new services;
- Tackle obstacles to good relations within and/or between communities;
- Deliver services and facilities in support of disadvantaged children young people (0-24 years)

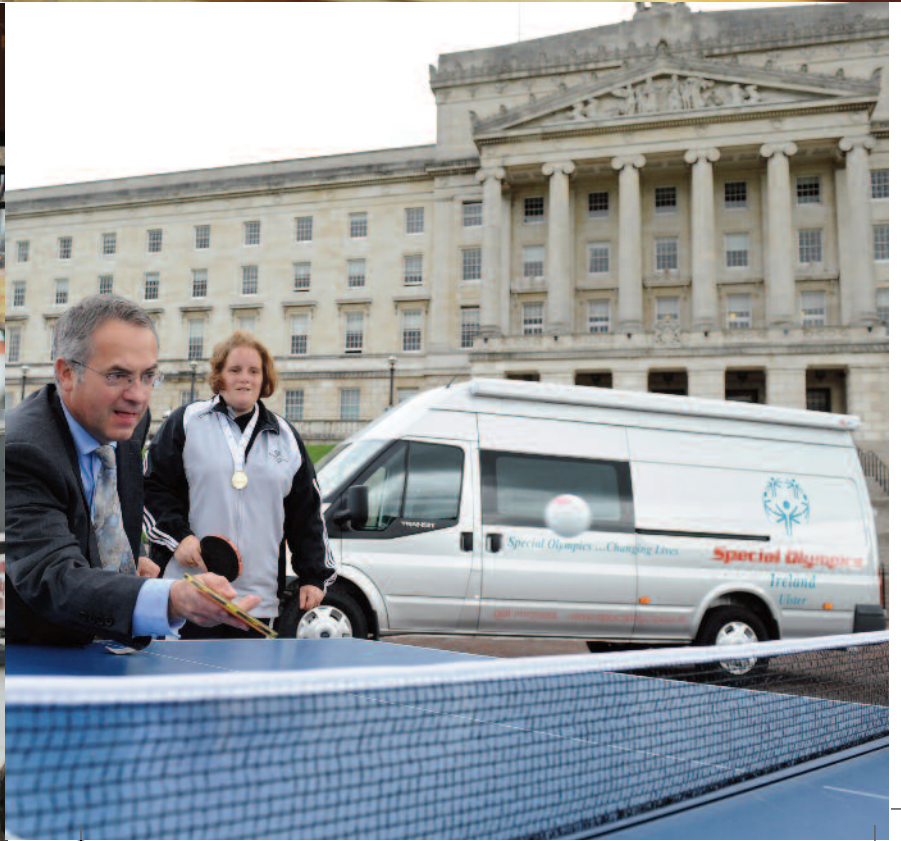
This call for applications was heavily oversubscribed. By the closing date of the 19th October 2007, 475 applications had been received, with requests for funding in excess of £197million. This demonstrated a high demand for this type of funding within the sector and the great need for a capital investment initiative.

Programme Delivery and Progress to date

With such a high level of demand for funding, there was an imperative to ensure that all 475 applications were subject to a rigorous review and appraisal process. By the time this process was complete, 58 proposals had been agreed for funding, with almost £13 million being committed to immediate project delivery. A small number of projects have been retained for approval and it is anticipated that the final monies will be committed to these projects within the next few months.

In terms of achievement, the headline figures for the programme, to date, are as follows:

- In terms of capital investment in the sector funding had been provided for a range of different projects including new buildings and/or extended facilities, improved access to premises refurbishment of existing facilities and equipment to deliver new services;
- Over 50,000 square feet were added to premises in the form of new, extended, or enhanced facilities;
- 29 new partnerships had been created; 40 existing partnerships had been strengthened;
- 87 percent of the projects (42) were able to better share resources as a result of the grant and 84 percent (38 projects) were better able to share organisational space;
- 87 percent of the projects (39) indicated that the grant had enabled them to increase their range of services and 81 percent (34) indicated that it had enabled them to provide the same services to more users;
- 83 percent of projects (40) indicated that the grant had enabled them to improve the quality of their services and 60 percent (29) reported that it had enabled them to more effectively target their services;
- 67 percent of the projects (32) were able to work more efficiently as a result of the grant and 42 percent (19) had increased their staff's skills;
- 29 percent of the projects (14) had been able to reduce their overhead costs;
- Over 80,000 users had used the new, extended, or enhanced (including equipment) facilities provided by the grant, including 4683 disabled users;
- 69 percent (31 projects) had been able to improve the quality of bonding relationships within their communities in line with government investment policy in Northern Ireland and similarly 64 percent (29) had been able to improve the quality of bridging relationships between communities;
- Over 8000 young people using the equipment/facilities provided by the grants were from areas of disadvantage (i.e. from areas that were in the top 20 percent of the Noble indicators of multiple deprivation);
- Over 4000 of the young people involved had gained new skills and increased their confidence, and over 800 had gained qualifications.



Holywell Trust

£1,418,192

Project Description

The purchase and redevelopment of two buildings situated at 8-10 and 12-14 Bishop Street, Derry to provide a single home for eleven groups and become a centre of community activity in the area and thus promote the facility as a truly neutral area in the centre of Derry.

The physical work will renovate and link two three storey buildings to provide office space, meeting rooms, full disabled access, library and exhibition space and a share reception area.

Coleraine Rural and Urban Network

£1,500,000

Project Description

The project seeks to provide joined up accessible services for both individuals and organisations through the creation of a community nucleus for the borough of Coleraine. This project involves the purchase of premises at 1.5 Brooke Street, Coleraine and demolishing same and building a purpose built 9,000 square foot building.

Confederation of Community Groups of Newry & District

£1,306,197

Project Description

The aim of the Project is to demolish an existing building at the rear of Ballybot House and construct a new building providing 10,000 sq ft over 3 floors to accommodate a number of voluntary organisations.

The promoters vision is to increase the integration of services and facilities with broader voluntary sector bodies leading to improved networking and cost savings; increase opportunities for networking and collaboration between new and existing tenants and increase the provision of neutral space in Newry facilitating opportunities for greater cross community contact.

Ards Development Bureau & Community Network

£1,079,342

Project Description

The purchase and renovation of 43-45 Frances Street, Newtownards to create a sub-regional networking centre for the voluntary and community sector in the Ards Borough and surrounding Eastern Region. The new centre will provide information, opportunities and support for communities for 100 groups and promote the sharing of information, ideas, knowledge, skills and resources between these groups.

The Village Garden (Broughshane) Ltd

£526,150

Project Description

The redevelopment of 70 Main Street, Broughshane into 3,905 sq ft of lettable space incorporating office space, exhibition space and community space. The project will create 10 new full time and 5 part time jobs, stimulate the creation of 4 new businesses by year 5 of the project and assist in the development of existing businesses in the area

Cultúrlann McAdam Ó Fiaich

£255,000

Project Description

To provide a multi-faceted physical regeneration, community and recreation project that will be iconic in nature and serve as a community hub for the 'Gaeltacht Quarter Strategy' to meet the needs of the Irish language/Cultural and wider community.

The project will involve the extension and refurbishment of the current premises to include an annex to the existing building, a tourist information centre, modernisation of theatre/café area and a refit of the kitchen area. Along with a increased number of workshop units at the centre, the project will result in higher income and greater visitor numbers.

Greater Shankill Partnership

£267,861

Project Description

The project seeks to improve facilities at the Spectrum Centre to include improved external security, information points in the reception, redesigned and refurbished restaurant facilities, refurbishment of the theatre, installation of a mirror and bar in the dance studio, refurbishment of the youth lounge and ICT improvements.

Overall this will result in increased level of service provision for the local community in terms of quantity and quality. The promoters have established targets for local participation, especially amongst young people.

St Peter's GAA Club, Lurgan

£300,000

Project Description

The project aims to complete the refurbishment of a purpose-built youth/sports hall and conference centre at the site is owned by St Peter's GAA Club. The first stage of construction was undertaken by the club itself, and this funding was used to support the second stage which comprises the fit out of the building and furnishing of the internal structure of the building including internal walls.

Located in an area of social disadvantage, the targets for participation include a 20% increase in the number of young people and a 10% increase in the number of adults participating in sport and physical recreation.

Omagh Community House

£299,487

Project Description

This project enabled the purchase and fit-out of additional space within Omagh Community House for community usage. The project will include fit out of premises- to provide flexible office space that can be used in a variety of formats both for current and new residents. New facilities to include 4 additional offices, a training room, a hot desk facility and a meeting room A video conferencing suite will also be installed in the new offices.

Lower Ormeau Residents Action Group

£226,664

Project Description

Working with other funding agencies, this project comprised works to extend and refurbish Shaftesbury Community and Recreation Centre. This included the replacement of the surface of the football pitch with a new 3G surface, security for the pitch area and an extension to the centre to include 4 changing rooms, a fitness suite and an indoor hall.

These works will enable an increase in the number of users at the centre, an extension in the opening hours and an increase in the numbers of local people participating in activities at the centre.

Business in the Community

£300,000

Project Description

This project will establish a Social Economy Incubation and Innovation Centre at Maydown, Co Londonderry. The project will involve the refurbishment of approximately 375m² of the existing buildings, and an extension of 325 m² to the existing buildings.

These works will provide open plan office style accommodation available for let on a 'per desk' basis (30 of which will be 'supported' by the promoters), one to one mentoring rooms, and a multi media and conference space, as well as shared services in the finished building.

St Patrick's Youth Centre

£283,066

Project Description

This project enabled the completion of a phased development in Donaghmore to provide a new community building in the village. The initial phases provided for a Community Sports and Recreation Centre, and a Business Support Centre adjacent to the existing Donaghmore Youth Centre.

This phase addressed the need to improve the physical structure of the existing youth centre to allow disability access, to overcome deficiencies in the old building and to provide flexibility to meet current and projected increased future demand for the centre. The building works involved the modernisation and refurbishment of the existing youth centre in order to integrate it into Phases 1 and 2 of the overall project in terms of style and quality.

Crumlin Together Limited

£255,000

Project Description

The project will involve the acquisition of an old mill building in Crumlin for use as a community youth centre, providing provide a permanent base for Crumlin Youth with managed access by other members of Crumlin Together, and the wider community within the Crumlin catchment area.

The overall project is supported by a range of funding organisations to enable the development of a building that meets a range of needs for the wide range of potential users that would be attracted to this type of development.

Youth Link NI

£255,000

Project Description

Co-funded by the International Fund for Ireland, this project enabled Youthlink Ni to purchase and refurbish new premises on the Springfield Road in Belfast. The new building will serve both as a new headquarters building for the organisation and provide a new training and resource centre for the delivery of its services.

The number of places available on Youthlink courses is expected to grow by 20% in year one, 15% in year two and 15% in year three, with a similar growth in number of staff employed by the organisation.

Boho Community Association

£76,767

Project Description

This funding enabled Boho Community Association to build an extension to the existing Community Hall, so that they could cope with the growing demand for services from the local community in this rural area. They were also able to purchase additional equipment to fit out the new premises including a new kitchen area. They were also able to buy IT equipment, a data projector, pull down screen and whiteboard to enable the delivery of IT training in the centre

Learmount Community Development Group

£30,580

Project Description

This award provided for a new 'state of the art' training room/ computer suite at the Learmount Community Centre. This training room/computer suite provides both a recreational and educational resource for all ages within the community, as well as providing IT options for local businesses.

The Bytes Project

£27,777

Project Description

Bytes aim to remove individual barriers to training and employment by assisting young people to overcome extreme, social and educational disadvantage. They used the funding to purchase a range of new IT equipment to enable them to extend both the range of services they deliver and also to facilitate an increase in the number of users.

Belfast Exposed Photography

£94,401

Project Description

This organisation occupies premises close to Belfast City Centre and asked for funding to re-design and enhance these premises to enable them to enlarge their existing audience and participant numbers. This included the creation of an archive gallery, to exhibit archives photographs from Belfast which were retained by the gallery but weren't available to the public. In addition the group sought to host a number of photography workshops for different age groups, and host exhibition events to introduce new visitors to the gallery's work

Rural College,

Derrynoid

£96,995

Project Description

Although the College is a well known and extensively used facility, there was a clear need to improve access to the facilities, especially for disabled users. Support from the Modernisation Fund enabled changes to be made to the existing buildings and pathways at the College. Funding was also made available for the upgrading of the ICT conferencing facilities to develop the colleges capacity to deliver educational courses in a new way, to build linkages with other "Digital Learning Networks", and to enable its further development as a centre for corporate conferences.

New Life Counselling Service

£49,346

Project Description

In partnership with Belfast Regeneration office, this funding enabled New Life Counselling to renovate their existing premises. The Modernisation Fund supported all the works on the ground floor of the groups premises on the Ardoyne Rd, in Belfast including the redesign of the downstairs waiting area to include full mobility access; greater confidentiality in the groups counseling rooms through the installation of sound proofing and the refurbishment of the communal staff areas. The IT infrastructure of the organisation was also upgraded through the provision of a new IT backup system and storage space for hard copy archive materials

Inter Estate Partnership

£62,152

Project Description

Located within a disadvantaged housing estate in Antrim town, this project sought to Refurbishment of an existing unit within the Parkhall Shopping Centre into a Drop in Centre for young people to use both during the day and in the evenings. Inter Estate Partnership also planned to deliver classes for the young people in daily living skills, such as parenting and cooking, as well as providing opportunities for them to develop their education and learning.

Crossfire Trust

£72,281

Project Description

Established in 1984, Crossfire Trust is a registered charity located in Darkley, Co Armagh which cares for the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of disadvantaged people, especially homeless people from the local area. Initially funding was made available for the fit out, redecoration and replacement of equipment in existing units at the groups main premises Darkley house. Further works included the replacement of windows at the premises to ensure compliance with modern planning and environmental legislation.

Ballinran Community Association

£45,572

Project Description

Ballinran is an isolated rural area and the Ballinran Community Centre aims to provide a focal point for the development of new services and the establishment of a stronger community identity. The new Community Centre has been constructed with funding from RDC and the MFCP contributed to the fit-out of the new Community Centre and some external site works. The MFCP funding enabled the promoters to provide services in the new centre and effectively deliver rural empowerment as the next phase of their project.

Coleraine Riding for the Disabled

£96,100

Project Description

The Modernisation Fund was a key part of a wider funding package which sought to fully equip and furnish a new purpose built centre with sports as its key focus providing sporting, training and socialising opportunities for children and young people of all ages, both for those with, and those without a disability.

The works paid for by the Modernisation Fund included equipment for the new arena at the Equestrian Centre at Castleroe Road, a training room, kitchen and office facilities and as well as a lift for disabled users.

Newington Credit Union Limited

£91,482

Project Description

This innovative project enabled Newington Credit Union to modernize their computer system to enable them to broaden the range of service offered to members. These include access to other financial services, Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT) service for social security benefits, pay-point facilities, access to affordable credit, as well as training in financial awareness for local users of the credit union services.

Ionad Uíbh Eachach

£100,000

Project Description

Located just off the “Westlink”, Ionad Uíbh Eachach provide childcare and pre-school services to the local community. The funding sought to increase community involvement in the centre through the provision of a more visually appealing site.

Funding from the Modernisation Fund was used to up-grade the basic structure of the premises, to improve the outdoor play area, to create a safe play surface for children, and buy new play equipment for the children.

First Housing Aid and Support Services

£46,337

Project Description

FHASS provide services for some of the most disadvantaged and vulnerable members of society, with premises in both Derry and Fermanagh. They sought the funding to extensively refurbish their premises in Enniskillen, with works which included re-plastering, new ceilings, the renovation of the kitchen and sanitary facilities, re-wiring and the installation of a new central heating system. Works also included the provision of improved disability access at the site.

Kingsmills Co-ordinating Committee

£100,000

Project Description

Despite being awarded planning permission for the extension and modernisation of their existing hall in 1975, this group had been unable to build on their plans until they won support from the Modernisation Fund. Building work is now underway on their new premises, which they hope to complete in the very near future.

Pearse Og GFC

£100,000

Pearse Ógs in the Community

Project Description

Through the support of a range of funders, and their own fund raising efforts, Pearse Og GFC were able to develop a new purpose built Changing Pavilion and Community Functions Suite that will enable enhanced sports participation across the local communities. The promoters hope that these facilities can become the central hub for community activity in the disadvantaged areas of West Armagh.

Aware Defeat Depression

£34,915

Project Description

This joint project from Aware and Community Change sought to create a technology/equipment library with laptops, PC's, projectors, projector screens and webcams, on-line training packages, DVD's and portable exhibition stands. This new service will enable helpline staff to provide more computers facilitating more calls and develop an email helpline.

It will also create the facilities to produce professional training and publicity materials in house for both organisations and their volunteers and member organisations, and develop a skills bank which will be administered by Aware Defeat Depression but delivered by staff in both organisations.

Ballylaw Regeneration Group

£43,784

Project Description

This group has planned to build a 320 square metre extension to their Community Hall, so that they can extend the level of services available in the local area, especially in terms of sports facilities. Works are yet to be started but it is intended that the funding will provide male and female changing room provision and three extra badminton court spaces within the community hall.

Opportunity Youth

£98,779

Project Description

Funding was provided for arrange of capital works to upgrade and modernise facilities at Opportunity Youth's offices in Belfast, and also to install an IT system which included a customised database for data collection, statistical analysis and evaluation; a replacement server to link regional workers and computers dedicated for the use of young people who use Opportunity Youths services and facilities.

Kilcranny House Ltd

£82,636

Project Description

The premises occupied by this group had become increasingly dilapidated over the years, and until they were awarded funding by the Modernisation Fund, they were only able to undertake small remedial works. With the support offered they have been undertake a full scale refurbishment of Kilcranny House including a catering standard kitchen, general repairs to the property structure and equipment for the on-site meeting space. These works will enable the promoters to provide a full residential service for a much wider range of groups.

REACH Across

£24,645

Project Description

Reach Across provide services that make a huge difference to the young people from communities all across Derry. However their existing premises and facilities had become very run down over the years. The funding was used to secure new entertainment equipment for the kids and within the next 18 months they hope to be able to move to new premises, also through support from the Modernisation Fund.

Hillcrest House

£78,518

Project Description

Hillcrest House are based in the Gobnascale area of Derry and provide childcare services from the Derryview Family and Childcare Centre. With support from the Modernisation Fund, they were able to extend and modernise their facilities to increase the number of childcare places provided at the centre, and also to expand the service delivery side of their activities. They were also able to provide an after school service for local school children and a parenting advice service for local families

Peninsula Health Living Partnership

£67,533

Project Description

This project enables the Partnership to pay for the relocation and refurbishment of two mobile buildings to the grounds of Portaferry Integrated Primary School to house the PIPS Out of School Hours Club, so that they can increase the number of places offered to local families. This will provide added educational benefits for the children attending the service, and help parents avail of training and employment opportunities.

PlayBoard

£17,520

Project Description

Initially Payboard requested funding for major refurbishment of their existing building and the purchase of new equipment. However at an early stage, they were offered the opportunity to acquire premises elsewhere. However they were still awarded funding to modernise their IT back up and storage services so that they could continue to maintain a high quality service to their users.

Stepping Stones

£42,651

Project Description

The project primarily seeks to improve disability access at the promoters premises in Lisburn, thereby increasing participation and engagement levels amongst their client group. The purchase of new equipment will also enable growth of the organisations social economy activities through increased production of better quality products, thereby generating income to enhance sustainability.

Corpus Christi Services Limited

£100,000

Project Description

Corpus Christi provide a wide range of services to the local community, especially striving to work with disadvantaged young people. In order to accommodate a growing demand for their service, they were awarded funding to purchase and erect a new timber framed modular building adjacent to their current premises. This will allow for an expansion of their counseling and welfare support services.

Orchardville Society

£33,102

Project Description

The aim of the Orchardville Society is to enable people with learning disability obtain real and economically viable employment opportunities by providing a range of person - centered vocational, career development and employment services.

This funding enabled the group to refurbish and modernisation their two existing sites (orchard Café and Edgecumbe Catering to ensure their continued profitability and to enable an increase in the number of people who were able to take up training placements with the organisation

Newbuildings Community and Environmental Association

£59,994

Project Description

Newbuildings is located not far from the City of Derry and this group sought funding for the purchase of new equipment for their community centre so that they could provide social, educational, training and sporting opportunities for local people within a local context. All work on this project was completed early in 2010.

Brackaghreilly & District Community Association

£19,312

Project Description

Brackaghreilly is a rural community located between Draperstown and Maghera. The group had undertaken a huge amount of community fundraising to develop a new community centre, but were unable to use all of the premises as they had insufficient monies to install a lift to the upper floors of the new building. The Modernisation Fund paid for the purchase and installation so that the whole community can use the entirety of the building which they had worked to create.

Royal National Institute for the Blind

£77,472

Project Description

RNIB provide services to over 34,000 blind and partially sighted people across Northern Ireland. This project sought to improve access to the groups "Talking Newspaper" service through a process of digitisation process to transform the service providing users with an increasing range of information in a faster and more accessible way.

The project entailed investment in transcription equipment and infrastructure to ensure digitisation and recording systems are installed in 3 key locations and provided a training programme to ensure volunteers had the technical skills needed to operate the equipment for the benefit of all service-users.

Belfast Citizens Advice Bureaux

£100,000

Project Description

For years, Belfast CAB had operated from very restricted offices in Belfast City Centre. This project enabled a move to newly refurbished offices at the Merrion Business Centre, that provide access for people of all abilities, and to better perform the function of Head office in terms of delivering support services to the branch or outreach offices network. Works included the creation of a reception and information area, the provision of 5 interview rooms for confidential delivery of advice and counselling services, the provision of meeting/training room and new office space for administrative staff

Public Achievement Ltd

£99,877

Project Description

Through the purchase and utilization of a mobile video and audio production unit equipment, this project allows Public Achievement to work with teams of young people in their communities to make short films about issues that are important to them. This work is rooted in Public Achievements 'Civic Youth Work' model, which is an alternative form of youth work. It is based in a situated learning approach, with an emphasis on getting young people to identify and resolve their own problems rather than providing activities or solutions for them.

Quaker Service

£21,759

Project Description

The project is to provide equipment for Quaker Connections project to be used in the new extension to the Visitor's Centre at Maghaberry Prison to be funded by the Prison Service Northern Ireland. This will provide additional resources to support prisoners and their families and income generated will largely sustain Quaker Connections service.

Northern Ireland Association For Mental Health

£78,076

Project Description

The project enabled NIAMH to expand the training and access services they provide for users in their centres across Northern Ireland, and involved the upgrading of the hardware and software throughout the NIAMH organisation. The equipment purchased included 27 lap-tops, the creation of wireless networks in 19 centres, the provision of printers for all offices and the supply of specialist software to 5 NIAMH centres that have significant numbers of people with a learning disability and one that has significant numbers with hearing impairment.

Carleton Street Community Development Association

£97,950

Project Description

Carleton Street Orange Hall is an old and historic building in the centre of Portadown. It had been leased by Carleton Street CDA for use as a community building but required substantial improvements to its overall structure in order that the community could maximise the benefit of having such a significant building in its possession. The restorative works included a new roof, the installation of a lift to all floors and the renewal of the heating system to improve efficiency and economy. The works were accompanied by a community engagement programme that reached out to new groups from across the wider Portadown area.

Shankill (Lurgan) Community Projects

£100,000

Project Description

This project undertook works to improve disability access to all areas of the Mount Zion building including the residential units. They were also provided funding to develop their existing conference suite and purchase a minibus to provide transport for the users of the services they provide. In addition, the new training and counselling suite will facilitate training/counselling for to up 100 people.

Laganview Enterprise Centre

£63,492

Project Description

Laganview Enterprise Centre Ltd is a social economy company established by Old Warren Partnership to develop a multi functional Centre which includes workshop units, commercial units and community facilities all within one structure. This funding enabled the Centre to equip the IT suite and provide modern training facilities within the Training Room. It also enabled the completion of some additional works such as security fencing at the site and improved ventilation that would benefit all users of the facility

Burnfoot Community Development Association

£59,811

Project Description

This project sought to extend the reach of the services delivered by Burnfoot CDA within the wider community. To achieve this aim, they were awarded funding to build a substantive extension to their existing premises to provide a large meeting room for the committee and other users, both store and office space, improved disability access to building and new sanitary facilities.

Inner City South Belfast Sure Start

£44,950

Project Description

This organisation wished to develop the extent of its services for local children and provide additional employment for local people. They therefore sought a wide range of new equipment for the Village Sure Start Children's Centre, including a CCTV system, computers, a safe surface for outdoor play, new kitchen facilities and equipment that would extend the range of play options available for children using the services available.

Little Orchids

£80,820

Project Description

Located within the grounds of the Gransha hospital in Derry, Little Orchids provides respite care services for the most disadvantaged children in society, and their families. With support from the Modernisation Fund, they were able to refurbish part of Woodlea House at the hospital to provide state of the art equipment and services for the families using their services including a parent room, office space, one to one room for hearing impaired children, new access area, soft play area, security fencing and separation from other services in the building. These works have enable the group to increase their capacity and introduce an outreach and befriending service for families across the North West region.

Special Olympics Ulster

£80,916

Project Description

The Accessing Resources for Clubs (ARC) project provides equipment to develop the 13 core sports currently offered as part of the Special Olympics programme. The project will allow over 80 clubs in Northern Ireland to work towards self sustainability through enabling each club to hire the necessary equipment, and also offers a dedicated sports package to each club, including training, mentoring and coaching services.

Ederney Community Development Trust

£56,489

Project Description

Ederney Community Development Trust applied for assistance to refurbish their premises and purchase equipment. This investment was to be used to create a drop-in centre, and a resource centre/internet café at the old Town Hall building. The works were accompanied by the delivery of a programme of recreational and educational classes for up to 300 people in the village, and the provision of new on-site outreach/advice services by external agencies.

Best Cellars Music Collective

£73,042

Project Description

Best Cellars provides music and media services such as music recording, song writing, filming and video editing, and related workshops and training to members of deprived communities. Services are delivered throughout the whole of East Belfast but particularly in Ballybeen and Tullycarnet. MFCP funding was secured to provide new music and media equipment.

Dunsford Cross Community Resource Centre

£94,281

Project Description

Dunsford Cross Community Resource Centre management was originally established in 1997 with the aim of providing a community venue for the residents of Dunsford and surrounding area. Funding from MFCP was secured towards the refurbishment of the Old National Schoolhouse and implementation of a multi functional sports hall/community facility.