

## Good Relations Support for Museums



Kevin Doherty, Good Relations and TBUC Division tells NIMC about the critical role of museums in the (T:BUC) Strategy as well as the support museums can access for Good Relations work.

The Executive Office (TEO) supports good relations through the delivery of the Together: Building a United Community (T:BUC) Strategy.

The vision of the T:BUC strategy is to create a united community, based on equality of opportunity, the desirability of good relations and reconciliation - one which is strengthened by its diversity, where cultural expression is celebrated and embraced and where everyone can live, learn, work and socialise together, free from prejudice, hate and intolerance.

At its core, the success of the strategy is dependent on Government departments, statutory bodies and the community and voluntary sector working with the community and each other to deliver projects and programmes which can really make a difference.

The T:BUC Annual Update Report outlines the positive progress that has been made to date and provides an overview of some of the work taken forward under the strategy. A copy of the Report

can be found at: <https://www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk/publications/together-building-united-community-strategy-tbuc-annual-update-201819>

Museums have a key role to play in bringing the community together and contributing to the outcomes of the strategy. Information on funding programmes and partners museums can work with can be found at: <https://www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk/articles/about-together-building-united-community-tbuc#toc-2>

District Councils have a dedicated Good Relations Officer (GRO) funded by Councils in partnership with TEO, who is well placed to advise on local good relations needs and what projects could provide a positive good relations impact going forward. Contact details for GROs can be found on the relevant local Council website.

We know that museums, through engagement activities, exhibitions and events are helping to dispel common misconceptions, break down barriers and have a positive impact on the community. To further this work we would encourage museums to access the links above to see what can be done and what funding is available.

We also recognise that the good relations work museums are already involved in is not always recognised. In order to better capture the impact being made, TEO officials are available to work with museums to review their methods for collecting good relations outcomes – ensuring that evidence is available to better understand and demonstrate the good relations outcomes being achieved. If you would like to speak to TEO about any aspect of good relations funding or good relations outcomes collection, we would love to hear from you – contact details are available on the TEO website: <https://www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk/topics/good-relations-and-social-change/together-building-united-community-tbuc>