

Heritage Legacy Delivery Plan: Cuilcagh Mountain Area

October 2021

Prepared by:



This delivery plan was prepared through the resources of The Cuilcagh to Cleenish: A Great Place Project which is supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund and Fermanagh and Omagh District Council. The project is being delivered in partnership by Outdoor Recreation Northern Ireland (lead partner), Cleenish Community Association, Killesher Community Development Association and Fermanagh and Omagh District Council through the resources of the Cuilcagh Lakelands UNESCO Global Geopark.

1.0 Introduction

Heritage is a vital community asset. It is a community's inheritance – what the past has given to them, what is valued in the present and what should be preserved for future generations. Heritage helps shape the identities of individuals and communities and provides clues to the past and how a community has evolved. It helps people develop self-awareness, better understanding of their history and traditions and is a keystone of culture that plays an important role in society, business, politics, and economy.

***'Heritage is our legacy from the past, what we live with today and what we pass on to future generations. Our cultural and natural heritage are both irreplaceable sources of life and inspiration.'* (UNESCO)**

Heritage focussed projects are extremely important in communities, uniting communities with a shared vision, building capacity and resilience within communities, attracting new audiences to participate in history and culture, helping people gain skills, allowing participation in volunteering roles and helping people involved benefit from better social opportunities and physical and mental health and wellbeing.

Moreover, heritage focussed projects help develop and grow an area, re-energise and develop underutilised spaces, put places on the map and make communities better places to live, work and visit. By celebrating, promoting, protecting, and conserving heritage assets, greater sense of pride and belonging in an area is instilled in its inhabitants and crucially, regeneration, housing, education, economic growth and community engagement are enhanced.

'Our living heritage is rightly valued for its cultural, educational, aesthetic and historical importance but we can now also clearly see that it is an economic driver for inbound tourism to the UK, as well as sustaining domestic tourism too.'
(Association of Leading Visitor Attractions)

1.1 Heritage Legacy Delivery Plan

1.1 Building on Strong Foundations

The Development of a Heritage Legacy Delivery Plan for the Cuilcagh Mountain area is a vital legacy aspect of the Cuilcagh to Cleenish: A Great Place Project (C2C, C2C Project), a project supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund and Fermanagh and Omagh District Council. The project was delivered in partnership by Outdoor Recreation Northern Ireland (lead partner), Cleenish Community Association, Killesher Community Development Association and Fermanagh and Omagh District Council through the resources of the Cuilcagh Lakelands UNESCO Global Geopark and ran from October 2018 – September 2021. The focus of the C2C Project was to connect the communities of Cleenish, Bellanaleck, Arney and Killesher and create a demonstrable pilot of how a community-led project can combine heritage, culture and outdoor recreation to deliver strategic actions of local authorities and in its 3-year lifespan. Key highlights are included in Figure 1.

- **COMMUNITY TRAILS**

- 2 New Community Walking Trails complete
- Phase 1 and Phase 2 of Arney River Canoe Trail in development
- Phase 3 of Arney River Canoe Trail shovel-ready.

- **HERITAGE PROJECTS**

- 18 Heritage Projects successfully delivered
- 1650 + people engaged in 18 Heritage Projects
- 8000+ digital engagements.

- **FUNDING SECURED**

- Additional £341,325 of additional external funding secured.

- **VOLUNTEERS**

- 105 volunteers delivered 324.5 volunteer days
- Volunteer contribution worth £42,150
- Non cash contribution from Geopark Team worth £37,80, equivalent to 88 days of professional time.

- IMPACT

- SROI of £1: £12 - For every £1 invested, £12 of social value was created.
- 99% of participants rated the C2C Project as 'excellent' or 'very good'.
- 94% felt the C2C Project was either 'extremely important' or 'important' for their community.
- 94% 'strongly agreed' or 'agreed' that the C2C Project allowed them to be more involved in their local community.
- 98.5% 'strongly agreed' or 'agreed' that the C2C Project allowed them to feel more connected to local heritage/history.
- 98.5% 'strongly agreed' or 'agreed' that the C2C Project allowed them to develop knowledge of local heritage/history.
- 96% 'strongly agreed' or 'agreed' that the C2C Project helped them learn more about local traditions.

Figure 1 – Highlights of C2C Project

The C2C Project was remarkably successful, leaving impacts on both the communities who participated and the place and landscape in which the project operated. To ensure the benefits of the C2C Project are sustained for the footprint area, the project partners understood the importance of sharing learning locally, regionally, internationally and in turn commissioned Insight Solutions to prepare a Heritage Legacy Delivery Plan project which is the focus of this report. The Heritage Legacy Delivery Plan provides an opportunity to build on the C2C Project's successes and employ the principles of the Faro and European Landscape Conventions (outlined further below) to bring together cross-border, rural communities and statutory sector partners to develop and deliver a unique heritage-led regeneration and placemaking programme. C2C has set the foundations and proven itself to be an extremely successful pilot which can now be replicated on a larger scale.

1.2 Heritage Legacy Delivery Plan Project

The Heritage Legacy Delivery Plan Project highlights the importance of sustaining the benefits of the C2C Project and helping communities understand, celebrate, and promote the heritage offer of the Cuilcagh Mountain and surrounding areas. A heritage offer exists when heritage is used as an asset to be managed, developed, presented, and used for public benefit.

The Heritage Legacy Delivery Plan denotes a strengthened sense of purpose based on heritage, a driving for change in the local economy and a catalyst for community development. Through the development of the Heritage Legacy Delivery Plan, local people from the Cuilcagh Mountain area (as defined below) have been inspired to reflect upon sense of place and identity and have been encouraged to set out a list of projects and opportunities to help them encounter, explore, better understand, and better preserve heritage around them.

Significantly, the development of the Heritage Legacy Delivery Plan puts communities on an equal playing field, empowers them to take ownership and responsibility for their heritage and utilise community resources effectively to maximise its potential and the benefits to the wider community. Local communities will utilise local people and organisations to deliver proposed projects, with guidance and support from the Geopark – further contributing to sustainability of rural places.

The development of the Heritage Legacy Delivery Plan had outcome of engagement with the communities coming together for the first time to discuss what aspects of local heritage are important to them within the proposed footprint area and what heritage, history and cultural projects they would like to see come to fruition in their local area. It has allowed communities something tangible to focus on, with the enthusiasm for heritage projects creating a momentum and realisation within communities that heritage is a powerful strategic asset, and one which can aid to thriving and sustainable communities in the longer term.

The Heritage Legacy Delivery Plan has the potential to attract investment into the area, and the impressive outcomes of the C2C Project have shown local communities what the power of community-led heritage work can lever and attract.

Whilst it is not all encompassing nor does it provide an exhaustive list of historical, heritage and cultural assets, it presents those which have been recognised by stakeholders involved in this project as important, significant, and worth exploring and developing further. The Heritage Legacy Delivery plan is a dynamic piece of work which represents a point in time, highlighting ideas and ambitions that can be developed further with the direction and input of wider individuals and communities.

Key benefits of a Heritage Legacy Delivery Plan are as follows:

A strategic approach to managing heritage and guiding change – ensuring communities manage effectively and maximise heritage opportunities and make the most of their heritage.
Heritage belongs to the people who continue to make history happen – those who live, work and visit the communities in focus. A Heritage Legacy Delivery Plan puts communities in the lead giving them a sense of ownership of heritage.
Maximising social benefits of heritage – heritage can be a powerful educational tool, promote social inclusion and encourage a sense of identity. A Heritage Legacy Delivery Plan will maximise important benefits of heritage.
Making the most of information available and documenting important heritage information which people hold but is quite often not documented and forgotten. A Heritage Legacy Delivery Plan provides a robust evidence-base of information which is accessible to those who want to become involved in heritage.

Table 1 – Benefits of Heritage Legacy Delivery Plan

1.3 Strategic Background

The Heritage Legacy Delivery Plan project is being driven by one of the main C2C Project partners – the Cuilcagh Lakelands UNESCO Global Geopark (the Geopark) – meaning the experience in managing and delivering such a project on a wide scale is being brought first-hand by stakeholders who played a vital role in the successful delivery of C2C.

The Cuilcagh Lakelands UNESCO Global Geopark is the world's first global Geopark crossing an international border and straddles not only the border between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland but now also the border between the European Union and United Kingdom. It is one of 147 members of the UNESCO Geoparks Networks across 41 countries and attracts approximately 20,000 visitors per year to enjoy activities including tours of the Marble Arch Caves, hill walking on Cuilcagh Mountain, motor-touring routes, visits to viewpoint on top of the Cliffs of Magho and field study projects, to name just a few.

Education and sustainable development are core principles of the Geopark that help deliver key objectives of effective management, economic benefits, conservation and environmental awareness. The Geopark focus on supporting the regional tourist industry by making the geology, natural landscapes and natural habitats of the area accessible without damaging the environment.

The Geopark, underpinned by the principles of UNESCO, focusses on a bottom-up/community-based approach to work supported by local community engagement and partnership working with a focus on communities working in partnership and informing the debate on local heritage and culture. The Geopark has expressed a strong desire to build on existing progress and achievements and to elevate the operations and impact of the Geopark with the two governing councils (Fermanagh and Omagh District Council and Cavan County Council) having come together to form a dedicated cross-border Geopark team and centralised Geopark office under the management of a Geopark Manager.

In its Development Plan, the Geopark outlines 18 objectives within 6 strategic pillars, as outlined in Table 2 which link to the project in focus:

	Strategic Pillar	Objectives	Fit to Heritage Legacy Delivery Plan Project
1	Cross-Border Governance	<p>1.1 Embed seamless cross-border governance, management, planning, finance and communications systems.</p> <p>1.2 Empower and support the cross-border Geopark team.</p> <p>1.3 Foster a culture of collaboration and engagement within the team, with and across the councils and with external stakeholders.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collaborative approach on a cross-border basis; - Culture of collaboration encouraged between FODC and Cavan County Council.
2	Stakeholder Engagement	<p>2.1 Build support for and understanding of the role and value of the Geopark within Fermanagh & Omagh District Council and Cavan County Council.</p> <p>2.2 Build partnerships and relationships with other public bodies, statutory agencies and funding organisations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Engagement with communities and stakeholders on a cross-border basis; - Better awareness amongst audience of value of the Geopark; - Opportunities to build partnerships and relationships with other organisations and to leverage funding;

	Strategic Pillar	Objectives	Fit to Heritage Legacy Delivery Plan Project
		2.3 Increase the sense of ownership of and commitment to the Geopark by local communities and businesses, facilitating and enabling them to leverage social and commercial opportunities from the designation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Instilling sense of ownership into local communities and providing understanding and skills relating to maximising heritage opportunities.
3	Education	<p>3.1 Become an exemplary leader in the delivery of environmental education and outdoor learning within the pre-school, primary, secondary, tertiary, further education and lifelong learning sectors on the island of Ireland.</p> <p>3.2 Develop mutually beneficial relationships with universities and research institutions nationally and internationally.</p> <p>3.3 Create enjoyable and tangible learning opportunities for all those visiting, living and working in the Geopark (that raises their understanding and appreciation of the place and builds their capacity as guardians of the heritage).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Skills and awareness development amongst stakeholders and communities of all ages and backgrounds; - Opportunities to share learning and engage education providers; - Maximising learning, education and skills development through projects highlighted in Plan; - Building capacity of groups and individuals involved in the delivery of projects.

	Strategic Pillar	Objectives	Fit to Heritage Legacy Delivery Plan Project
4	Tourism	<p>4.1 Develop the Geopark as a Sustainable Destination of Distinction that encourages visitors to stay longer and spend more.</p> <p>4.2 Generate economic benefit for the Geopark by supporting tourism enterprises to grow and compete, leading to a stronger local economy and greater employment for local people.</p> <p>4.3 Develop the food identity of the Geopark so that it acts as a motivator to visit the destination.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wider offering of heritage projects and attractions leading to visitors staying longer and spending more; - Potential economic benefits associated with projects.
5	Community	<p>5.1 Engage with local people to ensure that the vision, values and benefits of the Geopark are firmly embedded within our Geopark communities, and that community interests and aspirations are integrated into Geopark development plans.</p> <p>5.2 Empower individuals within communities to act as ambassadors and champions of the Geopark, both within their own communities and with visitors.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Local people and communities engaged with as part of development of Plan, and key driver in delivery of projects; - Plan made up of priority ideas put forward by community ensuring buy-in and ownership; - Local people and groups empowered to champion the Geopark and heritage projects.

	Strategic Pillar	Objectives	Fit to Heritage Legacy Delivery Plan Project
		5.3 Build strong, cohesive community connections and provide opportunities for communities to fully participate and engage with the Geopark.	
6	Conservation and Recreation	6.1 To manage, maintain and promote the heritage of the Geopark. 6.2 To provide safe, open and sustainable access to public recreational spaces. 6.3 To work towards becoming a carbon neutral destination that is current with good practice in climate change mitigation and regeneration strategies.	- Heritage better maintained and protected through projects outlined in Plan.

Table 2 – Strategic Pillars and Objectives of the Cuilcagh Lakelands UNESCO Global Geopark

1.4 The Council of Europe’s Faro Convention

The Heritage Legacy Delivery Plan also aligns with the principles set out in *The Council of Europe’s Faro Convention on the Value of Cultural Heritage to Society and The European Landscape Convention* (2000) (The Faro Convention), which provides a strategic European focus for the Geopark and provides an outline for how a set of values can be part of today’s work within the cultural environment. It is designed to inspire a variety of activities rather than provide a document with a number of commitments to be administered and leaves ample room for countries and organisations to adapt the level of implementation. The Convention aims to respond to the new needs and challenges faced by the cultural heritage arena and aims for strategies that indicate a new direction for cultural environment work.

The Faro Convention is based on two important points:

- 1. To put people at the centre through a clear connection to the area of human rights – each individual should be granted the right to experience and interpret what cultural heritage can mean.**
- 2. Emphasising the positive benefits of using heritage as a resource.**

The Faro Convention highlights the fact that cultural heritage is a resource that must be considered and used in multiple societal processes – it is a significant resource on an individual level and a societal level. It highlights a need to move towards greater public involvement in the opportunities and challenges which cultural heritage presents and suggests that partnerships between professionals and energetic communities can lead to opportunities for working actively together. According to the Faro Convention,

- Encouraging public involvement in heritage and cultural opportunities and facilitating partnership working between professionals and energetic communities will lead to people effectively working together;
- Viewing heritage and territories as a whole – including and combining several approaches simultaneously, linking ecological, archaeological, historical, cultural, perceptive, social and economic aspects;
- Understanding that landscape is everywhere and it provides a setting to people's lives – both physically and through memories and associations. Landscape is the product of human history and is the meeting ground between natural and cultural influences. Landscape is constantly changing and it defines identity and sense of place and is central to defining national, regional, local, and personal identity.

‘Celebrating our community heritage can help bring people together, feel pride in where they live and save stories and traditions.’ (National Lottery Heritage Fund)

1.5 The Area in Focus

The Heritage Legacy Delivery Plan is focussed on communities based within approximately a 10-mile radius around Cuilcagh Mountain. This is a cross-border area covering south-west Fermanagh and north-west Cavan, and is an area steeped in rich heritage, history, and culture.

The region in focus displays a classic, glaciated landscape comprising of uplands that have been smoothed down by successive ice sheets. The uplands are intersected by broad u-shaped valleys that sweep down to the surrounding townlands where numerous lakes have formed in glacial hollows and swarms of drumlins form many egg-shaped rounded hills. The uplands contain extensive areas of forest, blanket bog and karst where the underlying limestone has been carved out by the abundant rainfall to form significant cave systems including the world-famous Marble Arch Caves. The caves are widely regarded as a world-class natural attraction containing marvellous stream passages formed by three rivers that sink underground on the slopes of Cuilcagh Mountain. The area is dominated by a succession of marine and deltaic sedimentary rocks including limestones, mudstones, shales and sandstones – best seen in the upland regions of the UNESCO Global Geopark where the rock layers are exposed in dramatic cliffs, escarpments and caves. The region is home to a patchwork of rare, natural habitats – some of the last remaining natural areas of damp ash woodland in Ireland are found among rivers that emerge from hidden caves. Limestone grasslands are present on the lower slopes of Cuilcagh Mountain, hosting a unique community of wildflowers, animals and insects.

As well as boasting a huge array of natural heritage, the area has high historic, cultural, built, and archaeological heritage value. There are a high concentration of archaeological features – many dating as far back as Neolithic times as well as prehistoric tombs and 17th century castles.

The area in focus is highlighted in Figure 2, with the list of communities/villages within the designated catchment area outlined in Table 3.

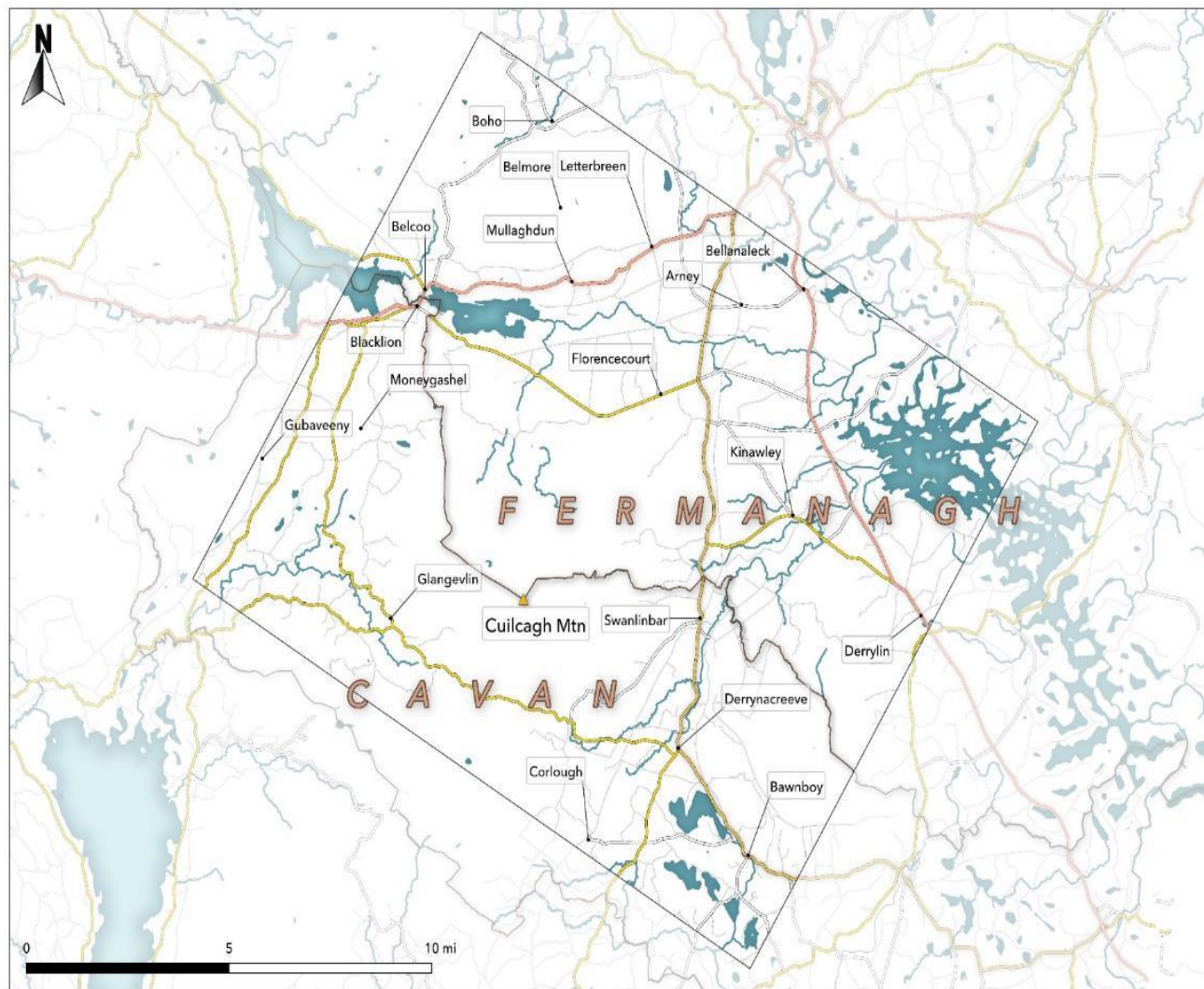


Figure 2 – Area in Focus

Cavan	Fermanagh
Corlough, Derrynacreeve, Blacklion, Gubaveeney, Moneygashel, Swanlinbar, Bawnboy and Glangevlin.	Belcoo, Boho, Belmore, Mullaghdun, Letterbreen, Kinawley, Derrylin, Bellanaleck, Arney and Florencecourt (Killesher).

Table 3 – Designated Catchment Area

1.6 Community Engagement

In the process of developing the Heritage Legacy Delivery Plan, Insight Solutions was commissioned to undertake community engagement. The following engagement took place over a period of 2 months (September and October 2021).

Consultation Method	Details	No. of Stakeholders Engaged
Online Consultation Events	3 x 1.5 hour public consultation meetings hosted via Zoom open to all individuals and organisations from aforementioned communities.	19 attendees
Survey	Survey hosted online with individuals and organisations encouraged to submit responses.	23 responses
Written Submissions	Individuals and organisations encouraged to submit responses via email.	7 responses

Table 4 – Outline of Community Consultation

Within consultation meetings, stakeholders were given information on the Heritage Legacy Delivery Plan, the Cuilcagh Lakelands UNESCO Global Geopark and the C2C Project and were encouraged to present heritage project ideas and highlight places/items of heritage significance from within their area. Whilst the Heritage Legacy Delivery Plan reflects all ideas submitted as part of the consultation process, it is important that going forward, further consultation with communities will be undertaken to refine and progress projects outlined. This will ensure that opportunities for community led heritage projects within all target communities are captured and reflected.

2.0 Vision and Anticipated Outcomes

The Vision
<i>A community-led approach to the promotion, recognition and protection of all aspects of heritage within the Cuilcagh Mountain Area¹</i>

The Plan envelops three main themes with associated outcomes:

Theme	Anticipated Outcomes
Promoting and showcasing heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- People and communities understand their local heritage offering;- People and communities are proud of their local heritage and empowered to share it locally and regionally;- A more diverse range of people and communities are aware of local heritage.
Accessing and recognising heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- People and communities are better able to access heritage;- The communities involved are better places to visit and stay;- People and communities will learn more about heritage, have greater wellbeing and develop skills.
Protecting and conserving heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Heritage is better protected and conserved for future generations;- The economic benefits of heritage can be better utilised.

Table 5 – Anticipated Outcomes

¹ This emerging vision has been developed through from the out workings of the consultation process. However, it will require further consultation / engagement from key stakeholders to refine

3.0 Governance and Management

Effective governance and management arrangements are crucial to developing a heritage focussed project on the scale proposed. Learning from national and international best practice, alongside drawing on the experiences of local interventions such as the C2C Project, a collaborative approach involving key stakeholders is critical to success. Importantly, the need for local communities to be a key driving force is well recognised and understood. Local people who embrace and champion the importance of heritage, working closely with relevant professionals, is a powerful partnership which can affect real change. The GeoPark has clear ambitions to engage with local people to ensure there are strong connections and meaningful relationships to deliver on shared goals which have mutual benefits for the area. This alignment of interests and aspirations provides the basis for a positive working relationship to deliver on this plan.

3.1 Steering Group / Project Management Group

There are a number of approaches which could be taken to establishing an appropriate structure. A Steering Group / Project Management Group is considered the most prudent approach to bring together key partners. The proposed composition of this Steering Group / Project Management Group is outlined in Table 6.

Member	Representation	Role
Cuilcagh Lakelands UNESCO Global Geopark	1 X Senior Officer from Cuilcagh Lakelands UNESCO Global Geopark (e.g. Countryside Management Officer)	Cuilcagh Lakelands UNESCO Global Geopark will provide a leadership role to provide strategic oversight for the implementation of Heritage Legacy Delivery Plan.
	2 X Project Staff employed directly to support delivery of Plan (see 3.2 for more information).	Dedicated staffing roles will ensure the effective and efficient delivery of actions contained within the Heritage Legacy Delivery Plan. See 3.2 for a further breakdown of the duties and responsibilities of the respective roles.
Local Communities	Minimum of 12 Local People (representing a minimum of 2/3rds of the communities in footprint area to ensure a strong representation of area)	Support with identification and implementation of projects within and between local communities. Members will share local knowledge and expertise and assist with practical support in terms of animation and delivering projects on the ground.
Relevant Stakeholders	Representation from following sectors; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business/local tourism sector • Local Schools • Environmental Organisations 	Provide knowledge, experience and insight into key areas such as environment, sustainability, education and tourism. This also provides opportunities for collaboration and partnership working in the delivery of actions within the Heritage Legacy Delivery Plan.

Table 6 - Proposed Steering Group

Thematic and/or task and finish groups may be established periodically to take forward specific projects reflective of the interest, knowledge and experience of members.

When the membership of this Steering Group / Project Management Group is finalised, more detailed **Terms of Reference** or a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** will need to be developed to set out the roles, responsibilities and expectations of all members. Independent facilitation would be beneficial to achieve this.

3.2 Resource implications

Cuilcagh Lakelands UNESCO Global Geopark is best positioned to provide a lead role in the delivery of the wide range of actions contained within the Plan. It is evident the existing staffing arrangements within the Geopark would not have the capacity to provide the critical project management role that is required for a project of this scale. Additional resources will therefore be required to realise the full potential.

Role	Duties	Costs
Project Co-Ordinator	Duties and responsibilities include but are not limited to; <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Project management and co-ordination role (e.g. timelines, setting key milestones)- Leading on Capital and Revenue Funding Bids- Providing leadership and direction to Steering Group / Project Management Group	An indicative budget of £65,000 - £75,000 per annum (inclusive of employer costs) is required to meet the core staffing costs of this project.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monitoring and evaluation - Developing and managing partnerships - Undertaking learning, sharing and networking opportunities 	Appropriate salary scales commensurate with the roles will need to be determined at the time of recruitment.
Project Support Officer	<p>Duties and responsibilities include but are not limited to;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community engagement and animation - Supporting development and delivery of projects within communities - Capacity building for local communities - Administrative support - Support with monitoring and evaluation 	
Senior Officer from Cuilcagh Lakelands UNESCO Global Geopark (e.g. Countryside Management Officer)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strategic support - Ensuring strong Governance arrangements - Reporting to Geopark Manager - Developing strategic relationships with key stakeholders 	Approximately 10% of a senior Officer's time could be allocated towards this role.

Table 7 – Resource Implications

3.3 Wider Network/Membership

It may be beneficial to consider a wider network for people to align themselves to the Heritage Plan without necessarily becoming involved in the governance or management structures. This would help build broader support across the target communities and create a network of people interested in local heritage.

4.0 Heritage Legacy Delivery Plan

Table 8 provides a list of actions which have been put forward by those who have engaged in the development of the Heritage Legacy Delivery Plan. These have been outlined under the three key themes as follows;

- **Promoting and showcasing heritage**
- **Accessing and recognising heritage**
- **Protecting and conserving heritage**

It should be noted that the actions outlined within the Heritage Legacy Delivery Plan are at concept stage and therefore a detailed scope is not available at this stage, therefore bands of costs have been developed as an indicative guide as follows:

< £2,499
£2,500 - £4,999
£5,000 - £9,999
£10,000 - £19,999
£20,000 - £39,999
£40,000 - £79,999
£80,000 <

Each action will need to be explored in more detail at the time of delivery to ensure a more robust assessment of costs is achieved. There are also actions not included in Table 8 which will be required to establish the Steering Group / Project Management Group and ensure that strong governance arrangements are in place.

PROMOTING AND SHOWCASING HERITAGE

	Action	Detail	Potential Costs	Outcomes
Participation in Heritage Activities	Increase visits to areas in focus by promoting the heritage, historic and cultural offering.	Develop marketing initiative to promote unique offering to both local people and tourists.	£10,000 - £19,999	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - People and communities understand their local heritage offering; - People and communities are proud of their local heritage and empowered to share it locally and regionally; - A more diverse range of people and communities are aware of local heritage.
Promoting and Showcasing Cultural Heritage	Develop projects focussed on language and literary heritage	<p>Glangevlin –</p> <p>Project focussed on former local Gaelscoil and unique Irish Language dialect of Glangevlin – sound recordings of people speaking and work of poets available;</p> <p>Project focussed on promotion of commemoration site and walking trail dedicated to last native Irish Speaker in West Cavan, Sean Eamonn Ruiari.</p>	<p>£2,500 - £4,999</p> <p><£2,499</p>	

	Action	Detail	Potential Costs	Outcomes
	Develop projects focussed musical heritage	<p>All areas – Project focussed on celebrating and showcasing local traditional music incorporating talents of local singers and musicians around Cuilcagh Mountain in an event such as a festival or concert;</p> <p>Small project to decipher any connections between Blue Grass music (linked to Irish music) and rare wild flower known as Blue Grass which grows on the shores of Lough Erne;</p> <p>Projects focussed on recording and preserving natural acoustic heritage – wildlife, soundscapes, aquatic soundscapes (including local fauna and flora) – potential to extend existing</p>	<p>£5,000 - £9,999</p> <p><£2,499</p> <p>£2,500 - £4,999</p>	

	Action	Detail	Potential Costs	Outcomes
		CatchmentCARE project and its focus area.		
		Glangevlin – Project focussed on promoting, showcasing, and reviving Irish Music traditions of Glangevlin including Mummers and The Wren Boys.	£2,500 - £4,999	
		Arney – Project focussed on promoting, showcasing, and celebrating traditional Crossroads Dances and Mummers.	£2,500 - £4,999	
		Boho/Belmore – Focus on area's rich musical and Gaelic heritage	£2,500 - £4,999	
	Projects focussed on other aspects of cultural heritage.	All areas - Project focussed on reviving and upskilling the community on local traditions of the whole area including: stone working, basket making (donkey	£2,500 - £4,999	

	Action	Detail	Potential Costs	Outcomes
		<p>creel), making and repairing donkey harnesses and carts, local food cooking (e.g. boxty), traditional haymaking, traditional hedge laying;</p> <p>Focus on storytelling and folklore including Tuatha De Danann and the White Horse of Bilberry Sunday on Benaughlin with opportunities including training/workshops with local communities on how best to record tales, myths, legends and stories;</p> <p>Potential to explore development of Lakelands and impact of Ice Age on landscape;</p>	<p>£2,500 - £4,999</p> <p><£2,499</p>	

	Action	Detail	Potential Costs	Outcomes
		Potential to develop Memory Map as an online resource highlighting key cultural traditions and memories from the Cuilcagh Mountain area; Potential to develop an interoperative map with IOS – connect with phone to certain places and learn about heritage, listen to sounds.	£10,000 - £19,999	
		Glangevlin – Recognition of former cultural traditions including: annual Sports Day and Sheep Fair.	£2,500 - £4,999	
		Arney – Recognition of brick-making heritage and old brick kilns with project focussed on same.	£5,000 - £9,999	
		Ballyconnell – Projects focussed on traditional customs (Bealtaine, Midsummer, Halloween), cures, Gaelic games.	£5,000 - £9,999	

	Action	Detail	Potential Costs	Outcomes
		traditional music, country music, set dancing, traditional crafts, storytelling.		
		Swanlinbar - Focus on recognising and developing local knowledge on traditional pig iron smelting and local people involved.	<£2,499	
		Gubaveeney – Look at potential projects focussed on historic coal mines on the mountain above Gubaveeney was once a source of employment and wealth with remains of tramway still existing; Project focussed on traditional folklore including 'Path of the Banshee'.	£2,500 - £4,999 £2,500 - £4,999	
		Derrylin – Project focussed on St Ninnidh.	£2,500 - £4,999	

	Action	Detail	Potential Costs	Outcomes
Promoting and Showcasing Built Heritage	Projects to recognise areas of built heritage and to outline potential development opportunities.	Glangevlin - Focus on promoting significance of Gaelscoil site and former sweat houses.	£2,500 - £4,999	
		Bellenaleck – Focus on promoting significance of Cleenish Parish Church, Cleenish Island (including graveyard and cottages) and historic battle grave in Cleenish.	£2,500 - £4,999	
		Swanlinbar – Promotion and project focussed on cremation site at Tircahan dating back 5000 years.	£2,500 - £4,999	
		Lisbellaw – Focus on promoting significance of Lisbellaw Fort.	£2,499	
		Florencecourt – Promotion and recognition projects on heritage significance of church ruins, graveyards, tombs, standing stones old housing including farmhouses/estates and linked pathways from the 1800s.	£2,500 - £4,999	

	Action	Detail	Potential Costs	Outcomes
		Boho/Belmore – Project with focus on Boho High Cross and Refad Stones, Boho churches, Aghnaglack Dual Court Tomb, St Faber's Well	£2,500 - £4,999	
		Kinawley – Promoting and showcasing St Nailes Church	<£2,499	
Promoting and Showcasing Natural Heritage	Projects to recognise areas of natural heritage and to outline potential development opportunities.	<p>All areas – Focus on recognising, mapping and promoting unique natural landscape and features including water quality, trees, flora, rich habitat, wildflower and ecological value on Cuilcagh Mountain;</p> <p>Project focussed on promoting the Cuilcagh Mountain area as unique in one of the few areas free from human sound/noise and capturing recordings of natural silence including birdsong etc – natural soundtracks of the area which</p>	<p>£5,000 - £9,999</p> <p>£5,000 - £9,999</p>	

	Action	Detail	Potential Costs	Outcomes
		could be shared on music channels;		
		Project recreating 1834 Ordnance Survey with laser lights.	£20,000 - £39,999	
		Swanlinbar – Showcasing lesser spotted areas including Swad side of Cuilcagh.	£2,499	
		Ballyconnell – Showcasing and recognising the heritage significance of the Shannon-Erne Waterway, disused railway line, Annagh lake, Cuilliaghan lake, Killywilly lake, Annagh Woods and Slieve Russell.	£2,500 - £4,999	
		Derrylin – Project focussed on showcasing Knockninny rock as a natural/cultural heritage site.	£2,499	
		Boho – Project focussed on Sillees River, Ross Lough, native Irish Hares, red squirrels,	£2,500 - £4,999	

	Action	Detail	Potential Costs	Outcomes
		untouched grasslands encouraging insects, butterflies, rare plants.		
General	Heritage Audit	Development of a Heritage Audit highlighting sites of historical, cultural and heritage significance including built heritage.	£40,000 - £79,999	
Sub Total			£167,491 - £297,466	

ACCESSING AND RECOGNISING HERITAGE

	Action	Detail	Potential Costs	Outcomes
Accessing and Recognising Cultural Heritage	Projects focussed on accessing, recognising, marking and developing areas of cultural heritage significance.	<p>All areas – Potential to scope and develop numerous ‘Smugglers Trails’ based on historic smuggling of butter, flour and other items across the border.</p> <p>One potential trail to start at Legleelan including The Burren and Marlbank,</p> <p>Second potential trail beginning at Tullydermot Falls finishing at Florencecourt House which includes many historic sites including Tullydermot Falls, Greenan Arch, Gortalughany Viewpoint, Greenan Bog, Pollinska Pothole, old mill wheel, old lime kiln and Aghtirourke Nature Reserve (some initial</p>	£5,000 - £9,999 (scoping only)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - People and communities are better able to access heritage; - The communities involved are better places to visit and stay; - People and communities will learn more about heritage, have greater wellbeing and develop skills.

	Action	Detail	Potential Costs	Outcomes
		scoping already complete by Cuilcagh Ramblers); Possibility to implement Blue Plaques trail/highlight Blue Plaques in terms of areas of cultural significance.		
		Swanlinbar – Initiative focussed on marking sites used for excavating iron ore for pig iron production and relevant sites, signage displaying history of its production and possible recreations on sites (potential festival to celebrate the same).	£5,000 - £9,999 (scoping only)	

	Action	Detail	Potential Costs	Outcomes
Accessing and Recognising Built Heritage	Projects focussed on accessing, recognising, marking and developing areas of built heritage significance.	Glangevlin – Potential redevelopment of the Old Mill.	£80,000<	
Accessing and Recognising Natural Heritage	Projects focussed on accessing, recognising, marking and developing areas of natural heritage significance.	All areas – Projects focussed on development of more riverside and lakeside walks; Need for better signposting and mapping of areas to allow heritage sites to be recognised and better accessed by local people and visitors; Potential to carry out Lidar of Black Pigs Dyke and excavation of Black Pigs Dyke; Sound walks focussed on helping users interpret the landscape through digital access to natural	£5,000 - £9,999 (scoping only)	

	Action	Detail	Potential Costs	Outcomes
		sounds and interpretation with language options for foreign tourists. Could be implemented through existing interpretation boards, via an app etc.		
		Swanlinbar – Water-based projects focussed on Brackley Lake, access to Commas Waterfalls, Claddagh River; Potential for development of a canoe trail from Swanlinbar to Lough Erne; Potential for river walkway from Swanlinbar to Tullydermot falls; Potential to connect the Marble Arch Greenway through the Glens of Cuilcagh from the Blacklion to the Greenway in Templeport.	£80,000< (scoping only)	

	Action	Detail	Potential Costs	Outcomes
		Belcoo – Potential to scope trail development through woodland through village to north connecting Aughrim townland and Garden Hill	£5,000 - £9,999 (scoping only)	
		Boho/Belmore – Project focussed on trail development at Belmore Mountain and local forests with focus on archaeological heritage; and Ring Cairn and Passage Tomb at Eagles Knoll.	£5,000 - £9,999 (scoping only)	
		Potential walk through Claddagh Glen to Marble Arch Caves – potential to develop dry valley between Marble Arch Caves and Sheridan's Land – potential continuation of Claddagh Glen Walk.	£5,000 - £9,999 (scoping only)	

	Action	Detail	Potential Costs	Outcomes
		Long-term project could be cliff side walk at Monaster Gorge with high level walk and exit bend at river quarry.	£40,000 - 79,999 (scoping only)	
		Kinawley – Project to showcase the history of Benaughlin Mountain via signage for the walk.	£5,000 - £9,999	
		Boho – Signposting to heritage sites for tourists. Trails signposted within Belmore. Access, securing the site and signposting to Reyfad Stones and St Fabers Well.	£5,000 - £9,999	
		Canoe Trail on Silees (Scoping)	£5,000 - £9,999	

	Action	Detail	Potential Costs	Outcomes
General	Archaeological focussed projects allowing local communities under the guide of a professional archaeologist to allow search for historic artefacts and remains.	All areas – Project focussed on scoping out areas of archaeological significance and potential to excavate including Clontymullan Fort, Cavan Burren. Use local archaeologists including Gaby Burns and focus on aspects such as rock art already researched by Gaby Burns.	£20,000 - £39,999	
Sub Total			£265,000 - £369,989	

PROTECTING AND CONSERVING HERITAGE

	Action		Potential Costs	Outcomes
Protecting and Conserving Built Heritage	Projects focussed on protecting and conserving areas of built heritage significance	All areas – Potential projects looking at Ecclesiastical Heritage – mapping ancient churches and holy wells around the mountain and focus on maintaining and restoring same.	£5,000 - £9,999	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Heritage is better protected and conserved for future generations; - The economic benefits of heritage can be better utilised.
		Glangevlin – Protection and conservation of Gaelscoil site and sweat houses.	£20,000 - £39,999	
		Bellenaleck – Projects focussed on the protection and conservation of Cleenish Parish Church Cleenish Island – graveyard & cottages, historic grave in Cleenish.	£40,000 - £79,999	

	Action		Potential Costs	Outcomes
		Swanlinbar – Preservation and conservation priority - cremation site at Tircahan.	£40,000 - £79,999	
		Florencecourt – Projects focussed on the protection and conservation of church ruins, graveyards, old farmhouses, and paths which link them.	£40,000 - £79,999	
Protecting and Conserving Natural Heritage	Projects focussed on protecting and conserving areas of natural heritage significance	All areas – Projects with a; Focus on the protection and conservation of the Freshwater Pearl Mussel which is endangered across Europe and Ireland;	£10,000 - £19,999	

	Action		Potential Costs	Outcomes
		Focus on the maintenance and protection of pure, clean water in the area and the habitats within;	£10,000 - £19,999	
		Focus on the maintenance of local caves including clearing dumped rubbish; Initiatives focussed on clearing and preventing litter;	£5,000 - £9,999	
		Projects focussed on accessing and understanding quiet trail experiences – helping people access mindful, natural experiences including hiking, forest	£10,000 - £19,999	

	Action		Potential Costs	Outcomes
		<p>bathing in local natural areas and parks – potential to seek ‘quiet’ certifications and highlight tours of the area with quiet spaces in mind; focus on conservation of butterflies and moths which are under threat from agricultural intensification, afforestation and development in the area;</p> <p>Focus on protection of a sister limestone outcrop of Knockninny Rock which is currently struggling with an invasive species and overgrazing;</p>	£10,000 - £19,999	

	Action		Potential Costs	Outcomes
		Projects involving local volunteers to help manage invasive species/focus on conservation and protection;	<£2,499	
		Engagement with local farmers and landowners on heritage assets they have and how to manage them;	£5,000 - £9,999	
		Focus on pollinator style projects in schools to include mini orchards – highlighting role of pollinators and healthy eating;	£5,000 - £9,999	

	Action		Potential Costs	Outcomes
		Citizen Science project to help people identify local biodiversity;	£5,000 - £9,999	
		Desktop mapping exercise to scope the area and assess if there is potential to designate areas e.g. ASSI status, peatlands, species-rich grassland and wet woodland.	£10,000 - £19,999	
		Glangevlin – Focus on preservation of natural heritage assets including: bogs, wildlife, lakes, rivers, natural springs, mountains and Shannon Pot.	£10,000 - £19,999	

	Action		Potential Costs	Outcomes
		Bellenaleck – Focus on protection of herons nesting in Mill Lough; Preservation of Upper Lough Erne	£5,000 - £9,999	
		Community garden built in flagstone quarry (scoping)	£2,500 - £4,999	
General	Better mapping of areas appropriate for tourists	All areas – Advocate for a cross-border OS 1:25000 map with Lidar contouring to provide accurate base material from which to coherently plan and promote the present and future heritage projects.	£10,000 - £19,999	
	Development of a Community Biodiversity Plan	All areas – Work with an ecologist to structure a Community Biodiversity Plan for the Cuilcagh Mountain area including mapping habitats.	£10,000 - £19,999	

	Action		Potential Costs	Outcomes
		Engage with local landowners and residents to educate and plan for future nature conservation.		
	Improved disability access to local heritage	All areas – Work to promote the importance of disability access and develop disability access to heritage sites and projects, including those as part of this Plan.	£10,000 - £19,999 (scoping only)	
	Ensuring sustainable tourism	All areas – Focus on not overpopulating areas with tourism and continuing to protect area and its heritage assets; Focus on improving access to self-catering	£5,000 - £9,999 £5,000 - £9,999	

	Action		Potential Costs	Outcomes
		accommodation in more remote settings around Cuilcagh Mountain.		
Sub Total			£274,999 – £467,478	

Theme	Indicative Cost
Promoting and showcasing heritage	£167,491 - £297,466
Accessing and recognising heritage	£265,000 - £369,989
Protecting and conserving heritage	£274,999 – £467,478
Total	£707,490 - £1,134,933

Table 8 - Heritage Legacy Delivery Plan

5.0 Potential Funding Streams

This section provides a high level overview of potential funding opportunities at the time of writing. This may be subject to change.

5.1 International Fund for Ireland

International Fund for Ireland (IFI) have committed to a £4m spend between 2021 and 2024 to support approximately 30 distinct community projects.

Role of the Fund: A peaceful and shared society of empowered and connected communities.

Mission: To work in collaboration with key partners to empower the most marginalised and alienated communities and to help them create sustainable peace in a shared future. Through our unique approach, we encourage community development and leadership, giving each generation the tools they need to prosper and grow.

The strategic objectives of the IFI for 2021-2024 are:

1. To promote reconciliation and integration between and within communities, particularly in interface and border areas;
2. To continue to encourage communities and individuals, particularly young people, who have only recently or have not yet participated in peace building and community reconciliation activities;
3. To support the development of leaders who play a key role in stabilising communities and defusing potentially difficult issues around cultural identity and the future of relationships across these strands.

The key objectives are supported by continuing:

1. To build strategic alliances with other funders and governments to ensure interventions are complementary, sustainable and will shape policies that promote peace and reconciliation;
2. To ensure an appropriate focus on cross-border engagement and balanced support for all traditions and for both rural and urban environments;
3. To extend IFI engagement with other peace builders on the island of Ireland and in other regions emerging from conflict as part of a wider effort to promote conflict resolution.

The **Communities in Partnership** strand of the IFI programme outlines the impact that Brexit is likely to have on border areas including physically and psychologically and to harmonious relationships. Under the programme, IFI invite applications for cross-border projects submitted jointly by organisations north and south. The fund outlines that ‘communities are best placed to design their own future’ and encourage groups to put forward initiatives that show innovation and creativity in addressing challenges they face. IFI encourage groups to design the project and its associated funding requirements in an inclusive and participatory way.

The IFI will support projects that can meet two criteria:

1. That it builds genuine connections on a cross-border basis; and
2. That it provides meaningful benefit to the communities involved.

Ideally, projects have to bring people together to serve their communities in ways such as:

- **Using culture and arts to create a space for people to deepen their understanding of the past and set a path for their future;**
- **Creating projects that engage and empower young people from both sides of the border;**

- **Launching initiatives that strengthen civic engagement thereby empowering communities to face difficult conversations;**
- **Taking practical steps to improve people's social and material wellbeing;**
- **Facilitating contact and discussion between diverse groups working on peace and reconciliation across the island; and**
- **Creating the conditions necessary for the development of social enterprise and innovations.**

5.2 National Lottery Heritage Fund

The focus of the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) is to support the heritage sector to strengthen its recovery in the medium term to build back for positive change across the UK's heritage. NLHF outline the importance of heritage as essential in making communities better places to live, creating economic prosperity and supporting personal wellbeing and are committed to working with UK governments and other partners to support heritage organisations with grants from **£3000 to £5million** available for project funding.

Priority Outcomes

The NLHF are prioritising projects between April 2021 and March 2022 which meet at least one or more of the following outcomes:

- 1. Inclusion** – A wider range of people will be involved in heritage (mandatory outcome);
- 2. Economy including job creation** – The local economy will be boosted;
- 3. Wellbeing** – People will have greater wellbeing;

- 4. Skills** – People will have developed skills;
- 5. Local areas** – The local area will be a better place to live, work and visit;
- 6. Organisational resilience** – Funded organisations will be more resilient.

Further, all projects must demonstrate that they are environmentally responsible and are integrating environmental measures into their projects.

The NLHF may still fund projects that meet the Strategic Funding Framework outcomes but these will be less of a priority during 2021/22 where the focus is building back from the Covid-19 pandemic.

- Heritage will be in better condition;
- Heritage will be identified and better explained;
- People will have learned about heritage, leading to change in ideas and actions.

Within the broad approach to heritage overall, the three priorities for heritage remain:

- Landscapes and nature;
- Community heritage; and
- Heritage at risk.

Funding

The NLHF will take a proportionate and pragmatic approach to the extent to which organisations meet all of the funding priorities and requirements. Expectations will depend on the level of funding being applied for. Decisions on funding for new projects under £5million will be made by Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales committees and teams local to each project.

	Grants from £3000 - £10000	Grants from £10000 - £250,000	Grants from £250,000 - £5million
Who?	Organisations looking to connect people and communities to heritage; Not for profit organisations or private owner of heritage	Organisations looking to connect people and communities to heritage; Not for profit organisations or private owner of heritage (grants up to £100,000) or a partnership.	Organisations looking to connect people and communities to heritage; Not for profit organisations or partnerships led by a not for profit organisation.
What?	Heritage projects up to one year	Heritage projects up to five years	Heritage projects delivered over five years
Info and Assessment Process	No deadline for funding application; When application and supporting documents received, HLF will assess application and give decision in 8 weeks.	No deadline for funding application; When application and supporting documents received, HLF will assess application and give decision in 8 weeks.	Before applying, applicant must submit an expression of interest form explaining the idea – HLF will then make a decision and invite to apply; Deadline for applications is quarterly (final deadline of 2021/22 is application made by 29 November 2021 for decision by end of March 2022)

			Assessment process will be 12 weeks and following assessment it will be assigned to quarterly decision meeting.
Required £ contribution	None	Applicant must contribute at least 5% pf project costs.	Applicant must contribute at least 5% of project costs for grants up to £1million and at least 10% for grants of £1million or more.

5.3 Peace Plus Programme

Since 1995 there has been a PEACE programme in the region (NI and border counties) demonstrating the EU's positive response to the Northern Ireland peace process. The programme is financed through the European Union and managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB).

This is a unique initiative of the European Union which has been designed to support peace and reconciliation. The primary objective of the programme is to promote positive relations characterised by respect, where cultural diversity is celebrated and people can live, learn and socialise together, free from prejudice, hate and intolerance.

There have been 4 Programmes delivered to date as outlined below:

- **Peace 1:** 1995 - 1999
- **Peace II:** 2000 - 2006
- **Peace III:** 2007 - 2013
- **Peace IV:** 2014 – 2020 (ongoing)

Local Authorities (i.e. Councils) have traditionally played a key role in the delivery of Peace Programmes.

The new Programme (Peace Plus) will cover the period 2021 – 2027. A period of consultation on the Programme with stakeholders and communities across the region closed on 12th May 2021. Final documents are yet to be published, however, information below provides an overview of what is known about the funding programme at this stage.

The overall objective of Peace Plus is to build peace and prosperity and ensure that this Programme will leave a lasting and tangible legacy. The Programme's strategy is to continue to take the opportunities and address the needs arising from the Peace Process in order to boost economic growth and stimulate social and economic regeneration and secondly, to promote social inclusion, particularly for those at the margins of economic and social life.

Each Thematic Area of the Programme includes a strong community-led focus, leading to a more prosperous and healthy society. The SEUPB have developed the Programme on the basis of actions and initiatives which will support, develop, engage and enable communities throughout the Programme area. The SEUPB has created a Programme which requires meaningful community engagement and in particular, with statutory agencies to consider new innovative approaches to deliver community engagement at a local level.

The Programme will focus on those communities and organisations best placed to deliver real and lasting impacts and, critically, within communities and groups that have been most affected by the legacy of the Troubles/conflict. Communities will be encouraged to take pride in and promote an understanding of their culture, customs and heritage through initiatives funded by the Programme, particularly those associated with regeneration. The Programme will continue to empower communities to work together, cementing relationships through initiatives which sustain peace and leave a legacy of friendship and understanding

PEACE PLUS Programme Thematic Areas



Theme	Indicative Budget	Overview	Relevant Investment Area/s
Theme 1 – Building Peaceful and Thriving Communities	€210m	NI and border counties of Ireland are experiencing a period of relative post-conflict stability. Peace and reconciliation are essential for ongoing socio-economic development and prosperity – actions to improve community and social cohesion are therefore a priority for governments of both jurisdictions.	<p>Building Positive Relations – €30k budget</p> <p>‘Projects which help build the capacity of regional and local organisations through cross community and cross border collaboration.’</p> <p>‘Projects which facilitate positive cultural expression within diverse communities and will lead to mutual trust and respect for each other.’</p> <p>‘Projects which develop new community leaders and enhance the capacity of existing community leaders</p>

Theme	Indicative Budget	Overview	Relevant Investment Area/s
			<p>and volunteers to promote and facilitate peace and reconciliation.'</p> <p>'Projects which showcase the benefits of cross-community and cross border contact to achieve greater community cohesion.'</p> <p>Reimaging Communities – €60k Budget</p> <p>'To create a more cohesive society through an increased provision of transformative shared space and services which will</p>

Theme	Indicative Budget	Overview	Relevant Investment Area/s
			<p>support and embed peace and reconciliation.’</p> <p>‘Actions which enable key representative and leaders of different communities to collaborate and co-design re-imaging projects on a cross-border and/or cross-community basis which will result in significant social and economic regeneration.’</p> <p>‘The development of new shared spaces which will have a transformative effect on local areas and enable shared usage by groups and individuals from different</p>

Theme	Indicative Budget	Overview	Relevant Investment Area/s
			<p>community, cultural, political backgrounds.'</p> <p>'Programmes which support the sustained cross community sustained usage of new and re-imaged community spaces and facilitate access to shared services. These programmes may encompass a wide range of thematic areas including children and young people...health and wellbeing...arts and culture, tourism and heritage and sport and recreation.'</p>

Theme	Indicative Budget	Overview	Relevant Investment Area/s
Theme 4 – Healthy and Inclusive Communities	€155m	Rural communities have significant strengths and face considerable challenges, which can result in inequalities. The programme presents an opportunity to develop a strengths-based model which will enable and empower rural communities to reach their full potential and investment will contribute to the creation of thriving rural communities, delivering significant social, economic and environmental benefits.	Rural Regeneration and Social Inclusion – €50m Budget ‘Development of a green infrastructure to promote active lifestyles and support enterprise and tourism within rural areas (including those on a cross border basis) and better interconnection of rural and urban areas.’
Theme 5 – Supporting a Sustainable and Better Connected Future	€265m	A clean, green and accessible environment makes a major contribution to people living long, healthy and active lives as well as creating a place where people want to live, visit and invest. Strategic	Biodiversity, Nature Recovery and Resilience – €15m Budget ‘To enhance protection and preservation of nature,

Theme	Indicative Budget	Overview	Relevant Investment Area/s
		<p>cross-border investment will enhance and protect the environment as well as strengthening the economy in the programme area.</p> <p>Community education is essential to ensure that everyone can play their part in protecting the environment and community and citizen participation initiatives and education awareness training programmes are a feature of this theme.</p>	<p>biodiversity and green infrastructure.'</p> <p>Encompasses key areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Protected site restoration; - Development and management of nature recovery networks and nature-based projects; - Initiatives to increase connection with nature; - Initiatives to address invasive alien species;

Theme	Indicative Budget	Overview	Relevant Investment Area/s
Theme 6 – Building and Embedding Partnership and Collaboration	€47m Euro Budget		<p>Maintaining and Forging Relationships between Citizens – €20m Budget</p> <p>‘Supporting smaller projects that make a strong contribution to the social and civic cohesion on a cross border basis.’</p> <p>‘Small projects to promote citizens cooperation around specific shared challenges e.g. climate change.’</p>

5.3 Irish Central Border Area Network (ICBAN)

The Councils of the Central Border Region experience common problems and concerns: a need to re-enforce and expand infrastructure, a sense of distance from centralised decision-making, a perceived peripherality from each jurisdiction, in addition to the peripherality in an EU context, which is experienced by the island, as a whole.

ICBAN's role is to help address these challenges and does so by facilitating Local Government and key stakeholders in the development of the Central Border Region; coordinating economic and social development working; capacity building of elected representatives; support of cross-border co-operation and promotion of the region.

Member local authority areas are; Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon, Cavan, Donegal, Fermanagh and Omagh, Leitrim, Mid-Ulster, Monaghan and Sligo. The ICBAN regional priorities are;

- **Exploiting new opportunities based on regional strengths and assets;**
- **Supporting economic development;**
- **Enhancing citizens' quality of life;**
- **Enabling greater connection/remote working; and**
- **Developing the region's tourism offering and quality of life infrastructure.**

Since 2003, ICBAN has been actively involved in securing funds for the Ireland / Northern Ireland border region. This has included €23 million under INTERREG IIIA for 70 projects across a spectrum of sectors; tourism development, robotics engineering, environmental education, etc. ICBAN and partners were also successful in securing over €14 million in funding from the INTERREG IVA Programme. Opportunities may become available through this funding programme and a close working relationship is encouraged.