

GALVANISING THE PEACE REPORT LAUNCH 20.09.17

DUNCAIRN CENTRE FOR CULTURE AND ARTS

As part of Community Relations Week

Delivered in Partnership by Community Dialogue, 174 Trust and Tides Training and Consltancy

On behalf of the Galvanising the Peace Coalition of Community Relations Groups

Background

Galvanising the Peace (GTP) is a Coalition of community relations groups who undertook an extensive survey of civic society views on:

- The state of the peace process
- Outstanding obstacles to peace
- Solutions to enable progress towards a truly peaceful, inclusive and prosperous future.

A report outlining the findings was published in April 2017 and the Report was formerly launched during Community Relations Week on 20th September 2017. A simultaneous launch was delivered in L'Derry by Holywell Trust and The Junction and it is hoped that a further launch will take place in mid-Ulster.

The Launch

This launch was organised by Community Dialogue, 174 Trust and Tides Training and held in Duncairn Centre for Culture and Arts. There were 43 participants in attendance from all sections of Northern Ireland society and beyond. Neil Jarmin, report author and director of the Institute for Conflict Research provided a summary of the process and Report findings. This was followed by 2 sessions of facilitated small group dialogues on issues arising from the report under the following headings:

- Future Peacebuilding Framework and Strategy *Facilitated by Community Dialogue*
- Cultural Diversity *Facilitated by 174 Trust*
- Building Trust, Respect and Reconciliation *Facilitated by TIDES Training and Consultancy*
- Women and Peacebuilding *Facilitated by Women's Information NI*

There has been an overwhelmingly positive response to the GTP Report and the launch event was filmed by Northern Visions and released as part of their Focal Point programme on the 27th of September 2017 see <https://vimeo.com/235728640> and <http://www.nvtv.co.uk/> Non Violent News also covered the event in the following article:

“The Report from the ‘Galvanising the Peace Coalition’ project is an important statement from a community relations perspective of what is needed currently in Northern Ireland to take peace forward. Based on a substantial consultative process which began in 2015, the report, which is available at <http://www.communitydialogue.org/content/galvanising-peace-report> covers many different aspects of what is needed to move forward in the North. “The momentum behind peace building must be prioritised and consistently supported if we wish to build a sustainable and peaceful society based on the principles of equality, human rights and good relations. The peace process in Northern Ireland needs to be reinvigorated through partnership between political institutions and communities on the ground.”

