# Dormant Accounts Fund NI

# Grant Announcement

**Date:** 7 July 2021

**Number of grants:** 32

**Total Awarded:** £2,775,075

## Table 1: Grants awarded across all Northern Ireland

| **Organisation** | **Location** | **Project summary** | **Amount awarded** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Belfast Operatic Company | Across Northern Ireland | Belfast Operatic Company, which works across Northern Ireland, is using a £15,000 grant to redevelop their brand and gather insights on their audiences so they can market their performances more effectively to generate more income to become more sustainable. Over two-years the project will gather data on their audiences, carry out a brand audit, create a customer database, re-design their website, train volunteers to provide marketing support and create a digital marketing plan.  | £15,000 |
| Big Telly Theatre Company | Across Northern Ireland | Big Telly Theatre Company is using a £100,000 grant to redevelop their Brick Moon space, which is a virtual venue for artists, volunteers, and community groups from across Northern Ireland to connect with each other and share skills. Over two-years the group will evaluate how Brick Moon is currently working and will try new ways to run the virtual space to make it more effective at generating income and a useful tool for the community and arts sectors. The work will allow them to reach new audiences and work with new global partnerships. | £100,000 |
| Centre for Cross Border Studies | Across Northern Ireland | The Centre for Cross Border Studies, which provides services across Northern Ireland, is using a £39,561 grant to develop their online work. The three-year project is upgrading their IT equipment and digital software, developing their website and online platforms, and providing digital skills and income generation training for staff. This will allow them to hold professional standard online events, utilise their online Research Platform, improve awareness of their work to a wider audience and gain more sponsorship funding to help them become more sustainable. | £39,561 |
| Centre for Democracy and Peace Building | Across Northern Ireland | The Centre for Democracy and Peace Building is using a £50,000 grant to develop an online learning platform which will be used to share learning, good practice, training modules and resources. The two-year project will strengthen the organisation, allowing them to generate income by providing bespoke online learning to larger NGOs, international organisations, and the private sector, while ensuring that free materials are provided to communities across Northern Ireland. The platform will also be used to capture the knowledge, expertise and experience of people who lived through the peace process so it can be passed onto the next generation of civic and community leaders.  | £50,000 |
| Children in Northern Ireland | Across Northern Ireland | Children in Northern Ireland is using a £99,911 grant to improve their digital services and upskill their staff so they can become more digitally robust and communicate their work more effectively. Over two years the organisation will buy new equipment and build its digital knowledge and skills to allow them to improve online communications with their customers and provide better online services beyond the lifetime of the project. They will share learning with member organisations to help build capacity of the children’s sector.  | £99,911 |
| Cinemagic Limited | Across Northern Ireland | Cinemagic is using a £99,938 grant to become more sustainable by significantly growing their subscribers and reaching new online audiences which will improve brand awareness and attract corporate sponsors. Over two years the project will implement a new digital strategy and develop digital content, for social media and their Cinemagic TV Youtube channel. Staff will receive training to carry on this work after the project ends.  | £99,938 |
| Crimestoppers Trust | Across Northern Ireland | The Crimestoppers Trust is using a £99,600 grant to develop a new Digital and Communication strategy, and train staff to build the capacity, resilience and sustainability of the organisation. Over two years the project will carry out research, develop the strategy, create digital content for all their digital channels, and train staff, Board members and volunteers to deliver the digital activity. This will increase the capability of the organisation so they can carry on their digital work when the project ends.  | £99,600 |
| Cruse Bereavement Care (NI) | Across Northern Ireland | Cruse Bereavement Care is using a £99,184 grant to develop a Bereavement Hub to improve services for people across Northern Ireland and help the organisation to become more cost effective and efficient at sharing resources between their six local branches. Over two years the hub will create a sustainable model for services which will help the branches become self-sufficient. This will allow staff and volunteers on the ground to focus on delivering a service to bereaved people and more bereaved people will have access to a wider range of information and immediate support.  | £99,184 |
| Employers For Childcare Trading Limited | Across Northern Ireland | Employers for Childcare is using a £100,000 grant to increase income generation by setting up a Sensory and Training Centre of Excellence. This will be based in their High-Rise facility, which is an accessible, inclusive indoor adventure centre in Lisburn. Over two years the project will develop training courses and materials for face-to-face and online classes that will be accessed by people from across Northern Ireland, UK and beyond. Staff will be trained, mentored and upskilled to deliver training services which will build the capacity of the organisation and allow skills to be passed onto future staff.  | £100,000 |
| Housing Rights | Across Northern Ireland | Housing Rights, which operates across Northern Ireland, is using a £100,000 grant to help implement their digital strategy which will build the digital infrastructure of the organisation and increase income generation. Over three years the project is improving their internal systems for staff and volunteers, increasing income generated online by improving online systems for customers, and improving their website to make it more accessible and useful to those who are experiencing housing problems. The project will improve delivery of services which will free up staff time to work with increased number of people requesting advice and support.  | £100,000 |
| Love for Life | Across Northern Ireland | Love for Life is using an £86,928 grant to implement their strategic plan to improve the running of the organisation and ensure its long-term financial strength. The group delivers personal development activities in schools and community settings across Northern Ireland. Over three years the project is providing resources so the leadership team have the space to focus on long-term growth. The project will develop a data management system and an External Engagement Strategy which will contribute to income streams that will improve organisational sustainability and resilience.   | £86,928 |
| Northern Ireland Forest School Association | Across Northern Ireland | The Northern Ireland Forest School Association is using a £94,500 to make its activities sustainable by investing in its Nature Ranger Centres which reconnect children with the natural environment. Over three years the project is working with local councils to set up three sustainable Nature Ranger Centres in parks in the Lisburn and Castlereagh, Mid Ulster and Fermanagh and Omagh council areas. The project will pay for equipment and resources for each Nature Ranger Centre, after which it will use income generated by afterschool clubs and holiday programmes to become self-sufficient. They will then be able to offer free forest school sessions for schools and community youth organisations.   | £94,500 |
| Northern Ireland Rape Crisis Association (Nexus NI) | Across Northern Ireland | Nexus NI is using a £100,000 grant to develop leadership skills and help the organisation increase effectiveness of revenue streams so they can improve support for victims of sexual violence. Over three years the project will provide resources to analyse the data the organisation creates which can be used for communications work to increase awareness of their work and to gather evidence for impact of services. This will lead to more fundraising opportunities and higher quality funding proposals which will decrease reliance on government funding. The project will also carry out an organisational review and provide staff training to develop their leadership skills. | £100,000 |
| Northern Ireland Youth Forum | Across Northern Ireland | The Northern Ireland Youth Forum is using a £100,000 grant to review their work and generate more income to strengthen the organisation. Over three years the project will provide training and support for the group’s executive committee, which is made up of young people, so they can carry out a review of their organisational governance and processes which will feed into their new five-year strategic plan. The project will provide resources to free up current staff time to allow them to seek partnerships, expand the reach of the organisation, and to assess the feasibility of a number of social enterprise ideas. This will help them to generate more income and increase the impact of the organisation’s work with young people across Northern Ireland. | £100,000 |

## Table 2: Grants awarded in Ards and North Down

| **Organisation** | **Location** | **Project summary** | **Amount awarded** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Harmoni 2019 | Ards and North Down | Harmoni is using a £97,653 grant to improve the running of the organisation so they can provide the best care and support to people with learning disabilities, special needs or who are homeless and living in their Bangor and Belfast based accommodation. Over three years the project is carrying out research and development to produce recommendations for improvement in their models of support and care and identify funding opportunities. The project will also run training and facilitate strategic planning for senior staff and trustees. The grant will also fund new systems to improve their monitoring and reporting so they can communicate the impact on the welfare of their residents.  | £97,653 |

## Table 3: Grants awarded in Belfast

| **Organisation** | **Location** | **Project summary** | **Amount awarded** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Action for Community Transformation Initiative (ACT) | Belfast | Action for Community Transformation Initiative is using a £90,000 grant to develop their premises on the Shankill Road into a community hub which will generate income and reduce their reliance on funding. Over three years the project will set up a visitor's café and develop other paid-for activities and income streams to put the organisation on a more sustainable and robust footing.  | £90,000 |
| Ardmonagh Family and Community Group Limited | Belfast | Ardmonagh Family and Community Group in west Belfast is using a £40,000 grant to develop and implement strategies to improve the running of the organisation following an organisational review. Over two years the project will develop their Board, carry out succession planning, review the effectiveness of their services, produce a marketing plan and develop a business plan for the possible expansion of their Children’s and Family Support service.  | £40,000 |
| Arts Ekta | Belfast | ArtsEkta in south Belfast is using an £82,106 grant to increase the capacity of the organisation and develop new long-term income streams to become more sustainable. Over three years the project will develop their social enterprise, create new products and services to sell online, develop an e-commerce/digital strategy to increase capacity for online selling, upskill their staff and develop a marketing strategy.  | £82,106 |
| Ashton Centre Development Limited | Belfast | The Ashton Centre Development Limited, based in north Belfast, is using a £10,000 grant to develop a more sustainable and diverse business model to become more financially resilient whilst contributing to the regeneration of north Belfast through their current properties. To do this they will organise a strategy weekend for all board members and operational staff where they will revisit the organisation’s charitable objectives and review their current business model. This will result in new strategies and reports, including a feasibility study of community-based regeneration projects.  | £10,000 |
| Bright Umbrella Drama Company Limited | Belfast | The Bright Umbrella Drama Company in east Belfast is using a £59,886 grant to develop long-term financial stability. Over two years the project is developing income streams by building the group’s membership base, marketing the theatre and its equipment and expertise for hire, building their audience, strengthening their partnership working and reviewing funding sources. The project will also train and develop the leadership team and put plans in place to improve the theatre’s facilities to create an arts and theatre centre for east Belfast.  | £59,885 |
| Creative Local Action Responses & Engagement C.I.C.(CLARE) | Belfast | Creative Local Action Responses & Engagement C.I.C. (CLARE) in north Belfast is using a £100,000 grant to develop the organisation and strengthen their staff team. Over three years the project will grow and further train their Board, create new income streams, develop their volunteering model, review their marketing and communication activities, develop new services and networks to better meet the needs of the older people they support, enhance their systems and procedures to better measure their impact, and train their staff and volunteers.  | £100,000 |
| Prime Cut Productions Ltd | Belfast | Prime Cut Productions, which is working across Belfast, is using an £85,500 grant to create a sustainable, creative environment with long-term strategic partnerships within the sector. The three-year project is providing resources to allow the group time to identify new funding and sponsorship opportunities and paying for membership to professional bodies which will allow the group to stay up to date with the sector and for their staff and board to access professional training opportunities. The project will also set up a steering group and strategy for their Participate programme, research materials, and attend professional learning/networking events.  | £85,500 |
| Sólás | Belfast | Sólás is using a £92,434 grant to improve the financial stability of the organisation by expanding and consolidating their services for children and young people with additional needs in the Belfast area. Over three years the project will provide resources to manage the growth of their respite, after schools and self-directed support services which will generate more income and increase the long-term viability of the organisation. The project will also raise awareness of the support packages they can provide.  | £92,434 |
| Springboard Opportunities Limited | Belfast | Springboard Opportunities Limited in north Belfast is using a £99,920 grant to integrate succession planning into their work, developing their staff and services and exploring new opportunities for income generation to become more sustainable. Over two years the project is developing and implementing a succession plan, reviewing their work to improve how they deliver their training programmes to the community and improving their digital systems so they can better monitor their impact. The project is also providing staff training and developing alternative income streams so they can be less reliant on core funding.  | £99,920 |
| Springvale Training Ltd | Belfast | Springvale Training Limited in west Belfast is using a £74,982 grant to review the organisation and develop a long-term sustainability strategy. Over one year the project is learning from stakeholders, re-establishing their mission and goals, increasing their operational efficiency, diversifying income streams and improving their digital equipment to provide an enhanced learning experiences for students. The project will also develop closer links with the employers they work with to ensure vocational programmes are effective for students.  | £74,982 |
| The Lighthouse (Ireland) | Belfast | The Lighthouse (Ireland), who work across Belfast, is using a £99,805 grant to strengthen their organisation by streamlining their client journey and developing the financial skills of their Board and senior team. Over three years the project is providing resources to gather data and produce reports which will to inform future planning, service improvement, recruitment, and show the impact of their work on people affected by suicide. The project will also provide training for the board and senior team on financial planning and modelling to give them the skills and confidence to strengthen their income.  | £99,805 |

## Table 4: Grants awarded in Causeway Coast and Glens

| **Organisation** | **Location** | **Project summary** | **Amount awarded** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Dalriada Training Services C.I.C. | Causeway, Coast and Glens | Dalriada Training Services is using a £99,894 grant to digitize and develop services so they can meet the needs of the communities they serve, making them more adaptable to future challenges and financially sustainable. Over two years the project will develop their portfolio of training and market the organisation to retain and secure new contracts, supporting income generation and long-term resilience.  | £99,894 |
| Focus on Family Nurturing and Development Centre | Causeway, Coast and Glens | Focus on Family Nurturing and Development Centre in partnership with Millburn Community Association, is using a £99,519 grant to support their existing social enterprises to reach their full potential and take forward new social enterprise opportunities. Over three years the project will review current delivery of each social enterprise and progress ideas for income generation. This includes reviewing existing practices, expanding to maximise profitability and working with contacts to develop new services, resulting in long-term sustainability.  | £99,519 |

## Table 5: Grants awarded in Derry City and Strabane

| **Organisation** | **Location** | **Project summary** | **Amount awarded** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Rural Area Partnership in Derry Limited | Derry and Strabane | Rural Area Partnership in Derry (RAPID) is using a £99,917 grant to become sustainable long term, by exploring new avenues of income, improving long-term partnerships between statutory agencies and the community and voluntary sector, and supporting access to funding opportunities. Over three years, the group will increase income through other means such as social enterprise and being in a better place to tender and implement a staff training programme, to ensure the organisation can take up opportunities identified. The aim is to have a business focus which will result in long term resilience. | £99,917 |

## Table 6: Grants awarded in Lisburn & Castlereagh

| **Organisation** | **Location** | **Project summary** | **Amount awarded** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| The Turnaround Project | Lisburn and Castlereagh | The Turnaround Project, which is based in Hydebank Wood College, is using a £99,953 grant to implement their business plan and become more sustainable. Over two years the project will generate more income and increase the capacity of the organisation by training staff, implementing succession planning, setting up new systems and processes and gathering data on their impact. They will also seek more funding opportunities and develop their social enterprises to provide more training and employment opportunities for people prior to release from Hydebank.  | £99,953 |

## Table 7: Grants awarded in Mid and East Antrim

| **Organisation** | **Location** | **Project summary** | **Amount awarded** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Access Employment Ltd | Mid and East Antrim | Access Employment Limited is using a £96,843 grant to diversify their business, by looking into opportunities to extend existing work or develop new businesses, income generation to become more sustainable. The organisation supports people with disabilities, health conditions or living in areas of social disadvantage into employment through their social enterprises. Over two years they will develop and implement a marketing plan and explore options for diversifying their product line around the personalised gift market. They will also upgrade their IT systems to improve efficiency and will train and develop staff, so they can take advantage of opportunities as they arise in the market, supporting their long-term resilience. | £96,843 |
| Larne Community Care Centre | Mid and East Antrim | Larne Community Care Centre is using a £99,952 grant to evaluate the organisation’s current position and develop a plan to implement changes to ensure the organisation’s long-term sustainability. Over three years, the group will adapt service delivery to reach new users and create a succession plan for each critical role within the management team. They will upgrade their IT system so they can work more effectively and collect data for learning and implement a digital marketing plan to reach their target audience. This includes developing a website, using social media and ensuring existing staff develop skills to maintain them. | £99,952 |