

THE QUANGO QUAGMIRE

The policy of Decentralisation has resulted in a ludicrous 45 unelected and often unrepresentative organisations, being involved in the administration of the Peace and Reconciliation Programme. This includes Eight 'Intermediary Funding Bodies' which administer 30% of the funds; five 'Sectoral partners' contracted by the government; twenty six District Partnerships which are responsible for 15% and six County Council-led Task Forces.

Intermediary Funding Bodies

Community Relations Council
Northern Ireland Voluntary Trust
PROTEUS
Rural Development Council
YOUTHNET
Area Development Management/
Combat Poverty Agency
Co-operation North

District Partnerships

Northern Ireland Partnership Board
Twenty-six District Partnerships

Sectoral Partners:-

Educational Guidance Service For
Adults
Playboard
N.I. Pre-school Playgroups Assoc.

- There must be a through investigation into the wastage and misappropriation of funds whiter intentional or inherent in the system.
- An independent audit must be carried out to see just how much money is lost annually in the quango quagmire.

PARTNERS IN CRIME

The Role of the District Partnerships in the Funding of Ex-prisoners Groups

The Peace Programme intended to decentralise the targeting and distribution of funding, this intention was not realised. It was intended to play a significant role in filling the democratic deficit and creating a more direct link between the community and the state. In fact, the reverse has been the case, rather than fill the void, the state has created a new layer of bureaucracy. In the direct channels of representation there were no direct channels of representation, but a quagmire of quangoes. While the intention was to decentralise the criteria and application processes have led to a muddying of the waters. The central state has in fact taken the decision making from the hands of local democratic representatives and placed it with unelected and unaccountable bureaucrats.

The Operation of the District Partnerships

Much needed funds were sunk into constructing a completely new layer of quangoes, complete with their own secretariats. The overarching body the Northern Ireland Partnership Board was at the behest of some of its original members established as a company limited by guarantee. When questioned about his motive the answer was he was afraid that some of his fellow board members would abuse their position. Prior experience of such quangoes warned him that corruption, inefficiency and patronage were real dangers and the best way to curb the worst excesses was to make the members directors thereby making them liable.

The structure of the decentralised Peace Programme vehicle meant that much needed money was wasted in bureaucracy. The complicated system of application and allocation of European Funding benefited only those who ordained themselves 'funding bodies'. When questioned on the policy evaluation and audit facilities employed by Europe to measure the success and efficiency of the Peace and Reconciliation Programme, there was an awkward silence. The most comprehensive evaluation of the Funding was a Mid-Term Report, which drew much the same conclusions as we do. A spokesman for the European Commission spoke frankly when he admitted that the policy appeared little more than throwing money at a fan and hoping some will stick.

Money Allocated By the District Partnerships

District Partnership	Applicant And Project	1996-1997	1997-1998	1998-1999
ANTRIM	Prison Arts Foundation		£2,100	
ARMAGH	Armagh Ex-prisoners Association		£2,500	£49,800
BELFAST	Linc Resource Centre		£13,750	
	Tus Nua		£43,044	£60,000
	Teacht Na Filte Prisoner Dependants Welfare	£2000		£9,050
	Feile an Phobail	£79,500		£200,000
	West Belfast Prisoner Aid Post Conflict	£30,000		£100,000
	Ex-prisoners' Interpretative Centre	£5,000	£1,797.75	£70,000
		£1,000		
	Prison Arts Foundation	£3,000		
	Glencairn Peoples' Project			
	Prisoners' Aid Post Conflict Resettlement Group	£3,000		£3,000
	Tra Ghearr			£49,800

	Prison Arts Foundation			£60,000
	Prisoners' Enterprise Project			£9,050
	EPIC			£200,000
	Tar Isteach Drop In Centre			£100,000
	Prisoners' Enterprise Project			£70,000
CRAIGAVON	NIACRO	£19,932		
	EPIC Mid Ulster			£3,000
DOWN	Prison Arts Foundation		£3,850	
	Prison Arts Foundation		£3,850	
FERMANAGH	Fermanagh Prisoners' Dependants Association		£11,100	£11,100
LARNE	NIACRO		£19,382	
	Larne Associate Enterprise Development Ltd			£4,850

LISBURN	Prison Arts Foundation		£2,600	
	Tar Annall		£19,671	£4,800 £15,057
	Lisburn Prisoners Support Project			£37,429
LONDON -DERRY	Tar Abhaile	£5,000	£60,000	
MOYLE	Venture International			£37,000
NEWRY AND MOURNE	Prison Arts Foundation		£2,025	
	Tar Anall			£11,757
NEWTOWN- ABBEY	Eastway Community Fitness Suite		£11,000	
OMAGH	NIACRO workshop	£19,332		

SOUTH TYRONE	NIACRO	£15,000		
	Prison Arts Foundation		£3,000	
STRABANE	CAIRDE			£3,750
	Prison Arts Foundation		£4,950	

APPLICANT ORGANISATION; AREA, AND CONTACT NAME; DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT	AMOUNT APPROVED 1995-1997	1998-1999	Initial Recommendations 1999-2000
Amach Agus Isteach Ardayne Community Centre To establish a drop-in centre			£30,000
An Eochair Ex-prisoner Support Group		£3000	
Ar AisAris 60B, Irish St., Dungannon Transport prisoners' families to prison visits and train volunteers in IIGV driving	£40,000	£37,800	
Ar Ais Aris Dungannon Renovation of centre for ex-prisoners	£3,000.00		£44,800
Ar Ais Aris Dungannon Grant for training and a Development Worker	£27,200	£59,000	
Ar Ais Ar An Omaigh Caaa 77 Greencastle Rd., Omagh To establish an ex-prisoners centre			£31,000
Ard Eoin Amach Agus Isteach		£2,750	
Ard Eoin Amach Agus Isteach Grant for homelessness		£12,590	
Ballymurphy Ex-Prisoners Group Belfast Employment Scheme for ex-prisoners	£2,500		
CAIRDE- Strabane Prisoners Group 12a Bridge St. Strabane Grant for Development		£3,000	£26,000

Coiste na n-Iarchimi 275 Falls Road, Belfast Grant towards project manager and development officer Salaries and running costs		£45,935	
Coiste na n-Iarchimi Belfast Grant towards equipment		£2,000	£20,000
Coiste na n-Iarchimi Belfast Grant towards economic development unit manager, shadow worker, and administrator; running costs and equipment		£69,006	
Coiste na n-Iarchimi Belfast To develop the West Belfast Coop Self Build Project			£50,000
Coiste na n-Iarchimi Belfast To carry out a feasibility study re a Credit Union			£20,000
Coiste na n-Iarchimi Belfast Grant under the Cross Border Community Reconciliation Measure 3.4		£99,937	
Community of the Peace People Belfast based, Regional Focus Minibus for the Peace People Transport service to prisoners and their families	£19,000		
Cumaun Na Meirleach Ard Mhacha Theas Crossmaglen Resource Centre Ex-Prisoners	£153,400.00		

Cumaun Na Meirleach Ard Mhacha Theas Crossmaglen Resource Centre Ex-Prisoners accompanying infrastructure and equipment		£10,000	
Cumann Na Meirleach Ard Mhacha Theas Crossmaglen Project working with ex-prisoners and their families in South Armagh area	£3,000.00		
Cumann Ne Meirleach 2a Calmer Veiw, Lislea, Newry Project to increase the employability of ex-prisoners			£70,000
EPIC Ex-Prisoners, Interpretative Centre Belfast Training initiatives for politically motivated ex- prisoners	£174,159.00		£160,000 (over 2yrs)
EPIC Ex-Prisoners Interpretative Centre Belfast Welfare Rights Advice Worker and to fund educational material for prisoners in Maze Prison	£49,000		
EPIC Ex-Prisoners Interpretative Centre Belfast Advice Officer support ex-prisoners and families and cost of Ex-Prisoners' Centre Shankhill Road	£90,000		£25,000
EPIC Ex-Prisoners Interpretative Centre Belfast Minibus for prison visits and train volunteers m HGV driving who are also ex-prisoners	£40,000		
EPIC Ex-Prisoners Interpretative Centre Derry Research into the needs of Loyalist ex-prisoners in North West	£3,000		
EPIC Ex-Prisoners Interpretative Centre Belfast Upgrade skills of volunteers within Ex-Prisoners' Centre Shankhill Road	£100,000		£10,000
EPIC Ex-Prisoners' Interpretative Centre 224 Shankill Road, Belfast Co-ordinator Greater Shankhill Area	£42,000		

EPIC Ex-Prisoners Interpretative Centre Belfast Alternatives to punishment beatings in the Greater Shankhill Area	£3,000		
EPIC Ex-Prisoners Interpretative Centre Regional Minibus for prisoners' relatives and train volunteers in HGV driving	£40,000.00		
EPIC Ex-Prisoners Interpretative Centre Belfast Grant under the 'Homeless' criteria		£62,000	
EPIC (North Ulster Branch)		£32,500	£25,000
EPIC (Mid Ulster Branch)		£32,500	£25,000
EPIC EAST 146a Francis St. Newtownards To establish a focus for ex-prisoners in the Ards area		£29,500 £56,600	£30,000
EPIC NORTH EPIC East - continuation grant EPIC West Belfast - programmes of action for ex-prisoners			£25,000 £25,000 £10,000
Eastway Community Fitness Suite Newtownabbey Community business with ex-prisoners	£3,000.00		
Female Republican Prisoners in Maghaberry Computer for the Female Republican Prisoners in Maghaberry Prison	£1,500.00		
Fermanagh Prisoners Dependants' Association Community Centre, Church St. Roslea self-help group of ex-prisoners and relatives of prisoners to carry out a needs analysis	£3,000	£40,000	£10,000
Fountain Street Community Association Cross-border programme provide support for the families of prisoners	£3,000		

Glencairn People's Project Fernhill House Museum, Glencairn Park, Belfast Employ two ex-prisoners in research capacity Oral History of Troubles as experienced by Loyalist ex-prisoners and currently serving prisoners	£31,500.00		£6,500
Gae Laim Project, Prisoners Aid & Post Conflict Templemore Avenue, Belfast		£3,000	£30,000
Gae Laim Project, Prisoners Aid & Post Conflict Funding under the 'homeless' criteria		£41,500	
GOITSE 5 Brett Grove Lurgan Funding under the criteria of homeless		£32,500	£25,000
Highfield Prisoners in Partnership		£20,775	
Initiative Relating to Children Of Ex-prisoners			£200,000
Innis Toide Crafts Ltd Co Derry Fund a feasibility study for a Craft Company run by a number of current prisoners	£5,000		
Innis Toide Crafts Ltd Co Derry Grant for boosting growth and retraining for peace		£10,000	
Larne Co-operative Enterprise Development Larne Facilitator project for ex-prisoners that will focus on employment-generation	£3,000		£2500
Larne Associated Enterprise development (LAED) 1 Main St., Larne Co. Antrim		£60,000	
Le Ceile 60b Irish St. Dungannon Develop an internet café for ex-prisoners			£8,000

Linc Resource Centre 218 York St., Belfast Training Programme and training courses for ex-prisoners involved in a range of community and re-integration initiatives North Belfast, Newtownabbey and East Antrim	£55,250		
Linc Resource Centre Belfast Training Programme and training courses for ex-prisoners Grant for Boosting growth and retraining for peace		£51,534	
Linc Resource Centre Belfast Co-ordinator for a prisoner's re-integration project North Belfast	£62,000	£13,500	
Linc Resource Centre Belfast		£1500	£25,000
Linc Resource Centre Belfast Training Officer and Project Assistant skills project which works with former prisoners	£ 90,000.00		
Lisburn Prisoners' Support Project 126 Grand St., Low Road, Lisburn Re-integration of ex-prisoners into society in the Lisburn Area	£ 3,000.00	£41,285	£40,000
Lisburn Prisoners' Support Project Lisburn Development Officer re-integration of ex-prisoner	£ 49,800.00		
Lisburn Prisoners' Support Project Lisburn Grant under the criteria of homelessness		£25,946	
Lisburn Prisoners' Support Project Lisburn Grant for accompanying infrastructure and equipment		£10,000	
Monkstown Community Resource Centre 6 Abbeytown Square, Monkstown		£6,173	£2,750

New Lodge Forum Funds to complete a strategy for the forum	£51,500	£41,320	
Newtownabbey Prisoners' Resettlement Group Development Worker re-integration ex-prisoners and their families	£44,000		£15,000
Newtownabbey Prisoners' Resettlement Group Newtownabbey Renovation and equipment in order to set up an Ex-Prisoners' Drop-in Centre	£3,000		
Phoenix Drama Society North Belfast Drama Group self-help group supporting ex-prisoners	£4,000.00		
Prison Art's Foundation Belfast Prison Arts Development Worker	£52,000.00		
Prison Fellowship (Northern Ireland) Belfast Aftercare programme with ex-prisoners	£3,000.00		
Prisoners' Aid Networking Group		£3,000	
Prisoners' Aid & Post Conflict Resettlement (Shankhill) Belfast Minibus to transport prisoners' families and train volunteers in HGV driving	£40,000.00	£11,500	
Prisoners' Aid & Post Conflict Resettlement (Shankhill) Belfast Family Services Officer work with ex-prisoners and the families of prisoners across Belfast	£90,000.00		£113,000

Prisoners' Aid & Post Conflict Resettlement 254 Shankhill Road, Belfast Grant Shankhill based group of ex-prisoners	£ 3,000.00	£4,500	
Prisoners' Aid & Post Conflict Resettlement (Shankhill) Belfast Project Co-ordinator develop the support services for ex-prisoners	£ 60,000.00		
Prisoners' Aid & Post Conflict Resettlement East Belfast Development Planning Day to meet the support requirements of ex-prisoners in East Belfast	£ 605.00		
Prisoners' Aid & Post Conflict Resettlement East Belfast Worker for re-integration of ex-prisoners in E. Belfast	£70,000.00		
Prisoners' Aid Post Conflict Resettlement North Belfast Family Support Project re-integration of ex-prisoners in North Belfast	£ 20,000.00	£500	
Prisoners' Aid Post Conflict Resettlement North Belfast Family Support Project re-integration of ex-prisoners in North Belfast		£29,458	
Prisoners' Aid Post Conflict Resettlement North Belfast North Belfast launch of Prisoners' Aid	£3,000.00		
Prisoners' Enterprise Project (South Belfast) 8 Teutonic Gardens, Belfast Prisoners' Enterprise Programme (South Belfast)	£ 3,000.00		£60,000
Prisoners' Enterprise Project (South Belfast) Belfast Training and employment for ex-prisoners an prisoners' relatives in South Belfast	£ 77,000.00		

Strabane Ex-Prisoners Group Grant new self-help group for ex-prisoners	£ 3,000.00		
Strabane Ex-Prisoners' Group Strabane Cost of a cross-border residential with Republican ex-Prisoners from Strabane and Donegall areas	£2,500		
Support for Non-Alligned Prisoner (SNAP)		£2,458	
Tar Abhaile 1 Westland Park, Londonderry Training project for ex-prisoners and their families	£ 49,000.00		£26,000
Tar Abhaile Londonderry Grant for re-integration of ex-prisoners and to meet the needs of the families of currently serving prisoners	£ 3,000.00		£17,000 (measure 1.1)
Tar Abhaile Londonderry Centre for ex-prisoners and their families in Deny	£100,000.00		
Tar Abhaile Londonderry Centre for ex-prisoners and their families in L'derry Further grant for accompanying infastructure and equipment		£10,000	
Tar Abhaile Londonderry Grant for a scheme to deal with homelessness		£50,000	
Tar Abhaile Londonderry Minibus for the families of prisoners and to train volunteer drivers	£40,000.00		
Tar Anall 539 Falls Road, Belfast Minibus for prisoners' families and to train volunteers To run the service	£ 40,000.00		£86,000 year 1 £43,000 year 2 £10,000 year 3

Tar Anall Belfast Running costs of the group's centre and costs entailed in the Outreach Programme	£ 7,000.00		
Tar Anall Belfast Grant towards accompanying infrastructure and equipment		£600	
Tar Anall Belfast Education Worker and Advice/Welfare Worker West Belfast ex-prisoners self-help organisation	£ 87,500.00		£1,500
Tar Anall Belfast Tar Anall Services information pack / Strategy Day	£ 3,000.00	£500	
Tar Anall Cross Border Community Reconciliation (measure 3.4)		£49,650	
Tar Anall Belfast Co-ordinator to develop the service of an ex-prisoner's Development Centre in West Belfast	£ 92,000.00		
Tar Anall Belfast Grant from the Belfast Community Support Programme Aimed at improving socio-economic conditions		£20,000	
Tar Anall Iuir Cinn Tra Newry 2a Abbey Yard Newry To cover the costs of a facilitator	£ 1,500.00		
Tar Anall Iur Cinn Tra Newry Staff for Drop-in Centre development of services To ex-prisoners	£ 29,500.00	£8713	£66,700
Teacht na Failte (Prisoners & Defendants Welfare Association) 148 Carlton Drive, Strabane Consultant to identify future opportunities for ex-prisoners	£ 2,500.00		£27,500

Tra Ghearr Prisoners' Group 8a Beechfield St., Belfast Training, employment and welfare needs of ex-prisoners in Short Strand, Markets and Lower Ormeau areas of Belfast	£13,400		£5,500
Tra Ghearr Prisoners' Support Group Belfast Provide ex-prisoners with work experience also office for Group Short Strand	£200,000		
Tra Ghearr Prisoners' Support Group Belfast Provide ex-prisoners with work experience grant for boosting growth and retraining for peace		£16,600	
The Bone Ex-prisoners Group 157 Oldpark Rd., Belfast Develop ex-prisoners programme			£5,500
The Welfare Unit(Maze Prison) Lisburn Fly-Tying Course for currently serving prisoners in the Maze Prison	£14,100.00		
The Welfare Unit(Maze Prison) Lisburn Fly-Tying Course for currently serving prisoners in the Maze Prison	£ 8,000.00		
The Welfare Unit (Maze Prison) Lisburn Running guitar lessons for prisoners in the Maze Prison	£ 3,000.00		
The Welfare Unit (Maze Prison) Lisburn		£59,000	
The Welfare Unit (Maze Prison) Lisburn		£3,000	
The Welfare Unit (Maze Prison) Lisburn		£3,000	
Tullygally Irish Cultural Group		£400	
UDA Prisoners, H7 Maze Prison, Lisburn			£1,500
Ulster Prisoners' Aid Derry Worker to develop a self-help group of ex-prisoners and prisoners' relatives	£42,000.00		£20,000

Ulster Quaker Service Committee Belfast flight childcare staff and a Childcare Specialist to provide childcare cover for those visiting the Maze Prison	£100,000.00		
Ulster Quaker Service Committee Belfast To extend the provision of childcare in the Maze Prison	£13,700.00	£50,000	
Upper Springfield Development Trust Belfast Employment project for ex-prisoners Upper Springfield Area West Belfast	£200,000		
Venture International		£25,000	
West Belfast Community Festival (Feile an Phobail) Whiterock College Cost of staging 'The Crime of Castlereagh' performed by prisoners on parole to promote skills and confidence	£3,000.00	£950	
West Belfast Community Festival (Feile an Phobail) Belfast Funding of a drama project scripted and acted by prisoners wives	£2,000.00	£300	
Murals in West Belfast	£1000		
Annual Winter School		£900	
Women in Ireland Kilturk North, Lisnaskea, Co. Fermanagh To research and write up the experiences of prisoners			£8,000