



RÁTH MÓR
Creggan Enterprises

Creggan Enterprises

2025

HIGHLIGHTS



Chairperson's Annual Report

As another year draws to a close, I find myself reflecting not only on what Creggan Enterprises has achieved during 2025, but on the strength and resilience of the community we continue to serve.

What has always distinguished Creggan Enterprises is our social enterprise structure – we are not owned by or run for private gain: our Trustee Directors are voluntary and all profits are put back into the services at Ráth Mór and the Creggan community. CEL was set up to address the needs of the local community, so we are always adapting and growing.

Throughout 2025, despite the many social and economic pressures that continue to affect our communities, we continued to develop new services, strengthen existing programmes and build new partnerships that allow us to respond to emerging needs while creating opportunities for the future. Every initiative has been driven by a simple principle: to improve the quality of life for local people and ensure that Ráth Mór remains a place where opportunity, support and community come together.

The success of our organisation is measured not simply by the number of projects delivered or funding secured, but by the confidence people gain, the connections they make and the opportunities that are created. Every day the site welcomes people seeking advice, training, childcare, healthcare, employment support, essential services or simply a place where they feel valued, respected and included. That is the real impact of our work, and it is something of which we should all be immensely proud.

These achievements belong to many people. I wish to thank my fellow Trustees for their continued guidance and commitment, particularly our newer Board members whose enthusiasm, fresh ideas and



**Anne Molloy
(Chairperson)**



experience continue to strengthen our governance while remaining true to the vision established by our founder members.

My sincere thanks also go to our outstanding staff and volunteers: Amie Gallagher, Barbara Sweeney, Richard McRory, Meagan Sharkey, Mark McCallion, Jude Power, Carol Cunningham, Anna Doherty, Joe McAllister, Seamus Breslin, Rachel Carlin, Brian Quigley, Declan Ferry and Kieran McFadden. Our relatively modest workforce regularly punches above its weight and exceeds performance and expectations year-on-year. Their professionalism, compassion and unwavering commitment are evident every day, often behind the scenes, and they are the reason so many people place their trust in Creggan Enterprises.

I would also like to acknowledge our General Manager, Kevin Hipsley, whose leadership continues to guide the organisation through an increasingly complex operating environment. His focus on innovation, partnership and sustainability has ensured that CEL continues to develop with confidence while never losing sight of its community roots.

Special recognition must also go to Conal McFeely, founder member and Development Executive. For more than thirty years, Conal's vision, determination and ability to build lasting relationships have helped shape



not only this organisation but the wider regeneration of Creggan itself. His commitment has laid the foundations upon which CEL continues to grow, and his passion for the community remains an inspiration to everyone involved with the organisation. Conal's mentorship, leadership and can-do-attitude are a core driver of the entire workforce's performance and productivity.

I wish to acknowledge to commitment and dedication of the Board of Trustees, some of whom have been with Creggan Enterprises since its formation: Joe McFeely, Garbhan Downey, Shauna Derry, Sean Canavan and James Nash, who have provided strategic direction, continue to give generously of their time, and ensure CEL keeps to its original social enterprise mission.

As we look to the future, we do so with genuine ambition. The partnerships we have strengthened during the past year and the investment opportunities we are striving to unlock will support us in our mission to continue to expand everything that Ráth Mór can offer. Our vision is not simply to sustain what we have built, but to develop new facilities, create innovative programmes and ensure that future generations benefit from an organisation that continues to evolve alongside the community it serves.

The Board is also mindful of the significant challenges that lie ahead. Alongside the continuing financial pressures affecting the voluntary and community sector, we must ensure the long-term sustainability of Ráth Mór itself. Securing certainty around our anchor tenant arrangements, investing in the upkeep and modernisation of our ageing facilities, and ensuring that essential maintenance, compliance works and infrastructure upgrades are delivered will be key priorities over the coming years.

Equally important is ensuring that we retain the talented staff whose knowledge, commitment and experience underpin everything we do. Continuing to secure sustainable funding for our core programmes and key personnel will remain a major focus, alongside developing new income streams and partnerships that strengthen the organisation for the future. These are not small challenges, but they are ones that CEL has faced before. Throughout our history, we have demonstrated that resilience, innovation and collaboration are at the heart of who we are, and I



have every confidence that we will continue to meet these challenges with the same determination that has defined our journey over the past three decades.

Looking around Ráth Mór today, it is remarkable to consider how far we have come. What began as an ambitious vision has become one of the North West's leading examples of community regeneration, social enterprise and partnership working. The success of Creggan Enterprises belongs to everyone who has contributed to its journey – our staff, volunteers, tenants, partners, funders, Trustees and, above all, the community we are privileged to serve.

As Chairperson, I remain immensely proud of everything we have achieved throughout 2025. While the future will undoubtedly present new challenges, it also presents exciting opportunities to renew, invest and grow. Together, we will continue to build an organisation that is innovative, inclusive and sustainable, remaining true to the values on which Creggan Enterprises was founded while embracing every opportunity to improve the lives of the people and communities we exist to serve.



Development Executive's Report

The environment in which Creggan Enterprises operated throughout 2025 remained one of considerable uncertainty and growing complexity. While the immediate effects of the pandemic have largely receded and inflation has moderated, the economic pressures experienced by families and communities have become more deeply embedded. For many people across the North (and these wider islands) – and particularly within communities such as Creggan – the cost-of-living crisis has evolved from a temporary emergency into a longer-term reality.

Although headline economic indicators suggest improving stability, the lived experience for many local households tells a different story. Rising prices over recent years have permanently increased the cost of everyday living, while household incomes have struggled to keep pace. Mortgage repayments, rents, energy bills, food costs, insurance, childcare and transport continue to place enormous pressure on family budgets. Public services remain under unprecedented strain, healthcare waiting lists remain among the longest in the UK, and voluntary and community organisations increasingly find themselves responding to needs that were once met through statutory provision.

These national challenges are amplified by the long-standing structural inequalities that continue to affect the North West. Despite significant progress over recent decades, Derry continues to experience some of the highest levels of economic inactivity and unemployment in the North, while average earnings remain below the regional average. Too many people remain trapped in low-paid employment or are forced to leave the region



Conal McFeely
(Dev Exec)

in search of better opportunities. For many families, the challenge is no longer simply the rising cost of living, but the absence of sufficient income to keep pace with it. These realities reinforce the importance of organisations such as CEL in creating opportunity, supporting enterprise, building employability and providing practical assistance where it is needed most.

The wider global context has also continued to shape local realities. Ongoing conflict in Ukraine and the Middle East, geopolitical instability, changing international trade relationships and continuing uncertainty within the global economy have all influenced the UK economic landscape. Businesses continue to adapt to the longer-term consequences of Brexit, increased employment costs and constrained public finances. Although these issues originate far beyond our community, their consequences are felt every day in Creggan through higher household costs, greater financial insecurity, increased demand for support services and growing pressure on local businesses and employers.



Against this backdrop, CEL has continued to fulfil its role not only as a successful social enterprise, but as critical community infrastructure. As statutory services become increasingly stretched and public finances remain constrained, community organisations are increasingly expected to fill gaps in provision, respond quickly to emerging needs and provide trusted local support. Throughout 2025, our priority remained clear: to protect essential services, support local businesses and tenants, create opportunities for local people and ensure that individuals and families could continue to access the advice, facilities and practical support they rely upon every day.

Like many organisations, CEL has also had to navigate rising operational costs while managing finite resources. As a responsible employer and charitable organisation, we have continued to manage expenditure carefully while investing wherever possible in frontline services. At the same time, the Ráth Mór Centre – now more than thirty years old – requires increasing levels of maintenance, compliance investment and infrastructure renewal. Maintaining a complex, multi-purpose community facility of this scale presents significant financial challenges, and ensuring that our buildings remain safe, modern, accessible and fit for purpose will remain one of our most important strategic priorities over the coming years.

Despite these pressures, 2025 has also been a year of significant achievement. CEL continued to secure investment that enabled us to expand programmes, strengthen partnerships and respond to emerging community needs. Once again, our staff demonstrated exceptional creativity, professionalism and determination in attracting external funding, delivering high-quality services and developing collaborative relationships across the statutory, voluntary and private sectors.

Throughout the year we continued to provide practical support to individuals and families experiencing financial hardship. Working alongside partners including Eurospar, Bryson House, CNP and many others, we delivered targeted interventions that helped alleviate pressure through food support, fuel and energy assistance, household essentials and wider community initiatives. Our Focus Project continued to tackle issues



including period poverty, school uniform provision, health inequalities and community wellbeing, while also leading important campaigns promoting Women's Health and challenging issues such as Violence Against Women and Girls, Intolerance and Racism in response to growing societal concerns.

CEL's commitment to peacebuilding, inclusion and community cohesion has remained central to everything we do. In a year that continued to see increasing political polarisation, rising incidents of racism and hate crime, and growing tensions surrounding immigration and identity across these islands, our programmes continued to provide safe spaces where dialogue, understanding and mutual respect could flourish. Through initiatives including Revival, Lifehack, Focus, CIP, CCRP and Unlocking Silent Heritage, we continued to bring people together across communities, generations and cultures, promoting reconciliation, active community participation and shared learning.

Ráth Mór has continued to strengthen its reputation as one of the island's leading examples of community regeneration and social enterprise. During the year, we welcomed visitors, organisations and delegations from across Ireland, Britain and internationally to learn from our experience, exchange ideas and develop collaborative approaches to regeneration, peacebuilding and social innovation. These relationships continue to enhance CEL's reputation while creating opportunities for future partnership, investment and knowledge exchange.

As our community continues to evolve, so too must our organisation. Creggan is becoming increasingly diverse, and CEL remains committed to ensuring that our services are welcoming, accessible and inclusive for everyone. Supporting the successful integration of new communities while strengthening relationships with existing residents will remain an important priority, helping to build resilience, challenge misinformation and promote understanding within an increasingly diverse society.

Alongside our community programmes, we have continued to strengthen the long-term sustainability of the organisation itself. Diversifying income, supporting our commercial tenants, developing new partnerships and exploring future investment opportunities remain central to our strategy. Equally important is ensuring that we retain and develop the skilled staff whose knowledge, commitment and local experience enable CEL to deliver services of the highest quality. Across the voluntary and community sector, recruitment and retention remain increasingly difficult, making investment in our people every bit as important as investment in our physical infrastructure.

Looking ahead, the priorities for Creggan Enterprises are clear. We must continue securing sustainable funding for our core programmes and the skilled staff who deliver them while developing new sources of earned income that strengthen our long-term financial resilience. We must continue investing in the Ráth Mór Centre to ensure that essential maintenance, compliance requirements and capital improvements





CEL Staff and Volunteers pictured on the 2025 Christmas Funday at Ráth Mór.

keep pace with the expectations of those who use our facilities. We must also work collaboratively to provide long-term certainty around our anchor tenant arrangements, recognising the important role they play in sustaining the wider Centre, Business Park and the services delivered from them.

Perhaps most importantly, we must continue to nurture the next generation of community leaders. Regeneration has never been simply about buildings or investment; it is about people. Through initiatives such as Lifehack and our wider youth engagement work, we remain committed to developing the skills, confidence and aspirations of future leaders who will shape both CEL and the wider Creggan community for decades to come.

Having had the privilege of witnessing the transformation of Creggan over the past three decades, I remain optimistic about the future. Much has changed since CEL first began its journey, yet our purpose remains unchanged: to empower communities, create opportunity, promote inclusion and demonstrate the power of social enterprise as a catalyst for lasting social and economic regeneration.

None of this would be possible without the dedication, professionalism and commitment of our staff, volunteers, partners and Trustees. My sincere thanks go to every member of the CEL team whose work continues to make a tangible difference to thousands

of people every year. I want to particularly extend my heartfelt thanks to our voluntary Board of Trustees – Anne Molloy, Joe McFeely, Sean Canavan, Garbhan Downey, Shauna Nixon and James Nash – whose strategic guidance, governance and unwavering support continue to strengthen every aspect of the organisation.

As we move into 2026, our priorities are clear: to remain financially resilient; strengthen governance; invest in our people, programmes and facilities; broaden our partnerships; and continue delivering services that make a meaningful difference to the lives of those we serve. Creggan Enterprises has never stood still. Throughout our history we have adapted to changing circumstances, embraced innovation and responded positively to challenge. I remain confident that, with the continued commitment of our staff, Trustees, partners, funders, tenants and community, CEL will continue to thrive as a leading example of community-led regeneration, social enterprise and inclusive development.

The challenges ahead are real, but so too are the opportunities. By remaining true to our founding values while continuing to innovate, collaborate and invest in our people and place, I believe Creggan Enterprises is well positioned to write the next chapter of its story – one that will continue to benefit the people of Creggan and inspire communities far beyond it.

Draft Treasurer's Report

I attach a financial summary of Creggan Enterprises Limited for the year ended 31 December 2025. The financial statements demonstrate another resilient year for the Charity despite the continued economic pressures facing the voluntary and community sector, local businesses and the communities we serve. While operating costs remained high and the funding environment highly competitive, CEL continued to protect frontline services, support our tenants and invest in the long-term sustainability of the organisation.

Total income for the year amounted to £848,626, an increase on the previous year. This comprised £406,426 in grant funding, £379,085 in rental income and £63,115 from other income and overhead recoveries. Total expenditure amounted to £855,797, including governance costs of £12,450 and depreciation of £97,196. The Statement of Financial Activities records a modest deficit of £7,171; however, excluding the non-cash depreciation charge, the Charity generated a healthy operational surplus and continues to maintain a strong underlying financial position.

The Balance Sheet reflects a robust financial position with total net assets of £4.958 million, unrestricted reserves of £553,113 and cash balances of £629,314 at the year end. This provides the organisation with a solid platform from which to address the strategic priorities ahead.



James Nash
(Treasurer)



There is little room for complacency. Rising employment costs, increasing compliance obligations, investment required in the ageing Rath Mór estate, and the need to secure long-term certainty around our anchor tenant arrangements will require continued prudent financial management. Equally, securing sustainable funding for our core programmes and experienced staff remains a key strategic priority.

I wish to thank our funders for their continued investment, our tenants for their ongoing loyalty and partnership, and our staff whose professionalism and commitment continue to make these results possible. I also thank my fellow Trustees for their careful stewardship of the Charity's finances.

I remain confident that, through prudent financial management, innovation and partnership working, CEL will remain financially resilient and well placed to serve the community for many years to come.



Financial Summary

Financial summary for year ended 31.12.25

	2025 (£)	2024 (£)
Income		
Rental activities	379,085	383,445
Grant Funding (Note 2)	406,426	363,931
Other income	63,115	56,225
Total Income	848,626	803,601
Expenditure		
Management & Administration*	843,347	830,822
Governance Costs	12,450	11,825
Total Expenditure	855,797	842,647
Net Resources	(7,171)	(39,046)

Note 2 (Restricted Income / Grant Funding)

Funder	2025 (£)	2024 (£)
PEACEPLUS (SEUPB)	206,163	90,891
Department of Foreign Affairs (ROI)	87,071	85,574
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	72,115	73,355
The Executive Office (CGRF/T:BUC)	29,173	21,366
Community Foundation NI	4,248	1,143
Derry City & Strabane District Council	3,106	500
Radius Housing & People First	3,210	3,475
Apex Housing	1,000	1,000
International Fund for Ireland	340	84,772
St Stephen's Green Trust	-	1,690
Social Change Initiative	-	165
Total Grant Funding	406,426	363,931

*Management & Administration includes staffing, project delivery, overheads, depreciation and finance costs as presented within the statutory accounts.

Ráth Mór Events...



CEL organised a number of **large-scale family-friendly events** at Ráth Mór during the 2025 period, including:

- A series of indoor and outdoor **Halloween events** also in association with CEL's Revival and Focus Programmes (including story telling and Pumpkin Patch events);
- **Summer and Christmas Family Fundays** which feature a range of indoor and outdoor activities, prizes and opportunities for the whole family in association with CEL's Revival Programme





Summer Family Funday, 2025.

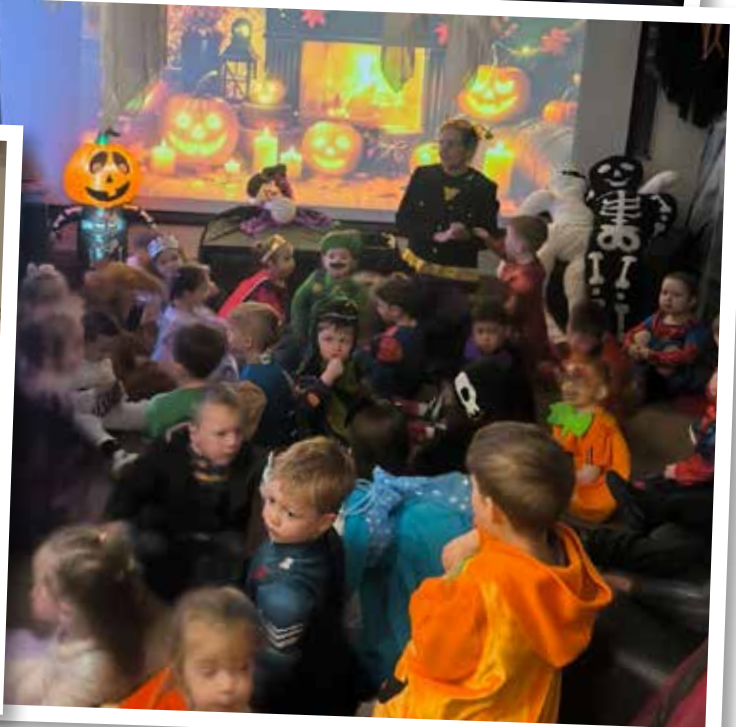


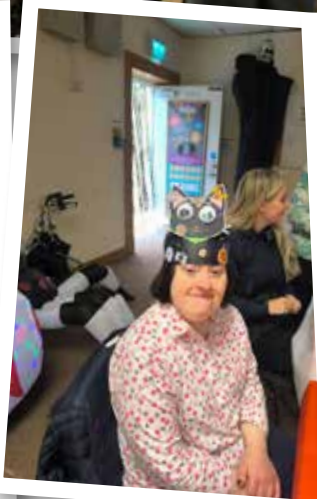


Summer Family Funday, 2025.



Halloween – Spooky storytelling, treasure hunt, craftwork and pumpkin patch events at Ráth Mór in 2025.









Halloween Family Pumpkin Patch, 2025.





Christmas family funday, craft fair and school / community carol singing events at Ráth Mór, December 2025.





Christmas crafts & funday, 2025.





St Cecilia's College, St John's PS, Holy Child PS, Bligh's Lane Nursery School and Tune it in choir carol singing at Ráth Mór in 2025.



Support for Older People

Supporting older members of our community remains an important part of CEL's charitable work. Throughout 2025, the Ráth Mór 50+ Club continued to provide a welcoming social space for approximately 80 older people, offering weekly opportunities for friendship, lifelong learning, recreation and wellbeing. During the year, the Club continued its programme of social activities, educational visits, fundraising events and seasonal celebrations, including a successful summer residential, regular outings and its annual Christmas programme. CEL continued to work closely with the Club's committee through both the Revival and CCRP programmes, supporting a period of renewal and encouraging new members to become involved in the organisation and future leadership of the group. Participation increased steadily throughout the year, demonstrating the continuing importance of the Club in tackling social isolation and promoting healthy ageing within the community.

CEL also continued to support the Creggan Day Care Centre, providing weekly wellbeing and entertainment activities for older residents, while hosting and supporting the work of the Creggan Older Men's Club, ensuring that older people continue to have opportunities to remain active, connected and engaged within the community.



Revival Shared Space Project

The Revival Shared Space Project continued throughout 2025 to animate Ráth Mór as a fully inclusive shared community space. Supported through The Executive Office's Central Good Relations Fund (T:BUC), the programme delivered an extensive calendar of free cultural, educational and community events designed to increase participation, encourage positive community interaction and promote Ráth Mór as a welcoming space for everyone, regardless of background or tradition.

Throughout the year, Revival delivered more than 30 free activities and events, engaging over 3,400 participants from across the city and district. The programme welcomed people of all ages and backgrounds, including local residents, schools, youth groups, older people's organisations, adults with additional needs, representatives from Black and Minority Ethnic communities and participants from both the CNR and PUL communities. By creating opportunities for people to come together in a relaxed and welcoming environment, Revival continues to play a vital role in strengthening community confidence and promoting social inclusion.

One of the programme's highlights was the continued delivery of three large-scale seasonal family events. The Summer Family Fun Day, Halloween Carnival and Pumpkin Patch, and Christmas Family Fun Day once again attracted thousands of visitors to Ráth Mór, providing high-quality free entertainment and activities for local families during a period when the cost of living continues to place significant pressure on household budgets. Collectively these flagship events

attracted more than 2,500 participants, helping many families access positive community experiences that may otherwise have been beyond their reach. The Halloween Pumpkin Patch alone welcomed over 1,500 visitors, making it one of the Centre's most successful community events to date.

The project also delivered an extensive programme of Good Relations and Shared Learning workshops throughout the year. Themed workshops explored subjects including multiculturalism, human rights and cultural diversity, while working closely with organisations such as the North West Islamic Centre and community representatives from a range of backgrounds. These activities provided opportunities for participants to explore different cultures, challenge perceptions and develop understanding through discussion and shared experiences.

The annual Foyle Schools Poetry Competition continued to grow as one of Revival's flagship initiatives. During 2025 the programme delivered 16 creative writing workshops across 25 primary and post-primary schools, engaging more than 500 young people and generating over 1,400 poetry submissions. More than 200 winning entries were published in the annual poetry anthology before pupils, teachers and families gathered at Ráth Mór in March to celebrate the achievements of young writers from across the city and district. The competition continues to encourage creativity, literacy and self-expression while providing a valuable opportunity for schools from different communities to participate in a shared educational celebration.



Beyond individual events, Revival continues to make an important contribution to the wider regeneration of Ráth Mór. Feedback gathered throughout the year demonstrated increased confidence among participants in using the Centre as a shared community space, particularly among those visiting for the first time and participants from the PUL community. Many participants also reported feeling more confident accessing other services and programmes within Ráth Mór after attending Revival activities, reinforcing the project's important role as a gateway into CEL's wider programme of community support and engagement.

Revival also complements and strengthens many of CEL's other projects. Working alongside CCRP, Focus, Lifhack and Unlocking Silent Heritage, the programme provides accessible opportunities for participants to continue their engagement through community events, cultural activities and shared

learning experiences. This integrated approach ensures that Ráth Mór remains a vibrant community hub where people can participate, learn, volunteer and build lasting relationships across traditional community boundaries.

As Revival enters another year of delivery, the programme will continue to build upon its success by expanding opportunities for cultural participation, good relations and community celebration. By bringing people together through creativity, learning and shared experiences, Revival continues to strengthen Ráth Mór's reputation as a safe, welcoming and inclusive shared space at the heart of the community. After 7 years of annual funding from TEO – it is likely that there will be a break in CGRF funding for this programme in the near future, so CEL will look to secure alternative funding to cover some of this work going forward.



Revival activities/events, 2025.





Revival activities/events, 2025.





Images from the Foyle Schools Poetry Competition Awards Ceremony, Ráth Mór, 2025.



RHYME & REASON

Selected poems from the
Foyle Schools Poetry Competition
2025



Images from the
Foyle Schools Poetry
Competition Awards
Ceremony, Ráth Mór, 2025.



Lifhack Project

The Lifhack Journeys Project, funded through the PEACEPLUS Programme (SEUPB), continued to build on the strong foundations established by the original Lifhack programme, supporting young people aged 16–24 who face a range of social, economic and personal challenges. Working within a Good Relations framework, the project aims to increase confidence, resilience and employability while equipping participants with the skills, experiences and support networks needed to make positive life choices and become active contributors within their communities. Throughout 2025 the project remained firmly on target to achieve its agreed outcomes despite the administrative delays experienced across the wider PEACEPLUS programme.

During the year, 62 young people actively participated across two programme cohorts, with 53 participants successfully completing their cohort year, while recruitment also commenced for a third cohort, with 46 additional young people enrolled and more than twenty progressing through pre-enrolment. The programme continued to attract participants from both traditional communities and increasingly diverse newcomer communities, providing an inclusive environment where young people could develop relationships, challenge stereotypes and build mutual understanding through sustained engagement.

A major focus throughout the year was personal development. Participants completed a comprehensive programme covering mental health awareness, substance misuse education, online safety, healthy relationships, life skills, physical wellbeing and resilience. Weekly Boxercise and fitness sessions, wellbeing workshops, ASCERT-led awareness programmes and homelessness awareness initiatives encouraged healthier lifestyles while improving confidence, self-esteem and emotional wellbeing.



Many participants also progressed through accredited learning, with 43 young people achieving OCN Level 1 Accreditation in Good Relations and Diversity, while a further cohort worked towards OCN Level 2 qualifications by year end.

Good Relations remained central to every aspect of the programme. Young people participated in a wide range of cross-community activities, multicultural workshops, community cohesion events and engagement with local elected representatives and community organisations. Partnerships with Lincoln Courts Residents Association, Roe Valley Residents Association, Springboard Opportunities and a range of statutory and voluntary organisations enabled participants to develop new friendships, broaden their understanding of different cultures and identities, and become more confident engaging beyond their own communities.

The project also placed significant emphasis on education, employability and progression. Participants received support with CV preparation, interview skills, career planning, volunteering, accredited learning and access to further education and employment opportunities. Strong progression pathways were maintained with organisations including North West Regional College, Rutledge, BYTEs, Craft and other training providers, ensuring that young people could continue their development beyond the programme. Throughout the year, several participants also received practical support with driving theory, employability skills and vocational development, helping to remove barriers to future employment.



One of the programme's greatest strengths continues to be its partnership approach. Throughout 2025 Lifehack worked alongside more than twenty statutory, voluntary and community organisations, including EOTAS, the Education Authority, Western Health & Social Care Trust, CAMHS, Foyle Search & Rescue, ARC Recovery and numerous local community organisations. These partnerships ensured that young people experiencing complex personal, family or mental health issues were able to access coordinated and holistic support tailored to their individual needs.

Alongside structured learning, participants enjoyed an extensive programme of cultural, recreational and community engagement activities. Summer diversionary programmes, creative arts initiatives, cultural visits, charity fundraising events, sports programmes, residential experiences and community volunteering all contributed to building confidence, teamwork and civic responsibility. Highlights included the Peace Cup 2025, bringing together teams from across Derry, Limavady and neighbouring communities in a celebration of inclusion and sportsmanship, participation in the city's Peace Field Initiative, linking the Brandywell with the historic Peace Field in Mesen, Belgium, and a series of homelessness awareness, Christmas volunteering and community fundraising initiatives which encouraged young people to contribute positively to the wider community.

Throughout the year, Lifehack continued to demonstrate the importance of early intervention and sustained youth engagement. Staff reported consistently high levels of participation and retention, while the programme continued to produce measurable outcomes in reducing anti-social behaviour, strengthening community relationships and supporting young people to make positive life choices. Many participants progressed into further education, training, volunteering or employment, while others emerged as positive role models and peer leaders within their own communities. These outcomes extend well beyond individual participants, benefiting families, neighbourhoods and the wider community by developing a generation of young people who are more confident, connected and equipped to contribute positively to society.



Right: Lifehack activities/events, 2025.



Hive Studios

Hive Studios continued to strengthen its role as CEL's creative and digital hub throughout 2025, providing a wide range of accredited training, creative services and technical support for both internal programmes and external clients. Operating as a community-based digital studio and OCN-accredited training centre, Hive plays an integral role in supporting the delivery of CEL's wider regeneration, education and peacebuilding objectives.

Throughout the year, Hive provided creative, technical and accreditation support across a number of CEL programmes, including Lifehack, Focus, Revival and the new Unlocking Silent Heritage project. This included the design and production of educational resources, workbooks, promotional materials, presentations, websites, photography, drone footage and digital media, alongside the delivery of OCN-accredited training opportunities for participants across a range of projects.

A significant area of development during 2025 was Hive's contribution to the Unlocking Silent Heritage project, where it led the development of the programme's digital elements, including heritage resources, online content, digital guides and the project's interactive web platform. Hive also continued to deliver specialist archive digitisation services, progressing work on the Derry City & Strabane District Council Museums Archive and the Inner City Trust Archive, helping to preserve and improve public access to important local heritage collections.



Alongside project delivery, Hive continued to support a wide range of community organisations by hosting book launches, exhibitions, workshops, awareness events and educational activities, while providing audio-visual, livestreaming and technical support for many of CEL's major community events throughout the year. This combination of creative expertise, community engagement and digital innovation continues to position Hive Studios as an important community asset, supporting both the sustainability of CEL and the continued development of creative and digital opportunities across the North West.





Hive activities/events and design work in 2025.



Focus Project

The Focus Project, supported by the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust (JRCT), continued to provide a vital women-led programme supporting disadvantaged women, families and some of the most marginalised members of our community. Throughout 2025, the project built upon its established reputation as a trusted source of practical assistance, advocacy and personal development, while continuing to respond to the growing challenges associated with poverty, inequality, health disparities and the rising cost of living. As the project entered the final year of its current three-year programme, Focus remained firmly committed to empowering women through participation, leadership and collective action.

Over the course of the year, Focus engaged with approximately 500 women and families, with a core group of around 40 women participating in sustained programmes and receiving regular one-to-one support. A defining feature of the project continues to be its emphasis on lived experience, ensuring that participants are not simply beneficiaries of support but active contributors to programme design, facilitation and community leadership. Women increasingly progressed into volunteer, peer mentor and facilitation roles, helping to create a supportive environment where confidence, resilience and community capacity continue to grow.

Health and wellbeing remained a priority throughout 2025. Focus continued to champion women's health through partnerships with Queen's University Belfast, Derry Well Woman, the Western Health and Social Care Trust Patient Involvement Team, Aware NI, Hope for ME & Fibromyalgia NI and The Hive Cancer Support Centre. Participants contributed directly to research examining maternal health and wider healthcare provision, ensuring that lived experience



informed future service development. The project also strengthened cross-border collaboration with the Donegal Women's Collective, piloting community health mapping and developing practical "Know Your Rights" resources to improve access to services and information.

Focus continued to place women at the centre of community leadership and social justice initiatives. During the year, participants took part in programmes including Voices of Resilience, Transformative Justice workshops and creative development initiatives that encouraged dialogue, reflection and civic participation. Women also strengthened their leadership through engagement with the Northern Ireland Anti-Poverty Network, collaboration with the Ulster University School of Law, and advocacy on issues including disability rights, housing inequality and wider anti-poverty policy. Practical financial inclusion programmes delivered in partnership with Derry Credit Union supported participants to improve financial confidence, understand welfare and end-of-life planning, and build greater long-term resilience.

Responding to financial hardship remained a significant aspect of the project's work throughout the year. Working alongside partners including Bryson Charitable Group, The Summerhill Foundation and other local organisations, Focus continued to provide practical cost-of-living support through financial capability workshops, targeted referrals and direct assistance for families experiencing hardship. One of the project's most visible achievements was the continued expansion of its Free School Uniform Scheme,



which supported more than 450 families during 2025, helping to reduce financial pressure at the beginning of the school year while also promoting sustainability through the reuse of quality school clothing. The scheme attracted significant media attention and political recognition, demonstrating the impact of community-led responses to poverty.

Focus also continued to play a leading role in public awareness and policy development. Throughout 2025 the project remained an influential voice within campaigns addressing Violence Against Women and Girls, the Women's Health Strategy, Fair Housing and wider anti-poverty initiatives. Participants presented directly to elected representatives, engaged with Derry City and Strabane District Council, contributed to Assembly discussions through partner organisations and continued to ensure that the voices of women with lived experience informed public debate and decision-making.

Building stronger and more inclusive communities also remained an important priority. During the year, Focus secured additional support from the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust to develop a new anti-racism programme in partnership with the Foyle Racial Equality Forum, supporting newcomer communities while promoting inclusion, understanding and social cohesion. The project continued to strengthen local and cross-border partnerships, ensuring that women from diverse backgrounds could participate, share experiences and contribute to the development of more inclusive community responses to inequality and discrimination.



Alongside its structured programmes, Focus continued to provide an essential source of informal advice, advocacy and practical support to women and families facing complex personal circumstances. Working closely with statutory agencies, voluntary organisations and CEL's wider programmes, the project helped participants navigate issues relating to poverty, housing, wellbeing, education, domestic abuse, financial hardship and access to services. This holistic approach continues to distinguish Focus as one of CEL's most valued community programmes, combining practical intervention with long-term empowerment.

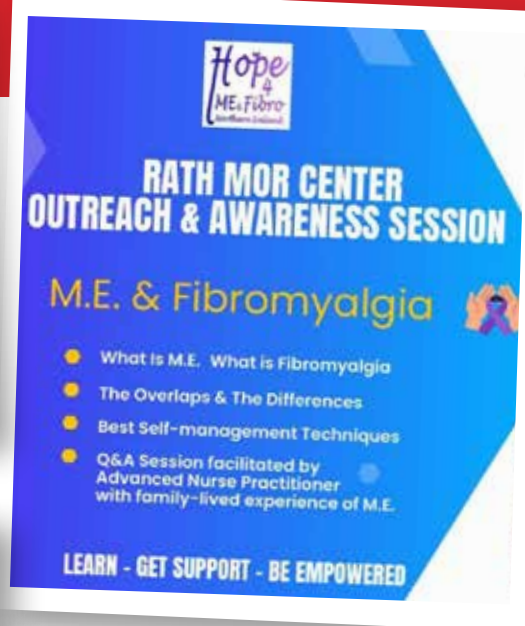
As the project prepares for its next phase of development, Focus remains committed to strengthening women's leadership, advancing equality, promoting health and wellbeing, and ensuring that those whose voices are least often heard continue to influence the services, policies and decisions that affect their lives. Throughout 2025 the project once again demonstrated that sustainable community development begins by investing in people, building confidence and creating opportunities for women to become leaders and agents of positive change within their own communities.





Focus activities/events, 2025.





Focus activities/events, 2025.



Cohesion & Reconciliation Programme

The Community Cohesion & Reconciliation Programme (CCRP) continued to play a central role in Creggan Enterprises' peacebuilding and good relations outreach work throughout 2025. Supported through the Department of Foreign Affairs' Reconciliation Fund, CCRP entered its fourth year of delivery following confirmation of a one-year extension, reflecting both the quality of delivery and the continuing need for sustained reconciliation work across the North West.

The programme brought together participants from communities that have traditionally had limited opportunities to engage with one another, developing trusted relationships across Creggan, the Bogside, Irish Street, Lincoln Courts, Bond Street and neighbouring communities. Building upon the strong foundations established in previous years, CCRP supported a core cohort of approximately 40 regular participants while engaging more than 230 additional participants through cross-community events, educational programmes and partnership activities across the North West and County Donegal. Participants from BAME communities also increasingly engaged in the programme during 2025.

The programme delivered a series of themed workshops exploring emigration and migration, shared heritage, human rights, law, identity and reconciliation. Working alongside partners including the Mellon Centre for Migration Studies, Ulster University, the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission and a range of local historians, participants examined the historical experiences that unite communities across these islands while developing a deeper understanding of contemporary issues affecting society today. These programmes encouraged reflection, dialogue and critical thinking, enabling participants to discover shared experiences and build lasting relationships through education and discussion.



Cross-border engagement continued to be a defining feature of the programme. Partnerships with Rathmullan Way Forward, Inishowen Development Partnership, Doagh Famine Village and other organisations enabled participants to take part in residential programmes, study visits and collaborative workshops that strengthened relationships beyond traditional geographical and community boundaries. During the year, CCRP participants welcomed partner groups to Ráth Mór for creative writing workshops and heritage programmes while also participating in events and commemorations across Donegal, reinforcing the importance of sustained collaboration in building stronger communities.

Creativity continued to provide an important vehicle for reconciliation. Participants worked alongside professional artists to create a permanent glass art installation reflecting their personal journeys through the programme, with the completed artwork installed within Ráth Mór as a lasting symbol of shared learning and personal growth. CCRP participants also collaborated on a community installation for the St Columb's Cathedral Cross-Community Christmas Tree Festival, contributing to an event that welcomed thousands of visitors and celebrated the power of creativity to bring communities together.

CCRP activities/events, 2025.





CCRP continued to broaden access to community services through a growing network of partnerships. During 2025, CCRP worked with Ulster University's School of Law to establish a free monthly Legal Advice Clinic at Ráth Mór, providing accessible legal guidance within a trusted community setting. Participants also benefited from wellbeing programmes, financial capability workshops delivered in partnership with Aware NI and Derry Credit Union, and a successful International Women's Day event delivered jointly with the Focus and Lifehack projects. Close collaboration across CEL's wider programmes ensured that participants could also access additional wellbeing, cost-of-living and educational supports where required.

CCRP continued to strengthen links across the wider Ráth Mór community. The project worked closely with the Ráth Mór 50+ Club, supporting its ongoing revitalisation and encouraging greater cross-community participation, while also playing an important role within the Revival Shared Space Project, the Foyle Schools Poetry Competition and the newly launched Unlocking Silent Heritage Project. Through these collaborations, many participants who initially engaged

through CCRP developed the confidence to become involved in wider community activities and programmes delivered across the Centre.

Throughout 2025, participants increasingly attended Ráth Mór independently, developed meaningful friendships across traditional community boundaries and became advocates for continued dialogue, understanding and collaboration. These outcomes demonstrate that meaningful reconciliation is achieved not through one-off events, but through sustained relationships, shared experiences and opportunities.

As CCRP enters its final phase during 2026, the programme will continue to build upon these strong foundations through expanded heritage programming, rights-based education and deeper engagement with partner organisations across the island of Ireland. The growing links with the Unlocking Silent Heritage Project and CEL's involvement in the new War & Peace Project provide exciting opportunities to broaden participation further while strengthening the organisation's contribution to peacebuilding, shared heritage and community cohesion across the North West.



Unlocking Silent Heritage Programme

The **Unlocking Silent Heritage (USH) Project** was launched in May 2025 and represents one of Creggan Enterprises' most innovative community regeneration and peacebuilding initiatives. Funded through the PEACE-PLUS Programme under Derry City and Strabane District Council's Local Community Action Plan, the two-year project is delivered in partnership with Friends of Derry City Cemetery, Guildhall Press and Hive Studios. Rather than viewing cemeteries simply as places of remembrance, the project seeks to unlock their potential as shared community spaces—places where heritage, genealogy, education, tourism and reconciliation come together to build stronger, more connected communities.

During its first year of delivery, the project established an excellent foundation for long-term success. Following a successful public launch at the Guildhall in May 2025, the programme quickly gained momentum through an extensive programme of Heart for Heritage site visits, guided tours, heritage workshops and community engagement activities across historic cemetery sites throughout the Derry City and Strabane District. Participants explored the stories of individuals, families and communities whose lives helped shape the North West while developing a greater appreciation of the area's rich shared heritage.

By the end of 2025, approximately 120 participants had engaged with the programme through a wide range of heritage, genealogy and educational activities. Since then, participation has continued to grow significantly, with more than 300 unique participants taking part across all elements of the programme to date. This exceptional level of engagement demonstrates the strong public appetite for accessible community herit-



age programmes and validates the project's innovative approach to using shared heritage as a tool for regeneration, education and reconciliation.

A central feature of the programme has been its innovative approach to community learning. Through guided heritage visits, follow-up workshops and genealogy training, participants have been supported to research family histories, interpret historical records and explore the social, cultural and political history of the district. Dedicated learning resources, participant workbooks and practical research tools have been developed specifically for the project, creating a lasting educational resource that will continue to benefit communities well beyond the lifetime of the programme.

Peacebuilding and reconciliation are embedded throughout every aspect of Unlocking Silent Heritage. By bringing together people from different traditions, backgrounds and generations to explore a shared history, the project creates safe and welcoming spaces where dialogue, learning and mutual understanding can flourish. Participants have discovered common connections through local heritage, challenged perceptions





and built new relationships through shared experiences. The cross-community engagement element of the programme has now been substantially completed and has successfully achieved its objective of promoting understanding and strengthening relationships through heritage-based learning.

Alongside the community engagement programme, significant progress has been made on creating the project's long-term digital legacy. Working with Hive Studios, Friends of Derry City Cemetery and project partners, CEL is developing a comprehensive online heritage platform incorporating interactive cemetery records, genealogy resources, digital heritage guides and educational content. The remaining phase of the project will focus primarily on completing this digital platform together with a series of interpretative panels across participating cemetery sites, ensuring that the stories, research and learning generated through Unlocking Silent Heritage remain freely accessible to residents, schools, researchers and visitors for many years to come.

The project has also strengthened strategic partnerships with Derry City and Strabane District Council, the Museum Service, local historians, schools, clergy and community organisations, creating opportunities for collaboration that extend well beyond the original scope of the programme. During its mid-term review, the PEACEPLUS Project Officer acknowledged the strong progress made across both programme delivery and digital development, recognising the quality of the heritage activities, the comprehensive archive and genealogy work undertaken, and the innovative digital platform that will provide a lasting public resource.

One of the most significant outcomes of Unlocking Silent Heritage has been its ability to generate new opportunities beyond its original objectives. The relationships, expertise and partnerships developed through



the programme have already led to Creggan Enterprises becoming a key delivery partner in the War & Peace Project, commencing during 2026 in collaboration with the North West Cultural Partnership (NWCP) and RAPID. This exciting new initiative demonstrates how Unlocking Silent Heritage has become a catalyst for further investment in heritage-led regeneration, peace-building and community engagement, ensuring that the project's legacy will continue long after the current programme concludes.

Although still in the early stages of its journey, Unlocking Silent Heritage has already established itself as an outstanding example of how community heritage can support regeneration, education and reconciliation. By reconnecting people with the places, stories and shared experiences that have shaped our region, the project is preserving local heritage, strengthening community identity, encouraging civic pride and creating a lasting legacy for future generations.



Community Inclusion Programme

CE's **Community Inclusion Programme (CIP)** funded by the Department of Foreign Affairs' Reconciliation Fund completed a range of community development, reimagining, capacity building, transition, peacebuilding and sensitive seasonal engagement and diversionary work over the period (working with a range of local partners and constituencies across the city and beyond), including a range of mediation, intervention work and bonfire/parade engagement.

Working across a range of communities throughout the city and beyond, the programme maintained dialogue with individuals and groups who may otherwise remain disconnected from statutory services and traditional community development structures. Through patient engagement, confidence building and relationship development, CIP continued to encourage greater participation in constructive dialogue, peaceful civic engagement and wider community development opportunities.

Alongside this relationship-building work, the programme continued to support community resilience through a combination of capacity building and personal development opportunities. Participants were assisted to develop new skills, improve employability, strengthen mediation and leadership capacity and build confidence to play more positive roles within their own communities. Throughout the year, tailored training and progression opportunities enabled individuals to continue their own personal development while contributing positively to wider community wellbeing.

CIP also continued to contribute to the peaceful management of sensitive community issues by working with local partners to promote dialogue, encourage communication between relevant stakeholders and support locally-led solutions wherever possible.

Throughout 2025, the programme continued to strengthen its relationships with a broad range of community organisations, public bodies and peacebuilding partners across the island. These partnerships enhanced opportunities for dialogue, supported collaborative approaches to community challenges and ensured that local voices continued to inform wider discussions around reconciliation, transition, inclusion and community development.

CIP dovetails with the work of CE's Joseph Rowntree funded Community Dialogue Programme (CDP) which support Conal's work via the Independent Assessment Team (with oversight of the separated prison regime) and to promote transition on an all-island basis. CEL also continued to work with CNP over the period to support some of the work of their IFI funded PIP Project.

As the programme continues through 2026, its focus will remain on fostering trust, supporting inclusion and strengthening the relationships that underpin peaceful and resilient communities via quiet diplomacy.

Below: CIP Community Mediation Training in 2025.



Supporting Our Community

While CEL's funded programmes represent a significant part of our work, Ráth Mór continues to provide a much wider range of community supports, partnerships and activities that respond to local needs throughout the year. As a shared community facility open seven days each week, the Centre continues to provide a welcoming and accessible space for residents, community organisations, statutory agencies and voluntary groups to meet, learn, access services and develop new opportunities together. More than 15,000 people continued to use the facilities each week, while CEL supported over 50 businesses, charities and community organisations, helping to sustain more than 250 jobs across the site.

Community Partnerships

Ráth Mór continued to provide a base for a wide range of community organisations delivering advice, support and specialist services to local residents. Regular users of the Centre included North West Counselling, the Bayview Bereavement Support Group, Foyle Foster Care Group, Foyle Racial Equality Forum, the Northern Ireland Anti-Poverty Network, Derry Housing Action Committee, Hive Cancer Support, together with a range of schools, charities and voluntary organisations delivering awareness events, training programmes and community campaigns. The continued growth in community use reflects Ráth Mór's importance as one of the city's key shared community assets, providing accessible accommodation and support for organisations working to improve health, wellbeing, equality and social inclusion. During 2025, CEL also expanded the range of practical supports available to local residents. The free monthly Legal Advice Clinic, delivered in partnership with Ulster University School of Law, continued to provide accessible legal advice within a trusted community setting. Weekly counselling services, wellbeing activities and support programmes further strengthened the Centre's role as an accessible hub where residents can get practical assistance close to home.



Responding to Community Need

Throughout another challenging year, CEL continued to respond to the ongoing impact of the cost-of-living crisis through a range of practical initiatives delivered alongside partners and tenants. Working with Eurospar, community partners and our own project teams, we continued to operate our sustainable community food support pipeline, providing food donations, emergency vouchers and referrals for families experiencing hardship. CEL also continued to support local primary school breakfast clubs and signpost residents to wider financial and energy support programmes where appropriate, ensuring that practical assistance reached those most in need.

Alongside these direct supports, CEL continued to invest in the wider development of the Ráth Mór campus, supporting new community initiatives, assisting emerging social enterprises and providing business development, governance and infrastructure support to organisations based on site. By combining essential services, community development and social enterprise within one shared location, Ráth Mór continues to demonstrate the lasting value of community-led regeneration and the important role that locally owned assets play in improving lives across the North West.

Gradaim Gnó na hÉireann awards

CEL were awarded two Silver Awards for the promotion of the Irish language at the Glór na nGael event in Croke Park on the 19th November 2025. Ráth Mór upgrade all its internal and external signage and its website for bilingual usage/access in the process of obtaining these awards.



Acknowledgements

Creggan Enterprises would like to extend a huge thanks to our loyal Tenants (especially our anchor tenants – Eurospar and Creggan Family Practice) as well as all the Board and Staff members listed here who helped us achieve our goals throughout 2025:

Board of Trustees/Directors:

Anne Molloy
James Nash
Joe McFeely
Sean Canavan
Shauna Nixon
Garbhan Downey

Staff:

Conal McFeely, Development Executive
Kevin Hippsley, General Manager
Barbara Sweeney, Finance & Admin Manager
Declan Ferry, Facilities Supervisor
Kieran McFadden, Facilities Worker
Carol Cunningham, Community Cohesion & Reconciliation Programme
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Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust
Community Foundation NI
Apex Common Fund
Radius GR Fund
Derry City & Strabane District Council





OUR PROGRAMME IMPACT IN 2025



SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY



PEACEBUILDING & GOOD RELATIONS



**TOGETHER WE ARE
CREATING:**


**STRONGER
COMMUNITIES**


**BETTER
RELATIONSHIPS**


**GREATER
OPPORTUNITY**

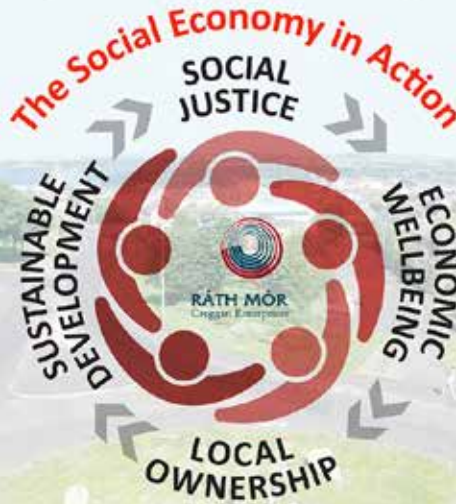

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