

Workshop 2: Measurements and Outcomes

Q1. Where do you see the practical impact of the Together: Building a United Community (T:BUC) strategy for your organisation's work, either in its current or future implementation?

- Embracing positive change – not concentrating on bad relations but real change.
- Inter-relationship between s75 (1) and (2) – development of clear guidance on the role of good relations in development of policy.
- Ensuring that monitoring is a long-term measurement – greater than 3-5 years.
- To ensure that good relations activities are targeted at the 'right people' and the 'right places' and that the focus should be a broad range of characteristics (not just the two main communities).

Q2. What in your experience are the most important areas to measure progress on what would show improvements in relations?

- Concern was raised that we are being consulted on measurement but not on the T:BUC strategy itself, which is a difficulty.
- We need to 'stretch' but 'realistic' when develop indicators.
- The Good Relation Indicators (recently consulted upon by OFMdFM and referenced in T:BUC) and the Peace Monitoring Report both have a place in monitoring good relations in Northern Ireland.
- The measurement of attitudes and behaviours change over time, and this presents difficulties for long term measurements and showing improvements due to the complexity added by the environments in which people live.
- There needs to be clear connections between T:BUC and the good relations indicators, along with the role of other measurements and research that are produced.

Q3. How does measurement best contribute to achieving change?

- Capturing the nuances, action, long-term actions.
- We need to monitor effective change and not simply generate or do more paperwork.
- Monitoring needs to inform reporting progress over time.
- Difference in audit and measuring outcomes responsibilities; they serve different purposes and the purposes need to be clear.
- Policy makers – incorporation of good relations into policy development and planning needs to happen more consistently.
- Wellbeing indicators around health indicators on health inequality / equality are good examples of measurements contributing to achieve change.
- We need to concentrate on root causes of negative attitudes, rather than the symptoms, which can be the current focus.