

# PRESS RELEASE

*For immediate release*



## **£6,120 awarded to Benview Community Centre to upgrade their community hub**

Benview Community Centre is an excellent community resource run by a voluntary committee of dedicated people from the local community in Ballysillan, North Belfast. The centre helps to enhance the quality of life of the local community by providing educational, recreational, health, wellbeing, social and leisure opportunities. Over the past 50 years, the centre has been developing the local community, encouraging participation and empowering members to play an active role in their community.

Benview Community Centre will use the £6,120 of funding, to upgrade their centre and replace the flooring, ensuring that they can continue to provide a valuable community resource. This project will improve access to the centre so that it can continue to be utilised by the local community.

The Whitemountain Programme was established by Whitemountain who are part of the Breedon Group, and are a leading Contracting and Materials Business operating throughout the UK and Ireland, specialising in Highway Maintenance, Civil Engineering, Airfield Construction, Quarry Materials, Bitumen Importation and Distribution, Waste Management and Green Energy.

Since its beginnings in 2008, the Whitemountain Programme has distributed over £8 million of funding to 260 fantastic community and biodiversity projects. This funding helps groups to achieve their plans for positive change in their community.

## QUOTES

*Centres such as Benview are wonderful resources for our local communities. At Groundwork, we are proud to support investment in local community centres so they can continue to provide vital support to the communities they work with.*

Shannon Downey, Communities Lead  
Groundwork Northern Ireland

*We will be able to replace the existing floors throughout the community centre. The floors have been in place for over 20 years and have had a lot of wear and tear making the floors to be no longer safe for users. This project will give the centre a new lease of life.*

Kelly Harrison  
Benview Community Centre

*Whitemountain is thrilled to support Benview Community Centre. The funding will breathe fresh life into the centre, ensuring it remains a vital fixture within the local community*

Edward Kearney  
Whitemountain

## NOTES TO THE EDITOR

**Groundwork Northern Ireland** manages the Whitemountain Programme on behalf of Whitemountain.

Groundwork NI is a charity that empowers local communities grown from the ground up, that are sustainable, happy and healthy places to live, work and play. One of our services is to help other organisations to distribute grant funding, ensuring money gets to where it is most needed. Throughout the years, we have distributed over £9 million in grants to community projects.

**Benview Community Centre** was established 50 years ago to support the local community in Ballysillan, North Belfast. Over 200 local residents currently take part in their programme of activities which includes parent and toddler groups, women's groups, after school programmes, ceramics classes and a senior citizen's group.

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## HOW TO APPLY

If you have a great community or biodiversity focused project which lies within the 15 mile radius of Mullaghglass landfill site near Lisburn (and within 10 miles of a licensed landfill site), then why not apply? Applications to the Whitemountain Programme are open. To find out more visit our website [www.groundwork.org.uk/whitemountain](http://www.groundwork.org.uk/whitemountain) or contact us at [whitemountainprogramme@groundworkni.co.uk](mailto:whitemountainprogramme@groundworkni.co.uk)

## OTHER PROJECTS FUNDED RECENTLY

Grants of up to £50,000 are available for projects making a positive impact at ground level, either developing facilities for community use or encouraging biodiversity and environmental improvements.

The funding is available under two strands:

- Whitemountain Programme Small Grants (up to £5K)
- Whitemountain Programme Main Grants (£5K - £25K)

Below you can find some of the more recently funded projects:

### Small Grants - 2021

Benview Community Centre	£6,120
CIYMS Cricket Club	£9,756
Irish Football Network	£7,395

### Main Grants - 2021

Cliftonville FC	£50,000
Include Youth	£49,935
L'Arche	£50,000
New Life City Church	£48,796

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£222,002</b>
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