

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release



L to R: Michaela Macfarlane (Impact Training); Edward Kearney (Whitemountain Programme); Kyle McArthur and Lewis Beattie (Impact Training); Richard Rogers (Groundwork)

New youth space at Impact Training thanks to a £27k Whitemountain Programme grant

The Whitemountain Programme award has allowed Impact Training to knock two small, underused training rooms into one large space, where students and other young people can socialise and relax. It has been fitted out with two big smartboards, pool and table tennis tables and games.

Breedon Ireland's Whitemountain Programme provides funding for community amenity and biodiversity projects within 15 miles of Mullaghglass landfill site through the Landfill Communities Fund. To date over £8.5million has been allocated to almost 250 projects. These range from sports facilities to community halls, and from wildflower meadows to play areas.

QUOTES

We're delighted to have been able to support this new youth space at Impact Training through the Whitemountain Programme. Young people have had a particularly difficult time over the past two years and being able to access somewhere like this to chill out and socialise is vitally important to their personal development and wellbeing.

Richard Rogers
Groundwork Northern Ireland

We developed this space in response to feedback from our students and user groups. It's an important part of our wider efforts to support the mental health and wellbeing of everyone who uses our facilities and it's already proving a great success. We're very thankful to the Whitemountain Programme for helping us make it a reality.

Gary McKay
Impact Training

The Whitemountain Programme has invested over £8.5 million in community amenity and biodiversity projects since it was established in 2007. We're always keen to support community facilities like this which address local needs and target disadvantage.

With the forthcoming closure of Mullaghglass landfill site there will only be two further rounds of funding, so please check out the fund guidelines and, if your project is eligible, we'd be delighted to receive an application.

Edward Kearney
Whitemountain Programme

NOTES TO THE EDITOR

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

Groundwork NI is a charity that empowers local communities grown from the ground up, developing sustainable, happy and healthy places to live, work and play. One of our services is to work with partners to manage funds, ensuring money gets to where it is most needed. Throughout the years, we have distributed over £10 million in grants to community and environmental regeneration projects.

Impact Training was established in 1978 to respond to and address high unemployment levels across North and West Belfast. Its key, broad purposes are to provide occupational and employability training to unemployed school leavers and young people (16-24 yrs old), and to provide education, training and into employment support to unemployed adults in the Greater Shankill area of Belfast.

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?

The programme is currently open for applications. To find out more visit our website

www.groundwork.org.uk/whitemountain or contact us at

whitemountainprogramme@groundworkni.co.uk

Grants of up to £25,000 are available for projects making a positive impact at ground level, either developing facilities for community use or encouraging biodiversity and environmental improvements.

