

INFORMATION SHEET

WCRP- The First Partnership in the Women's Sector

The Women's Centres Regional Partnership (WCRP) fundamental role is to develop and support a strong, effective and long-term partnership among Women's Centres and networks operating in Northern Ireland.

The WCRP supports Women's Centres in Northern Ireland to continue developing and delivering high quality services to their communities.

Who are the main partners and stakeholders?

WCRP comprises four lead women's organisations (the partners):

- Women Resource and Development Agency (WRDA)
- Women's Support Network (WSN)
- Northern Ireland Rural Women Network (NIRWN)
- The Women's Centre (Derry)

and 13 frontline Women's Centres placed across Northern Ireland.

North West

- Foyle Women's Information network (FWIN)
- Strathfoyle Activity Centre
- Waterside Women's Centre

Belfast

- Atlas Women's Centre
- Ballybeen Women's Centre
- Falls Women's Centre
- Footprints Women's Centre
- Greenway Women's Centre
- Shankill Women's Centre
- Windsor Women's Centre

Rural Towns

- Chrysalis, Craigavon
- First Steps, Dungannon
- The Magherafelt Women's Centre



For further information:

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What is the role of the WCRP partners?

The four partner organisations take a lead role in the development of the Strategic plan and have responsibilities for the implementation of its strategic aims and objectives.

The partners are accountable to their stakeholders — the Women 's Centres and the Department for Social Development.

How did the Partnership emerge?

The need for the Partnership was identified as a direct result of the Cross Departmental Review of Women 's Organisations Delivering Support and Services to Disadvantaged Communities which was set up in July 2005.

The report of the Review Group recognised the great value of women 's centres in providing high quality training, support and childcare to women and their children.

The establishment of the WCRP in 2006 represented the way forward to cost effective support, advice and guidance to the wider women 's sector.

What does the Partnership stand for?

WCRP stands for the support and development of a strong and effective partnership because:

- community-based women 's organisations promptly respond to the needs of women in training, education, advice and childcare,
- they actively contribute to the reduction of barriers experienced by women in deprived areas or living at risk of isolation or belonging to ethnic minorities,
- they are in a prime position to enhance the quality of life of individual women, their families and communities.

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